

Town cancels Fourth of July fireworks

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 16, the Pagosa Springs Town Council decided to cancel the fireworks display scheduled for this year’s Fourth of July celebrations.

Tourism Director Jenny Green explained to the council that the town’s hired vendor had requested to be notified by end of day on June 16 regarding if the fireworks display would still be scheduled.

“The deadline is today,” Green explained, “to cancel without incurring any costs” for the town.

She added, “The vendor is trying to avoid unnecessary cancellation fees for the town and greatly appreciates its relationship with Pagosa.”

“At this stage, they have a semi and lodging booked that would need to be canceled. They fully understand the situation we are dealing with and are just trying to limit their non-refund-

■ See Fireworks A8

PAWSD board authorizes upcoming move into drought stage two

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its June 11 meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors authorized the district manager to enter stage two drought when the appropriate trigger points are reached, which staff predicted will be in the

near future.

District Engineer Justin Ramsey explained to the board that, based on water levels in Hatcher Reservoir and the San Juan River, the district was still in drought stage one, but was “just a couple inches away” from having to enter stage two according to the district’s drought management plan.

■ See Drought A8

Commissioners discuss new transfer station

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, June 16, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted unanimously to not submit a Colorado Circular Communities Enterprise (C3) grant application for the future construction and relocation of the Pagosa

Springs transfer station.

The grant application would have requested \$500,000 through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, with a local match to not have exceeded \$204,000.

The matter was previously discussed with multiple public comments during a work session held by

■ See Transfer A9

Town moves toward acquiring former Wyndham properties

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a special meeting held by the Pagosa Springs Town Council on Wednesday, June 10, the council unanimously approved the first reading of three separate ordinances relating to the acquisition of real property — two condominium properties and one townhome property that are all being auctioned off by Wyndham.

Prior to voting on the ordinances, the council entered into an approximately one-hour-long executive session.

After reconvening the special meeting, Mayor Shari Pierce offered comments calling this a “wonderful and unique opportunity” for the community, while also commending town staff for their “diligence” in working through the details of this project.

Council member Gary Williams commented that as the town continues to grow and diversify its economy, “we need more and more workforce housing.”

Williams mentioned that the workforce housing issue has been a “big problem” for the community over the past few years, describing the acquisition of these three properties as a “bold solution” to that problem.

Council member Mat deGraaf stated that, as a government, “fundamentally, we work for the people,” explaining that the acquisition of these properties is what the town needs to survive and thrive.

■ See Properties A8



Ten-year-old Easton Butler is joined by a companion — a heron — while paddling on Village Lake Thursday, June 11.



U.S. 160 reconstruction personnel work to pave the Hot Springs Boulevard intersection. Paving operations at the intersection are anticipated to be completed by the end of the day on Thursday, June 18, allowing for the reopening of Hot Springs Boulevard to traffic, as well as open the overlook parking lot.

Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Town council appoints new member

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 16, the Pagosa Springs Town Council appointed Vahid Shabro to the council seat previously

held by Matt DeGuise.

DeGuise’s term ended April 6, and no candidate ran for the open seat during the town’s April election, leaving the council to fill the position via appointment per the town charter.

The appointment fills the vacancy for the remainder of the four-year term ending April 2030.

Only one application, Shabro’s, was received by the June 10 deadline, an agenda document on the matter

states.

At the meeting, the council asked questions of the applicant, followed by a determination of if Shabro would be appointed to the seat.

■ See Council A8

Moratorium on data centers approved by county board

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a regular meeting held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) in Arboles on June 16, the board unanimously approved Resolution 2026-47, putting a six-month moratorium on data centers in the county.

The matter was brought up by Commissioner Veronica Medina earlier that day during a BoCC work session, where she explained that she had talked with other counties across the state about issues with data centers, “and just the draw on power and water that they tend to use,” noting that they don’t seem to be a good fit for Archuleta County.

Medina also mentioned technolo-

gies do change and that moving forward things may look different with data centers, but that the county’s current infrastructure and water situation would not support a data center.

“Colorado is in a fight for its life for water,” she said, adding, “If we don’t have water, we don’t have life.”

Medina explained that the county can only do a six-month moratorium at a time, suggesting that she would like to take the matter to the voters at some point and engage the community on if it should be a long-term ban.

Medina then stated that for most counties that have data centers, they draw the majority of power in the community.

“I just don’t think we can afford that,” she said, noting that the county

■ See Data A8

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Opinion



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HOT MINERAL SPRINGS"



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6/11	83	40	0.00	NA	NA	
6/12	83	40	0.00	NA	NA	
6/13	81	41	0.00	NA	NA	
6/14	80	49	0.00	NA	NA	
6/15	80	45	0.30	NA	NA	

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OUR VIEW

Colorado's most important election may be the one you're skipping

The following bipartisan guest editorial centers on a privilege we hold dear and encourage everyone eligible to take part in: making your choices known through the election process whenever you get the chance.

As we present this guest editorial, we'd also like to offer a reminder that The SUN runs political letters to the editor up to three weeks prior to an election, so you'll see no more letters to the editor related to the June 30 primary election (the June 11 issue was the final issue for those to appear).

We encourage everyone who is eligible to be sure you're registered to vote, continue to seek out information if your mind is not made up, cast your vote and return your ballot.

Randi Pierce

Every November, Colorado voters turn out in impressive numbers.

Every June, a different story unfolds.

Hundreds of thousands of Coloradans who faithfully vote in general elections never cast a ballot in the primary elections that help determine which candidates appear on the November ballot in the first place. Many of these voters are unaffiliated voters, who comprise more than half of Colorado's electorate. Many independent voters don't realize how much influence they have or how easy it is to participate.

This matters because primary elections

shape the choices voters ultimately see in November.

Whether your priorities are housing, education, public safety, the environment or Colorado's economic future, it is important to recognize that many elections are effectively decided in the primary.

In many districts, the candidate who wins a party's nomination is strongly favored to win in November. That means voters who skip the primary may miss their best opportunity to influence who ultimately represents them.

For many races, participation cannot begin in November. It starts in June.

The challenge is not that voting is difficult. Colorado has built one of the strongest, most accessible election systems in the country. Ballots are mailed directly to voters. Registration is straightforward. Election information is widely available.

The challenge is that too many voters do not believe the primary election matters.

That perception is understandable — but it is wrong.

For unaffiliated voters, the opportunity is especially significant.

Colorado law allows unaffiliated voters to participate in either party's primary election. Voters can choose either a Democratic or Republican primary ballot without joining either party. Casting a primary ballot does not change their unaffiliated status. It simply gives them a voice in selecting candidates from one party before the general

election arrives.

Opting out of a party does not mean opting out of the primary process.

Broader participation means elections more accurately reflect the communities they serve. It means more perspectives are heard and more Coloradans have a stake in the outcome.

This is not about supporting one party or one candidate. It is not about advancing a political agenda or influencing a particular race.

It is about putting the best Coloradans forward to represent us in elected office.

Primary elections deserve the same attention and consideration that we routinely give to general elections.

As ballots arrive this June, we encourage every eligible voter, especially those who regularly vote in November but have never voted in a primary, to take a closer look.

You do not need to know everything before you participate. You do not need to belong to a political party. You do not need to become a political expert.

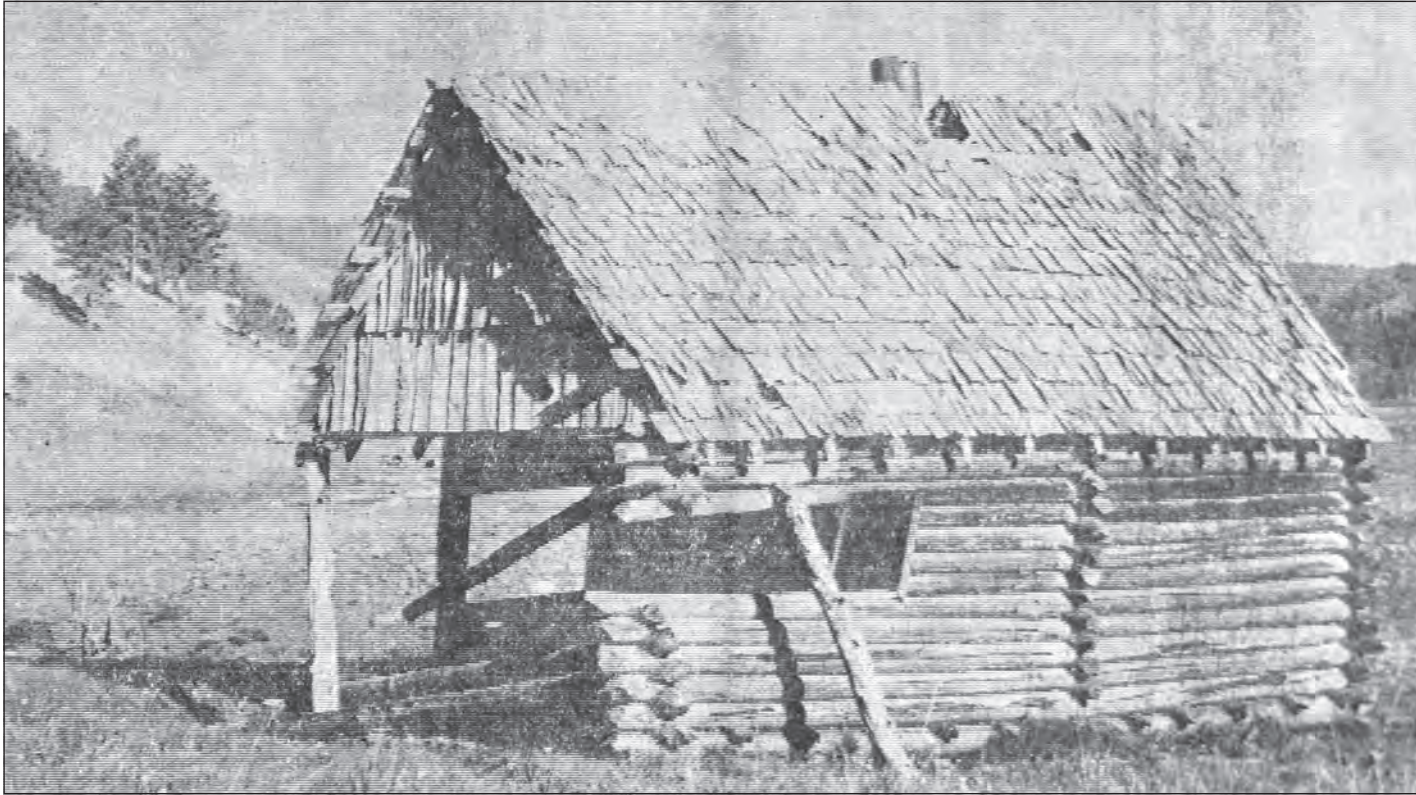
You simply need to use the voice you already have.

Colorado's future is shaped long before Election Day.

The primary election is where that process begins.

Former Colorado Governors Bill Owens (R) and Bill Ritter (D)
Former U.S. Senators Hank Brown (R) and Tim Wirth (D)

LOOKING BACK



From the June 18, 1970, Pagosa SUN — OLD TIMER — This long deserted homesteader's cabin in the Weminuche Valley shows the work and effort needed to build a home in the early days. All logs, doors, and window frames are hand hewn. The shingles on the roof are also hand made. The building is about to collapse but has stood there for many years.

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 18, 1926

Preparations are going steadily ahead for the big three-day Fourth of July celebration in Pagosa on July 3, 4 and 5, and Manager A. J. Hall is quite enthusiastic over the attractions he has been able to secure for the delectionation of the visitors here during that period. While we are not at liberty to as yet definitely announce the various events secured, we are assured that they will equal, if not surpass, the main attractions of past celebrations here — which is saying a great deal.

The detailed program will be announced shortly, but in general the features will be about as follows: Music, Dancing, Aeroplane, Fireworks, Horse Racing, Bucking Contests, Baseball Game Daily, Five Good Boxing Bouts Monday, Children's Sports, Children's Races, Novelty Sports, Street Carnival, Indian Dances, Novelty Races, Indian Races.

Pagosa Springs will be hard pressed for accommodations for the visitors, and it is suggested that all residents who may have furnished rooms to rent at that time, to please leave word to that effect at the McComas drug store.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 22, 1951

A large forest fire, which was started by lightning, has burned over an estimated 320 acres in the Piedra region.

The fire started Monday when lightning struck some timber in the area and before it was brought under control Wednesday morning, the blaze had covered a large area. The fire is located on the North side of First Fork of the Piedra eleven miles up the river from the highway camp.

The forests are extremely dry this year and this fire demonstrates very vividly the amazing rapidity with which a fire will spread in a dry year.

Local rangers and other forest service officials are pointing out that a large percentage of forest fires are man caused, and generally through carelessness. All who are going to be in the hills this summer should exercise extreme care in seeing that every possible precaution is taken to prevent fires.

In addition to the loss of property, recreational areas, and often lives, there is a stiff penalty for carelessness with fires or cigarettes on the national forests and those who do not exercise the proper precautions may pay an expensive fine.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 24, 1976

It was a week of rescues last week. An injured mountain climber had to be carried down off the back side of Pagosa Peak after he suffered a broken neck and broken arm in a fall. A 13 year old boy was trapped in a truck on Wolf Creek Pass after it rolled and rescuers worked for more than three hours to free him. He suffered a broken arm.

A record crowd jammed the district court room Tuesday night of this week at a public hearing. The hearing pertained to the revision of building permit regulations and the revision of subdivision regulations. Most of the interest was centered around the building permit regulations, and there was considerable opposition to any type of building permit.

The Red Ryder Roundup is just a little over a week away. Preparations for the big event are practically complete and the celebration will start with a big parade July 4 in downtown Pagosa Springs. There will be another parade the morning of July 5 and there will be rodeos and horse races both days at the rodeo grounds.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 14, 2001

A substandard and possibly dangerous taxiway at Stevens Field has Archuleta County commissioners scratching their heads with perplexity as they search for money to finance a fix.

Lining the taxiway are 24 privately owned hangars. The taxiway is the remnant of the original runway at the county-owned airport.

Soft spots allow propeller-driven craft to dip, threatening damage to propellers. Gravel and rocks on the taxiway surface can be sucked up by turboprop aircraft. Who knows what damage that might inflict? Could a loose rock be the cause of a turboprop falling from the sky?

The problem is not new. It has existed since the original runway was built circa 1964 when money was hard to find and the impact of smaller aircraft was not intense. The surface has been replaced and holes patched down through the years, but the basic problem remains: the base under the asphalt was never adequate, a great deal of flexible clay is involved, and water seeps under the pavement, wreaking havoc.



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.

Pagosa West

Dear Editor:

People living in Pagosa Springs express a high degree of satisfaction with their town. Attributes contributing to a positive attitude among residents include environmental quality, access to services, a generous public spirit, and community amenities. The town boasts impressive scenery and abundant natural resources. It is difficult to put a dollar value on the satisfaction derived from the beauty nature has so generously provided to our town: rivers, lakes, and waterfalls, the sounds of the birds and insects, the pathways and crossings of animals, the lush envelopment of forest and plant life, the countless recreational opportunities.

Many times, though, when planners are engaged in decision-making these incredibly enriching resources, are disregarded in favor of strictly monetary factors.

They say if development is encouraged, it can bring clearly tangible benefits to the people of this town. The thing is that's a big maybe.

With the Pagosa West Development being considered, community support is lacking, evidenced time and again in public meetings, written commentary, and petition initiatives. People worry the plans considered are too intensive in scope and too open-ended, that potential business entities imposed on the residents may not be needed or wanted, that strains on public utilities will lower the quality of life and increase costs, and worst of all that the basic quality of life that is currently enjoyed will be compromised and at a huge cost to the natural beauty of the community, not to mention the impact to existing and future wildlife.

Is a fast food franchise, gas station, storage facility, or hotel worth the cost when regal, ancient trees are cut down to lay down concrete for businesses no one wanted in the first place? Housing is good, and affordable housing particularly important for young, working people coming up, retirees, or other families needing assist. Is it a proven fact that land in the greater Pagosa Springs area is unavailable for expanding housing opportunities or is the developer usurping the best of our community's attributes for the sake of simple profit? Who guarantees the businesses brought in will win the favor of the public, that they will last, and add beauty and character to the look of the town—especially in the long-term? And, of course, once the ancient pines are gone, they're gone.

An uptown park has been proposed as an alternative to the Pagosa West Development plan which in terms of public response has generated a high level of interest because it preserves irreplaceable century and older trees and long-standing wildlife corridors, establishes a beautiful entree to the town, augments the traditional beauty and character of the town, and creates a central community locus to gather and enjoy recreational opportunities. This seems a goal worth working for.

A community park provides a value that Pagosa Springs residents understand and appreciate versus giving outsiders an open-door policy to bring in whatever turns a profit.

Evelyn Ausen

Dust tax

Dear Editor:

The concept of a DUST TAX was addressed in the June 4 editorial as well as addressing the health issues of inhaled dust from heavy, fast road traffic on county dirt/gravel roads.

In reference to the health concerns, our lungs filter out anything greater than 10 microns, less than 10 microns remain in our lungs. Thus, PM10 is short for the particulate matter less than 10 microns in size (ie: road dust is one). PM2.5 is really fine dust that goes through the air sacs in our lungs into our blood stream. On an intimate level one can relate to the fact that our federal government would no longer provide US high-

way funds to the town in late 1980's until we paved our side residential streets and utilized a street sweeper. The town of Pagosa Springs air quality monitoring readings were almost twice the allowed standard. More than 85% of the particular analysis was dust. Not auto exhaust, not chimney emissions, just fine dust from vehicular traffic. Since paving town streets and using the sweeper the town has been in compliance with the exception of one year that the sweeper was down. No monitoring to this date has been performed outside the town limits and there have been no plans for additional county wide monitoring by the Air Pollution Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The health risks remain for all of us traveling and living on our dirt/gravel county roads. These risks are pulmonary diseases, COPD, allergies, lung development in children from PM10 and heart attacks and strokes from PM2.5 to mention a few. The county attempts to alleviate the dust control with a once a year magnesium chloride application. It temporarily gives some relief, but many of the county roads are so heavily stressed from construction trucks of all kinds and sizes, the mag chloride application is rapidly worn down and we are back in the same old filthy, dust clouds of the very air we breathe that seem endless. It is obvious political action is needed to encourage our county government to adopt long term plans to address this major health issue. We live in a beautiful environment with expectations of a healthy life. Please, slow down. Drive slower on the dirt/gravel roads. Or possibly, back to the concept...." Dust Tax" for those who are unwilling to cooperate.

Betsy Carpino

Editor's note: The dust tax was discussed in the June 4 letters to the editor.

Ukraine Support Act

Dear Editor:

On June 04, 2026, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the bipartisan Ukraine Support Act (H.R. 2913) on a 226-195 vote.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the 226 Congressional Representatives who voted 'Yea' on the Ukraine Support Act.

CO-03 Rep. Jeff Hurd joined 17 Republicans in voting 'Yea' on passage of the Ukraine Support Act.

To the CO-03 constituents who 'encouraged' Rep. Hurd to vote 'Yea' for passage of the Ukraine Support Act:

'This happened because of You' Never doubt that your voice matters.

The 'Ukraine Support Act' now moves to the U.S. Senate, where it requires 60 votes to advance to the President's desk.

Neonila Martyniuk
Montrose, Colo.

Pagosa West

Dear Editor:

Is this the time for big development in Pagosa Springs?

On Tuesday, June 23rd, the Planning Commission will conduct a pub-



Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit your letter electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted to editor@pagosasun.com or via the form at www.PagosaSUN.com. Letters must not be in all capitals.

All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
- include the actual first and last name of the author
- include the author's address and daytime phone number
- be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday)

Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

Letters from letter-writing campaigns may not be printed.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

Poetry, anonymous letters, letters that are libelous or in poor taste, or that attack a private citizen or business will not be published.

If necessary, only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue will be printed in each edition up to three weeks prior to the election.

The SUN generally does not edit letters, but reserves the right to do so.

lic hearing on the proposed Pagosa West subdivision that encompasses approximately 100 acres located at the southeast corner of South Pagosa Boulevard and U.S. Highway 160. This hearing is specific to the subdivision action; all future proposed individual site development within the subdivision will be reviewed under a separate Major Design Review application process and is asking for the development of a gas station and convenience store on the corner of South Pagosa and Hwy 160.

For over two years local residents have questioned the need for such a development. Between 2024 and 2029, Pagosa population is expected to grow around 1%. Properties and infrastructure can remain unused for years. Aspen Village and the Pagosa Lakes subdivisions still have numerous lots available. Aspen Springs is not yet built out and even downtown Pagosa is not fully built out. There are currently over a dozen businesses/commercial properties for sale. Who will bear the long-term cost of maintaining roads, water, sewer, and public services for potential ghost neighborhoods?

Current issues include affordable housing, roads, high taxes and fees, public education, health care, water and sanitation resources. In the past two years people have seen groceries increase 4-7% and gas 10%-25%. Recent Gallup survey shows 55% of individuals reported that their financial situation was worsening, signaling a concerning trend that points to the pervasive issue of affordability.

Economic wise Pagosa reports:

-The latest real estate news (The Riley Report) shows "the total number of sales year-to-date is down 24% with 151 sales so far this year compared to 199 last year. Home sales are pretty flat."

-School enrollment has been falling. Archuleta School District had 1,742 students enrolled in 2019. This year, the district enrollment is 1,583 (according to the Colorado Department of Education).

-Monthly sales tax collections are down for a third time this year (Pagosa Sun)

Aside from the beauty of these 100 acres which include old growth forest and large herds of elk, deer and other wildlife, in this economic environment is this really the time to get involved with another development?

Jane Weitzel

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of June 22-28

Work activity

- Hot Springs Boulevard intersection: Paving operations are anticipated to be completed by the end of the day on Thursday, June 18. This will allow the team to reopen Hot Springs Boulevard to traffic as well as open the overlook parking lot. Pedestrian detours remain in place in several locations throughout the project limits.
- Fourth of July holiday: Crews will not be working July 3-6 in recognition of the holiday. The WW Clyde team will have a supervisor and traffic control specialist on call over the weekend should any needs come up around the work zone.
- Lewis 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, wastewater utility work and electrical work. Some geothermal and stormwater utility work remains at this intersection, and is slated for the coming week, followed by concrete paving and sidewalk.

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.cotrip.org.

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation

Attention Mutton Busters!!

Prizes for ALL Participants!!
1st Place Rodeo Buckle

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

RED RYDER

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Child's age

Parent's name

Parent's contact email and phone

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Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

PAWSD board talks rate increases, debt service issues

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors discussed the district’s financial difficulties and potential upcoming fee increases designed to address them at its June 11 meeting.

At previous meetings, the board heard staff reports highlighting that the district’s income, particularly from capital investment fees (CIF) charged to new construction, are lower than budgeted, potentially reducing the district’s revenues and causing it to violate the agreements associated with its loans, which mandate specific ratios of income to expenditures called debt service coverage ratios.

The board has also considered the possibility that it would need to impose additional fees on customers to make up the lost CIF revenues and maintain its coverage ratios.

PAWSD Comptroller Jack Dossett presented to the board about the district’s debt service coverage ratio, the difference between the previous and current budget estimates relevant to that ratio, and what components contribute to that ratio.

He explained that his presentation would be less focused on the potential fee increases to alleviate financial issues related to debt service coverage.

Dossett stated that many of PAWSD’s expenses and revenues do not have annual variations and could be estimated in the future with simple multiplication, while those expenses with seasonal variations were estimated partially based on comparison with the patterns in expenses and revenue for 2025.

He explained that drought conditions should “in theory” not impact the district’s income due to the drought surcharges imposed making up the lost rate revenues from lower water use.

Dossett stated that debt service has to be looked at from a bank perspective, which focuses on regular cash available and operations, and is less interested in onetime revenues like grants.

He commented that PAWSD had been including grant revenues as revenue in its budget and that this likely should not have occurred since it does not count toward debt service.

Removing this leads to a \$150,000 reduction in the district’s income for the purposes of debt service, he stated, although this does not mean that the district will obtain less than the expected grant revenues.

In response to a question from board member Bill Hudson, Dossett emphasized that looking at debt service coverage is separate from looking at the district’s finances from

a budgeting perspective.

He also stated that the district’s revenues from the water and wastewater enterprise funds and the debt associated with those funds are lumped together for debt service purposes, instead of the debt and revenues for each fund being considered separately.

In response to a question from board chairman Gene Tautges, Dossett explained that money paid by the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID), which manages wastewater treatment for the Town of Pagosa Springs, to PAWSD to help fund capital projects is not considered revenue for debt service since it is support for capital projects, which are not considered in debt service.

He added that PAWSD’s agreement with the PSSGID requires it to pay for 25 percent of improvements to PAWSD’s Vista wastewater treatment plant as part of PAWSD treating the PSSGID’s sewage.

“For your debt service coverage, the bank wants to see that you can

“I think one of the reasons we’re having trouble is those increases in the water, just like the increases in the wastewater, should have been more like [10 percent], [7 percent], [7 percent] not [3 percent], [3 percent], [3 percent].”

