



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 118 — NO. 37, THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

‘Helping students and staff in countless ways’: O’Donnell, Jordan retire after collective 53 years of service

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

When Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Principal Sean O’Donnell and Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Chantelle Jordan wrapped up their duties at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, the duo also wrapped up a collective 53 years of educational service in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta School District (ASD).

“Together, they have more than 50 years working in the Archuleta School District, helping students and staff in countless ways,” ASD Superintendent Rick Holt wrote in announcing the duo’s retirement in March.

‘I wanted to have that same influence on kids’

O’Donnell served ASD and PSHS for 28 years.

“It has been the honor of my life to serve this school,” O’Donnell said at the school’s May 30 graduation.

He began his teaching career at PSHS, serving seven years as a math teacher before moving into administrative roles.

He then served eight years as assistant principal under David Hamilton before serving as principal for 13 years.

“My entire career has been in this building,” O’Donnell said while sitting in his office during the final week of school. “I actually started in the fall of ‘98 when this building was brand new. My first-ever job was in this brand-new building.”

O’Donnell relayed he went into coaching and teaching to continue

■ See Service A12



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Sean O’Donnell and Chantelle Jordan celebrate their retirements following Pagosa Springs High School’s May 30 graduation ceremony.

Town, county enact fire restrictions

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County enacted stage 1 fire restrictions effective June 6, putting them under restrictions like many other area jurisdictions.

Additionally, stage 1 restrictions will expand to the entire San Juan National Forest effective Friday, June 12.

Stage 1 fire restrictions were imple-

mented on and around May 22 for the lower-elevation areas of the San Juan National Forest, the Upper Piedra area of southern Hinsdale County and La Plata County.

On May 29, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Tres Rios Field Office implemented stage 1 restrictions all BLM-administered public lands within the boundaries of Archuleta, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mont-

■ See Restrictions A17

School board discusses next steps for proposed new school funding

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

At a June 3 work session, the Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) discussed what to do following the news that it will likely not receive a Building Excellent School Today (BEST) grant this year.

On May 21, the district announced that it was the first on the waiting list for a BEST grant.

In a statement sent to the school community via the district’s newsletter, the district explained the BEST board had \$173 million to allocate this year and \$536 million in requests.

The statement notes the BEST board awarded 17 grants — two of

which are bond-dependent — and named ASD’s project as the first backup project.

ASD asked for \$50 million.

“Being named 18th out of 57 total applications is promising, especially as a large (\$50M) grant request,” the newsletter states. “For context, only three total projects larger than \$20M were awarded this year. Unfortunately, even if both bond-dependent projects were to fail to secure the required matching funds, there would not be enough remaining dollars to fully fund our \$50M application request.”

It adds, “However, our ranking indicates a high likelihood that our proposed project would be funded

■ See School A9

Monthly sales tax collections down for a third time this year

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

According to data released by Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton on June 4, sales tax collections in Archuleta County for April were reported to be down 9.07 percent compared to figures from April 2025.

Real estate commission dismisses complaint against county commissioner

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its June 2 meeting, the Colorado Real Estate Commission (CREC) voted unanimously to dismiss a complaint against Archuleta County Commissioner Veronica Medina to the

Eaton’s report notes that the 9.07 percent decrease translates to a total of \$125,110.70 less received this April compared to April 2025.

For April 2026, Eaton notes that the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of \$1,251,414.13 from the sales tax and retail marijuana sales tax, with

■ See Tax A8

Division of Real Estate for a no license law violation.

The complaint was presented by Department of Regulatory Agencies lead Auditor Eddie Rose, explaining that on Feb. 21, 2025, information was received that the respondent (Medina),

■ See Complaint A16



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Last weekend’s Life at Chimney Rock festival offered a chance to explore the traditions and daily life of the Ancestral Puebloans, as well as see continuing traditions like ceremonial dances.

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PAWSD faces interconnected drought and budget issues

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

This summer, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) faces several interconnected challenges, including a record drought and significant financial challenges tied to conditions on the district’s loans.

“I’m always concerned, but I’m not overly concerned,” said District Engineer Justin Ramsey about the drought conditions.

The district is currently in the first drought stage under its drought mitigation plan, which imposes a 1.25 times rate multiplier for water use over 5,000 gallons a month and restricts irrigation to between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m.

According to Ramsey, this drought stage aims to reduce the district’s water usage by 10 to 20 percent.

Judging from last year’s experience and previous patterns, Ramsey commented that this tends to happen after people receive their first bills for a period where drought restrictions have been in effect and see the large cost increase due to the rate multiplier.

He added that the first round of bills under stage one drought this year went out on May 25 and that he expects that water use will be significantly lower for the next billing period, although usage for May 2026 was higher than usage in May 2025.

In the board packet for the PAWSD

■ See PAWSD A8

Opinion



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OUR VIEW

Exercising our brains

School may be out for the summer, but our brains shouldn't be.

In fact, the opportunities for folks of all ages (not just kids) to continue to learn are still plentiful throughout the summer months.

And we should all be taking advantage of them.

We've read a number of interesting articles lately regarding the need to continue to exercise our brains not only as we age, but also as social media continues to be geared toward rapid consumption and artificial intelligence (AI) and other technologies make things seemingly easier and easier.

Our brains, like any other muscle, can atrophy if use declines, and studies and experts have warned that excessive use of AI can lead to a decrease in cognitive ability, as can many other factors.

We would argue that excessive reliance on things like memes and soundbites could have a similar effect.

But it's imperative that we continue to hone our critical-thinking and deep-thinking skills, for our own health and for the health of our communities.

We must be able to think through what we're hearing and seeing. We have to be able to see and consider things beyond what's right in front of us — such as political messaging during election season (and always), what a neighbor is saying on social media, what could be a financial scam text we just received, etc.

Oftentimes, there's a lot more just beyond what we initially see, and it takes effort and consistently exercising our brains to know how to and to want to push beyond that initial tidbit to learn more.

But, lucky for us, Archuleta County is rich with resources to enable learning across the lifespan.

We have many who love to learn and who love to share their knowledge and what they're learning about through community organizations, clubs, lectures, special

events and more.

We have nearby places to visit to grow our knowledge about things like archaeology, astronomy, animals, history and more.

We have numerous resources for reading and learning at our fingertips, like through the Ruby M. Sisson Public Library, giving us the opportunity to learn about almost anything whenever we want to.

We also have access to numerous resources we can take outside with us to exercise both our bodies and our brains (taking a physical or app guide outside to go birding, for example).

And, if you don't want to leave AI behind, we've seen a number of tips for helping to use AI to grow your knowledge and hone your skills, such as by "arguing" with it to make you think more, not less.

The world is truly at our fingertips.

The need for critical thinking and healthy brains will not go away; if anything, it will grow.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the June 12, 1980, Pagosa SUN — HIGH WATER — The San Juan River, through town, is almost bank full and is running at the highest point of the year to date. The water is very muddy and while there has been no high water damage to date, the possibility is there. The San Juan has not, as yet, reached the high points of last year and may not.

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 11, 1926

The first cars to cross the Wolf Creek Pass reached Pagosa Springs late this afternoon from Del Norte.

There were three in number and the pass is reported in fair condition, with some mud and snow to contend with. The pass was opened through the assistance of Del Norte and Pagosa Springs citizens.

We are indebted to Mrs. Susie H. Boone for the following information, written at Denver: "Amongst the names of war veterans buried in Pagosa, you overlooked. I believe the name of Capt. Lloyd Beall (Bell), a Confederate veteran who is buried there. E. M. Taylor should remember him, also Jim O'Neal, Sam Teeson and John Laughlin. He was with us two or three years at Coyote park. Mrs. Chas. Crawford will remember him. I have seen his grave in the cemetery but could not direct you to it. Capt. Beall had a brother in the Union army also an officer. Hoping this will not be amiss. I am very truly." We are pleased to add the name of Capt. Beall to our list, and will state that the published list did not pretend to include all the veterans buried here (excepting World War), and we shall welcome any additions — not only to the Pagosa list but of any soldiers, regardless of war, who are buried in Archuleta county.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 15, 1951

Members of the 4-H Club were sponsors of a party held Friday night at the Bayles schoolhouse. The gathering was well attended and the square dancing, round dances, pie raffles and other entertainment were enjoyed by all.

Benny Quintana was granted the bachelor of arts degree in business education at spring commencement exercises at Colo. State College of Education, June 6. Benny is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Quintana and graduated from the local high school in 1947.

The Civic Club Convention will be held Thursday, June 21 at the Methodist Church, beginning at 9 a.m. The colors are to be presented by members of the 4-H club. The duties of messengers of the meeting and waitresses at the luncheon will be taken care of by members of the Theta Rho organization. Beta Sigma Phi sorority will serve the luncheon to be held at 12:30 in the high school auditorium.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 10, 1976

Total snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass this past winter totaled 489 inches. Average snowfall over the years since records have been kept is 480, making this about as close to an average year as they come. Snowfall this year came more often in larger storms, leaving more snowless days than is average. There is still snow up on the Wolf Creek Ski Area but it is going fast.

Motorists are advised that the parking fill in downtown will soon be closed to two way traffic. Traffic will be one way only and there will be signs at each end advising which is the entrance and which is the exit. Failure to obey these signs may cost a traffic fine, and motorists are warned against going against traffic.

Weather here at the present time is just about as nice as one could want. It isn't freezing at night — at least not this week — the days are mild and the countryside is bright and green.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 7, 2001

Consumers spent money at a record pace in Archuleta County through the first four months of 2001, according to a sales tax collection report released by the county this past week.

April sales tax collections in the county amounted to \$389,229 this year, an increase of 21 percent over the \$321,648 collected during April of 2000. Last year was a record year for sales tax collections in the county.

Because sales tax collections are directly proportional to retail sales, they are considered a good tool for gauging the health of a local economy. People spend money when they have confidence in the economy. Increased sales means increased confidence, a good sign.

April is indicative of the trend for the current year. For the year through April, \$1,540,351 dollars in sales tax revenues were collected in the county. That is an increase of 21.23 percent over the \$1,270,550 collected through April of 2000.

The county report includes sales taxes collected within the town limits of Pagosa Springs as well as sales taxes collected in the remainder of the county. Approximately 90 per cent of sales taxes collected in the county are collected from stores located within Pagosa Springs' town limits.

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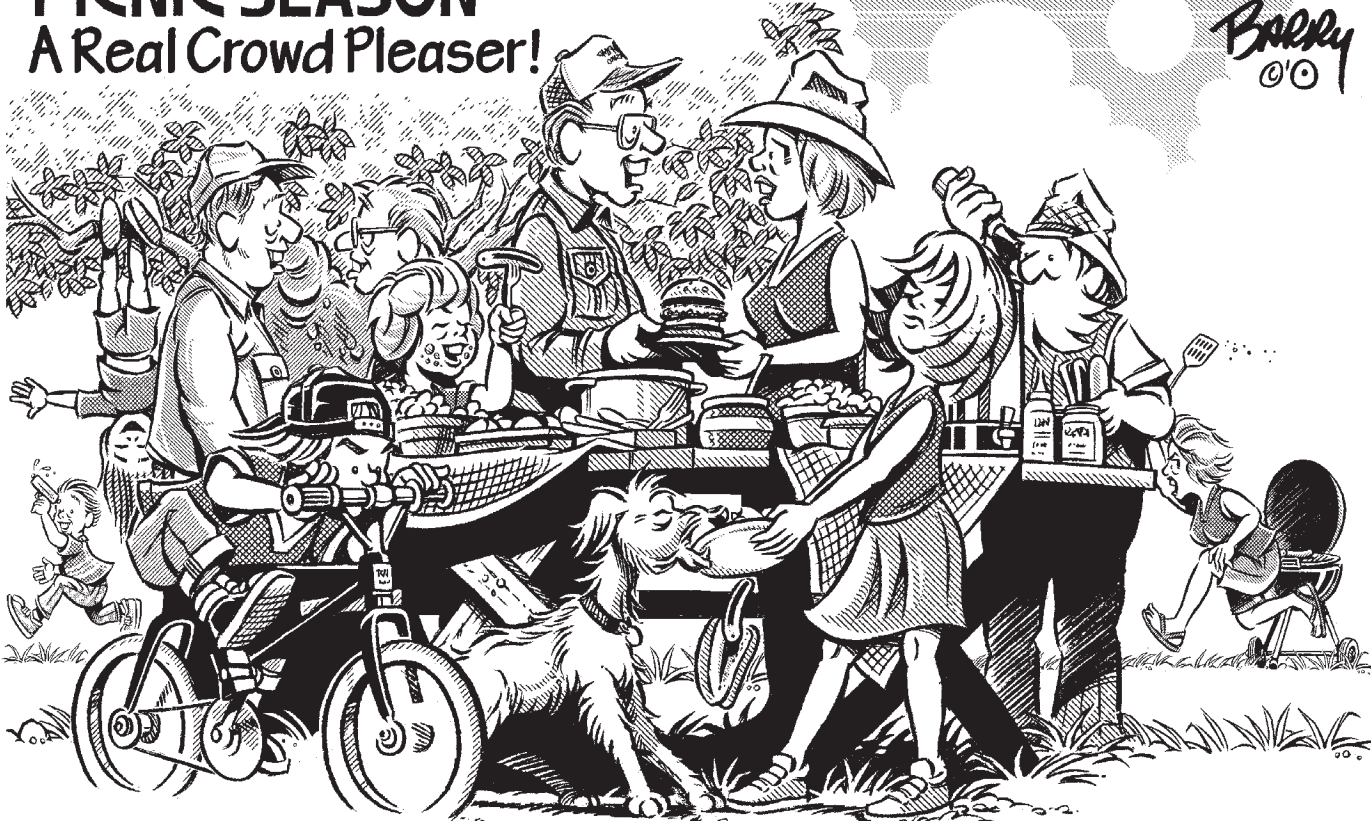
Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Moisture	Type	Depth
6/2	80	39	0.00	NA	NA
6/3	80	44	0.00	NA	NA
6/4	77	41	0.00	NA	NA
6/5	82	40	0.00	NA	NA
6/6	83	43	0.00	NA	NA
6/7	77	40	0.00	NA	NA
6/8	80	39	0.00	NA	NA

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Letters

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

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

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

Support for Veronica Medina

Dear Editor:

Rosie and I have known Veronica Medina for over 12 years as a dear, dear friend. During part of that time she worked with Rosie at the Springs resort and was very dedicated in her work.

Also, she helped in the relationship as we worked out our questions with LPEA for the good of both sides. She is very dedicated to the county and communities. She seems to be able to be at every event within the county and sharing current events and supporting local businesses.

Veronica deserves another 4 years as a county commissioner especially with the experiences that she has obtained as the Vice chair in 2023 and Chair in 2024 and 2025.

Thank you Veronica for your service to our county.

As spoken by president Roosevelt. "Don't change horses in the middle of the stream."

Best regards,
Jack and Rosie Barrett

Support for Veronica Medina

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express my support for Commissioner Veronica Medina's re-election in light of the recent negative ad paid for by her opponents.

In my view, Veronica Medina has consistently demonstrated that she has a genuine heart for our community and the best interests of Archuleta County residents at the forefront of her decision-making. Public service is rarely about finding perfect solutions that satisfy everyone, and reasonable people will always have differing opinions on important issues. Veronica, like all of us, has her own perspectives, but what sets her apart is her ability to balance those views with sound ethics, thoughtful judgment, and a commitment to doing the right thing. She has deep ties to this community and truly cares about all of us living here.

One of the qualities I most admire about Veronica is her dedication to being present and engaged. She seems to be involved in virtually every community event and makes herself accessible to residents throughout the county. Veronica has a deep desire to hear from us, to gain a better understanding of what is needed so she can stand strong for all of us! She has shown us that she is willing to work hard every single day for our community. She is a 'Uniter' and that is exactly the attitude that we need to move our little town forward.

She has also worked hard to build strong relationships with leaders and stakeholders on all sides of important issues, recognizing that collaboration and respectful dialogue are essential to effective leadership.

I encourage everyone to consider Veronica Medina's record of service, integrity, and dedication to our residents. I believe she has earned the opportunity to continue serving Archuleta County as one of our county commissioners.

Sincerely,
Pattie Copenhaver

Support for Veronica Medina

Dear Editor:

I am writing because our community deserves better than the wave of misleading political advertisements flooding our screens this election season. Voters can disagree on policy, priorities, and leadership — that is the foundation of a healthy democracy — but we should all be able to agree that honesty is non-negotiable.

Too many ads today rely on distortion: selectively edited quotes, exaggerated claims, and fear-based messaging designed to provoke rather than inform. These tactics do not strengthen public debate; they undermine it. When campaigns choose manipulation over truth, they erode trust not only in their opponents but in the entire democratic process.

I am urging my fellow citizens to look beyond the sound bites. Check the sources. Read the full statements. Seek out reputable fact checking organizations. Last week's advertise-

ment presented in newspaper against Veronica Medina misrepresented facts.

Democracy works only when voters have access to accurate information, and we all share responsibility for demanding it.

Our community deserves political discourse rooted in integrity. Let us hold every campaign — regardless of party — to a higher standard. RE-Elect Veronica Medina for Archuleta County Commissioner.

Sincerely,
Germaine Ewing

Support for Phil Weiser

Dear Editor:

I urge all Democratic and Unaffiliated voters to select Attorney General Phil Weiser for Governor in the June 30 primary. I have gotten to know Phil well from his many visits to Southwest Colorado, both as a candidate and as AG. I have found him a brilliant, honest, respectful, and compassionate person without the pretense found in many politicians today. He will sit down with anybody on a one-on-one basis to discuss issues and concerns. One of his colleagues said, "To know Phil is to love him." He was also the first person to throw his hat in the ring and is "all in" on the race. His Campaign Chair is former Governor Roy Romer.

Phil would bring to the Governorship extraordinary qualifications. As Attorney General he has worked side-by-side with Governor Polis for nearly eight years, giving him an in-depth knowledge of State government. In this position, he also works closely with Colorado's 23 local District Attorneys. He has been endorsed by several of these DAs, including our own DA, Sean Murray. Prior to his election as AG, he served as Deam of the Law School at CUBoulder, specializing in telecommunications and technology law. Earlier, he was an Assistant Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice and a law clerk for Supreme Court Justices Byron White and Ruth Bader Ginsberg. So, he brings to the table vast expertise at the Local, State, and Federal levels.

You have seen an anti-Weiser advertisement funded by a dark money PAC claiming he "wimped out" in suing Trump. The ad is grossly misleading. It shows a "graph" supposedly comparing cases "joined" by Phil with other state AGs. But the graph shows no numbers. So, you can't really assess how many cases Phil has Joined. The truth is that he has filed 65 suits against the Trump Administration. So far, 36 have been successful in blocking Trump's worst policies, including those on immigration, voter suppression, data privacy, Federal employee firings, clean energy, proof of citizenship to vote, education, transgender rights, and medical treatment. He successfully sued to block funding cuts for SNAP, disaster relief, energy programs, relief for needy families, mental health services, medical services, transportation, education, and research. Many of these cuts were aimed exclusively at blue states like Colorado. Doesn't sound like a "wimpy" record to me!

Thinking about campaign fund-

ing, I would point out that Phil's money is coming mostly from small donations from Colorado residents. By contrast, his opponent has received most of his campaign funds from the Rocky Mountain Way Super PAC, financed mostly by billionaire Micheal Bloomberg (\$1.25 million) and a dark money group called "Brighter Future for Colorado," which refuses to identify its donors. Guess where his loyalty will lie.

So, to me, the choice is clear. Phil Weiser brings to the Governor's race extraordinary experience, an enduring dedication to the law and truth, and a remarkable track record in challenging the excesses of the national government. I hope you will agree.

John Porco

Support for Veronica Medina

Dear Editor:

As a longtime community member who cares deeply about the future of Archuleta County, I am proud to support Veronica Medina for re-election as County Commissioner.

What has set Veronica apart from day one is her commitment to listening and engaging with people across differing viewpoints. She works hard to ensure county government reflects the people of Archuleta County and focuses on practical solutions rather than partisan politics. She understands our rural values and challenges, recognizing that strong communities are built through respect, collaboration, fiscal responsibility, and being good neighbors.

I have especially appreciated Veronica's advocacy for legislation and initiatives that directly support our local EMS system and the Upper San Juan Health Service District. From my perspective in healthcare, I have seen how important strong partnerships are, and during her tenure, communication and collaboration between Archuleta County, EMS, and the hospital have never been stronger. She understands the vital role local healthcare and emergency services play in the health, safety, and economic well-being of our community.

Veronica leads with integrity and a commitment to facts. She remains focused on honest communication and thoughtful leadership, even in a political climate often marked by division and misinformation.

■ See Letters A4

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of June 15-21

Work activity

- 500 block: Electric utility work continues in front of the businesses on the north side, and will likely be complete by the week of June 15. Crews are beginning to prep the subgrade for future paving operations in this area.
- 300 block: Crews continue to pour the roadway and sidewalks at this location.
- Hot Springs Boulevard intersection: The closure to begin utility and paving improvements of Hot Springs Boulevard (south side of the intersection to the bridge), in conjunction with the Town of Pagosa Springs, has been implemented. This closure is anticipated to take place between June 3-19. Crews have already completed utility updates at this intersection and are actively pouring concrete roadway, curb and gutter, and sidewalks through next week.
- Overlook parking lot: During the same closure of Hot Springs Boulevard, the overlook parking lot is closed for utility updates. This closure is also expected from June 3-19, and the Town of Pagosa

Springs will be promoting alternative parking options in the lot near the former courthouse building off of 5th Street.

- The intersection closure at Lewis Street and U.S. 160 remains in place. Please utilize 4th, 7th and 8th streets as an alternative to access businesses along Lewis Street. The good news is that the complex utility line work is mostly complete at this intersection. Crews have completed water utility work, waste water utility work and electrical work. Some geothermal and stormwater utility work remains at this intersection, and is slated for the coming week.

Stay informed and connect with the project

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

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation

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Rendering courtesy WHEC and Courtney King Studios

A rendering depicts the newly proposed dance hall and western showcase building to be built at the county fairgrounds anticipated to be completed in the fall of 2027.

New western showcase building proposed at county fairgrounds

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on May 26, the board heard from Matt Ford and J.R. Ford, representing the Hott Fund, about a proposal for a new western showcase building to be located at the county fairgrounds.

Matt Ford explained that the proposal had already been approved by the Rodeo Grounds Management Committee and the Western Heritage Event Center (WHEC).

He noted that WHEC is the non-profit group that owns a “big chunk” of land at the fairgrounds.

Matt Ford also noted that there is “no county investment” involved in this request, as the building will be built on WHEC land with a long-term lease and not owned by the county.

He also mentioned that more than \$2 million has been invested by the Hott Fund in the fairgrounds since the joint fund was created.

Matt Ford explained the reason for coming to the BoCC is the joint use and development agreement

between the county, WHEC and the Hott Fund that was developed in 2022, which requires county and WHEC approval for projects costing more than \$50,000.

J.R. Ford provided information on the Hott Fund and how it was established, explaining that R.D. Hott was an “old time rancher” whose family has been in Archuleta County since the late 1800s.

J.R. Ford then explained that when R.D. Hott passed away, he left the WHEC estate to Archuleta County and left a group that includes J.R. Ford in control of the funds.

J.R. Ford highlighted again that the Hott Fund has put more than \$2 million into the fairgrounds, indicating the new building will cost approximately \$1.5 million.

He also noted that this will likely be the last building built at the fairgrounds.

Matt Ford explained that the “old west” buildings from Pagosa Junction were relocated to the fairgrounds, which includes an old Fort Lewis officer’s quarters, the Ruby Sisson schoolhouse, Gomez Store and two family cabins.

“So, this is kind of bringing all of that together to make that all flow seamlessly with the rest of the facilities out there,” he said in regard to the new building.

He also explained that the new building will feature an enclosed showcase area, with more than half of the building being an open dance hall suitable for different types of events, named after R.D. Hott’s longtime friend, Margie Long.

He noted there will be displays inside, along with restrooms to serve the building’s occupancy load, a covered patio and entrance.

J.R. Ford mentioned that some money has been put away to help write the histories of approximately 15 families with historical ties to the area and their ranches.

