

PAGOSA SPRINGS

OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE™

FREE

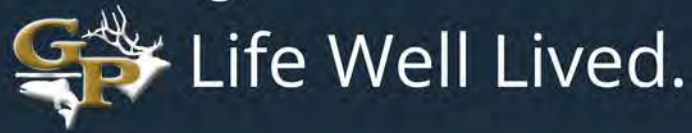


VISIT
PAGOSA
SPRINGS
COLORADO
REFRESHINGLY AUTHENTIC

MEET THE PEOPLE OF PAGOSA SPRINGS | OUTDOOR ADVENTURES & MORE
ENTERTAINMENT | ARTS & EVENTS | SHOPPING | DINING | LODGING

SPRING/SUMMER/FALL 2026 • A PUBLICATION OF THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN

The Pagosa Way



JULI MORELOCK



STAN ZUEGE



DIANE BURNETT



TEAM CHRISTIANS



KIM BROWN



STEVE CROW



ALYSHA RANSON



THE KEYES TEAM



KELLY KEEGAN



BRIANA JACOBSON



LAUREN FREDRICKSON



TIM PLATE

We are parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles. We are outdoor lovers and community volunteers. We live here, we play here, we've raised our families here. And we have been the area's #1 Real Estate Company for over 20 years. We hope you'll get to know us . . . we'd love to earn your business.



**Scan For Property Details
& Agent Information**

Statistics Based On MLS Volume Sales Data,
In Cooperation With Other Brokers



Search All Area Properties | Maps & Info
GallesProperties.com | 970.264.1250

FEATURED LISTINGS



56 Black Powder Place

75 Acres - Custom Log Home - Barn - Views - Pond
\$6,850,000 (830276)



3R River Ranch

194 Acres - Nat'l Forest River - Water Rights - Ponds
4 BR Home. \$5,895,000



1134 Parelli Institute Dr.

130-Acre Equestrian Ranch
Nat'l Forest, Home, Arena, Barns. \$3,995,000 (824275)



1801 County Road 400

41 Acres - 4,000 SF Home
6 BR/6 BA - Views - Irrigated
\$3,120,000 (830184)



1149 Cattle Trail Drive

35 Acres - Borders Nat'l Forest
4,276 SF - Arena - Barn - Fencing
\$2,790,000 (832041)



1255 County Rd. 326

109 Acres - Riverfront
Log Cabin - Barn - 2 Sides
Nat'l Forest. \$1,999,000



242 La Tierra Court

5 Acres - Main Home
+ Guest Home - RV Parking
\$1,495,000 (832206)



185 Spring Court

17 Acres - 2,846 SF Home
Horse Barn - Big Views
\$1,375,000 (830607)



165 Beaver Circle

New 2,992 SF Home
Mtn. & Lake Views - Many
Upgrades. \$1,295,000 (831902)



171 Glen Eaton Drive

4,409 SF - Mtn. & Lake Views
Eaton Estates - 4 BR + Huge Loft
\$1,149,000 (828810)



2913 Meadows Drive

5+ Acres - Meadows 4
3,542 SF Home + Shop
\$995,000 (828765)



367 Oren Road

Log Cabin - 3 Acres - Views
Remodeled - Minutes To Historic
Downtown Pagosa. \$964,000



44 Monument Avenue

2,364 SF Lakefront Home
4 BR - Private Dock - Deck
\$899,000 (827641)



291 Buck Drive

3 Acres - 2,984 SF Log Home
Mtn. Views - RV Hook-up
\$849,000 (828406)



276 Dutton Drive

2,336 SF Home - 3 BR/2 BA
Adjacent To Greenbelt
\$790,000 (831511)



1798 Ranchland Drive

45 Acres - 3 BR/2 BA Home
Detached Shop + Cabin
\$749,000 (831337)



163 Goldmine Drive (CX)

3000 SF Warehouse - HVAC
Hwy. 160 Frontage - 12x10 Doors
\$675,000 (825741)



13 Grenadier Place

New Construction - 3BR/3 BA
In-Floor Heat - Near Forest
\$495,000 (831336)



233 Davis Cup Drive (4102)

Furnished Condo Turn-key
1 BR/1 BA + Loft - Ski Storage
\$295,000 (829627)



40 Valley View Drive (3148)

Ground Floor Condo - 2 Units
Separate Entrances - Connected
\$249,900 (819935)



RE/MAX[®]

EAGLE'S NEST

RE/MAX: The #1 name in real estate

Love Pagosa Springs?

Want to live here or in
the surrounding area?



The right agent
can lead the way!

Contact us today,
we can help that
dream come true.

HOME • CONDO • RANCH
LAND • MOUNTAIN CABIN

970-731-0500
RemaxEaglesNest.com

390 Boulder Drive, Suite 100
Pagosa Springs, CO

EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED



Marianne Hamilton
Broker/Owner, Realtor
CRS, GRI, ABR, CLHMS
970-585-9005
mhamilton@remax.net



Vicki Liszewski
Associate Broker
Realtor
480-287-3155
Vicki.Liszewski@remax.net



Diane Pistillo
Associate Broker
Realtor
602-481-9212
DianePistillo@remax.net



Andrea Peltier
Associate Broker
Realtor
303-918-8137
Andrea.Peltier@remax.net



Melissa Holland
Associate Broker
Realtor
970-317-7158
MelissaHolland@remax.net



Properties are selling and our inventory
is low. Ready to sell your home?
We can help with that too. Give us a call
now or click the QR code to see a
quick estimate on your home's value.



Pagosa's Most Unique Shopping Experience



Mountain Lifestyle



Gifts & More



Garden Center



Home Furnishings

**Sporting Goods
Housewares
Apparel • Footwear
Paint • Building Materials
Lumber • Power Equipment
Small Engine Service
Keys • Screens
...and so much more**



Sleep Studio

**525 Navajo Trail Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 | OPEN DAILY
(970) 731-4022 | www.terrysace.com
Shop acehardware.com • Pick up in store**



Taste What Others Are Talking About

★★★★★

“Seriously, amazing food!”

– Jill T. (Yelp)



★★★★★

“Our entrees were out
of this world!”

– Amanda R.
(Trip Advisor)



★★★★★

“One of the best
cocktails we ever had.”

– David T.
(Trip Advisor)



★★★★★

“...Best...desserts
in town”

– Michelle M.
(Google)



Always Prime Cuts. Never Shortcuts.

(970) 264-0999

214 Pagosa St, Pagosa Springs

AlleyHouseGrille.com

PAGOSA SPRINGS TO CHAMA: 49 MILES / 55 MIN



A WORLD-CLASS TRAIN RIDE NEAR PAGOSA SPRINGS



Just 49 miles from Pagosa Springs, the **Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad** brings the historic steam era to life. Climb aboard America's highest and longest narrow-gauge steam railroad for a spectacular 64-mile journey through Rocky Mountain wilderness. From the 10,015-foot summit of Cumbres Pass to the dramatic cliffs of Toltec Gorge, discover a National Historic Landmark adventure perfect for families, couples, and railfans. Your unforgettable experience awaits!

BOOK NOW AT CUMBRESTOLTEC.COM
1-888-286-2737



Cumbres & Toltec
AMERICA'S MOST HISTORIC SCENIC RAILROAD



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Check [VisitPagosaSprings.com/Welcome](https://www.VisitPagosaSprings.com/Welcome) for alerts & weather conditions

CAMPFIRE SAFETY

Check fire restrictions & make sure fires are allowed. Douse fires & make sure embers are completely out

KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

Keep wildlife, and you, safe by maintaining your distance and locking your food up tight

STAY HYDRATED AT ELEVATION

The Visitor Center has free reusable water bottles

DO PAGOSA SPRINGS RIGHT 



JUST **Be** HERE



**Download the
Visit Pagosa Springs
App to Plan
Your Perfect Visit**



What's inside

- 10 Welcome
- 12 Getting here
- 14 Pagosa Springs
- 16 Navajo Lake
- 17 Arboles
- 17 Chromo
- 18 Chimney Rock National Monument
- 20 Regional excursions
- 21 Tracks Across Scenic and Historic Byway
- 22 Arts, Entertainment & Events
 - Chad Haspels: Connecting with the world through sculpture
- 24 Music & Theater
- 26 Local Event Calendar
- 34 Weddings, Reunions & More
 - Mother Nature provides her decorating expertise free of charge
- 35 Fourth of July
- 36 Pagosa Springs Car Show
- 36 Pagosa Springs Area Art Studio Tour
- 36 Grilling and Distilling
- 37 Archuleta County Fair
- 38 Mountain Chile Cha Cha
- 38 ColorFest
- 40 History & Heritage
- 40 Pagosa Springs History Museum
- 42 Archuleta County's past
- 44 Downtown Historic Walking Tour
- 46 Family Fun
 - Celebrating the sesquicentennial
- 48 Area Parks
- 49 Reservoir Hill Mountain Park Map
- 50 Downtown Recreation Map
- 52 Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library
- 52 Stargazing
- 52 Pickleball
- 53 Rest & Relaxation
 - World's Deepest Hot Spring
- 58 Rest Your Head
 - From rugged to luxury, Pagosa Country has lodging to fit your style
- 61 Flavor of Pagosa
 - Kip's Grill and Cantina: Celebrating 20 years of flavor
- 68 Frequently asked questions
- 70 Retail Therapy
 - Treasures of the Rockies: Family run for 26 years
- 76 Play Outside
 - Chimney Rock designated International Dark Sky Park
- 80 Fishing World Class Waters
- 83 San Juan River Quality Fishing Project
- 84 Wildlife
- 86 Birding
- 79 River Sports
- 88 Mountain Biking
- 92 Turkey Springs Trails System
 - Hiking, biking and ATV trails
- 96 Hiking & Horseback Riding
- 99 Regional Recreation Map
- 100 Scenic Drives
- 102 Waterfalls, Canyons & Rapids
- 104 Real Estate & Home Guide
 - Father and son construct the future, decode the past
- 107 Guide Information
- 110 Pagosa Springs Map
- 112 About the Area



Almost Heaven



Homes
Mountain Properties
Ranches
Land
Commercial
Notary Public available



Whether it's
open range,
river access or a
cozy custom home,
find your piece of
Pagosa Springs with
Wolf Creek Realty



Debbie Loewen
(970) 946-3480
REALTOR®, Broker/Owner
Debbie@OwnPagosa.com
Seller's Representative Specialist
Accredited Buyer's Representative
2016 & 2018 Spirit Award
2019 Realtor of the Year



Erika Hampton
(970) 507-0022
Broker Associate
erika@ownpagosa.com



Kim Butler
(970) 507-0059
Broker Associate
kim@OwnPagosa.com



Paige Lehrer
(970) 880-2860
Broker Associate
Paige@OwnPagosa.com



www.OwnPagosa.com

448 Pagosa Street • Smack dab in the middle of Historic Downtown Pagosa Springs, at the crosswalk!
Serving Pagosans for over 30 years. 2026 office hours may vary due to road construction, please call with questions.

Welcome

If you are planning your first visit to Pagosa Country, rest assured you will enjoy an incredible environment — one full of outdoor recreational opportunities the likes of which are rarely duplicated; one where our unique amenities in this paradise of geothermal waters, flowing mountain streams and alpine delights will satisfy your every need.

If you are returning to Pagosa Country, everything you enjoyed during previous visits remains, and there is even more to sample when you arrive.

When you are in Pagosa Country, you are in magnificent surroundings. Your task is to determine what you will do once you are here.

Pagosans are eager to help you. The friendly residents of Pagosa Country are ready to help you find great accommodations and, once you are settled in, to provide whatever you need.

We are ready to give you tips on the myriad opportunities for outdoor recreation. If there is anything Pagosa Country provides, it is access to fun in the high country during the summer season. Fishing, hiking, boating, rafting, floating, biking — it's all here, in spades. And our local businesses can outfit you for any and all of these pursuits. Don't miss the chance to indulge your passion for outdoor recreation; you are at the heart of it all. Of the best of it all.

We're here to feed you, and feed you well. It doesn't matter where your tastes lead you, chances are you can find the food and drink you desire. Our local establishments give the discerning diner a full range of cuisines and prices.

We're here to entertain you. We boast one of the area's premier theater companies, incredibly talented locals and a number of art galleries.

Indulge the pleasure of soaking in our geothermally heated waters. The giant spring in town issues forth from a mighty aquifer, providing Pagosa Country with some of the most relaxing and restorative waters anywhere in the world.

Finally, shop for the mementoes that will remind you of your visit. Pagosa's shopkeepers can provide you with whatever you need that will remind you that you will return.

Welcome to Pagosa Country.

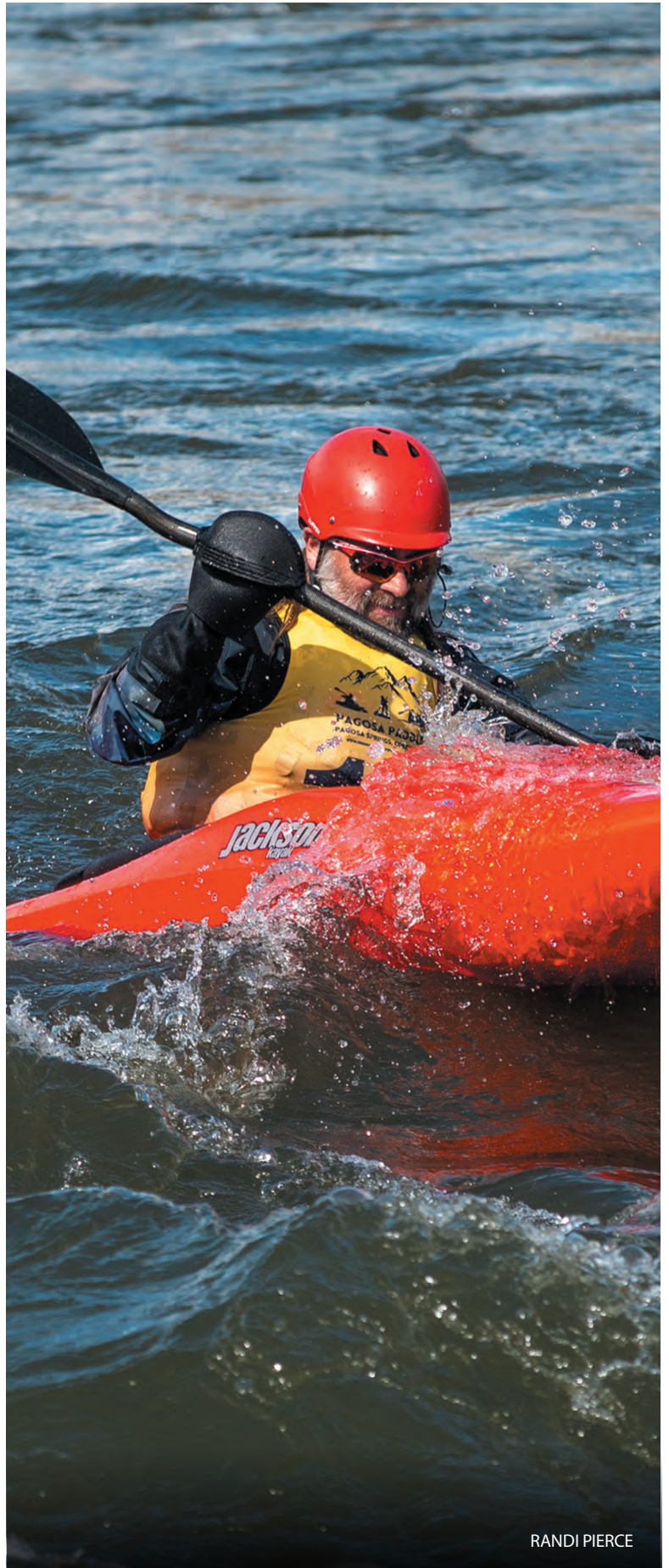
Road construction

Pagosa Springs is undergoing a major downtown road reconstruction project.

The state project is replacing the existing asphalt with concrete, widening many sidewalks, adding street lights and trees, building bike lanes and creating safer crosswalks.

While the work is needed and is improving the downtown, the work may cause delays when traveling through the downtown area. During the project, traffic will continue to flow through town, with one lane moving in each direction. But, during the busiest times, drivers and pedestrians may experience occasional delays.

Businesses will be open during construction, with parking available on side streets and nearby public parking lots.



RANDI PIERCE

5-Time National Award Winner for Energy Efficiency

Build your Colorado Dream

Energy efficient features • New standard models available



Comfortable

Up front
guaranteed pricing

Enlarge or
customize a
standard plan

Stylish

Mountain-Modern Custom Designs
and Standard Plans
Perfect for Colorado's Climate

Fully designed custom homes
Custom Home plans are included in the per sq. ft. price.
Free site visit for all homes..

Cozy

12" thick wall construction cuts
heating and cooling costs by 50%

Staffed office & model
home tours
OPEN M-F 8-5, Sat by appointment


Colorado Dream Homes Inc.®

Celebrating 30 Years Building Energy Efficient Custom Homes

970.731.3071
2283 Eagle Drive, Pagosa Springs CO
www.ColoradoDreamHomesInc.com
coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com

*Prices subject to change without notice



MICHAEL PIERCE

Getting here

Stevens Field Airport

Archuleta County's Stevens Field, located just 3 miles west of downtown Pagosa Springs, is one of the most scenic airports around.

In addition to beauty, the airport boasts a fully lit asphalt runway that is 100 feet wide and 8,100 feet long. That runway has aircraft weight capacities of 70,000 pounds for dual-wheel gear and 59,000 pounds for single-wheel gear. Flight safety at the high-altitude, general aviation airport is reinforced with a Precision Approach Path Indicator system.

For more information on the airport, visit www.archuletacounty.gov/45/Airport. For specific airport management questions or concerns, call the airport manager at (970) 731-3060.

The AWOS system is available on frequency 127.175 or by phone at (970) 731-0365.

Once you've landed, Pagosa Springs has car rental agencies and transportation companies to help you get around.

Fixed-Base Operator

For aviation services or to visit Blackhawk Aviation, the fixed-base operator, travel 3 miles west of town, then approximately 1 mile northwest on Piedra Road (CR 600). Turn right (northeast) on Cloman Boulevard and proceed to 61 Aviation Court.

The FBO offers a number of amenities, including aviation fuel and aircraft oxygen services, power cart, aircraft towing up to 88,000 pounds, rental car and crew cars, private hangars, tie down aircraft parking, catering and concierge services, secure auto parking, office space and more.

For more information about these and other airport services, call Blackhawk Aviation at (970) 731-2127 or visit blackhawkaviation.net.

La Plata County Airport

The Durango-La Plata County Airport offers daily service with American Airlines and United Airlines. The airport offers a full range of services within the terminal to make your visit comfortable. The air-

port has short- and long-term parking, full rental car services and shuttle/taxis.

The airport is located 60 miles from Pagosa Springs at the intersection of Airport Road and County Road 309A, approximately 1 mile from County Road 309.

For more information about flights and ancillary services, visit www.flydurango.com.

Mileage from Pagosa Springs

Durango, Colo.	61 miles
Cortez, Colo.	104 miles
Denver, Colo.	277 miles
Colorado Springs, Colo.	242 miles
Farmington, N.M.	101 miles
Santa Fe, N.M.	160 miles
Albuquerque, N.M.	212 miles
Phoenix, Ariz.	514 miles
Oklahoma City, Okla.	699 miles
Dallas, Texas	813 miles



The Springs Resort | 323 Hot Springs Blvd. | Pagosa Springs, CO

Discover the Depth of Relaxation

An unforgettable hot springs escape in Pagosa Springs, Colorado—home to the world's deepest geothermal spring. Enjoy 50+ pools and water features, 24-hour access for hotel guests, an award-winning thermal spa, signature restaurant, day passes, and more.

Book Your
Day Pass Today
pagosahotsprings.com



Need Dinner Plans?

After a day of adventuring Pagosa Springs, settle in for a warm, nourishing dinner located in the Main Building next to the World's Deepest Hot Spring.