Board member
Glenn Walsh

continue to pay that loan off, not that you have the money today to pay that loan off,” said PAWSD District Manager Andrew Connor. “They don’t care if you can make this month’s payment, they want to know in six months.”

Board member Glenn Walsh commented that PAWSD has not finalized an agreement with the PSSGID about how it will pay for recent regulatorily required upgrades to the Vista plant and that questioned if those payments could be considered for debt service if they are regularly scheduled payments explicitly outlined in an agreement.

“It’s hard to see how that isn’t a substantial, reliable income stream,” he said.

Dossett replied that capital projects do not count for debt service calculations, although he noted that

they have asked PAWSD’s auditor that question.

Walsh commented that the district should look for potential ways to characterize this money from the PSSGID as being used in paying down debt since it is being used in paying down debt.

Dossett added that the loan PAWSD made to the PSSGID to finance building a pipeline to transport wastewater to the Vista plant and the associated payments are also not part of the debt service calculations.

PAWSD Programs Manager Renee Lewis noted that what counts for debt service is dictated by the terms of debt itself.

Dossett commented that, since he was recently hired at the district, he does not have a comprehensive understanding of the district’s debt service agreements, but that he believes that the district must maintain a 1.25 ratio of income to expenses to satisfy its debt service obligations.

Tautges commented that the “two largest things” the group had been discussing occurred because PAWSD was “acting as a bank” and loaning money, which it shouldn’t do in the future.

Dossett commented that the district loaning money to other entities is not highly relevant to the debt service calculation, but that he agreed that PAWSD should avoid doing so in the future.

Connor commented that the last two years have been challenging, with low water sales due to drought and rising costs to maintain its systems and retain regulatory compliance.

He added that he has cut maintenance budgets as far as possible this year, but that the district needs to look at other approaches to address its debt service issues.

Walsh emphasized that much of the issue is likely due to the district growing at less than the projected 2 percent growth rate included in the district’s rate study.

He added that he believes that the district will not grow at 2 percent per year in the future and that this belief drove his recommendation that the district look into a monthly capital surcharge to make up this shortfall.

Tautges added that water sales do not impact many of the district’s costs, meaning that lower water sales do not lead to reduced operating costs in most areas.

Walsh raised his belief that the district’s previous rate study, which included the construction of a \$45 million water plant upgrade and expected 5 percent growth in key water operations costs but only recommended 3 percent annual water rate increases, could not “pencil out.”

“I think one of the reasons we’re having trouble is those increases in

the water, just like the increases in the wastewater, should have been more like [10 percent], [7 percent], [7 percent] not [3 percent], [3 percent], [3 percent],” Walsh said. “I’m willing to be the bad guy because I don’t have to run for reelection, but when it gets around to recommending some things ... we should cut, we should be prudent, but on both sides, we have to raise more money.”

“I think Glenn should make that motion and [Tautges] and [Boehmer] should vote in favor of it because I have to run for reelection,” Hudson said.

Boehmer commented that he ran for the board on keeping water rates low, but that he is concerned about delaying infrastructure projects to keep rates low since he believes that could “spiral out of control over time.”

“I’m worried about that,” he said, “that if we put off everything and run this like a skeleton crew, that down the road it’s going to bite us.”

Dossett commented that this was a “great call out” and noted that some of the cuts Connor was recommending were cutting redundant tools or equipment.

“When you start ... not maintaining your aging infrastructure ... it compounds on itself and starts becoming more expensive than just maintaining it,” he said.

He added that the district appears to have historically tried to keep rates low by not paying for infrastructure upgrades.

Hudson asked Dossett and Connor how they felt about the cuts the district has made and if they will cover the debt service issues.

Both Dossett and Connor replied that the cuts would be insufficient to cover the debt service shortfalls.

Walsh asked Dossett for his opinion on whether a mid-year 6 percent increase in water rates and a \$5 per month surcharge for both water and wastewater would cover the shortfall.

Dossett commented that any additions would get the district closer, but that he would need legal advice about the district’s Colorado Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights restrictions before making any definitive comments.

Tautges concluded that the presentation was “very helpful.”

The board then voted to enter executive session to discuss several issues, including the potential surcharges and rate increases.

Later in the meeting, the board discussed that it would likely want to impose rate increases by the beginning of August to ensure enough revenue is collected, and that it would likely hold a work session or special meeting in late June to discuss the topic further.

josh@pagosasun.com



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.



The Liberty Theatre
June 19 + 23

Meet the director, Ben Clark, for a Q/A June 23!

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

QR code: Square Top Bar-B-Q & Drinks for purchase. No outside food/drinks or pets allowed. Scan QR code for details & weather updates.

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INTER MOUNTAIN

The Pagosa Springs SUN

Presented By: Pagosa Springs Music Project

Archuleta County Democrats announce happy hour and food drive

By Lee Stopher

Archuleta County Democratic Party

The Archuleta Democrats will host a happy hour and food drive on at 4 p.m. on June 27 at Uncle’s Bar and Social Club, 56 Talisman Drive.

Last fall, Archuleta Democrats raised more than \$7,000 for local organizations that operate food share programs. But grants for some organizations are expiring, and the need remains great.

“The theme is ‘Be Happy; Help Your Neighbors,’” said Shawna Seed, chair of the Archuleta County Democrats. “We encourage everyone to come by, make a donation and stay

Rep. Katie Stewart to give overview of work done in Colorado House

By Lynn R. Frederick

Archuleta County Democratic Party

The Archuleta County Democratic Party is sponsoring a meet and greet with our state representative, Katie Stewart.

Rep. Katie Stewart will be in

to socialize. We think this is a great opportunity to have fun and share with our community.”

Cash and checks are welcome. These donations give organizations maximum flexibility. Checks may be made out to Healthy Archuleta or Community United Methodist Church (put food share in subject line).

Community United Methodist Church has a specific wishlist for its Market Style Food Share. Requested items include:

- Personal care items such as soap, shampoo and deodorant.
- Tea bags.
- Dish soap.
- Laundry sheets.

- Trash bags.
- First-aid supplies.
- Paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels and facial tissues.

- Condiments such as mustard, ketchup and mayonnaise.

- Sugar.
- Pet food, especially large bags of dry cat or dog food.

- Bags of shredded cheese.
- Single-serving juice boxes.
- Shelf stable snacks.
- Ramen noodles, especially bowls.

All donations will go directly to local organizations. The Archuleta County Democratic Party does not benefit financially from this event.

Everyone is welcome to this event. Come if you are curious about what has been happening in the Colorado Legislature, if you have specific concerns that you want to share with Stewart or if you want to hear more about the financial difficulties that the state is facing.

Obituary

Isae was born Dec. 1, 1934, in Kuga, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan. She met Paul in Japan in December 1966. They were married twice: July 22, 1968, at the American Consulate, Kyushu, Japan, and before God Aug. 2, 1968, at the Marine Corps Air Station chapel, Iwakuni, Japan. They would have celebrated their 58th anniversary this July.

Isae was a career homemaker. After Matt was born in Japan in 1969, they moved to Guam. Andy and Shannon were born on Guam. They moved to Paul’s home in LeRoy, Ill., in 1978, and to her final earthly home in Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 1984.

She soon discovered that she had

a natural talent for drawing, painting oils and scratchboards. Her talents for scratchboard drawing were self-taught, and Western artist Sid Mountain instructed her with her oil paintings.

She had a talent for oriental and American cooking after much trial and error. She remembers fixing a hot dog for Paul’s lunch. On a good day, Paul would get some ketchup. She will be remembered for her cooking classes, her sense of humor, her love for children, serving at Community Bible Church and cooking an oriental buffet at Lee Riley’s Oakridge Restaurant in 1986.

A celebration of Isae’s life will be announced at a later date.



Isae Matlock

Isae Matlock, 91, went peacefully to her heavenly home on June 12, 2026, after her struggle with several strokes.

She is survived by her husband, Paul; sons Matthew and Andrew; and grandson William Edwin. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother and her daughter, Shannon Elizabeth Matlock.



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\$100 per ticket

QR code: Tickets available online or in person at Tangled, 189 Talisman Drive wingsearlychildhood.org



Business

Chamber announces winners of 17th annual car show

By Sandy Douthey
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

The 17th annual Pagosa Springs Area Car Show wrapped up on June 13, leaving behind the rumble of engines, the warmth of community and memories that will carry Pagosa Springs through to next summer.

Hosted at Yamaguchi Park, the two-day event drew hundreds of attendees and showcased 117 registered vehicles against the stunning backdrop of the San Juan Mountains.

Admission remained free to the public, keeping the event true to its roots as a celebration for the entire community. Families, car enthusiasts and curious visitors alike spread across the park grounds, taking in an impressive variety of vehicles that ranged from polished classics to custom builds.

The Show ‘n’ Shine judged competition drew serious competitors and admiring crowds in equal measure, while People’s Choice voting gave every attendee a voice in honoring their favorite rides.

This year’s event also featured some welcome additions to the festivities. The cornhole tournament brought a lively competitive spirit to the grounds of Yamaguchi Park with the winners being:

- First place: Al and Janelle Bryant.
- Second place: Evie and Rex Bryant.
- Third place: Toby Young and Gene Flaherty.
- Fourth place: Mike and Max Bradley.

The 1/25 scale Model Car show offered a charming counterpoint to the full-sized machines on display, drawing particular interest from all our visitors. Check out our Facebook page for winners.

Live music from the Brooks-i Band kept the atmosphere festive Friday night, and DJ JP kept the music going throughout Saturday, and a strong lineup of food and drink vendors ensured no one left hungry.

The Pagosa Pinup Contest, a beloved tradition of the show, crowned Danae Canela as the 2026 Pin-Up Queen — a well-deserved recognition that drew enthusiastic applause from the crowd.

None of it would have been possible without the generosity of the event’s sponsors.

Equally deserving of recognition are the volunteers who gave their



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

The 17th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show, held last weekend, featured numerous model car show entries.

time and energy to keep the event running smoothly from setup to teardown. A heartfelt thank-you goes to Arlene and Don Jones, Elsa White, Jessie Burk, John Steinert, Jules Johnson, Kelly Spence, Brandon Carlisle, Ken Rogers, Monte McAllister, Robin Williams, Shayla McClure, Mallory McKinney, Mark Douthey, Sierra Montoya and Theresa Suchanek. Their dedication behind the scenes — managing registration, helping to sell cold beverages and lending a hand wherever needed — was the backbone of this event.

2026 Special Awards

- Best in Show: 1972 Chevy Nova owned by Randy Webster, Pagosa Springs.
- People’s Choice: 1941 Chevrolet Panel Delivery, Mitch Thompson, Pagosa Springs.
- Chamber Choice: 1955 Ford Thunderbird, Keith Corrigan, Pagosa Springs.

2026 Show ‘n’ Shine Winners

Muscle Cars — Pre-1985

- First place: 1967 Chevy Nova, Chad Chavez, Alamosa.
- Second place: 1971 Chevrolet Chevelle, Cody and Dawn Ross, Pagosa Springs.

Muscle Cars — 1986-Present

- First place: 2022 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500, Bianca Hinojos, Pagosa Springs.
- Second place: 2023 Dodge Challenger, Don Jones, Pagosa Springs.

Original Car

- First place: 1969 Lincoln Continental, Jerold Baca, Espanola, N.M.
- Second place: 1982 Chevrolet Cavalier Wagon, Glenn Sterkel, Pagosa Springs.

Ford

- First place: 1967 Ford Fairlane, Keith Pepper, Monte Vista.
- Second place: 1968 Ford Mustang Fastback, Jerry Smith, Pagosa Springs.

Chevrolet

- First place: 1967 Chevy Camaro Coupe, Bill Powers, Durango.
- Second place: 1967 Chevy Camaro, Kevin Portnell, Pagosa Springs.

MOPAR

- First place: 1964 Plymouth Valiant, Brandon Tanner, Pagosa Springs.

Import

- First place: 1956 Porsche Speedster C, Melinda Lutz, Pagosa Springs.
- Second place: 1960 VW Beetle, Laura Pinkney, Durango.

Convertible

- First place: 1957 Ford Thunderbird, Bobby Phillips, Pagosa Springs.
 - Second place: 1955 Ford Thunderbird, Bobby Phillips, Pagosa Springs.
- See Chamber A6

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Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry creates new career pathways

Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry has long been more than just a dental office, built on warmth, clinical excellence, and a genuine commitment to the people of Pagosa Springs.

Now, that commitment is taking a meaningful new form with the upcoming launch of the Southern Colorado Dental Assisting School.

The practice’s vision has always been to be a true pillar of the Pagosa community, known for its high standard of care, exceptional customer service, and active engagement with the people who call this region home. The dental assisting school is a natural extension of that vision.

“We believe in Pagosa Springs,” said Dr. Peter Roukema, founder of Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry. “Starting a school here means investing in our neighbors, giving local people a pathway into a rewarding career without having to leave the community they love.”

The Southern Colorado Dental Assisting School will offer a focused 13-week curriculum covering dental radiography, infection control, chairside assisting, dental materials, and patient care. Graduates will be equipped to sit for state certifications and step confidently into careers at dental practices throughout our community and across the region.

Beyond workforce development, the school will deepen the practice’s roots in the community, create local opportunities, and ensure families receive care from professionals who are trained, credentialed, and, most importantly, neighbors.

By cultivating homegrown talent, Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry is building a pipeline of skilled, compassionate dental assistants who



Photo courtesy of Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry

share the same values the practice was founded on: professionalism, efficiency, and genuine care for every patient who walks through the door.

The Southern Colorado Dental Assisting School is coming soon. Prospective students are encouraged to

visit the link below to learn more and stay informed as enrollment details are announced.

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

Interactive Community Forum

Thursday, June 18

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

DISCUSSIONS & INSIGHTS

- Consolidated Public Feedback on Lodging Tax Options
- Updates on:
 - Community Plan
 - Aspen Springs Community
 - Roads

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CDOT to conduct speed study on U.S. 160 near Trails Boulevard

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will be conducting a speed study on U.S. 160 just west of Pagosa Springs from mile marker 137 to 138 later this summer.

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on June 9, staff engineer Ethan Kegley explained the mile of highway for the study is from just east of Hersh Avenue and just west of Scenic Avenue.

Kegley explained that a resident living off Trails Boulevard reached out and is concerned about traveling east and west turning onto and off U.S. 160.

Kegley noted that he performed a site visit to gather measurements and assess the site distance around the curve on that section of the highway.

“And I would say it is indeed pretty dangerous,” he said.

Kegley also recalled an accident that occurred in the same area last summer that closed down the highway for five hours.

“Really want to kind of take that matter into consideration,” he added.

Kegley then explained that, according to CDOT’s traffic information, that area has an average daily traffic figure

of about 12,000, with 6.4 percent (approximately 750) of that being “heavier vehicles.”

“What we want to do there is reduce that speed,” Kegley said, indicating the hope is it would drop from 65 mph to 50 mph.

He explained that the plan would be to change the speed limit “just about right” at Hersh Avenue going east on U.S. 160.

He noted that the speed study is only for the 1 mile, but suggested consideration of CDOT reducing the speed limit down to 50 mph all the way to “about Meadows Drive.”

Kegley added that the speed limit drops to 45 mph after that, “so that could be a smooth transition going from 50 to 45.”

Kegley then explained that CDOT informed him that the speed limit could increase as result of the traffic study, “which it probably won’t because it’s 65 [mph] right now, so, more than likely, its not going to increase.”

He also noted that he’s reiterated to CDOT that the county wants “to really increase safety there,” explaining the speed study will tell CDOT what exactly should be done in the area, but that “doesn’t mean we’ll automatically get that.”

Kegley clarified that he’s requesting

to have the speed study conducted and submitted and “see if it’s feasible for them to reduce that speed” and go from there.

He added that the area could be patrolled with warnings given out during the first month of a speed limit change, along with notices posted on the county’s website, “and that’s only if this is approved.”

Kegley also emphasized that, especially coming from the east on U.S. 160, “it does seem to be pretty dangerous through there.”

In response to a question from Commissioner John Ranson, Kegley indicated that CDOT will pay for the speed study and provide all the necessary equipment.

Kegely then mentioned that driving west on U.S. 160 “could still certainly be problematic” as well, noting that drivers get backed up heading west when a vehicle is attempting to turn onto Trails Boulevard.

“I could absolutely see an accident taking place pretty quickly there,” he said.

The BoCC allowed one public comment during the work session from the resident who requested the speed study.

He explained that he’s almost been rear-ended multiple times while at-

tempting to turn onto Trails Boulevard from U.S. 160 heading west.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that with the water station on Trails Boulevard, residents are filling their water tanks and then getting back on U.S. 160, likely not at a high rate of speed.

He explained that he reached out to CDOT about five years ago requesting a speed study because of this, adding that most drivers know the speed limit jumps up to 65 mph and are already traveling “at least” that fast coming around the curve.

Brown added that CDOT was responsive in coming out to clear oak brush in the area to improve site distance, but that a speed study was never conducted.

Brown stated that he was “quite pleased” to hear that a speed study would be taking place, “because I really do think that this is problematic.”

Brown also mentioned that if the Archuleta School District ends up building on its Vista property, “we really want them to slow down up to that intersection.”

Kegely indicated that the speed study will likely be conducted this August.



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

The June 22 monthly meeting of the League of Women Voters Archuleta County will feature Josh Kurz speaking about the local water supply during the ongoing drought situation.

‘Why Water?’ to be presented by League of Women Voters

By Ellynn Ragone
League of Women Voters Archuleta County

Our monthly meeting for the League of Women Voters Archuleta County will be held Monday, June 22, at 5:30 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

We welcome all members of our community to learn about our local water supply during our ongoing drought situation.

Josh Kurz, our speaker, has a B.S. in watershed science and an M.S. in science education. Kurz is presently teaching at Pagosa Springs High School and working in the private and public sectors developing natural resource-

related curricula.

Kurz will discuss the recent local water supply graphic that he created for the San Juan Water Conservancy District. His graphic illustrates our local water supply and summarizes water related variables like snow, precipitation, streamflow, drought and fire conditions.

He is passionate about providing opportunities to engage and educate the community about issues affecting our natural resources.

Join us Monday, June 22, at 5:30 p.m.

Water — every drop counts, and every voice matters. Don’t miss this inspiring lecture.

Join the League and become involved; Pagosa Springs is vibrant and growing.

Chamber

■ Continued from A5

derbird, Keith Corrigan, Pagosa Springs.

Rat Rod

- First place: 1936 Plymouth P1, Liz Sands, Los Ojos, N.M.
- Second place: 1931 Ford Coupe, Keith Tice, Pagosa Springs.

Truck

- First place: 1959 Chevrolet Apache Series 3100, Dave Robb, Pagosa Springs.
- Second place: 1957 Chevrolet 3300, RC Caveness, Arboles.

4x4

- First place: 1979 Ford Bronco, John Dee Sledge, Pagosa Springs.
- Second place: 1977 Toyota Land Cruiser, Jeff Heitz, Pagosa Springs.

Commercial

- First place: 1987 Dodge Diplomat, Mike Sindelar, Ignacio.
- Second place: 1956 International Fire Truck, Pagosa Springs Fire Department, Pagosa Springs.

Custom Vehicle

- First place: 1972 Chevy Nova,

Randy Webster, Pagosa Springs.

- Second place: 1990 Jeep YJ, Stephan Runge, Pagosa Springs.

Under Construction

- First place: 1979 GMC C15 Heavy Half, James Jennings, Pagosa Springs.

Special Interest

- First place: 1941 Chevrolet Panel Delivery, Mitch Thompson, Pagosa Springs.
- Second place: 1991 Ford F-350, Glenn Sterkel, Pagosa Springs.

Pre-1945 — All Models

- First place: 1929 Ford Model A

Roadster, Bob McCoy, Bayfield.

- Second place: 1930 Ford Model A, William Wittwer, Pagosa Springs.

Motorcycle

- First place: 2012 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide, Craig Norton, Pagosa Springs.

- Second place: 2013 Honda Fury, Marshall Currier, Pagosa Springs.

The Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce looks forward to building on this year’s momentum and welcoming the community back for the 18th annual Pagosa Springs Area Car Show June 11-12, 2027, at Yamaguchi Park.

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🕒 TENNIS SCHEDULE		💰 LESSON AND CLINIC RATES	
8:00 – 9:30 am	👥 Private Group Clinic	👤 One-hour private lesson:	\$95
9:30 – 11:00 am	👤 Private Lesson Time	👤 90 minute private lesson:	\$140
11:00 am–12:00 pm	👤 Private Lesson Time	🎾 Adult Tennis Drills & Play:	\$40 per player
12:00 – 1:30 pm	🎾 Adult Tennis Drills & Play (4 players min. 8 players max.) The first half of each clinic is tennis drills followed by game play emphasizing the skills practiced in the drills session.	👶 Kids Tennis (5-9 yrs):	\$25
1:45 – 2:30 pm	👶 Kids Tennis (5-9 yrs old)	👶 Juniors Tennis (10-16 yrs):	\$30
2:30 – 3:30 pm	👶 Juniors Tennis (10-16 yrs old)	⚠️ Lesson and Clinic slots that do not fill within 48 hours of the stated date will be canceled.	

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County adopts 2024 version of international building codes

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting held on June 16, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved Resolution 2026-47 adopting the 2024 edition of eight out of nine international building codes.

Those include the International Residential Code, International Building Code, International Energy Conservation Code, International Mechanical Code, International Fuel and Gas Code, International Existing Building Code, International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, and the International Fire Code.

The BoCC ultimately decided to leave out the International Property Maintenance Code.

During the meeting, Building Official Randy Betts presented the matter, stating, “It’s been a year of deciphering,” in regard to all of the codes being considered by the county.

Betts then referenced a question brought up by the BoCC earlier that day during a work session in regard to the International Property Maintenance Code.

“To clarify, we do not have that currently adopted,” he said, explaining his reasoning behind putting the code forward for adoption is to provide the county with a set of “guidelines.”

He explained that, currently, the county has, “for lack of a better term, made up regulations, from a previous director.”

Betts noted that the International Property Maintenance Code would give the county guidelines and “a path forward,” noting that the language proposed does not have to be exactly what is adopted if the BoCC desires to amend it.

“We’re not [Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association],” he said, add-

ing that the county does not want to be that.

He explained that the International Property Maintenance Code is similar to the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code in that it gives the county guidelines to follow if and when a situation comes up.

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented the county already has rules and asked if there would be an opportunity for the commissioners to have a further conversation about the International Property Maintenance Code, “because we have not discussed it.”

Betts indicated that is a possibility, explaining that part of the reason why he wanted to adopt the rest of the codes is to provide the county with a base guideline.

“Because without having that adopted and having a base guideline, we are having to go to other sources of code that is much stricter than what these guidelines would be potentially,” he said, noting this gives the county a “lesser” option.

Medina reiterated that the county has “made up” regulations in regard to property maintenance, asking what the harm would be in waiting to adopt the property maintenance code, “because not all of it has to be adopted.”

Medina also spoke on Betts’ comments about not being the Pagosa Lake Property Owners Association, saying, “but if we don’t know what’s in the code, how do we know what we’re approving?”

Betts commented, “the book is about that thick,” while making a gesture with his hands.

“Your guidance to us is how we make these decisions,” Medina responded, stating the BoCC has not received that guidance and asking how the BoCC is supposed to make a “blind decision.”

Betts commented that he does not

expect the BoCC to interpret the code “or have any part of it after today.”

Medina then commented that the BoCC has to have an understanding of the code since it’s being asked to approve it.

“Our job is to understand what it is that you are going to be enforcing,” she said.

Betts then stated that if there is anything in the code the commissioners do not like, then that is their decision to remove certain aspects of the code and approve it or not.

Medina explained that it is not a matter of “liking” what’s in the code or not, but that she is unaware of what’s actually in the code.

“That’s my issue,” she said, explaining that those discussions have not taken place publicly or privately.

Betts then offered to provide Medina with a copy of the code book.

“So, part of your job is to be able to summarize what the new code is going to be, hence what you’ve done previously,” Medina said to Betts, asking Betts if he has the “ability” to summarize the code.

Betts commented that he was giving an opportunity for the commissioners to look through the code book.

“So, you’re not able to give us a summary?” Medina asked.

“I am fully capable,” Betts replied.

Commissioner John Ranson then asked if the county is required to approve all of the codes by July 1, noting the county is “under the gun.”

Betts explained that the International Energy Conservation Code needs to be adopted by July 1, although he was recommending the county hold off on enforcing the code until Jan. 1, 2027.

He also noted the county could amend the code adoptions to a different version over the next six months if needed.

County Manager Longinos Gon-

zalez then clarified that the county would not be punished by the state for not adopting the International Property Maintenance Code, and further discussion on that particular code could happen at a later work session.

Medina then motioned to adopt Resolution 2026-46 adopting the 2024 version of the International Residential Code, International Building Code, International Energy Conservation Code, International Mechanical Code, International Fuel and Gas Code, International Existing Building Code, International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, and the International Fire Code, which was seconded and unanimously approved by the BoCC.

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Town’s sanitation district allocates \$3.8 million to stabilize sewer system

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 16, the board of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation and General Improvement District (PSSGID), which also sits as the Pagosa Springs Town Council, approved spending around \$3.8 million to stabilize its wastewater conveyance system.