He mentioned that the hope is to also incorporate history and artifacts from the Southern Ute and Jicarilla Apache tribes, and other surrounding areas, such as Chama, N.M.

Matt Ford noted that part of the reasoning for leaving the dance hall open instead of enclosing the area is to allow for a higher occupancy load and save on cost.

He noted that overhead heaters will be installed, and that some sort of retractable side wall paneling could be installed for when extra protection from the elements is needed.

Matt Ford noted that the ask from the county is for approval under the joint use agreement, and to have permit fees waived by the county.

Commissioner John Ranson expressed support of the project, stating, “What an amazing gift for the community.”

Commissioner Warren Brown also expressed support, noting this is the type of thing that R.D. Hott likely envisioned.

“And to hold onto our roots to show everybody where we come from and where we are today, and I think this is a wonderful project,” Brown said.

County staff indicated that the request would be put on a future BoCC agenda for the commissioners to vote on at a meeting.

In a later interview, J.R. Ford indicated that the goal is to have the new building completed by the fall of 2027.

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1:00pm
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Water conservancy talks fence lines, ranch maintenance

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its May 18 meeting, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors discussed approaches to maintenance for the Running Iron Ranch and work that needs to be done there.

SJWCD board president Randy Cooper provided a summary of the work that he and SJWCD board member Charles Riehm have been doing concerning ranch maintenance.

He explained that he and Riehm met with John Smith, who manages cattle leasing in the area for the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the week before the meeting.

He indicated that Smith requested that the district release the cattle lease for an area that the Weber family, the previous tenants of the ranch, were grazing cattle on and turn it back to the USFS.

Cooper stated that the ranch also contains some fence lines that are not “on line,” meaning that the fence line

varies from the property line.

He indicated that these lines vary both in directions that benefit the USFS and the ranch’s owners and that the USFS was “incredibly cooperative” about the issue, offering to allow the district to take any extraneous fencing material in the area and use it to repair the fences.

Cooper added that the district has a year to correct the alignment of the fences.

He indicated that the SJWCD would have to pay someone to make these repairs and that ongoing fence maintenance would also be needed this year.

Repairs would need to be done even if no cattle are grazing on the property, Cooper noted, since adjacent property owners are grazing cattle.

He indicated that the USFS does not intend to lease its land near the property for grazing this year due to drought, which reduces the urgency of the issues.

Cooper stated that he and Riehm

are having informal conversations with adjacent landowners about what arrangements might be made for cattle grazing on the ranch.

He noted that there is “not a lot of money in this” and that raising cattle on the property might bring in \$3,000 to \$4,000 a month, but that leasing might be valuable to show income and enterprise on the ranch.

Cooper stated that he and Riehm also met with Steve Laverty, the president of the Park Ditch Company, about maintenance for the ditch, which runs through the ranch.

He noted that the Webers had previously done maintenance on the ditch and that Laverty emphasized the importance of all landowners participating in ditch maintenance.

Cooper indicated that Laverty highlighted the importance of weed control along the ditch and on the property in general.

He stated that one of the more cost-effective ways to do this would be to hire Archuleta County to do weed control on the property.

He commented that the board did not need to make any decision about the issue at the meeting, but does need to continue to think about the topic.

Cooper added that the summer is an especially critical time for weed-control activities.

The board then briefly discussed if not using its water rights for irrigation on the property would risk the abandonment of the water right, with the board concluding that it would have to look at the Park Ditch Company bylaws, but that this would likely not be a threat.

Cooper added that there would likely be irrigation on certain parts of the ranch to help ensure that the property could be used as a “safety net” for an adjacent landowner’s cattle.

He noted that Laverty appreciated that the SJWCD was meeting with him and interested in maintaining the ditch.

Cooper also indicated that some surveying work would need to be done before the fence line alignment corrections are made.
josh@pagosasun.com

Letters

■ Continued from A3

Archuleta County deserves leaders who listen, bring people together, and have the backbone to govern on behalf of everyone in our community—not just those who share their political views. Veronica Medina has proven she is that kind of collaborative leader, and I encourage my fellow residents to support her re-election.

Sincerely,
Corinne Reed

19th Hole Concerts

Dear Editor:

On behalf of Wings Early Childhood Center, the board would like to share our delight in being recognized at the first evening of the 19th Hole Concert series sponsored by the Southwest Community Foundation this month. Thanks, especially, to the Pagosa Springs Golf Club for bringing our community together while supporting local nonprofits.

We especially want to thank Bob

Heminger for sharing his incredible musical talent and creating such a fun and welcoming atmosphere.

Live music has a unique way of bringing people together. Bob is a treasure in our community.

We look forward to the upcoming concerts supporting the Upper San

Juan Watershed Enhancement Project, Pagosa Community Initiative, and Aspire Medical Services and Education and enjoying the great music by the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, Outlaw Firm and Bo DePeña.

Thanks to everyone who attended, donated, sponsored, volunteered,

performed, and supported the 19th Hole Concert Series. Your generosity and support strengthens local nonprofits and helps organizations like Wings continue serving Archuleta County families for years to come.

Wings Early Childhood Center
Board of Directors

19th Hole Concerts

at Pagosa Springs Golf Club

Thursdays in June
5:30–7:30pm

\$10 ticket supports local nonprofits

June 4	Bob Hemenger + Wings Early Childhood Center
June 11	Jackson Mountain Ramblers + Upper San Juan WEP
June 18	Outlaw Firm + Pagosa Community Initiative
June 25	Bo DePeña + Aspire Medical Services & Education

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Scan QR code for details & weather updates.

Obituary

Harvey T. Simpson

Harvey T. Simpson, 73, of Eagle, Idaho, formerly of Pagosa Springs, Colo., passed away June 2, 2026. Arrangements are under the direction of Bowman Funeral Parlor, Garden City, Idaho, www.bowmanfuneral.com.

Hey everyone!

Come by our Open House at 15 Night Hawk Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, on Thursday, June 18th, from 4:00–7:00 PM!

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Business

Chamber gearing up for 17th annual car show

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

The Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce is rolling out the red carpet for car enthusiasts as it prepares to host the 17th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show at Yamaguchi Park June 12 and 13.

This year's event promises two days of classic charm, chrome and community fun, with everything from vintage cruisers and hot rods to custom builds and specialty vehicles on display.

This is the 17th annual car show, and it has grown into one of Pagosa's favorite early-summer traditions, drawing participants and spectators from across the region. Admission for spectators is free, offering families and visitors an easy way to enjoy live music, local food and drink, and a festive park atmosphere while they stroll among meticulously restored

vehicles.

Weekend schedule and activities

This year's car show adds several new attractions designed to broaden its appeal. A cornhole tournament and a 1/25th-scale model car show will debut this year, giving both participants and spectators more reasons to linger in the park, compete and enjoy the full weekend experience.

The festivities kick off Friday evening, June 12, at Yamaguchi Park from 5 to 8 p.m., where spectators get their first look at the lineup of show cars and model cars.

We will have live music by the Brooks-i Band, food and beverages as attendees meet car owners, talk builds and restorations, and cast early People's Choice votes starting at 5 p.m. The pin-up contest will officially begin at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, June 13, the action

continues from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with the Show 'n' Shine, featuring judged competition in multiple categories and continued public voting for the People's Choice award.

Music will run through the late morning, and food and drink vendors will be on-site to keep spectators fueled as they wander rows of cars. Corn hole registration begins at 9:30 a.m., and the bags will fly at 10 a.m.

The Model Car Awards are scheduled to begin at 2 p.m., and the Car Show Awards Ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, wrapping up the show and recognizing standout vehicles before the event officially closes around 3 p.m.

Registration

Vehicle registration for the 17th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show is now open through the pagosachamber.com website just click on the car show logo on the main page.

The registration fee is \$50 dollars

for the first vehicle, with reduced rates of \$35 for additional entries when owners contact the Chamber directly to register multiple vehicles without extra T-shirts and dash plaques.

The show welcomes a full spectrum of entries, including classic cars, hot rods, customs, trucks and specialty vehicles. Owners are encouraged to "dust off their ride" and share their craftsmanship and passion with the community during the two-day event.

Volunteering

The Chamber needs an army to make an event successful. If you are interested in volunteering, please go the sign up at www.signuppenius.com/go/20F0A4BA8AA2DA7F85-63412769-17th#.

You can also call the Chamber at (970) 264-2360 if you are interested in helping us put on this great event for our community.

Commissioners discuss Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy items

By **Clayton Chaney**
Staff Writer

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on May 26, Commissioner Veronica Medina led a discussion on the county's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

The CEDS is facilitated by the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado.

According to Region 9's website, "The CEDS document provides detailed economic and demographic profiles for Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan counties, and the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribes and is updated every five years. The purpose is to retain and create better paying jobs, fostering stable and more diversified economies, and improve the quality of life for residents of Southwest Colorado."

During the work session, Medina indicated that the CEDS is historically led by Region 9, "which is appropriate," she commented, but mentioned that she felt the BoCC didn't have an opportunity "to really talk about what's on it" and its vision for Archuleta County.

Medina noted that under the demographics and workforce section, employers consistently report difficulty in hiring.

She then spoke about the 3-mile plan overview, explaining how the Town of Pagosa Springs has its own 3-mile plan as well.

Medina noted that these plans are set by state law and deal with annexation.

According to the Department of Local Affairs, "The three-mile plan is a long range planning opportunity for municipalities to consider where they want to annex, how they will provide service in the newly annexed areas, and how they will sustain adequate levels of service throughout the rest of the municipality. It ensures that the municipality will annex land only when it is consistent with pre-existing plans for the surrounding area."

Medina described the 3-mile plan as "interesting," explaining that she's had conversations with the county manager and attorney about annexation.

Medina also mentioned that she's spoken with businesses located within town limits, stating they've asked what it would take for them to annex out of the town and back into the county.

"So, lots of conversation about annexation," she said, noting that the state requires municipalities to review 3-mile plans every year, claiming the town has not reviewed its since 2011.

"If you're not growing, you're dying," Medina said of the town's plan, prompting the question of how annexation truly affects the county.

Medina then began to review items within the county's CEDS, noting the first item being workforce housing.

"I feel like the county has done a lot with housing," she said, mentioning completed and ongoing projects that the county has supported in the community.

Medina suggested that the Archuleta County Housing Author-

ity (ACHA), which oversees the Socorro and elderly housing complexes, should be listed as a partner.

"They provide an essential housing solution for the elderly in our community," Medina said.

Commissioners Warren Brown and John Ranson supported adding the ACHA as a housing partner in the CEDS.

Medina then commented on the Pagosa Area Recreation Coalition (PARC), which has been added as a CEDS item.

Medina explained that when PARC was forming the county and town "were talking a lot about a recreation district, and that was my hope and dream for PARC to be a recreation district."

■ See Strategy A6

Laura Lewis Marchino re-elected to National Association of Development Organizations Board of Directors

National Association of Development Organizations

Laura Lewis Marchino, executive director of the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, has been re-elected to the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Marchino was first elected in 2009.

"We are honored to continue to have Laura be selected by her peers to serve on NADO's Board of Directors. She brings a wealth of expertise, knowledge, and leadership on regional communities and economic development issues to the national level," stated Joe McKinney, NADO

executive director.

NADO's board of directors represents member organizations from a broad section of the United States, including the Eastern, Midwestern, Central, Southeastern, Southwestern and Western regions. Marchino is the only board member from Colorado.

NADO serves as the national voice of regional development organizations. The association is an advocate for federal community and economic development programs and policies that help local communities improve their local economy and quality of life.

For more information about NADO and the NADO Research Foundation, visit www.nado.org.

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Strategy

■ Continued from A5

She acknowledged that there are difficulties in forming a recreation district, specifically with funding, “and that’s probably why it hasn’t been done.”

Medina mentioned that there could be some “real benefits” of the town and county helping PARC become a recreation district.

“I just feel like there’s a lot of opportunity having a recreation district would be very beneficial,” she said, noting that PARC’s current work is “absolutely beneficial” and that becoming a recreation district would be extra helpful.

Brown explained that the county’s previous attorney advised that forming a recreation district would be at least a two- or three-year-long process and would have to go to the ballot for voter support.

“To me, it makes sense,” Brown said, noting the town and county have separate recreation projects, and that the town has stepped up to support numerous projects.

“But, we do have a consistent stream of funds narrowly dedicated to parks,” Brown said, referring to Conservation Trust money the county receives from the state.

Medina then mentioned another CEDS item, the county’s landfill, and suggested that the Pagosa Fire Protection District and the Wildfire Adapted Partnership be added as partners in the county’s CEDS, due to a new chopper machine the county has that may be able to assist with fire mitigation work.

She also mentioned that the county’s plans for relocating its Pagosa Springs transfer station “will open up opportunities for recycling.”

Medina also mentioned there are biomass opportunities that “we just haven’t tapped into.”

“I like that concept a lot,” Ranson said, noting there are a “couple significant” businesses already located in the county that could tap into the biomass industry and create more jobs locally.

Brown agreed with Ranson’s and Medina’s comments, noting that biomass is a topic the county began

talking about a few years ago, mentioning that it is “a resource that we underutilize substantially.”

Medina also talked about the county’s public health department, explaining the county separated from San Juan Basin Public Health in 2024.

Medina commended the work of the county’s public health director, Ashley Wilson, in figuring out the needs of the community, which “has really shown in the services being provided currently.”

Medina added that the public health department is an important resource for the community and that “families are finding value” in it.

“I feel like our public health department has come a long way and it has truly benefited our community,” Medina said.

Medina then moved to the topic of a new county administration building, noting she didn’t have much to add there.

Ranson commented that the county needs to do something, although he noted that he is not in favor of a 30,000-square-foot building at price of \$25 million-\$30 million, indicating the county may have an option to pursue a roughly 20,000-square-foot building at a price closer to \$5 million-\$6 million.

“I know there is a need,” Ranson said.

Brown agreed that the “need is there” and it is not going away, mentioning that he is looking forward to the results from facilities feasibility study being performed for the county by a company called Performance Services Inc.

During a later interview, Brown explained that earlier this year the county signed a “no cost” memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Performance Services for it to provide an assessment on a potential new administration building along with other existing “viable structures” in the community that might fit the county’s needs.

Brown indicated that he expects the assessment results to be shared with the county “anytime” now.

For more information on the MOU and what the assessment will provide,

see the article “BoCC approves moving forward with facilities feasibility study,” published in the Jan. 22 issue of The SUN, or online at www.pagosasun.com/stories/bocc-approves-moving-forward-with-facilities-feasibility-study,121875.

During the work session, County Manager Longinos Gonzalez commented that the assessment results should be ready by mid-June.

Brown commented that any time the county is renting a space, it is not building equity for the county. He noted that the county is doing what it is needed to get by, but noted that renting a facility is not a permanent fix.

“I’m sure this board will come out with a reasonable and thoughtful decision,” Brown said in regard to deciding what to do for a new county administration building.

Medina then presented a series of her own items she suggested be added to the county’s CEDS.

She explained that the county receives tons of calls about roads, suggesting that be added as its own item to also include culverts, maintenance and gravel.

She noted that there is likely a “much bigger conversation” in regard to what roads in specific areas of the county it is responsible for.

Medina specifically mentioned that conversations with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe about rights of way are also occurring, noting that the county can not always immediately work on areas of County Road 500 due to portions of the road falling on tribal lands.

“It’s hard; we have some limitations there,” she said.

Medina went on to suggest that “power” be added as its own item, mentioning the need for generators in response to Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), or “rolling black-outs.”

Medina mentioned that the county needs reliable backup power from generators, “Because we know that, we — as a county government, we are not prepared if the power goes out for all things that we need to make sure have power.”

She also raised the question on what it would take to provide power into more parts of Aspen Springs.

Ranson commented that “the generator thing is big,” noting that Pagosa Springs Medical Center is working on getting more reliable backup power.

“They have some, but not what they’re gonna need,” he said, also suggesting the county may want to explore more power alternatives for future generations.

Brown offered similar comments, noting the power industry is growing by leaps and bounds.

“There’s a lot of movement in that field,” Brown said in regard to exploring alternative power options.

He also mentioned that having more options may give the county the ability to say “no” at times, “which I think may be as much, or more important.”

Medina then suggested that water be its own item under the county’s CEDS.

“Right now Colorado is in the fight of their life to keep the water that we have from other states,” she said.

Medina explained that the CEDS offers a vision for the county and that grant opportunities may become available for projects that align with items on the county’s CEDS.

“I’ve been told if it’s not on the CEDS, then it’s not really a plan,” Medina said.

She also brought up land banking as a way for the county to be “forward thinking” in its vision for the community, noting that land could be acquired and dedicated for certain purposes such as housing and commercial development.

Medina mentioned that the county really only has Cloman Park to offer businesses for industrial space at the moment, which is “pretty much tapped out.”

Ranson commented that the county is already doing some land banking in a small aspect with the parcel it purchased in Aspen Village in May 2025 for a potential new administration building.

“I’m not a big fan of grants to buy land,” Ranson said, noting he finds it hard to call it a grant when it requires more expenses on the county such as having to hire more employees.

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Town council hears about grant opportunity for wildfire ready action plan for Upper San Juan watershed

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 2, the Pagosa Springs Town Council heard a presentation from Al Pfister, board president of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP), about an application for the state-run Wildfire Ready Action Plan (WRAP) grant.

The WRAP grant is a state of Colorado program, with its website describing the program as “locally-developed wildfire ready action plans (WRAP), refining the statewide susceptibility evaluations to reflect local values and community-scale data.”

The website adds, “WRAPS will lead to actionable wildfire ready watersheds projects.”

Pfister explained that the total project cost for WEP to do a watershed fire action plan for the Upper San Juan watershed would be about \$400,000, and the grant would require a match of about \$100,000.

He noted the benefits of a WRAP would include identifying critical infrastructure that may be susceptible to risk and developing plans for roads

and trails that may be impacted by post-wildfire effects.

The fostering of collaboration between planners and emergency management agencies would also be a benefit to the community, he stated.

He explained what a WRAP actually does, saying it fosters stakeholder engagement, collects data and resources for the watershed, and organizes that data into a central database for use down the road.

He added that the models could help predict how a watershed will behave in a post-wildfire situation and that the action plan would include both pre-and post-wildfire projects to mitigate damage to the watershed.

He added that he was not at the meeting asking for funding at this time, but wanted to give the council a “heads up” that this was coming up.

The WEP would be asking the town for \$5,000 to go toward the match, with other stakeholders, such as Archuleta County, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) and others contributing as well.

Council member Mat deGraaf asked for an example of how this type

of program could help mitigate damage from a wildfire.

Pfister pointed to “what was done up the Four Mile drainage to protect the PAWSD water supply, and then there was the subsequent Plumtaw Fire and that mitigation work that was done there essentially precluded impacting PAWSD’s water line.”

He stated that similar mitigation could be done on the PAWSD water diversion up the West Fork of the San Juan “to make sure that the water diversion is protected, or at least to minimize impacts.”

He added, “That’s where all the engineering will come in to say, OK, if we have a 100-year flood with a fire before it, then they would be modeling to say what can be done to minimize the impacts.”

Council member Gary Williams said, “I do want to thank you for your work ... and the town wants to harness this volunteer energy to help us do this kind of thing.”

Pfister said that the state is “really stepping up to provide money” for these type of projects.

derek@pagosasun.com

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USDA Rural Development to join Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County for Crane Day

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development staff members Victoria Martinez, single-family housing loan specialist, and Tineel Baroz, single-family housing program director, will visit Pagosa Springs during the last week of June to participate in Crane Day, a major construction milestone for Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County.

The event will mark the placement of the final four modular homes in Habitat Archuleta's "15 Homes in 5 Years" campaign.

By the end of this five-year effort, Habitat Archuleta will not only have tripled its historical building capacity, but further expanded its impact in Archuleta County through the USDA Direct Loan Program.

As a certified packaging body, the organization will have helped 22 local families become homeowners in Archuleta County — 16 families already served and six more loan applications underway this year.

Habitat Archuleta also provides direct loan packaging support to neighboring rural Habitat affiliates, contributing to affordable homeownership opportunities for 12 more families across rural Colorado, for a grand total of 34 direct loans during the five-year campaign.

"Crane Day is an exciting annual event, really kicking off the volunteer opportunities on our job site throughout the rest of the summer and fall," said Leah Ballard, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County. "USDA's Direct Loan program has been paramount for the Habitat program locally, enabling us to leverage hundreds of thousands of dollars in forgivable down-payment assistance for the families who partner with us to build. These homes are deed-restricted to remain in the community's affordable inventory for 30 years."

As a direct loan packaging partner, Habitat Archuleta works closely with USDA Rural Development to help families navigate the mortgage process and secure affordable financing for safe, decent homes.



Photo courtesy Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

A crane lifts a portion of a Habitat for Humanity modular into place. This year, local Habitat staff and volunteers will be joined by U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development staff for Crane Day. The day will mark the placement of the final four modular homes in Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County's "15 Homes in 5 Years" campaign.

Colorado USDA Rural Development State Director Sallie Clark announced June as National Homeownership Month, highlighting the commitment to affordable housing access and helping more Americans, especially first-time homebuyers, achieve the dream of homeownership. The USDA's partnership with

Habitat Archuleta is an excellent example of expanding opportunities for affordable housing.

More information about USDA Rural Development housing programs is available at www.rd.usda.gov/co. Details about Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County can be found at www.habitatarchuleta.org.

BLM seeks initial input for December sale of oil and gas leases in Colorado

Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has opened a 30-day public scoping period to receive public input on 114 oil and gas parcels, including within Archuleta County, totaling 126,744 acres that may be included in a December 2026 lease sale in Colorado.

The scoping period ends July 9. Leasing is the first step in the process to develop federal oil and

gas resources. Before development operations can begin, an operator must submit an application for permit to drill detailing development plans.

The BLM reviews applications for permits to drill, posts them for public review, conducts an environmental analysis and coordinates with state partners and stakeholders.

All parcels that are included in a federal oil and gas lease sale include appropriate stipulations to protect

important natural resources. Information on current and upcoming BLM leases is available through the National Fluid Lease Sale System. BLM lease sales are held online through Efficient Markets.

The parcels BLM is analyzing, as well as maps and instructions on how to comment, are available on the BLM's ePlanning website at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/Project-Home/?id=1891DE4D-0564-F111-A824-001DD8029ED0>.

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- Updates on:
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SPONSORED CONTENT

Business Spotlight: Sue Wilhoit helps patients feel at home at Black Diamond Dental

By Allison Brown

Since opening its doors in March, Black Diamond Dental has built a welcoming, family-focused practice with the help of Patient Advocate and Lead Dental Assistant Sue Wilhoit.

Wilhoit has worked in dental assisting since 1982 and brought decades of experience with her when the new practice opened at 2363 Eagle Dr. in Pagosa Springs.

Dr. Justin Nylund, DDS, said her knowledge, work ethic and ability to connect with patients have been invaluable to caring for the community.

“She has been instrumental in starting this practice,” Nylund said.

Having lived in the Pagosa Springs area for the past 18 years with her husband, Wilhoit has developed deep ties within the community.

Dr. Nylund said many patients are greeted not only by name, but also with questions about their children, grandchildren and everyday lives. He added that Wilhoit helps patients feel comfortable and cared for, especially those who may be nervous about visiting the dentist.

Beyond her role assisting patients, Wilhoit has helped organize office systems, improve workflow and increase quality patient care as the practice continues to grow. Nylund said she is always checking in on co-workers and making sure everyone is taken care of during busy days.

“She always has a smile and makes the best of every situation,” he said.

Nylund added that Wilhoit’s energy is contagious. He said she is constantly moving from room to room helping patients, supporting staff and making everyone’s day better.

Black Diamond Dental offers pre-



Photo courtesy of Black Diamond Dental

Sue Wilhoit, patient advocate and lead dental assistant for Black Diamond Dental of Pagosa Springs.

ventive, restorative, periodontal, emergency and family dental services for patients of all ages in a friendly, family-focused environment.

Black Diamond Dental of Pagosa Springs is part of The Pagosa Springs SUN sponsored content program called Spotlight.

PAWSD

■ Continued from front board’s June 11 meeting, Ramsey recommends that the board vote to enter drought stage two due to significant declines in flows in the San Juan River and declining water levels in Lake Hatcher.