Sun-Thurs
5PM - 9PM

Fri & Sat
5PM - 10PM

Open to the public



Book Your
Reservation Today
thewildfinch.com



BETH TOLLEFSEN

Pagosa Springs

When John Denver sang “thank God I’m a country boy,” it’s hard to imagine he was talking about what you find along the I-70 corridor today. But, get away from the hustle and bustle and noise of the bigger metropolitan centers, come down to southwestern Colorado and you’ll find the kind of small-town charm people still sing about.

There’s plenty to fall in love with here: warm sunshine, rivers, abundant wildlife, stately stands of pine and aspen groves, verdant valleys, and breathtaking vistas. It’s impossible to describe what it feels like to be sitting around a campfire at night, to look up through the pines at a clear night sky so full of stars it makes your heart race. It’s just something you need to experience for yourself.

Pagosa Springs still represents the idyllic vision of what Colorado was always meant to be. While many resort towns have become so overrun by the glitz and glamour that real people can’t afford to go there anymore, Pagosa Country has retained its charm while still offering myriad amenities.

So small, but so much

With amenities like art galleries, churches, specialty shops, live theater, a movie theater and a vibrant public library and more, Pagosa Springs provides more than enough to inspire the mind and spirit while also offering ways to either heal or exercise the body.

If you need directions or information for any of these (or other) amenities, stop by the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center, which offers a wealth of information on everything Pagosa Country.

Like no other place on Earth

Backpackers, campers, hikers, mountain bikers and other adventuresome souls will want to visit the U.S. Forest Service Pagosa Ranger District Office located at 2nd and Pagosa streets (on U.S. 160).

The staff there can provide a wealth of information about hiking and biking trails, campsites, fishing spots and horseback riding, as well as various tours of the area, including the Ancestral Puebloan ruins at Chimney Rock National Monument.

Water, water everywhere

A short walk south from the Visitor Center will take you to what stands as the world’s deepest hot spring, commonly referred to locally as the mother spring.

Within walking distance of the spring are a variety of ways to enjoy the natural mineral water, including indoor and outdoor mineral baths, hot tubs and swimming pools.

Pagosa Springs provides ample opportunity to splash and smile. The San Juan River offers variety, from adventurous rafting in the spring and early summer to tame and refreshing floats later in the summer.

Fall in love

Windsurfing? Navajo Lake awaits you. Ballooning? Golf? Tennis? It’s all here, under the clearest blue sky you’ve ever seen.

For the earliest native inhabitants of the area, Pagosa was considered a land of healing waters. For today’s vacationers, Pagosa is a land of invigorating experiences.

Make yourself at home in the midst of the most beautiful scenery and friendliest people in Colorado.



Primary Care Appointments Monday to Friday

Walk-ins Monday to Friday

24/7 Emergency Room

Orthopedic Surgery & Sports Medicine
General Surgery
Interventional Pain Management
Women's Health
Diagnostic Imaging
Neurology
Integrated Behavioral Health
Pulmonary Critical Care

Cancer Care
Infusion Services
Cardiology
Telemedicine
Lab
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Inpatient
EMS/Ambulance

**PAGOSA SPRINGS**
Medical Center

First-Class Care, Close to Home

970.731.3700 | 95 S. Pagosa Blvd | pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org |





MICHAEL PIERCE

Navajo Lake

Navajo Lake is a summer recreation paradise for boating, camping, fishing, hiking, water skiing and wind surfing. The lake, less than an hour's drive from Pagosa Springs, spans the state line, extending 20 miles into New Mexico.

Fed by the Piedra, San Juan and Pine rivers, Navajo Lake is a wonderful getaway for locals and visitors alike with 15,000 surface acres of water.

In addition to playing in the water, be sure to visit the "Watchable Wildlife" observation deck, located where Colo. 151 crosses the Piedra River. From the deck, you may see mule deer, elk, foxes, coyotes, bears, rare river otters, bald eagles, waterfowl and migratory birds.

Fishing

The lake contains a variety of cold- and warm-water game fish. Prized brown trout, rainbow trout and crappie thrive in the cold waters. Navajo Lake has also become well-known to bass fishermen in the southwest since its warm surface waters harbor largemouth and smallmouth bass. Bluegill and catfish are also plentiful.

The northern part of Navajo Lake lies in Colorado, where valid Colorado fishing licenses are required for anglers. Colorado licenses are available at the Visitor Center. If anglers cross south into New Mexico, they need to have a valid New Mexico state fishing license, which can also be purchased at the Visitor Center.

Anglers without a boat can access excellent fishing spots on the rivers feeding the lake. An accessible fishing area is located on the Piedra River just west of Colo. 151.

For additional information and updates, call the Navajo State Park office at (970) 883-2208 or visit cpw.state.co.us.

Camping at Navajo

Navajo has five campgrounds and 142 campsites, camper services buildings with showers and flush toilets, and three cabins.

All state parks in Colorado require reservations for camping.

To make campsite reservations, call (800) 244-5613 or visit www.cpwshop.com/camping/navajo-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.

[page?parkID=50033&media=3](http://www.cpw.state.co.us/parks/Navajo-Lake/park?parkID=50033&media=3).

Navajo Lake marina

The Navajo Lake Marina has almost everything for boating and water skiing enthusiasts. The marina has boat slips and mooring buoys for rent, as well as a restroom on the dock. At 110 feet, the park boasts one of the longest boat ramps in the state. Boat rentals are also available.

For information and reservations, contact the marina at (970) 883-BOAT (2628).

Parks pass required

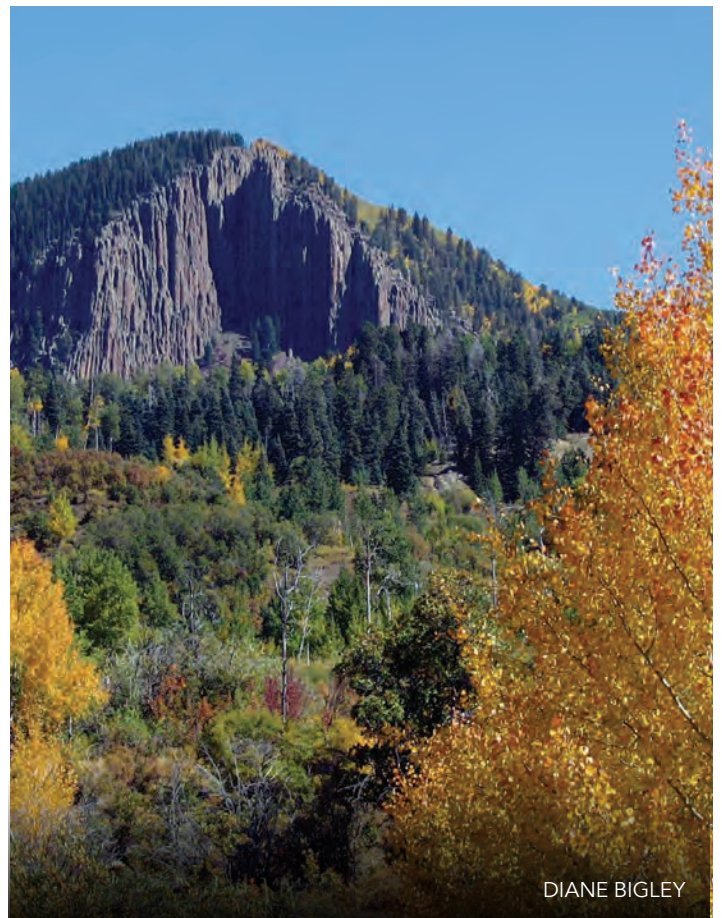
A valid Colorado State Parks Pass is required for all motor vehicles entering the park and for travel on park grounds surrounding Navajo Lake.

Getting there

From Pagosa Springs, travel west on U.S. 160 approximately 17 miles and turn south on Colo. 151. Then, it's a 20-minute trip to friendly Arboles. When you reach Arboles, turn left (southeast) on County Road 982, and it's a quick 2 miles to the park's visitor center.



RANDI PIERCE



DIANE BIGLEY

Arboles

Despite being small, Arboles is well-suited to serve as a gateway to one of southwest Colorado's finest recreational waters — Navajo Lake. Arboles has a gas station, cafe, convenience store, motel and post office in addition to boat storage and RV parks to help fuel you for your adventures.

Arboles — a fitting name meaning “trees” in Spanish — is a growing community thanks to its slightly warmer temperatures than Pagosa Springs, proximity to Navajo Lake and abundant natural beauty, and the camaraderie of the friendly people who call the area home.

Too, Arboles is part of the larger TARA (Tiffany, Allison, Rosa and Arboles) community, with the TARA Community Center located in Arboles. Watch for details about the community's Fourth of July parade and other celebrations for a true small-town treat.

While Arboles is now primarily known for its proximity and access to Navajo Lake, the community was once home to railroad tracks that serviced the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad.

Getting to Arboles is easy via a relatively short and scenic drive through tall ponderosas and pinon pine country.

From Pagosa Springs, travel west on U.S. 160 approximately 17 miles, until you see the spires of Chimney Rock. Then turn south on Colo. 151. From that point on, enjoy the scenery as the 20-minute trip winds past Chimney Rock National Monument and through the lower Piedra River Valley to Arboles.

Chromo

Part-time residents and fifth-generation natives. Mountain peaks and foothills. Cattle ranches and chicken farms. Majestic elk country and cougar territory. Pagosa Country is a land of variety and contrasts, both geographic and cultural. The little town of Chromo is a microcosm of the binary observances this land holds.

Chromo is one of the best places in Pagosa Country for gaining access to the South San Juan Wilderness Area. During spring and fall, when elk and deer are migrating to and from the high country, several migration routes cross the road. Stay alert for elk or deer on the road, but also keep an eye out to the side to catch a majestic sight of the elk or deer running with their herd.

Chromo is not a far drive from Pagosa Springs; just take U.S. 84 south for 24 miles. And the drive itself, though short, is full of destinations and picturesque viewpoints.

About 3 miles south of town, you'll see Echo Canyon Reservoir. As you continue south, you'll enjoy the winding drive through Halfway Canyon and on to wide-open Coyote Park. Much of this portion of the road retraces the pioneer stagecoach route into town. If you look closely, you'll see the bed of a narrow gauge railroad track long since abandoned. After leaving Coyote Park, you'll cross a small mountain range. Finally, after driving past some verdant horse pastures, you'll cross the Navajo River and find yourself in Chromo.

While in Chromo, drive a few miles up County Road 382 for a close look at Navajo Peaks, one of the most highly acclaimed camera points in Archuleta County.



Chimney Rock National Monument

Chimney Rock National Monument is an intimate, off-the-beaten-path, archaeoastronomical site. Recently designated as an International Dark Sky Park, it offers some of the darkest night skies in the San Juan National Forest.

Chimney Rock is considered a Chacoan “outlier,” part of a complex system of dispersed communities bound by economic, political and religious interdependence centered in Chaco Canyon, N.M.

The monument is a 4,726-acre archaeological site and preserves the 1,000-year-old architecture of the Ancestral Puebloans. An impressive testament to this time is the Great House Pueblo situated at an elevation of 7,600 feet, just below the Chimney Rock pinnacles. Today, Native Americans still have a special spiritual and traditional affinity for this place.

The 2026 season will open May 15 and close Oct. 15.

The monument is located 17 miles west of Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160 and 3 miles south on Colo. 151. The San Juan National Forest Service manages the site and requires the purchase of a \$20 activity pass good for five days. All federal park passes are honored for access.

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

Interpretive programs

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization that offers specialized interpretive programs. Fees for tours/programs vary. Making a reservation through the Recreation.gov website or the call center, (877) 444-6777 is the only way to guarantee a spot for each tour/program. Reservations are strongly recommended.

A Day in the Life of the Ancients is 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.

The Autumnal Equinox Program provides an exclusive pre-dawn experience to witness a spectacular sun rising from atop the mesa. Afterward, a tour of the archaeological sites will be conducted with emphasis on the importance of such celestial events to the ancient ones.

The Birding Tour is presented in partnership with the local chapter of the Audubon Society. It affords a wonderful opportunity to observe and learn about birds that are native to the area.

The Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time, and incorporates the anthropology and archeology of the Puebloan people.

Flute Music at Twilight begins with a guided, short walk through a mesa village followed by live Native American flute music accompanied by a deepening night sky to reveal celestial

Weather Forecasts You Can Count On — From Locals Who Know



bodies.

The Full Moon Program is a three-hour event culminating in a unique experience of viewing the moon rise from atop Chimney Rock Mesa. Prior to that, a presentation will highlight the Ancestral Puebloan ties to astronomy and the Chacoan culture.

The Full Moon/Early Tour Package combines the Full Moon program with an early, guided tour of the Mesa Village Trail to provide a four-hour event.

The Great House Tour (daily and family friendly) 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 the ancient Puebloan structures.

The Life at Chimney Rock Festival is a fee-free event on June 6 and 7. This family-oriented event provides interactive demonstrations of crafts and skills of the Ancestral Puebloan people in addition to a Native American arts and crafts market and food vendors. No reservations are required.

The Night Sky 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 topics.

The Summer Solstice Program provides a unique pre-dawn experience to view the sunrise from atop the mesa, timed to take in the expanding sun's rays as light slowly fills the landscape. Afterward, a tour of the archaeological sites will be conducted highlighting the importance of such celestial events to the ancient ones.

The Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour is a unique two-hour tour of the archaeological sites with a special emphasis on the

AUTOMOTIVE Service & Repair



- Oil Change Service
- Computer Diagnostics
- Tires & Alignment
- Scheduled Maintenance
- Front End & Suspension Work
- Foreign Car Specialist
- Trailer Repairs
- Vehicle, Motorcycle & Trailer Transport



Locally
Owned &
Operated



Piedra Automotive

(970) 731-3335 • 505 Piedra Rd. • www.PiedraCar.com
 Over 50 Years Experience • Nationwide 24/24 Parts & Labor Warranty



spectacular view of the sun rising atop the mesa.

The Tour of Two Trails 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.



YVONNE LASHMETT

Regional excursions

Pagosa Country is perfectly located in the midst of interesting attractions and spectacular, varied scenery.

Sometimes the call of the open road becomes irresistible, and when the urge hits, a little road trip is just the ticket.

Driving south

Heading south from Pagosa on U.S. 84, your trip offers a wide variety of areas to explore to and through the mesa country of northern New Mexico.

About 3 miles south of town, you'll see Echo Canyon Reservoir on your right-hand side. Drive only a couple of miles more and look to your right. There will be a large sign for the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Park, home to an array of live animals typical of local wildlife, including black bears, a grizzly bear (grizzlies used to call this area home), mountain lions, wolves, coyote, foxes, bobcats and elk. There are even emu, though they aren't native to the area. Don't be scared; pull over and take the time to gander at the wondrous creatures that call Pagosa Country home.

After leaving the wildlife park, if you continue south, you will pass the entrances to several side roads — many of them dead end, but all offer an opportunity for more spectacular Pagosa Country mountain vistas.

The turnoff for Forest Service Road 656, leading to the Upper Blanco River Basin, is about 7 miles south of town, and about 10 miles south of town is Forest Service Road 652A, which leads to the Lower Blanco River Basin.

If you continue south along U.S. 84, you'll enjoy the winding drive through Halfway Canyon and on to wide-open Coyote Park. Much of this portion of the road retraces the pioneer stagecoach route into town. If you look closely, you'll see the bed of a narrow gauge railroad track long since abandoned.

You could turn right at Coyote Park onto County Road 359. This will take you to the historic rail hub of Edith. If you continue on, you'll make it to Lumberton in New Mexico, the old stagecoach destination.

After leaving Coyote Park, you'll cross a small mountain range. At the top of the range is another dead-end road leading east to Buckles and Harris lakes. Finally, after driving past some awesome green horse pastures, you'll cross the Navajo River and find yourself in Chromo.

Just about an hour away from Pagosa Springs, one can explore the Cumbres Pass area by car or rail.

The car-bound can explore the rich history in Dulce, N.M., the center of the Jicarilla Apache Nation. Be sure to go for the mid-July Little Beaver Pow-Wow and Carnival celebration.

Traveling south on U.S. 84 to Taos (and Taos Pueblo) and Santa Fe offer not only breathtaking landscapes, but also artistic notariety.

Also on U.S. 84 is the quaint and gorgeous town of Abiquiu, N.M., which inspired the painter Georgia O'Keefe. For those interested in exploring the spiritual roots of the area, a quick turn on Forest Service Road 151 not only offers views of the Chama Canyon, but will dead end at the Benedictine Monastery of

Christ in the Desert. Built by famed Japanese architect George Nakashima, the chapel and original monastery show the simple elegance of southwest architecture. Since Benedictines have taken a vow of hospitality, they will be sure to welcome you with arms wide open.

Driving west

A short drive west of town leads to the Chimney Rock National Monument, which provides an introduction to the Ancestral Puebloans who settled here more than 1,000 years ago. This is a perfect complement to a trip to Mesa Verde National Park, which sits just hours away from Pagosa Springs and boasts spectacular cliff dwellings.

Continue south and east on Colo. 151 from Chimney Rock and you will pass through Arboles and Allison and make your way to Ignacio — the home of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. After checking out the casino and bowling alley, visit the spectacular Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum for a look into the history of one of the most storied tribes of the Southwest.

The Canyon of the Ancients National Monument is located northwest of Cortez and includes several smaller ruin sites for a quieter and more private experience. South of Durango, across the New Mexico state line, is Aztec Ruins National Monument.

Closer to Pagosa is Navajo State Park, just 30 miles from Pagosa on Colo. 151, offering camping, water skiing, sailing, fishing, boating and more.

Durango is an hour west of Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160, with Fort Lewis College sitting atop a mesa and a vibrant historical downtown area that features the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

Driving north

Directly north of Pagosa Country lies a vast roadless area known as the Weminuche Wilderness, so pretty much anything accessed from the north first requires a drive to the east or west.

From the east (up U.S. 160 to Lake City), a drive up the Alpine Loop Scenic Byway, a 65-mile, four-wheel-drive road over Engineer Pass toward Silverton and Ouray, makes for a spectacular — and breathtaking — day trip. To the west, a trip up U.S. 550 from Durango to Silverton, and then on to Ouray (the Switzerland of America), is substantially less taxing on

the rear axle.

Driving east

Don't miss the opportunity to drive over Wolf Creek Pass. Aside from the opportunity to hike up Treasure Falls, view the Pagosa basin from the overlook or the take the short drive up Lobo Overlook on the north side for access to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, travelers are provided with some of the most breathtaking miles of road anywhere. A swing by Big Meadow Reservoir, a few miles from the summit and on the north side of the highway, is well worth the diversion.

On the other side of the pass, South Fork offers the option of driving north on Colo. 149 on the Silver Thread Scenic Byway toward Lake City, or continuing east on U.S. 160 toward the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve.

If choosing Colo. 149 to Creede, an old mining town with a deep heritage, a visitor might enjoy the Mining Museum (at the far north end of Main Street) or a performance at the renowned Creede Repertory Theatre.

North from Creede (as mentioned earlier) and over Slumgullion Pass (named for the yellowish dirt that a mudslide uncovered a thousand years ago) is Lake City. With the natural dam forming beautiful Lake San Cristobal, the highest natural lake in Colorado, Lake City also proudly features the history of Alferd Packer, who was charged, tried and convicted for the crime of cannibalism.

Continuing east on U.S. 160 from South Fork takes visitors into the high desert (8,000 feet) and toward the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, about 15 miles past Alamosa and left on Colo. 150.

At the base of the intimidating Sangre de Cristo range (four 14,000-foot peaks at Crestone, less than 20 miles northeast), the area has had millions of years collecting the sand of the San Luis Valley into dunes several hundred feet high, creating the backdrop for numerous westerns and the awe of millions of visitors.

No matter which direction you choose, Pagosa Springs is the hub for a trip to a destination that promises to be both breathtaking and memorable, with amazing views to capture and a rich history left from those who settled in this area.