The PSSGID operates, through a series of pump and lift stations, an uphill conveyance system, sending its wastewater about 7 miles uphill to the Vista wastewater treatment plant, which is owned and operated by Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD).

Since coming online in 2015, this system has been plagued by failing pumps, electrical malfunctions, aging pipes and other problems.

The town hired Roaring Fork Engineering to consult with it about the future outlook of the system, as well as weighing the costs and analyzing the possibility of switching to a different system, which would utilize a more traditional town-run treatment plant downtown.

The PSSGID also recently hired Interim Public Works Director Phil Bennett to analyze how to ensure that the current system works until a new plant could be designed and built, a multiyear project.

Town Manager David Harris said, “We’ve been having a struggling issue with our conveyance system — our forced main that takes the town’s effluent the 7 miles to the PAWSD’s” plant.

One recurring issue with the system has been the pumps, Harris explained, and “we need to get these [new pumps] in the queue for ordering.”

But, in addition to the pumps, the PSSGID will be ordering and installing “new controls and wire terminations” in the system, as well as running a sensor through the pipeline to determine the “health and condition” of the system, he said.

The funds for this stabilization project will come out of the funds previously set aside to address what the PSSGID calls category 4 and 5 problems with the system, he explained.

Bennett has stated that a major part of shoring up the current system so it can last another decade is replacing the pumps at pump stations 1 and 2 with the proper pumps that should have been installed initially, but were not installed because of cost concerns

at that time.

Bennett noted at a previous meeting that his main objective is to “keep the force main running” for another 10 years or so, because “we don’t have another way, right now, to keep the sewer running.”

He suggested another decade would give the town time to explore options for a new downtown treatment plant.

He noted that the town must “utilize the existing system” while minimizing disruptions to an “aging and poorly designed” system, and then “decommission it after 10 years.”

He expressed optimism that the new Flygt pumps would be a better fit for the system and should work for the district over the next 10 years.

He explained that “the only other system like ours in the world,” near Portland, Ore., uses these Flygt pumps and they work well.

“Updating the pump stations and the forced sewer main will entail a multi-part project,” an agenda document on the matter states.

It adds, “A pipeline investigation will inform Staff if there’s a leak in the forced main and if there are air pockets. This investigation will happen in early August.”

“What we are asking for today [is the funding] for the long lead time items, and then that would start the clock of about six months,” Bennett said.

This would allow the PSSGID to “prepare the entire system for operations for when the new pumps arrive,” he added.

The pipe inspection would be looking for the build up of “gas pockets,” he added, “so we can get rid of those gas pockets.”

This would also allow the system to operate within the parameters of what the new pumps can handle, he noted.

Roaring Fork Engineering’s Maggie McHugh added, “It’s imperative that these new pumps operate as intended along the assumed system curve.”

Board member Mat deGraaf asked if any investigations show why the “air release valves were installed improperly.”

Bennett answered, “No. We have not found any decision documents that show” why they were installed that way.

Board member Brooks Lindner asked what would happen to the project to repair the category 4 and 5

problems if the board allocated this money to this other project.

“Would we be just waiting for the funds to come in from the new sales tax?” he asked

“Yes,” Harris replied.

“Our category 4 and 5 projects must get done, yes, but we also got to keep the flow going,” Harris said. “We need to stabilize this system, and at the same time we need to put out to bid the design and building of a new wastewater treatment plant, and, you know, how is that exactly going to come out?”

Mayor Shari Pierce reminded her colleagues that “we still owe PAWSD for this system that we’re now fixing, plus for the system upgrades to the Vista treatment plant, so it just continues to go, and ... I can’t imagine where we’d be right now without the [passage] of that sales tax issue.”

She added, “Even with that, it’s a lot of work for staff to figure out all the cash flow issues with this.”

When a motion was made to allocate the funds, it was seconded and approved unanimously by the board, with Bergon and Martinez absent from the meeting.

derek@pagosasun.com

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Transfer

■ **Continued from front**
the BoCC on Tuesday, June 9.
During that work session, Commissioner John Ranson initiated a discussion on the county's plans for relocating its Pagosa Springs transfer station.

Ranson expressed that "a lot of this was before my time" in regard to decisions made and plans for the county to relocate the Pagosa Springs transfer station.

"I still have an issue with this process," Ranson said, adding that no notices have been sent out to neighboring property owners.

Ranson also mentioned that he's received feedback "from many sources" wondering why the county is looking to move the facility.

During a regular meeting held on June 5, 2025, the BoCC unanimously approved a design for utilities and an auxiliary building at a new transfer station facility located on Cloman Boulevard at a cost of \$19,000.

In December 2024, the BoCC unanimously approved a \$37,000 bid from Reynolds Ash + Associates for continuing the design of the new transfer station.

Funds for both of those projects came out of the county's capital outlay fund, according to Public Works Director Mike Torres.

During the June 9 work session, Ranson expressed that he was bringing up the matter to ask if there is a reason why the county does not have to follow the same regulations as individual developers and send notices out before the project gets this far along.

County Attorney Cathleen Giovannini explained, "We are held to the same standards as other developers," but that notices are usually sent out during the planning process of proposed developments.

She added, "This is really a pre-planning process."

She explained that it is fine to give public notices ahead of time, but that it is not a legal requirement to do so.

"We'll still have those notices," she said, explaining those will come further down the line as part of the planning process.

Giovannini also commented that she is "sympathetic" to the idea that by the time the project reaches that point, "we're a long ways down that line."

Ranson explained that "several weeks back" the BoCC had conversations about funding the facility, "and that's pretty far along the line, in my opinion."

Ranson commented that if the county is starting to talk about how to fund the facility, then "it's not preliminary anymore, in my opinion."

He added that "it's only fair to let the people come forward and talk."

Commissioner Warren Brown then explained some of the history of the project, explaining the current Pagosa Springs transfer station and recycle center location is owned by the Town of Pagosa Springs.

He noted that a number of items the location was taking in were getting damaged and having to be sent to the county's landfill instead of being able to recycle the materials, specifically noting situations with cardboard.

"One of the primary purposes of recycling is to keep those materials out of the landfill, save space," Brown said, adding that in order to recycle those materials they have to be in particular conditions for vendors to agree to haul it away, "which is usually at a loss," but better than nothing.

Brown went on to explain that the discussion started out with the idea of building a structure at the current transfer station location to cover and protect those recyclable items, "but it's not the county's property."

He also mentioned that the current transfer station site "would have to be monitored forever" because it is built on an old town landfill site.

Brown commented that it then made sense if the county were to put money into creating structures to help with recycling, that those structures be built on county-owned property "that we would not have to monitor forever."

He added, "So, that's how this started."

Brown also explained that the town had previously offered to sell the current transfer station property to the county for \$1, describing that as a great deal, "unless you're responsible for a landfill site forever."

Brown then noted that the newly proposed transfer station site is on land that was donated to the county by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), "but it has specific conditions that it must be for county use."

He added that the land donated by the BLM brought no additional cost to the taxpayers.

Brown also commented that these conditions do not alleviate the county from reaching out to the community

to obtain feedback on the project.

He mentioned he's received mixed feedback so far, with some folks expressing positive feedback and others giving negative feedback.

Some of the "positives" listed by Brown included that the new location would be more centralized, possibly encouraging more recycling participation from the community.

The "negative" listed by Brown is that the current location is fine and does not need to be moved.

"I'm not sure it's just fine where it is," Brown said while acknowledging that constituents may be correct about that.

Brown added that a lot of the discussion about the transfer station is that the community needs and wants it, but the sentiment is, "I don't want it near me."

"And I mean, this is the internal struggle we put up with with every situation, virtually, in the county, from gravel pits to paved roads to recycling centers," he added, noting this is "definitely a thing the commissioners need to get right."

In response to a question from Ranson, Brown explained that the new location would not have to be monitored "because we're not going to have anything buried."

Road and Bridge Manager Eric McRae explained that the new facility would give the county ability to cover and protect recyclable items.

"We're losing trust with vendors," McRae said, explaining that once the trust is lost, vendors will no longer pick up items from the county.

"So, you're right, they do end up in the landfill," McRae said about some of the recyclable items at the transfer station.

McRae also commented that the new location would be more centralized, explaining that he was at the BoCC's work session to receive direction on whether or not to move forward with a grant application for potential funding for the new facility. He commented that he's "all ears ... because I have about a dozen reasons why it needs to be moved."

McRae also commented on the working conditions for employees at the current transfer station location, describing it as having poor office space.

"It's not a great condition," he said, adding that the county can't really invest into property that it doesn't own.

McRae also commented that nothing going to the transfer station should end up at the landfill, and "right now that's happening," noting the county is also currently trying to save airspace at the landfill.

"It has a lot of great purpose to be moved to a better location," McRae said in regard to the transfer station.

McRae also stated that he agrees with Ranson in that the county is moving along with the project and is being faced with funding opportunities at the moment, suggesting that conversations can continue if more discussion on the matter is needed.

"I think that could be sold with just education," McRae said.

"This should be done in public," Ranson commented.

McRae also explained that his understanding is that discussions in regard to the new transfer station project took place last year, explaining that the funding set aside is not

sufficient for the whole project and that he had found a grant to possibly assist with funding it.

Brown offered a comment of clarification, stating, "This conversation has taken place over several years and several different meetings."

He stated that it is not a new thing.

"It has taken place in this very room," he said while suggesting the county could do a better job engaging with the community.

Torres then stated that any comments of the county not following its own policy are false.

"Everything we're doing is preliminary," he said.

Torres explained that going after the grant would help the county with constructing the new transfer station, and in order to go for the grant, the county needs to have a project.

"This is it" he said, but explained that the county is still in conversation with the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs over land issues. "We haven't even got the land to provide access for us to build the transfer station."

In response to a question from the audience, McRae stated the new transfer station would be located at 329 Cloman Blvd.

More public comment was allowed during the work session, with J.R. Ford stating that it's "disingenuous" of the county to go after the grant while expressing that it may change its mind if constituents present a better idea.

"I've been around this block a few times," he said, explaining that if the county starts spending money to go down a certain path, then it'll likely continue on that same path.

Ford then mentioned that La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) leases a property next to the current transfer station site and that multiple property owners in the Cloman Boulevard area pushed back on the idea from the beginning.

He then commented on how the county has expressed that it can't build on leased lands, "then why is [LPEA] doing it?"

In March 2025, the Town of Pagosa Springs reached an agreement with LPEA for it to use five acres of the transfer station property at 2140 County Road 500 to be used for a new electrical substation.

During the work session, Ford commented that if the county were to move the transfer station from its current location, similar issues will be experienced at the new location.

Ford expressed that the county needs to "clean that site up" in regard to the current transfer station site, and that simply moving the facility to another area "is just gonna make that the junk hole that you have right now."

Ford also mentioned that the newly proposed location would be on the same road as the county's airport, potentially blowing trash into the area.

"And that's the last place we want it," Ford said.

Ford noted the county has invested millions of dollars into the airport over the years.

"And you're gonna put one of your trash facilities on the road leading to the airport," he said, "I just don't really think this has been thought out."

Ford encouraged the county to develop "more of a plan" and to not

just go after any grant it can.

"I mean, do it the right way. Do it the way you make the rest of us do it," he said.

In response to a question from County Manager Longinos Gonzalez, McRae indicated that the deadline for the grant application is June 30.

June 16 meeting

The matter was brought up again during the BoCC's regular meeting on June 16 with the consideration of approval to submit the C3 grant application.

More public comment was given by residents who stated they own property near the proposed new transfer station location along Cloman Boulevard and cited concerns about trash near the county's airport that could be generated from the new transfer station location.

The first commenter acknowledged that the county needs a new transfer station facility and offered to assist the county in looking for alternate properties, noting that the location on Cloman Boulevard would "bring a lot of extra traffic, heavy trucks and just trash blowing around the airport," calling that a major concern.

The next commenter explained that a group of residents had "teams" come out and evaluate the site along with the current transfer station location.

"We do agree that the county needs a new transfer station," he said, He stated that residents understand the difference between a transfer station and a landfill.

"A transfer station is just a smaller version of trash blowing," he said, also noting noise concerns from compactors.

He mentioned how communities typically try to keep "those types of facilities" away from the community, instead of bringing them into it.

The commenter also mentioned that his teams flew drones over the current transfer station facility and witnessed trash up to 1,300 yards away from the facility.

He explained that the airport runway is about 600 yards away from the proposed transfer station site, cautioning about potential liabilities if an aircraft "ingests a plastic bag or something and people die."

He went on to state that the transfer station is not wanted in that area next to the airport, "especially when you're looking at doing such a large improvement to that airport — it's not the appropriate place."

He also stated that resources could be pooled between the county and residents to find a "more suitable location."

Torres then commented, "As previously stated in last week's meeting, this project is in preliminary stages."

He explained that the grant doesn't specifically tie us to any specific property" and is only tied to the value of the property, noting "it wouldn't be out of the question" for the county to move forward with the grant application and also find an alternative location.

Torres noted the value of the Cloman Boulevard property is about \$409,000.

In response to a question from Commissioner Veronica Medina,

■ See Transfer A10



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SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

The Archuleta County Board of Commissioners heard multiple public comments on Tuesday, June 16, at its regular meeting, which was held at the Cowboy Way Fellowship Church in Arboles. Public comment topics ranged from health and safety concerns over drilling projects in the area, roads, and plans for a new transfer station location.

Transfer

■ Continued from A9

Torres indicated that the C3 grant is a “recycling grant,” later noting that it is in its first year and is intended to be a three-year grant.

In response to a question from Ranson, Torres noted the entire Cloman Boulevard property is roughly 28 acres, but the county is only looking to use about three or four acres for the transfer station.

Ranson then explained that he previously asked for a recap of meetings that had to do with the transfer station relocation, noting he’s been on the BoCC for just over a year in his current term.

“I’m just one commissioner, but I don’t think this has been vetted for the public and for the neighbors like a private development would have to,” Ranson said.

Ranson also noted that the county may have another opportunity at the grant next year, explaining that the county airport is about to undergo a \$16 million renovation with roughly

\$650,000 of that coming from the county.

“Well, here’s an idea, let’s go put a trash dump, recycle center next to our newly improved airport. It just doesn’t make sense to me,” he said, adding that he’d rather delay the grant process until next year with the possibility of exploring alternative sites.

Medina then asked Torres what the process has been to this point and if the appropriate steps have been followed, even if it were a private venture.

Torres indicated the county has followed policy as required, explaining that if any structure was being built then official sketch plans would have to be submitted to the Planning Department and public meetings would be held to gather public comment on the matter.

Torres also noted that there have been some discrepancies on the land the county is wanting to use to access the proposed property, adding that

the project is not even at the point of submitting sketch plans.

McRae spoke on the timeline of the grant, explaining that acceptance would be in August and the project start date would be pushed back to April 2027.

He described the grant as a “good opportunity to get some money for the project,” noting there would be time to establish alternative properties.

Finance Director Chad Eaton also explained that the agenda item was just for the submittal of the grant and that the location could change up until the point of acceptance.

Medina then commented that it might make sense to wait another year to go for the grant.

Torres mentioned that “tomorrow’s not promised” and that the funding could be taken away, but that it is listed as a three-year grant as of now and should open again next year.

Ranson then recalled comments from Ford from the June 9 work ses-

sion, stating that he’s never seen the county submit a grant application for a project and then not go through with it.

“It’s like you can’t be half pregnant,” he said, suggesting the county go back to the drawing board.

Brown commented that if the county were to not go through with the grant, then there needs to be “some activity” in the meantime, asking the public commenters for a commitment in assisting the county on finding an alternate site.

Brown also noted that he is “not married” to the Cloman Boulevard location, but stressed that the county does need a new facility in order to protect its resources and get money back for recycled materials, adding that currently it’s “more miss than hit” with recycling.

Medina then motioned not to approve the submission of the C3 grant application, which was seconded and unanimously approved by the BoCC. clayton@pagosasun.com

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LPEA announces 2026-2027 board leadership

La Plata Electric Association

At its June meeting, the La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) board elected new leadership roles for the 2026-2027 term.

Nicole Pitcher, of Pagosa Springs (District 1), was reelected to a second term as president of the board of directors, leading the 12-member group in representing the cooperative's membership.

Other officers elected include:
• Dusty Mars, District 1, vice president.
• Joe Lewandowski, District 3,

secretary.

• Tim Wheeler, District 4, treasurer.

Jennifer Jenkins, of District 3 and Greg Barber, of District 2, two of the board's most recently elected members, were appointed to serve on the Round Up Foundation board. The foundation distributes grants to local nonprofits and community programs, funded by LPEA members who choose to round up their monthly electric bills.

Additionally, District 3's Ted Compton was appointed to serve as LPEA's representative to the Colorado

Rural Electric Association (CREA) and as the alternate representative for Western United Electric.

Barber was appointed as the new representative for Western United and will serve as the alternate for CREA.

“LPEA is at an important moment as we continue to shape our energy future,” said LPEA CEO Chris Hansen. “The board's leadership and commitment will be key as we work to balance reliability, affordability and innovation for our members.”

For more information on LPEA's board and governance, visit lpea.coop/board-directors.

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Education

Charter school outlines potential projects to include in possible school district bond measure

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

At its June 3 meeting, the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education heard potential projects for Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) to consider as ASD determines if it will go to the ballot for a bond measure to help fund a new school building and what other district projects could be included in a bond.

PPOS is chartered by ASD, and the school put together the list of potential projects at the request of ASD.

PPOS School Director Emily Murphy presented the PPOS bond proposal to the BOE.

She began by thanking the BOE for considering PPOS facility enhancements in its bond considerations.

“We believe that by including PPOS facility upgrades in your measure, we’re ensuring that taxpayers dollars are fully being utilized to serve all students in the district,” Murphy said.

Murphy explained PPOS used three stakeholder groups — staff, students and families — to look at needs, barriers and desires within the PPOS facility.

She noted the school currently uses and old auditorium with a slanted floor as a gymnasium.

The facilities committee then looked at three levels of asks, she noted, explaining much of it involves using the warehouse space — which is currently rented out and not available to student use due to code requirements.

She noted that would require a change of use and associated improvements relating to mechanical, electrical, lighting and bathrooms.

That would be an investment of about \$1 million, and would unlock PPOS’s entire building for K-8 education, according to Murphy’s presentation.

The level-two ask outlined by Murphy would total \$1.7 million and would include the warehouse activation as well as “critical system updates to maintain a healthy learning environment” in the existing 28,000-square-foot school building, according to the presentation.

That, she explained to the board, would include a complete HVAC fan coil replacement at a cost of around \$630,000.

The level-three ask would include the warehouse activation, the HVAC investment and would address the

school’s electrical capacity.

She noted the electrical capacity is bottlenecked since the building was built as an office, not a school with hundreds of students.

She noted multiple people have suggested adding a solar photovoltaic system to the roof.

The full investment for level three would be \$2 million, according to Murphy.

Murphy noted the school’s October count two years ago was 106, with 129 last year and a current enrollment of 148 for next year.

She noted the school is retaining more middle school students, which shows an increased need for things like science labs and sports areas.

Murphy’s presentation notes that the warehouse conversion would create a gymnasium space to support physical education and large-group assemblies.

Murphy noted that the warehouse space has pillars that cannot be removed, and it can be broken up into multiple spaces for project-based learning like makerspaces, discovery labs and art studios.

Murphy also gave the BOE a cost breakdown.

“Those are really good, really thoughtful,” BOE president Bob Lynch said.

BOE member Tim Taylor suggested being mindful of not duplicating things between PPOS and the regional workforce center that’s slated to be built.

Murphy noted that having science labs is “critical” to pushing the school’s model forward, noting currently experiments have to be small and take place outside.

Lynch noted PPOS was very reasonable with its ask and the projects would be included in polling for the potential bond measure.

The topic of a potential ASD bond measure also surfaced at the June 10 PPOS Board of Directors meeting, where board member Bill Hudson proposed a resolution urging the ASD board to consider an alternative ballot measure this November.

A motion made by Hudson to approve the ballot measure died for lack of a second, with board member Lawrence Rugar ultimately seconding a motion to allow for discussion “so it’s done.”

Hudson explained to the board he had represented himself during public comment at ASD’s June 3 meeting, where he discussed the economy and

suggested he had an alternative idea if the BOE members would be interested in hearing about it.

He noted all five BOE members had responded with interest in hearing about the alternative.

He explained that, as of the meeting, he had already met with BOE member Butch Mackey, whom he reported agreed with him on a lot but who didn’t feel good about the alternative idea for the project \$126 million building to house preschool through eighth grade.

Hudson then explained he’d created the resolution for ASD to consider an increase to its mill levy override (MLO) instead of a large debt.

He then suggested if the idea came from the PPOS board, PPOS could be more likely to see financial gain from it since district voters have already approved an MLO twice.

He indicated the resolution is not a suggestion ASD doesn’t need a facility or that it’s in the wrong place, but that, according to a Gallup poll, 55 percent of respondents believe their financial situation is worsening.

He suggested they would be up for failure if they support the school district going for \$150 million in November.

In response to a question from Rugar, Hudson suggested the funding generated could be used for repairs and upgrades.

Board member Pamela Meade noted PPOS had put forward its plan to the BOE.

Murphy explained PPOS has received “tremendous support” from ASD and suggested a vote would be a statement about ASD’s process.

“It would be a statement against our relationship,” she said, adding PPOS doesn’t have the right to interfere and it would be destructive to the relationship.

Hudson asked if it would change feelings knowing all five BOE members were interested in hearing Hudson’s idea.

Meade clarified they didn’t ask PPOS, and Murphy noted if they asked to present for PPOS, she would, but “that’s not what’s happening here.”

Meade further noted she doesn’t see a risk of ASD not including PPOS in seeking additional funding from voters.

Hudson noted he would keep putting his idea forward, and board president Jesse White called the matter closed.

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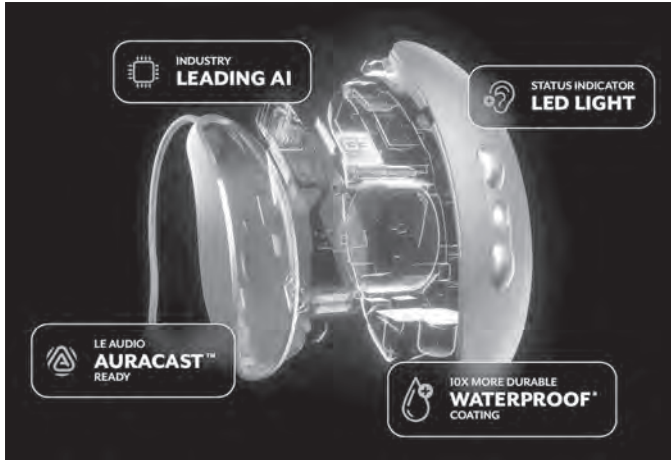
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Chama Peak Land Alliance awards scholarships to graduates

Chama Peak Land Alliance

“These scholarships are important for us, our partners and for the next generation of conservationists,” said Caleb Stotts, Chama Peak Land Alliance (CPLA) executive director. “These essays from our graduating seniors are always a breath of fresh air and one of the most enjoyable parts of our community work.”

CPLA is a diverse group of conservation-minded landowners committed to embracing and practicing responsible land, water and wildlife stewardship in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico.

CPLA is pleased to announce its selection of three graduating Pagosa Springs High School students to receive the 2026 CPLA Conservation Scholarship.

CPLA offers scholarship opportunities to graduating high school seniors at Escalante and Pagosa Springs high schools to support advanced studies at any university or technical college.

Student applicants were asked to write an essay about their background and career plans, along with their thoughts on conservation or biodiversity.

Included below are short excerpts from the recipient’s essays:

“Surrounded by mountains, rivers, forests, and wildlife, I grew up understanding that the land itself is part of our community. The San Juan Mountains, the forests, and the water that flows through our valley are not only beautiful, but also something we share the responsibility to protect.” — Kaila Limebrook.

“I want to work with children and families who may be walking through the same challenges mine once did. I understand the emotions, the exhaustion, the hope, and the strength it takes. Helping children, especially those with special needs has never felt like just a career path to me. It feels like a calling.” — Katelynn Mills.



Photo courtesy Chama Peak Land Alliance

Chama Peak Land Alliance Executive Director Caleb Stotts poses with Pagosa Springs High School scholarship recipients Katelynn Mills, Kaila Limebrook and Leah Blackman.

“Because of this, conservation has become more important than ever. Protecting our natural resources is not just about preserving the environment, but about preventing further damage and ensuring a safer future for everyone. In my own life, I have seen how conservation matters both personally and within my commu-

nity.” — Leah Blackman.

CPLA and our scholarship partners wish the recipients and the graduating class of 2026 the best of luck.

More information on the CPLA scholarship, the recipients and other CPLA programs is available at www.chamapeak.org.



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Healthy Archuleta welcomes five youth interns for summer leadership experience

Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta is excited to welcome five local youth interns to its Summer Youth Leadership Program.

Throughout the internship, these young leaders will participate in an immersive learning experience to explore the connections among food, health, community well-being and civic engagement while developing valuable leadership and professional skills.

The internship reflects Healthy Archuleta's commitment to investing in the next generation of community leaders.