Drought stage two would restrict irrigation to odd or even days based on street address in addition to the changes and restrictions imposed in phase one. This stage aims to reduce water usage by 20 to 30 percent.

According to U.S. Geological Survey data, the San Juan River in Pagosa Springs was flowing at 177 cubic feet per second on the morning of June 10, while data from Ramsey indicate that Lake Hatcher was approximately 8 inches below full pool on June 9 and had dropped 3 inches in the last week.

Ramsey commented that all of these levels are lower than last year at the same time and that the district could enter drought stage three or greater, which comes with increased charges and further restrictions on irrigation, if summer monsoon rains do not materialize.

According to the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) run by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the entirety of Archuleta County is currently in either severe or extreme drought and the period from January to April of 2026 was the 14th driest for that period in the last 132 years.

NIDIS also indicates that about 93 percent of Colorado is in some level of drought.

On June 4, Colorado Gov. Jared Polis activated phase three of the state’s drought response plan, declaring a statewide drought emergency and enabling state agencies to take other emergency steps.

These include supplying emergency funding for unmet drought response needs, potentially seeking a federal disaster declaration and taking actions to reduce water usage at state facilities by curbing irrigation and other outdoor water use.

Ramsey explained PAWSD is taking steps beyond imposing drought

restrictions to keep the district well positioned for the drought.

The district is processing as much of its uptown water supply as possible through its San Juan treatment plant, Ramsey explained, which draws on water leaving the area through the San Juan River instead of depleting the finite supply of water available in Lake Hatcher.

Lake Hatcher cannot be refilled currently since the district’s water rights on Fourmile Creek, where water is diverted for Hatcher and other lakes, are less senior than many ranches in the area and their diversion has been cut off, Ramsey stated.

Saving Lake Hatcher until later in the season maximizes the district’s water supply, he commented.

However, both the drought restrictions and the heavy usage of the San Juan treatment plant come with costs.

“We want people to quit using water, but we need them to keep using water to pay our bills,” Ramsey said, referring to the district’s drought mitigation steps.

The rate multipliers and the additional fees imposed for later drought stages help recoup these losses, Ramsey stated, but they do not fully make up for them.

Relying on the San Juan water treatment plant also brings additional costs, he indicated, since it requires pumping water 7 miles from the San Juan River to the plant and leads to a large jump in PAWSD’s electric bills.

Both the loss of revenues and the increased operational costs supplement the district’s issues with lower-than-expected amount of new construction reducing its capital investment fee income and deepen its current financial challenges, Ramsey noted.

The district’s loans, particularly for its recent rebuild of the Snowball water treatment plant and modifications to the Vista wastewater treatment plant, include conditions that the district must maintain certain ratios of income to expenses.

PAWSD Comptroller Jack Dossett explained to the board at a May 14 meeting that violating these ratios would make any future capital the district secures more expensive.

At its June 11 meeting, the board will take up both Ramsey’s recommendation to move into drought stage two and potential surcharges to make up for its current budget deficiencies.

josh@pagosasun.com

Attention Mutton Busters!!

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If you are interested in participating in the Red Ryder Roundup Mutton Busting event, please register by Thursday, June 25th. Applicants must be 6 years old or younger and a parent must attend the rodeo with you. There will be 10 riders per day on July 2, 3 and 4. Helmets, vests and ropes will be provided at no charge. There is no charge for this event and all participants will be drawn out of a box Sunday, June 28. If you are selected, you will be notified of the day you will ride by telephone or email.

www.pagosarodeo.com



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Child’s age

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Parent’s contact email and phone

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2026

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School

■ **Continued from front**
by BEST next year.”

On June 3, BOE president Bob Lynch explained the board would be having informal discussion on the matter and indicated the district didn’t receive all good news, but it also didn’t receive all bad news from BEST.

“There’s a line there that we’re just below, so it has implications for some serious choices about what we do as a district relative to future BEST applications and relative to different bond options,” he said.

Superintendent Rick Holt noted the work session would be broken down into two parts, with the first part discussing options and receiving thoughts and considerations from the board and others, and then discussing a potential poll related to possible ballot language.

The board was joined by Doug Abernethy from RTA Architects, Lynea Hansen from Hansen Communications (who helped the district with its mill levy override) and Kathryn Hahne from New Bridge Strategy.

Holt explained the results of this year’s BEST grant funding, noting only two on the funded list require a bond measure passing.

Holt explained there is a chance the district could see funding as the first on the waiting list should those measures fail, there are also risks because that would be the final amount received from BEST, and accepting that funding could mean the district accepts less than the 40 percent BEST could match in the future.

Holt outlined the district could go for a bond election for the entire amount, or it could go for a bond contingent upon the district receiving a BEST grant within a certain timeframe.

He also noted there are risks with asking for a bond contingent upon award of a BEST grant because by the time the BEST grant is awarded, the amount passed for the bond may not cover the district’s match.

He also discussed questions about the likelihood of passing a bond in Archuleta County and a grant funded to Kiowa, where a matching bond was not approved by voters and for whom BEST waived the match requirement.

Lynch noted each year is a new opportunity and a new experience.

Holt also noted he’s asked for the BEST board’s feedback, which the district has not yet received, but that it will be able to use to help better its application next year.

Abernethy explained that, on the finance side, the best route is to go back to the contractors it talked to previously to reconfirm budget amounts and any changes in the market that would necessitate any changes to the application in terms of the dollar amounts.

Abernethy also shared the application was very good and that was proven by the rankings.

He added the community engagement was positive and differentiated the project.

“It wasn’t that the project was lacking merit, it was more about the finances that were available for BEST this year,” Abernethy observed.

Abernethy also spoke to differences between ASD’s project and Kiowa’s project, which was the top award by BEST.

Abernethy noted ASD’s project checks all the fundamental things BEST looks for.

In response to a question by Holt, Abernethy discussed other projects that similarly didn’t receive funding the first year and the steps taken after funding was not initially received.

He added that, because the need is there for ASD and there is support for the project in the community, pausing is probably not a good option.

Board member Tim Taylor noted that being next on the list is a positive and had there been \$50 million more available, ASD would have been funded.

“I have every reason to be optimistic,” he said.

Holt noted the application was a team effort.

Taylor also referenced other districts that had to go back multiple times, noting it seems like most of the time they are funded after going back again.

Abernethy called it a bit of a chicken and the egg, noting there’s no clear answer to if a bond helps get a BEST grant or if a BEST grant helps get a bond.

Abernethy also noted that the BEST match changes every couple of years.

Holt reiterated the district will benefit from feedback from the BEST board.

Hansen also discussed other districts that went for a bond multiple times and how changes in wording ultimately helped the bonds be approved.

“I was really impressed that you guys came in as the first backup project,” she said before also discussing

Kiowa and what that project meant for ASD’s project.

Hansen suggested going to the ballot this year for only the amount the district would need in addition to a BEST grant, suggesting asking for 100 percent of the project funds would likely be less successful.

“I’m strongly recommending you keep your momentum going,” she said, again suggesting going for a match contingent upon receiving a BEST grant.

Those at the work session also discussed the community’s threshold for a match and the desire to test the community on dollar amounts and what is being funded (only a new building or with other ASD projects included).

In response to a question, Holt indicated his understanding is that all of the funds asked for through a bond would be contingent upon a BEST grant, not only the portion of the funding for a new school.

Board member Amanda Schick also brought up that other local entities may be going on the ballot.

Holt noted that his understanding is that ASD would be the only entity asking for an increase, adding the Upper San Juan Health Service district may be asking to continue its current funding level without raising taxes and the county may be taking a question about lodgers’ tax to the ballot, but that lodgers’ tax would not affect mills.

Holt suggested the district is probably most heavily in competition with the gas pump and the general economy, which he called “not ideal.”

The group then switched gears to discuss polling.

It was noted that the exact questions wouldn’t be discussed so they weren’t released to the public ahead of the polling.

Hahne explained they plan to be in the community for about 12 days in late June/early July with a survey and a goal to survey 250-300 voters for this size of community.

She noted they do 500-600 people for statewide work.

She noted the margin of error would be about 6 percent with 250-300 people.

She explained the company will send out text message and email invites to take the survey in addition to calling people.

She noted the data will allow for modeling for the current election.

Hahne then explained the “general buckets” they hope to test if

board approval is received to carry out the survey:

- The actual ballot language or a close approximation to what ballot language may be used.
- Specific projects outside of the new school and willingness to pay for those projects.
- Pro and con statements for the ballot language.
- Demographic questions.

Taylor asked if the amount available for BEST next year is known.

Hansen noted it is funded mostly by excise taxes on marijuana growers, with that not being part of the budget the state legislature approves.

Abernethy explained estimates are made closer to the end of the calendar year.

He added funding from public lands that is used for certificates of participation is also currently not known.

Hansen added that the polling aims to use as close to the real ballot language to see how that language polls, but that data from the polls can also help make the ballot language and title better.

The group also discussed how to determine voter sensitivity to cost.

Schick asked what the process will be over the three weeks between the work session and the beginning of polling.

Hansen noted they will be working with Holt, adding later he will provide the final approval of the poll questions.

She added the goal of the work session would be to hear any potential projects or dollar amounts or scenarios the board would like incorporated.

Hansen and Holt indicated there are several projects related to the high school system and charter school that will be included in the polling, for example.

Holt also discussed being mindful of how the district’s debt would be structured to potentially help the district be able to more easily have funding approved for things like a new high school at the end of the current school’s lifespan.

Additional discussion on the matter further discussed the timeline leading up to the poll and what type of potential ballot language should be tested.

Hahne informed the board they plan to have data back around July 8, with the key findings and data being given to the district by July 14.

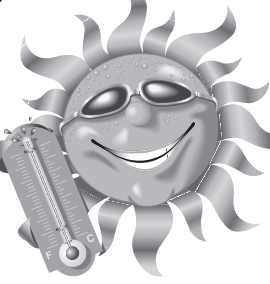
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sales tax collection numbers are a “big concern,” explaining that sales tax collections always have an effect on the county.

Brown mentioned that the decrease seen in April was not much of a surprise, due to the volume “or lack of” people in town.

Brown indicated that the Colorado Department of Transportation’s reconstruction project of U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs is still expected to be completed on time, by December of this year.

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Tax

■ **Continued from front**

\$625,755.66 going to the county and \$625,658.47 going to the town.

January saw a decrease of 10.64 percent (\$149,587.01) in sales tax collections, while numbers for February reflected a 1.17 percent increase (\$16,020.75). March figures reflected a 1.01 (\$15,560.32) percent decrease.

According to data in Eaton’s press release, the year-to-date comparison for January through April of this year shows a 4.55 percent decrease, or \$258,391.45 less received compared to figures from January through April 2025.

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

include:

- Retail Trade at .93 percent, or \$6,666.61.
- Finance and Insurance at 102.41 percent, or \$1,034.02.
- Real Estate, Rental and Leasing at 8.05 percent, or \$1,660.12.
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 30.07 percent, or \$2,824.
- Other Services (except Public Administration) at 19.3 percent, or \$5,078.01.
- Miscellaneous at 19.3 percent, or \$5,078.01.

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

- Construction at 47.14 percent, or \$16,177.91.
- Manufacturing at 56.88 percent, or \$72,217.93.
- Information at 19.73 percent, or \$4,905.44.
- Accommodation and Food Services at 19.49 percent, or \$38,208.50.
- Miscellaneous at 5.01 percent, or \$10,836.68.

In an interview, Commissioner Warren Brown commented that the

Archuleta County Democratic Club to meet June 23

Colorado State Patrol

The Archuleta County Democratic will club will host Cindi Galabota, director of the Colorado State University Extension center, on Tuesday, June 23, at 11:30 a.m.

The luncheon meeting will be held at Uncle’s.

Living in the unique landscape of Southwest Colorado brings incredible beauty — and specific challenges. Join Galabota for an informative program to help you thrive in our local environment. Galabota will share local resources, high-altitude horticulture tips, and wildfire safety and emergency planning.

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

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

For more information, contact lynnfredrick1@gmail.com.

Re-Elect VERONICA MEDINA

— ARCHULETA COUNTY COMMISSIONER —

DISTRICT 3

FACTS MATTER

For the past several years, a small group of individuals has repeatedly filed complaints and pursued a recall effort against me.

Here are the facts:

- The Colorado Real Estate Commission dismissed the complaint against me on June 2, 2026. The hearing recording is publicly available online.
- The Award was issued in October 2025 by Colorado Federation of Republican Women. The Archuleta County Republican Women presented the award to me.
- The recall effort failed because not enough signatures were collected. The petition was never submitted.
- As your County Commissioner, I have never shied away from making tough decisions. Leadership means making choices that serve the best interests of Archuleta County, even when those decisions are not always popular.
- County decisions require the support of at least two commissioners. No commissioner acts alone.

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Education



Photo courtesy Archuleta School District

Some of Archuleta School District’s retirees pose with the school board and Superintendent Rick Holt during an event honoring their service to the district on June 3. Retirees in attendance for the celebration were Vicki Hujus, Julie August, Sean O’Donnell and Connie O’Donnell.

Middle school releases fourth-quarter honor roll

By Anjelica Gallegos
Pagosa Springs Middle School

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

The following fifth-grade students made the honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Zayden Anderson, Logan Bristow, Easton Caler, Logan Candelaria, Annisia Chavez, Morgan Cole, Connor Coleman, Scarlet Davis, Marshall Denham, Owen Fitzgerald, Amarah Forrest, Zosimos Gordon, Kateri Hamby, Henley Heckmann, Seton Hensle, Reed Hewitt, Caleb Hudler, Wynter Kirby, Lillie Lemley, Keelan Lindahl, Wilma Miller, Addison Newsome, Everly Olliffe, Alexis Pack, Aspen Perez, Abigail Rohwer, Louie Seelan, Elliott Sheehan, Aubree Straway, Anabella VanNess, Colton Wattier and Elias Zappone.

The following fifth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Camden Ash, Everly Campbell, Xavier Escalante, Harper Flanagan,

Shiloh Kossler, Lane Maestas, Airdrie Massari and Alice Tuten.

The following sixth-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Costanzo Allione, Gage Bobbitt, Ainsley Bracken, Henry Cesary, Peyton Dele, Steele Forrest, Joselyn Hirshberg, Xane Laursen, Ziva Logacz, Sadie Matyniak, Evelyn Mendoza, Kenzie Miller, Zaen Mitchell, Kaci Moeller, Ember Nelson, Vanessa Parker, London Rafferty, Darla Renner, Bianca Rivera, Paige Rogacki, Scarlett Roque, Eleanor Samu, Braylynn Sawdey, Elise Tlachac, Max Witt and Sedona Zissman.

The following sixth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Rafe Halterman, Beatrice Iverson, LeAnna Miller, Jeri Moeller, Jaxen Nielsen, Penelope Peck, Jariah Portnell, Grant Saylor, David Smith and Kimberly Taylor.

The following seventh-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Emmary Brewer, Mayley Evans, Deklyn Fiorenza,

Farrah Foutz, Savannah Graves, Anya Hamby, Molly Hart, Cora Jackson, Tenley Keegan, Bodhi King, Kainoa Landry, Felix Long, Colle Looper, Sebastian Lujan-Parra, Kai Mathews-Davey, Ashlynn Mathis, Sage Merrill-Exton, Chase Osborn, Gabriella Pahe, Koda Rice, Hannah Richards, Rystle Ross, Riley Sanders, Aethancoal Simineo, Hadassah Trujillo, Lillian Vega, Hazel West, Nova Wilson and Maheylla Witting.

The following seventh-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Jacob Adams, Brooke Anderson, Aariah Archuleta, Grant Bliss, Kiley Braun, Wyatt Buck, Taylor Cole, Chauncey Forster, Merick Halterman, Dylan Luna, Christopher Martinez, Jose Moreno-Echavarria, Kiara Patel, Delilah Powell, Samuel Sanchez, Tyson Sewell and Damien Turk.

The following eighth-grade students made honor roll with 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Kiana Bennett, Zander Campbell, Gavino Dozal-Nevarez, Jacob Freeman, Miles Har-

ris, Davyn Leiker, Roen Loveday, Mia Lucero, Xavier Lyman, Ari Martinez, Karlie Rose, Neitzey Shepherd, Ahaziah Talamante, Colten Ulibarri, Levi Velarde, Jackson Werby and Teyve Zissman.

The following eighth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Elias Becker Sweeden, Camelia Bellina, BayLee Bishop, Breland Bridges, Carlie Bridges, Adam Candelaria, Callie Carothers, Kyleah Coss, Shiloh Degelman, Miles Dempster, Olivia Diffey, Christian Henson, Kadence Inez, Cooper Laner, Avitt Lee-Shaw, Eduardo Marinelarena, Oliver Mendoza, Lucy Modern, Finley Renner, Boise Ridley, Jaxon Sherman, Asher Smith, Livia Souza, Arianna Talamante, Trent Tator, Harlee Taylor, Tuff Terrazas, Micah Tyler, Michael Wells and Francis Witting.

GOAL High School celebrates record-breaking class of 2026

GOAL High School

GOAL High School is proud to announce its record-breaking graduating class of 2026, the highest number in the school’s history.

In two days and 12 ceremonies, GOAL had more than 2,000 students walk the stage and receive their diplomas, including 37 from Goal’s Pagosa Springs location.

This achievement is credited to the school’s commitment to personalized learning, student support and strong community partnerships.

The class of 2026 demonstrated exceptional college and career readiness. Included in this class are more than 300 students who graduated while earning college credit; 19 of those alumni also earned associate degrees. Additionally, almost 1,800 graduates earned an ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate, displaying strong preparation for high demand careers. An additional 30 students have enlisted in the military, reflecting their commitment to service and leadership.

GOAL Academy High School is a

statewide, multi-district charter school authorized by District 49. GOAL is a Microsoft Showcase School and provides online curriculum with in-person support at 37 student drop-in centers across Colorado.

Community news.

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Photo courtesy Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs

Rotary Youth Exchange students from across Rotary District 5470 gather in Pagosa Springs for a year-end celebration before departing for their home countries after experiencing a school year in Colorado. The week-end included visiting many fun destinations in Pagosa Springs including a group photo, with country flags, at the iconic Continental Divide sign atop Wolf Creek Pass. The gentleman holding the Rotary flag is a Rotarian from Alabama who happened to be at the location with his wife and recognized the Rotary T-shirts.

Rotary Youth Exchange students celebrate year-end in Pagosa Springs

By Lisa Scott and Terri House
Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs

Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) students from across Rotary District 5470 gathered in Pagosa Springs last weekend for a memorable year-end celebration filled with adventure, connection and cultural exchange. Hosted by the Rotary Club Youth Exchange Committee and Pagosa's own exchange student, Wennei Chan, from New Taipei, Taiwan, the weekend included attending the Thursday night rodeo, soaking in the hot springs, visiting the wildlife park and a group photo at the iconic Continental Divide sign atop Wolf Creek Pass. A highlight of the weekend came Friday evening, when students had a potluck dinner with members of the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs and other youth exchange leaders. The evening was filled with stories, laughter and the warm fellowship that defines Rotary. The students spent the weekend camping under the stars, playing games and sharing reflections on

their exchange experiences in the United States. It was a fitting celebration of friendship and global understanding — cornerstones of the RYE program. Fourteen students attending the celebration and their host Rotary Club affiliation include:

- Pagosa Springs: Wennei Chan, from Taiwan;
- Aspen: Johannes Sobotka, from Austria;
- Carbondale: Laura Wozniak, from Poland, and Oguzalp Felek, from Turkey;
- Crested Butte: Matias Bonnar-terre, from Argentina;
- Delta: Eliska Cubovaj, from Czech Republic;
- Durango: Chloe Galy from France and Jed Kabogoza, from Uganda;
- Edwards/Vail: Marcell Baka, from Hungary;
- Glenwood Springs: Sigrid Zetterstrahm, from Sweden;
- Grand Junction: Constantin Rudolf, from Germany;
- Montrose: Catarina Pezzali, from Brazil;

- North Fork Valley: Takuya Ohashi, from Japan;
- Telluride: Chochi Rubio, from Columbia.

Organizing the weekend activities was the local RYE Committee: Lisa Scott, Ronnie Doctor and Granton Bartz. Other RYE coordinators attending and participating in the weekend activities included John Stroud from Carbondale, Sally Corcoran from Vail/Edwards, and Kristi Redlinger and Mari Garland from Grand Junction. Rotary clubs have been facilitating international student exchanges since the 1920s, making it one of Rotary's longest-running and most impactful programs. It became an official program of Rotary International in 1975, and Pagosa Springs hosted its first student in 1978, and the program continues to open hearts and minds around the world. For more information on becoming an exchange student or a host family, visit PagosaSpringsRotary.org or mountainandplainsrye.com and contact Lisa Scott, (970) 749-4268.

Safe2Tell reports prompt threat assessment, substance use intervention in May

Colorado Attorney General's Office

A Safe2Tell report about a student making gun-related gestures and identifying a person they intended to harm prompted a law enforcement welfare check, threat assessment and referral to mental health resources. In another report, school staff intervened after receiving information that a student was distributing illegal substances to peers at school. These are two examples of the 2,537 reports submitted to Colorado's Safe2Tell program in May. During the 2025-2026 school year, Safe2Tell received 28,039 reports from students, parents, school staff and community members across Colorado. Key findings from May 2026:

- The most frequently reported concerns were school safety (19.7 percent), mental health (16.8 percent), bullying (16.4 percent) and substance use (10.4 percent).
- Duplicate reports accounted for 8.8 percent of submissions, reflecting a healthy reporting culture in which multiple individuals raised the same concern.
- False reports remained historically low at 1.8 percent.

"May's reports demonstrate how anonymous reporting can help schools, families and law enforcement respond quickly when students raise concerns about potential threats or harmful behavior," said Attorney General Phil Weiser. "These reports led to threat assessments, mental health referrals, substance use interventions, and collaboration with parents and schools to help keep students safe."

Celebration

Nathan Morales

Fort Hays State University recognized approximately 1,732 graduates during its spring commencement ceremonies Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16, at Gross Memorial Coliseum in Hays, Kan., including Nathan Morales, of Pagosa Springs, with a Master of Science in education administration.

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the kind of influence he benefited from growing up.

"I had some influences when I was in high school — teachers, but mostly coaches — and I remember I really wanted to become a coach, and specifically a football coach. And education was ... one of the ways."

He added math was the subject he liked the most, so he became a math teacher.

"There [were] influences that I had when was younger, and I wanted to have that same influence on kids," he said.

O'Donnell and his wife, Connie Sue O'Donnell, found Pagosa Springs in a round-about way, with both growing up in northern Colorado.

Sean O'Donnell explained when they first engaged, they were talking about where they wanted to live and she mentioned Pagosa Springs, after having played in a volleyball tournament here in high school and liking the area.

But, with having grown up in northern Colorado and all of their family there, Sean O'Donnell explained he had to pull out a map and find Pagosa Springs at the very bottom of the state, "basically" in New Mexico.

He added he questioned why she would want to go that far.

Then, when it came time for their job searches, there were many more teachers than positions and they couldn't even get interviews in some northern Colorado areas.

Then, he relayed, he got a call from Coe Branch — a friend from college — who noted he'd talked to the principal in Pagosa Springs, Bill Esterbook, and they were looking for a math teacher.

Sean O'Donnell explained he had just gotten a job offer in Cedaredge, but worked it out with them to be able to interview in Pagosa Springs.

He added he got the job in Pagosa Springs and the couple moved down.

He noted the irony that Connie O'Donnell thought that was where they should live and that was where they ended up.

He added they initially thought they could get a year or two of experience under their belts in Pagosa Springs, which would help them land interviews with schools in northern Colorado.

But, by Christmas, he noted, they both agreed, "This is where we're supposed to be."

And the rest is history.

He added it ended up being a great move for them as a young married couple to move to a place where they had to make new friends and start new careers.

Many of their family members have since moved to Pagosa Springs.

"Everyone's in Pagosa now," he said.

In addition to his teaching and administrative roles at PSHS, Sean O'Donnell fulfilled his hopes of influencing kids as a coach, serving as assistant coach for the football team for four years and nine as head coach.

He also served as an assistant basketball coach for six years and assistant coach for track for seven years.