When you return, Pagosa's famed healing waters will greet you, ready to relax your muscles after a day filled with adventure.

Tracks Across Borders Scenic and Historic Byway

128 miles (30 miles in Archuleta County)

The bi-state Tracks Across Borders Scenic and Historic Byway travels from Chama, N.M., to Durango, Colo. It is one of 26 designated byways in Colorado and an equal number in New Mexico.

The byway traces the historic right of way of the abandoned narrow-gauge Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, which was instrumental in the development of the region.

The byway celebrates other tracks as well: the tracks of the wildlife that inhabit the area, of Native American trails, of Spanish missionaries in the 1600s, of oxen on the Old Spanish Trail and of the wagons of pioneers.

The byway begins at the western terminus of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad in Chama, N.M., travels westward through the Jicarilla Apache Nation at Dulce, and the well-preserved railroad bridge and tank at Navajo. Continuing north, rock outcrops and tall pines loom down from either side through the beautiful canyon of the Navajo River into Archuleta County, Colorado, and the ghost town of Juanita. This portion is not a road to drive in wet or snowy weather. From there, the byway passes the old three-span railroad bridge over the San Juan River and on to Pagosa Junction, Arboles, Navajo State Park, Ignacio and, ultimately, Durango.

The byway has an interactive app travelers can download for free and follow as they drive it. The app, available through Google and Apple stores through the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, features more than 30 stops. Drive this backcountry byway to step back in time and see the little-changed western landscape and learn about the deep, rich history and culture of this part of Archuleta County and the American West.

"Traveling - it leaves you speechless, then turns you into a storyteller." - Ibn Battuta



Arts, Entertainment, Events

CHAD HASPELS

Chad Haspels: Connecting with the world through sculpture

If you take a hike up on Reservoir Hill, stroll through downtown or play a round of golf at the local course, odds are you'll see some unique wood or bronze sculptures depicting the natural beauty of the area.

Local artist Chad Haspels is the one responsible for those pieces around town, as he's been contributing to the local art scene for more than 20 years.

Haspels was born in Cortez, Colo., just 100 miles away from Pagosa Springs, and draws his inspiration from the surrounding San Juan Mountains.

"Everything comes down to our local area for being the inspiration for my work," he says.

Haspels has been an artist since he was young and even attended college in Montana to study art, which is where he got into sculptures.

He also draws a lot of his inspiration from his study abroad experiences in west Africa, where he crafted his first wooden sculptures: drums. The ability to blend visual art with music — and incorporate local cultures and traditions into his work — is part of what continues to inspire Haspels today.

Haspels has been living in Pagosa Springs and sculpting full-time for more than 20 years now. He uses all locally supplied wood for his sculptures, "and that's what's meaningful to me," he

says.

Part of the enjoyment in "working with the organic nature of wood," Haspels says, is discovering what kind of story comes out of each piece.

"It has an energy and feel, and you can't replicate that," he says.

Growing up and spending most of his adult life in the area, Haspels has developed a deep appreciation of the local environment and the aesthetic of the area, particularly with Pagosa Springs being in the mountains and right on the edge of a high desert.

"It's just a beautiful expansive ecology between the two," he says.

Haspels also sees opportunities with dead trees that are still rooted in the ground but may have been struck by lightning, or rotted for some other reason.

He explains how these pieces are not always intended to last forever as the wood will continue to decay over time, but they open the door for unique pieces of art from something that would otherwise be hauled off, burned or left to rot. Depending on the location, and with some regular maintenance, some of these pieces can last for many years, like one of his first projects on Reservoir Hill he completed in 2005.

**CREEDE
REPERTORY
THEATRE**

SUMMER 2026

*Our 61st Season
May 23 – Sept 19*

GO REP!

*Save when you book tickets
to 3+ shows.*

*See a different show
every night!*

creederep.org | (719) 658-2540

FULLY COMMITTED

by Becky Mode

**THE 25TH ANNUAL
PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE**

Music and Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

WORKING: A MUSICAL

Adapted by Nina Faso & Stephen Schwartz

From the book by Studs Terkel

Ken Ludwig's

**MORIARTY: A NEW SHERLOCK
HOLMES ADVENTURE**

BOOMTOWN! IMPROV COMEDY

Sundays at 7pm beginning July 5



Haspels also works with a lot of beetle-kill wood that targets Engelmann spruce trees in our area, mentioning the beetle-kill wood provides unique characteristics like the "blue stain" that is left behind from the beetles infecting the trees with a fungus.

Haspels describes these projects as "giving a second life" to the wood, explaining he finds enjoyment in using the natural environment to enhance his artwork.

Recently, Haspels has also contributed bronze sculpture pieces to the area's public art collection, with the pieces honoring the historic shepherd of the San Juan Mountains.

"It was great to be a part of a project like that because of the historical community part of it," he says, recalling stories passed down by shepherd descendents.

These days, Haspels is still willing to take on all kinds of projects, but mostly enjoys giving back to the community through his art by working with local businesses and finding those "opportunistic" types of projects, such as one of his newer pieces - the "Blue Sun," depicting a great blue heron in the Tennyson Sculpture Park and Garden located downtown on Lewis Street.

For more about Haspels, his work and how to get in contact, visit www.chadhaspelssculpture.com.

Haspels has developed a deep appreciation of the local environment and aesthetic of the area, particularly with Pagosa Springs being in the mountains and right on the edge of a high desert.

*The only commercial vineyard, winery and
tasting room in the Durango/Pagosa Springs area,
as part of a 910 acre livestock farm in
a stunning Colorado setting.*



Tasting Room Open 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Thursday thru Sunday

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT FOX FIRE

Live music, wine and food, 6 to 9 PM, every Friday Night
June thru September

5513 COUNTY ROAD 321 • IGNACIO, COLORADO

970-563-4675 • www.foxfirefarms.com



Music & Theater

RANDI PIERCE

After a day of playing in the river, hiking a local peak, angling for that wall-worthy brown trout or stirring up some mud with the fat tires of a mountain bike, take advantage of the numerous opportunities in Pagosa for the musically minded and the theater lover.

The summer season opens up restaurant patios and beer gardens for local, regional and national talent, while area establishments host bands almost every night during the summer. Doors open wide to allow a refreshing blast of cool air for patrons and a taste of the excitement indoors for those strolling by.

More than that, area stages come alive with comedies, dramas and musicals, making Pagosa Springs a premier destination for theater.

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

The Thingamajig Theatre Company in residence at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts (PSCA) has achieved a reputation for featuring Broadway-quality productions, earning the distinction as one of Colorado's premiere venues for professional theater.

Thingamajig Theatre Company is a

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and a constituent member of the Theatre Communication Group, the national organization for professional American theater.

Co-founded in 2011 by Tim and Laura Moore, the award-winning Thingamajig Theatre Company brings in professional talent from around the nation to perform in, direct and design its shows, as well as cultivating local talent.

Thingamajig provides educational opportunities for youth and teens in our community, including theater camps and master classes.

The summer 2026 Broadway in the Mountains season will feature the musicals "Come From Away" (May 29–Aug. 28), "Company" (June 12–Aug. 19) and "Fiddler on the Roof" (June 26–Aug. 29).

For event and theater information or to purchase tickets, check out the PSCA website, www.pagosacenter.org, or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Curtains Up Pagosa

Pagosa Springs is home to a truly exceptional and one-of-a-kind community theater group, Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP), founded in 1989. As a nonprofit organization, CUP produces two theatrical produc-

tions annually, usually a musical in early summer and a holiday-themed production in late fall, featuring casts of experienced adult actors, as well as young adults and children selected through auditions. Instead of using recorded music, CUP musicals include a live pit orchestra comprised of talented local musicians.

For its summer 2026 production, CUP will present "School of Rock, the Musical" during the weekend of June 25-27 in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Based on the movie by the same name, this show will feature music by renowned musical composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. 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.

CUP's mission goes beyond just providing entertainment to both residents and visitors, as it also actively supports local schools by training students in all aspects of the performing arts. This support is also reflected through CUP-funded scholarships awarded to students pursuing performing arts studies after high school.

For more details about upcoming shows and ticket information, check out

The PREVIEW section of The Pagosa Springs SUN newspaper. To learn more about the organization, visit www.curtain-suppagosa.org.

Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

The Pagosa Springs Community Band formed in 2011 and is part of the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

The group's motto is "Music for Life," and the band includes talented community musicians of all ages.

PSIMS exists to develop musical ability and to raise awareness of the importance of music to people of all ages. The group celebrates the joy of music through teaching and performance opportunities for musicians of all levels of ability in our community.

The band puts on four concerts per year. The Fourth of July outdoor concert features patriotic music we know and love from Sousa marches to "America the Beautiful." The fall concert that showcases the group's talented directors and the songs selected by the directors will ring familiar to your ear. The festive Heralds of Christmas Concert, held close to the holidays, is a traditional family favorite and features the talented soloists and the brass ensemble with songs of the season. The Band-o-Rama concert in the spring features the Community Band sharing the stage with our middle school and high school bands, which showcases the progression of talent in our local musicians.

Mountain Light Music Festival

Each summer, the Mountain Light Music Festival brings together professional faculty, world-class artists and passionate students to create a community devoted to artistic discovery, with the San Juan Mountains serving as the backdrop.

The festival presents diverse concerts with many styles, instruments, programs and artists to choose from, with admission ranging from free to exclusive donor-tier, creating opportunities for all ages and interests.

For more information about the organization, visit www.mountainlightmusic-festival.com

Get your groove on

A quick glance at events and live music listed in The PREVIEW (published each week in The Pagosa Springs SUN newspaper) will show that the local music scene offers a variety to suit your taste for an evening out.

THE THINGAMAJIG
THEATRE COMPANY

BROADWAY
IN THE MOUNTAINS
LIVE PROFESSIONAL THEATRE

SUMMER SEASON 2026

COME FROM AWAY
MAY 29 – AUGUST 27

COMPANY
JUNE 12 – AUGUST 19

Fiddler on the Roof
JUNE 26 – AUGUST 29

The Jungle Book
JULY 10 – 12

BROADWAY Gala
JULY 28

PAGOSACENTER.ORG
970.731.SHOW (7469) | 2313 EAGLE DRIVE | PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

PAGOSA SPRINGS
CENTER for the ARTS

Local event calendar

Event dates and information subject to change.

Check www.PagosaSUN.com for up-to-date events and information.

MAY

May 15-31

Great House Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument

10:30 a.m. daily

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 29-31

"Come From Away"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

Tickets: pagosacenter.org,

(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

May 2

Walk for Moms

Yamaguchi Park, 10 a.m.

www.aspirepagosa.org

May 15

Pagosa Paddle

San Juan River in downtown Pagosa Springs

friendsoftheuppersanjuanriver.org/pagosa-paddle

May 16

Pagosa Paddle

San Juan River in downtown Pagosa Springs

friendsoftheuppersanjuanriver.org/pagosa-paddle

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 19

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 20

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 21

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 23

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 26

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 27

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 28

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 29

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

May 30

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Full Moon Program

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:45 p.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

JUNE

June, select dates

"Come From Away"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

Tickets: pagosacenter.org,

(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

"Company"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

Tickets: pagosacenter.org,

(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

"Fiddler on the Roof"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

Tickets: pagosacenter.org,

(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Great House Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument,

10:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 1

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org



Use our convenient
backyard entrance off the
Lewis Street alley during
the U.S. 160 construction

Early Happy Hour • Wed 11-1 • Mon-Fri 4-6



Just a Local Dive

Lisa Saunders Music presents Karaoke: Thursdays, 7:30pm-11:30pm

Pool Tables • Specialty Drink Menu • Domestic & Craft Draft Beers
Check Facebook and Instagram for special events

www.thepagosabar.com | (970) 264-5798 | 460 Pagosa Street | Sun-Thur 11am-midnight • Fri & Sat 11am-1am

Local event calendar

June 2

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 3

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 4

19th Hole Concert
Pagosa Springs Golf Club, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
www.swcommunityfoundation.org

June 5

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 6

Life at Chimney Rock (fee free)
Chimney Rock National Monument, 10 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 7

Life at Chimney Rock (fee free)
Chimney Rock National Monument, 10 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 8

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 9

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 10

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 11

19th Hole Concert
Pagosa Springs Golf Club, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
www.swcommunityfoundation.org

June 12

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs Car Show: Street Party
South 5th Street, 5 p.m.
www.pagosachamber.com

June 13

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs Car Show: Show and Shine
South 5th Street, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
www.pagosachamber.com

Flute Music at Twilight Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6 p.m.

Local event calendar

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 15

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 16

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 17

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 18

19th Hole Concert

Pagosa Springs Golf Club, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
www.swcommunityfoundation.org

June 19

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs ComFest

Concert series in the park
Yamaguchi Park, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
www.pagosasprings.co.gov

June 20

Summer Solstice Sunrise Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Tour of the Night Sky Program

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 21

Summer Solstice Sunrise Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 22

Summer Solstice Sunrise Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 23

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 24

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 25

19th Hole Concert

Pagosa Springs Golf Club, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
www.swcommunityfoundation.org

"School of Rock"

Pagosa Springs High School, 7 p.m.
www.curtainsuppagosa.org

June 26

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

"School of Rock"

Pagosa Springs High School, 7 p.m.
www.curtainsuppagosa.org

June 27

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

"School of Rock"

Pagosa Springs High School, 2 p.m.
www.curtainsuppagosa.org

"School of Rock"

Pagosa Springs High School, 7 p.m.
www.curtainsuppagosa.org

June 28

Full Moon Program

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:20 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 29

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

June 30

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

JULY

July, select dates

"Come From Away"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Tickets: pagosacenter.org,
(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

"Company"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Tickets: pagosacenter.org,
(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

"Fiddler on the Roof"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Tickets: pagosacenter.org,
(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

Great House Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument,
10:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 1

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 2

Park to Park Artisan Market

Town parks, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.pagosachamber.com

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

Western Heritage Event Center Rodeo
Grounds, 6 p.m.
www.pagosarodeo.com

July 3

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

Western Heritage Event Center Rodeo
Grounds, 6 p.m.
www.pagosarodeo.com

Local event calendar

July 4

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Park to Park Artisan Market
Town parks, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.pagosachamber.com

Fourth of July Parade
Downtown Pagosa Springs, 10 a.m.

Sesquicentennial Fourth of July Party
Yamaguchi Park, 10 a.m.

Freedom Float
San Juan River in downtown Pagosa Springs, 1 p.m.

Pagosa Springs Community Band Concert
The Springs Resort and Spa, 2 p.m.

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo
Western Heritage Event Center Rodeo Grounds, 2 p.m.
www.pagosarodeo.com

Fireworks
Downtown Pagosa Springs, dusk

July 5

Park to Park Artisan Market
Town parks
www.pagosachamber.com

July 6

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 7

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 8

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 10

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 11

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Flute Music at Twilight Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 13

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 14

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 15

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 17

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs ComFest
Concert series in the park
Yamaguchi Park, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
www.pagosasprings.co.gov

July 18

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Tour of the Night Sky Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 20

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:45 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 21

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 22

A Tour of Two Trails



Local event calendar

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 24

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 25

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 27

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:45 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 28

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Full Moon Program

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:30 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

July 29

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Mountain Light Music Festival: Trombone Ensemble Pop-up

Riff Raff Brewing, 6 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

July 30

Archuleta County Fair

Archuleta County Fairgrounds, 344 U.S. 84
www.archuletacountyfair.com

Mountain Light Music Festival: Cinematic Sounds

Liberty Theatre, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

July 31

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Archuleta County Fair

Archuleta County Fairgrounds, 344 U.S. 84
www.archuletacountyfair.com

Mountain Light Music Festival: Mountain Light Meadow

Mountain Light Lodge, 6 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

AUGUST

August, select dates

"Come From Away"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Tickets: pagosacenter.org,
(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

"Company"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Tickets: pagosacenter.org,
(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

"Fiddler on the Roof"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Tickets: pagosacenter.org,
(970) 731-SHOW (7469)

A Day in the Life of the Ancients

Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Great House Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument
10:30 a.m. daily
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 1

Archuleta County Fair

Archuleta County Fairgrounds, 344 U.S. 84
www.archuletacountyfair.com

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs History Vault Ceremony

Pagosa Springs History Museum, 10 a.m.
www.pagosamuseum.org

Aug. 2

Archuleta County Fair

Archuleta County Fairgrounds, 344 U.S. 84
www.archuletacountyfair.com

Aug. 3

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 6 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 4

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Mountain Light Music Festival: Trio Magnoliana

Keyah Grande, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

Mountain Light Music Festival: Zelter String Quartet

The Springs Resort, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

Aug. 5

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Mountain Light Music Festival: A Night of Arias

Keyah Grande, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

Mountain Light Music Festival: Trio Magnoliana



County fair

RANDI PIERCE

Local event calendar

The Springs Resort, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

Aug. 6

Mountain Light Music Festival: Zelter String Quartet
Keyah Grande, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

Mountain Light Music Festival: A Night of Arias
The Springs Resort, 7 p.m.
www.mountainlightmusicfestival.com

Aug. 7

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 8

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Flute Music at Twilight Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 10

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 11

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 12

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 14

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 15

Grilling and Distilling
Archuleta County Fairgrounds
Tickets: www.pagosachamber.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Tour of the Night Sky Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:30 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 17

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 18

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 19

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 21



A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs Area Art Studio Tour
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.studiotourpagosa.com

Pagosa Springs ComFest
Concert series in the park
Yamaguchi Park, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
www.pagosasprings.co.gov

Aug. 22

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Pagosa Springs Area Art Studio Tour
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.studiotourpagosa.com

Aug. 23

Pagosa Springs Area Art Studio Tour
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.studiotourpagosa.com

Aug. 24

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 25

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 26

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 27

Full Moon Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 28

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Local event calendar

Aug. 29

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Aug. 31

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

SEPTEMBER

September, select dates

A Day in the Life of the Ancients
Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Great House Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument
10:30 a.m. daily
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 1

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 2

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 4

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 5

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 7

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 8

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 9

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 10

Pickle in Pagosa Pickleball Tournament
Yamaguchi Park
www.pagosapickleball.org

Sept. 11

Pickle in Pagosa Pickleball Tournament
Yamaguchi Park
www.pagosapickleball.org

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 12

Pickle in Pagosa Pickleball Tournament
Yamaguchi Park
www.pagosapickleball.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Tour of the Night Sky Program

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:30 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 14

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 15

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 16

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 18

Passport to Pagosa Wine and Food Festival
Town Park Athletic Field
www.pagosachamber.com

A Tour of Two Trails

Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.



Local event calendar

(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 19

Aspen House Color Run
Yamaguchi Park
www.aspenhousepagosa.org

Hot Air Balloon Mass Ascension
Downtown
www.pagosachamber.com

Bands and Brews Festival
Town Park Athletic Field
www.pagosachamber.com

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Flute Music at Twilight Program
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 20

Hot Air Balloon Mass Ascension
West side of Pagosa Springs
www.pagosachamber.com

Sept. 22

Autumnal Equinox Sunrise Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 23

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 25

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 26

Mountain Chile Cha Cha
www.ilovegreenchile.com

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour

Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Full Moon Program

Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:15 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 28

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 29

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Sept. 30

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

OCTOBER

October, select dates

Great House Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument
10:30 a.m. daily
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

A Day in the Life of the Ancients
Chimney Rock National Monument, 9:30 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 2

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 3

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 5

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 6:45 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 7

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 9

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7:15 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 10

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 8 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 12

Sunrise at Chimney Rock Tour
Chimney Rock National Monument, 7 a.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 14

A Tour of Two Trails
Chimney Rock National Monument, 5 p.m.
(877) 444-6777, www.chimneyrockco.org

Oct. 31

Halloween Hootenanny
Yamaguchi Park

Scan for
up-to-date
local events





Weddings, reunions & more

Mother Nature provides her decorating expertise free of charge

From a simple, backyard affair to a lavish party for hundreds, Pagosa Springs and the surrounding area might be just what you're looking for to make your wedding or reunion something special.