Through hands-on activities, discussions with local partners, service-learning projects and community exploration, interns will gain a deeper understanding of the systems that shape life in Archuleta County and the role they can play in creating positive change.

Young people bring the spark, creativity and unique insights needed to tackle today's challenges. When we genuinely value their voices, we don't just build better future leaders, we build stronger, more inclusive communities right now.

The program began with an exploration of Healthy Archuleta's mission and its three guiding pillars: nutrition security, health equity and community cohesion.

Over the coming weeks, interns will embark on a learning journey that introduces them to the many factors that influence community health and resilience.

Through conversations and activities, interns will learn about the foundations of community service and discover how local organizations collaborate to address challenges and create opportunities.

From there, interns will explore the power of youth engagement and prevention, examining how young people can serve as leaders, advocates and changemakers while learning strategies that promote resilience, belonging and healthy choices.

They will also take a closer look at



Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta is excited to welcome five local youth interns to its Summer Youth Leadership Program.

Archuleta County's food system, tracing the journey of food from farms and gardens to markets, pantries, kitchens and, ultimately, community tables.

Along the way, they will learn how the local food system can be strengthened to support nutrition security, economic vitality and community resilience.

As the summer progresses, interns will also learn about mental and behavioral health, primary care and community wellness, gaining insight into the many ways individuals and organizations support health throughout the community. They will examine the conditions in which people live, learn, work and play, and explore how factors such as housing, transportation, education, income, food access and social connection influence overall well-being.

The internship will also introduce concepts of participatory change and community empowerment, helping youth understand how residents can work together to identify challenges, develop solutions and shape the future of their communities.

Through interactions with local organizations and community leaders, interns will learn about partnership building, collaboration, and the collective efforts required to address complex community issues.

The experience will culminate in a final synthesis and presentation project in which the interns will reflect on what they have learned and share their observations, ideas and recommendations with community members and partners.

Throughout the program, interns will strengthen skills in communication, teamwork, critical thinking, leadership and community engagement. They will also gain exposure to potential career pathways in public health, health care, nonprofit leadership, food systems, education, prevention and community development.

This year's interns have hit the road running and are already stepping into leadership and taking an active role in shaping their community through a youth-led initiative.

Identifying the need for young people in Archuleta County to have a

safe, inclusive, healthy, fun space to congregate, the first youth-led event of the summer, Kickback at the Park, serves as an introduction to the exciting work that lies ahead.

Kickback at the Park (5 to 7 p.m. at Yamaguchi Park) has been designed by the youth to bring young people together for an evening of connection, activities and fun. More than just a summer gathering, Kickback at the Park represents the hard work, creativity and collaboration that youth partners have invested in creating a welcoming space for their peers.

Healthy Archuleta believes that lasting community change requires voices from every generation. By investing in youth leadership and creating meaningful opportunities for engagement, the organization is helping cultivate the next generation of leaders while strengthening a more connected, resilient and healthy Archuleta County for years to come.

To learn more about Healthy Archuleta's efforts, please visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org or email fssearchuleta@gmail.com.

School boards approve budgets for 2026-2027

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

At their respective June meetings, the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education and Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) Board of Directors approved their budgets and accompanying resolutions for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

ASD

The ASD board approved its budget on June 3, with Finance Director

Eric Burt explaining no changes other than correcting a typo had been made to the budget since the draft budget was presented to the board in May.

It was approved unanimously.

The budget is based on a funded pupil count of 1,532.7.

It projects total revenue and total expenditures balanced at \$21,515,000.

Total program funding is budgeted at \$19,805,913, with the budget explaining 92 percent of that is from local property taxes and 8 percent is the state share.

PPOS

The PPOS board approved its budget on June 10.

In presenting the final budget to the board, Business Manager Derek Walker explained the budget is based on 134 students, but noted there is a higher potential count.

During her director's report later, School Director Emily Murphy explained that, as of that day, PPOS had 148 with 12 on a wait list.

She explained that, the prior June

the school had 130 and it ended up with 129 as its official count.

Walker also pointed out that the district's expenses include \$50,000 for leasehold improvements, down from \$596,000 the year prior. The budget projects \$50,000 in the coming years, as well.

The final budget shows total revenues totaling \$2,312,708, with per-pupil revenue accounting for \$1,733,994 of that total.

Budgeted expenses total ■ See Budgets A13

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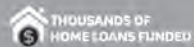
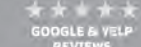
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Sports



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

By Diana Talbot
Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

A traditional American rodeo is a must-see event.

Join the fun as cowboys and cowgirls from various states compete for prizes and prize money the sanctioned rodeo series known as the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo.

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.

This year marks the 76th anniversary of the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. The event is filled with a variety of exhibition events to make an entertaining affair.

Each rodeo begins with a presentation of flags waving from westerners on horseback and the American anthem. Rodeo clowns are both entertainers and bullfighters. Their primary job is to protect the cowboy and prevent a tragedy with dangerous livestock. Between activities, the clown will work the crowd.

The antics of the clown cannot be predicted, but often include singing, dancing, joking and pantomimes within the act. Other rodeo events are interspersed with a variety of other activities like the mutton bustin' contest and the Daisy BB gun raffle.

Mutton bustin' is a crowd-pleasing event. Cowpokes 6 years and younger will test their strength and stamina by riding a sheep as long as they can hold on. This contest is held daily, with 10 new contestants each leaving the arena with a special prize and the overall winner, the boy or girl recording the longest ride, receiving an authentic Red Ryder Rodeo belt buckle.



Photo courtesy Lea Leggitt

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.

Tickets are available online and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children 12 and under. A limited number of box seats are available and can be purchased by calling (970) 749-3492.

Concessions are available throughout the event, and the beer garden will be selling drinks and

snacks.

The rodeo has a long history in Pagosa Springs and was named after Red Ryder, who was the feature cowboy character in the popular long-running western comic strip created by Stephen Slesinger and artist Fred Harman. Red, and his horse Thunder, was a tough cowboy who lived on

Painted Valley Ranch in the Blanco Basin in the San Juan Mountains. He and his sidekick, Little Beaver with his horse Papoose, dealt with the bad guys of the day. The comic strip was wildly popular and ran from 1938-1964 in 750 newspapers.

The Western Heritage Event Center, the organization that produces the rodeo, invites everyone to share in preserving the history and tradition of the American West.

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

Pagosa Porpoises shine in Gunnison, place fourth overall at three-day invitational

By Ryan Graham
Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association

The Pagosa Lakes Porpoises Swim Team traveled to Gunnison, Colo., to compete against eight regional teams June 5-7, returning home with plenty to celebrate after earning a fourth-place team finish.

Representing Pagosa Springs with determination, sportsmanship and unmistakable team spirit, the Porpoises delivered strong performances throughout the three-day Gunnison Invitational.

Athletes rose to the challenge in every race, posting personal records and showcasing the progress they've made throughout the season.

"What stood out most wasn't just the improvement to our times on the scoreboard," said coach Matt Nobles. "It was the way our swimmers supported each other, encour-

aged their teammates and competed with confidence. We continue to see tremendous growth, both in and out of the pool."

Several Porpoises achieved new qualifying times for the Colorado State Seasonal Meet, with standout swims across multiple age groups. While not every exceptional performance can be listed, several highlights from the weekend include:

- Girls' 10 and under 200-yard freestyle relay: first place — Ellie White, Macy Schick, Lindsey Braun and Haley Hilgemann.
- Girls' 11-12 200-yard medley relay: second place — Eleanor Samu, Emmary Brewer, Kimberly Taylor and Ainsley Bracken.
- Emmary Brewer: first place in the girls' 11-12 50-yard freestyle, out-touching 17 swimmers and setting a new personal best.
- Brooke Anderson: second place in the girls' 13-14 50-yard freestyle.

- Leilani Snell: third place in the girls' 15 and over 50-yard freestyle.

- Elias Gorman and Elliot Baird: fourth- and fifth-place finishes in the boys' 13-14 500-yard freestyle, with both swimmers earning personal bests in every event they competed in.

The Gunnison Invitational marks another meaningful step in what has been an exciting and fast-growing season for the Porpoises. Participation has surged to more than 50 swimmers at practice, all training under the guidance of Nobles.

With upcoming meets in Montrose and Alamosa, the Porpoises remain focused on improvement, teamwork, and having fun.

Whether touching the wall first or dropping time from a previous best, the Porpoises continue to prove that hard work, dedication and team pride make waves far beyond the pool deck.

Budgets

■ Continued from A12
\$2,330,991, leaving a net operating income of -\$18,283.

The budget also includes \$50,000 from reserves, leaving a final bottom line of \$31,717.

The document shows a beginning

fund balance of \$537,194 and an ending fund balance of \$518,911.

The budget was approved unanimously.

More on the budgets is available at [https://www.pagosasun.com/stories/school-boards-hear-draft-](https://www.pagosasun.com/stories/school-boards-hear-draft)

budgets-best-grant-not-awarded,138088? or in the May 28 issue of The SUN.

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Outdoors

Colorado Parks and Wildlife receiving frequent mountain lion sighting reports

By **Randi Pierce**
Staff Writer

Colorado Parks and Wildlife has been receiving relatively frequent reports of sightings of mountain lions in the Pagosa Springs area, according to CPW's Southwest Region public information officer, John Livingston.

The agency "also dealt with a few depredation incidents of livestock south of Pagosa over the last month caused by one specific lion," Livingston notes in an email to The SUN.

But, despite the frequent sightings, Livingston notes there is no more danger now than before.

"The danger is no more present than it always has been," he wrote, "people just notice lions more these days as there are more folks with hobby livestock and the advances in security/doorbell cameras."

Livingston also explains CPW recent studies show a strong mountain lion population in the area.

"We know we have a healthy and robust lion population around the Pagosa area. It's great habitat with plenty of prey, especially deer," he wrote. "We just finished our second winter of the West Slope mountain lion density study between Pagosa and Bayfield, and that is confirming our previous population modeling estimates that verify a strong lion population in the area."

Livingston also addresses reports that mountain lions may be affecting small animal populations in the area, explaining the current drought is impacting all wildlife and any changes in populations aren't necessary due to mountain lions.

"As for rabbits and squirrels, drought impacts all species, and this could be a difficult summer for all wildlife," he wrote. "It will impact



Photo courtesy JoJo Allen

A mountain lion is spotted near a residence south of town recently. According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, it is receiving relatively frequent reports of mountain lion sightings in the area.

natural food production not only for bears but many other mammals, too. Rabbits and squirrels are also primary prey for several raptor species, and we know we have lots of hawks, eagles and owls around. So it would be hard to point to any one animal or factor if people are noticing fewer numbers."

Living with mountain lions

Livingston explains it's important

that people not encourage deer to congregate near their homes.

"It's OK to haze the deer away," he notes. "Deer hanging out around homes can come with the unintended consequence of lions being nearby. Like bears, deer also like getting birdseed that has fallen. That makes it double important to take down bird feeders."

CPW also suggests the following tips for living with mountain lions:

- When taking your pets outside,

keep them on a leash.

- Be extra vigilant during mornings and evenings.
- Eliminate hiding places like bushes and tall grassy areas.
- If you find a dead deer covered or hidden, it might be a mountain lion kill, so avoid the area.

For more on living with mountain lions, including how to protect pets, see <https://cpw.state.co.us/living-mountain-lions>.

randi@pagosasun.com

CPW invites landowners to request funding to protect wildlife habitat or provide wildlife-related public access on their property

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is pleased to announce that the 2026 Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program (CWHP) application period is now open.

The CWHP offers funding opportunities for landowners who want to protect important wildlife habitat, provide public wildlife-related recreational access (fishing/hunting) on their land or sell property to CPW.

The budget for the 2026 funding cycle is \$11 million, made possible by revenue from the sale of the Habitat Stamp, hunting and fishing licenses, and through CPW's partnership with Great Outdoors Colorado.

How to apply

Landowners or their third-party representatives must submit an application describing how the pro-

posal addresses one or more of the following priorities and preferences.

Funding priorities for 2026:

- Acquiring significant public access for hunting, fishing or wildlife viewing.
- Protecting big game winter range and migration corridors.
- Protecting habitat for species of concern (specifically Species of Greatest Conservation Need, identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan).
- Protecting riparian areas and wetlands.
- Landscape-scale parcels.
- Parcels that provide connectivity to conserved lands.

Funding preferences for 2026:

- Properties that include lesser prairie chicken habitat.
- Properties that exhibit biodiversity.
- Properties that fall within CPW's Habitat Conservation and Connectiv-

ity Plan.

- Provides a public right of way across private land to provide public access to landlocked public land.
- Working farms and ranches.
- Properties that support wildlife crossings.

Application materials are available at cpw.state.co.us/cwhp. Proposals must be submitted by Oct. 15 at 5 p.m.

Contact information

For additional information about the CWHP application process, please contact CWHP Manager Amanda Nims at (303) 291-7269 or amanda.nims@state.co.us.

Applicants are strongly advised to contact CPW's CWHP manager to discuss the program timeline and the proposal budget.

Applicants can also contact their local CPW Office to discuss the project's merits.

Town's Dark Sky Committee moving forward with sky quality meter, lighting inventory

By **Jack Sellner**
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Dark Sky Steering Committee met Monday, June 15, to go over the pricing and location at which they're going to mount a sky quality meter (SQM) continuous monitoring device, as well as its plan to tackle the lighting inventory.

The committee also discussed their presentation at this weekend's Bioblitz event in town along with a new program that the committee is using to help the members work more autonomously.

The meeting started with an announcement of the first town-sponsored night sky event that is happening on Aug. 12. The event will be called the Meteor Shower Watch Night and it will be held from 8:30 p.m. until midnight. More details will be revealed in the coming weeks.

Committee members first discussed the mounting location of their SQM continuous monitoring device along with cost associated with the mounting.

The committee reviewed a quote

of \$1,437.50 given to it by Echo Consulting.

The SQM continuous monitoring device is set to be mounted on the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center, on the river side of the building near the hot springs.

Labor costs were quoted higher than expected, which was one of the few questions that committee member Dena Laterza brought forth.

A representative from Echo Consulting explained to the committee that the labor costs are high because they are estimated based on two people working the maximum amount of hours.

The labor required is running a cable from the crawl space to the attic of the Visitor Center and setting up the SQM continuous monitoring device. In the original quote, Echo Consultants planned for two people working for five hours each, but the representative at the meeting felt that two to three hours would be more likely.

The quote was approved after Laterza's motion passed.

The committee also discussed its

lighting inventory at the meeting. One of the big aspects of its application to become a certified International Dark Sky Community is an inventory of all outdoor lighting in town.

Committee members agreed that this is a big undertaking and thought through ways to make it easier.

Laterza expressed that a dedicated meeting for the lighting inventory would be necessary to help get it complete.

The committee also suggested using Trello, the new software that the committee has adopted to help make its work as a committee more autonomous.

It was mentioned at the meeting that most dark sky steering committees meet quarterly, and Laterza, along with other committee members, felt that Trello will help them achieve that.

Lastly, the committee discussed its presentation for this weekend's Bioblitz. The event will be held on Saturday, June 20, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.. The Dark Sky Steering Committee will be presenting from 6 to 6:30 p.m. jsellner@ourourkemediagroup.com

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Colorado implements proactive animal inspection requirements to prevent spread of New World screwworm

Colorado Department of Agriculture

The Colorado state veterinarian proposed, and the commissioner of agriculture adopted, upon the Colorado Agricultural Commission's recommendation, an emergency rule to control the spread of New World screwworm (NWS) into Colorado.

This action follows detections of NWS in Texas and New Mexico.

The NWS is a threat to all warm-blooded animals, including livestock, pets, wildlife and occasionally people. This emergency rule is part of the Colorado Department of Agriculture's (CDA's) One Health response to the NWS.



Photo courtesy Barry Knott

A doe and fawn are spotted in the Alpha subdivision Sunday morning, June 14. Wildlife officials encourage leaving young animals alone.

Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association announces training session, shooting match

By Chris Boyd

Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association

On Saturday, June 27, the Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association will host a firearms training session and shooting match. This is open to both members and the general public.

Shooters of all abilities (beginner, intermediate and advanced) are encouraged to attend. Participants are not required to compete in the competition unless they desire to.

The shooters meeting will begin at 10 a.m. A range safety briefing will be followed by the group being broken into small groups of handgun shooters, rifle shooters and shotgunners.

Following training sessions, a "friendly competition" will be held. For those who desire to merely watch, spectators are encouraged to attend.

Everyone present, whether participant or spectator, will be required to sign a release of liability and wear both eye and ear protection that they must bring.

Participant should bring the fol-

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

The NWS does not pose a food safety risk, and the U.S. food supply continues to be safe.

"This emergency rule is a vital step in safeguarding the health and well-being of all of Colorado's animals, including livestock, companion animals and wildlife," said Colorado State Veterinarian Dr. Maggie Baldwin. "By working with veterinarians and animal owners to implement these protective measures, we can mitigate the impact of the New World

screwworm on Colorado animals. By strengthening our requirements for veterinary inspections before animal movement into Colorado, we are ensuring a safer, healthier future for all animals across our state."

The rule stipulates that no animal with NWS myiasis may enter Colorado. It also follows the USDA's NWS Continuity of Business guidance, which requires specific movement protocols for livestock originating from an NWS Infested Zone. The USDA defines the infested zone as a 20 km (12 mile) radius from a confirmed detection.

The emergency rule includes the following restrictions on all warm-blooded animals coming to Colorado from infested zones:

- Animals from an infested zone must enter Colorado only with approval and a certificate for movement from the state animal health official in the state of origin.
- Movement certificates must be submitted with a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI).
- Animals must be inspected by an authorized veterinarian/official within five days prior to movement.
- Animals with open wounds (without myiasis) must be treated with an authorized product within 14 days prior to movement (slaughter-bound animals are exempt from treatment but must be slaughtered within 72 hours).
- An entry permit must be requested from the Colorado State Veterinarian's Office at (303) 869-9130 within 48 hours of movement.
- Upon arrival in Colorado, animals must be inspected by an authorized veterinarian or official.
- Standard interstate movement requirements (as listed through the CDA's Animal Import Tool) must still be met.

Additionally, the emergency rule establishes critical protections for cats and dogs, requiring additional inspection protocols within five days prior to their entry into Colorado if they originate from states with active NWS infested zones.

Owners and facilities must ensure companion animals are examined for any signs of the screwworm, particularly open wounds, which must be treated according to authorized guidelines before movement. This

preventative measure is essential to curbing the potential spread of this pest among household pets. Livestock and pets traveling into Colorado from areas that are not in the infested zone must continue to follow our state's animal import requirements.

The CDA is collaborating with facilities licensed through the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act (PACFA) program to implement these new requirements.

Through proactive education and outreach, the CDA is providing resources and guidance to help licensees implement increased safety protocols and maintain the highest standards of biosecurity. The PACFA program is working in partnership with licensed shelters, rescues and boarding facilities to ensure they are well-equipped to protect the animals in their care from the threat of NWS.

Violations of this rule can lead to orders to return animals to the origin or quarantine of the receiving premises and potential legal action.

For more information, visit ag.colorado.gov/NWS.

Community news.

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Pagosa Springs Car Show

SUN photos/Clayton Chaney
Crowds gather at Yamaguchi Park on Saturday, June 13, for the 17th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show, with a variety of classic cars and trucks, hot rods and unique vehicles on display.



Colorado Attorney General’s Office announces new suicide and violence prevention trainings

Colorado Attorney General’s Office

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser announced new free, virtual trainings designed to help Colorado families, community members and educators recognize warning signs of suicide and violence and better understand prevention tools, including Colorado’s Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) law.

The trainings are being launched as Colorado continues to face one of the nation’s highest suicide rates and ongoing challenges related to firearm violence.

“Violence and suicide are often preventable when people know the warning signs and understand the tools available to help,” said Weiser. “Whether it’s a parent concerned about a loved one, a community member worried about someone in crisis or an educator supporting a student, these trainings provide practical information that can help save lives. By helping people recognize warning signs and take action early, we can help prevent acts of violence, support people in crisis and build safer communities across Colorado.”

New training for families and community members

The Colorado Attorney General’s Office’s new ERPO training for family and community members is designed

for people who may be in a position to recognize warning signs that someone is at risk of harming themselves or others.

The training is particularly relevant for family and household members who are eligible to petition for an ERPO under Colorado law and helps participants understand warning signs associated with suicide and firearm violence risk, when an ERPO may be appropriate and how the ERPO process works.

New training for educators

The office is also launching a new teen dating violence prevention training for educators that helps school personnel recognize signs of teen dating violence, understand its impact on student safety and well-being, and identify appropriate intervention and support resources.

The training builds upon the ERPO curriculum for educators released by the Colorado Attorney General’s Office in 2025. Developed in partnership with Safe2Tell Colorado, that curriculum includes separate learning tracks for K-12 educators and higher education professionals, and focuses on helping educators understand how ERPOs can help prevent school violence and student suicide.

The new teen dating violence training expands the office’s violence

prevention resources for educators by addressing another significant risk factor affecting Colorado students.

What is an Extreme Risk Protection Order?

An ERPO, sometimes referred to as a “red flag law,” is a civil court order that temporarily prevents a person who poses a significant risk to themselves or others from purchasing or possessing firearms.

In Colorado, eligible family and household members, educators, licensed health care professionals and law enforcement officers may petition a court for an ERPO when someone poses a significant risk of causing harm to themselves or others.

ERPOs are designed to create time and space for intervention during a crisis while protecting due process rights through judicial review.

Why early intervention matters

The trainings draw on research related to suicide prevention, domestic violence and firearm violence to help participants better understand risk factors and intervention opportunities.

Warning signs often appear before mass shootings, a suicide, act of interpersonal violence or other crises. Family members, educators, health care professionals, law enforcement

officers and others are often in a position to recognize when someone may be at risk.

Colorado has one of the highest suicide rates in the nation, and firearms are involved in more than half of all suicides in the state. When a firearm is used in a suicide attempt, the attempt is fatal approximately 90 percent of the time.

Research highlighted in the trainings has found that for every 10 to 20 ERPOs issued, at least one life is saved.

Early intervention can also help prevent other forms of violence. The trainings highlight research showing that when an abusive partner has access to a firearm, the risk of homicide increases five to seven times, and that nearly half of all mass shootings in the United States are connected to domestic violence.

Building a safer Colorado

In addition to these public and educator trainings, the Colorado Attorney General’s Office continues to offer in-person ERPO training for law enforcement agencies across the state.

Together, these resources help equip families, educators, health care professionals and law enforcement with tools to recognize risk and intervene before a crisis escalates.

Access the new trainings

The trainings are available free of charge through the Colorado Attorney General’s Office:

- ERPO Training for Family and Community Members.
- Teen Dating Violence Prevention Training for Educators.

To learn more about violence prevention resources and training opportunities, visit coag.gov/violence-prevention-trainings-and-resources.

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Red Cross urges wildfire, flash flood preparedness this summer

American Red Cross of Western Colorado

The American Red Cross of Western Colorado is urging residents to take steps now to be prepared for increased wildfire risks this summer across the region, while also being mindful that rainfalls across burn scars may lead to flash flooding and debris flows.

“This year’s warm, dry winter has raised everyone’s attention to the possibility that we could have a significant wildfire season in Colorado and Wyoming,” said Christie Caster, executive director of the Red Cross of Western Colorado. “However, any rainfall this summer across new burn scars could also lead to a dangerous flood risk. A few simple steps today can make a big difference if conditions change quickly.”

Three tips to be prepared for wildfire

- Harden your home and yard today, before wildfire risks increase. Clear leaves and dry debris from decks, gutters, patios and near propane grills. Move flammable items like doormats, outdoor furniture cushions and firewood away from your home.
- Have a go bag and a plan. Pack essentials you can grab in minutes: medications, important documents, chargers, water, sturdy shoes, pet

supplies and a few days of basics. Set a meeting place and plan at least two ways out of your neighborhood.

- Stay alert and act early. Sign up for local emergency alerts, watch for changing conditions and evacuate immediately if told to do so. Do not wait to “see what happens” because wind-driven fires can move faster than expected.

Additional wildfire safety tips can be found on the Red Cross website.

Flash flooding, debris flows possible across burn scars

In addition to wildfire risks, flash flooding caused by heavy rainfall on top of burn scars remains a danger across the state.

According to the National Weather Service, burnt soil can be as water-repellent as pavement, decreasing the amount of rainfall required to cause flooding while also sweeping up debris and remaining ash.

These flows can move faster than you can travel by car and can also cause road closures, as was seen on Interstate 70 in Glenwood Canyon near the Grizzly Creek Fire burn scar.

If you live near a burn scar or in an area prone to flooding, follow these tips from the Red Cross and National Weather Service:

- Have multiple ways to receive emergency alerts and know the dif-

ference between a flash flood watch and warning: A flood/flash flood watch means a flood or flash flood is possible. A flood/flash flood warning means flooding or flash flooding is already occurring or will occur soon, and you should take immediate precautions.