"When I started, administration was so far off my radar," Sean O'Donnell said, noting he thought he'd be a longtime teacher and football coach. "I had some folks come to me and encourage me to pursue administration thinking that I would make a good administrator. So, I did, and, ironically, spent the majority of my career as an administrator."

That, he indicated, has allowed him to influence people in a different way.

Holt notes Sean O'Donnell invested "countless hours in mentoring students both in and out of the classroom" during his career.

"For me, the highlights are always the kids," Sean O'Donnell said, noting people always make comments about "kids these days" and have his entire career. "To me, kids are kids. The environment around them has changed, their access to things [has] changed, but they're still kids. And, ... to me, that's been the absolute best part of this career — ... the kids."

And Holt indicates Sean O'Donnell

"For me, the highlights are always the kids," Sean O'Donnell said, noting people always make comments about "kids these days" and have his entire career. "To me, kids are kids. The environment around them has changed, their access to things [has] changed, but they're still kids. And, ... to me, that's been the absolute best part of this career — ... the kids."

The environment around them has changed, their access to things [has] changed, but they're still kids. And, ... to me, that's been the absolute best part of this career — ... the kids."

has indeed had a lasting influence.

"Throughout his tenure, Sean has been committed to ensuring all students have the opportunity to achieve academically and socially," Holt wrote in March. "He has supported and expanded Career and Technical Education and student organizations such as HOSA, FBLA, and FFA, while working alongside staff to introduce new, high-interest electives. The impact he has had on generations of students, staff, and families is significant and lasting."

Sean O'Donnell added he's also thought about the teachers and administrators he's worked with throughout the years and the quality of people he's met and worked with.

He called PSHS a "fortunate place" to have spent his career.

But, he indicated, he and Connie O'Donnell felt like it was time for something new and neither wanted to reach a point where they regretted going to work, noting being principal is a difficult job that can take a toll.

"It just felt like the right time for us," he said.

Both served the district for 28 years, with Connie O'Donnell also serving as a longtime coach for volleyball and track in addition to teaching social studies.

"This is, for Connie and I, this has been us," he said, adding they'd been married about a year when they moved here and it's been a blessing to work within the same district, have the same schedules and the same schedules as their kids. "[It's] hard to believe."

Sean O'Donnell relayed that, after they told their children they were retiring, their son called back the next day to make sure they weren't moving.

Sean O'Donnell added they aren't leaving the community.

"It's a cool place," he said.

He noted he's not sure what the future holds, but that, right now, he's

looking forward to enjoying fall in Pagosa Springs.

'That's why we're here'

Jordan served the district for 25 years before her retirement this spring.

"Throughout her career, Chantelle has been passionate about supporting teachers to ensure all students get what they need, bringing a student-centered and collaborative approach to her work," Holt wrote in March.

Jordan taught fifth grade for a total of 11 years at what was then the intermediate school (it's now the middle school), also serving as the school's gifted and talented coordinator there for about a year.

Following her time at the intermediate school, Jordan served as assistant principal at Pagosa Springs Elementary School under principals Kate Lister and Justin Cowan before moving into the assistant principal/athletic director role at PSHS for her last five years.

Jordan noted it's unusual for educators, especially at the elementary level, to teach the same grade for so many years.

And, education wasn't even Jordan's initial career choice.

Jordan, who grew up in a very small town in Oregon, explained both of her parents are trained educators who told her, "Whatever you do, don't be a teacher."

Instead of teaching, Jordan went into dietetics and became a registered dietitian.

She also moved from Oregon to Colorado Springs, Colo., for an internship, leaving her small town behind.

But, she added, the kind of jobs she liked in the field meant likely living in cities.

"I'm not a city girl," she said. "So, it was just sort of a natural progression back to the field of education, and I think I kind of had chalk dust in my veins, so to speak."

She went back to school at Fort Lewis College and earned her teaching certification.

As time progressed, Jordan indicated, she found herself closer and closer to Pagosa Springs.

She worked part-time in Alamosa as an outpatient dietitian, she noted, then began working seasonally at Wolf Creek Ski Area beginning in 1995.

From there, she lived in South Fork, then Pagosa Springs.

And, similar to feeling like there was chalk dust in her veins leading her into education, Jordan explained she was naturally drawn to being an administrator.

She called it "naturally what I'm good at."

Jordan noted she's always veered toward leadership roles, from helping fellow students cross the highway to get to school as a kindergartner to leadership roles in athletics.

"I think it's just always been sort of a good fit," she said.

Jordan added her favorite part of any job she's held in education has been supporting other educators — she likes removing roadblocks for teachers more than teaching and supporting coaches more than coaching.

"It's just what I liked," she said, adding the she felt she was better at it.

Jordan also noted her highlights aren't what people would always call highlights, giving the example of a highlight as just taking a step back at a game and knowing all the minutiae and people that went into making the event work and then seeing kids be able play.

She added it was also always fun to see kids win scholarships and

teams make the playoffs, but the "big showy things" aren't the top memories for her.

Instead, it's the every day successes — like the student who finally gets what they're learning and getting to work with fellow educators.

Jordan also called graduation one of her favorite days of the year.

"That's what it's about," she said. "That's why we're here, to help these kids get a high school diploma. ... It's fun to celebrate with them."

Jordan also highlighted that education isn't "cutthroat" like many business and other fields — educators are there to nurture, help and support students and each other.

She called that environment "hugely rewarding."

Jordan indicated there's a lot that she'll miss about serving within the school district and those are likely to continue to surface, but there's a lot she's looking forward to, including two sons getting married this summer and visiting family.

"My husband's very happy that he gets his adventure buddy back," she said.

That, she noted, doesn't mean she won't look back and feel sad at times.

"A huge thank you," Jordan said, thanking the administrators who hired her, the teachers and staff who "put up" with her, all the people she worked with along the way in the community, and the students.

Passing the baton

After taking the baton from longtime principal Chris Hinger at Pagosa Springs Middle School last year, Josh Sanchez was chosen to take the baton at Pagosa Springs High School beginning next year, with Janae Ash taking the principal position at the middle school.

"We are pleased to announce that current Pagosa Springs Middle School Principal Joshua Sanchez has been selected as the next Principal of Pagosa Springs High School," Holt wrote in announcing Sanchez would take the role. "Joshua has deep roots in Pagosa Springs—including graduating from Pagosa Spring[s] High School—and a strong background in educational leadership. Over the course of his career, he has served as a teacher, assistant principal, middle school principal, and district administrator."

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

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Outdoors

Local organizations spruce up Treasure Falls on National Trails Day



Photo courtesy John Nelson

About 20 volunteers from San Juan Back Country Horsemen and DUST2 work at Treasure Falls on National Trails Day on June 6 to maintain this popular trail and rest stop.

By Annie Pack
San Juan Back Country Horsemen

Saturday, June 6, was National Trails Day — the 34th annual nationwide event sponsored by the American Hiking Society with a focus on trail stewardship, advocacy and keeping outdoor spaces accessible.

This is right in line with the mission of the San Juan Back Country Horsemen of Pagosa Springs. With the help of volunteers from our chapter and the DUST2 mountain bike club, we worked in unison sprucing up, trimming and manicuring the Treasure Falls parking area and trail east of town.

One of our members always steps up with his heavy equipment and makes a huge difference with the overall tread maintenance of the trail.

This little one-quarter-mile jewel of a trail sees more activity than any other trail on the Pagosa Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service.

As I was leaving after the cleanup, I saw only one Colorado plate in the parking area, which was jammed. People from all over the country check this trail out as they pass through. It is a beautiful window to Pagosa Springs.

Thank you to all our volunteers for giving your time in maintaining this remarkable area.



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Colorado increases readiness after new world screwworm confirmed in Texas, urges vigilance

Colorado Department of Agriculture

Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Department of Agriculture's (CDA's) State Veterinarian's Office announced recently that Colorado is activating its new world screwworm (NWS) response plan following the confirmed detection of NWS in Zavala County, Texas.

The confirmed case involves a 3-week-old calf with an infested umbilical area, and the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) is working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish a robust response.

"The health and safety of our cattle, food supply and agriculture community is vital, and we urge care and vigilance for our producers around the state. Colorado is taking action to ensure readiness for the potential arrival of new world screwworm in our state and are committed to giving the best guidance and information available to protect producers and their cattle. I have been briefed and am monitoring the situation very closely and evaluating any next steps needed," said Polis.

The Colorado State Veterinarian's Office is working with the USDA and Colorado livestock industry partners to prepare for potential impacts, particularly concerning trade and interstate movement of livestock. The NWS does not pose a food safety risk, and the U.S. food supply continues to be safe.

"Colorado has been diligently preparing for the eventuality of a new world screwworm detection in the United States and we have a response plan ready," said Colorado State Veterinarian Dr. Maggie Baldwin. "We are working closely with our livestock industry partners to minimize the impacts of this detection on our livestock industries."

Vigilance in monitoring for myiasis is important, and early detection is key. A NWS infestation can be treated, but early detection is important to ensure animals can recover.

"Colorado's cattle industry has been actively preparing with state and federal partners for the possibility of the new world screwworm reaching the United States. While this detection in Texas is concerning, there is no reason to panic," said Erin Karney Spaur, executive director of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. "Producers should remain vigilant, monitor livestock

closely and contact their veterinarian if they observe unusual wounds or signs of infestation. The Colorado Cattlemen's Association will continue working with animal health officials and industry partners to protect animal health and support producers as the situation evolves."

Right now there is no reason for concern for private horse or livestock owners. As always, producers should continue to monitor their livestock and contact their veterinarian if they note any concerning myiasis infestations.

"The Colorado Livestock Association is in close coordination with Dr. Maggie Baldwin. We appreciate all the effort that has gone into preparing for this eventuality, and the efforts to keep our industry informed as the first U.S. case of NWS has been reported in Texas," said Travis Grant, CEO of the Colorado Livestock Association. "As this situation unfolds, we are encouraging producers to remain calm and continue operating as usual while remaining vigilant about their livestock. CLA remains committed to coordinating with CDA and disseminating critical information quickly to keep producers informed."

The CDA will post updates about the response on the NWS web page at ag.colorado.gov/NWS.

Colorado's preparedness and response plan

The CDA has a NWS Emergency Response Plan, which is aligned with the USDA's NWS Response Playbook. The state veterinarian will lead Colorado's One Health response.

Key elements of Colorado's preparation include:

- Education and vigilance: The CDA will work with industry partners and veterinarians to provide education on symptoms to watch out for. If needed, the CDA will distribute testing kits to producers to help with disease identification.
- Movement restrictions: The CDA will work to ensure animals coming from infested zones don't pose a risk to Colorado's livestock. This may include an emergency order to ensure livestock meet all health requirements before leaving an impacted area and undergo inspection upon arrival into Colorado.
- Coordinated approach: Through a One Health approach, the CDA will work with other state and local partners, including the Colorado

Department of Public Health and Environment and Colorado Parks and Wildlife, to address potential impacts on livestock, human and wildlife health.

The USDA and Texas officials are conducting a robust response to this index case of NWS in the United States. This includes increased trapping of flies, releases of sterile NWS flies, and increased surveillance and management strategies in wildlife.

You can learn more about the unified response to NWS at screwworm.gov.

About the NWS

Screwworms are parasitic fly larvae that feed on living tissue. They are capable of causing extensive and potentially life-threatening tissue damage to affected animals. The flies are attracted to a variety of open wounds, from tick bites to wounds from procedures like dehorning, where they lay their eggs.

The fly larvae then burrow into the wounds feeding on living tissue and causing the wounds to expand and deepen. This infestation of the body of a live animal by fly larvae is called myiasis (my-EYE-a-sis).

Screwworm myiasis is a reportable condition in Colorado in animals and people. Veterinarians, producers, animal owners and diagnostic laboratories must report any suspected case to the State Veterinarian's Office by calling (303) 869-9130 or through the online Myiasis Reporting Form.

988 Lifeline

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Dr. Justin Nylund and staff

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Pagosa Valor Academy
Our Savior Lutheran School
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“
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

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www.blackdiamonddentalofpagosasprings.com





Photo courtesy Lea Leggett

The 76th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo will be held July 2-4 at the Western Heritage Event Center arena and grounds. Tickets are available online at www.pagosarodeo.com and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children. Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

76th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo set for July 2-4

By Diana Talbot
Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

This year marks the 76th anniversary of the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo held annually in Pagosa Springs.

This multistate sanctioned rodeo series features amateur cowboys and cowgirls from various states competing for prizes and prize money. Rodeo participants receive cash and prize awards for their daily performances, including the coveted personalized belt buckle. The overall cowboy and cowgirl award is presented after the third and final performance, and each winner receives a Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo Golden Boy Henry rifle.

The rodeos are July 2 at 6 p.m., July 3 at 6 p.m. and July 4 at 2 p.m. at the Western Heritage Event Center arena and grounds.

Tickets are available online at www.pagosarodeo.com and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children.

Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

Concessions will be available throughout the events.

Traditional American rodeo features cowboys and cowgirls in the various livestock events like bronco riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing, bull riding and team roping. Various activities are included in the daily performance like the Daisy BB gun raffle and the presentation of the honorary Red Ryder Award.

An impressive grand entry with flags waving from westerners on horseback kicks off each performance that is accompanied by the announcer introducing special guests and the crowd singing the national anthem.

Mutton Bustin' is always fun and full of laughs as boys and girls, 6 years old or younger, don helmets and vests prior to mounting a sheep, gripping a rope tied around the chest

of the sheep and hanging on while the sheep races out of the chute as it opens. Ten contestants each vie for the coveted belt buckle that is given to the daily winner with the longest ride time. Every rider goes home with a Daisy BB gun.

The rodeo clown is a staple in the rodeo arena. Called a "bullfighter," the chief responsibility is to protect the cowboy from dangerous livestock. While the cowboy is focused on the ride and maximizing time, the bullfighter distracts the livestock once the rider dismounts. The term "clown" comes from the entertaining side of this job, with the bullfighter entertaining the crowd during the lulls in the action.

Red Ryder was the main cowboy character in the popular western comic strip created by Stephen Slesinger and artist Fred Harman that ran for more than 25 years in newspapers all over the country.

Red was a strong and ethical cowboy who lived on Painted Valley

Ranch in the Blanco Basin in the San Juan Mountains. His horse was Thunder, his sidekick was Little Beaver with horse Papoose, and they protected the people and land from unscrupulous behavior. The geography is that of Pagosa Springs and this community was blessed to have Fred Harman III as a town resident for decades.

More rodeo information is available by calling (970) 749-3492, emailing dtalbot111@gmail.com or visiting www.PagosaRodeo.com.

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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.



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ComFest 2026 Returns to Yamaguchi Park This Summer

The Town of Pagosa Springs invites residents and visitors to enjoy ComFest 2026, a free outdoor concert series at Yamaguchi Park (684 S 5th Street). Concerts will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and feature live music, food trucks, and spirits, all while supporting local nonprofit organizations.

The 2026 lineup includes:

- **June 19** – Brooks-i and Bo DePena, benefiting Archuleta County 4-H
- **July 17** – A-Mac & The Height, benefiting Rise Above Violence
- **August 21** – The Williams Brothers Band, benefiting Wings Early Childhood Center

Bring a lawn chair, gather with friends and family, and enjoy an evening of great music while supporting important community causes.

For more information, contact the Community Center at 970-264-4152.

Free Family Movie Night Set for June 26

The Pagosa Springs Police Department is sponsoring a Free Family Movie Night on Friday, June 26, featuring Zootopia 2 at the athletic field across from Town Park on Hermosa Street.

Families are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs. Free food will be served beginning at 7:30 p.m., and the movie will start at dark, approximately 9 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public.

Main Street Art Walk Returns June 26

Residents and visitors are invited to explore downtown Pagosa Springs during the Main Street Art Walk on Friday, June 26, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Hosted by Pagosa Springs Main Street, the event celebrates local creativity, community, and small businesses. Participants can check in at Picasso & Vino, located at 262 Pagosa Street, Unit 103, to pick up an Art Walk Guide and discover participating artists, shops, galleries, restaurants, and other downtown destinations.

The self-guided event offers an opportunity to experience local art, unique shopping, and great food while supporting Main Street businesses and artists.

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

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

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.



pagosasprings.co.gov

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



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Pagosa Springs SUN is currently hiring an
Advertising Account Executive

Not your typical sales job.

It's an opportunity to step into a visible, community-driven role where you'll work directly with local business owners — helping them grow through marketing, storytelling, and strategic advertising across print and digital platforms.

You'd be joining a team backed by O'Rourke Media Group, a company built around hyperlocal journalism and community connection. In Pagosa Springs, that means being part of something people actually read, trust, and rely on.

Competitive base pay plus unlimited commission, and benefits

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- ✔ You'll build real relationships with business owners (not just cold transactions)
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- ✔ You'll see direct impact in the community you're working in

We're looking for someone who is:

- ✔ Competitive and motivated
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- ✔ Interested in business, marketing, or entrepreneurship
- ✔ Open to learning and growing quickly

The Pagosa Springs **SUN** **preview**

Learn more about O'Rourke Media group at www.orourkemediagroup.com

JOIN OUR TEAM!



If interested in applying,
please reach out to
Shari Pierce at

spierce@orourkemediagroup.com

Sports



Photo courtesy Dan Janowsky

More than 350 wrestlers and coaches attend the Wrestle the World camp at Pagosa Springs High School last week to improve their wrestling skills under the guidance of the University of Iowa's coaches and wrestlers. High school wrestlers and younger from Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Iowa attended, making the competition portion of the camp exciting. A new feature of the camp this year was a dedicated girl's division, with more than 90 girls attending. The girl's division featured two collegiate All-American wrestlers as clinicians: Lori Piestewa, Colorado Mesa University, and Naomi Simon, University of Iowa. Both girls attended the Wrestle the World camp in their high school years and were eager to share their experiences and knowledge with aspiring young female athletes.

BASEBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pirate Taylor Wells, seen here sliding into third, recently garnered an all-state honorable mention. All-state honors are voted on by head coaches across the state.

71-year-old with Parkinson's raising awareness by running 100 marathons in 100 days

By Jaclyn Lambert
Davis Phinney Foundation

Dr. Larry Grogin, a doctor of chiropractic medicine, licensed acupuncturist and Chinese herbalist, has been in practice since 1980, serving patients in both Los Angeles and New Jersey. Throughout his decades of work, he has demonstrated how exercise can be used as medicine.

Throughout his life, Grogin has been a top endurance athlete, having completed more than 300 marathons and over 30 Ironman triathlons.

In 2014, a year after the Boston Marathon bombing, Grogin founded the philanthropic organization Strides for Humanity. That same year, he ran 224 miles from his hometown of Franklin Lakes, N.J., to Hopkinton, Mass., to raise funds for Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Camp. He has run 100 miles in a single day for Cancer Cares and, in 2019, he completed a 1,200-mile run for Oasis, a shelter for women and children in Paterson, N.J.

In 2019, Grogin was diagnosed with Parkinson's — a moment that might have stopped many, but instead ignited a new chapter in his lifelong mission of service.

In partnership with the Davis Phinney Foundation and Strides for Humanity, Grogin is running 100 marathons in 100 days to raise awareness, support and hope for the Parkinson's community.

His message is simple and powerful: movement is medicine.

Parkinson's disease affects nearly 1 million people in the United States, and that number continues to grow.

Through this cross-country journey, Grogin is raising awareness about the power of movement and the urgent need to support those

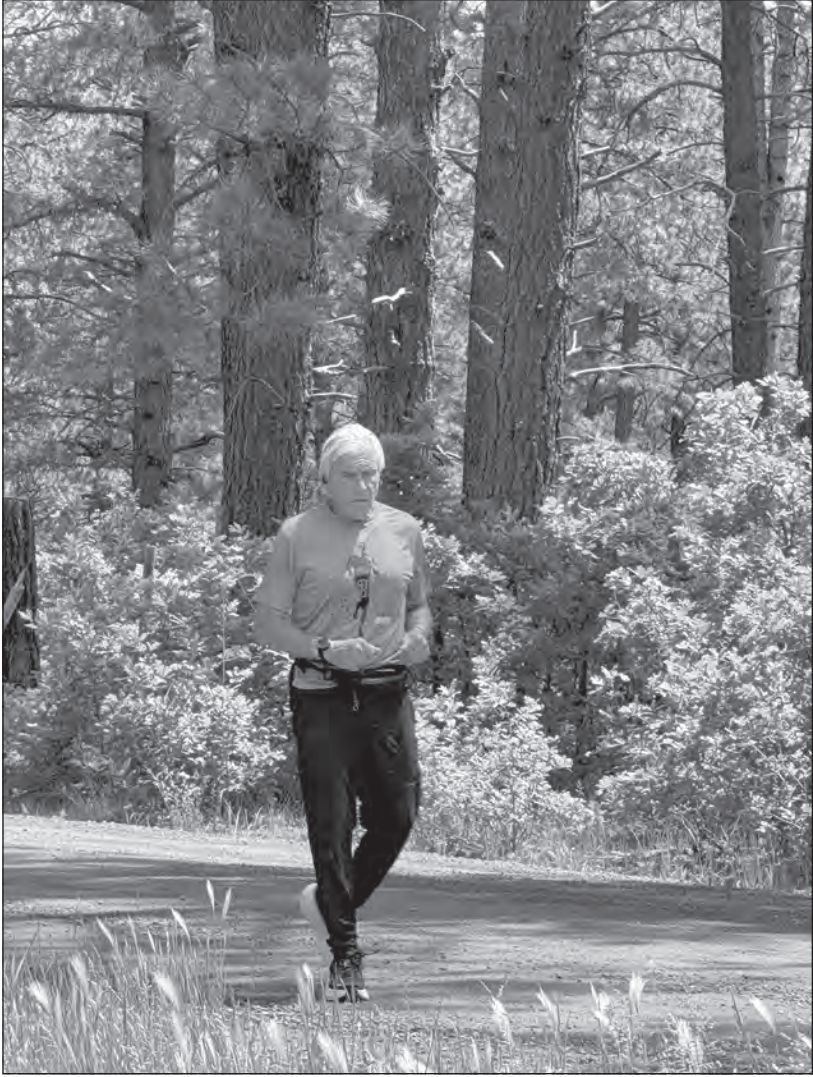


Photo courtesy Linda Hirschberg

Dr. Larry Grogin runs in Pagosa Springs recently as part of his quest to run 100 marathons in 100 days to raise awareness for Parkinson's disease, which he was diagnosed with in 2019. Grogin ran three marathons in the Pagosa Springs area.

living with Parkinson's today by partnering with the Davis Phinney Foundation.

Funds raised will directly benefit the Davis Phinney Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to helping people

with Parkinson's live well through programs focused on exercise, education, and community support.

To learn more about Larry's journey, follow his progress, or make a donation, visit dpf.org/runlarryrun.

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July 17
A-Mac & The Height
Proceeds benefit Rise Above Violence

August 21
The Williams Brothers Band
Proceeds benefit Wings Early Childhood Center

Yamaguchi Park
5:30pm - 8:30pm

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Town planning commission approves rezone for downtown block

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 9, the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission approved an application to rezone a block between 6th Street and 7th Street.

The rezone will change five lots, within block 40, from Town Residential - Medium Density (R-12) to Mixed Use Residential (MU-R), allowing higher density and “more flexibility for allowable uses on their properties,” according to Senior Planner Katelyn Tunnel.

The rezone will also make the block “more consistent with the existing zoning pattern” of that area, Tunnel explained.

“There is no evidence that the change would have any adverse effects on the surrounding area,” she said, adding that all of the property owners within the block have signed a document in approval of the zoning change.

The applicant for the rezone would possibly like to run a bed and breakfast on their property in the future, which would need to go through the conditional use permit process, she explained.

The R-12 zone district is defined in the code as a medium-density district, intended primarily for single-family residences, duplexes and patio homes.

The R-12 district is intended for locations closer to commercial centers and near downtown, and may serve as a transition between higher-density residential areas and lower-density, single-family neighborhoods, the code states.

It adds the R-12 district should have pedestrian-oriented, connected local streets and sidewalks, as well as accessibility to parks, open space, schools and other civic activities, with the maximum density of 12 units per acre.

The MU-R zone district is defined in the code as a district intended to

allow for the vertical or horizontal mixing of uses, including some higher-density residential.

The MU-R district should promote self-supporting neighborhoods that contain housing predominantly, but could also include some retail, offices and light trade, the code states.