Pagosa Country is a wonderful background for special events — with the majestic Pagosa Peak, sparkling mountain lakes, bubbling brooks, aspen stands, clear blue skies, colorful and dramatic sunsets, and more available throughout the area. Or, if you're more of the indoor type, venues can be rented for special

events and decorated to fit your style.

In addition to Mother Nature providing her decorating expertise free of charge for your event, Pagosa Springs offers the amenities to help put together all the details for your picture-perfect event.

Photographers, florists, caterers and more, all complete with Pagosa flair, are at the ready. The area also offers a variety of unique lodging options for every budget and desire. Area rental businesses can help outfit your events for sound and seating.

Pagosa Country also provides experiences. It won't be a problem keeping family and friends entertained. A plethora of memorable indoor and outdoor activities cater to every age, skill level and area of interest — shopping, hiking, biking, fishing, ATVing, swimming, golfing and more — all of which can be topped off with a soak in the area's mineral pools or a relaxing massage.

Marriage licenses

Marriage licenses can be obtained at the Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder's Office, located at 449 San Juan St. (on the main street in downtown Pagosa Springs).

Additional information and license applications are available at www.archuletacounty.gov/county-government/elected-offices/clerk-recorder/marriage-licenses/. Call (970) 264-8350 with any inquiries or to make an appointment.



Full-service Wedding Florist



including
Elopement packages
Floral designs for all occasions
Because flowers are always a good idea

501 San Juan St., Ste. 3 • (970) 443-4775
designerK@wednesdaybouquet.com
WednesdayBouquet.com



Celebrating America

RANDI PIERCE

» July 2-5

The Pagosa Springs area is one of the busiest places in the Southwest during the Fourth of July holiday, and Pagosa Country's celebrations will be bigger and better this year as the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary and Colorado celebrates 150 years of statehood. Following is a description of some of the activities that will be taking place. For more information on 250/150 activities, see pages 46 and 47.

The annual Park to Park Artisan Market will kick into gear for a four-day show beginning July 2 and will run until July 5. There will be more than 80 vendors in multiple parks located at the festival in downtown Pagosa. You'll find artwork, jewelry, woodcarving, pottery, glasswork, clothing, weaving, sculptures, candles, soaps, specialty foods and much more. The location is conducive to shopping as you stroll through the parks and along the Riverwalk enjoying the crafts and tasty food items.

While downtown, don't miss out on the unique local shops.

At 10 a.m. on the Fourth of July, the downtown area will take on even more of an Americana flair with its traditional Fourth of July Parade. Also kicking off at 10 a.m. will be the Pagosa Springs Sesquicentennial Heritage Celebration in Yamaguchi Park.

That afternoon will feature more popular events, including the Freedom Float down the San Juan River and the Pagosa Springs Community Band's annual patriotic concert on the grounds of The Springs Resort.

The Fourth of July fireworks will be held the night of July 4. The fireworks festivities will take place on the fields adjacent to Pagosa Springs High School, on South 8th Street in the downtown area. To best view the fireworks, you can enjoy seating at Pagosa Springs High School or at Yamaguchi Park, located on South 5th Street. Gather family and friends, bring a picnic dinner and enjoy the stellar display. The fireworks display typically begins at dark, around 9:15

p.m. This event is subject to fire restrictions and weather.

The 76th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo, a legendary Fourth of July festivity, will be held three consecutive days starting July 2 and running through July 4. The rough-and-tumble rodeo, with regional cowboys and cowgirls and all western rodeo events, will have its first performance July 2 at 6 p.m. and the next at the same time on July 3. On July 4, the rodeo will take place at 2 p.m. The Western Heritage Event Center arena is just south of the intersection of U.S. 160 and U.S. 84. Cowpokes under 6 years old can register for mutton bustin' in advance. Visit www.PagosaRodeo.com for details.

There is still time between all these activities to enjoy a barbecue, a hike or a bike ride away from the bustle of town — or to partake in any of the other fun experiences available in the area.

For more information, parking availability, schedules or maps, stop by the Visitor Center at 105 Hot Springs Blvd., contact (970) 585-1200, or check the website www.visitpagosa.com. Check The Pagosa Springs SUN or www.PagosaSUN.com for additional festive events.



RANDI PIERCE



Pagosa Springs Car Show

CLAYTON CHANEY

» June 12-13

The Pagosa Springs Car Show will be held June 12 and 13 at Yamaguchi Park on South 5th Street. The event features antique vehicles, model category cars, 4x4s, trucks, rat rods, muscle cars, motorcycles and more — all displaying plenty of classic style.

There will be awards for class winners, as well as special prizes for the Best in Show, People's Choice and Chamber Choice.

Festivities will begin at 5 p.m. on June 12 on South 5th Street with the Street Party, which includes car check-in and registration, food vendors, a beverage garden and live music. Even if you don't

have a car in the show, you won't want to miss the free concert.

On June 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the vehicles will return to Yamaguchi Park for the Show and Shine. This event gives everyone a chance to admire antique and custom cars up close and speak to the owners about their works of art. Live music, displays, activities for children, food, a beverage garden and vendors will be on hand. A fun part of the day is the classic "Pin Up Girl" contest with a "fashion show" and awards. The car awards will be issued at the end of the day.

For information or to register, visit www.pagosachamber.com.

Grilling and Distilling

» Aug. 15

What is summer without a great outdoor BBQ? Some grillers started out as backyard barbecuers and developed into commercial entities. Other grillers just like to show off their grilling style and share their passion. Whether you are a commercial entity or the backyard griller, Grilling and Distilling is one event you might want to participate in. On Aug. 15, the Archuleta County Fairgrounds will turn into a big backyard fit for a BBQ cookoff. There will be awards for commercial entries and backyard grillers. You can enjoy the meats, sauces and sides, which will all be judged.

And besides bacon, what goes better with BBQ than a smooth shot of whiskey? Colorado is fast becoming a state that is producing some great-tasting, small-batch distilled spirits, and this event is meant to highlight some of Colorado's up-and-coming, award-winning distilleries with a tasting component.

Add in live music and you have an afternoon of song, spirits and searing meats. Whether you're a purist of the BBQ flavor or

a sauce fanatic, you can find it all at this event.

Tickets will be available for tasting just the BBQ or inclusive of the whiskey samples. Other beverages (alcoholic and nonalcoholic) will be available, along with other food vendors. This event is perfect if you want to participate or spectate. Either way, make way for some great grilling and distilling. For more information or tickets, visit www.pagosachamber.com.

Pagosa Springs Area Art Studio Tour

» Aug. 21-23

The Pagosa Springs Arts Council is excited to announce the annual Pagosa Springs Area Art Studio Tour. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 21-23, local artists will open their working studios for three days only. Find out more about the studios on tour at www.studiotourpagosa.com.

artist reception

The Springs Resort
outdoor event space
THURSDAY EVENING
August 20 @ 6pm



event dates
**AUG
21, 22, 23**

This unique, free, self-guided tour allows local artists to showcase their talents and invites the public into the creative spaces where their art comes to life in our community.



studiotourpagosa.com

CREATE YOUR OWN JEWELRY

Wire Wrapping Workshops
in Pagosa Springs

- ✓ No experience needed
- ✓ All materials included
- ✓ Walk away with your own piece of Jewelry

Scan to Book Your Workshop




WIRE ART ACADEMY
PAGOSA SPRINGS

@lisa.wireartacademy@gmail.com 970-946-0124

Archuleta County Fair

» July 30-Aug. 2

A timeless tradition, the 75th annual Archuleta County Fair will take place July 30 through Aug. 2 at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds at 344 U.S. 84 in Pagosa Springs.

The 2026 Archuleta County Fair will combine celebrations for its 75th anniversary, the United States celebrating 250 years and the state of Colorado celebrating 150 years. These celebrations will honor the area's rich history and recognize the individuals and organizations that have shaped our community.

Fair days are full of fun in the sun with rodeos, entertainment, games, exhibits and demonstrations. Vendors will also sell food and various crafts and merchandise.



Gates open at 9 a.m. daily, closing around midnight on Friday and Saturday to ensure that you have time to enjoy the festivities. The fair closes at 2 p.m. on Sunday for all exhibits.

4-H/FFA members will show their animals — horses, rabbits, goats, sheep, steers, chickens, pigs, turkeys, lambs and more — during the many livestock shows.

The Rodeo on Friday night is the action-packed fourth annual Tough Enough to Wear Pink Rodeo. The Ranch Rodeo on Saturday and other entertainers will keep fairgoers busy. After working up an appetite, head to the 4-H Chuck Wagon Dinner and then to the livestock arena in the Hughes Pavilion for the junior livestock sale.

The junior livestock sale is the culmination of the hard work of 4-H/FFA members. The sale exhibits the long-standing livestock traditions and ranching roots of Archuleta County and supports 4-H/FFA youth who have dedicated themselves to their projects throughout the year. At the end of the day, two-step on over to hear some live country western music in the Activity Tent.

The festivities continue into Sunday with the Kids' Rodeo and a last chance to see the animals and exhibits.

During the fair, the exhibit hall will be filled with different projects created by county residents and 4-H members, including quilts, photographs, paintings, vegetables, flowers and baked goods. 4-H members have their work judged at the county fair and may even get the opportunity to go to the Colorado State Fair.

The Archuleta County Fair is always a party, so dust off those boots, break out your western wear and get ready to have a great time.

Please note that activities and schedules are subject to change. The full schedule of events will be published prior to the fair in The Pagosa Springs SUN and on the fair website. For more information, visit www.archuletacountyfair.com. Questions may be emailed to archuletacountyfair@gmail.com.



ColorFest

MICHAEL PIERCE

» Sept. 19-21

ColorFest weekend rings in the fall season accompanied by a blaze of gold and red hues, complemented by the bright colors of hot air balloons.

ColorFest weekend also celebrates the harvest season, with the Passport to Pagosa Wine and Food Festival and the Pagosa Springs Bands and Brews Festival paying tribute to numerous local and regional foods, microbreweries and music. Add the crisp and glorious Colorado autumn weather, and you have a weekend of fun, friends and unparalleled beauty.

On Sept. 19, the popular Passport to Pagosa: Wine and Food Festival will be held. Scrumptious food provided by many of Pagosa's superb restaurants, caterers and specialty stores is paired with delicious wines chosen for this event. This event is certainly an epicurean delight, and tickets often sell out. Fantastic live music rounds out the evening. Tickets become available at the end of July.

The Bands and Brews Festival the afternoon of Sept. 20 highlights some of the best breweries in Southwest Colorado, other parts of the state and Northern New Mexico, with many of the breweries bringing in specialty quaffs just for the season. Growing in popularity in the region is the distilling of hard ciders, with several vendors showcasing this beverage. Multiple live music performances, delicious beverages, food vendors and activities for the children make it one of Pagosa's favorite events.

The Saturday evening balloon glow will be held where the Microbrew Festival is held. Bands and Brews attendees will be able to continue their party while watching the glowing balloons adjacent to the festival as the evening grows dark. This balloon glow is contingent upon the weather.

Aspen House and Aspen Services will host the 5K ColorFest Color Run the morning of Sept. 20. Get doused with color as you walk or run the designated trail in the downtown area where volunteers welcome you with every color of the rainbow and you can view the hot air balloons as you navigate the course. Check for the festivity status at www.aspenhousepagosa.org.

You will enjoy the magic of the hot air balloons as they as-

cend around 8 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday mornings. A mass ascension on Sept. 20 will take place in the downtown area with the beautiful San Juan River in the foreground and the San Juan Mountains as a backdrop. The west side of town will host the balloon ascension on Sept. 21 with the majority of the balloons ascending from the Pagosa's Lakes area near the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Recreation Center, offering fabulous photographic opportunities of lakes and mountains. All balloon-related activities are dependent upon the weather.

For more information about ColorFest, event locations and the status of the weekend's activities, call the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce at (970) 264-2360 or find information at www.Pagosachamber.com.

Balloon pilots interested in flying can download the pilot application at www.pagosachamber.com/colorfest/.

Mountain Chile Cha Cha

» Sept. 26

There are few better ways to spend an autumn day than attending the Mountain Chile Cha Cha, a celebration of Pagosa Country's Hispanic heritage.

The day features the Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic, which includes a green chile cook-off and tasting, as well as a popular margarita contest and a salsa tasting. Attendees can sample dozens of homemade green chiles, many of which are made using recipes passed down through generations. The event also features a Mexican beer garden, a kid's corner, food trucks, and green chile roasting.

In the afternoon, you can enjoy a live Mexican dance concert.

This event is a culinary and cultural treat for locals and visitors alike, and it spotlights the love of green chile, which is an integral part of Pagosa Country's Hispanic heritage.



LYYRA
KC GROVES
CMAC ALL-STARS
COLORADO BRASS
THE LITTLE MERCIES
CHRISTOPHER SEYMOUR
& THE WESTERN COSPLAY
THE NATHAN ROYALE TRIO
JENNIFER KOH, VIOLINIST
DEANNA BREIWK, SOPRANO
ANGEL STANISLAV WANG, CONCERT PIANIST
ANDREA EARLEY COHEN
GENE LIBBEA
& MORE TBA

ELKS INDEPENDANCE
 MUSICAL THEATER CAMP
 MASTERCLASSES
 COMMUNITY JAMS
 DEMYSTIFYING MUSIC THEORY
 KIDS CONCERTS & INSTRUMENT BUILDING WORKSHOPS
 RAIL-BIKE CONCERTS

MUSIC IN THE PARK
 FREE FRIDAY VOICE CLASS
 SONG SWAPS
 BACH AT THE 40R RANCH
 PETER & THE WOLF
 SOUNDBATH CAVE YOGA
 BARN DANCES

WWW.CREEDEMUSICALARTSCOLLECTIVE.ORG

History & Heritage



MICHAEL PIERCE

Pagosa Springs History Museum

For more than four decades, the Pagosa Springs History Museum has offered visitors and locals alike a glimpse back into the history of Pagosa Country, at the same time preserving history and displaying precious artifacts from the past.

The 2026 season will run from May 25 through Sept. 5.

The museum, which is overseen by the nonprofit San Juan Historical Society, hosts a one-of-a-kind collection depicting early life and industry in the area.

And, the museum itself is an artifact of sorts. It is partially housed in the old waterworks building constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1938. The WPA, created in 1935 by President Franklin Roosevelt, was part of the New Deal.

In 2026, the museum will feature multiple special exhibits celebrating America's 250th birthday and 150 years of Colorado statehood in addition to its permanent exhibits.

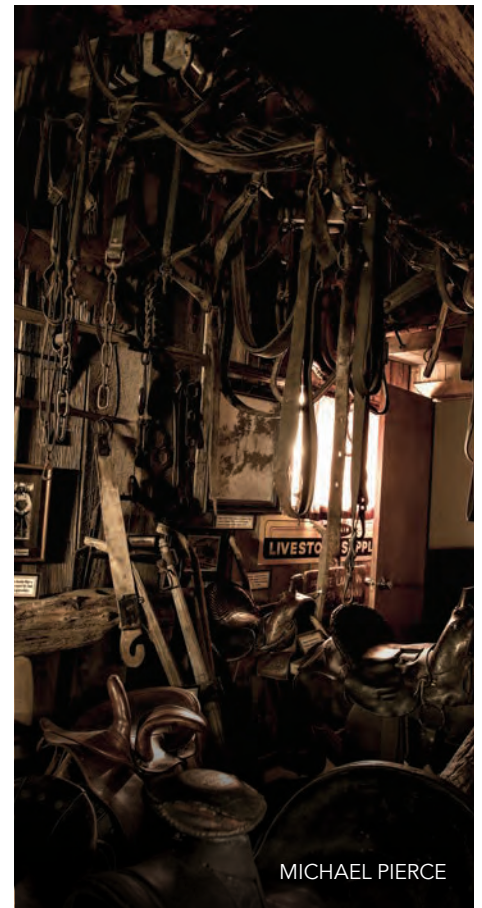
'Moments that Made US'

In 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed. The museum will celebrate this monumental moment in America's history with an America 250 commemorative exhibition honoring the Declaration of Independence.

"Moments That Made US" looks at the ideals at the heart of the Declaration of Independence by exploring moments in our history that have served to define their meaning.

This nationwide exhibit is being brought to our community to aid in understanding founding principles like "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," "Consent of the Governed," "Created Equal," "Free and Independent State" and "We Mutually Pledge to Each Other."

The exhibition explores how generations of Americans have given meaning to the ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence.



MICHAEL PIERCE



PAGOSA SPRINGS

HISTORY MUSEUM

Explore Pagosa Springs' unique story

Open Summer Season

96 Pagosa Street
corner of U.S. 160
and 1st Street

pagosamuseum.org



This exhibition will run the full 2026 season.

Colorado statehood

One hundred years after the founding of our nation, Colorado became the 38th state to be admitted to the Union, earning the moniker of the "Centennial State."

A history vault is being created at the museum this season to preserve memories for future generations. Local history is being collected, which will then be stored in a vault. This will be locked with the request that it not be opened until the bicentennial celebration of the state of Colorado in 2076.

What will be included in this exhibition? A collection of books, both in print and out of print, has been curated. Local family histories and writings have been permitted to be included in the vault. Oral histories have been conducted and will be included.

Imagine the excitement when this treasure trove is opened in 50 years, sharing our collected history. The hope is that the collection will be added to and resealed to share with future generations.

On Aug. 1 at 10 a.m., a short celebration will be held recognizing the 150th anniversary of Colorado's statehood and the closing of the history vault to preserve

the collected memories.

Visit the museum this summer to add your ideas of what should be preserved in the vault. You will also be able to view a listing of the materials collected. If you want to read up on our local history, a listing of books included in the collection will be available.

Centennial Farms and Ranches

Archuleta County and the southern portion of Hinsdale County have eight properties that have been recognized by the Colorado Centennial Farms and Ranches program.

This program was created in 1986 to recognize the important role agriculture has played in our state's history. Families who have owned and operated their farm or ranch of a minimum 160 acres continuously for 100 years or more are encouraged to submit a nomination to receive this designation.

During the full season, this exhibition will acknowledge the eight area farms and ranches and their family stories.

Star Spangled Quilts

The America 250-Colorado 150 celebration presents an opportunity to showcase a collection of quilts dubbed the Star

Spangled Quilt exhibition. These quilts will celebrate the founding of our country — one quilt honors the bicentennial anniversary of our nation, a redwork top records early history of Archuleta County, one quilt celebrates the millennium, among others. The exhibition will include information about the makers and their inspiration.

The collection

The majority of the items on display were found, used or produced in the area, including metal art and fossils of the extinct mosasaur — an aquatic reptile, that was discovered in Archuleta County.

A few of the exhibitions available to view at the museum include logging and railroad, a plethora of old photographs, a general store, ranching and textiles.

Connect

The museum is located a short walk from downtown at 96 Pagosa St. (the corner of U.S. 160 and 1st Street).

Donations are accepted to offset the operating expenses. The museum relies on private funding and grants to operate, and all donations are greatly appreciated.

For updates or more information, visit www.pagosamuseum.org.



Archuleta County's past

By John M. Motter

"Bold and brash" best describes Archuleta County history, a saga of the Old West prescribed by rugged mountain remoteness and the distinctive characteristics of three proud cultures.

At least three national flags have symbolized ownership of Pagosa Country — claims not always recognized by the Indigenous Native Americans who hunted and fished here long before Columbus crossed the Atlantic.

Those flags belonged to Spain, Mexico and the United States, and an argument could be made that France also claimed the area for a period of time.

Evidence of prehistoric human occupation in the San Juan Mountains, including Archuleta County, is fairly abundant. Later, but before white men followed Indian trails into the area, the Ancestral Puebloans pursued a sedentary lifestyle near Chimney Rock and along the Piedra and San Juan rivers in the southwestern part of the county.

More recently, perhaps about the same time Hispanics arrived in New Mexico, Southern Ute, Jicarilla Apache and Navajo Indians found the fertile mountain valleys surrounding the Great Pagosa Hot Spring to their liking. They enjoyed, even worshipped, the medicinal benefits of the mineralized hot spring waters.