- Be prepared to evacuate even without a warning from authorities, as a flash flood or debris flow may happen before a warning can be issued.
- Remember: turn around, don’t drown. Never walk, swim or drive through floodwater, and never cross a road or bridge with water or debris flowing. Just 6 inches (15 cm) of fast-moving floodwater can knock you over, and 12 inches (30 cm) can carry your vehicle away.
- Designate a place on higher ground that you can get to quickly. Plan to move to higher ground before flooding begins if you are in an area that is vulnerable to flash flooding or near a burn scar.

Additional flood safety tips can be found on the Red Cross website.

The Red Cross also encourages everyone to download the free Red Cross Emergency App to help monitor hazards and find safety information. You can find the Emergency App by searching “American Red Cross” in your app store or by visiting redcross.org/apps.

Laura Warner hired as SWORD project manager

Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado is pleased to announce that Laura Warner has been hired as the project manager for the SouthWest Opioid Response District (SWORD).

Warner has lived in Durango for nearly 10 years, working in public health and clinical care. Most recently, Warner has served as a subject matter expert with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors. She previously held leadership roles at San Juan Basin Public Health and is trained as a physician.

Warner was interested in the position as an opportunity to collaborate with a wide range of professionals and community members from

across the region.

“SWORD brings together many sectors all working to reduce the harm from opioids misuse, and Laura will be a tremendous addition to the group,” said Laurel Schafer, SWORD Council chair and representative from Montezuma Public Health. “She is deeply committed to making a positive impact on the health of Southwest Colorado residents.”

“I believe all residents of Southwest Colorado should have the support they need to live their healthiest lives,” said Warner. “To this aim, opioid settlement funds offer our region a unique chance to address the complicated issue of opioid misuse over the course of many years, and I am honored to join others working tirelessly to advance the health of our communities.”

Warner will be responsible for the

implementation of priority projects of the SWORD Council, which oversees the region’s opioid settlement dollars.

A grant cycle to strengthen Southwest Colorado’s recovery ecosystem will be opened later this summer.

You can reach Warner at sword@region9edd.org and learn more about SWORD at <https://region9edd.org/sword>.

Card of Thanks

19th Hole Concert Series

Thank you to everyone who attended the June 11 19th Hole Concert Series benefiting WEP, Wings, PCI and Aspire. Special thanks to the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado and the Pagosa Springs Golf Club for making this wonderful community event possible.

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Colorado DMV warns of title theft scams

Colorado Department of Revenue

The Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Motor Vehicle Investigation Unit (MVIU) is warning vehicle owners of a rising scam where third-party “helpers” are illegally seizing vehicle ownership under the guise of assistance.

“Our investigators are seeing a troubling trend where scammers exploit the title and registration process to take legal control of a person’s vehicle,” MVIU Investigations Chief Dana Chavez said. “There is no reason a third-party needs to help you title your car.”

Fraudsters often target individuals who lack standard identification, offering to act as a “power of attorney” or asking to be added to the title to “facilitate” registration. While it may be tempting to pay someone to “help” you, once their name is on the legal document, they become the legal owner and can sell, tow or seize the car without the victim’s consent. Adding someone who is not an actual owner to that document—or putting the vehicle in their name entirely—grants them the legal rights to your vehicle.

To ensure your vehicle remains legally yours, the first and most vital

step is obtaining a valid Colorado driver license or identification (ID) card. Because Colorado provides these identification documents regardless of your immigration status, there is no need to rely on a third party for help.

“We urge all residents to always use official channels rather than third-party ‘helpers,’” Chavez said. “This is the best way to ensure their vehicle stays in their name.”

As a reminder, depending on how you bought your car, the following methods are the safest and most official ways to register your vehicle:

- Bought it from a person? Customers participating in private sales must visit their local county DMV office. Additionally, these buyers should always conduct a VIN check before purchase to ensure the vehicle is not stolen.

- Bought it from a car dealership? Customers who purchased a vehicle from a dealership can conveniently use the DMV’s online services or go to their local DMV.

To learn more about the most common motor vehicle and driver scams and fraud impacting Coloradans, please visit the scam/fraud alerts webpage, dmv.colorado.gov/fraud-alertsscams.

CDOT provides safe driving reminders for teens as summer break kicks off

Colorado Department of Transportation

As teens look ahead to traveling more while school is out for the summer, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) reminds them that their actions behind the wheel matter. Traffic fatalities among youth aged 15 to 20 in Colorado reached a tragic record high in 2025, with 86 drivers and passengers killed.

The spike marks a 91 percent increase in youth crash deaths since 2015.

The 100 Deadliest Days of Summer—known for a spike in crash injuries and fatalities—is from Memorial Day to Labor Day. During this time period last year, 225 people died on Colorado roadways, 16 percent of whom were between the ages of 15 and 20.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, teen crashes are the leading cause of death for teens 15 to 18 years old.

Teens face the greatest risk of crashing during the first three months after getting their driver’s license. Once they are driving on their own, studies show their general inexperience and increased risk-taking drastically spike their chances of getting into a crash.

According to the Colorado State Patrol, the top factors for teen driving crashes in 2025 were distracted driving, speeding, lane violations, following too close and animal-involved crashes. Nationally, teenagers consistently have the lowest seat belt usage of any age group and, in Colorado, 39 percent of teen drivers who die in crashes were unbuckled.

“CDOT cannot stress enough the importance of life-saving actions young drivers must take,” said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. “We have seen some positive trends with teenage drivers who use good behaviors such as putting phones away, respecting speed limits and wearing a seat belt. When consistently used, these behaviors help to prevent crashes and fatalities. Driving a vehicle is an immense responsibility requiring safe driving behavior that parents and all adults should model for young drivers so they observe, learn and adapt good, safe habits from the very start.”

Fatalities and crashes can be prevented if all drivers, regardless of age, heed the following:

- Always follow the speed limit. Speeding puts you and others at risk of a crash, especially in vulnerable areas like work zones and school zones.
 - Pay attention while driving. Keep your hands off your cellphone and avoid other distractions while driving, including changing the music or eating.
 - Wear your seat belt whether you are the driver or a passenger.
 - Never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- In addition to the points above,

teen drivers 15 to 18 must also follow the specific laws under Colorado’s graduated driver licensing laws, referred to as GDL laws. These laws are designed to keep drivers under 18 safe by limiting distractions and high-risk driving situations while they gain experience.

Key points include:

- Teens with a learner’s permit must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or licensed adult 21 years of age or older in the front seat and buckled up.

- During the first six months of a learner’s permit, no passengers under 21, unless a parent or other licensed adult driver over 21 is also in the vehicle. Siblings and medical emergencies are exceptions.

- During the first year with a license, no driving between midnight and 5 a.m. unless accompanied by an instructor, parent or legal guardian. Exceptions include driving to or from school or work and medical emergencies.

- Driver education is mandatory. For more information go to CDOT’s FAQ page on teen driving.

Starting Jan. 1, 2027, there will be new requirements for obtaining a learner’s permit in Colorado:

- A 30-hour driver education course for minors 15 to 17 years old (which may include an online course).
- Drivers 18 to 20 years old can choose between a 30-hour course or a four-hour prequalification driver awareness program (which may include an online course).

- Those applying for a license under the age of 16.5 must still complete six hours of behind-the-wheel training.

- Individuals under 21 years old must successfully complete a motorcycle safety training program approved by Colorado State Patrol before being issued a motorcycle instruction permit.

This update, possible under HB24-1021, also improves the safety protocols and standards of driving schools and among driving instructors.

To learn more about these new requirements and access resources, visit codot.gov/teeneducation.

Since the passage of GDL laws in 2002, total teen fatalities have fallen by 35 percent, but crashes and fatalities go up once young drivers have completed their learner’s permit and are driving independently for the first time.

“Getting your license is an exciting milestone, but that freedom comes with responsibility: protecting yourself and your passengers,” said Colorado DMV Driver Services Director Benjamin Mitchell. “A single decision to text, drive unbuckled or drive impaired can change lives forever. Let’s make this summer memorable for the right reasons—buckle up, drop the distractions and ensure everyone arrives safely.”



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

Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office
June 1 — Death investigation, County Road 988.

June 2 — Child abuse, domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, reckless endangerment, Morrow.

June 2 — Assault in the third degree, disorderly conduct-fighting in public, disorderly conduct-petty, Lake Street.

June 3 — Found property, Beucler Place.

June 4 — Death investigation, County Road 500.

June 4 — Information only, Woodward Drive.

June 5 — Violation of a court order/warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

June 5 — Vicious dog with injury to person, U.S. 160.

June 6 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, failed to dim lights, failed to drive in single lane (weaving), no location listed.

June 7 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se, speeding 10-19 over limit, no location listed.

June 8 — Information only, Oak Drive.

June 8 — Information only, Aspen Springs.

June 8 — Information only, no location listed.

June 9 — Child abuse knowingly and recklessly, Harman Park Drive.

June 9 — Information only, Columbine Drive.

June 9 — Trespass warning, Inspiration Drive.

June 10 — Third-degree criminal trespass, Carefree Place.

June 10 — Agency assist, Summit Trail.

June 10 — Violation of a court order/warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

June 10 — Lost/found property, Wyndham Resorts.

June 11 — Animals running at large, Whitaker Place.

June 11 — Third-degree criminal trespass, U.S. 160.

June 11 — Noise ordinance-second offense, Elk Drive.



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

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On March 18, 2026, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.

Original Grantor(s) AND REDEM
Crystal L. Berkibelle AND Ruben Trevizo
Original Beneficiary(ies)
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ACADEMY MORTGAGE CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
COLORADO HOUSING AND FINANCE AUTHORITY
Date of Deed of Trust
May 01, 2019

County of Recording
Archuleta

Recording Date of Deed of Trust
May 02, 2019

Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.)
21902411

Original Principal Amount
\$201,286.00

Outstanding Principal Balance
\$176,483.25

Pursuant to CRS §38 38 101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

LOT 5, BLOCK 21, ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED AUGUST 30, 1971, AS RECEPTION NO. 74785, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO.

APN #: 569311319005

Reported common address: 1165 Beucler Ln, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

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

First Publication 5/21/2026
Last Publication 6/18/2026

Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

DATE: 03/18/2026

Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado

/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 Trustees’ Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
Published May 21, 29, June 4, 11, and 18, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (295577)

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

June 11 — Vicious dog with injury, violation of a court order/warrant arrest, Aspen Springs.

June 12 — Information only, no location listed.

June 12 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Frontier Avenue.

June 12 — Information only, Swiss Village Drive.

June 12 — Trespass warning, Pompa Drive.

June 12 — Criminal mischief \$5,000 to \$20,000 public, harassment by phone or computer injury or damage threat, violation of protection order, Elk Drive.

June 13 — Death investigation, South Driver Court.

June 13 — Criminal possession of a financial device, cyber crime \$5,000 or more but less than \$20,000, gathering information by deception, unauthorized use of financial transaction device, Seminole Drive.

June 14 — Vehicular eluding, no location listed.

June 14 — Information only, Bonanza Ave.

Pagosa Springs Police Department

June 1 — Warrant arrest, West U.S. 160.

June 1 — Criminal mischief, Hot Springs Boulevard/San Juan Street.

June 2 — Information only, North 3rd Street.

June 2 — Lost/found property, San Juan Street/Hot Springs Boulevard.

June 2 — Assault, South 9th Street.

June 3 — Speed 5-9 mph over prima facie limit, owner operated vehicle or permitted vehicle to be operated without insurance, South 8th Street.

June 5 — Violation of protection order-criminal, San Juan Street.

June 6 — Lost/found property, East Pagosa Street.

June 6 — Assault, Pagosa Street/East Pagosa Street.

June 6 — Obscene conduct, Pagosa Street.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

June 8 — Lyle Hoffschneider, following too closely, four points off, fines, surcharge and costs — \$146.

June 8 — Paula Jewell, owner operated vehicle without insurance, drive vehicle when safety belt not in use, four points off, fine and surcharge — \$322.

Public Notices

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

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 **March 16, 2026**, in the above entitled action, I am directed 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; GLENNA Y HARGROVE, TRUSTEE OF THE GLENNA 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 therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys’ fees and costs.

Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901

Association Assessments Due to: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.

Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit “A”
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit “A”

Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act.

THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND 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

June 8 — Joseph Fortin, speeding 5-9 miles per hour over prima facie limit, one point off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$136.

June 8 — Amber Landacre, speeding 5-9 miles per hour over prima facie limit, one point off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$136.

June 9 — Dustin Fiorenza, marijuana prohibited/consumes in such a manner that endangers others, fine and costs — \$85.

June 9 — Brian Garcia, shoplifting, restitution — \$54.95.

June 9 — Cherie Cobus, vicious animal prohibited, fine and costs — \$135.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

May 27 — Patrick Ryan Humphrey, driving under the influence, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 10 days electronic surveillance, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$2,490.50.

May 27 — Caesar Brousseau, speeding too fast for conditions, fines and costs — \$169.50.

May 28 — Neo R. Velarde, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

June 3 — Zachary Michael Carver, driving ability impaired-with prior, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 24 months probation, fines and costs — \$2,646.25.

June 3 — Jeremy Austin Hebert, obstructing a peace officer, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$903.50.

June 3 — Brian Garcia, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 10 days jail, fines and costs — \$26.

June 3 — Deann R. Schaaf, driving under the influence, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 10 days electronic surveillance, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$2,586.80.

June 3 — Kiersten F. James, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

June 3 — Elisabeth K. Rimann, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$127.50.

June 3 — Naomi Evelynne Dobbs, careless driving, 12 hours community service, fines and costs — \$185.

June 5 — Eugene Leo Ortiz, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.

June 11 — David Scott Christy, violation p/o-criminal, 84 days jail, fines and costs — \$224.50.

June 11 — Victorian Marcella Galvan, violation p/o-civil-second/subsequent, two days jail, fines and costs — \$26.

June 11 — Ryan Smith, theft-\$1,000 to \$2,000, 30 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, fines and costs — \$2,858.50.

June 12 — Leon James Culver, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

June 12 — Michael Gene Caldwell, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$126.50.

June 12 — Jason Taylor, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

June 12 — Gustavo Uriel Palma, burning without a permit, fines and costs — \$600.

June 12 — Matthew Miller, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

June 12 — Marshall G. Allred, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

June 12 — Darlin A. Melendez Rwas, driving under restraint, driver’s license-driving without, lane usage violation, fines and costs — \$334.50.

June 12 — Layne Eliese Mills, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

June 12 — Noe Osoria Rodriguez, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.

June 12 — Andrew Orlando Washington Sr., tail lamps/reflectors, fines and costs — \$65.

June 12 — James L. Wissler, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

June 12 — Joseph Edward Martinez, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.

June 12 — Sarah Nicole Leiby, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

June 12 — Borja Feliu Ariento, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

June 12 — Andre Brookins, driver’s license-driving without, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$173.50.

June 12 — Daniel Dean Logan, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.

June 16 — Dominic James Lopez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
No report.

PAM J MYERS (C#179800073) A 126,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7821-7822 in Building Number(s) 11.

Unpaid Assessments: \$771.70
Cost: \$289.21

Attorney’s Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,060.91

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 7845-7846 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 786

■ Continued from A18

phone: (970) 264-1390 or PLANNING@archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on July 9, 2026, at 6 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 18 and 25, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306751)

FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON JULY 9TH, 2026

Application for BEAR TRACE MAJOR SUBDIVISION, PRELIMINARY PLAN, creating 6 Lots in Subdivision: SAN JUAN RIV RES #2 Tract: A SJRR 2 Sec: 27 Twn: 36 Rng: 1W. (PLN-26-033). The property is zoned RESIDENTIAL (R).
Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, phone: (970) 264-1390 or PLANNING@archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on July 9, 2026, at 6 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 18 and 25, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306750)

FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON JULY 9TH, 2026

Application for PICCADILLY PARK MAJOR SUBDIVISION, PRELIMINARY PLAN, creating 45 Lots at X E US HWY 160. Legal Description: RURAL Sec: 22 Twn: 36 Rng: 1W A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN SW4 SW4. (PLN-26-038). The property is zoned RESIDENTIAL (R).
Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, phone: (970) 264-1390 or PLANNING@archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on July 9, 2026, at 6 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 18 and 25, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306800)

LEGAL NOTICE / SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW AND CHILD CUSTODY)
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, Larson Justice Center, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
46-200 Oasis 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 11, 2026
Attorney for Petitioner:
Timothy R. Wolfe, #56952
(timothy@wardlawdurango.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 BRUCE B. STUART, Deceased
Archuleta County Case Number 2026.PB.30015
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 (109 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 18,2026, or the claims may be forever barred:
Personal Representative: Carol C. Stuart
TMV 3-0165,
P.O. Box 55, Talisman Dr.
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published June 18, 25, and July 2, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306720)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Lewis Henry Luchini
Case Number 2026 PR 30016
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before October 18, 2026, or the claims may be forever barred.
Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published June 18, 25, and July 2, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306704)

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case Number: 26C39
Name of William Michael O'Neill Jr. is requested to be changed to William Michael O'Neill III.
Date: 5/29/2026
Anthony Edwards
/s/eal Archuleta Co, Colorado Combined Court
Published June 4, 11, and 18, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (304842)

PUBLIC HEARING
The Town Council for the Town of Pagosa Springs will be holding a public hearing for the application of a new Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License, Cattlemen's Gate LLC dba Cattlemen's Bar & Grill located at 729 San Juan Street Unit A&B in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and/or remote by Zoom meeting. All people wishing to comment should be present at that meeting or have written comments in the office of the Town Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 2, 2026.
Published June 18, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306796)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Public Notice is given on 6/4/26 that a Petition for a Change of Name of a Adult has been filed with the Archuleta Court.
The Petition requests that the name of Hank Lewis McCarter be changed to Hank Skaal Reiland.
By Sheree Otter
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk
Published June 11, 18 and 25, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (305862)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Public Notice is given on 6/4/26 that a Petition for a Change of Name of a Adult has been filed with the Archuleta Court.
The Petition requests that the name of Heather Michele Volger be changed to Heather Michele Reiland.
By Sheree Otter
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk
Published June 11, 18 and 25, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (305867)

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR STREAMLINED PROFESSIONAL AUDITING & SINGLE AUDIT SERVICES RFP NUMBER: 2026-AUD-SINGLE ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, Colorado, is requesting proposals

from qualified Certified Public Accounting (CPA) firms to perform a joint financial and compliance Single Audit for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2026. Project Scope & Budget: The selected independent auditing firm will provide an opinion on Archuleta County's basic financial statements in accordance with GAAP and Government Auditing Standards. The County operates on an annual budget of approximately \$51 Million. Because federal expenditures are projected to exceed \$750,000.00, the firm will simultaneously perform a federal Single Audit in strict compliance with OMB Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200). The total maximum budget allocated for this combined engagement shall not exceed \$80,000.00. Minimum Qualifications: Proposing firms must be licensed and in good standing with the Colorado State Board of Accountancy, meet

all independence requirements of Government Auditing Standards, have completed an approved peer review within the last three (3) years, and demonstrate experience with at least one (1) County or municipal Single Audits under OMB Uniform Guidance within the past five (5) years. Critical Procurement Schedule: * RFP Release Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 * Deadline for Written Inquiries: Friday, July 10, 2026 * Proposal Submission Deadline: Monday, July 20, 2026, at 4:00 PM MDT * Expected Final Audit Delivery: On or before June 30, 2027 Submission Instructions: Complete RFP packages, including full submission requirements and scope details, may be obtained on the Archuleta County website or by contacting the Finance Director listed below. Proposals must be submitted in two separate sections (Technical Proposal and Sealed Cost Proposal)

and received no later than July 20, 2026, at 4:00 PM MDT. Late submissions will be rejected automatically without review. Submissions can be made via email or hard copy. Contact Information: Attn: Chad Eaton, Finance Director County of Archuleta Physical Address: 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Email: Ceaton@archuletacounty.gov By order of the Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, Colorado.
Published June 18, 25, and July 2, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (306745)

Weber Sand & Gravel, Inc., 7101 E. Hwy. 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, 970-749-4688, has filed an application for a Regular (112) Construction Materials Opera-

tion Reclamation Permit with the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board under provisions of the Colorado Land Reclamation Act for the Extraction of Construction Materials. The proposed mine is known as the Weber Pit #2, and is located at or near Section 4, Township 35, Range 1W, 10th NM Prime Meridian.
The proposed date of commencement is: we are in final reclamation, and the proposed date of completion is _____. The proposed future use of the land is Range-land. Additional information and tentative decision date may be obtained from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3567, or at the Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder's office, 305 Village Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO, or the above-named applicant.

Comments must be in writing and must be received by the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety by 4:00 p.m. on 7-15-2026.
Please note that under the provisions of C.R.S. 34-32-5-101 et seq., Comments related to noise, truck traffic, hours of operation, visual impacts, effects on property values and other social or economic concerns are issues not subject to this Office's jurisdiction. These subjects, and similar ones, are typically addressed by your local governments, rather than the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety or the Mined Land Reclamation Board.
Published June 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (304632)

ARCHULETA COUNTY MARCH 2026 PAYABLES VENDOR
MTN VALLEY SVCS
CIGNA
SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS
MULTICOPTER WAREHOUSE
SOUTHERN CO COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
WELLS FARGO
WORLD FUEL SVCS
WAGNER RENTS
PAGOSA COMMUNITY INITIATIVE
FLYERS ENERGY
TRENT WOODS
M&M CONSTRUCTION SVCS
LPEA
ECONORTHWEST
SHAMROCK FOODS
PS MEDICAL CENTER
4 RIVERS EQUIP
ALL CLEAR EMG MGMT GROUP
6-STAR INSTALLATIONS & SALES
DELTA DENTAL OF CO
BLACK HILLS ENERGY
MUTUAL OF OMAHA
THE MASTER'S TOUCH
VALUEWEST
HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAG SPRINGS
TRES RIOS SILVER
CRS TECHNOLOGIES
VAL'S VIP CLEANING
SOUTHWEST CO MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
WYNDHAM VACATION RESORTS
CENTURYLINK
AT&T
RELADYNE WEST
ANTIQUES ON MAIN
FOUR CORNERS FLYERS
KIPS
PAGOSA AREA TRAILS COUNCIL
KUBL GROUP
ROCKY MTN SUPPLY CO
CO DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS
CO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
ARCH CNTY 4-H
ROSE MOUNTAIN
CONCRETE CONNECTION OF PAG SPRINGS
ECHO IT CONSULTING
ASCEND DIRECT
INLAND KENWORTH
DAY LUMBER COMPANY
ARCH CNTY VICTIM ASSISTANCE PGRM
SOUTHWEST POWER TOOLS
DOUGLAS CNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
AMERITAS
FORREST CONST-BEARFOOT GARAGE DOORS
ROCKY MTN FORENSIC SVCS
ACCESS TRUCK PARTS
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
NMS LABS
PARTS AUTHORITY
ELITE RECYCLING & DISPOSAL
MASA
TOPS
PARTS PLUS OF NM
CO BARRICADE COMPANY
GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE
THOMSON REUTERS - WEST
ALSCO
RIO BLANCO BACKFLOW
CURTIS BLUE LINE
ALLCONEHEALTH
THE PONDEROSA LUMBER CO
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS
C HAMMON
DAVIS ENGINEERING SVC
PAGCO
SUTTON AUTOMOTIVE
M BOWMAN
TARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY @ NAVAJO LAKE
AZTEC MACHINE & REPAIR
E KRUSE
SAFETY-KLEEN SYSTEMS
WESTERN PAPER DISTRIBUTORS