Tunnel explained that the town’s planning staff recommended the approval of the rezone application without any conditions attached.

The application materials specifically reference the historic use of Jason and Wendy Dockter’s house within that block, noting that the structure has previously operated as a boarding house, restaurant, and bed and breakfast, she explained.

The applicant has indicated that the requested zoning would allow for the future operation of a bed and breakfast on the property, she said.

When opened to questions, planning commissioner Julie Gurule asked about parking for a potential bed and breakfast, with Tunnel explaining that there would be plenty of parking in San Juan Alley available for guests.

Commissioner Chad Hodges sought to make sure that the surrounding property owners were on board with the rezone, to which Tunnel affirmed, “Yes, they are.”

Commissioner Chris Pitcher noted that the fact that the surrounding owners are on board “makes our decision here a lot easier.”

“I don’t have any problems with this application,” he said.

Gurule asked if the rezone would trigger the alleyway needing to be paved, with Tunnel noting it would not need to be paved.

When a motion was made to approve the application to rezone the block, it was supported by all three commissioners present — Gurule, Hodges and Pitcher.

Commissioner Brian Reid was absent.

derek@pagosasun.com

Complaint

■ Continued from front

while acting in her capacity as county commissioner, failed to disclose her affiliation with the brokerage that was representing a potential land seller in the county.

The complainant stated that the respondent “misrepresented her license level to the public,” Rose said.

He then indicated that Medina “acknowledged through the investigation that she failed to disclose in writing her affiliation with the brokerage while acting in a public office capacity.”

Rose also mentioned that Medina asserts that she received legal guidance from the county attorney, “who informed her that there was no conflict of interest because she was not receiving any financial benefit from the transaction to her brokerage colleague presenting to the board of county commissioners.”

Rose explained that Medina provided two separate affidavits stating she is affiliated with the brokerage as an independent contractor, and affirms that in future interactions, she will disclose her license status.

Rose noted that there were multiple possible violations with recommended actions to include a diversion fine of \$500, and coursework in brokerage relationships and ethics.

CREC chair Eriqueca Sanders asked for a motion on the matter prior to any discussion. A motion to accept the complaint was made and seconded prior to discussion.

“This is probably going to prompt some discussion,” she said.

CREC vice chair Erika Doyle opened the discussion by stating, “This is one where I felt like this should be thrown out.”

Doyle explained that Medina was acting in her capacity as a county commissioner and not listed as a licensee in the transaction, as the county attorney “was doing all of the review” and there was no monetary gain to be paid to Medina.

“The complainant was her opponent in the election for the county commissioner seat and lost, and it sounds like the complainant was running a campaign to get this woman recalled. It’s problematic,” Doyle said.

She went on to describe the complaint as “more of a personal and political attack” versus a real estate issue. “I don’t feel like there were grounds for this one at all,” Doyle said.

CREC public member Bernadette Bugarin commented that the complainant was “reaching for a complaint ... that she was trying to create something.”

Bugarin noted that the county attorney relayed to Medina that it wasn’t

a conflict of interest, adding that “everybody knew she was a licensed agent.”

“I think the complainant might’ve been a little bit bitter about something and was trying to create an issue,” Bugarin added.

Sanders offered more comments, stating she didn’t see it as a conflict of interest or bad advice from the county attorney because Medina wasn’t a party in the contract.

Sanders also commented on the issue of Medina not disclosing her license and level, explaining that Medina used terminology such as “independent contractor” and “self-employed,” which Sanders said the complainant interpreted as Medina saying she works for herself, “but in our industry that’s not what that means.”

Sanders added real estate agents can be independent contractors with a brokerage, “because that’s typically how you’re employed as an agent.”

Sanders also noted that Medina did disclose that she worked under a brokerage, and followed the county attorney’s guidance.

“I feel that she did the right thing there,” Sanders said.

Sanders echoed comments of there being an “underlying issue” in that the complainant was Medina’s opponent in running for county commissioner while putting the complaint forward.

She explained that Medina followed protocol, and noted that the county ended up not closing on that property.

Sanders mentioned that if “legitimate issues” were there then the CREC would “obviously” look at those and make a ruling, “but I just don’t feel that there is enough evidence to show that there was a true conflict of interest.”

Sanders noted that a true conflict of interest would have involved Medina being listed as either the buyer or seller’s agent.

Bugarin also noted that the county commissioners decided not to move forward with this property, noting that public servants volunteer their time and that stating this as a conflict of interest may discourage other realtors and agents from stepping up for public servant roles.

“I don’t think she did anything wrong,” Bugarin added.

An amended motion to dismiss the complaint was then seconded and unanimously approved.

clayton@pagosasun.com



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

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with respect 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. 74765, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO.
APN #: 569311319005
Purported common address: 1165 Beucier 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)’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 ATTORNEY’S 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
/s/ Elsa P. White
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 Trustee’s 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 Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel.: 970.264.8160
Plaintiff:
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
v.
Defendants:
James Otis Relyea, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30048
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE
AND REDEEM
This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses, recorded on August 2, 1990, at Book 303, Page 104, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered on 16, 2026, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows:
See Exhibit “A” attached hereto and made apart hereof
Owner(s): JAMES OTIS RELYEA; BONNIE B MC CAFFERTY; VALERY R SHIMBEL; GERALDINE A ANDERSON; GLENN A Y HARGROVE, TRUSTEE OF THE GLENN A Y HARGROVE REVOCABLE TRUST DATED DECEMBER 27, 1988; PAM J MYERS; CHARLES H STAHHMAN, TRUSTEE OF THE CHARLES H STAHHMAN LIVING TRUST DATED MARCH 31, 2003; BRENDA W POLLARD; GEORGE C POLLARD; ROBERT BARR; SHARON BARR; CHRISTINA SMITH
Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses, recorded on August 2, 1990, at Book 303, Page 104, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations there-in described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorney’s fees and costs.
Response: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
Association Assessments Due to: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit “A”
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit “A”
Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act
THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.
The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST
THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will, at 9 o’clock A.M., on Wednesday August 5th, 2026, Sale Number 2026-02 in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication: 06/11/2026
Last Publication: 07/09/2026
Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun
NOTICE OF RIGHTS

YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.

THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH; BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

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

Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South

21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901

INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Sheriff’s Department for Archuleta County, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, 970-264-8434.

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This Sheriff’s Notice of Sale is signed this 3rd day of June, 2026.

By: /s/ Mike Le Roux

Mike Le Roux, Sheriff

Archuleta County, Colorado

EXHIBIT “A”

Peregrine Townhomes Matter Amount

JAMES OTIS RELYEA (C#170901920) A 77,000 /

35,486,000 undivided

fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7803-7806 in Building Number(s) 2 & 3.

Unpaid Assessments: \$571.55

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$1,860.76

BONNIE B MC CAFFERTY and VALERY R SHIMBEL (C#179604061 A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Building Number(s) 4 & 5.

Unpaid Assessments: \$864.31

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$2,224.40

GLENN A Y HARGROVE, TRUSTEE OF THE GLENN A Y HARGROVE REVOCABLE TRUST DATED DECEMBER 27, 1988 (C#179701669) A 77,000 /

17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Building Number(s) 6.

Unpaid Assessments: \$698.86

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$2,960.91

CHARLES H STAHHMAN, TRUSTEE OF THE CHARLES H STAHHMAN LIVING TRUST DATED MARCH 31, 2003 (C#179802103) A 28,000 /

17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7823-7824 in Building Number(s) 12.

Unpaid Assessments: \$555.52

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$1,844.73

BRENDA W POLLARD and GEORGE C POLLARD (C#170711451) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7863-7864 in Building Number(s) 23.

Unpaid Assessments: \$1,056.65

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$2,345.86

ROBERT BARR AND SHARON BARR (C#170503387) A 300,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7863-7864 in Building Number(s) 32.

Unpaid Assessments: \$4,394.50

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$5,683.71

CHRISTINA SMITH (C#170015192) A 154,000 /

17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7885-7886 in Building Number(s) 43.

Unpaid Assessments: \$1,236.95

Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$2,526.16

In Peregrine Townhouses. All as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said buildings as depicted on the Plats recorded in Reception Numbers 173553-173555, 98002629, 99006555, 99011974, 20005495, 20010666, and subject to Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded as Reception Number 173556, as has been amended, supplemented, and/or restated, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2 and 9, 2026, in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (305870)

LEGAL NOTICE / SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW AND CHILD CUSTODY)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, Larson Justice Center, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

46-200 Cedar Street

Indio, CA 92201

CASE NUMBER: FLIN2600464

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: Daniel Hatten

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PETITIONER: Laura Anne Hatten

NOTICE! You have been sued. A Petition for Dissolution of Marriage (Divorce) and Child Custody has been filed against you. You have **30 CALENDAR DAYS** after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (Form FL-120) at this court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written Response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage, your property, custody of your children, visitation, and child support. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs.

Published June 11, 18, 25 and July 2, 2026, in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (304852)

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

District Court Archuleta County, Colorado

109 Harman Park Drive

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

(970) 264-8160

In re the Marriage of:

Petitioner: Ewing, Nathalie Jacques

and Respondent: Ewing, Robert Hart

Case Number: 2026DR030001

Division: 3 (Judge Fay)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the petition 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 petition may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the petition 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 petition without further notice.

This is an action for Legal Separation.

Dated: June 8, 2026.

Published in the: Pagosa Springs SUN.

First Publication: June 11, 2026

Last Publication: June 9, 2026

Attorney for Petitioner:

Timothy B. Wolfe, #56952

(timothy@wardlawdrango.com)

101 W. 11th Street, Suite 101

Durango, CO 81301

(970) 259-1120

Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2 and 9, 2026, in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (305869)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of CODIE JO WILSON, Deceased

Archuleta County Case Number **2026 PR 30012**

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to:

• The personal representative identified below, or

• To the District Court of Archuleta County (contact information above).

ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 28, 2026, or the claims may be forever barred:

Personal Representative: Yul Wilson

1357 Hersch Avenue

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Published May 28, June 4 and 11, 2026, in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (303929)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of MICHAEL WAYNE VANOVER, Deceased

Archuleta County Case Number **2026 PR 30010**

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to:

• The personal representative identified below, or

• To the District Court of Archuleta County (contact information above).

ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 2

Restrictions

■ **Continued from front**

ezuma, San Juan and San Miguel counties, and the of Canyon of the Ancients National Monument.

The restrictions will remain in effect until further notice.

In expanding the restrictions to the entire San Juan National Forest, the forest cited the extended drought, continued hot and windy weather, and that the weather conditions have what fire managers call severe fire weather potential — “a critical indicator for periods of large, dangerous fire growth.”

It adds that new fires could exhibit extreme behavior, creating challenges for firefighters and aviation resources.

It further notes that, so far this year, 28 abandoned campfires have been found on the San Juan National Forest.

In announcing their respective fire restrictions, both the town and county urged residents to sign up for emergency notifications.

To sign up for Town of Pagosa Springs alerts, visit pagosasprings.co.gov and select “Subscribe to Alerts,” or text “PagosaSprings” to 38276.

To sign up for Archuleta County Nixle alerts, visit www.archuletacounty.gov/services/citizens-alert-nixle/.

The Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office is also urging everyone to download the WatchDuty App to stay informed on local fire updates and active incidents.

To report a suspected fire restriction violation or an active smoke plume, call regional dispatch immediately at 911 or the nonemergency line at (970) 264-8430.

The town also encourages residents to prepare now for wildfire season by creating an evacuation plan and assembling a “go bag” or 72-hour emergency kit.

Emergency supplies should include

important documents, medications, nonperishable food, water, flashlights, backup batteries, phone chargers, a battery-powered AM/FM radio and pet supplies.

Town of Pagosa Springs

The town announced its restrictions are in response to increasingly dry conditions, elevated fire danger and forecasts indicating continued warm and dry weather across southwest Colorado.

The restrictions were ordered by Town Manager David Harris pursuant to the town’s emergency authority and following consultation with local fire and emergency management officials.

“Protecting our residents, visitors, businesses and natural resources is our highest priority,” Harris said. “Current conditions and the forecasted weather patterns create an increased wildfire risk. These restrictions are a proactive measure to reduce the potential for human-caused fires within the Town of Pagosa Springs.”

Prohibited activities

- Building, maintaining, attending, or using any open fire, campfire, charcoal fire, coal fire or wood-burning fire, except as specifically allowed below.
- Open burning of any kind.
- The sale or use of fireworks for personal use.

Permitted activities

- Fires contained within liquid-fueled or gas-fueled stoves, lanterns, grills and heating devices that can be turned off with a valve.
- Indoor fireplaces and wood-burning stoves.
- Outdoor charcoal grills and wood-burning devices located at private residences, provided they are used in areas cleared of all flammable materi-

als, including dry vegetation.

- Commercial or community fire-works displays that have been authorized by the town council.
- Activities specifically authorized by the town council.

Enforcement

Violations of the stage 1 fire restrictions may result in fines, penalties or other enforcement actions as authorized by law.

The town encourages all residents and visitors to exercise extreme caution with any activity that could create sparks or ignite dry vegetation.

“Community cooperation is essential to reducing wildfire risk and protecting lives and property,” the press release announcing the restrictions states.

Archuleta County

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux cited persistent drought conditions, drying vegetation and rapidly increasing fire danger indices across southwest Colorado in announcing Archuleta County would enter stage 1 fire restrictions.

The restrictions are in place for all unincorporated public and private lands within Archuleta County.

“Public safety is our top priority,” said Le Roux. “With summer heat settling in and minimal moisture in the forecast, the risk of a catastrophic wildfire is simply too high. We need every resident and visitor to take these restrictions seriously and do their part to protect our community.”

Prohibited activities

- Open burning and campfires: Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire is strictly prohibited. This includes charcoal briquette grills and coal- or wood-burning

stoves on all public and private lands, outside of developed areas.

- Smoking: Smoking outdoors is prohibited unless you are within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or stopped in an outdoor area at least 3 feet in diameter that is completely barren and cleared of all flammable materials.
- Fireworks and explosives: The use of all fireworks, rockets, exploding targets, tracer ammunition or incendiary rounds is strictly prohibited.
- Open flame torch work: Welding or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame is prohibited, except within a cleared area of at least 10 feet in diameter and with a pressurized fire extinguisher immediately available.

Allowed activities

- Developed recreation sites: Campfires are allowed only within permanently constructed, agency-provided metal fire grates or rings located inside developed campgrounds and picnic areas. (Note: Rock campfire rings and personal fire pans are not permitted).
- Gas/liquid stoves: The use of portable stoves, lanterns or patio heating devices fueled by liquid petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel or gas is permitted, provided they can be turned off via a valve.
- Residential charcoal grills: Charcoal grill fires remain allowed within developed residential properties, though extreme caution is urged.
- Equipment requirements for chain saws: Operating a chain saw or any internal combustion engine is permitted only if it is equipped with a properly maintained, USDA- or SAE-approved spark arrestor. Operators must also have a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher and a round-point shovel (minimum length of 35 inches) readily available.

Penalties and enforcement

Violations of these county-enacted fire restrictions are enforceable by law enforcement.



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Business Spotlight: Could sleep apnea be affecting your health?

By Eric Smith, DDS
San Juan Dental

Many people struggle with chronic fatigue, poor sleep, headaches, snoring, daytime exhaustion or difficulty concentrating, unaware an underlying medical condition may be to blame: obstructive sleep apnea.

Sleep apnea occurs when the airway collapses during sleep, interrupting breathing. These repeated oxygen drops stress the body and link to serious health concerns including high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, memory problems, depression and fatigue.

Unfortunately, many people remain undiagnosed for years.

At higher elevations like southwest Colorado, oxygen levels are naturally lower. For patients already struggling to breathe properly, this worsens nighttime oxygen deprivation and increases symptom severity.

Many assume they are just “getting older” or “always tired,” when they may actually suffer from a treatable condition.

At San Juan Dental, we are trained to recognize signs of sleep-disordered breathing and sleep apnea. Dentistry today goes far beyond teeth alone — the airway, jaw structure, tongue position and oral anatomy play a major role in how we breathe.

For patients with mild to moderate sleep apnea, or those who cannot tolerate traditional CPAP, comfortable oral appliance therapy provides an alternative.



Photo courtesy San Juan Dental

Eric Smith, DDS, of San Juan Dental and his family.

Many people struggle with CPAP machines due to noise, discomfort, dry mouth or air leaks. Custom-designed oral sleep appliances gently reposition the jaw and airway to improve airflow during sleep. They are compact, quiet, comfortable and easy to travel with.

The goal is simple: help patients breathe better, sleep deeper and improve their overall health and quality of life.

We believe healthcare should be

personalized, compassionate and focused on long-term wellness. If you or a loved one snores heavily, wakes up exhausted, struggles with daytime fatigue or cannot tolerate CPAP therapy, it may be time to explore your options.

To learn more about sleep apnea screening and treatment options, contact San Juan Dental at 970-264-9436 or visit www.pagosa.dentist.

San Juan Dental is part of the The Pagosa Springs SUN sponsored content program called Spotlight.

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Please check out our most recent blog on 'When Mold is a Health Concern vs. a Maintenance Issue.'

www.mountainmendm.com/when-mold-is-a-health-concern-vs-a-maintenance-issue/

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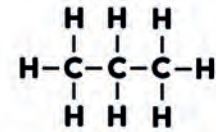
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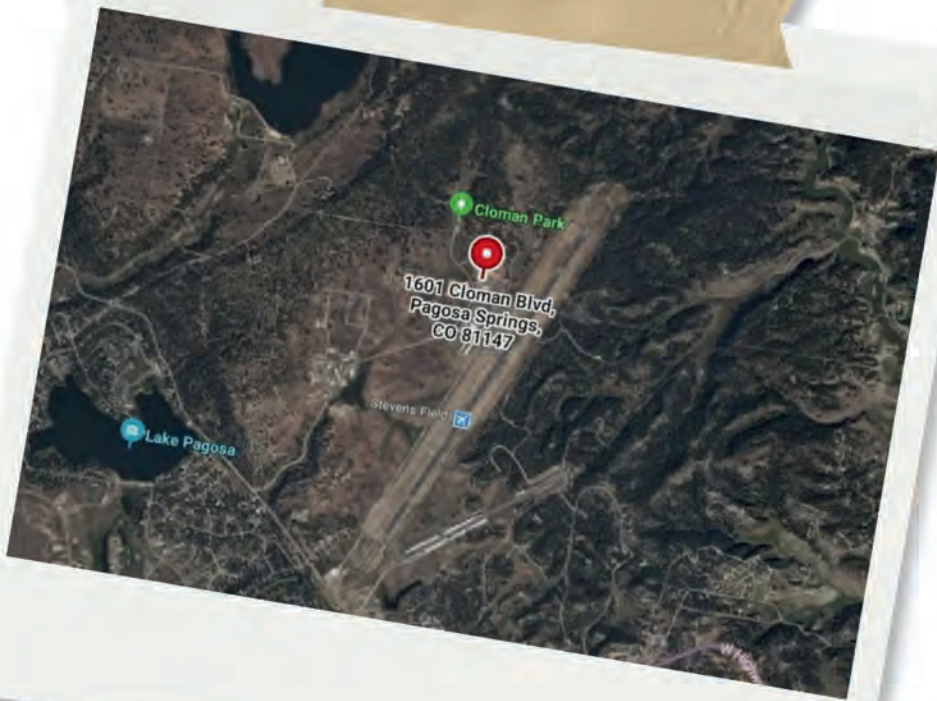
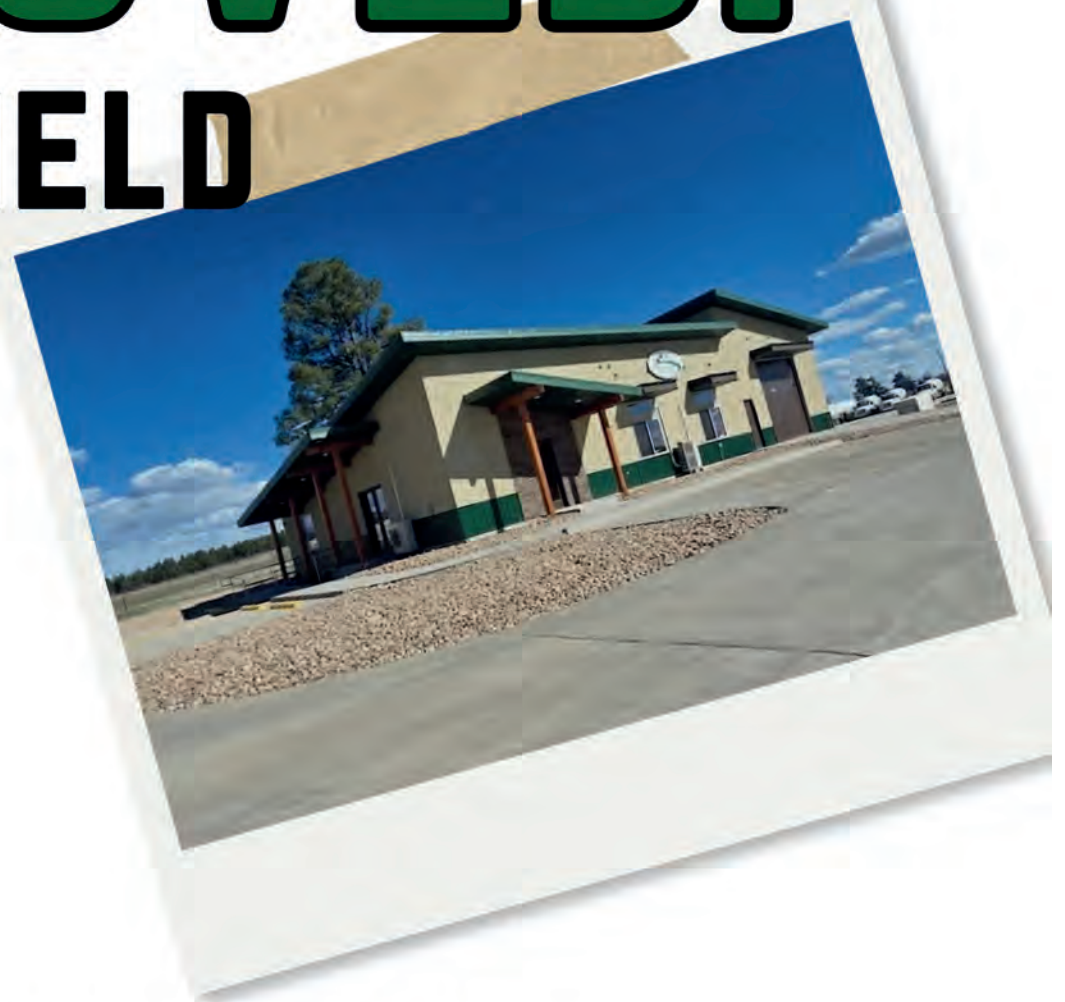
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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Pride Celebration

Saturday, June 13 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Town Park



Photo courtesy Pagosa Pride



Photo courtesy Pagosa Pride

This year’s Pride Celebration is set for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 13 in Town Park.

Pride Celebration set for June 13

Pagosa Pride

Pride Week begins on Thursday, June 11, with a classic film fundraiser at the Liberty Theater, “To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newman,” starring Wesley Snipes, Patrick Swayze and John Leguizamo with a cameo shot of Newman.

Enjoy this funny-with-a-heart-of-gold adventure of the three drag queens on a cross-country road trip of a lifetime. The doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with the film showing at 6 p.m. Tickets are: adults \$25, teens (14-17) \$15, 13 and under \$5.

On Saturday, June 13, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Town Park will be awash in brightly colored flags, banners and costumes as it hosts our annual Pride Celebration. The LGBTQ+ community, with friends and family, will gather to mark the third year of this event in Pagosa Springs. The event epitomizes the sentiment expressed by Mahatma Gandhi so long ago: “Unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization.”

The day will begin with an Opening Ceremony at 11:30 a.m. emceed by drag queen Aria PettyOne (she/her). From our own Liz Baldwin, folks will learn of state

■ See Celebration on next page

Live Performers

- Thursday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Open mic with Retro Cats, 6:30 p.m.
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Two Hand Touch, 6 p.m.
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Rock ‘n’ Rebels, 7 p.m.
East Side Market: Emily Tholberg and the Patio Panthers, 11 a.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: The Neighbors, 5 p.m.
Dublin Crust & Brew: Maxwell Miller, 3 p.m.