Hispanics wandered into Nuevo Mexico in the 16th century, hoping to fill their packs with gold. Even though they didn't uncover fabulous golden riches, they stayed and, in order to survive, traded with the Native Americans. As a result, a trading

party led by Juan Maria Rivera visited Pagosa Country in 1765. Not much later, in 1776, the priests Francisco Dominguez and Silvestre Escalante entered Archuleta County near present-day Carracas, intent on finding a path linking Spain's New Mexico colonies with those in California. After reaching the central valley of Utah, the intrepid explorers turned back. Nevertheless, for years, Pagosa Country hills echoed to the clip-clop of mule trains trotting back and forth between California and New Mexico, along paths opened by these men.

By 1820, Pagosa Country acquired a new, if still foreign, ruling government. That is the year Mexico threw off the yoke of Spain and began administering her own affairs. Mexico's greater tolerance for Anglos encouraged a steady stream of fur traders to set their traps in the San Juan watershed.

By 1846, trapping was largely a thing of the past and even bigger changes loomed on the horizon. The United States went to war with Mexico. Following the war, the United States owned about half of Mexico's territory, including Pagosa Country.

Anxious to explore their new domain and to find a railroad route to California, the U.S. Army sent an expedition through Pagosa Country in 1859, headed by Capt. John Macomb. Macomb's party included a number of scientists who mapped the route and rendered exquisite line drawings of the Great Pagosa Hot Spring and Chimney Rock. Macomb's report is the first written description in English we have of Pagosa Country.

Soon after Macomb's visit, in 1860, gold was discovered in the San Juan Mountains. For the next 30 years, a steady stream



SAN JUAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

of prospectors and their supporters flowed through Pagosa Country. The growing number of settlers agitated the proud Southern Ute tribes, forcing the U.S. government to respond by sending troops into the area.

The San Juan River adjacent to the great Pagosa Hot Springs was chosen as a good point for locating troops. In 1878, Fort Lewis blossomed on one bank of the river, the town of Pagosa Springs on the other bank. Cattle ranchers chased their four-legged charges through the surrounding foothills.

Pagosa Country assumed all of the attributes of the Old West, with cavalry troops, cowboys and Native Americans, gunfights and barroom brawls, sheepmen and cattlemen, stagecoach holdups — all of the cherished traditions from which western movies are made.

Then, as suddenly as it had arrived, the Old West disappeared. Filling the void were railroads, lumber mills and loggers. Pagosa had its own narrow gauge railroad complete with a downtown depot. Nothing lasts forever and, after denuding much of the countryside, the railroad and logging industry moved out.

Colorado built a relatively modern highway over Wolf Creek Pass in 1916; trucks began to move most of the freight, and telephones, electricity and central water came to town. Local folks were caught between the new and the old. Cattlemen continued to raise beef for the market. Small lumber mills hacked away at the remaining trees. Then came the Great Depression and World War II. Many of the rural people eking out a scarcely adequate living moved to town, or further away to work in defense plants. The war ended, but few of those who had abandoned Pagosa Country returned. Pagosa had no payrolls.

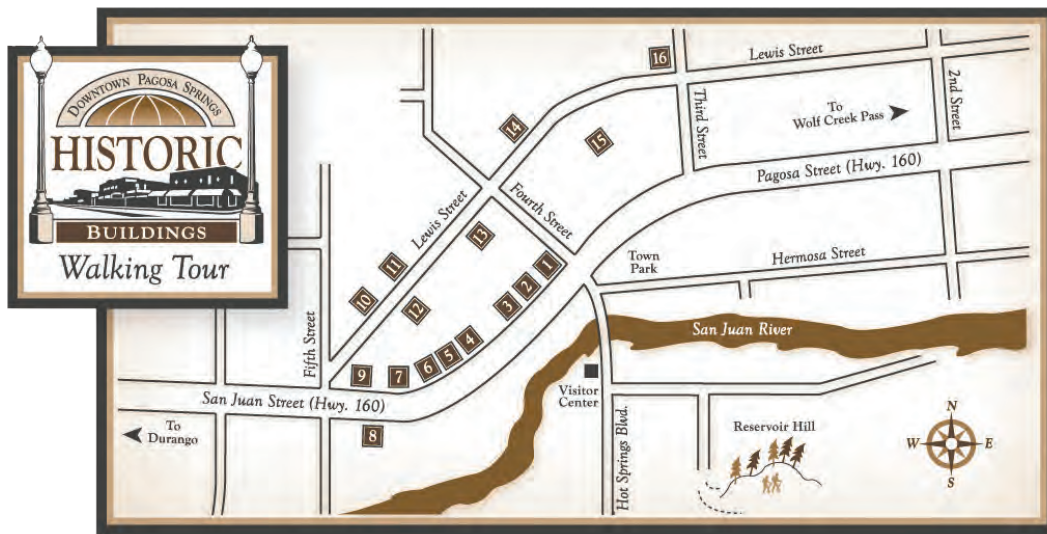
Along about 1970, a number of land developers, ears tuned

to the insistent jingle of change in affluent America's pockets, began to subdivide and sell Pagosa Country land. Buyers responded enthusiastically, infatuated with the mountain panoramas, gurgling streams, seemingly endless ranks of mountain forests, and maybe with the idea that a little of the Old West lived on in Pagosa Country.

Since 1970, the population of Pagosa Country has increased dramatically. Shops have sprung up to meet the needs of new arrivals. Farsighted investors have developed the Great Pagosa Hot Springs and other natural attractions. But, even with change, Pagosa Country has remained unique — a beautiful, off-the-beaten-path refuge for resident and visitor alike.

The history of Pagosa Country, new and old, is etched in her people's dynamic response to change. Even though the Old West is gone, the Old West background of soaring mountains, strident streams and abundant wildlife continue to dominate life here. As it has been from the beginning, Pagosa Country, dominated by God-given natural resources, remains bold and brash.

Even though the Old West is gone, the Old West background of soaring mountains, strident streams and abundant wildlife continue to dominate life here.

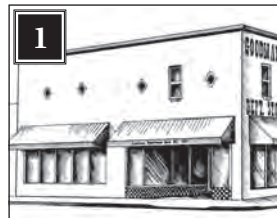


ILLUSTRATIONS AND TOUR COURTESY TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS

Downtown Historic Walking Tour

1. 402 Pagosa Street Goodman's Department Store

Following the departure of soldiers from Fort Lewis in 1880, pioneer David Lowenstein opened a clothing store at this location, conducting some of his business with Jicarilla Apache Indians. Through marriage, the Goodman family became associated with the business and eventually remodeled the structure in 1929. In 2000, Goodman's Department Store celebrated its 100th year in the building, continuing its legacy as the longest-operating department store in Pagosa Springs.



2. 418 and 422 Pagosa Street Metropolitan Hotel and Liberty Theatre

Pagosa Lumber Company founder A.T. Sullenberger purchased the two-story brick building at this location in 1918, which was previously occupied by Archuleta Mercantile and built by J.M. Archuleta Jr. in the early 1900s. After a fire destroyed the structure in 1919, Sullenberger constructed the Metropolitan Hotel, which featured modern rooms, hot baths for guests and a motion-picture theatre.



3. 426 Pagosa Street Sparks Hardware

Constructed in 1919, this structure was originally occupied by Sparks Hardware. Archuleta Motors opened a garage in the building several decades later. After fire damaged the building in 1943, Ben Lynch Sr. moved Jackisch Drug to this location, where it was operated by the Lynch family until 2004.



4. 452 Pagosa Street The Hersch Building

Built by Alice Phillips in 1898 and owned by the Hatcher Brothers from 1905 to 1921, this building was purchased in 1921 and became Hersch Mercantile. The building operated as Hersch Mercantile until the 1970s and has held numerous social and business functions, as well as the law offices of former Colorado Attorney General Alonzo Hubbard.



5. 456 Pagosa Street La Cantina

Clock Dry Goods Company operated at this location beginning in 1903. The building was briefly known as the Colorado Tavern from 1937 to 1941. The building was purchased in 1941 and renamed La Cantina by the L.M. Archuleta family. The Archuleta family operated La Cantina into the late 1990s until the building was purchased; renovations followed shortly thereafter, in 2001.



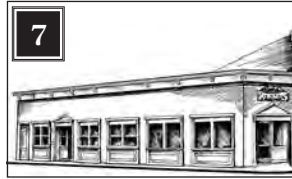
6. 468 Pagosa Street Hatcher Hardware

Beginning in 1905, Hatcher Hardware operated at this location for several decades. In 1943, a fire almost completely destroyed the building. The existing building was constructed after the fire. At the rear of the property is the town's second geothermal well, which was drilled in 1920. The wellhead has the ability to pump approximately 675 gallons per minute and was previously used to heat the building.



7. 474 Pagosa Street Citizens Bank

Citizens Bank operated at this corner location for more than 70 years. Fred Catchpole opened the bank following the closure of First National Bank in 1908. The original building, constructed in 1910, was a two-story structure. The structure was remodeled into a one-story building after a fire damaged the second floor in 1943. Catchpole served as county commissioner and county treasurer and was also influential in the construction of the Wolf Creek Pass road. The original bank vault and Wells Fargo safe still remain inside.



8. 449 San Juan Street Archuleta County Courthouse

In 1927, Jay Catchpole approached the Archuleta County Commission and suggested the county purchase the old First National Bank building, along with the adjoining lot to construct a courthouse. The property was purchased for \$5,000 and in 1929, the county moved into its new offices. The original bank vault still exists within the courthouse. The building is now privately owned.



9. 480 San Juan Street Moorehead Garage

This building originally functioned as a service station and auto garage and was constructed sometime between 1935 and 1937. A fire in 1943 destroyed a large portion of the structure. Numerous renovations have been completed since the fire, including significant restoration in 2005.



10. 468 Lewis Street San Juan Supply

Ralph Morgan constructed this building in 1918 and opened the Electric Garage. The property was purchased by C.O. Dunagan in 1925 and later sold to the Schoonover family. In the 1930s, Paul and Virginia Decker became partners with the Schoonover family and operated San Juan Supply into the mid 1980s. The building has served a variety of commercial enterprises since the closure of San Juan Supply.



11. 444 Lewis Street Sparks Residence

This ornamental concrete block building was constructed by Ethel Sparks in 1910. The home was purchased by Bryce and Julia Patterson in 1912. The Pattersons moved to town in 1904 and operated the Arlington Hotel and Bath House, which was across the street from the residence, until 1936.



12. 451 Lewis Street Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

This building was constructed in 1948 to accommodate an increased congregation at the existing Saint Edwards Catholic Church. The church was dedicated as the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on May 22, 1949. The original stained glass windows were imported from Spain. Saint Edwards Catholic Church was destroyed by fire in the 1950s.



13. 409 Lewis Street Ray's Hair Care

Located where the old Fort Lewis military paymaster's office may have stood, this building was constructed in 1902 by either Joseph Clarke or William Kester. The building has housed a number of businesses throughout the years, with Ray's Hair Care operating at this location from 1976 to early 2020.



14. 380 Lewis Street County Jail and Medical Office

County records show the jail may have been located on this property prior to 1936. The existing residence was built in the mid-1930s for a local medical doctor. The residence's architecture exemplifies the use of local stone materials.



15. 338 Pagosa Street Pagosa Springs Middle School

Pagosa Springs' school was completely destroyed by fire in 1924. For a year, students attended school in churches, businesses and the Odd Fellows Lodge until this building, the new school, was finished in 1925. The building was constructed to be totally fireproof, with ramps instead of stairs, which was thought to be safer. The school originally housed all grade levels; however, today the school accommodates only fifth- and sixth-grade students.



16. 302 Lewis Street Catchpole Residence

This residence was constructed as a Queen Anne-style home by Fred and Mabel Catchpole in 1910. From 1996 to 2002, the home experienced extensive remodeling, including siding, shingles, doors, windows and roof. The Catchpoles were active community members, with Fred serving terms as county commissioner and county treasurer, and Mabel serving terms on the school board and Methodist Church board.





Family Fun

Celebrating the sesquicentennial

2026 is a big year for both Colorado and for the United States as a whole, and Pagosa Country isn't missing out on the celebrating the sesquicentennial.

As History Colorado explains it, "In 2026, the United States will mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence—our nation's sesquicentennial. At the same time, Colorado will mark the 150th anniversary of our entrance into the Union—our state's sesquicentennial. As the Centennial State, Colorado is the only one who will observe twin anniversaries—our Sesquicentennial."

Colorado became the nation's 38th state on Aug. 1, 1876 — after years of trying — giving it its nickname of being the Centennial State.

From special exhibits to movies, live music and more, Pagosa Country's events honoring the anniversaries will focus on Colorado's and the nation's origins, histories, changes and future.

Music, film and entertainment

In May, the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society will honor American composers at a free concert featuring the Pagosa Springs Community Band on the stage in the Pagosa

Springs High School auditorium.

Also in May, the Archuleta County Republican Women and the Archuleta County Republican Central Committee will present the movie "Lincoln" at Pagosa's historic Liberty Theatre at 6 p.m. Entry will be \$13 per person.

The Pagosa Springs Community Band will be back in action on the Fourth of July to present its annual patriotic concert on the grounds of The Springs Resort.

On Aug. 22, the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association and Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society will team up to present an evening with a lecture followed by a concert at the Tenyson Sculpture Garden and Park. The event will feature a talk on birds of prey like the American bald eagle followed by a band concert featuring American composers and musical tributes to the dark sky of Chimney Rock. Bring your own law chair to enjoy the evening.

On Sept. 20, the Colorfest weekend festivities will take on a patriotic flare with the presentation of the state's 150/250 drone show.

Exhibits

The Pagosa Springs History Museum will host multiple exhib-

#1 RATED BALLOON RIDES!

**Rocky Mountain
BALLOON
Adventures**

**Scenic Sunrise Flights
Over the Rockies!**

BOOK NOW!

FAA Certified Pilots

30+ Years Experience

Photos Available

CALL TODAY! 970-317-3290 PagosaViews.com

PERFECT SAFETY RECORD!

its from May 25 to Sept. 5 in honor of the 150/250.

"Moments That Made US" is an America 250 commemorative exhibition honoring the Declaration of Independence, signed in 1776.

A nationwide exhibit, "Moments That Made US" looks at the ideals at the heart of the Declaration of Independence by exploring moments in our history that have served to define their meaning and explores how generations of Americans have given meaning to those ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

The Centennial Farms and Ranches exhibit at the museum will acknowledge area farms and ranches that have been awarded the Centennial Farm or Centennial Ranch recognition.

The Centennial Farms and Ranches Program is an initiative of History Colorado and the Colorado Department of Agriculture that recognizes the contributions of the state's ranching and farming families who have withstood the pressures of growth, changes in farming methods, as well as evolving environmental and economic conditions to preserve important pieces of Colorado's commercial and cultural history. During the full season, this exhibition will acknowledge eight area farms and ranches and their family stories.

The museum will also feature a special "Star Spangled Quilts" patriotic-themed quilt display featuring quilts that celebrate the founding of our country. Among others, one quilt honors the bicentennial anniversary of our nation, a redwork top records early history of Archuleta County and one quilt celebrates the millennium. The exhibition will include information about the makers and their inspiration.

A small-town Fourth of July

Pagosa Country's Fourth of July celebrations always invoke

small-town charm and Americana, featuring parades, fireworks (fire danger and weather permitting), rodeos, live music and other community traditions.

For more on the area's traditional festivities, see page 41.

And this year that charm will be turned up even more with the addition of Pagosa's Sesquicentennial Heritage Celebration Party at Yamaguchi Park.

History and heritage

On June 6 and 7, the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will present its annual Life at Chimney Rock Festival, celebrating the first Americans, at Chimney Rock National Monument. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

The 75th annual Archuleta County Fair will take place July 30 through Aug. 2 at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds. The event, which annually celebrates the area's agricultural heritage, will celebrate the 150/250 with special events alongside its traditional fair events. Planned events include late 1800s entertainment, craftspeople, law and lawless reenactments, and living historical reenactments. The event will also feature historical displays.

On Aug. 1, the Pagosa Springs History Museum will host the Pagosa Springs History Vault Ceremony — a short celebration recognizing the 150th anniversary of Colorado's statehood and closing the local history vault to preserve a collection of memories for future generations.

More information

For more on the celebrations planned for the area, including additional events, visit www.PagosaSUN.com and www.VisitPagosa.com.



Area parks

RANDI PIERCE

The parks of Pagosa Springs run the gamut from the wild and natural pine forest on Reservoir Hill to the manicured fields, courts and playgrounds of Yamaguchi Park. The town's parks are open from dawn to dusk.

While all the parks have parking areas, many also tie into the San Juan Riverwalk that runs in the downtown area.

Reservoir Hill

Reservoir Hill features hiking and biking trails, open space, a gazebo, 18-hole disc golf course with regular and alternative tee boxes, overlook views and restrooms. The parking area is located on Park Street.

Centennial Park

Centennial Park runs along the Riverwalk and features picnic areas, the Geothermal Greenhouse Project growing domes, a native plants garden, amphitheater and restrooms. The parking area is located off of South 5th Street.

Town Park

Town Park features a pirate ship-themed playground (in honor of the local schools being the Pirates), climbing boulders, a wind harp, picnic tables, barbecue grills and a white-water feature in the adjacent river. Across the street is a public athletic field. It is located on Hermosa Street.

Cotton Hole Park

Cotton Hole Park allows for access to the San Juan River for tubing and kayaking in a natural setting. The park is located at

the end of Hermosa Street.

River Center Park

River Center Park features two small fishing ponds with a handicap-accessible pier, access to the river for launching rafts and kayaks and a playground climbing structure for kids. It is located along the river off of East Pagosa Street.

Yamaguchi Park/ Yamaguchi Park South

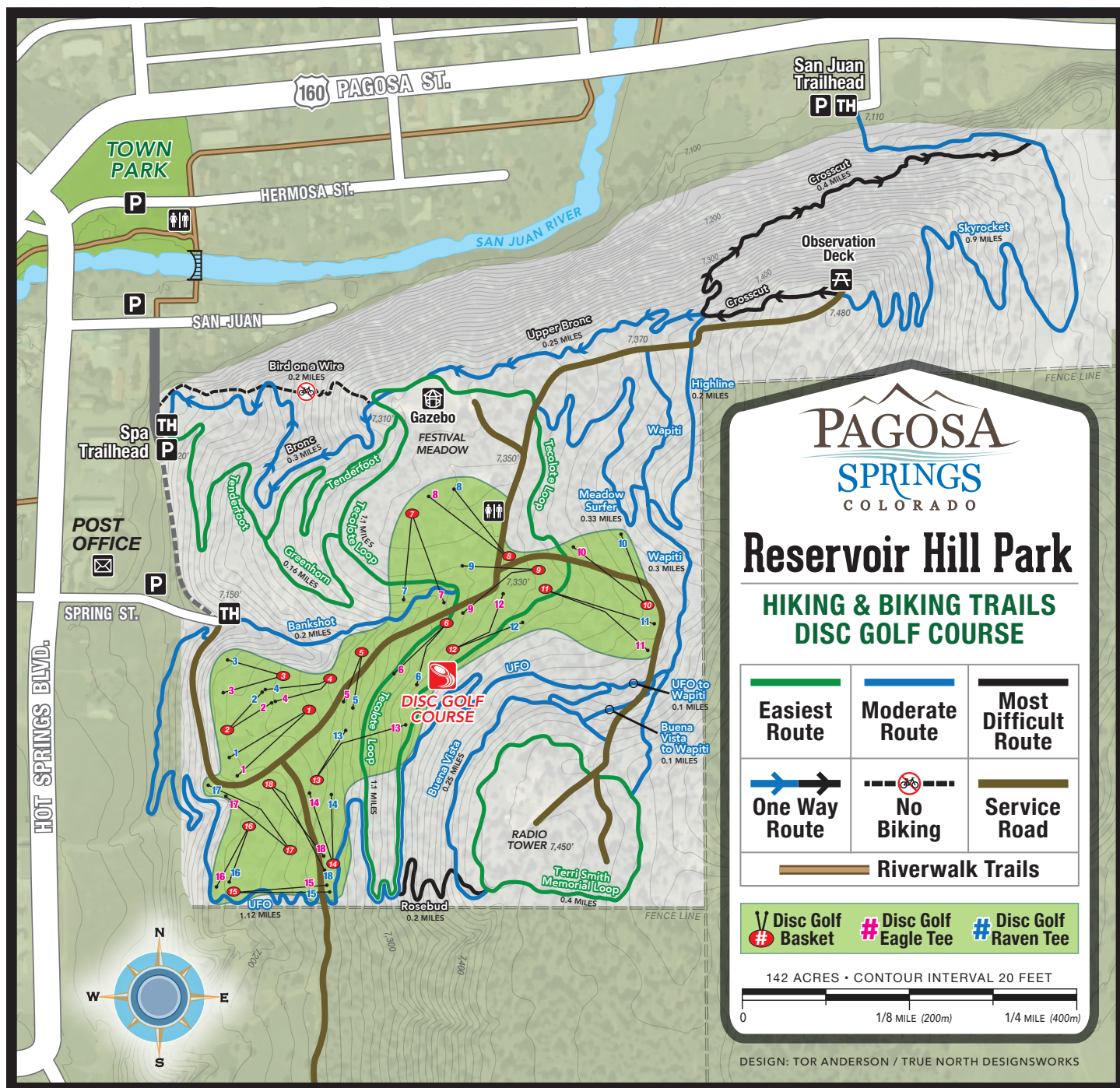
Yamaguchi Park and its extension — Yamaguchi Park South — feature a skate park with full-sized bowl and plaza elements, athletic fields, basketball court, playground areas, a kayak/raft launching facility and two whitewater features, bocce ball court, pickleball courts, a fenced dog park, a labyrinth, restrooms and more. New outdoor exercise equipment and outdoor cornhole sets will open in the summer of 2025, and work is underway on a future bike park. The park is located on South 5th Street.