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
CELL 4B CONSTRUCT	\$368,047.65
MED BENEFITS	\$204,228.72
MED CONTRACT SVCS	\$81,510.00
SO EQUIP	\$45,257.00
IGNACIO SENIOR CENTER FUNDING	\$40,000.00
P-CARD PURCHASES	\$34,570.25
FUEL	\$19,102.43
FLEET REPAIR SVC/SUPP	\$18,591.13
DHS CONTRACT SVCS	\$15,518.37
FUEL	\$14,715.74
SWCHCC RRC	\$14,712.86
SNOW PLOWING	\$13,925.00
ELECTRIC UTILITY	\$12,937.39
RHAP SVCS	\$11,702.30
INMATE FOOD/SUPP	\$11,052.87
HEALTH FAIR	\$10,440.70
FLEET REPAIR SVCS/PARTS/SUPP	\$9,252.63
SWCHCC OP SUPPORT/WEB REDESIGN	\$9,214.33
FLEET UPGIT	\$9,100.00
DEN BENEFITS	\$9,037.89
CNTY GAS UTILITIES	\$8,717.44
LIFE BENEFITS	\$8,208.62
POSTAGE	\$7,634.25
COMMERCIAL CONSULTING	\$7,600.00
IMPOUND FEES	\$7,500.00
FAIR SUPPS/SVCS	\$7,365.00
LIC/INMATE SUPP	\$7,199.60
CLEANING SVCS	\$6,920.00
INMATE MENTAL HEALTH SVCS	\$6,777.06
RENT 305 VILLAGE DR	\$6,500.00
LANDLINE UTILITY	\$6,452.36
CNTY CELL PHONES	\$5,580.46
FLEET SUPP	\$5,084.53
MAIN ST GRANT	\$5,000.00
PARK UPGRADE	\$5,000.00
MAIN ST GRANT	\$5,000.00
PAG AREA RECREATION COALITION	\$5,000.00
SFTWR LIC	\$4,995.00
FLEET SUPP	\$4,541.00
PGRM LIC/VR FEE/DOC PREP	\$4,423.00
COPIER LEASES/USAGE	\$4,375.75
CO STATE UNIV EXT DIR	\$4,271.25
FAIR 2025 CHUCKWAGON SALES	\$4,221.82
DHS LEASE	\$4,166.67
SNOW PLOWING	\$3,412.50
IT SUBSCRIPTS/SVCS	\$3,186.56
TAX NOTICES	\$3,163.37
FLEET PARTS/SUPP	\$2,823.28
R&B SUPP	\$2,636.40
DHS CONTRACT SVCS	\$2,500.00
FLEET MAINT/REPAIR	\$2,339.97
SOTAR SYS USER FEE	\$2,000.00
VIS BENEFITS	\$1,978.08
FLEET REPAIR SVC	\$1,929.00
MED SVC	\$1,767.67
FLEET SUPP	\$1,695.02
CNTY SUPP	\$1,619.07
LAB FEES	\$1,618.00
FLEET PARTS/SUPP	\$1,615.96
ELUTILITY	\$1,557.16
MED AIR BENEFITS	\$1,531.00
WATER UTILITY	\$1,389.38
FLEET PARTS/SUPP	\$1,371.01
SIGNAGE	\$1,323.05
UNIFORMS	\$1,270.96
SFTWR SUBSCRIPT	\$1,243.75
CLEANING SVCS	\$1,241.32
ANN BACKFLOW TESTING	\$1,240.00
UNIFORMS/EMB	\$1,221.54
EMPL ASSNIST	\$1,219.23
CNTY SUPP	\$1,209.32
FLEET PARTS/SUPP	\$1,191.03
PER DIEM/REIMB-TYLER CONNECT	\$1,118.02
N PAGOSA BLVD ENG DESIGN/REPORTS	\$1,093.50
FLEET SUPP	\$1,050.82
FLEET SUPP	\$1,031.40
PER DIEM/REIMB-TYLER CONNECT	\$1,006.38
ANN SENIOR USAGE	\$1,000.00
AZTEC MACHINE & REPAIR	\$935.97
REIMB-TRVL EXP	\$919.20
OIL DISPOSAL SVC	\$911.75
JANTL SUPP	\$866.01

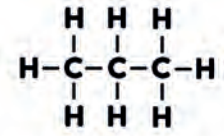
VENDOR	AMOUNT
KIMBALL MIDWEST	\$809.68
WARNE GREEN FORCE	\$798.50
W BROWN	
BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR	\$772.73
ALTITUDE RECYCLING EQUIP	\$753.50
NEWMAN TRAFFIC SIGNS	\$729.74
A WYLLIE	\$719.00
S SLADE	\$617.82
AMAZON	\$609.16
DELTA RIGGING & TOOLS	\$608.25
PATAGONIA HEALTH	\$596.70
J LUBETZ	\$594.00
O'REILLY AUTO PARTS	\$589.89
FERRELL GAS	\$581.77
J ALONZO	\$554.99
GARRETT SCULL	\$525.00
PSYCHOLOGICAL RESOURCES	\$500.00
SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE	\$500.00
WESTERN HERITAGE EVENT CENTER	
ARROWHEAD FORENSICS	\$487.02
BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK	\$485.85
MOREHART MURPHY REGIONAL AUTO CENTER	\$464.98
ASPIRE	\$416.66
HWY 160 AUTO WASH	\$416.00
CO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION & CONTROL	\$400.00
KEITH KESLING	\$400.00
PAGOSA CLIMATE CONTROLLED STORAGE	\$400.00
DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING ASSOC	\$380.00
ICS JAIL SUPPLIES	\$349.16
C BOBBITT	\$344.80
M CONY HODS	\$344.00
TERRY'S ACE HARDWARE	\$331.28
COWBOY CARWASH	\$326.70
THE PS SUN	\$317.22
DURANGO MOTOR CO	\$308.97
MTN HOME SOUND AND SECURITY	\$300.00
K JENSEN	\$294.00
L GONZALEZ	\$282.75
ALPINE PORTABLE TOILETS	\$280.00
SOURCE OFFICE & TECHNOLOGY	\$277.74
FOUR CORNERS OB-GYN	\$277.74
INT'L CODE COUNCIL	\$261.00
PIEDRA AUTOMOTIVE	\$250.00
GLORIA MACHT	\$240.00
MICHAEL BERNDT	\$240.00
MICHELE BERNDT	\$240.00
V MEDINA	\$238.00
SCRAM SYSTEMS	\$236.84
STERLING	\$229.45
SAN JUAN TOOLS	\$220.45
MIGHTY AUTO PARTS	\$205.00
L CAPRE	\$200.00
FIRESIDE GLASS	\$195.00
W SUTTON	\$180.00
PITNEY BOWES PURCHASE POWER	\$156.24
SOUTHERN TIRE MART	\$145.50
NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPLY	\$145.07
RADIOLOGY IMAGING ASSOC	\$134.24
OPTICAL SVCS	\$124.00
AXXIS AUDIO OF DURANGO	\$105.83
QUADIENT FINANCE	\$99.03
UNITED REPROGRAPHIC SUPPLY	\$93.33
CO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS	\$91.50
ROCKY MTN RESERVE	\$75.00
ARCH CNTY SOLID WASTE	\$62.50
LARGO TANK EQUIP	\$58.00
K BETZER	\$57.40
PUB HEALTH SUBSCRIPT	\$51.71
R BROWN	\$41.24
CRANES & MATERIAL HANDLING	\$40.87
A WILSON	\$35.07
JUST CLICK PRINTING	\$27.08
B ZAZULA	\$25.00
J LUCERO	\$25.00
K RODRIGUEZ	\$25.00
SYMBOLARTS	\$25.00
ANSWER TOPEKA	\$25.00
ZIA DELIVERY AND COURIER	\$18.00
Published June 18, 2026, in <i>The Pagosa Springs SUN</i> . (306797)	\$1,181,142.30

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
FLEET SUPP	\$809.68
FLEET SUPP	\$798.50
PER DIEM-CCI STEERING CMTE MTGS/	
CO EXT ADVIS COUNC MTG/REIMB-NACO	\$772.73
TOWING SVC	\$753.50
BLDG SUPP	\$729.74
BLDG SIGNAGE	\$719.00
PER DIEM-TYLER CONNECT	\$617.82
PER DIEM-TYLER CONNECT	\$609.16
ACSO SUPP	\$608.25
PUB HEALTH SUBSCRIPTS	\$596.70
ON CALL SVCS	\$594.00
FLEET PARTS/SUPP	\$589.89
PROPRATE	\$581.77
PER DIEM-TYLER CONNECT	\$554.99
RFND RNTL PERMIT	\$525.00
EMPL EVALS	\$500.00
2023 FAIR SCHOLARSHIP WINNER	\$500.00
ANN DONATION-CHASE REGISTER	
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP	\$500.00
SO SUPP	\$487.02
PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$485.85
FLEET SUPP	\$464.98
DHS MEN'S CLASSES	\$416.66
CAR WASH SVCS	\$416.00
FIRE EQUIP ANN FEES	\$400.00
SWCHCC STEERING CMTE	\$400.00
PAGOSA CLIMATE CONTROLLED STORAGE	\$400.00
EMPL TESTING	\$380.00
DETEN SUPP	\$349.16
PER DIEM-TYLER CONNECT	\$344.80
ON CALL SVCS	\$344.00
CNTY SUPP	\$331.28
CAR WASH SVCS	\$326.70
CNTY PUBLICATIONS	\$317.22
FLEET SUPP	\$308.97
QTRLY ALARM MON	\$300.00
ON CALL SVCS	\$294.00
REIMB-MOVING SUPP	\$282.75
TOILET RNTLS/SVCS	\$280.00
OFF SUPP	\$277.74
MED SVCS	\$277.74
BLDG SUPP	\$261.00
TOWING SVC	\$250.00
CPR/1ST AID CLASSES	\$240.00
CPR/1ST AID CLASSES	\$240.00
CPR/1ST AID CLASSES	\$240.00
PER DIEM-CLUB 20 WINTER POLICY CMTE MTG	\$238.00
GPS FEES	\$236.84
BCKGRND CHKS	\$229.45
FLEET EQUIP	\$220.45
FLEET SUPP	\$205.00
SWCHCC STEERING CMTE	\$200.00
LABOR	\$195.00
PER DIEM-FLEET SVC	\$180.00
DHS POSTAGE	\$156.24
FLEET SVC	\$145.50
SO EQUIP	\$145.07
MED SVCS	\$134.24
PUB HEALTH SUBSCRIPT	\$124.00
TRANSIT KEY CARDS	\$105.83
POSTAGE	\$99.03
CONTRACT	\$93.33
CCW BCKGRND CHKS	\$91.50
COBRA BENEFITS	\$75.00
DUMP CHG	\$62.50
FLEET PARTS	\$58.00
REIMB-MILEAGE	\$57.40
PUB HEALTH SUBSCRIPT	\$51.71
REIMB-OFF SUPP	\$41.24
FLEET SUPP	\$40.87
REIMB-SUPP/POSTAGE	\$35.07
MAPS	\$27.08
PER DIEM-FLEET SVC	\$25.00
PER DIEM-FLEET SVC	\$25.00
PER DIEM-FLEET SVC	\$25.00
DETEN SUPP	\$25.00
ANSWERING SVC	\$25.00
FLEET DELIVERY SVC	\$18.00
TOTAL	\$1,181,142.30

ARCHULETA COUNTY APRIL 2026 PAYABLES VENDOR
CIGNA
LA PLATA CNTY TREASURER
DESERT MTN CORP
TYLER TECH
ARCHULETA SENIORS
SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS
WELLS FARGO
PS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP
ECHO IT CONSULTING
VAL'S VIP CLEANING
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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Wings Grand Gala

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. • Wednesday, June 24 • Keyah Grande Guest House



Photo courtesy Joanne Irons



Photo courtesy Joanne Irons

Wings Early Childhood Center students are ready to welcome you to the Grand Gala on Wednesday, June 24, at the Keyah Grande Guest House. Tickets are available now.

Live Performers

Thursday
Coyote Moon Lounge: San Juan Mountain Boys, 6 p.m.
Liberty Theatre: Awkward Adult Years Tour
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

Friday
Coyote Moon Lounge: Soul Fire, 7 p.m.

Saturday
Coyote Moon Lounge: The Jokers, 7 p.m.
East Side Market: Emily Tholberg and the Patio Panthers, 11 a.m.

Sunday
Coyote Moon Lounge: Jonny Keys, 5 p.m.
Dublin Crust & Brew: Maxwell Miller, 3 p.m.

Monday
Coyote Moon Lounge: The San Juanderer, 5 p.m.

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FILM TO FOLLOW

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PagosaSUN.com

Wings Grand Gala promises a night of elegance and memories

By Donna Mosher
Wings Early Childhood Center

Wings Early Childhood Center is having a party, and you are invited.

Please join us on Wednesday, June 24, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. for an elegant summer evening at the Keyah Grande Guest House.

The evening promises a night of elegance and memories with great food, drinks and music.

Max Miller will provide the entertainment. Miller specializes in classic jazz and the music of the "Rat Pack": Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Bobby Darin, and other entertainers from the 1950s and 1960s. He includes in his sets Broadway show tunes and Michael Bublé, a bridge between the classic crooner era and modern pop.

You will enjoy locally curated hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and the opportunity to take part in a silent auction of stellar experiences.

"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.

How about a beach vacation in Costa Rica or a romantic wine country retreat in Oregon's Willamette Valley? If you want to stay close to home, you can enjoy lovely experiences in Abiquiu, Ouray, Creede and at Keyah Grande. Choose golf in South Fork. Or enjoy a special private tour of the ski area. The online auction is now live at WingsEarlyChildhood.org.

Wings delivers high-quality, inclusive, nature-based care and edu-

cation for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years. Last year, Wings doubled our space to include infants and children aged 1 to 2 years (whom we call "wobblers"). We are the only center-based school in Archuleta County to offer care to these youngest children.

Some 75 percent of our families receive much-needed tuition assistance, based on family income and

size. We serve our children nutritious breakfasts, lunches and afternoon snacks, prepared on site in our new commercial kitchen by our full-time food program manager.

Quality childhood education is critical to children's lifelong success. Your support of the Wings Early Childhood Center Grand Gala

■ See Gala on next page



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Photo courtesy Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership was the featured nonprofit at the second 19th Hole Concert on June 11, where the Jackson Mountain Ramblers played.

19th Hole Concerts to continue June 18

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

Last week’s 19th Hole Concert attendance was record-breaking, with more than 320 concertgoers coming out to the Pagosa Springs Golf Club to support the four nonprofits benefiting this series and enjoying the amazing musical performance by the Jackson Mountain Ramblers.

The 19th Hole Concert Series continues tonight with another evening of live music, community connection and nonprofit support featuring the Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) as this week’s highlighted nonprofit organization.

The concert is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

Tonight’s musical guest, Mike Blakely, will bring his signature blend of outlaw country, rock, blues and Texas Americana to the stage for an evening of high-energy entertainment.

As the featured nonprofit, PCI will be on-site sharing information about its work supporting youth and families throughout the community.

PCI provides out-of-school pro-

gramming for youth through trauma-informed practices, along with family support services that strengthen overall well-being for local families.

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 programming during the summer months.

Community members are encouraged to stop by the PCI booth during tonight’s concert to learn more about the organization’s growing impact in Archuleta County.

The summer concert series will wrap up next Thursday, June 25.

The fourth and final concert of the season will feature Aspire Medical Services and Education along with musical guest Bo DePena.

Known for his crowd-pleasing Americana and country sound mixed with Texas grit and rock-and-roll swagger, Bo DePena is expected to close out the 2026 concert series with an energetic final performance.

Aspire provides prenatal care and education for families with children

ages 0-3 in Archuleta County. Funding from the 19th Hole Concert Series will support Aspire’s free parent-child education program, which has seen a significant increase in local families seeking support, education and connection throughout the rural community.

■ See Concerts on next page

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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 DePena + Aspire Medical Services & Education

QR code: Square Top Bar-B-Q & Drinks for purchase. No outside food/drinks or pets allowed. Scan QR code for details & weather updates.

Bank of Colorado, Visiting Angels, JANIN C. PITCHER, INTER MOUNTAIN, The Pagosa Springs SUN, Presented By: Pagosa Springs Golf Club

Gala

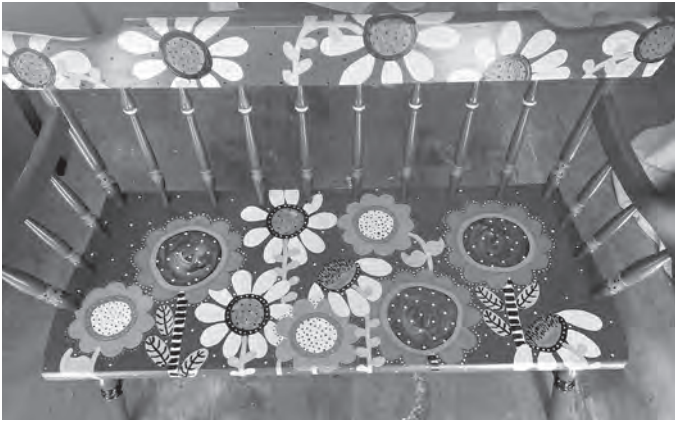
■ continued from previous page helps to deliver outstanding care and education to children and families of Archuleta County. We rely on grants and your private donations to subsidize the cost of care.

This is our first grand gala fund-

raiser, and your support will make a difference in the lives of our kids — now and throughout their lives. Tickets are \$100 each and are available at Tangled, 189 Talisman Drive, and online at WingsEarlyChildhood.org.

We hope to see you there.

Artist Reception



Andy Arnold
Acrylics

Thursday, June 25th
5:30 to 7:30 pm

Meet artist Andy Arnold.
Enjoy a glass of wine
and learn about his art.
Light refreshments.

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of Your Pagosa Experience!

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468 Lewis St . (970) 264-0800 . twooldcrowsp@gmail.com





The June 11 19th Hole Concert attracted more than 320 attendees. There are only two more concerts left for this year's concert series.

Photo courtesy Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado



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

Healthy Archuleta to hold food drive Saturday

Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta invites the community to support our neighbors during our next food drive this Saturday, June 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of City Market.

Community members can stop by the Healthy Archuleta table, grab a targeted shopping list and fill a bag with essential items to ensure our local pantries remain stocked this summer. This food drive supports all of the food pantries in Archuleta County through the Food Pantry Network.

In addition to food drives, food pantries in Archuleta County rely on a multilayered approach to provide food to our neighbors. Community donations, regional agricultural partnerships, grants and the regional food bank, Care and Share, are important to each pantry, helping them provide the variety of foods they offer to our neighbors.

Additionally, Healthy Archuleta continues to grow fresh produce year-round through its hydroponic growing towers and partners with local community gardens to support

fresh food access through the Food Pantry Network.

Together, these sources help local families have access to both household staples and highly nutritious, fresh foods.

Get involved this weekend. True food security is built by the community, for the community. Your support matters.

You can get involved by:

- Donating: Visit us at City Market this Saturday, pick up a shopping list and buy a few extra items during your grocery run.
- Volunteering: We are actively looking for community members to help maintain the hydroponic towers, test water levels and assist with harvests.
- Growing: If you can grow fruit, vegetables and herbs, and you have extra to donate, we will share it with the food pantries.

To learn more about the upcoming food drive, volunteering or growing food, please visit us at www.food-coalition4archuleta.org or reach out directly via email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

Concerts

■ continued from previous page

The 19th Hole Concert Series has continued to bring together live music, local nonprofits and community support throughout the summer season, creating opportunities for residents and visitors alike to

enjoy great music while supporting organizations making a meaningful difference in Pagosa Springs.

Community members are encouraged to attend tonight's concert and save the date for next week's season finale.

Interactive
Community
Forum



Thursday, June 18
5:30 pm -7:00 pm

DISCUSSIONS & INSIGHTS

- Consolidated Public Feedback on Lodging Tax Options
- Updates on:
 - Community Plan
 - Aspen Springs Community
 - Roads

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Photos courtesy Curtains Up Pagosa

“School of Rock” big rockers and little rockers in rehearsal for next week’s four shows. The musical will take to the stage of the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium June 25-27.

‘School of Rock, the Musical’ to hit the stage next week

By Anthony Aldwell
Curtains Up Pagosa

Curtains Up Pagosa will present three evening and one afternoon performance of “School of Rock, the Musical” on the Pagosa Springs High School stage at 7 p.m. on June 25, June 26 and June 27, with a matinee at 2 p.m. on June 27.

Based on the movie by the same name, this show will feature music by renowned musical composer Andrew Lloyd Webber, with the book written by Julian Fellowes, of Downton Abbey fame.

The essence of the plot follows Dewey Finn, a failed rocker who poses as a substitute teacher at a prep school and transforms his students into a rock band to win a Battle of

the Bands.

The School of Rock cast is ready to present a high-energy musical performance next week, featuring experienced Pagosa actors and musicians, accompanied by our teen “Big Rockers” and younger “Little Rockers,” several of whom are making their Curtains Up Pagosa debut.

Tickets are available online at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa, with pricing at \$22.50, and \$18.34 for seniors and students. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

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8:00 – 9:30 am	👥 Private Group Clinic	👤 One-hour private lesson:	\$95
9:30 – 11:00 am	👤 Private Lesson Time	👤 90 minute private lesson:	\$140
11:00 am–12:00 pm	👤 Private Lesson Time	🏓 Adult Tennis Drills & Play:	\$40 per player
12:00 – 1:30 pm	🏓 Adult Tennis Drills & Play (4 players min. 8 players max.) The first half of each clinic is tennis drills followed by game play emphasizing the skills practiced in the drills session.	🏓 Kids Tennis (5-9 yrs):	\$25
1:45 – 2:30 pm	🏓 Kids Tennis (5-9 yrs old)	🏓 Juniors Tennis (10-16 yrs):	\$30
2:30 – 3:30 pm	🏓 Juniors Tennis (10-16 yrs old)	⚠️ Lesson and Clinic slots that do not fill within 48 hours of the stated date will be canceled.	

Please contact me to reserve your spot each week.



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Pride Month: what it means to feel safe and seen

By Kaylie Jackson-Hauf
Rise Above Violence

At its core, violence is about control, taking away a person's sense of safety, autonomy and self. Pride Month is, in many ways, the opposite; it is about affirming those same things: the right to live openly, safely and as your authentic self.

These shared values are reflected in the work we do every day at Rise Above Violence, where we strive to create spaces where survivors are heard, believed and supported without judgment, and where every person is treated with dignity and care.

When someone experiences harm and those supports are missing, the impact can reach into every part of a person's life. They may feel isolated, silenced and disconnected from themselves.

For LGBTQ+ survivors, that journey can carry additional layers of complexity. Identity, relationships, family dynamics and community connections may all shape how a survivor experiences abuse and how they seek support afterward.

While every survivor's story is different, one thing remains the same: Everyone deserves to be treated with compassion, believed when they share their experiences and sup-

ported in their path toward healing.

Pride Month reminds us that creating a safe and welcoming community is an ongoing responsibility. It is built through everyday actions: listening without judgment, respecting people's identities and experiences, and recognizing that no one should have to hide who they are in order to feel safe or receive support.

As a community, we have an opportunity to foster environments where all survivors know they can reach out for help without fear of being dismissed, misunderstood or judged.

Building a community where people are free to be themselves requires more than acceptance; it requires a commitment to safety, respect and compassion. In these moments, support and belief can make it easier for someone to reach out when they are ready.

This Pride Month, we celebrate the resilience of LGBTQ+ individuals and communities while reaffirming a simple belief that guides our work year-round: Every person deserves safety, dignity and the freedom to be themselves.

That is something worth celebrating.

If you or someone you know needs support, contact Rise Above Violence at (970) 264-9075 or www.riseaboveviolence.org.

League of Women Voters chapter announces July 9 documentary screening

League of Women Voters Archuleta County

On July 9, the Archuleta League of Women Voters (LWV) chapter will screen the award-winning documentary "Join or Die!" at the Liberty Theater.

The doors will open at 5:30 p.m. with screening at 6 p.m. followed by a "Joining Fair" featuring local nonprofits.

Tickets are \$25, with proceeds benefiting local nonprofits and the League's community events. Visit www.pagosamovies.com to reserve your tickets today.

"We are pleased to offer this fun and entertaining movie as part of Pagosa's big 250/150/1 celebration," said event coordinator Sarah Riehm. "Not only is it the birthday of our country and state, but also the first anniversary of our newly re-formed LWV organization."

The movie has earned a coveted 95percent approval rating on the Rotten Tomatoes movie platform. The film explains how civic engagement in clubs and organizations is not only vital to a healthy democracy, but also for mental and physical well-being.

"Join or Die!" is based on extensive research done by the charming,

erudite social scholar Robert Putnam. His best-seller, "Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community" brought him international recognition, and he has been a key advisor to both Republican and Democratic administrations on the subject of "social capital."

The title of his book refers to the fact that, although the number of people bowling in the United States has increased, participation in leagues has dropped dramatically.

There has been a precipitous drop in participation in every type of social organization, leading to an epidemic of loneliness, isolation, and retreat into political and social silos. His research clearly shows how this trend has negatively affected our politics on the local and national level.

The Archuleta Chapter of the LWV is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to facilitating community dialogue, increasing voter education and promoting a well-informed electorate. To join the mailing list for meeting notifications, email Ginger Baxt at vpbaxt@gmail.com. To become a member, visit www.lwvcolorado.org and find the "JOIN" button. Be sure to select the Archuleta County chapter.



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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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Photo courtesy Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative is launching its fourth annual School Supply Drive to help local students start the new school year prepared, confident and ready to learn.

Help needed for back-to-school boost with Pagosa Community Initiative

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) is launching its fourth annual School Supply Drive to help local students start the new school year prepared, confident and ready to learn.

Supplies may be dropped off now at the PCI offices at 550B Hot Springs Blvd. during office hours, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Aug. 22, PCI will host a Back-to-School Fair in the high school commons, where school supply items will be distributed to families and other services will be available to support youth heading into the school year.

PCI is seeking a wide range of school essentials, including back-

packs, notebooks, composition books, loose-leaf paper, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, colored pencils, erasers, rulers, glue sticks, scissors, binders, folders, highlighters, pencil boxes and supply kits for students of all ages.

Donations of any kind help make sure children have the basic tools they need for classrooms, homework and projects.

Community members may also donate online at www.pagosa-communityinitiative.org by noting “school supply drive” with their gift.

PCI is the only family resource center in Archuleta County, supporting youth and families with multiple services throughout the year. This drive is one more way PCI helps remove barriers for local students and strengthens the support network for

local families.
For more information, contact PCI at (970) 585-6461.