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SUN

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Celebration

■ continued from previous page legislative progress on matters relevant to the LGBTQ+ community as well as listen to the reading of the Town of Pagosa Springs Proclamation establishing "that the month of June 2026 is recognized as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month and encourages all residents to respect and honor our diverse population and celebrate and build a culture of acceptance and affirmation."

Two speakers will highlight topics of interest to our community, the first, a member of the Pagosa Springs High School Equality Club at 12:15 p.m., followed by Shane Nelson, a Durango-based school psychologist, wilderness therapist and addiction recovery expert at 1:30 p.m.

Following the first speaker there will be a time for folks— kids and adults— to enjoy the park and the music, visit the many different community tables offering information and goodies, as well as the welcome table, where they can participate in several drawings.

At 12:45 p.m. and again at 3 p.m., Aria PettyOne will perform on stage.

In between performances the party continues with everyone gathering for a parade. Here's where costumes will be on display and judges will be making their selection for first prize. Folks will gather back at Town Park following the parade to hear about the first-prize costume award announcement as well as the winners of the several gift certificates from local stores.

Our community has come together in this moment of divisiveness to celebrate diversity — an uncommon event and one to ponder as Pagosa Pride presents its mission: "to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community, to advocate for equity and social justice, and to provide space for people for all colors, gender identities and sexual orientations to feel safe, welcome & loved."

Hear these relevant thoughts expressed by John F. Kennedy in his 1963 commencement address at the American University: "If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For, in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal."

Local businesses and individuals

have come together to support this event celebrating both diversity and our shared humanity and sponsored by many local individuals, business and the interfaith community — the Community United Methodist Church, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Note: The road closure due to construction makes getting to Town Park a bit circuitous, but it can be done. Coming from the east? Turn

left on 2nd. Coming from the west? Turn right at 2nd Street. Or, take 8th Street to Apache Street to Hot Springs Boulevard. Parking? For early arrivers, the two small lots at the park; otherwise, there is the large parking lot at U.S. 160 and 5th Street, the lot at Mary Fisher Park and street parking. It will be a lovely day for a walk.

For more information, see the Pagosa Pride Facebook page or email pagosapride@gmail.com.

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‘Company’ to open Friday at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By Laura Moore
Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

At first glance, Thingamajig Theatre Company’s three summer musicals seem to have little in common.

One tells the true story of a small town welcoming thousands of stranded airline passengers after Sept. 11. Another follows a lifelong bachelor navigating friendship, romance and the possibility of commitment in New York City. The third is a beloved classic about family, faith and tradition in a changing world.

Yet, beneath their very different stories lies a shared focus on relationships, community and the ties that connect us. That theme continues with Stephen Sondheim’s and George Furth’s “Company,” opening Friday, June 12, at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

“At their core, all three shows are about relationships,” said Producing Artistic Director Tim Moore. “‘Come From Away’ is about people opening their doors to those they’ve never met. ‘Company’ is about the challenges and rewards of intimacy and commitment. ‘Fiddler on the Roof’ is about preserving family and tradition while adapting to change. They are very different stories, yet each one explores the ties that connect us to one another.”

More than 50 years after its Broadway debut, “Company” remains one of the most insightful and surprisingly contemporary musicals ever written. While the world has changed dramatically since 1970, the ques-

■ See Center on next page



Photo courtesy Samantha Luck

Trevor Brown as Bobby finds himself surrounded by friends, lovers and plenty of advice in Thingamajig Theatre Company’s production of Stephen Sondheim’s “Company,” opening June 12 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

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Center

■ **continued from previous page**
tions at the heart of the show remain remarkably familiar: What does it mean to commit to another person? How much independence are we willing to sacrifice for intimacy? What do we gain when we allow ourselves to be vulnerable, and what do we lose when we choose not to?

At the center of the musical is Robert, a successful New Yorker approaching his 35th birthday. Surrounded by married friends, former lovers and plenty of advice, he finds himself confronting questions about love, companionship and what it means to build a life with others.

Through a series of interconnected scenes and some of Sondheim's most celebrated songs, including "Being Alive," "Another Hundred People" and "The Ladies Who Lunch," the musical explores those questions with humor, honesty and emotional depth.

"Company may be over 50 years old, but audiences continue to see themselves in it," Moore said. "The circumstances may change, but the fundamental questions remain the same. How do we connect with one another? What do we risk by opening ourselves up to love? And what do we lose when we choose not to? Those are timeless questions."

Originally premiering on Broadway in 1970, "Company" helped redefine what a musical could be. Rather than telling a traditional linear story, it presents a collection of moments, conversations and observations that gradually reveal the emotional journey of its central character. The result is a musical that is funny, intelligent, occasionally uncomfortable and deeply human. It remains just as relevant today as it did when audiences first encountered it more than half a century ago.

The production features Thingamajig Theatre Company's professional summer repertory company, bringing together artists from across the country and the Four Corners region.

Directed by Dennis Elkins, with music direction by Sloan J. Artis, DMA, and choreography by Pia Wyatt, "Company" showcases the wit, complexity and emotional depth that have made it one of the most influential musicals in American theater.

Audience members are invited to remain after the performances on Friday, June 12, and Saturday, June 13, for special opening weekend talkbacks with members of the cast and creative team.

Whether audiences are discovering "Company" for the first time or returning to a longtime favorite, they

may find themselves surprised by how familiar its questions feel. More than a period piece, the musical remains a thoughtful, funny and moving examination of the relationships that shape our lives.

"Company" opens Friday, June 12, at 7 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts and runs through Aug. 19.

Tickets are available at pagosa-center.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).



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Business Spotlight: Could sleep apnea be affecting your health?

By Eric Smith, DDS
San Juan Dental

Many people struggle with chronic fatigue, poor sleep, headaches, snoring, daytime exhaustion or difficulty concentrating, unaware an underlying medical condition may be to blame: obstructive sleep apnea.

Sleep apnea occurs when the airway collapses during sleep, interrupting breathing. These repeated oxygen drops stress the body and link to serious health concerns including high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, memory problems, depression and fatigue.

Unfortunately, many people remain undiagnosed for years.

At higher elevations like southwest Colorado, oxygen levels are naturally lower. For patients already struggling to breathe properly, this worsens nighttime oxygen deprivation and increases symptom severity.

Many assume they are just “getting older” or “always tired,” when they may actually suffer from a treatable condition.

At San Juan Dental, we are trained to recognize signs of sleep-disordered breathing and sleep apnea. Dentistry today goes far beyond teeth alone — the airway, jaw structure, tongue position and oral anatomy play a major role in how we breathe.

For patients with mild to moderate sleep apnea, or those who cannot tolerate traditional CPAP, comfortable oral appliance therapy provides an alternative.

Many people struggle with CPAP machines due to noise, discomfort, dry mouth or air leaks. Custom-designed oral sleep appliances gently reposition the jaw and airway to improve airflow during sleep. They are compact, quiet,



Photo courtesy San Juan Dental
Eric Smith, DDS, of San Juan Dental and his family.

comfortable and easy to travel with.

The goal is simple: help patients breathe better, sleep deeper and improve their overall health and quality of life.

We believe healthcare should be personalized, compassionate and focused on long-term wellness. If you or a loved one snores heavily, wakes up exhausted, struggles with daytime fatigue or cannot tolerate CPAP therapy, it may be time to explore your options.

To learn more about sleep apnea

screening and treatment options, contact San Juan Dental at 970-264-9436 or visit www.pagosa.dentist.

San Juan Dental is part of the The Pagosa Springs SUN sponsored content program called Spotlight.

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Hey everyone!

Come by our Open House at 15 Night Hawk Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, on Thursday, June 18th, from 4:00–7:00 PM!

Offered at \$535,000, this charming home sits on 3.5 acres, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and 1,554 sq. ft. Beautiful mountain views and a location just minutes from town—you have to see it in person to truly appreciate it!

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Archuleta County's inaugural Bioblitz set for June 20

By Cindi Galabota
PREVIEW Columnist

It's not too late to register to participate in Archuleta County's inaugural Bioblitz on June 20 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. .

If you are looking to connect with naturalists, scientists and other curious members of our community while discovering the incredible biodiversity found right here in Pagosa Country, then Archuleta County's inaugural Bioblitz is just for you.

A bioblitz is a fun community science event where experts, community members and volunteers work together to document and record the biodiversity of an area. This year participants in Archuleta County will explore the natural areas of Pagosa Springs along the San Juan Riverwalk and Reservoir Hill.

Our inaugural Bioblitz will bring the talents of incredible local and regional experts to lead us in identifying a variety of species. Aquatic ecologist Patti Spindler will lead our aquatic macro-invertebrate identification walks. Lake McCullough, certified herbalist, will guide us through the medicinal and edible plants along the Riverwalk. And the list continues.

The most important part of a bioblitz is to have fun. Our bioblitz is a family-friendly event, and no experience is necessary.

Participants must be 10 years or older, and youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. While this is not a strenuous project, volunteers should be prepared for walking on uneven terrain, through high grass, past thorny plants and in possibly muddy conditions.

The cost to participate in the inaugural Bioblitz is \$25 per adult and \$10 per student/child and includes dinner, T-shirt and a fun day of learning. Register today.

To learn more and to register, visit <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog?filter=c2>



Back by Popular Demand! An uplifting true story about our planet healing. This feature documentary explores how large-scale conservation is helping ecosystems recover—and what it means for the future.
Meet the director, Ben Clark, for a Q/A June 23!



The Liberty Theatre
June 19 + 23

Extension Viewpoints

VhcmNoPTQyNjMyMzY= or email Cindi Galabota at cindi.galabota@colostate.edu

Email list

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

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

CPR and first aid classes

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

Check out the online option on our website, archuleta.extension.colostate.edu.

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



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‘The Great Shakespeare Showdown’ to hit the stage at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts June 14

By Dennis Elkins
Flying Solo Presents

Draw your quills, sharpen your wits and polish your pickaxes for a rootin’-tootin’ good time at “The Great Shakespeare Showdown” at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on Sunday, June 14, at 3 p.m.

It’s the fall of 1882 in Leadville — where a tale unfolds in a real-life mining community so crazy about Shakespeare that silver mines are actually named after his characters. And tonight promises to be a very special one at the Tabor Opera House when famed English actor Sir Charles Goodknight (played by Pagosa favorite Dan Morrison) is tricked into an onstage duel of bardic banter against the firebrand all-American actress Harriet Twelvetreets (Kate Poling).

Surprise, surprise: The town is torn down the middle over who to support. The town’s upper-crust favors Sir Charles, while the redneck residents (led by Mel Schaffer) root for Twelvetreets. The management is so excited they’ve even put out clean spittoons.

Audiences will be encouraged to hiss and boo and cheer along with the miners as well as the socialites. And you can quote along with the cast if you know your “Merchant of Venice,” “Romeo and Juliet” and “Richard III.” You might even want to sing along, too.

“The Great Shakespeare Showdown” is the latest production by playwright Dennis Elkins in collaboration with Flying Solo Presents in preparation for taking this production to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival later in August.

This onetime performance at 3 on June 14 is a special thank you to Thingamajig Theatre Company season subscribers.

Please contact the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts to reserve your



Photo courtesy Dennis Elkins

Dan Morrison plays the perplexed British actor Sir Charles Goodknight in “The Great Shakespeare Showdown,” to be performed at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts Sunday, June 14.

seats, (970) 731-7469 or thingamajigbox@gmail.com.

Join us to find out who comes out on top in this quick-fire contest and be crowned The Best Bard West of the Alleghenies.

Free Medicare 101 presentation set for June 16

By Jody McCall
San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging

The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging is hosting a free Medicare 101 presentation at the Archuleta County Department of Human Services from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16.

Come learn about your options, deadlines, possible penalties and how to stay informed about your benefits.

One-on-one consultations with a certified counselor are available by appointment if you cannot attend. Call (970) 403-6759 to schedule.

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<https://pspixeltree.com/33-Fawn-Ct>

Sunday, June 14 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-Pl-1>



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Child’s name

Child’s age

Parent’s name

Parent’s contact email and phone

Preferred day (no guarantee)



Photo courtesy Christi Bode
Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is accepting applications for the 2027 build year until the end of this month.

Habitat for Humanity accepting applications for 2027 builds

By Leah Ballard
Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

The deadline to build with Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County in 2027 is rapidly approaching. We are accepting applications until June 30. To pick up a paper application, or for assistance filling it out, swing by our office at 703 San Juan St., Suite 201, near Natural Grocers, above the downtown TBK Bank. You can find a fillable PDF version on our website, www.habitatarchuleta.org, or email home@habitatarchuleta.org with any questions. Habitat Archuleta partners with workforce families in Archuleta County to break the barrier to home-

ownership. Local families assist in building, then purchase their homes with a mortgage they can afford. In 2027, Habitat Archuleta will be building three all-electric modular homes, equipped with energy efficient-appliances and solar electricity. These homes are deed-restricted to ensure they remain in the community's affordable inventory while also empowering our partner families to build generational wealth. Find out how you can get involved in affordable homeownership in our community by calling (970) 264-6960 or emailing volunteer@HabitatArchuleta.org. Your donation of time, money or advocacy provides a hand up to local workforce families.

Blood drive set for June 24

By Sharee Grazda
Special to The PREVIEW

We are amazed at the constant innovations in the medical and scientific world of today. Procedures and products available to us were not even dreamed of just a few years ago. But, man cannot create blood, necessary for life and well-being. What man, and woman, can do is donate blood to be available for others whose very lives may depend on that donation. Donations are utilized during heart surgery, organ transplants and emergency surgery. Blood donations help cancer patients whose cancer and treatment may prevent the formation of platelets vital for survival. Sickle cell and aplastic anemia patients may require multiple transfusions every year.

Burn victims typically lose considerable amounts of blood, and plasma donations can replenish fluid volume and avoid further complications. Please join us for the Vitalant blood drive to be held Wednesday, June 24, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, located at 230 Port Ave. We are calling this the Pagosa Springs uptown drive, and it is replacing the drive formerly held at Centerpoint Church. We welcome everyone to join us for this important event as we head into the busy summer season. You may make an appointment at Vitalant.org, by calling Vitalant at (877) 258-4825, or by contacting volunteer Sharee Grazda at (970) 946-2760. Many thanks to you for considering and hopefully joining in this important effort.

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Photo courtesy of Black Diamond Dental
Sue Wilhoit, patient advocate and lead dental assistant for Black Diamond Dental of Pagosa Springs.

Business Spotlight: Sue Wilhoit helps patients feel at home at Black Diamond Dental

By Allison Brown

Since opening its doors in March, Black Diamond Dental has built a welcoming, family-focused practice with the help of Patient Advocate and Lead Dental Assistant Sue Wilhoit.

Wilhoit has worked in dental assisting since 1982 and brought decades of experience with her when the new practice opened at 2363 Eagle Dr. in Pagosa Springs.

Dr. Justin Nylund, DDS, said her knowledge, work ethic and ability to connect with patients have been invaluable to caring for the community.

“She has been instrumental in starting this practice,” Nylund said.

Having lived in the Pagosa Springs area for the past 18 years with her husband, Wilhoit has developed deep ties within the community.

Dr. Nylund said many patients are greeted not only by name, but also with questions about their children, grandchildren and everyday lives. He added that Wilhoit helps patients feel comfortable and cared for, especially those who may be nervous about visiting the dentist.

Beyond her role assisting pa-

tients, Wilhoit has helped organize office systems, improve workflow and increase quality patient care as the practice continues to grow. Nylund said she is always checking in on coworkers and making sure everyone is taken care of during busy days.

“She always has a smile and makes the best of every situation,” he said.

Nylund added that Wilhoit’s energy is contagious. He said she is constantly moving from room to room helping patients, supporting staff and making everyone’s day better.

Black Diamond Dental offers preventive, restorative, periodontal, emergency and family dental services for patients of all ages in a friendly, family-focused environment.

Black Diamond Dental of Pagosa Springs is part of the Pagosa Sun sponsored content program called Spotlight.

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Kids Dance Party fundraisers to bring fun nights and community support

Pagosa Springs Dance Academy

The Pagosa Springs Dance Academy (PSDA) is inviting families to join Kids Dance Party events this summer while helping support an important studio improvement project.

The first dance party event will be held on Friday, June 12, offering children ages 5 and up a fun evening of music, activities, dinner and social time. No dance experience is required. This event is all about having fun.

The event will be led by PSDA board members, all of whom have completed background checks, and assisted by

studio dancers, providing a safe and supervised evening for participants.

Parents are invited to enjoy a date night or a few hours of free time while their children participate in a positive, active environment.

The cost is \$25 for the first child and \$15 for each additional sibling. Space is limited, and families are encouraged to reserve their spots in advance at www.pagosadanceacademy.com. Questions may be directed to board. psda@gmail.com.

Additional Kids Dance Party fundraisers will be held throughout the summer on July 9 and Aug. 22.

Proceeds will help fund a new sprung floor for the studio, considered the industry standard for dance training due to its impact absorption and injury-prevention benefits.

In addition to these fundraising events, the PSDA offers a variety of summer dance camps, workshops and classes for dancers of all ages and experience levels.

More information and registration can be found at www.pagosadanceacademy.com.

The PSDA looks forward to welcoming kids for evenings of fun this summer.

Pagosa UU Fellowship to hold sharing circle June 14

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship hosts a second Sunday morning Going Deeper Sharing Circle from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

This month, June 14, we will reflect on some of the themes from the previous day's Pagosa Pride event, while deepening our awareness of how we support one another in a search for

truth and meaning.

This open, safe circle of engaging is one tool on the journey toward spiritual growth.

Visit our website, PagosaUU.org, where you will find information about upcoming services and programs. We offer space for ongoing programs and events at the UU Community Hub, such as the Tara Meditation Group held Sundays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

and Qigong practice on Monday afternoons at 1 p.m. The Wise and Wakeful Circle typically meets the second and fourth Saturdays. The next circle will meet June 27 at 10 a.m. All are welcome for mindfulness practice connecting with others to build community.

We welcome all to the fellowship. The Pagosa UU Fellowship is located in the Greenbriar Plaza, Unit B-15, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side.



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Re-Elect

VERONICA MEDINA

— ARCHULETA COUNTY COMMISSIONER —

★ DISTRICT 3 ★

FACTS MATTER

For the past several years, a small group of individuals has repeatedly filed complaints and pursued a recall effort against me.

Here are the facts:

- The Colorado Real Estate Commission dismissed the complaint against me on June 2, 2026. The hearing recording is publicly available online.
- The Award was issued in October 2025 by Colorado Federation of Republican Women. The Archuleta County Republican Women presented the award to me.
- The recall effort failed because not enough signatures were collected. The petition was never submitted.
- As your County Commissioner, I have never shied away from making tough decisions. Leadership means making choices that serve the best interests of Archuleta County, even when those decisions are not always popular.
- County decisions require the support of at least two commissioners. No commissioner acts alone.



COMMITTED TO ARCHULETA COUNTY

★

*My family is from here.
This is my home.
My grandchildren live here.*

I have committed to serving as a full-time Commissioner because I believe Archuleta County deserves leadership that is accessible, engaged, and working for the people every day.




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★ Re-Elect Veronica Medina Archuleta County Commissioner District 3 ★

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Photos courtesy Seeds of Learning

Three of the contestants of Seeds of Learning’s Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories are Annita and Wim Bens, competing as a duet; Darcy DeGuise; and Shellie Dolan. The event is set for Aug. 24.

Seeds of Learning spotlights contestants of Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories

Seeds of Learning

As anticipation continues to grow for Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories, Seeds of Learning Early Care and Education Center is excited to continue showcasing the talented local performers who will take the stage at this year’s fundraising event on Aug. 24 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

This one-of-a-kind event combines hometown talent with an unforgettable evening of music, storytelling and inspiration from acclaimed Nashville Hall of Fame

and award-winning singer-song-writers Jeffrey Steele, Wendell Mobley, Danny Myrick and Megan Linville.

Contestants will compete for both Judges’ Choice and People’s Choice honors while helping raise vital funds to support Seeds of Learning’s high-quality early childhood education programs.

The second group of performers featured in our contestant spotlight series includes Annita and Wim Bens, competing as a duet, along with solo artists Darcy DeGuise and Shellie Dolan.

Annita and Wim Bens are a mother-and-son duo. Annita Bens is deep-
■ See Seeds on next page

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Re-Elect VERONICA MEDINA

Archuleta County Commissioner District 3

Paid for by Marilyn Harris

Veronica Medina has been a strong voice for Archuleta County, demonstrating dedicated leadership, commitment to our community, and a tireless work ethic focused on the people of Archuleta County. Her service, advocacy, and passion for protecting rural values continue to make a positive difference for our families, businesses, and future generations.

Seeds

■ **continued from previous page**
ly involved in supporting the Pagosa Springs community and enjoys being connected with many organizations and great people through a joint ownership of a downtown business. She has also been a supporter of Seeds of Learning for many years, participating in the Dancing with The Pagosa Stars fundraiser in 2019. Annita Bens is sure that she could sing before she could talk. It sparked her crush on her husband and vice versa when they were 16, performing at their high school together. Her lifelong wish to sing with her talented son, Wim Bens, is a dream come true. Wim Bens, being raised by two music-loving parents on a balanced diet of Gloria Gainer, Bob Marley, the Beatles and Pavarotti to name just a few, spent years behind the mic at karaoke, building confidence and learning how to read a room. They are both honored and excited to participate in this year's fundraiser for Seeds of Learning.

Darcy DeGuise started performing at the age of 13 as Kim in her high school's production of "Bye, Bye Birdie!" At that point she was hooked and began taking voice lessons to improve her instrument. After graduating college with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music from Ohio University, she apprenticed as

a young artist with the Cincinnati Opera. Now, a high school English teacher, DeGuise fills what little free time she has when she isn't teaching cross-country and downhill skiing; walking her dog, Bosco; cooking; and performing whenever she has the notion. As an educator and a lifelong learner, DeGuise values the early education opportunities that Seeds of Learning provides for our young children in Pagosa Springs and is delighted to participate in this fundraising opportunity.

From singing on stage and opening for legends like Pam Tillis, Kelly Clarkson, ZZ Top, and Big Brother and the Holding Company, to working as a Janis Joplin impersonator on a cruise ship, Shellie Daniels has never done life halfway. She studied recording arts in Orlando, spent time

in Nashville producing and recording records in the recording studio, and chased music, laughter and adventure across multiple states. She then went back to school, became a nurse, and built a second calling serving others as an LPN in rural Colorado, bringing heart, humor and grit to the community she loves. She's as devoted to her rescue dog, Shadey, as she is to adventure, and she's happiest out on a walk with him, soaking up the mountain-town life.

Together, these singers bring a diverse range of musical influences, performance experience and community spirit to this exciting competition.

Tickets for Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories go on sale on June 15. Visit <https://growingseeds.org/hvns> for more information.

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Wings Early Education Center’s experience auction promises wonderful memories

By Donna Mosher
Wings Early Childhood Center

At Wings Early Childcare Center, we value the journey and the destination.

Our upcoming Grand Gala features a silent auction of stellar experiences. You can travel far or near while making a meaningful difference to Pagosa Springs children from 6 weeks old to 5 years.

“Who needs more stuff to dust?” declared Wings Grand Gala chair Kim Moore when she announced the amazing travel opportunities businesses far and near have contributed to support Wings’ first fancy fundraiser. “These days, folks are eager to enjoy life and create memories. The Grand Gala silent auction promises to deliver many wonderful experiences. And the best part? All auction proceeds help us provide outstanding education and child care to our Wings students.”

The auction features two premier experiences:

- Escape to paradise with a luxurious five-night stay for four in a stunning beachfront Costa Rica retreat.

- Enjoy a romantic wine country three-night retreat in Oregon’s renowned Willamette Valley with curated wine tastings for two.