Mary Fisher Park

Mary Fisher Park features several picnic tables, as well as a changing screen for kayakers and inner tubers to use before hitting another one of the whitewater river features, and restrooms. It is located on San Juan Street.

South Pagosa Park

South Pagosa Park features picnic tables, barbecue grills, a picnic shelter, horseshoe pits, a playground, sand volleyball



courts, a field, restrooms and more. The park is located on South 8th Street.

Cloman Park

Cloman Park features an 18-hole disc golf course, hiking and biking trails, open space and more. It is located on Cloman Boulevard.

Veterans Memorial Park

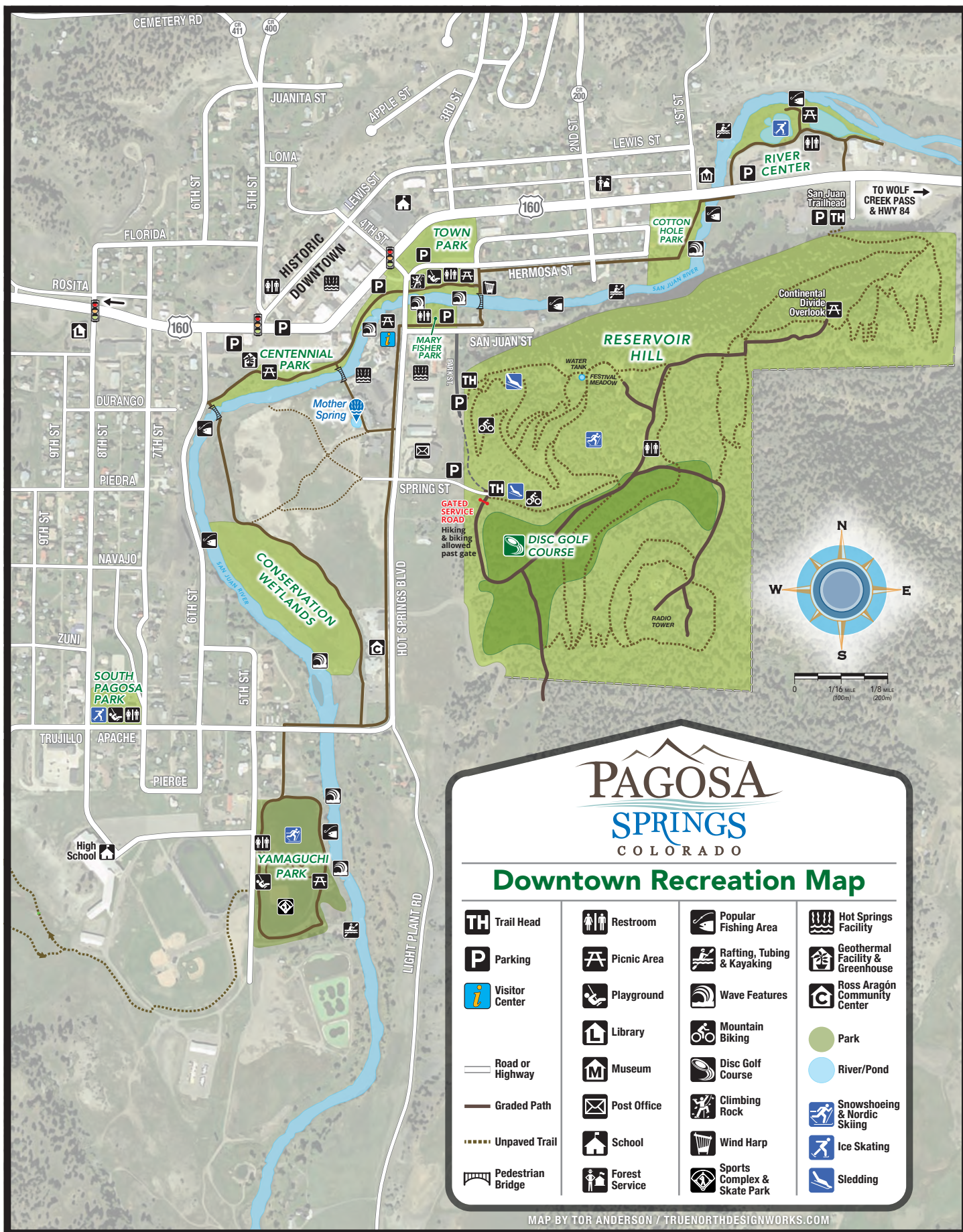
Veterans Memorial Park, developed by a local nonprofit, features multiple memorials honoring past, present and future service members, as well as a walking trail and picnic areas. The park is located on Vista Boulevard.

Pagosa Peak Open School

In 2025, Pagosa Peak Open School completed its "Playground for the People" park renovation. The park is open to the public outside of school hours. It is located in Aspen Village, near the Town-to-Lakes Trail and Walmart.

San Juan Riverwalk

Downtown Pagosa Springs also features the San Juan Riverwalk, with the trail meandering along the river, through parks and through the downtown wetlands area from River Center Park to Yamaguchi Park.





2026 San Luis Valley POTATO FESTIVAL

September 12 • Monte Vista

- TATER TROT 5K RACE •
- CRAFTS & FOOD VENDORS •
- GUIDED AGRICULTURAL TOURS •
- PROFESSIONAL CHEF DEMONSTRATIONS •
- FRESHLY HARVESTED COLORADO POTATOES •
- MUCH MORE! •



COLORADOPOTATO.ORG/POTATO FESTIVAL

2026 Western Heritage Event Center Rodeo Grounds
Hwys 160 & 84, Pagosa Springs, CO

Pagosa Night Rodeo

★★★★★

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

**June 4, 11, 18, 25
July 9, 16, 23**

Barbecue: 6pm
Pre-Show: 6:30pm
Performance: 7pm

Presented By



Wild Grass Rodeo Photography

Free Kids Calf Scramble

Tickets available at: the Gate,
Pagosa Chamber or scan QR code
www.burrisandsonsbuckingbulls.com



THE SPRINGS RESORT

Produced by **BURRIS AND SONS**
BUCKING BULLS

YOU AND YOUR GROUP of 2-8 people have 60 MINUTES to decipher clues, codes and puzzles in order to figure your way out of the room BEFORE TIME RUNS OUT...

CAN YOU ESCAPE?



PAGOSA ESCAPE ZONE

DOWNTOWN LOCATION FEATURING 3 ROOMS!

175 Pagosa Street

Book Online at: www.PagosaEscapeZone.com or call (970) 903-0529

PAGOSA SPRINGS

TREES COLORADO MOUNTAINS STARGAZING

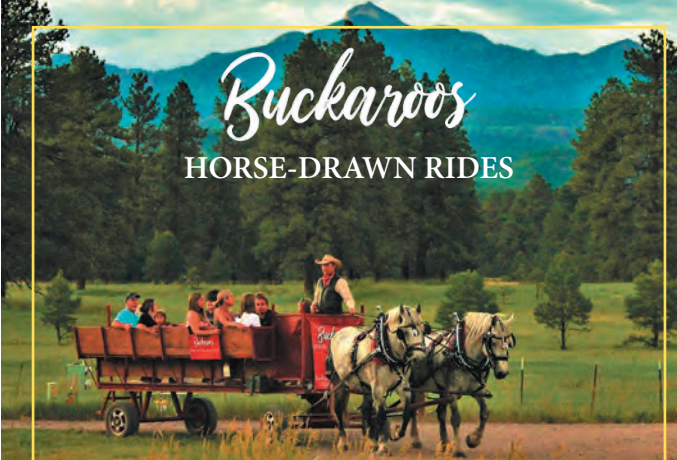
SHOP DINE HISTORY MUSEUM

ART MUSIC

TRAILS CONTINENTAL DIVIDE SAN JUAN RIVER HIKE BIKE RAFT HORSEBACK RIDES RIVERWALK

So Much To Do!
Stay informed with The Pagosa Springs SUN

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**
Subscribe today at PagosaSUN.com



Buckaroos

HORSE-DRAWN RIDES

DINNER WAGON RIDES

BBQ WITH LIVE MUSIC & CAMPFIRE

Also offering Public & Private Scenic Tours

Open 7 days a week! Great for all ages and occasions!



BOOK NOW! 720-231-5424
BUCKAROCRIDES.COM

ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

700 Honey Bee Place, Pagosa Springs




Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library

The Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library, located at the corner of U.S. 160 and South 8th Street in downtown Pagosa Springs, isn't just for locals.

Visitors can sign up for a temporary library card free of charge, attend numerous free events and classes for all ages, use public computers and fast Wi-Fi, or check out books, audiobooks and DVDs to enjoy while staying in town.

If you're intrigued with the local geography or want to know more about the history of Southwest Colorado, Chimney Rock, or Native American history, the library's Hershey Collection is dedicated to books about the area.

The library is named for Ruby Murel Cales Sisson — an educator, philanthropist and rancher who, through her will, donated trust funds to the library and Methodist Church.

Sisson taught school locally from 1929-1978, with the exception of one year during World War II. From 1936-1948 she alternated between teaching at the Blanco Basin school, a one-room schoolhouse where she taught all eight grades, and Pagosa Springs High School, where she taught math. The first school in Blanco Basin was held in a chicken coop at the Sisson ranch in 1905. Sisson's trust funds helped build the current public library in Pagosa Springs, and also provided for high school scholarships.

The collections for that first library came from an attorney, Frank Spickard, who made his personal library available to the members of a young ladies' literary club, and a wealthy benefactor in New York whose estate donated 48 books. The library opened in February of 1907 in the basement of the Methodist Church.

Initially volunteers ran the library. The Pagosa Springs Civic Club took over operations in February of 1910, when the collection numbered 202 books. Between 1910 and 1960, the library resided in a church, a log cabin and the old town hall.

In 1960, the library moved into two small rooms in the new town hall that had been built at the corner of U.S. 160 and Lewis Street (now the location of Bell Tower Park). When Archuleta County took over the library in 1966, it became possible to hire a full-time librarian. The Upper San Juan Library District was formed in 1985 to give the library a stable funding base.

The library opened in its current location in February of 1989 after the Pagosa Springs Women's Civic Club and the Friends of the Library raised more than \$700,000 for a permanent building. Since then, the library has been expanded twice. A 2026 expansion adds a large community room, a new children's room with adjoining garden, and a dedicated teen room and makerspace.

For more about the library, visit www.pagosalibrary.org.



Humane Society
of Pagosa Springs

we ♥ animals!

Humane Society
of Pagosa Springs

Mon–Sun: 10am–4pm

PROVIDING A SAFE HAVEN FOR ANIMALS IN NEED
HSPS offers these valuable community services:

Cremation & Memorial Services
Honor your faithful companion & cherish your memories.

Spay & Neuter Vouchers
HSPS offers spay and neuter assistance programs for dogs and cats.

Emergency Medical
HSPS helps community members through financial aid for pet emergency medical needs.

Microchips & Tags
Lost and stray pets with identification have the best chance for a speedy reunion with their owner.

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



Stargazing

Pagosa Country, nestled in the mountains and away from the hustle, bustle and city lights, is a wonderful place to take the wonders of the night sky. The area strives to be dark-sky friendly, meaning you can take in the stars and planets from almost anywhere. In addition, multiple local astronomy groups help make the night sky more accessible through special programs and educational opportunities.

Pickleball

Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in the country, and Pagosa Springs is at the forefront of the trend. Yamaguchi Park South on South 5th Street features eight pickleball courts, and there are often indoor pickleball events locals and visitors alike can partake in at the Ross Aragon Community Center. The local pickleball club numbers in the hundreds and offers organized play and lessons.

Rest & Relaxation



World's deepest hot spring

SAN JUAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Do people soak in the summer?

After a hard day of skiing or snowboarding, nothing beats the feeling of slowly lowering the body into a tub full of hot water. The muscles relax, the eyes close, a sigh of relief escapes the lips and, especially when the air is really cold, a thick veil of steam rises off the water to block out the rest of the world. If it happens to be snowing, you'll need to dunk all the way under every so often to melt the snow from the top of your head. This is paradise.

But what about in the summertime?

A poorly kept local secret: Soaking in the healing waters is just as nice, if not better, in the summer as it is in the winter.

Imagine getting up early, throwing on your hiking gear, filling a small backpack with a lunch and some water, grabbing your camera and driving to downtown Pagosa Springs, where you turn from U.S. 160 onto Lewis Street and immediately onto 5th Street, which turns into County Road 400 and then into Forest Road 645. Seven miles north of town you take a right at the junction and 4 miles after that you reach a trailhead.

After a 3-mile hike, you find the most amazing 300-foot waterfall. You eat lunch. You take pictures. You revel in the peace and solitude. You marvel at the glory and the beauty that is Colorado.

Reluctantly, you repack all your stuff and head back to the car. As you drive back to town, you start to notice a satisfying tightness in your leg muscles. Your shoulders start to ache where the straps of your backpack dug in.

What should you do?

The answer hits you. You should go soak.

While the mother springs is too hot for soaking, multiple downtown locations offer either indoor or outdoor pools (or both) and temperatures varying between hot and very hot,

giving soakers more than enough choices of where to relax and stretch out those sore muscles.

Choices for relaxation

From rustic to luxurious, the Pagosa area offers multiple ways to enjoy one of our most famous resources — the healing water.

Each of Pagosa's three bathing facilities offers its own unique take on the traditional soaking experience, and the savvy soaker does well to switch things up, experiencing how differently each place relaxes the spirit and heals the body.

Located on the main street of Pagosa Springs at 432 Pagosa St., the Overlook Hot Springs Spa offers soaking and massage services housed within old-world Victorian ambiance.

Offering indoor and outdoor pools, including a private tub room, massage and a steam room, the Overlook provides bathers an opportunity to soak while escaping the elements, or to take in the sights while soaking in pools located on the building's roof, which give the Overlook its name and notoriety.

The Healing Waters Resort and Spa offers a large outdoor swimming pool, outdoor hot tub, and separate men's and women's indoor hot baths. The pools are fed totally by mineral water, with no chemicals added that would dilute the water's natural minerals. The ambiance is down home, western and friendly.

Home of the world's deepest geothermal hot spring, The Springs Resort and Spa offers naturally therapeutic soaking pools that are terraced along the banks of the San Juan River and a mineral water swimming pool.

The natural mineral waters from the mother spring feed all the pools, which range in temperature to suit all tastes, and are known for their natural healing properties.

History and myth

After visitors to the area comment on the friendliness and laid-back demeanor of Pagosans, the next observation they offer is that the locals seem healthy and vibrant. If you surmised that the reason for that vitality and mellow groove is due to the healing powers of our spring, give yourself a soak; you've arrived at the best answer that we have.

In fact, it's a story that has deep roots in the area's legends. Local spin has it that the Ute phrase "Pagosa" describes the mystical qualities of the legendary Great Pagosa Hot Spring, repeating the apocryphal tale that the phrase translates as "Healing Waters."

Historian John Motter wrote, "According to the dictionary prepared under the auspices of and with the help of Southern Utes in Ignacio, 'pagosa' comes from two Ute words meaning 'stinking water.'" However, locals almost unanimously prefer the following myth to this likely truth.

According to legend, earlier Native American visitors were certain the Great Spirit had endowed the geothermally heated waters with superhuman virtues, and they came to Pagosa Springs to not just soothe sore bodies, but to replenish their souls. The hot springs, it is told, arose after a plague began devastating the tribes. With the disease confounding the potions and power of tribal medicine men, the people gathered on the banks of the San Juan River to offer a plea to the gods. There, they built a huge fire around which they prayed and danced, eventually falling asleep with complete exhaustion. They awoke the next morning to a pool of boiling water bubbling from beneath the coals of the ceremonial fire. Seeing this as a sign from the gods, the afflicted bathed in the soothing water and were, at once, cured. From then on, the great spring became known as "Pag-Osah," a place of peace and healing.

Needless to say, reverence for the "healing waters" has not abated with the passage of time. And while Motter's account of the spring's history is probably closer to the truth, a growing number of visitors come to Pagosa Springs for the same reasons that color the myth.

Science and trivia

Geothermal water is used to heat a number of businesses and residences in the downtown core, and feeds the three Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership growing domes in Centennial Park (as well as the obvious application for soaking).

Putting aside legends and myth, the "healing waters" that emerge from the earth's surface in Pagosa Springs are the product of geological processes, hundreds of millions of years in the making, that put the area in a unique situation.

The process essentially begins as water percolates through the earth's surface in its endless cycle of evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection. Eventually, water descends through super-heated rock and magma, gaining a three- to five-degree increase for every 300 feet of depth. Under pressure, the heated water begins to rise, following cracks and fissures in the rock, eventually making its way to the surface. On the way, it picks up a host of minerals, such as sulfur, silica, calcium, potassium, etc., and if the water retains heat, emerges in the form of hot springs.

While the research has yet to determine the exact size and characteristics of the hot spring, measurements put the Great Pagosa into the pages of the Guinness Book of World Records as the deepest hot spring in the world.

In August 2011, when a 1,002-foot long plumb line was dropped into the "mother spring," it didn't hit the bottom; instead, the plumb line ran out.

So, while the official measurement is now 1,002 feet, the true depth remains unknown. In fact, a previous attempt at measurement using a 2,500-foot plumb line culminated in results similar to those from Guinness: Before the plumb line reached the bottom of the spring, the line ran out.

They awoke the next morning to a pool of boiling water bubbling from beneath the coals of the ceremonial fire. Seeing this as a sign from the gods, the afflicted bathed in the soothing water and were, at once, cured.



THE OVERLOOK
MINERAL SPRINGS SPA



HEALING WATERS RESORT AND SPA



THE SPRINGS RESORT

PAGOSA'S BEST MASSAGE

From our Guestbook .. Our customers say it best....

wouldn't go anywhere else than this place!

So clean, cozy, beautiful ambience,
love the roof top.