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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

Email application info to:
pennie.declark@bankofcolorado.com

Child's name
Child's age
Parent's name
Parent's contact email and phone
Preferred day (no guarantee)



Photo courtesy Becky Bailly

Members of the local Pi Beta Phi sorority alumnae club enjoy an outdoor spring gathering surrounded by glorious gardens with a view of Pagosa Peak at the home of Melissa McDonald on June 12. In the back row, left to right, are Paula Tennant, Kelly Maestas, Carole Howard, Maddie Cook, Melissa McDonald and Ann Bubb. In the front row, left to right, are Mary Bailly, Mary Rothchild, Lisa Scott, Kara Cook and Joni Rose. Several members came from out of state, most notably Mary Bailly, a longtime member who now lives in Wyoming. Pi Beta Phi was founded in 1867 at Monmouth College. Today there are 129 chapters at universities in the U.S. and Canada and 195 alumnae clubs around the world.

Summer Clubs for kids of all ages set for June 23-25

By **Connie Porter**
Colorado Child Evangelism Fellowship

Three Summer Clubs (formally Adventure Clubs) are scheduled for June 23-25.

Each Summer Club will include a Bible story with drama and interaction with the kids, a memory verse, high-energy songs, games, crafts, snacks and more games.

It is two hours of fun and learning

for kids, and it's free.

Come and bring your friends.

There will be Summer Clubs in two locations:

- June 23-25, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. This location has an elementary club for 6- to 12-year-olds and a separate club for little ones who are 3 to 5 years old. (This includes any little ones who will not start kindergarten

until this fall.)

- June 23-25, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Pagosa Vista Estates, 308 Bonanza Ave. This club is for kids who are 5 to 12 years old.

The three Summer Clubs will have the same three-day program, so choose the club that works best for you.

For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

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Sunday Night Unplugged to feature Durango artist Beau Smith this Sunday, June 21

By Anthony Aldwell
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is pleased to host the next rendition of Sunday Night Unplugged this Sunday, June 21 at 5 p.m., which will feature Durango musical artist Beau Smith, in a performance open to all. Smith is a longtime Presbyterian pastor, current spiritual director, as well as a talented musician who composes 60 percent of his personal repertoire.

He is well-known in Southwest Colorado as the lead voice of his band, The Rev, and his music has been described as "an infectious blend of soulful vocals and folk-rock storytelling."

He can be seen and heard entertaining at many local venues in Durango, as well as occasional appearances here in Pagosa Springs.

The Rev band recently played at the Fort Lewis College radio station's biggest fundraiser of the year, the



Photo courtesy Beau Smith

Durango folk-rock musical artist Beau Smith is headlining the June 21 Sunday Night Unplugged at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

KDUR Cover Night, featuring songs by the band Wilco.

When not playing his original pieces, he particularly enjoys covering songs by Bob Dylan and Van Morrison. For this edition of Sunday Night Unplugged, Smith will play a mixture of hymns, classic folk songs, and his original pieces, accompanying them with his acoustic guitar.

Members of our community, as well as visitors to Pagosa, are very welcome to attend this free hour-long event at St. Patrick's Church, located just south of the hospital, at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., during which we will share the gift of music and reflection with Smith.

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hold solstice picnic

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

As one of the faith community sponsors of Pagosa Pride, the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship is elated for the beautiful day we all experienced.

Town Park was filled with colorful costumes and joyful sounds of participants as the youth were an integral part of the day's programming. A hearty thank you to all who participated either as a community group, sponsor, or by simply coming and joining the festivities.

As we turn toward the rest of the summer, this coming Sunday, June 21, the fellowship will host a solstice picnic and annual meeting at the home of one of our members. This is a highlight each year for fellowship members and friends, and if you are interested in learning more, visit the website for our current newsletter.

The following Sunday, June 28, we are engaging in a day-long retreat to help us plan for the future. Both of these services will take place off-site, so there will be no programs in the

fellowship space.

Check out our website, PagosaUU.org, for additional information about the Pagosa UUs and about Unitarian Universalism.

The UU Community Hub offers space for a variety of opportunities for spiritual growth and connection.

The Tara Meditation Group is held most Sundays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. If interested, email the fellowship to be added to the list to receive information and notices about this weekly meditation practice. A Zoom option is available.

Qigong practice is held at 1 p.m. most Monday afternoons, and all are welcome.

The Wise and Wakeful Circle meets the second and fourth Saturdays at 10 a.m. — this month on June 27.

The Pagosa UU Fellowship is located in the Greenbriar Plaza, Unit B-15, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak. We celebrate diversity and foster a spiritual home for those wishing to "Make Friends, Grow in Spirit and Do Good."

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Community United Methodist Church to explore family, belonging and listening for Father’s Day

By Ken Daniell
Community United Methodist Church

The Community United Methodist Church will continue its summer sermon series, “Others — A Life Beyond Ourselves,” with a Father’s Day message on Sunday, June 21, at services at 8:15 and 11 a.m. at 434 Lewis St.

This week’s sermon — “Who Is My Family?” — draws on Mark 3:31-35, where Jesus expands the definition of family beyond bloodlines to something broader and more inclusive.

The Rev. Ken Daniell will explore what it means to belong to one another across generations and across the complicated terrain of real family life.

The sermon speaks honestly into the generational tensions many families carry, the misunderstandings between parents and adult children,

the hurt that comes when parenting looks different from one generation to the next, and the simple but difficult practice of listening rather than defending.

Father’s Day is not always a simple celebration. For some, it carries grief, distance, or complicated history. This Sunday’s message holds all of that with honesty and care while pointing toward the possibility of repair, chosen family and the kind of belonging that does not require perfect history to be real.

The Community United Methodist Church is a progressive, inclusive, and affirming congregation committed to serving the Pagosa Springs community. All are welcome, regardless of background, belief or history with the church.

For more information, visit cum-

cps.org or call (970) 264-5508. Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon.

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs to sing HU, discuss finding spiritual balance

By Laurah Brock Young
Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

HU is an ancient mantra, a love song to God, that has helped people in so many ways. You can sing HU each day and gain a better understanding of why things happen the way they do in your life.

Anyone can sing HU, no matter your age, background, or religion. It brings wisdom, serenity, love and freedom into our lives.

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs for the event: “Finding Spiritual Balance – Sing HU to Raise Your Spiritual Vibrations.”

We will meet on Sunday, June 21, at 1 p.m. We will experience the HU song and follow it with a discussion.

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

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

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

To learn more about Eckankar, visit www.eckankar.org or www.eckankar-colorado.org.

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Photo courtesy Paul Kriescher

On Thursday, June 25, Creation Care Pagosa will view an episode of “Heart of a Building” about the energy-efficient school building built by Sierra Grande School District. The showing will be followed by a discussion.

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Re-Elect VERONICA MEDINA
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District 3

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Creation Care Pagosa to host documentary and discussion on energy-efficient school

By Laura Lunsford
Creation Care Pagosa

Join Creation Care Pagosa Thursday, June 25, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St., from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

School buildings, particularly public-school buildings, convey a lot about the character of a community. At their best, they show a community's willingness to work together for the greater good of their children and for future generations of children.

Sierra Grande School District in south central Colorado did just that several years ago by working together to pass a community bond. While being one of the poorest school districts in the state, it knew it needed to stop spending good money after bad on short-term repairs in their failing school building and instead chose to design and build a spectacular PK-12 school building that represents the character of this area.

A keystone of their values that

shines through their school building is to be fiscally responsible by incorporating design details that are the most cost-effective over the years, not just at the time of construction. The building, as a result, has a super insulated, high-performance building envelope, while incorporating a brilliant amount of daylighting to enhance the environment of learning for the kids.

"Heart of a Building," a video documentary series on Rocky Mountain PBS, was able to capture Sierra Grande's story several years ago in a 30-minute episode, and its story is highly applicable to communities considering remodeling or building new school buildings in Colorado and across the U.S.

Paul Kriescher, executive producer and host of "Heart of a Building," will joining us to share this episode with the broader Archuleta County community.

Come see and hear the journey of people very much like us from the Sierra Grande School District living

in Fort Garland and Blanca, Colo., as well as the surrounding area.

Kriescher will share how Sierra Grande made the decision to finance, design and build this fabulous school that is now a gem in its region.

Join us on Thursday, June 25, at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck dinner and conversation followed by introductions and the airing of the 30-minute episode starting at 6 p.m.

Afterward, Kriescher will lead a question-and-answer discussion about how Sierra Grande's ideas can apply to the new PK-8 school that Archuleta School District hopes to design and build in the near future.

Kriescher and his wife, Michalina, have lived in Pagosa Springs since 2022 and are passionate about ensuring our children have a high-quality school campus that makes the best use of our tax dollars through energy efficient construction, while also providing a first-rate educational environment.

Everyone is welcome, so please join us.



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TOWN HALL - 551 HOT SPRINGS BLVD.

TARA COMMUNITY CENTER - 333 MILTON LN.



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PAID FOR BY RANDY BETTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, 2026.

SPONSORED CONTENT

Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry creates new career pathways

Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry has long been more than just a dental office, built on warmth, clinical excellence, and a genuine commitment to the people of Pagosa Springs.

Now, that commitment is taking a meaningful new form with the upcoming launch of the Southern Colorado Dental Assisting School.

The practice’s vision has always been to be a true pillar of the Pagosa community, known for its high standard of care, exceptional customer service, and active engagement with the people who call this region home. The dental assisting school is a natural extension of that vision.

“We believe in Pagosa Springs,” said Dr. Peter Roukema, founder of Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry. “Starting a school here means investing in our neighbors, giving local people a pathway into a rewarding career without having to leave the community they love.”

The Southern Colorado Dental Assisting School will offer a focused 13-week curriculum covering dental radiography, infection control, chairside assisting, dental materials, and patient care. Graduates will be equipped to sit for state certifications and step confidently into careers at dental practices throughout our community and across the region.

Beyond workforce development, the school will deepen the practice’s roots in the community, create local opportunities, and ensure families receive care from professionals who are trained, credentialed, and, most importantly, neighbors.

By cultivating homegrown talent, Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry is building a pipeline of skilled, compassionate dental assistants who share the same values the practice was founded on: professionalism, efficiency, and genuine care for every patient who walks through the door.

The Southern Colorado Dental Assisting School is coming soon. Prospective students are encouraged to visit the link below to learn more and stay informed as enrollment details are announced.

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



Photo courtesy of Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry.



250 Celebrating American Independence!

Celebrate our 250th Anniversary and honor those who fought for our Independence.

Enjoy an Authentic Western Rodeo Thursdays at the Western Heritage Event Center Rodeo Grounds

June 4, 11, 18, 25, and July 9, 16, 23
Barbecue: 6pm, Pre-Show: 6:30pm, Performance: 7pm

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

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

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

Please check out our most recent blog on '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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Smoke and Odor Removal

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

On June 21 at 6 p.m. the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center will hold its 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.

Upcoming events

Save the date for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

- 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.

- July 4: Come visit the SpiritFire booth in the park.

- July 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: "Medicine Wheel Sacred Journey" with Shayla White Eagle. Learn how to

build your own medicine wheel sacred space. A \$50 donation will be collected. Save your spot by contacting (970) 510-0309.

The center also offers educational classes and workshops.

About us

The SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is a 501(c)(3). We are an all-inclusive community honoring all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine. We are the "Good Vibe Tribe" who practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

The vision of SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is to empower each participating member to become their "best self." Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through self empowerment and awareness of the creator's divinity.

We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at Xanadu private retreat. Obtain information by joining us, emailing pagosacomunitynewthought@gmail.com or texting/calling (970) 510-0309.

988 Lifeline

Whether you're facing mental health struggles, emotional distress, alcohol or drug use concerns, or just need someone to talk to, our counselors are here for you.

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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.

UNITY ★ EXPERIENCE ★ LEADERSHIP

★ Re-Elect Veronica Medina Archuleta County Commissioner District 3 ★

Working for Our Community. Focused on Our Future.

Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Veronica Medina for Archuleta County Commissioner District 3

Ruby Sisson would be proud

By Barbara Brattin
PREVIEW Columnist

We can feel the excitement building as so many of you ask about opening day of our completed new library. Change is coming quickly, and we are working hard this week to shift everything from the old side of the building to the new side of the building.

On Monday morning, June 22, we will reopen for service in the new section of the library. You will be able to park in the original, repaved parking lot off 8th Street and walk through our new front doors. Our new bright children’s room will be open, but not the children’s garden, as the fence between the garden and the parking lot is yet to arrive and safety is our priority.

You will have access to a meeting room, so call us to make a reservation at (970) 264-2209. We will limit the reservations to groups only at this time to make the best use of the space.

We will have many new books for you to enjoy and a good selection of materials to browse for the next few months. And, of course, the children’s collection will be fully available. You will be able to place holds on our new collections, and request titles from other libraries. All digital products remain fully available 24/7.

We’ll be temporarily moving our blue book drop to the new side of the building until we decide where else in the community to place it. You can return items at the front of the building through a front wall chute to the right of the main doors all hours of the day. The book drop at City Market will also remain available.

The old section of the library is scheduled to be ready Sept. 4. Once again, we will need to do some moving of collections from storage to the shelves and place the furniture in its new position. So, we will close for a week to get everything in order.

If everything goes as planned, we will have a big Opening Day Celebration on Sept. 12.

A new library has been a long time coming. We thank you all for your tremendous support and patience while we make this transition. Contributions are still needed. Donate online at pagosalibrary.org, by mail to P.O. Box 849 or drop a few coins in the jar at the service desk.

Ruby Sisson would be so proud.



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, 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.

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 on your library’s website, pagosalibrary.org, for location changes throughout the construction. If no other location is mentioned, the activity will stay at your library.

Activities calendars

Pick up monthly calendars at the library or check the website, www.pagosalibrary.org.

■ See Library on next page

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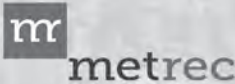
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CAMP WEBSITE



Library

■ continued from previous page
pagosalibrary.org/events-calendar,
so you don't miss any of the free pro-
grams, events and activities available
to you and your family.

Writers Guild

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m.,
Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writ-
ers looking for support, guidance, re-
sources 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 ac-
cessing 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 cookbooks

• TV personality and master chef
Jamie Oliver is back with, "Grill: Easy
Grilling, Big Flavor."

• Jose Andres is founder of the
nonprofit World Central Kitchen,
which organizes teams of chefs to



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deliver healthy, quality cooking in
war and disaster zones. His new
cookbook, "Spain My Way: Eat,
Drink, and Cook Like a Spaniard," is
a return to his roots.

New in history

• "The Last of the Old Breed: An
Oral History of the Final Marines
from World War II" is from historian
Scott Davis.

• "Sparta: The Rise and Fall of an
Ancient Superpower" weaves ancient
history with archaeology to deliver a
complex history of one of Greece's
most iconic city-states.

• "The Killer and Frank Lloyd
Wright: The True Story of Mass
Murder in Paradise" provides read-
ers with an unvarnished profile of
the iconic architect whose ego and
charm led to scandal and tragedy.

Eclectic finds

• Explorer and thought leader
Wade Davis returns with "Beneath
the Surface of Things: New and Se-
lected Essays."

• "American Whiskey Master
Class: The Ultimate Guide to Under-
standing Bourbon, Rye, and other
American Whiskeys."

On the trail

• "Foraging the Rocky Mountains:
Finding, Identifying, and Preparing
Edible Wild Foods in the Rockies."

• "Best Dog Hikes Colorado."

New fiction books

• "Land," a novel from Irish writer
Maggie O'Farrell, is described by
writer Daniel Mason as "a breathtak-
ing hymn to the sanctity of natural
spaces."

• "Children of the Wild" is a novel
of love, loyalty and heroism set in the
mountains of Virginia during World
War I from writer Kevin Powers.

• "The Break-Up Retreat," a "chill-
ing" novel from Camilla Sten, is set
in a retreat deep in the woods of
Sweden where women are promised
to heal from the heartbreak of a failed
relationship. Sometimes people are
never heard from again.

New in large print

• "When the Cranes Fly South," an
international bestseller by Swedish
novelist Lisa Ridzen, is about aging
and the process of saying goodbye.

• "Last Night in Brooklyn" by Xo-
chitl Gonzales follows 26-year-old
Alicia Canales, who dares to imag-
ine for herself the fearlessness she
discovers in the house parties of her
neighborhood.

• "Comancheria," Book #1 in
the Hollow Frontier western series
by Reavis Wortham, follows Texas
Ranger Buck Dallas on a haunting
mission to rescue a missing girl.

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federal funding. We need your help to keep the
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- ✓ Supportive & Fun Team Environment
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- ✓ Intentional Mentorship for Professional Growth

MEET THE OWNERS

Meet The Owners: Peter and Christy Roukema are passionate about dentistry and about serving their beautiful mountain community. With a combined 40 years of dentistry, as a dentist and dental hygienist team, they have found a great balance of work and play with their four children.

ABOUT PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

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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 black-throated gray warbler.

Roger Tory Peterson, known as a pioneer of illustrated field guides that make bird identification accessible, referred to wood warblers as the “sprightly ‘butterflies’ of the bird world.” These are active birds — small with slender, pointed bills — that seem to feed constantly. Their migrations north in spring are timed to coincide with the emergence of the insects that serve as their primary food source.

Where they feed and how they forage allows warblers to find their own niche and coexist in a forest. Some feed high in the canopy, others at the mid level or in the shrubs and undergrowth. Different foraging styles allow them to feed on different insects. Some glean insects from the backs of leaves or crevices in the bark. Some feed close to the trunk, while others search the outer clusters of needles. Some flit from branch to branch, others move methodically and a few take insects on the wing.

This warbler forages primarily in the lower and middle levels of trees with slow, deliberate movements and hops between branches. Its diet has not been well studied, but it is known to feed especially on oakworms and other green caterpillars that are forest pests.

While the term warbler brings to mind the color yellow, which appears in many of our summer visitors, the black-throated gray warbler wears only a tiny spot of yellow, found just above and in front of each eye. Its back is gray and its face is striped in black and white. Males have a black throat patch that is smaller in females, who are paler overall.

The black-throated gray warbler breeds in semi-arid country west of the Rocky Mountains. In Colorado it is found primarily in open pinon-juniper and pine-oak forests. It is a short- to medium-distance migrant that winters in Mexico and nests as far north as southern British Columbia, and east as far as south-central Colorado. In Colorado spring migration peaks in early May, with most leaving between late August and mid-September.

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



SHOP
LOCAL

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Scottish miss
- 5 James who played Sonny Corleone
- 9 Woodworking files
- 14 Like a mechanic's rag
- 15 Pakistani language
- 16 French farewell
- 17 Philanderer
- 19 Part of NOW
- 20 Courage
- 21 Voicemail precursor
- 23 Like pie?
- 25 Stand for a portrait
- 26 Bold and outspoken
- 29 Crime-fighting turtles, briefly
- 30 One of the Gershwins
- 33 Company stationery
- 35 Point on a bus map
- 36 Neat anagram
- 37 Eagle's nest
- 38 Havana's home
- 39 Psychic
- 40 Checkout device
- 42 Royal flush card
- 43 ___ the hatchet
- 44 Oscar winner Borgnine
- 45 Certain believer
- 47 Guitar part
- 48 Francis, in Florence
- 51 Polite
- 55 Dentist's direction
- 56 Exhibiting angst
- 58 Misbehave
- 59 Genesis son
- 60 Narrow aperture
- 61 Winter runners?
- 62 It's tied at the altar

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61							62					63		

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63 Julia's "Ocean's Eleven" role

27 She was Roxie in "Chicago"

43 Pull-up pullers

28 Wedding party members

46 Follow as a result

29 Absorbent fabric

47 Folded paper

31 Court wear

48 Gridiron great Tarkenton

32 In different places

49 Puerto ___

34 Despondent

50 Reunion group

35 Barest

52 Low-lying area

41 At attention

53 Fertility goddess

54 Allows

57 Small insect

DOWN

- 1 Homebuyer's need
- 2 ___-de-camp
- 3 Talk like a lush
- 4 "Looney Tunes" lisper
- 5 Word before card or stick
- 6 Wide assortment
- 7 Mideast's Gulf of ___
- 8 Mother's helper
- 9 Least refined
- 10 Put on a pedestal
- 11 Likeness
- 12 Hammerhead part
- 13 Performed an aria
- 18 Make fun
- 22 Vagabond
- 24 Erie Canal city
- 26 Dynamite time?

Answers to Previous Crossword:

M	A	S	H		U	R	S	A		B	A	S	I	L
A	C	L	U		N	E	A	P		E	L	I	D	E
T	H	U	R	S	D	A	Y	S		C	E	L	L	S
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L	O	L	L		M	E	R	C	Y		E	L	L	A
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Preview Calendar

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

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., 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.

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 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=c>

2VhcmNoPTQyNjMyMzY= or email cindi.galabota@colostate.edu.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. All quilters and wanna-be quilters are welcome. Social hour is from

■ See Calendar on next page

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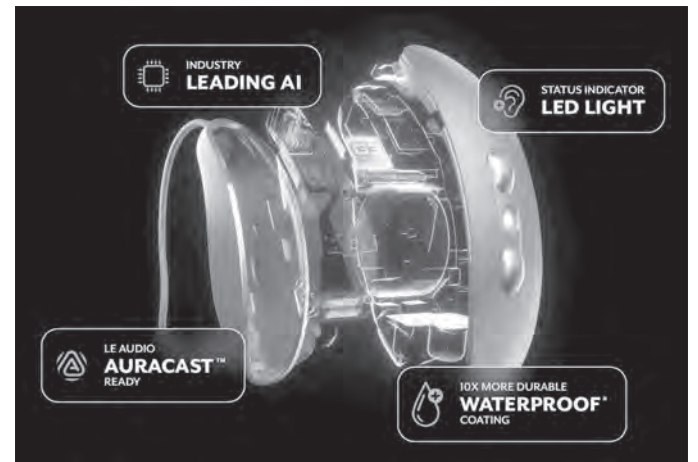
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

9:30-10:30 a.m., with the meeting beginning at 10:30 a.m. For more information on meetings and classes, email pagosapiecemakers@gmail.com.

Healthy Archuleta Food Drive. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., City Market. Grab a targeted shopping list and fill a bag to help support local food pantries.

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.

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Soulful and folk-rock music with acoustic guitar by Beau Smith. Open to all community members and visitors.

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.

‘Why Water?’ 5:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The monthly meeting of the League of Women Voters of Archuleta County will feature a presentation by Josh Kurz about the local water supply during the ongoing drought situation.

Tuesday, June 23

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.

Summer Clubs. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Kids ages 3-5 and 6-12 are invited for two hours of fun and learning of Bible stories.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

**HUD
Publisher's Notice**



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

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

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

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

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Archuleta County Democratic Club. 11:30 a.m., Uncle's Bar and Social Club, 56 Talisman Drive.

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

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

Summer Club. 1:30-3:30 p.m., Pagosa Vista Estates, 308 Bonanza Ave. Kids ages 5-12 are invited for two hours of fun and learning of Bible stories.

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.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Lecture: 'The Native Americans of the Chimney Rock Area.' 6-7:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Dr. Andrew Gulliford will explore the prehistoric and historic Native American peoples of the Chimney Rock and Four Corners region, tracing their origins, migrations and lasting connections to the land.

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 24

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.

Summer Clubs. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Kids ages 3-5 and 6-12 are invited for two hours of fun and learning of Bible stories.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Centennial 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.

Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Make an appointment at vitalant.org, by calling Vitalant at (877) 258-4825 or by contacting volunteer Sharee Grazda at (970) 946-2760.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

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

Mindful Drawing. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Summer Club. 1:30-3:30 p.m., Pagosa Vista Estates, 308 Bonanza Ave. Kids ages 5-12 are invited for two hours of fun and learning of Bible stories.

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.

Wings Grand Gala. 6:30-9:30 p.m., Keyah Grande. A fundraiser for Wings Early Childhood Center. Tickets are \$100 and are available at Tangled, 189 Talisman Drive, or at wingsearlychildhood.org.

Thursday, June 25

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.

'Pagosa Early Summer Wildflowers and Edible/Medicinal Plants' Flora 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.

Summer Clubs. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Kids ages 3-5 and 6-12 are invited for two hours of fun and learning of Bible stories.

Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St.

■ See Calendar on page 23

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MILD DEHYDRATION IMPAIRS COGNITIVE PERFORMANCE AND MOOD OF MEN

Life today requires a degree of mental sharpness and clarity that it may not have in the past. Something as simple as a glass of water can make the difference in terms of what kind of 'day' we have. Gentlemen, especially, need today's excerpt.

Recently two large, carefully designed studies were conducted at the University of Connecticut, USA, to examine the effects of mild dehydration on cognitive function in healthy individuals. To measure mental function, tests of cognitive performance, mood and symptoms of dehydration were used by the scientists.

One study was conducted with 26 men and another with 25 women. Both studies examined the effects of mild dehydration on cognitive function using identical procedures. Men and women all took part in two mildly dehydrated conditions and a fully hydrated condition which could be directly compared using standard statistical procedures. To assess the level of dehydration, body weight was measured using special, high accuracy scales. Men on average were 1.59% dehydrated, women were 1.36% dehydrated. Most adults reach this level of dehydration one or more times during the course of a week.

The results showed that, in both men and women, mild dehydration had an adverse effect on mood as well as ability to concentrate. When mildly dehydrated, both men and women were more likely to feel fatigued and to have diminished cognitive performance, specifically vigilance.