If you want to stay closer to home, consider these nearby adventures:

- A relaxing overnight stay at a charming inn includes breakfast and dinner for two and a private Georgia O’Keeffe landscape tour through Ghost Ranch.
- Be pampered overnight with luxury and relaxation for two, including dinner and brunch at a breathtaking estate in Pagosa Springs.
- A private tour package features a unique, private behind-the-scenes tour of the ski area hosted by Keith Pitcher, plus four lift tickets and lunch for four.
- The Ouray Escape delivers a night at an inn and dinner for two in “the Switzerland of America.”
- Another package for South Fork offers golf for four with golf carts and lunch.
- Enjoy dinner for two in Creede, then head over for an entertaining evening at the Creede Repertory Theater and stay the night at a lodge.

The online auction is now live at WingsEarlyChildhood.org.

In addition to the opportunity to take part in our auction of delightful experiences, the Wings Grand Gala promises an elegant summer evening at the picturesque Keyah Grande Guest House with delicious hors d’oeuvres, a cash bar and music by one of Pagosa Springs’ favorites — Maxwell Miller.

Quality childhood education is critical to children’s lifelong success. Your support of the Wings Early Childhood Center Grand Gala helps to provide the outstanding care and education the center offers to children and families of Archuleta County. We rely on grants and private donations to subsidize tuition for families who otherwise could not afford quality early childhood education.

The Wings Grande Gala at Keyah Grande is June 24 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 each and are available at Tangled, 189 Talisman Drive, and online at WingsEarlyChildhood.org.

19th Hole Concerts to continue June 11

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The 19th Hole Concert Series continues tonight with an evening of live music, community connection and local impact featuring the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP) as this week’s highlighted nonprofit organization.

Tonight’s concert will feature live music from the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, bringing their high-energy mountain sound and crowd-favorite blend of bluegrass, Americana and roots music.

As the featured nonprofit, the WEP will be on-site sharing information about its collaborative efforts to improve rivers, streams, wetlands and watershed health throughout the Upper San Juan Basin. Community members are encouraged to stop by, learn more about ongoing restoration projects and support local watershed stewardship efforts.

The concerts take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club, with proceeds from the \$10 suggested donation supporting all four nonprofits participating in this year’s concert series.

Concert series to continue June 18

Another exciting evening continues with the third concert in the four-part series featuring Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) and musical guest Mike Blakely.

Known for his signature mix of outlaw country, rock, blues and Texas Americana, Mike Blakely is expected to bring an energetic performance to next week’s concert while PCI highlights its important work supporting local youth and families.

PCI provides out-of-school programming for youth through trauma-informed practices along with family support services that strengthen overall well-being throughout the community.

Funding generated through the 19th Hole Concert Series will help expand scholarship opportunities for youth to attend PCI summer camps, ensuring financial barriers do not prevent children from accessing safe, enriching and therapeutic summer programming.

The 19th Hole Concert Series continues to bring together live music, local nonprofits, and community support throughout the summer season in Pagosa Springs.

Community members and visitors are encouraged to attend concerts every Thursday night in June to enjoy the music and support organizations working to strengthen the Pagosa Springs community.

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Staying alive is hard work

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

Staying alive is hard work. I could only dream of making some of John Travolta's dance moves from his 1983 musical, "Staying Alive." Right now, moving very slowly with a walker is all I can hope for.

I greet my elderly friends as I wait for my physical therapy. They come, hoping they might be around for a while. They are hurting and limping, but trying to stay healthy and alive with their weekly visits. Like me, their moral obligation is to these old, broken-down bodies, keeping them repaired and moving. Our spiritual obligation is to the Lord. He has been generous by giving us more days on this earth to witness His glory. We need to be faithful.

Also, we have a certain responsibility to our family and friends not to be a burden, but be as independent as we can be. Coming home with my physical therapist's advice, I knew she meant business: "Your muscles need blood, oxygen and nutrients flowing through them to sustain them. Move those muscles or you'll be ending your years in a wheelchair."

After my visit, I stabbed at a routine of exercises, but fizzled out after a few days. I needed a plan. I had to put down my pride and reach out to my family. They have experienced some harebrain ideas from me before. They definitely will shake their heads, roll their eyes and laugh. They'll chalk it up to another day in the life of their mother.

The therapist put the fear of God into me. I've got to get up and move, and walk the property. I can't sit at my computer all day, which I want to do. I sent an email to the whole family to rescue me: "Family Members, will you spare fifteen minutes? Only one day a week. Come to my rescue? Insist that I walk with you. I will probably kick and scream. Don't listen to me. Bring your walking shoes, take a little walk with me around the property and down to the river."

I expected a reprimand. "Mother, I told you you've got to get away from your computer."

I wasn't scolded. Instead, I was encouraged by my family's response.

I received a phone call immediately from my grandson, Creede. "Grandma, I will be there tomorrow."

I told him, "I had to put down my pride and admit my flaws, as if they weren't obvious. We want to be the hero in our children's eyes."

Two of my out-of-town grandchildren emailed, "When we're there in July, we will walk with you. Take small steps until we get there." I'm counting on those small trips around the property with my grandchildren to be a bonding opportunity.

I also received an email from my good friend and writer, Faith Richardson. She wrote, "You missed my story from the heart. Inspired by you and Helene, challenging me in how

Artist's Lane

The therapist put the fear of God into me. I've got to get up and move, and walk the property. I can't sit at my computer all day, which I want to do.

God would encourage me."

Here are a few excerpts from her new project she is working on:

"Acknowledging the struggle: The journey has been hard. The Lake of Depression nearly drowned you. The Cliffs of Comparison almost pulled you over the edge. But you're still here. Still walking. Still breathing. That alone is victory. Every step forward, no matter how small, matters.

"Validating the pain: The inflammation that screams with every step, I feel it. The exhaustion that makes even breathing hard, I know it. The trauma from the Cliffs of Comparison that wakes you at night, I see it. Your suffering is not invisible to Me. Your tears are collected. Your pain has purpose. One day, you will understand. For now, trust that I am working all things together for good.

"Addressing the body's limitations: The body that feels like it's betraying you, I knit it together in your mother's womb. Every cell. Every nerve. The inflammation, the pain, the limitations, I see them. I am not punishing you through your body. The enemy is attacking what I made. But healing is coming. In My time, in My way. Until then, I am sustaining you. Also, don't forget My strength is made perfect in weakness."

Final brushstroke: Staying alive is hard work. Don't get discouraged. As I read through Faith's story, I knew she wrote every word to me. To all of you who are struggling, there is

someone who knows what you're going through. Put down your pride and tell someone. They are willing to help if they know.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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- JUL 2** Dave LaMure Jr *Bronze Sculptures*
- JUL 16** **Hilarious Paint-off, benefiting LASSO**
Brett Kilburg (acrylics), Michael Vittitow (watercolors)
& Lise Neer (pastels)
- JUL 23** Joe Watkins *Scratchboard*
- AUG 6** Peggy Judy (*new artist*) *Oils*
- SEP 3** Randy Friemel *Oils*
- SEP 10** Debra Ferrari *Ceramic Debut*
- SEP 24** **Plein Air Wet Exhibition**
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Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

Community members gather for Healthy Archuleta’s garden education program.

Growing together: Youth experiences Healthy Archuleta gardening classes

Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta has been offering a five-week garden education program, Siembra la Cena or Seed to Supper.

This class has invited community members of all ages to come together and learn hands-on gardening skills.

One youth participant shared their experience with the program, which is highlighted in this article:

“Through my experience participating in the Healthy [Archuleta] gardening classes, I was rewarded with a beautiful, unique, and educational experience. Through the classes, I learned so many valuable gardening skills, such as planting, soil preparation, weeding, and watering techniques, and I even received one of the biggest lessons of my life. You could ask anyone who knows me, I hate bugs, but through these classes, one of the biggest lessons I learned was that not all bugs are villains. Some are tiny superheroes protecting the garden, while others are basically tiny criminals looking for a free meal. As someone who had never gardened before but does plan to have a garden of their own one day, I found the instructors very knowledgeable, patient, and, most of all, they were always willing to answer any questions I had, no matter how silly they might have been at times.

“One of the things I enjoyed most was hands-on learning. Working in the gardens allowed me to apply what I was learning and see the results

firsthand. My partner would agree; we would always leave the gardening classes together and discuss what we found most interesting. It was his first time ever doing any kind of community work, and he loved the idea of knowing that everything

we were growing would go towards feeding families in the area through the local food pantries. Not only is it rewarding in the knowledge we gain for ourselves, but it also teaches us that through all our hard work, we

■ See Classes on next page



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Community United Methodist Church to host United Women in Faith Sunday with Rise Above Violence presentation

By Ken Daniell

Community United Methodist Church

The Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) will host United Women in Faith Sunday on June 14 with worship services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. at 434 Lewis St.

United Women in Faith is a community of women whose purpose is to serve, grow in faith and remain committed to justice in our community and beyond. On June 14,

the women of CUMC will lead both worship services as a witness to that ongoing commitment.

Featured at both services, and at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School hour in the fellowship hall, will be a presentation by Carmen Lewis, executive director of Rise Above Violence.

Lewis will share about the organization's work addressing and preventing violence in Archuleta County and invite the community to learn more about how it can get involved

and offer support.

Both the 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. services are open to the public. All are welcome.

CUMC is located at 434 Lewis St. For more information, call (970) 264-5508. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Save the date for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

• June 21, 6 p.m.: Father's Day and Summer Solstice Drumming Celebration potluck picnic with Shayla Azriel at Xanadu SpiritFire Center. A \$10 donation will be collected. For more information, contact (970) 510-0309.

• June 28, 6 p.m.: Full moon Strawberry Moon Sound Bowl Healing and Drumming Circle with Scott Maki and Azriel. A potluck will follow. It will take place at Xanadu SpiritFire Center. A \$33 donation will be collected.

The center also offers educational classes and workshops.

About us

Classes

■ continued from previous page can help more people and build a stronger, healthier community. I appreciated the opportunity to see so many community members with varying levels of experience come together around a shared interest in gardening and healthy living. Seeing these kinds of things go on in the community helps bring hope and light, suggesting that our community can be stronger together. We just have to try.

"Looking back, I joined these classes with absolutely no idea what I was doing. I had never gardened before, but now I'm so thankful I did this. My experience with Healthy Archuleta taught me much more than how to grow a garden. It showed

me how people from different backgrounds can come together with a shared purpose and create something meaningful. Every seed we planted represented more than just food — it represented hope, generosity, and the strength of our community. As a first-time gardener, I gained valuable skills, but more importantly, I gained a deeper appreciation for the impact we can make when we work together. Healthy Archuleta has shown me that growing a garden is also about growing a stronger community."

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta or to join one of our upcoming programs, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition-4archuleta.org or send us an email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

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ComFest 2026 Returns to Yamaguchi Park This Summer

The Town of Pagosa Springs invites residents and visitors to enjoy ComFest 2026, a free outdoor concert series at Yamaguchi Park (684 S 5th Street). Concerts will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and feature live music, food trucks, and spirits, all while supporting local nonprofit organizations.

The 2026 lineup includes:

- June 19 – Brooks-i and Bo DePena, benefiting Archuleta County 4-H
- July 17 – A-Mac & The Height, benefiting Rise Above Violence
- August 21 – The Williams Brothers Band, benefiting Wings Early Childhood Center

Bring a lawn chair, gather with friends and family, and enjoy an evening of great music while supporting important community causes.

For more information, contact the Community Center at 970-264-4152.

Free Family Movie Night Set for June 26

The Pagosa Springs Police Department is sponsoring a Free Family Movie Night on Friday, June 26, featuring Zootopia 2 at the athletic field across from Town Park on Hermosa Street.

Families are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs. Free food will be served beginning at 7:30 p.m., and the movie will start at dark, approximately 9 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public.

Main Street Art Walk Returns June 26

Residents and visitors are invited to explore downtown Pagosa Springs during the Main Street Art Walk on Friday, June 26, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Hosted by Pagosa Springs Main Street, the event celebrates local creativity, community, and small businesses. Participants can check in at Picasso & Vino, located at 262 Pagosa Street, Unit 103, to pick up an Art Walk Guide and discover participating artists, shops, galleries, restaurants, and other downtown destinations.

The self-guided event offers an opportunity to experience local art, unique shopping, and great food while supporting Main Street businesses and artists.

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

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

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.



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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week’s Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the green-tailed towhee.

The best time of year to catch sight of these birds in our area is late May and early June, when males perch at the top of shrubs to sing. His song, all about defining his territory and attracting a mate, is described as a jumbled mix of clear whistles followed by trills. He may repeat it up to 12 times per minute.

At other times, these are secretive birds hiding in dense, thick habitat. From late spring through early fall, they are found in the West on shrubby mountainsides up to 10,000 feet in elevation and in sagebrush that is intermixed with shrubs and trees. Regrowth that occurs following fire or some types of logging provides good towhee habitat.

Green-tailed towhees forage for insects low among the foliage or on the ground, using the double-scratch method to stir up leaf litter and peck at what is uncovered. They feed on a variety of seeds, and insects including beetles, bees, wasps, caterpillars, moths and grasshoppers.

The female conceals her cup-shaped nest in low branches of very dense vegetation. Despite being well hidden, their nests are often prone to predation by jays, magpies, squirrels, weasels, skunks and snakes. If a predator approaches the nest area, the female may raise her tail and run, mimicking a chipmunk in an attempt to lure danger from the nest. Both sexes produce a mewing call from deep within the brush to stay in contact.

The green-tailed towhee is a large grayish sparrow with olive-yellow wings and tail, white throat and rufous cap. Despite being fairly common across its range, its secretive nature in thick brushy habitats have made it one of North America’s least well-known birds. They share many characteristics with the related spotted towhee, which is a year-round resident here, but the green-tailed migrates to the southwestern United States and Mexico for the winter.

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

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

- ACROSS**
- 1 Swit's sitcom
 - 5 ___ Major (constellation)
 - 9 Pesto ingredient
 - 14 Org. in rights fights
 - 15 Kind of tide
 - 16 Say "y'all," say
 - 17 Bowie's "___ Child"
 - 19 Biologists' study
 - 20 Scottie or Yorkie
 - 21 Shoulder ornament
 - 23 Big name in chips
 - 25 ___ and about
 - 26 Forerunners
 - 30 Algonquian tribe
 - 33 Back-row cry
 - 34 In the end
 - 36 Take it easy
 - 37 Sentencing request
 - 39 Fitzgerald of jazz
 - 40 Nineveh native
 - 42 Nervous quiver
 - 44 Vote of support
 - 45 Become associated
 - 47 "So ___ heard"
 - 48 1776 patriot Silas
 - 49 Storm often chased
 - 53 "El Dorado" actor Robert
 - 57 Mo or Stew of Arizona politics
 - 58 Pearly gem
 - 60 Kitchen counter?
 - 61 Feed the kitty
 - 62 Send out
 - 63 Oneness
 - 64 What have-nots have
 - 65 Some NYPD officers

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DOWN

- 1 Damon or Dillon
- 2 Stomach woe
- 3 Putdown
- 4 Hastily
- 5 Up in the air
- 6 Brought up
- 7 "___ cheese!"
- 8 Vaulted recess
- 9 Snarky reply to "Why?"
- 10 Native Alaskan
- 11 Window ledge
- 12 Motionless
- 13 Just in case
- 18 "___ when?"
- 22 Off the Pampers
- 24 Walton's mom Michael
- 26 Soothe, as fears
- 27 Hangman's loop
- 28 Stallone's "___ King"
- 29 Seahawks' grp.
- 30 Hollywood's Hayek

- 31 Parcel out
- 32 St. ___ of Assisi
- 35 Voted back in
- 38 Partake of
- 41 Sibling ___
- 43 Signs a lease
- 46 Channel changer
- 47 Coastal cove
- 49 Ballet attire
- 50 Norse war god

- 51 Malek of "Mr. Robot"
- 52 Mideast's Gulf of ___
- 54 Base-runner's goal
- 55 Troop group
- 56 Team with a bridge in its logo
- 59 Wallet bill

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

Teachers are our heroes

By Barbara Brattin
PREVIEW Columnist

Every summer the library is filled with eager young faces excited to have the time to read all the books in the library and earn every summer reading challenge prize.

These children have worked hard for years learning their alphabet, recognizing the sounds that go with each letter and decoding all the combinations of letters into words that have meaning.

If you've ever tried to help a child learn to read, you know that it isn't always a small thing. Every child loves stories and puzzles and they will do a lot of guessing instead of slowly decoding the words they see. Getting them to slow down and think it through can take months, but when they finally master the means to decode, there is nothing more satisfying than watching their eyes shine with recognition. They know they have discovered a secret that will serve them for a lifetime.

Here at the library, we inspire small children to do the hard work ahead by delighting them with stories. We start with babies and continue through until they reach kindergarten. We don't teach them to read. We teach them to love the reward, to know that the hard work ahead of learning to read will open up an entire lifetime of joy.

To all the teachers who do the hard work alongside every student, we are forever in awe of your patience and dedication. Thank you for giving generations the skill to learn anything, be anything and escape the hardships of the world by immersing in stories.

Library to be closed June 15-21 for moving days

It's almost time to move into the new addition and vacate the old section for renovations.

We're hoping it will only take a week, but please be patient with us if we take a little longer.

If all goes well, we'll be open again on June 22 and you'll be parking in the new south-side parking lot and walking through the new front entrance on the west side of the building.

The children's room will be all set up and we'll be ready to plant a garden out back. We'll have public computers, and resume copy, scan and fax service. And, we will have a meeting room for you to reserve.

Watch our calendar to see what summer programs are in the new library and what is being held out in the community. We're going to have a lot going on this summer.

If you are strong enough to help set up shelving, box up books and shelve our collections, we need you. Please reach out to Judy at the library, (970) 264-2205 to schedule a shift. And if you have any sturdy, clean,

Library News

medium-sized boxes you can provide for the move, we would love to have them. Just bring them by, broken down if possible.

Adopt-a-Tree Program

We have 26 new trees planned for our outdoor community garden, and you could put your name on one of them in exchange for a \$500 donation. Individuals, families, clubs, businesses and organizations are welcome to participate.

Interested? Here's how to get started: Write a check to Ruby Sisson Library or donate online at 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.

Summer Reading Program underway

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, the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Park and more. These field trips are for all ages and any entry admission will be covered by the library.

We'll have a whole lineup of "Read Wild!" themed events in addition to our standing offerings for children, teens and adults. You can visit pagosalibrary.org/summer for more details.

Citizenship classes

The citizenship classes will be taking a summer break June 9-16.

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, for location

■ See Library on next page

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The difference between aging and growing old

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

How many times have we said, “I’m not 20 years old anymore”?

Maybe it’s when our knees complain after climbing a ladder, our back reminds us we’ve worked hard for many years or we realize we can’t jump a fence the way we once could.

The physical signs of aging have a way of getting our attention, yet many of us still feel young at heart. We may have more gray hair, a few aches and pains, and a slower pace, but inside we often feel much the same as we did decades ago.



It raises an interesting question: When does someone actually become old? Is it in our 40s, 50s, 60s or beyond? The truth is that there is no magic age that suddenly makes a person old.

Aging is both a physical and a mental process. While our bodies naturally change over time, our at-

titude toward life can have just as much influence on how old we feel.

Staying active, maintaining friendships, learning new things, volunteering, and finding purpose each day can help keep us feeling youthful and engaged. We cannot stop the clock, but we can choose how we respond to it.

Growing older is inevitable; growing old in spirit is optional. By focusing on what we can still do rather than what we can no longer do, we can continue to live with energy, curios-

■ See Senior on next page

HUD
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Library

■ continued from previous page
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 Archuleta 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 health

• “Brain Fitness Blueprint: Integrating Ancient Wisdom and Modern Technologies for Peak Performance” is by Patrick Porter.

• “Mayo Clinic Guide to a Healthy, Happy Heart.”

• “Skin: An Owner’s Guide” is by Dr. Emma Craythorne.

New in science and technology

• “The Curious World of Bacteria”

is by Ludger Wess.

• “The Art of Physics: How Science Explains the Chaos, Contradictions, and Unpredictability of Life” is by Zahaan Bharmal.

• “The Next Big Thing: Innovations for a Better, Smarter, Stronger Tomorrow” is by meteorologist Rob Marciano.

For the do-it-yourself crowd

• “The Self-Fed Farm and Garden: A Return to the Roots of the Organic Method” by Eliot Coleman focuses on creating biologically active soils through time-honored practices.

• “Essential Food Preserving: The Comprehensive Guide” by Julia Skinner walks you through canning, freezing, drying and fermenting techniques for all your garden produce.

• “Mending Handbook: Repair and Restore Fabric and Textiles” by Shannon Roudhan teaches you how to repair clothing with a variety of stitches that not only mend, but create works of art.

New fiction books from iconic writers

• “The Phoebe Variations” by Jane Hamilton is about an adopted teen who meets her biological parents at her high school graduation.

• “Whistler” by Ann Patchett is a novel about “how love endures and how being known by another person, even for a short period of time, can change everything.”

• “Python’s Kiss” by Louise Erdrich is a new short story collection featuring a range of tribal characters.

New in large print

• “When the Cranes Fly South” is an international bestseller by Swedish novelist Lisa Ridzen about aging and the process of saying goodbye.

• “Last Night in Brooklyn” by Xochitl Gonzales follows 26-year-old Alicia Canales, who dares to imagine for herself the fearlessness she discovers in the house parties of her neighborhood.

• “Comancheria,” book one in the Hollow Frontier western series by Reavis Wortham, follows Texas Ranger Buck Dallas on a haunting mission to rescue a missing girl.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

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

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

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!

Senior

■ continued from previous page

ity and optimism, and perhaps keep that “old man” or “old woman” from moving in just a little longer.

Juneteenth closure

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) will be closed Friday, June 19, for Juneteenth. 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 Pagosa Senior Center.

Salmonsohn brings to the conversations a variety of topics designed to stimulate discussions within a safe and comfortable environment as we explore our well-being and shared experiences.

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others in the Archuleta community, fostering sharing and friendships.

Snacks will be provided.

Afterward, hosted by Robin Williams, stay for a get-together created for those who wish to continue the conversation. This opportunity is typically from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., following Senior Conversations. The group occasionally reconvenes as an informal gathering at various local restaurants.

Stretching and mobility weekly class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center.

The stretching and mobility classes for adults age 55 or better are designed to help build balance in the body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of techniques that can help enhance overall movement efficiency.

Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

The program is instructed by local ballet dance instructor Dee Pitchon, who will provide modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the exercises.

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 of play, with the final round reached sometime between two and three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Emotional freedom

On the second Thursday of the month from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., join the “Tappers,” who practice a self-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, depression, insomnia and more.

Everything you need to get started is included in this fun, engaging, supportive class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

Mindful drawing

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

Classes are every Wednesday 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

Tai chi classes are held at Yamaguchi Park from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

There will be no tai chi on June 18 or June 25.

Tai chi 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 June 26 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

■ See Senior on page 23

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ALPINE
- BACKCOUNTRY
- CANYON
- CASCADE
- CRAG
- EVERGREEN
- FOLIAGE
- GLACIER
- GORGE
- HINTERLAND
- MEADOW
- MESA
- OVERLOOK
- PLATEAU
- PRECIPICE
- RAVINE
- RIDGE
- SUMMIT
- TERRAIN
- THICKET
- TRAILHEAD
- VALLEY
- WILDERNESS
- WOODLAND

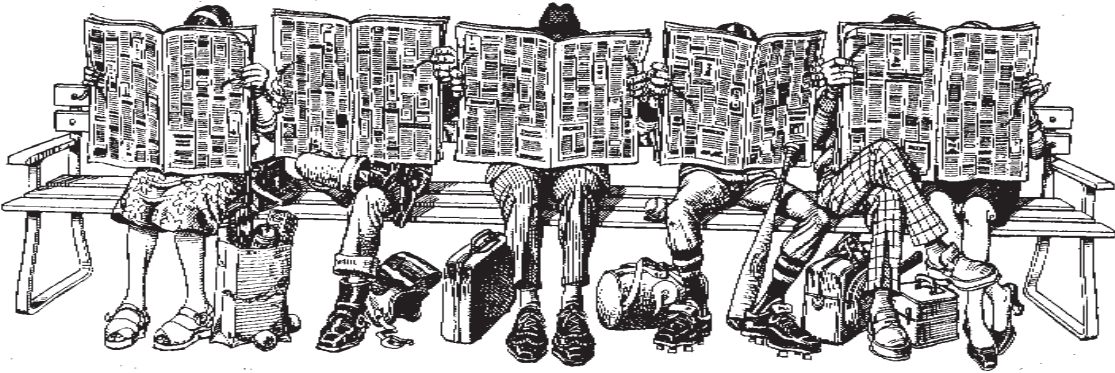
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Senior

■ continued from page 21

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, June 11 — Sliced ham steak with cherry sauce, scalloped potatoes, green beans, garden salad, fruit, cottage cheese and milk.