Claudia & Josh

Massage & Springs - nothing
better! Thank you overlook for
the hospitality & kindness. What
a wonderful place you have here.

Chuck & Kelly 9/14/17

Amazing in all
ways! The view,
the baths, the
historic building
and the tour -

of the springs
Thank you!
Kurt Dennis
Tucson

"Hands down"
THE BEST PLACE
for RELAXING!!
Aniana Tapaya

Teena is an absolute blessing! Magic hands,
beautiful conversationalist, and she went above and beyond
make our entire day fantastic! We will be giving 5.
fantastic TripAdvisor rating and ill be back!

Thanks again! ♥

Dustin & Tara Weldy
Lewisburg, OH

Scott & Katie Parker
Dallas, TX



OMG! This place
STINKS BUT it's Not your
fault! I Love this place and
wish I can come here every day!
The staff was capital-AMAZING!
Thank ya'll so much and
definitely see ya'll soon!

Kat & Shane
Austin TX! 2010

This is our first time at this place & can't
believe it took so long! so excited!! ♥♥

Absolutely LOVED every aspect about
this lovely place. ♥ Austin, TX Ari, Monica, Alexa

What a relaxing and tranquil place!
MUCH better than your friends across the road!
Great service and very clean. We will
recommend you to NAVY!

Brooke & Trent
Rivers



Love
love love
Overlook Hot Springs!
Will definitely be
back! Paul & Sue
Phoenix, AZ ☺

I am a man of many
words.... Perfect.

Andrea & Garrett

Recommended
by
Sunset
Magazine!

OVERLOOK

970.264.4040 HOT SPRINGS SPA HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

OVERLOOKHOTSPPRINGS.COM

ONLY OXYGEN BAR IN PAGOSA



All About You
Day Spa & Oxygen Bar

- ✿ EMINENCE ORGANIC FACIALS
- ✿ CUSTOM MASSAGE
- ✿ ENERGY WORK
- ✿ SPA PACKAGES
- ✿ MANICURES & PEDICURES

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT (970) 731-3391

www.dayspapagosa.com

190 Talisman Dr Suite C2, Pagosa Springs, CO. Located behind City Market on Village Dr

Akashic Records

Readings & Clearings

It's a perfect time to have a life changing experience!

I work directly with your team of guides & angels to access your soul records from across time & space. Each session is personal & unique accessing higher realms of light to find answers to your life & purpose

Rebecca A. Cortez, LMT
Inner Dimensional Energy Practitioner



All About You
Day Spa & Oxygen Bar
www.dayspapagosa.com

Schedule Your Session (970) 582-9133

Facetime Sessions Available

190 Talisman Dr Suite C2, Pagosa Springs, CO. Located behind City Market on Village Dr



**HOME GROWN,
LOCALLY OWNED**



**YOUR ALL SEASON
EQUIPMENT SUPERSTORE**



SALES · PARTS · RENTALS · SERVICE

39927 US-160 Bayfield, CO
Call or Text (970) 884-4101



Browse Inventory





CLAYTON CHANEY

Stay in the **HEART** of Pagosa Springs
Lodging • Hot Springs • Massage Services

Soaking Made Simple
 — 100% Natural Mineral Water —
 Outdoor Swimming Pool • Hot Tub • Indoor Hot Baths

Warm Hospitality • Rejuvenating Waters
Small-Town Charm
 Comfortable, affordable accommodations
 while you stay, play & relax!

— **Massage & Soaks Our Specialty** —
Schedule your stay today!






Healing Waters
 Resort & Spa

800-832-5523 • 970-264-5910
www.PSHotSprings.com

140 Hot Springs Blvd., Pagosa Springs, CO
 Lobby Open Daily 8am to 10pm • Pools Open 11am to 10pm

Rest Your Head



From rugged to luxury, Pagosa Country has lodging to fit your style

No matter the type of relaxing vacation or adventure trip you're aiming to have in Pagosa Country, you'll find lodging suited to your style.

Pagosa Springs and the surrounding area feature everything from world-class lodging where celebrities have been known to stay to opportunities for camping where you'll only see other folks if and when you want to — and everything in between.

Vacations in Pagosa Country are what you make of them, and the varied lodging available throughout the area can undoubtedly enhance it to make your trip even more memorable.

Traditional and unique lodging

If you're looking for a traditional motel or hotel, you'll find several in Pagosa Springs, with many locally owned and operated by people who have called Pagosa Country home for years.

That means that not only can they help you be rested and refreshed for your adventures, but can also give you tips about some of the best places to go. It also means they take pride in helping make your experience at their establishment the best it can be.

If you're after lodging connected to our world-famous geothermal mineral waters and spa treatments, you'll find that, too, with different lodgers offering different ways to access and enjoy the waters and amenities to achieve true relaxation and rejuvenation.

Pagosa Springs also boasts a number of hotels and motels that have been renovated in recent years to provide modern, stylish accommodations near some of the town's most bustling and popular restaurants and lounges.

Too, a number of lodging establishments, ranging from hotels to motels and cabins to geodomes, can be found along the picturesque San Juan River and near the town's Riverwalk multiuse trail, shopping, restaurants, lounges, soaking facilities and more.

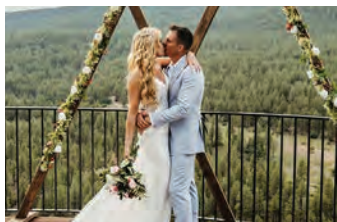


PHOTO PROVIDED BY ST. JAMES SPORTING PROPERTIES

MOUNTAIN TOP BOUTIQUE HOTEL, RESTAURANT & EVENTS VENUE

5-Star Luxury Hotel & Restaurant with On-Site Activities, Amenities & a Premier Events & Wedding Venue

For more information email theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com or call 970-731-1162

Visit our website www.keyahgrande.com for more information

Private rentals

If you're looking for a little more space to temporarily call your own, numerous private houses are available to rent, many complete with amenities like fireplaces (even summer evenings can be cool, especially during the rainier season) and views of the storied South San Juan Mountains.

Sometimes there's little better than having a quiet space just for you and your family or friends to kick back and feel at home while you explore everything Pagosa Country has to offer and rest after a day's adventure.

Camping and cabins lodging

Looking to get away from it all, be closer to the mountains and keep the adventure going? There are many camping opportunities on the San Juan National Forest that surrounds Pagosa Springs.

The U.S. Forest service offers developed campgrounds and more isolated dispersed camping areas and, with some planning, you can find a perfect spot for you and your family. It should be noted that, while sewer, water hook-ups and showers are not available, most established campgrounds have drinking water, picnic tables, fire rings and vault toilets.

A visit to www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/recreation/camping-cabins can help you find and reserve the right camping option for your visit, as well as understanding the rules and regulations for dispersed camping.

Be sure to also research how to be respectful and aware of the local wildlife while camping to help ensure the best possible experience for both you and the local wildlife that calls the national forest home.

Birding

Southwest Colorado is home to a wide variety of birds, with some calling the area home year-round, some calling the area home during the warmer months and some using it as a resting spot on their migrations. Birdwatching in Pagosa Springs is easy and can be done from anywhere, even your chosen lodging while you enjoy a cup of coffee. A few areas touted by Audubon for birding include the San Juan Riverwalk, Echo Canyon Reservoir, Lake Capote and Chimney Rock National Monument. See pages 90-91 for some birds to watch for. These birds are highlighted by local members of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies.

Lodging Just Like Home



Mountain Landing
Suites & RV Park

In beautiful Pagosa Springs, Colorado

Immaculate 1 & 2 Bedroom Suites and Honeymoon Suite

For more information: Visit our Website
www.MountainLanding.net
mtnlanding@mountainlanding.net or Call 970-731-5345

Nightly, Weekly & Monthly Rates



RV Park open mid-April to mid-November

36 Sites • Hookups • 50 amp • Water • Sewer
Wooded Setting • Close to Town

"People Friendly"

PAGOSA RIVERSIDE CAMPGROUND

on the San Juan River
River • Lakeside • Wooded Sites



Game Room • Cable TV
Paddleboats • Fishing • Laundromat



Wi-Fi

Store — Gifts, Souvenirs, Groceries
Hot Showers • RV SUPPLIES



Call for reservations and info

(970) 264-5874 • 1-888-785-3234

PagosaRiverside.com

P.O. Box 268, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

2270 E. Hwy. 160 • On Hwy. 160, 1 1/3 Mile East of Hwy. 84



Good Sam, AARP,
Military, AAA,
FMCA Discounts



970.264.1111

www.hartlandranch.com

- Five luxury log cabin homes
- 2 and 3 bedroom cabins
- On 35 secluded acres
- On-site management
- Family owned & operated
- 1 mile north of downtown



THIS IS HOW YOU DO COLORADO

Dulce Base Tipi

Stay Exclusive, Stay Authentic
"As seen in New Mexico Magazine."
Experience the Jicarilla Apache culture
with our Exclusive Rez/UFO Tour - Visit Dulcebasetipi.com to Book!



Flavor of Pagosa

CLAYTON CHANEY

Kip's Grill and Cantina: Celebrating 20 years of flavor

Kip's Grill and Cantina has been serving up tacos, margaritas and live music in the heart of downtown Pagosa Springs for more than 20 years. Over that time, it's become a place that locals can't seem to stay away from, and a must-stop restaurant for visitors.

The old red house that Kip's resides in on the east end of Pagosa Street was actually moved from a block over on Lewis Street years ago and turned into an Italian restaurant by a previous owner.

The original Kip's started out in Del Norte in 1996, operating out of an old train caboose, and later moved to Creede. The Pagosa Springs location opened in 2005.

The former owners of the Pagosa Springs location, Becky and Eric Deitemeyer, helped create the atmosphere that thrives in Kip's today and the new owner, Missy Losee, plans to keep the party going.

One probably wouldn't be able to tell that the restaurant got a new owner just a few years ago, as Losee explained she really didn't want to change anything.

From the collage of license plate wall art to Kip's recipes and its staff, what you find at Kip's has stayed consistent—good food, good drinks and good times.

"We're gonna keep it going," Losee said. "Sell tacos, drink margaritas, have good music and have a lot of fun — that's the plan."

Losee talked about how Becky and Eric Deitemeyer did an amazing job in building up what Kip's is today, and how the building itself helps create the kind of environment that makes you feel more at home than in some generic restaurant.

The Deitemeyers put a lot of hard work and care into the restaurant, Losee explained.

"And I'm gonna try to continue the same thing," she added.

Losee noted she can't imagine moving Kip's to a different location as the old red house has become a staple in the community.

"I just think that this building is part of what it is," Losee said, explaining it is basically like her second home.

She mentioned that, these days, her two kids — a 5-year-old and a 7-year-old — usually tag along for the day when going into the restaurant.

"For me, at least, it's definitely home," Losee said, explaining she'd love for her kids to one day run the business.

With the exception of going out on a rafting trip or heading up to the ski area on big powder day, Losee spends most of her days at the restaurant taking care of the paperwork side of things and chatting it up with the regulars at the bar.

Losee credits her amazing staff for putting in the work to keep the restaurant running smoothly and ensuring that the



We Love Pizza. You Love Pizza.
NOW GET IN HERE!

Appetizers
Sandwiches
Salads
Desserts
Full Bar
Happy Hour
Great Patio
12 Craft Beer Taps



[www. RosiesPS.com](http://www.RosiesPS.com)

970-731-0420 • 100 Country Center Dr Suite C (Next To City Market)

Open at 11am Wednesday-Sunday



iconic Kip's atmosphere never fades.

"These guys are running this place," she said. "My staff is incredible."

Among those incredible staff members is the restaurant's longtime chef.

"We have an amazing chef who's been here for a long time," Losee says, mentioning all the great specials Chef Jimmy Baszynski comes up with like prime rib taco plates.

The story of how Losee found Pagosa Springs is a common one — finding Pagosa Springs, loving the area and wanting to never leave.

After leaving her hometown of Atlanta, Ga., and experiencing Pagosa Country, Losee said, "I did not want to leave ... I just fell in love with the area."

Losee started out working as a hostess at Kip's, and since then has worked just about every position at the restaurant, all the way up to owning it.

She noted that she is "super thankful for the opportunity" the Deitemeyers gave her to purchase the business, mentioning owning and operating a restaurant has been a lifelong dream of hers.

"[It's] kinda like my dream come true," she said, explaining how this is something she has always wanted to do since she was a little girl.

When asked if she enjoys the food at Kip's, Losee explained that she's worked there for the past 13 years and still eats there five days a week.

"So, yeah, I think the food is great," she said, noting she ate the Esteban special almost daily for a year straight at one point.

More live music is in the works for this upcoming summer, Losee said.

Having different types of music and local musicians perform "and just bringing that type of party to Pagosa" is super important, given her upbringing in Atlanta, she explained.

"So, it means a lot to have live music all the time," she said.

Losee said she will keep being creative and find new ways to keep everybody coming back without abandoning what Kip's is at the heart of it all.

"I'm really lucky," she said, mentioning numerous locals and regulars help keep the place alive.

It's also clear that good food, charm and fun will continue to thrive at Kip's.

"This little house is just part of the charm, and it's what Kip's is," Losee said as she looked through a stash box of unique, funny and interesting license plates from all over the world that Kip's has collected over the years, noting an old local Archuleta County license plate from 1946 and a personalized Costa Rican license plate as some of her favorites.

"It's been a lot of fun," she said. "I like it. I'm not going anywhere."

Kip's Grill and Cantina has been serving up tacos, margaritas and live music in the heart of downtown Pagosa Springs for more than 20 years.

Over that time, it's become a place that locals can't seem to stay away from, and a must-stop restaurant for visitors.



SQUARE TOP

BAR-B-QUE

AUTHENTIC TEXAS BAR-B-QUE



OPEN YEAR ROUND

Located at the **PAGOSA SPRINGS GOLF CLUB**
1 Pines Club Pl. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

www.squaretopbbq.com - 970-398-5267



**Pagosa's
best place for
sweet treats
and fun eats.**

16 Ice Cream Flavors
House Made
Waffle Cones
Espresso & Hot
Chocolate Bar
Now Offering House
Made Fudge
Candy Galore
Private Party Room
Toys, Gifts & More

Bliss Scoops & Sweets
470 Pagosa St • 970-398-4423
Open everyday 11AM - 8PM

East Side Market at 225 E Pagosa Street
open every day 8am to 5pm
970-403-6567



BAJA-STYLE TACOS
FRESH SALSAS
WILD GAME BURGERS



FULL BAR / HAPPY HOUR
APPETIZERS / SPECIALS
LIVE MUSIC & MORE!

KIP'S GRILL & Cantina

121 Pagosa St., Pagosa Springs CO 970-264-3663

Tequila's



A local favorite!

Family Mexican Restaurant

featuring

*authentic Mexican cuisine
traditional cocktails & beverages*

Sunday-Thursday 11-10 • Friday-Saturday 11-11

439 San Juan Street
(970) 264-9989

*Celebrating
25 years
of Great Food
& Great Service*



25 Years of Handcrafted Community



**Handcrafted
Baked Goods**



Quick delicious nourishing meals



Sourdough Breads • Creative Pastries
Healthy Salads • Soups & Sandwiches
Best Green Chile in Town
Take & Bake Pies and Cookies
Coffee • Tea • Espresso
Locally grown ingredients in our
products and for purchase in store.

238 Pagosa Street • (970) 264-9348
www.pagosabakingcompany.com






**in-home
personal
chef service**

Meal Prep
Parties & Dinners
Cooking Classes

(410) 652-7232
chefterristable@gmail.com



  @ChefTerriTable




**2035 Eagle Drive
Open every day
1-8 pm
970-403-6567**



Gourmet, Fresh, Quality, Fun
ARTISAN CHOCOLATE • FUDGE • COOKIES

New!

- *Treats & Drinks
- *Olive Oils & Vinegars
- *Coffee, Tea & Honey
- *Colorado Made Gifts

 Chocolate is sharable JOY!

COLD DRINKS
~Frozen Hot Chocolate
~Lavendar Lemonade
~Iced Coffee & Mochas
-BOBA

P.S.Chocolates 124 E. Pagosa #5 (River Center)
pschocolates.com Mon-Sat.11-5 Sun. 11-3



RIFF RAFF

BREWING CO.

COME CHECK OUT
THE DOG BEACH
& OUTDOOR BAR!

RIVERSIDE DINING. SPORTS BAR FEEL

- Bold burgers • Fresh salads • Signature sandwiches
- 16 beer taps • House-made sodas
- Award-winning Margaritas • Custom cocktails

356 E. PAGOSA ST. • 970-264-6274



Yes!

We Serve
Frozen Yogurt & MORE!

Fresh Bagel Sandwiches,
Salads & MORE!

12 Flavors of Frozen Yogurt & Toppings Bar

~ Plus ~

Cookies • Smoothies • Boba Teas • Coffee & Tea

459 Lewis Street next to the Tennyson Sculpture Garden - 970.946.9042

Home of Pagosa's Best
Specialty Grilled Cheese
Sandwiches!

MELTDOWN
ON MAIN



Live music
every Friday

Pet
friendly!



SERVING BEER & WINE!!

Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday
257 Pagosa Street • (970) 398-2332



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Where is Pagosa Springs?



Pagosa Springs sits at 7,079 feet in southwest Colorado at the base of the Continental Divide. Featuring rushing rivers and streams, lakes galore, hiking and biking trails, spectacular fall colors, ancient ruins, deep powder in the winter at nearby Wolf Creek Ski Area, incredible hunting, amazing wildlife, clean air and 3 million acres of National Forest surrounding the area, Pagosa Springs offers plenty of opportunities for our valued visitors, any time of year.

Who can I contact for info?



The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism website, www.visitpagosasprings.com, will link you to the Visitor Center, or call the vacation line at (866) 438-4917. Visitor information can also be found at www.ExplorePagosa.com and www.PagosaSUN.com. Keep up on the news and events with The Pagosa Springs SUN, the community's weekly newspaper, and at www.PagosaSUN.com.

What is it like at that altitude?



Regardless of physical fitness, acute mountain sickness can strike anyone not acclimated to Pagosa's 7,000-foot elevation. To guard against altitude sickness:

- Drink 3 to 4 quarts of water per day.
- Avoid overexertion and keep caffeine and alcohol intake moderate for the first few days.
- Seek medical attention if persistent headache, fatigue, poor coordination or shortness of breath occur.

What is the weather like?



Archuleta County is located in the "Colorado Sunbelt," just north of the New Mexico border and along the Western slope of the Continental Divide. This combination of high-desert plateau and dramatic Rocky Mountains to the north and east creates an unusually mild climate compared with much of the surrounding Southwest. We are favored with some 300 days of sun each year, as well as four distinct seasons. With low wind and warm sunshine, residents can enjoy a variety of year-round recreational activities.

Average temperatures and precipitation:

Average Days of Sunshine: 300 per year

Annual Precipitation: 21.66 inches/year

Annual Snowfall: 116.4 inches/year

Month	High	Low	Precip.	Month	High	Low	Precip.
Jan.	37.4°F	1.4°F	2.09"	Jul.	82.7°F	45.0°F	2.01"
Feb.	42.0°F	7.0°F	1.76"	Aug.	80.0°F	44.4°F	2.70"
Mar.	48.5°F	15.6°F	1.94"	Sep.	73.5°F	36.4°F	1.98"
Apr.	58.6°F	23.7°F	1.34"	Oct.	63.1°F	26.3°F	2.27"
May	67.9°F	30.1°F	1.26"	Nov.	49.0°F	15.4°F	1.56"
Jun.	78.1°F	36.1°F	.89"	Dec.	39.5°F	4.9°F	1.85"

Is there a medical facility?



Pagosa Springs Medical Center includes a critical access hospital located at 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. The emergency room is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Phone (970) 731-3700. Dial 911 for emergency services.

There are also multiple primary care clinics in the community offering a variety of services, including urgent care.