Men were more likely to experience short-term memory degradation when mildly dehydrated, but overall, women were more sensitive to dehydration than men. For example, women were more likely to report a headache, fatigue, confusion and lack of energy. Women also felt moderate exercise was more difficult when dehydrated.

Source: "Mild dehydration impairs cognitive performance and mood of men." By Matthew S. Ganio and Lawrence E. Armstrong. <http://www.h4hinitiative.com>

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

"...If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:37-38

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ANTENNAE
- APIARY
- BEETLE
- BLOSSOM
- BUMBLEBEE
- BUTTERFLY
- CHRYSLIS
- COLONY
- DRONE
- ECOSYSTEM
- FLIGHT
- FORAGING
- HABITAT
- HOVERFLY
- HUMMINGBIRD
- LARVA
- MANDIBLES
- MIGRATORY
- NECTAR
- OVARY
- PETAL
- POLLEN
- PROBOSCIS
- STAMEN

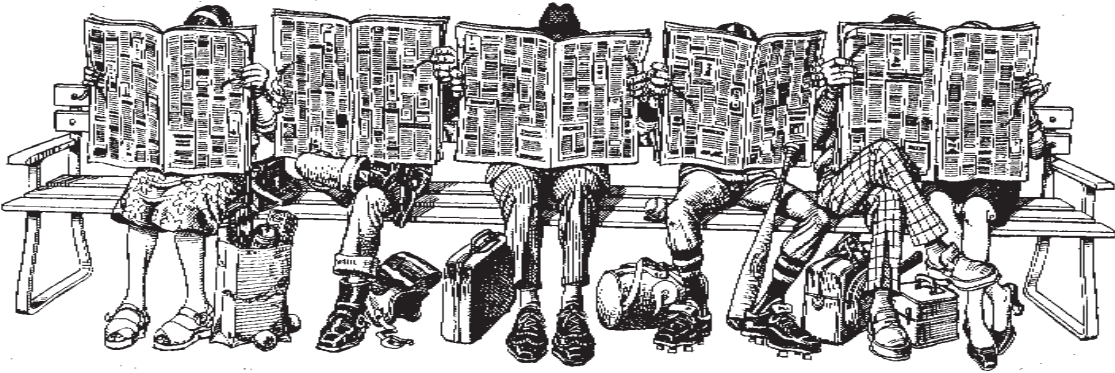
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 21

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.

Summer Club. 1:30-3:30 p.m., Pagosa Vista Estates, 308 Bonanza Ave. Kids ages 5-12 are invited for two hours of fun and learning of Bible stories.

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 Bo DePenas. The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the season's four nonprofits.

Energy-Efficient School Documentary and Discussion. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Presented by Creation Care Pagosa. View an episode of "Heart of a Building" about the Sierra Grande School District's energy-efficient school, then Paul Kriesher will lead a discussion. For more information, contact Laura Lunsford at (970) 398-1183.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'School of Rock, the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa and at the door.

Friday, June 26

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.

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National

Monument. This tour is presented in partnership with the local chapter of the Audubon Society and affords a wonderful opportunity to observe and learn about birds that are native to the area. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Bingo. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Fiddler on the Roof.' 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).

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'School of Rock, the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa and at the door.

Saturday, June 27

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 anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'School of Rock, the Musical.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa and at the door.

Archuleta Democrats Happy Hour

and Food Drive. 4 p.m., Uncle's Bar and Social Club, 56 Talisman Drive.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Fiddler on the Roof.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For

■ See Calendar on next page

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Happy Father’s Day from Archuleta Seniors Inc.

By **Ricardo Martinez**
PREVIEW Columnist

Father’s Day is a special opportunity to honor the fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers and father figures who have helped shape our families and communities through their love, guidance, hard work and sacrifice.

For many seniors, Father’s Day is a time to reflect on cherished memories, celebrate family traditions, and appreciate the lasting impact that fathers have on the lives of their children and grandchildren.

Whether sharing stories around the dinner table, enjoying a phone call from loved ones or spending time with family, this day reminds us of the important role fathers play in building strong families and communities.

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) would like to extend warm Father’s Day wishes to all fathers in our community. We recognize and celebrate the wisdom, experience and contributions of the men who have dedicated their lives to caring for others and serving as role models for future generations.

As we celebrate Father’s Day, we encourage everyone to reach out to the fathers and father figures in their lives, share a kind word, and express gratitude for the lessons and values they have passed on.

From all of us at ASI, happy Father’s Day, and thank you for all that you do.

Juneteenth closure

ASI will be closed Friday, June 19, for Juneteenth. No meals or services will be provided that day.

Senior News

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

■ See Senior on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents ‘School of Rock, the Musical.’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa and at the door.

Sunday, June 28

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Full Moon Program and Early Tour. 5:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National

Monument. Combine the Full Moon Program with an early, guided tour of the Mesa Village Trail to create a four-hour event. The cost is \$30. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Full Moon Program. 7:20 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A three-hour event culminating in a unique experience of viewing the moonrise from atop Chimney Rock Mesa. Prior to that, a presentation will highlight the Ancestral Puebloan ties to astronomy and the Chacoan culture. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 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 18 — Moroccan chicken tagine with apricots, cous-cous, roasted asparagus, garden salad, dates, baklava and milk.

Friday, June 19 — Closed for Juneteenth.

Monday, June 22 — Chicken piccata over angel hair pasta, broccoli, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, vanilla

yogurt and milk.

Tuesday, June 23 — Crispy cod-fish, squash medley, blueberry pie, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, June 24 — Vegetable beef soup, focaccia bread, garden salad, apple tart and milk.

Thursday, June 25 — Butternut squash ravioli with sage butter, wilted

spinach, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, hazelnut beignets and milk.

Friday, June 26 — Grilled ham and cheese on sourdough, broccoli hollandaise, garden salad, fruit, muffin and milk.

Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on

Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. The meals are delivered by our wonderful volunteers. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167 for how to sign up for the program.

■ See Senior next page



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- Melissa G

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- Samantha L

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- Haley T

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Mountain Express Transit senior paratransit services

Seniors over the age of 60 can be verified to receive services through discounted paratransit services, free bus rides and pick up at your home to bring you to the Senior Center for lunch. To become eligible, there is a form to complete.

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry can contact the Mountain Express Transit (MET) to schedule a ride with its paratransit service.

Call the Archuleta County MET at (970) 264-2250 for information.

Medicare assistance by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and trouble-shooting 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 sig-

nificantly 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 web-

site: 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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Weed management: how to mow

By Mark Giampietro and
Cindi Galabota

PREVIEW Columnists

The smell of green leaf volatiles and two-stroke engine exhaust permeate the air as an age-old summer-time chore commences: mowing.

Mowing isn't just for aesthetics, or to keep up with the Joneses, however. Mowing has a huge impact on the overall health of your yard. It can even help prevent weed establishment if done in the right way.

In this article, we will examine the benefits of a proper mowing regime, and how you can use mowing as a tool to manage the weeds you may already have on your property.

Healthy stands of grass will help prevent unwanted weeds from showing up. Most grass species are more vigorous and therefore more competitive against weeds when they have some height to them. Three inches is the recommended minimum canopy height for most species to maintain their vigor and prevent weeds. This height shades the soil, preserving moisture and stopping unwanted weed seeds from getting the required sunlight to germinate. It also promotes overall health by allowing the plants to have enough leaf material to properly photosynthesize and promote root development.

Only mowing one-third of grass height at a time is ideal. Chronically over-mowed grass loses its ability to photosynthesize effectively and will not have the energy to recover to its

Extension Viewpoints

previous vigor, leading to unwanted weed invasion.

Pay attention to the growth rate of your grass so you can anticipate when another mow is needed. All grasses go dormant at some stage during the year: cool-season grasses in the heat of summer, warm-season grasses in the fall and early spring. Wait until the grasses are actively growing again to mow. Mowing dormant grass may end up killing it.

Mowing is an effective control for established annual and biennial weed species that only reproduce by seed.

The timing of it is critical, however. Mowing too soon will result in the weeds resprouting at a lower height, breeding a crop of pygmy weeds that will evade your mower deck height. Waiting until the plants are just starting to flower is ideal. This ensures that the plants have used enough energy and nutrients for growth so that they will not have energy left to grow after being mowed. Mowing after flowers are fully opened runs the risk of turning your mower into a seed dispersal machine, so pulling them at this point is a better option.

■ See Viewpoints on next page

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Not what they yearn for

By **Betty Slade**
PREVIEW Columnist

A whiff of pizza topped with garlic, cheese, dried tomatoes and pesto moved through the air. My grandson introduced me to a new restaurant years before. Now I enjoyed this favorite place again with him.

This time, haunting nostalgic memories dropped flat around my heart as he expressed his dreams, which didn't include Pagosa Springs.



It hurt to hear him say he was moving on. His dreams would take him to a new job, another state and new friends. I couldn't be happier for him.

His dreams included his folks following him once he was established.

I sighed. I pondered. I remembered. Why was I in a meltdown? This was good news for him and his wife. My children have always come and gone. Maybe I realized that my dreams had been lived and their dreams have just begun and don't include Pagosa.

Al and I dreamed of a place in the mountains, far from the city, a ■ **See Lane on next page**

Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page

For perennial species that don't just reproduce by seed, but also through creeping underground rhizomes, mowing isn't as effective.

Mowing them several times through a growing season will still stress them and can slow their spread down significantly, but will not result in eradicating the population. A more integrated approach is needed to eliminate these stubborn species. Mowing combined with well-timed herbicide applications and seeding of desirable plants will choke out unwanted perennial weeds from your property.

While mowing can be helpful, one cannot just rely solely on it to deal with their weeds. An integrated approach is always going to be more effective. Good land management practices go a long way, too. Improving soil health by dealing with compaction problems, addressing nutritional deficiencies and avoiding disturbances helps prevent weed establishment.

Biodiversity is also supremely important in our landscapes — both natural and manicured. While sentiment is slowly changing from the

idea of our homes being surrounded by plant monocultures, there is still more that could be done to promote biodiverse landscapes in our towns and neighborhoods. Having a varied selection of native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees in your landscape will not only prevent weeds, but improve habitat for wildlife and pollinators, also.

Bioblitz Saturday

Archuleta County's inaugural Bioblitz is this Saturday, June 20, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Join the fun and learn about the flora and fauna found in our local ecosystem.

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

This year, participants will explore the natural areas near downtown Pagosa Springs along the San Juan Riverwalk and Reservoir Hill while collecting valuable ecological information.

This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with nature and appreciate

the vibrant life that thrives in this ecosystem. No prior experience is necessary, just bring your curiosity and enthusiasm for nature.

Registration is \$25 per adult and \$10 per student/child and includes dinner, T-shirt and a fun day of learning.

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

Volunteer for the Archuleta County Fair

Be a part of preserving the rich heritage and timeless tradition of the Archuleta County Fair and help plan the 75th anniversary Fair in 2026.

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



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Lane

■ **continued from previous page**
remote place where we would raise good strong children and enjoy the lifestyle of country living. We had no idea where this desire would take us or how long we would be here. It's been 50 years. And dreams, I found out, require hard work, but, when lived, are most satisfying.

We came to the Rocky Mountains, settled 12 miles from our little town; Al hunted and fished, and I painted to my heart's content. We imagined four seasons, with a pot of beans or soup cooking on the stove, the smell of mesquite burning in our pot-belly stove, and our family gathering around, laughing and telling stories on each other. What a dream. Yes, that was our dream.

No one told us we'd need a four-wheel drive to leave our property, or wait for months for an electrical pole, or a two-year wait for a four-party-telephone line. We found out very quickly we needed snow boots, heavy winter coats and a strong fortitude for living on untamed land.

The heat of Arizona didn't prepare us for the cold of Colorado. Our rocky dirt roads didn't resemble paved streets. The school bus stopped 2 miles away on U.S. 84 for our children. They can boast today they walked 2 miles in the snow to attend school. Both ways.

But it was our dream, and Al and I never quit working. Each morning, we had a new spring in our step as we faced the trouble of the day. Frozen pipes, a tree falling on our car during the night, and a bear in our garbage pit were all part of rustic living. More responsibilities were placed on our son. Hauling wood, keeping the house warm with a constant burning fire in the stove.

Work never stopped.

We visited our Albuquerque family with the smell of smoke in our clothes from our wood-burning stove. Our teenage girls in snow boots, thermal underwear, plaid shirts and duck down jackets didn't quite fit in. No designer jeans, no fancy dresses, and the girls dressed like lumber jacks ready to cut down a tree.

Our city family shook their heads with a question of, "Why would you live this way?" In later years, they confessed they didn't have the courage to follow their dreams.

Oh, but our dream produced strong, independent children, a family unit with deep convictions of faith and work. They didn't expect a free lunch. They looked out for the neighbors. What they had, they shared. Today they still live by those standards.

Over the years, three of our four children have moved back home to build and work their property. We still stand on the stairs and all squeeze in for a family picture. We go together for outings and picnics at Echo Lake and fish. We take weekend trips for football and hockey games, and enjoy a big family meal with all of our traditional dishes.

This was the nostalgia I felt while eating my favorite pizza and listened to my grandson's dreams. Our grandchildren are moving on. No

enchantment in the years spent in Pagosa Springs school system or on the football field. It was their bringing up, but not what they yearned for.

After the visit with my grandson, a moment of sadness hit me. I placed a call to one of my daughters. "I need to understand what I'm going through. This is not me. I don't get sad. I've still got projects to do. I'm a happy person. Why has this hit me like a ton of bricks?"

"Well, Mother, let's talk about it."

Final brushstroke: There is no place on earth I would rather be. My dreams are small today. I am satisfied when one of my children comes for a visit and wants to be with my Sweet Al and me. I love it when my children walk in the door unannounced and say, "Grandma, I'm putting on a pot of coffee for you and me." Family will always be family. They don't have to knock. The door is always open for them.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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Early Deadline

for the issue of July 9

Legal Advertising
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*The Pagosa Springs SUN
will be closed
Friday, July 3, in observance
of Independence Day*

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

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CRIA Lecture Series to feature Dr. Andrew Gulliford speaking on ‘The Native Americans of the Chimney Rock Area’

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is pleased to present a free public lecture, “The Native Americans of the Chimney Rock Area” — an enlightening talk by renowned historian and author Dr. Andrew Gulliford on Tuesday, June 23.

The lecture will take place in the Community United Methodist Church’s fellowship hall, located at 434 Lewis St. The doors will open at 5:45 p.m. The lecture will begin at 6 p.m.

This presentation explores the prehistoric and historic Native American peoples who have shaped the Chimney Rock and Four Corners region over thousands of years.

Gulliford will trace the origins, migrations, interactions and enduring cultural connections of Indigenous peoples, whose stories remain deeply woven into the landscape today.

Attendees will learn about a wide range of cultures, including Paleo and Archaic peoples, the Ancestral Puebloans, and the Fremont, Mogollon and Hohokam traditions.

The lecture will also examine later historic tribes, such as the Ute, Navajo, Jicarilla Apache and others, to provide insight into their territories, timelines and relationships throughout the Southwest.

Special attention will be given to the lasting cultural connections that remain visible on the land today.

Gulliford will discuss evidence such as culturally modified trees and explore ties between the Chimney Rock area and living Indigenous communities, including Taos Pueblo. Through these examples, attendees

will gain a deeper appreciation for the rich cultural heritage that continues to influence and define the region.

This engaging presentation offers a unique opportunity to better understand the people, traditions and histories that have shaped the Chimney Rock landscape for generations and continue to contribute to its significance today.

This event is free and open to the public.

Don’t miss this opportunity to learn more about the fascinating history etched into the stone landscapes of the Southwest.

The lecture will be offered both in person and via Zoom. Community members who wish to attend virtually may do so using the following Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5210476574?omn=88415838773>.

The lecture is free to attend. Donations are accepted in lieu of an admission fee. Canned goods or monetary donations for the church’s food pantry are greatly appreciated.

CRIA’s free Lecture Series offers the opportunity each year for the public and CRIA volunteers to enjoy a speaker whose topic typically relates to southwest archaeology, archaeoastronomy and/or Chacoan culture.

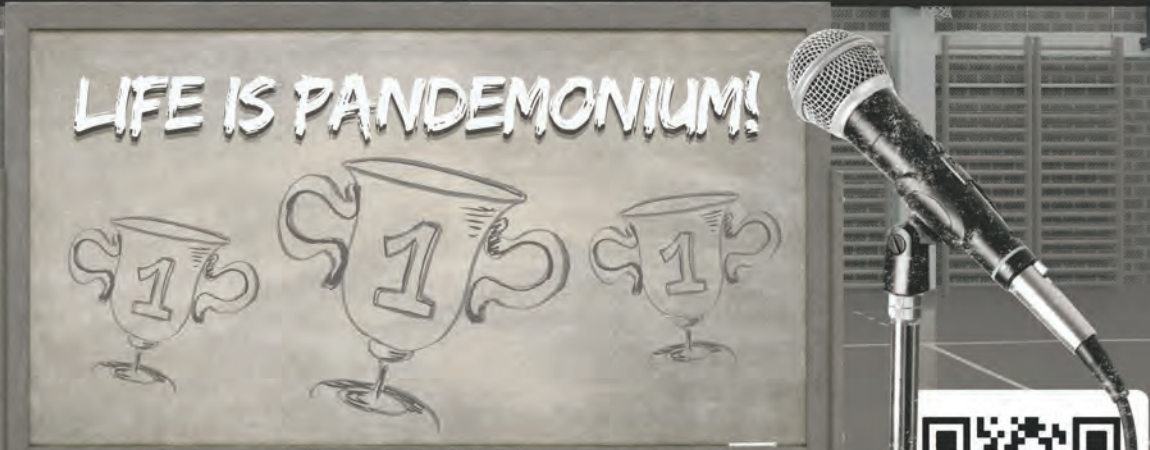
CRIA and the San Juan National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, are working in partnership to preserve and develop educational opportunities about the significant archaeological, cultural, geological and biological resources at Chimney Rock National Monument.

CRIA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit volunteer association and receives no funding from the U.S. government.

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SELLERS BEWARE: Scams involving buyers trying to deceive sellers have taken place in our community. Do not accept checks, money orders or other payment methods for more than the payment price where you are asked to pay the overpayment to the buyer or another person. Consult with your financial institution to be sure the payment method is not fake before you allow the item to be picked up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS are invited to a meeting at the Archuleta County EOC, 777 County Road 600, Pagosa Springs, on Tuesday, June 23rd from 5:30p.m. to 6:30p.m. hosted by ARES Emergency Coordinator Randy Buxton, W4IFI. More info at swcoloradoares.org.

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/ text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

PAGOSA AA: 315 N. 2nd Street, County Road 200 (.2 miles off Hwy. 160). Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30p.m. Tuesday Men's meeting 5:30p.m. Tuesday - Thursday, 12 noon, Friday Women's meeting 11:30a.m. Saturday 10a.m. Sunday 10a.m. Sunday Zoom 10a.m. Zoom: ID 858-319-763 password 754-234. For information call Kathi (970)946-1482, Ranza (970)903-3849 or (970)731-9774 or central office (888)333-9649.

PAGOSA SPRINGS CARD SHOW. June 20th and 21st. Benefits Pagosa Pirates. Sports cards, Pokemon, OnePiece, memorabilia. Vendors wanted. Call Diamond (970)264-1073. Pagosaspringscardshow.com.

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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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.

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HOMETOWN INSURANCE is looking to fill a part time receptionist/administrative assistant position to add to our existing team. This position will turn into a full-time position no later than September 1st. Prior experience is required. Must be detail oriented, able to multi-task & be proficient in Google Calendar, Docs, Sheets, Excel, Word and Adobe. Excellent phone and typing skills are a must. Our ideal candidate will have a friendly and warm personality while being professional, responsible and motivated. A customer-oriented approach is essential. Send resumes with references to info@hippsllc.com.

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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.

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AUTOS

1956 CORVETTE TOTALLY RESTORED. 2 -speed automatic. (970)749-7163, (970)749-7148. \$80K OBO.

1999 JEEP WRANGLER TJ, 6 cylinder engine, 92148 miles original owner 2 1/2 inch lift with 31 inch tires, Warn Winch, hard top, very good condition, (970)946-1606, \$8,500.

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.

2021 NISSAN ALTIMA SR AWD, Leather, 55,800 miles, excellent condition. \$16,500. (970)903-1940 or (970)799-0388.

2023 TOYOTA CROWN. 45 MPG, AWD, Hybrid, new tires, heated seats, quiet, comfortable, clean, black, 50k miles, \$32k, (970)903-4090.

CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500HD LTZ 2014 truck, 4WD, 137,000 miles, sunroof, cattle guard, tow package, heated seats, \$27,000. San Juan Trading Post. (970)731-7296, 635 San Juan St. Ask for Ryan.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL 3 -BAY STEAM TABLE includes Bain Maries, hotel pans and dividers. \$500 (new \$2200). Cambro four section dish cart \$200 (new \$800). Call Christine's Cuisine, (970)731-9562, no text.

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.

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.

FREE SEASONED FIREWOOD, already cut into 16 -inch rounds. Close to town. 2.8 miles on 4-Mile Road. (970)585-4528.

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.

FOR SALE

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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.

YARD SALES

BIG YARD SALE. 245 River Run Drive. Lots of power tools, beds, furniture, miscellaneous items. Saturday, 9a.m. -5p.m.

COMMUNITY SALE. Saturday, 20 - Sunday, 21 at 18710 U.S. Hwy. 160 Chimney Rock from 8a.m.-6p.m.

GARAGE SALE. Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20. Stuff priced to sell. 128 Bastille Dr. 8a.m. -2p.m. Cash only.

HUGE 4 -FAMILY GARAGE SALE. 505 Cloud Cap. Saturday, June 20 only, 8a.m. -4p.m. New 4HP gas boat motor.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR LEASE. 1501 W. Hwy 160 #1 and #2. (970)398-5290.

COMMERCIAL KITCHEN AND BAR for rent or lease. The Colorado Garden Company. Great for wine /cheese /beer /tapas. Great space in garden nursery. Text (970)946-5206.

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.

SHOP SPACE NEAR TOWN. 500 sq. ft., gas heated, electricity, bathroom available. \$400 per month. Michael C. Branch, (970)769-2036.

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Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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.

BASEMENT STUDIO APARTMENT. Downtown, river view /walk, furnished. \$1200 rent, \$1000 deposit. Utilities included. No smokers, no pets. Available July 10. (970)264-6797.

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE FOR RENT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 35 acres. Barn, RV storage. Perfect for horses. Remote ranch on private lake. Hiking, paddle boarding. Text (970)398-0518.

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.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR PEACE and quiet, I've got the place. 1 bedroom with loft, large deck, will take a pet, wood stove, ETS heating unit. \$1500 per month. (970)731-2010.

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.

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

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

ALL FENCED MULTI USE 2.25 acres just off of Highway 151. \$325,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

JUST OFF HIGHWAY 151. 10 acres, three phase electric, large steel framed building with concrete floor. \$640,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

MULTI USE 3.7 ACRES in heart of Arboles steps from Navajo Lake State Park. \$400,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

MULTI USE 4 ACRES just off of Highway 151. \$180,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

OWN IT. Live, work, play. 17 cabins, 33 RV spaces, 10 single level rooms motel, 4 apartments, leased 1200 square feet retail building, 4.29 acres. City sewer, 2 wells. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038.

Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

PRIME LOCATION. Gas station, restaurant, liquor store, convenience store, long -term lodging, so much to see to this business. \$1,350,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

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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.

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.

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.

WELL BUILT, EXCELLENT VIEWS. 3393 sq. ft., three-bedroom, two bath, additional living space, office, two car garage, detached two car workshop. \$825,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

OPEN HOUSES

21 JAN'S COURT, JUNE 20, 10a.m. -1p.m. Brand new home, metal roof/siding. \$385,000. Anita Bowles, Sherpa Real Estate, (512)214-7923.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.

3.7 ACRES minutes from Navajo Lake State Park. Water tap available. \$400,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

ALL FENCED. 2.25 acres. \$325,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

BEAUTIFUL LAKE VIEW HALF ACRE, no HOA, \$60,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN VIEWS ready for you to build your dream home on this 3 acres with utilities, also fenced. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

EXCEPTIONAL DOWNTOWN BUILDING LOTS and development potential. River, huge divide views, location. Nothing like it. Call (970)398-9136, or builder7@fastmail.com.

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS: 3.63 wooded acres, city water (Monterosa) (\$200s). 1/4 acre backs golf course (Caddy) (\$40s). RV mountain views parcels: 1.43 acres, (Alcazar) \$51,950, 2.5 acres (Waynes) \$29,995, 1 acre (Rockpoint) \$32,400, 1 acre, barn (Hurt) \$55,000. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS. 4 acres with year around creek running through it. \$180,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

QUIET 4 ACRES with river access, no HOA. \$145,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

SECLUDED 5 ACRES. \$79,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

SELLER FINANCE! 1/4 acre, city water / sewer, electric: (Paradise), (Lake) \$30s, (Paradise) \$40s. Sandlewood \$19,995. Off grid 2.37 acres \$49,995. On grid 2 acres \$54,995. Interested in selling land or home? Call Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

SO PEACEFUL 1 ACRE overlooking large ranch, ready to build with all utilities and many extras. Dream property. \$228,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

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.



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