Friday, June 12 — New England clam chowder, oyster crackers, broccoli, garden salad, strawberry angel cake and milk.

Monday, June 15 — Cottage pie with mashed potatoes, wilted spinach, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, cookies and milk.

Tuesday, June 16 — Carnitas enchilada bake, sweet corn, black beans, garden salad, banana pudding and milk.

Wednesday, June 17 — Salmon with creamy herb sauce, quinoa rice pilaf, carrots, garden salad, fruit,

chocolate cake and milk.

Thursday, June 18 — Moroccan chicken tagine with apricots, cous-cous, roasted asparagus, garden salad, dates, baklava and milk.

Friday, June 19 — Closed for Juneteenth.

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 con-

venient 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.

■ See Senior on next page

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, June 11

Ruby’s Writers Guild. 8:45-10:30 a.m., Senior Center. Ruby’s Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

‘Spring Songs-Audubon Bird Walk’ Birdwatching 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.

Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided tour of the Chartres-design labyrinth. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooden cross.

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. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. An Archuleta Senior Center program.

Emotional Freedom Techniques. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center. Practice a

self-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, depression, insomnia and more.

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

Teen Minute to Win It Game Night. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Do you have a minute? Join at the library for an evening of fun as we play different mini games for prizes. Come by yourself or make a team of your own.

19th Hole Concert. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Live music by the Jackson Mountain Ramblers. The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the season’s four nonprofits.

■ See Calendar on next page

Senior

■ continued from previous page 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

Starting in 2026, small donations can be deducted without itemizing your tax return. It is the Permanent Universal Charitable Deduction.

Here’s what this means: For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2025, those who do not itemize can deduct up to \$1,000 for individual tax filing and \$2,000 for married couples filing jointly.

The goal of this provision is to recognize and encourage charitable giving across all income levels, potentially boosting donations from middle-income households who may not itemize their deductions. This change has the potential to significantly impact charitable giving patterns by incentivizing a broader base of donors.

You may mail your donation to ASI, P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or please visit our website: www.psseniors.org/ (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.

Another way to donate: Are you 70.5 years old or better? Do you have an IRA from which you need to take a distribution? Did you know you can make charitable donations directly from your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution, up to \$100,000 per year? The donation from the account would be payable to ASI and sent to P.O. Box 344, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. This gift option is called the IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution.

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**266 Sparrow Circle
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MLS #835090



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MLS #833969



**42 Sundown Circle
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MLS #833836



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Friday, June 12

A Tour of Two Trails. 7:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. 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.

Early Explorers: Paleontology. 3-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 3-5. Children and their caregivers are invited to explore the world of paleontology in a safe and age-appropriate environment. Get ready to make crafts, read some stories, move around, play in the sensory bin and more. Please dress for mess.

Pagosa Springs Car Show. 5-8 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Classic cars, hot rods and custom vehicles will line the street, offering a nostalgic and family-friendly experience. There will be live music, contests and more.

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

Saturday, June 13

Pagosa Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Meet at the na-

tive plants garden next to the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnerships domes. Bring sunscreen, bug spray and water. Tours last one to two hours and are handicapped accessible. Tours are weather dependent.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour is presented in partnership with the local chapter of the Audubon Society and affords a wonderful opportunity to observe and learn about birds that are native to the area. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Pagosa Springs Car Show. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Classic cars, hot rods and custom vehicles will line the street, offering a nostalgic and family-friendly experience. There will be live music, contests and more.

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

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 Pride. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Town Park. For more information, see the Pagosa Pride Facebook page or email pagosapride@gmail.com.

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

Flute Music at Twilight Program. 6 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program begins with a guided, short walk through a mesa village followed by live Native American flute music accompanied by a deepening night sky to reveal celestial bodies. Tickets are \$20

for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Company.' 7 p.m., ■ See Calendar on next page



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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

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosa-center.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

A Night Under the Stars. 9:45-11 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers for a laser-guided constellation tour followed by a telescope viewing. Bring a red flashlight or headlamp if you have one. Meet near the restrooms. Dress in layers.

Sunday, June 14

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Monday, June 15

Sunrise at Chimney Rock. 5:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program offers a unique two-hour tour of the archaeological sites with a special emphasis on the view of the sun rising atop the mesa. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

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

Conversational Spanish. 4-5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. A Sisson Library program.

Tuesday, June 16

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.

Medicare 101. 1-2:30 p.m., Archuleta County Department of Human Services, 550a Hot Springs Blvd. Learn about options, deadlines, penalties and how to stay informed about your benefits.

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

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

Tween Book Club. 4-5 p.m., PS Froyo. Join to adventure into the world of books. Snacks will be provided. June's book is "Call of the Wild" by Jack London. Copies are available to keep. A Sisson Library program.

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.

Pagosa Wetlands Tour. 7 p.m., Centennial Park. Meet at the native plants garden next to the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnerships domes. Bring sunscreen, bug spray and water. Tours last one to two hours and are handicapped

accessible. Tours are weather dependent.

Wednesday, June 17

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., Cen-

tennial Park. Join for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information. A Sisson Library program.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chim-
■ **See Calendar on next page**



WHY YOUR BODY LOVES EXERCISE



Isn't it interesting how the body reacts to regular exercise versus consistent inactivity? Your body loves exercise and activity. Today's excerpt explains why. Want to feel better, have more energy and perhaps even live longer? Look no further than exercise. The health benefits of regular exercise and physical activity are hard to ignore. And the benefits of exercise are yours for the taking, regardless of your age, sex or physical ability. Need more convincing to exercise? Check out these ways exercise can improve your life.

No. 1: Exercise controls weight. Exercise can help prevent excess weight gain or

help maintain weight loss. When you engage in physical activity, you burn calories. The more intense the activity, the more calories you burn. You don't need to set aside large chunks of time for exercise to reap weight-loss benefits. If you can't do an actual workout, get more active throughout the day in simple ways — by taking the stairs instead of the elevator or revving up your household chores.

No. 2: Exercise combats health conditions and diseases. Worried about heart disease? Hoping to prevent high blood pressure? No matter what your current weight, being active boosts high-density lipoprotein (HDL), or "good," cholesterol and decreases unhealthy triglycerides. This one-two punch keeps your blood flowing smoothly, which decreases your risk of cardiovascular diseases. In fact, regular physical activity can help you prevent or manage a wide range of health problems and concerns, including stroke, metabolic syndrome, type 2 diabetes, depression, certain types of cancer, arthritis and falls.

No. 3: Exercise improves mood. Need an emotional lift? Or need to blow off some steam after a stressful day? A workout at the gym or a brisk 30-minute walk can help. Physical activity stimulates various brain chemicals that may leave you feeling happier and more relaxed. You may also feel better about your appearance and yourself when you exercise regularly, which can boost your confidence and improve your self-esteem.

Source: "Exercise: 7 benefits of regular physical activity." <http://www.mayoclinic.org/>

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

"Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture." Psalm 100:3

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
ney 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.

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

Mindful Drawing. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Unearth a Story: Archaeology. 4-5 p.m., South Pagosa Park. For ages 6-11. Storytime about archaeology, then excavate dinosaurs out of dinosaur eggs. A Sisson Library program.

A Tour of Two Trails. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Thursday, June 18

Ruby's Writers Guild. 8:45-10:30 a.m., Senior Center. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

'Riverwalk, Hot Springs and Rez Hill' 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.

Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided tour of the Chartres-design labyrinth. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooden cross.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chim-

ney 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.

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.

19th Hole Concert. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Live music by Mike Blakely. The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the season's four nonprofits.

Friday, June 19

A Tour of Two Trails. 7:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. 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.

ComFest. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Enjoy live music.

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

Saturday, June 20

Summer Solstice Program. 5:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program provides a unique pre-dawn experience to view the sunrise from atop the mesa, timed to take in the expanding sun's rays. Afterward, a tour

of the archaeological sites will be conducted highlighting the importance of celestial events to the ancient ones. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Pagosa Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Meet at the native plants garden next to the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnerships domes. Bring sunscreen, bug spray and water. Tours last one to two hours and are handicapped accessible. Tours are weather

dependent.

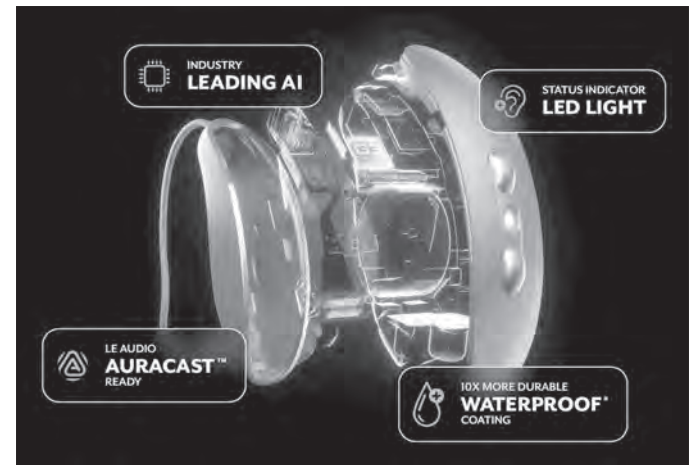
Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Gennette Erickson
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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
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.

Bioblitz. 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Reservoir Hill and San Juan Riverwalk. Join a fun and relaxed community science event. The cost to participate is \$25 for adults and \$10 for kids age 10 and up. To learn more and register, visit <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTQyNjMyMzY=> or email cindi.galabota@colostate.edu.

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.

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

Night Sky Program. 8 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program focuses on the Ancient Pueblos who once lived here and studied the night skies along with interactive talks about the life cycle of a star, categories of galaxies and other relevant topics.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Sunday, June 21

Summer Solstice Program. 5:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program provides a unique pre-dawn experience to view the sunrise from atop the mesa, timed to take in the expanding sun's rays. Afterward, a tour of the archaeological sites will be conducted highlighting the importance of celestial events to the ancient ones. 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.

Monday, June 22

Summer Solstice Program. 5:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program provides a unique pre-dawn experience to view the sunrise from atop the mesa, timed to take in the expanding sun's rays. Afterward, a tour of the archaeological sites will be conducted highlighting the importance of celestial events to the

ancient ones. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

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

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Colorado SNAP produce bonus program bolsters family health and local economies

Colorado Department of Human Services

Colorado families receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are finding it easier to put healthy food on the table thanks to the Colorado SNAP Produce Bonus.

This statewide initiative, operated by the Colorado Department of Human Services in partnership with Nourish Colorado, makes fresh produce more affordable while providing a direct economic boost to local farmers and retailers.

The program provides SNAP participants with a dollar-for-dollar reimbursement — up to \$60 per month — when they purchase eligible fruits and vegetables at participating locations. The bonus is automatically loaded back onto the participant's Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card, requiring no separate sign-up or vouchers.

"The Colorado SNAP Produce Bonus is a win-win for our state and our families," said Abby McClelland, director of the Food and Energy Assistance Division. "By removing financial and logistical barriers to healthy eating, we are supporting the long-term health of Colorado families and the livelihood of our

local agricultural partners."

Launched in July 2024 through a federal pilot funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Colorado is one of only three states selected for this initiative. The electronic incentive model is designed to provide a dignified shopping experience.

Recent customer surveys highlight the program's success, with 97 percent of surveyed participants reporting the program helps them eat more fruits and vegetables.

Participants noted that the automatic EBT credit reduces stigma by allowing them to shop like any other customer without using physical tokens or paper vouchers.

The bonus helps SNAP benefits last throughout the month, increasing overall household food security.

This year, the program has expanded to include food-producing plant starts and seeds when purchased at direct-marketing farm locations. This addition joins the list of existing eligible items:

- Fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables (without added sugar, salt or fat).
- Dried beans.
- Dried fruits and vegetables without added ingredients (at farm

locations).

Once earned, the bonus can be used to purchase any SNAP-eligible food item at any authorized retailer statewide.

The program is a proven catalyst for local business growth. According to surveys of participating farmers:

- 80 percent report increased produce sales.
- 74 percent have attracted new customers.

A majority prefer the electronic system over traditional paper programs due to reduced administrative burden and faster transactions.

SNAP recipients can find a map of participating farmers markets and retailers by visiting COSNAP-ProduceBonus.org.

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Celebrate Dairy Month with Colorado Proud Recipe of the Month

Colorado Department of Agriculture

Celebrate Dairy Month with a true taste of Colorado.

Milk is one of our state’s most locally sourced products, usually traveling fewer than 40 miles from family farm to store shelves. Grab a fresh gallon of Colorado milk and treat yourself to a sweet, warm bowl of classic Denver Chocolate Pudding.

While this pudding tastes like a dream, the Colorado dairy industry is doing some very heavy lifting for our state’s economy.

Our local cows aren’t just scenic background noise for your road trips; they are economic powerhouses.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the dairy industry contributes more than \$3.8 billion annually to the state’s economy and supports nearly 15,000 jobs. With roughly 100 dairy farm families across the state, every splash of milk and dollop of butter in this recipe fuels local businesses and keeps our rural communities thriving. It turns out that indulging in a second helping isn’t just “giving in to temptation”—it’s practically a civic duty.

To make this recipe truly Colorado Proud, you can vote with your fork

by choosing ingredients grown and produced right here in the Centennial State. Start by looking for the Colorado Proud logo on your milk and butter. You can round out the dish by using flour milled from Colorado-grown wheat via finding a brand near you via the Colorado Grain Chain. Source any seasonal fruit toppings from your neighborhood farmers market.

Supporting local cuisine isn’t just about the superior flavor; it significantly reduces food miles — the distance food travels between where it’s produced and where it’s eaten — ensuring your dessert has a smaller carbon footprint than your last gear-heavy camping trip to the Rockies.

Denver Chocolate Pudding

Shared by Food.com.
Yield: 6 servings.
Prep time: 10 minutes.
Cook time: 1 hour.

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 7 tablespoons cocoa, divided

- 1/2 cup milk
 - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
 - 1/2 cup brown sugar
 - 1/2 cup granulated sugar
 - 1 1/2 cups cold coffee
- For a topping: whipped cream or your favorite Colorado ice cream

Directions

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
- Coat a baking dish (about 9x9) well with butter.
- Sift together the sugar, flour, baking powder and salt.
- Melt the butter and 3 tablespoons of cocoa in a double boiler, then add the flour mixture.
- Stir in milk and vanilla.
- Pour mixture in the prepared baking dish.
- Over the top scatter (without combining) the brown sugar, granulated sugar and the remaining 4 tablespoons of cocoa.
- Pour the coffee on top, again without mixing.
- Bake for 45 minutes.
- Let stand at room temp for at least an hour before serving.
- Top with whipped cream or your favorite Colorado-made ice cream.
- Visit ColoradoProud.com for more recipes.

Classifieds

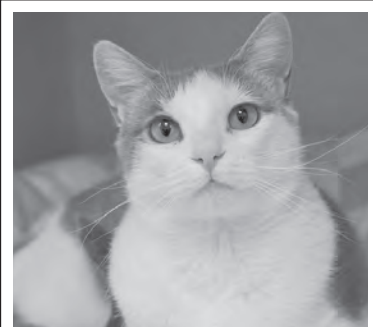
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER’S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/ text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

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.

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THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Diamond: (970)264-1073. Charlotte: (970)903-9690. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hrs.).

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JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

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.

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.

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.

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 BAR IS LOOKING for cooks to work in our new food truck. Apply in person or email resume: cwpagosabar@gmail.com.

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.

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.

SEEKING PART -TIME HELP. For landscaping, experience helpful. Must have valid drivers license and transportation. Contact Eric. (970)946-2061.

SUBWAY IS HIRING. Enjoy working in a fun environment with a great team? Earn a strong hourly wage with tips while serving our wonderful community. Apply online at subway.com, or in person.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire a **Utility Operator** in the Public Works Division. The individual selected for this position will perform a variety of working level, skilled, and technical duties related to the construction, installation, maintenance, and repair of the Sanitation District collection system, pump stations, and Geothermal System. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS Police Department is hiring for the following positions: • Assistant Police Chief • Community Service Officer • Evidence Technician • Police Officer/Police Officer Recruit. These are full-time positions with benefits. For more information on the positions and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com
to submit your classified. 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.

HELP WANTED

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER. Mineral County is seeking a Veterans Service Officer. The position provides benefits assistance, claims filing, outreach and advocacy to military Veterans and their families. Perform case management, maintain records, coordinate with community partners, and represent the County in Veteran matters. Be able to work independently, use sound judgment, be skilled in dealing with sensitive issues and maintain confidentiality. Knowledge of state/federal veteran's benefits, local resources and strong verbal/written communication are also beneficial to this position. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED; minimum 1 year experiencing working with the public; valid driver's license; must be U.S. military veteran; Colorado resident; certified County Veterans Service Officer or have the ability to become certified within 12 months of hire and maintain 1,000 hours /year plus 16 continued education units; able to obtain PIV card; basic computer skills. Position is 80 -85 hours per month at \$15.16/hr, with pay negotiable depending on experience. Background check is required. Applications are available from Mineral County Human Resource office at 1201 N. Main Street, Creede, CO or 719-658-2331 or at mineralcountycolorado.com/jobpostings. Position open until filled. Mineral County is an equal opportunity employer.

AUTOS

1956 CORVETTE TOTALLY RESTORED. 2 -speed automatic. (970)749-7163, (970)749-7148. \$80K OBO.

2010 HONDA CRV AWD. Leather, fully loaded, new front wheel bearings and struts /shocks, transmission serviced, 200 -plusK miles. \$8,000. (970)749-7163, (970)749-7148.

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

1936 J2 PIPER CUB 65 hour engine, original 50 hour Continental engine and prop on stand. Operational before storage. (970)749-7163, (970)749-7148.

2016 40 SERIES TRACKHOE. 3700 hours, good condition. (970)749-7163, (970)749-7148.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD DELIVERED. Doug Fir Pine mix \$250 per cord, \$1400 for 6 cords. Call Kathie (303)358-6218.

FOR SALE

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Text only: (970) 507-0162

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



AKC Lab Puppies for sale.
Yellows and Blacks, \$1,500.
(970)749-4288

ADOPT DON'T SHOP Literally hundreds of thousands of dogs and cats are killed every year waiting to be adopted into good homes. Shelters everywhere are overcrowded. Want a puppy, kitten, dog or cat? ADOPT. Shelters and Rescues are begging for good families. There are also breed -specific rescues where you can adopt exactly the type of pet you want instead of buying from a breeder. Even if you purchase from a reputable breeder, you are still adding to the pet overpopulation problem and condemning at least one other animal to death. Please. Think. About. It.

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.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

ATV FOR SALE. 2012 Yamaha Rhino 700FI, 2 passenger plus cargo bed and rollbar. 700 cc fuel injected engine with 780 total hours. Used nearly exclusively by a senior adult on forest service roads in the Upper Blanco Basin. Garaged during winter months. Plexi-glass windshield. Professionally maintained. **\$4,900.** Call: (512)557-6193.

TRAILER FOR SALE. Hebco 2012 light-weight single axle ATV trailer. 3500 GVW, approximately 9'x 12', with spare wheel, drive on-off tailgate, large toolbox, 6 tie -downs. **\$3,500.** Call: (512)557-6193.

YARD SALES

ESTATE SALE. Furniture, bed, everything you can imagine. 76 Saturn Drive, 6/13. aausekli13@gmail.com.

ESTATE SALE. Saturday, June 13th -Sunday June, 14th at 402 Dove Ranch in Bayfield, CO. 9a.m. -3p.m. Furniture, household, tools, come out and find some treasures. Pictures at www.nesestatesales.com.

GARAGE SALE. 689 Midiron Ave. Saturday, June 13, 8a.m. -1p.m.

KPPAWN ESTATE SALE. Friday, 6/12 and Saturday, 6/13. Tractors, firearms, tools, fishing boat, ATV, mounts and much more. Road 34 Mancos, CO. Pictures on Facebook KPPawn Durango or estatesales.net.

TOOLS. TOOLS. TOOLS. Also: Quality fishing, boating, audio, games, kitchen gadgets, exercise. Friday, 12th through Sunday, from 8a.m.-2p.m.

YARD SALE. IT'S SUMMER. Time for a yard sale at 9 South Driver Court. Multi-family sale including: exercise bike, children's car seats, clothing, shoes, bedding, pictures, Tupperware, holiday decorations, assorted household items. Saturday, June 13. 8a.m. -2p.m.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term rental from 135 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$465-\$669/ month. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

RESTAURANT FOR LEASE, great location uptown, available immediately. For information, call (970)903-4481.

SHOP SPACE NEAR TOWN. 500 sq. ft., gas heated, electricity, bathroom available. \$400 per month. Michael C. Branch, (970)769-2036.

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

1.1 ACRE COUNTRY LIVING — Warehouse plus mobile home , \$2000 /month plus utilities. 1243 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. 1 -year lease. Live, create or store. Contact now, (970)946-2728.

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 and two bedrooms available. \$1350 -\$1825. Walking distance to hot springs and shops and restaurants in old downtown. (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.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

ON BEAUTIFUL PAGOSA LAKE: 2 bedroom, 2 bath furnished upstairs unit. No garage. Rent: \$1425 per month plus deposit and utilities, available now. No pets and no smoking. Long -term lease. Call or text (817)565-7656. Please leave a phone message if no answer.

ON BEAUTIFUL PAGOSA LAKE: 2 bedroom, 2 bath unfurnished downstairs unit with single garage. Rent: \$1425 per month plus deposit and utilities, available July 2. No pets and no smoking. Long -term lease. Call or text (817)565-7656. Please leave a phone message if no answer.

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, \$1450. 3 bedroom, 1200 sq. ft. \$1525. 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.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS. Coming soon: 3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage home. Available 8/15: \$2500 /month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home, partially furnished \$2200 /month. Unfurnished 2 bedroom 1 bath downtown home. Available 8/15: \$1795 /month. Sweet furnished 3 bedroom, 3 bath home across from Lake Pagosa: \$2900 / month. Available 7/12/26. Partially furnished loft bedroom condo: \$1550 /month. Available 7/10/26. Available now: 1 bedroom plus lock off bedroom 2 bath condo \$1900 /month. Partially furnished 1 bedroom 2 bath condo. \$1900 /month. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599 or visit the website at teampagosa.com.

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.

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.

STUDIO CABIN in old downtown area. (970)946-4755.

TIRED OF RENTING? Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is seeking applicants to partner to build in 2027. Applications are due June 30, 2026. Our application process is a great place to start, we are just one path toward attainable homeownership. Take the first step today. Contact volunteer@habitatarchuleta.org (970)264-6960 or swing by our office near Natural Grocers 11a.m. -3p.m. Monday -Friday with any questions.

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.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

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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

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COMMERCIAL

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.

BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM HOME. Gorgeous views, lake access one minute away. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large workshop, 2 acres. 3 miles south Highway 84. \$825,000. By appointment. Call (970)946-4902. Leave message, will call back asap.

HOMES FOR SALE

CABIN OPTIONS. Bedroom, bath, electric, water and septic systems, RV barn, \$174,900. Bedroom, bath, off-grid, septic and water systems, \$149,900. 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.

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.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

WELL BUILT, EXCELLENT VIEWS. 3393 sq. ft., three-bedroom, two bath, additional living space, office, two car garage, detached two car workshop. \$825,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.

3.7 ACRES minutes from Navajo Lake State Park. Water tap available. \$400,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

ALL FENCED. 2.25 acres. \$325,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

BEAUTIFUL LAKE VIEW HALF ACRE, no HOA, \$60,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN VIEWS ready for you to build your dream home on this 3 acres with utilities, also fenced. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

SO PEACEFUL 1 ACRE overlooking large ranch, ready to build with all utilities and many extras. Dream property. \$228,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

STEPS AWAY FROM SHOPPING. 5 acres with mountain views. \$250,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

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.



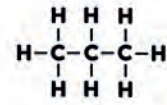
All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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