Important phone numbers



EMERGENCIES DIAL "911" (ambulance, EMT, fire, police)

Nonemergency ambulance, fire, EMT or law enforcement, dial (970) 731-2160

Emergency Medical Services	(970) 731-5811
Pagosa Springs Medical Center	(970) 731-3700
Pagosa Springs Urgent Care	(970) 372-0456
Axis Integrated Healthcare	(970) 264-2104
Pagosa Springs Police Department	(970) 264-4151, Ext. 228
Archuleta County Sheriff's Office	(970) 264-8430
Pagosa Fire Protection District	(970) 731-4191
USFS Pagosa District Ranger	(970) 264-2268
Pagosa Springs Town Hall	(970) 264-4151
Archuleta County Commissioners	(970) 264-8300
The Pagosa Springs SUN	(970) 264-2100
Pagosa Springs Post Office	(970) 264-5440
Pagosa Senior Center	(970) 264-2167
Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library	(970) 264-2209
Archuleta School District 50 Jt.	(970) 264-2228
Navajo Lake State Park	(970) 883-2208
Airport Flight Base Operations	(970) 731-2127
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District	(970) 731-2691
Black Hills Energy	(888) 890-5554
La Plata Electric Association	(970) 247-5786

SILVER DOLLAR LIQUOR

Oldest liquor store in Archuleta County

Be sure to stop in before your next adventure!

Finest selection of cigars in Pagosa Springs.

Stop in and see us!

Mon-Sat: 9 a.m. to midnight • Sun: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

204 East Pagosa Street
Pagosa Springs, Colorado



PAGOSA PEAK RESTAURANT

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Open daily 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
230 Country Center Drive

PH: (970) 731-0384





Retail Therapy

CLAYTON CHANEY

Treasures of the Rockies: Family run for 26 years

A lot has changed in Pagosa Springs since 1910, when the historic Citizens Bank at 474 Pagosa St. opened. Over the years, the building has withstood fire damage, seen numerous renovations and hosted a variety of different businesses, including an architect's office and a dentist practice. Today you'll find a one-of-a-kind gift shop, Treasure of the Rockies, which is run by Jeff and Michelle Puskas, their kids and the family's newest addition — their pup Nala.

Over the years, the store has grown and expanded, even running a coffee shop in the back at one point, but one thing that has stayed steady through those changes is that the Puskas always provide something memorable for everyone who stops by.

After growing up in the Chicago area and giving the big city life a try, the Puskas found themselves looking for something different than traffic-jammed interstates and long days spent away from their family.

In looking for that new opportunity, the Puskas landed in Pagosa Springs after finding a photo of the historic building for sale and visiting the town for the first time. It didn't take much convincing for the Puskas to load up and move their young family across the country.

"And we haven't looked back," Michelle said, recalling she felt scared to death initially taking that leap and leaving the suburban life behind, but knew the thought of not going and giving it a try would be even harder to justify.

The store grew over time, as did her family, and Michelle said they were thankful "to become part of the community" and be able to spend precious time with their kids.

Getting to raise their family in the mountains and having the flexibility to go to all the extracurricular activities is one of the things Michelle and Jeff are most grateful for.

From hanging out in the back storage rooms after school playing video games to setting up the store's website and helping run the store, their kids — Daniel and Leah — have fully embraced the family businesses mentality.

"Now they're pretty much running the show," Michelle said about her kids.

Running the store has been more than selling shirts and souvenirs; it's allowed the Puskas to develop lifelong friendships with the seasonal regulars and become a reliable spot for locals to pick up quality gifts for visiting family and friends.

Over the 26 years of running the store, Michelle and Jeff both feel the biggest success has been being able to do it all as a family.

"Everybody's invested ... it makes it easy because the communication is always there," Michelle said.

What makes it extra special for the Puskas is that they've been able to do it in a one-of-a-kind place like Pagosa Springs.

"Pagosa's a special place," Michelle said, talking about how sitting on the porch simply enjoying the weather is one of her favorite



*Visit our Colorful
& Unique
Boutique in
historic downtown*

Celebrating

Happy Trails
30⁺ *Ladies Boutique*
Years Est. 1992

*Find the best selection
of Global Designers
in the Southwest!*



(970)264-4260 • 454 Pagosa Street • Historic Downtown Pagosa Springs

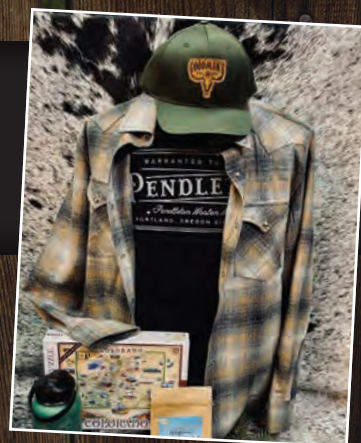
www.HappyTrailsLadiesBoutique.com



GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE

Our family serving yours since 1899

**APPAREL • FOOTWEAR • ACCESSORIES
HOME DECOR • CUSTOM HAT BAR • TUXEDO RENTALS
HUNTING LICENSES • BOOT STRETCHING**



402 PAGOSA ST • (970) 264-2222

3 SHOPS Under One Roof

Native American Shop

Native American Jewelry
Authentic Native American Pottery

Rock Shop

Crystals • Fossils • Rocks • Minerals
Himalayan Salt Lamps
Amethyst Churches • Citrine Churches
Selenite Sky Lamps • Metaphysical Books

Gift Shop

Knives • Fine Gifts • Knick Knacks • T-shirts
Stuffed Animals & Much More!



970-264-5825 • 611 San Juan St. Downtown

Great Gifts!

*Something
for everyone*



Open 7 days a week

**2105 Eagle Drive
970-731-2264**

things to do.

Traffic jams also look a little different in Pagosa Country, and on the rare occasion it does take more than a few minutes to get through town, Michelle said she'd much rather look up and see a herd of elk with mountains in the background than an endless row of billboards while listening to constant honking.

A new generation may be taking over the reins of the store, but the Puskas don't intend to let much else change — at least for a while.

"It's just what we do now," she said. After taking the chance and moving her family's life to Pagosa, she wouldn't ever go back to the big city.

It still takes a lot of hard work to keep up with the store and keep it fresh, but Michelle said she'll "keep on trucking," mentioning it's the people and "forever relationships" they've developed over the years that mean the most.

TIPPY CANOE

Mountain Home Furnishings *From Rustic to Refined*



LARGEST
PENDLETON
SELECTION
IN THE
SOUTHWEST

925 MAIN AVENUE | DOWNTOWN DURANGO | TIPPYCANOEDURANGO.COM

Extraordinary Redefined

Like-new clothing
for the whole family

Beautiful new jewelry
& accessories

Amazing furniture
& home decor

UPSCALE RESALE

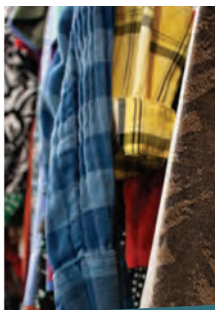
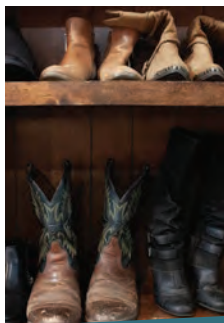
Open Mon - Sat • 10 - 6

Summer: Sunday 9-2

Silverado Shopping Center

117 Navajo Trail Dr.

731-4779



THRIFT STORE

Shop to support the Humane Society Animal Shelter!

Seniors & Veterans

25% off *
Tuesdays.

Tues-Sat: 9:30am-5pm | Mon: Closed
Sun: 10am-5pm

Uptown Donation Center Hours:

Fri: 10am-3pm | Sat: 9:30am-4:30pm

298 Bastille Dr #D1, Pagosa Springs

*some sale exclusions apply.

Thursday Sales

Follow us on Facebook
for weekly specials!



PagosaHumane.org | 970-264-6424
279 Pagosa St., Pagosa Springs

PAGOSA SPRINGS

HISTORY MUSEUM

Stop in to see:
Patriotic Quilt Display
Moments That Made US
Local History Exhibits
and more
Gift Shop

Open Summer Season

96 Pagosa Street
corner of U.S. 160 and 1st Street

pagosamuseum.org



Coyote Janes

Jewelry & Lux



Bringing high level luxury to Pagosa

Most jewelry is 1/2 off

Shop our selection of men's street wear

56 Talisman Dr #6
Located by Ramon's Uptown
970-507-8697

Play Outside



CHIMNEY ROCK INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

Chimney Rock designated International Dark Sky Park

U.S. Forest Service

In late 2025, Chimney Rock National Monument was designated an International Dark Sky Park by DarkSky International, becoming Colorado's 19th certified International Dark Sky Park and joining a growing list of places known for dark sky conservation and education.

The national monument encompasses about 4,726 acres of federal land and has many characteristics that attract visitors worldwide. It is rich in history and highly valued by Indigenous and First Nation people for its cultural significance.

One of the largest Pueblo II (A.D. 900-1150) communities in southwestern Colorado, considered a Chacoan cultural outlier, is at the monument. The Chaco phenomenon was a complex system of dispersed communities bound by economic, political and religious interdependence centered in Chaco Canyon, N.M.

More than 150 documented archaeological resources grouped into eight clusters around Chimney Rock date to the Pueblo II period, including pit houses, great kivas and great houses. The monument is also home to diverse flora and fauna.

"We are thrilled to receive the dark sky designation as it further recognizes Chimney Rock National Monument as a special place in southwest Colorado," said Joshua Peck, district ranger

for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Services' San Juan National Forest Pagosa Ranger District, at the time of the designation.

Situated between Pagosa Springs and Durango in a minimally developed valley near the Colorado-New Mexico border, the monument's remote location offers some of the darkest night skies in the San Juan National Forest. This location allows staff to host astronomy-focused activities and events such as night sky programming, solstice and equinox sunrise events, and Perseids meteor shower viewings.

"So many people who appreciate cultural heritage and astronomy are drawn to Chimney Rock National Monument to observe lunar standstills and other phenomena that take place at night," said Michael Rymer, DarkSky International's Community Program Manager. "This certification further demonstrates the national monument's mission to conserve not just the natural environment, but also the spiritual significance it has held for centuries. We are ecstatic to have Chimney Rock as a certified International Dark Sky Park, bringing further dark sky protections and awareness to southwest Colorado."

The effort to seek DarkSky certification was a collaboration between the Forest Service, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) and local advocates for dark skies.

GET OUT & PLAY

EXPERIENCE OUR PAGOSA SPRINGS AREA ADVENTURES!

RAFTING

2 HR. AND 1/2 DAY

- Half Day Scenic Wildlife Tours
- Creede Mining Tours
- SUP & Kayak Rentals/Tours
- Horseback Rides
- 4x4 Tours
- Balloon Rides
- Fly Fishing Trips
- Durango Airport Service



Serving the Pagosa Springs area
for 25+ YEARS

Locally owned & operated by
Kevin & Holly Metzler

Equal opportunity service provider under
special permit with Rio Grande and
San Juan National Forest Service

Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc.
Pagosa Rafting Outfitters

IF IT'S SOMETHING FUN TO DO WE ARE BOOKING IT

3505 West Highway 160
Inside the Pagosa Lodge
970.731.4081

GOWJP.COM



We are Pagosa's premier transportation
provider Local Taxi and Durango
Airport Services CO PUC #16400 • MCT #0021



**Start Your
OFF-ROAD ADVENTURE**
ATV / UTV RENTALS
FOR SELF-GUIDED,
BACK COUNTRY EXPLORING




**IN-TOWN
and NIGHT BEFORE
PICK UP**
Our convenient in-town location puts you closer to the trail head which means less time towing and more time exploring.

RIDE OUT LOCATION
for customers that can't or don't want to tow a trailer. **Only 15 minutes west of town. Over 200 miles of roads and trails!**

**NO
BOOKING
FEES!**



Go on line today and reserve your next adventure at:
PagosaAdventureRentals.com
or call: **970-398-0088**
103 GOLDMINE DRIVE
PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147
— and —
CreedeAdventureRentals.com • 970-507-0020
539 Airport Road, Creede CO



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
**WILDLIFE
PARK**
WESTERN
WILDLIFE ART
GALLERY
& GIFT SHOP

Experience our wildlife park
featuring native animals in their natural habitat!

See elk, mountain lion, foxes, wolves & coyotes,
grizzly, black bear and more
Adults \$12 • Kids (12 and under) \$8

Horseback Trail Rides 1/2 hour \$35 • 1 hour \$60
children must be at least 6 years old

Summer hours May 15-September 30
Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Feeding time 3 p.m.

Winter hours October 1-May 14
Open daily noon-4 p.m.
Feeding time 2 p.m.

5 miles south of Pagosa Springs on Highway 84
4821 A Hwy. 84 • Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
970-264-5546

PagosaWildlifePark.com

Individuals collected and compiled dark sky data, gathered lighting inventory and collaborated on new education kiosks and resources for the monument. These efforts led to the successful certification and will continue to educate the public on the importance of dark sky preservation for years to come.

"Joining the Dark Sky community aligns with CRIA's mission to educate our visitors about the importance Ancestral Puebloans placed on the world above them and enhances our efforts to provide nighttime programs highlighting the beauty of the heavens above Chimney Rock National Monument," said Tony Aldwell, of CRIA.

The U.S. Forest Service and CRIA plan to continue their efforts to preserve and enhance the monument's night sky through nighttime tours, expanding educational programs and promoting responsible outdoor lighting practices. These efforts will educate the public on the importance of dark sky preservation for years to come.

Founded in 2001, the International DarkSky Places Program is a nonregulatory and voluntary program encouraging communities, parks and protected areas worldwide to preserve and protect dark sites through effective lighting policies, environmentally responsible outdoor lighting and public education.

When used indiscriminately, artificial light can disrupt ecosystems, impact human health, waste money and energy, and block our view and connection to the universe, the program notes.

Chimney Rock now joins more than 220 places that have demonstrated robust community support for dark sky advocacy and strive to protect the night from light pollution.



River sports

RANDI PIERCE

Feeling lazy on a summer day? Grab a tube and take a float down the San Juan River.

Bored and can't take the heat? Grab a kayak and test your skill set on the rapids in and around town.

Group of friends ready for an adventure? Hop in a raft and let the river be your guide.

Pagosa Country is a popular destination for rafters, kayakers and tubers. With waters both inviting for beginners and challenging to experts, area rivers including the San Juan and Piedra and Animas provide something for everyone.

Flowing through the heart of downtown Pagosa Springs, the San Juan River is perfect for those new to river sports and those who enjoy a gentle float. Offering superb views of the town and, farther downstream, spectacular shale cliffs, rafting or kayaking trips down the San Juan begin as early as March and continue as the season peaks in May or June.

By mid-summer, river flows dramatically taper off and, while rafts and kayaks largely disappear from the river, activity continues as tubers take to the waters. Beating the summer heat in the cool, refreshing waters of the San Juan, tubers can bring their own tubes or rent them from local businesses. Tubers can enjoy surfing several river features in town or just relish a relaxed float down the lazy river. During this time of year, people wade in the cool waters and gather on the banks of the river in this superb recreational corridor running from one end of town to the other, even when flows are at a minimum and river speeds drop to a gentle flow. Personal flotation devices are a must on the water, and young children should always be under direct adult supervision.

More experienced boaters can test their skills about 23 miles west of Pagosa on the Piedra River. During a brief six- to eight-week season (from May through June), waters rush over class III

to IV rapids through a pair of breathtaking box canyons offering kayakers and rafters a challenging ride on nearly 20 miles of wild river and whitewater.

Further west, the upper Animas River has a reputation as one of the top five stretches of river for rafting thrills in North America. Boasting dramatic scenery and intensely long stretches of rapids, the upper Animas can be rafted and kayaked from late May to early August. In high water from early to mid-June, the Animas runs with continuous class III rapids and stretches of intermittent class IV and V whitewater.

Several Pagosa Springs companies offer guided rafting trips of varied lengths. Visitors are encouraged to call at least a week in advance to secure the date of their choice. Local companies also offer equipment rental, including kayaks, rafts and associated gear, as well as daily tube rental.

From raging rapids to gentle flows, scenery of soaring cliffs and deep, deep canyons in the backcountry to a small-town landscape, Pagosa Country has it all when it comes to river rafting, kayaking and tubing.

See pages 48-49 for downtown San Juan River features, including put-in and take-out areas, changing areas and wave features.

World-class waters

Fishing for sport or as a leisure activity can be learned and practiced by just about anyone. Whether you like to just sit back with a line in the water or more actively pursue fly-fishing, wading into the water and practicing different casting techniques, fishing is the perfect activity to help wash your worries away.

For some, fishing is a way to pass time alone or with friends; for others, it's a sport. Whatever type of fishing you enjoy, Pagosa Country has what you're looking for, from pristine mountain rivers best for fly-fishing to lakes and reservoirs perfect for sitting along the shore or fishing from a boat.

Warm, lower-elevation waters in the area at Echo Canyon Reservoir and at Navajo Lake hold numerous species, including catfish, bass, perch and pan fish, while higher, cold-water lakes, creeks and ponds teem with kokanee salmon and numerous species of trout.

There are several waters in or near town easily accessible, but many other fishing spots lie deep in the wilderness and backcountry surrounding Pagosa. Though access requires greater effort, remote locations to the north, northwest and east of town afford those willing to travel by foot or horseback true tranquility, seclusion and excellent fishing.

Listed below are some of the more popular fishing sites in and near town. Anglers should note that a Colorado fishing license is required when fishing in any of these areas, including designated wilderness areas. Licenses, flies, lures, bait and spinning tackle are available at area sporting goods stores, supermarkets and hardware stores. One-day, five-day and annual licenses are available. You can also purchase licenses online.

Local fly shops offer equipment, flies, sport fishing clothing and guide services, and most retailers will readily provide directions and up-to-date information about numerous fishing destinations.

When choosing bait, keep in mind that state regulations prohibit the use of live bait anywhere in the region except for Navajo Lake. For more information and special, water-specific regulations, please reference area fishing rules and regulations. Make sure to pick up a Colorado fishing brochure or visit the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) website to view fishing regulations and restrictions on waters where you're planning to fish. Anglers are responsible for knowing the regulations.

Fishing the river in the heart of Pa-

gosa Springs can be as good as it gets.

Years ago, CPW used a Fishing is Fun grant to reconstruct fish habitat and holding waters in sections of the river on both sides of the Hot Springs Boulevard bridge. These structures are made from large rocks and have numerous shapes. Their purpose is to create calm pools for fish. Anglers should not attempt to fish in the whitewater park area because those structures churn the water too much for fish to be present. Additional work has further enhanced the fishery near the Hot Springs Boulevard bridge and in areas west toward 6th Street.

The Pagosa Quality Fishing Project also began receiving annual contributions to purchase hundreds of large, catchable rainbow and brown trout for placement in the river. As a result, anglers of all ages catch fish weighing up to 10 pounds each summer — right in downtown Pagosa Springs.

The Town of Pagosa Springs also stocks ponds located at River Center Park. A ramp to one of the ponds allows easy access, and a gazebo beckons to those who packed picnic lunches. Youngsters particularly enjoy fishing the town ponds. Bag and possession limit for in-town fishing is two fish per angler.

Cast your line

East Fork of the San Juan

The lower stretch of the East Fork offers good fishing for rainbow and brown trout, while its pristine upper reaches are more suited to brook trout and native cutthroat trout.

The East Fork Road turnoff is approximately 10 miles northeast of Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160. This well-traveled gravel road parallels the river for several miles, a portion of which passes through posted private property.

West Fork of the San Juan

The West Fork offers good rainbow and cutthroat trout fishing, the West Fork offers quality camping in a nearby campground. A left turn from U.S. 160 on to Forest Service Road 648 about 13.5 miles east of Pagosa Springs affords easy access to West Fork waters via public and private lands. The best

fishing is in the forest beyond the trailhead at the end of the road.

Echo Canyon Reservoir

Echo Canyon Reservoir and State Wildlife Area is a cool-water fishery located approximately 4 miles south of U.S. 160 on U.S. 84. It contains rainbow trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch, green sunfish and channel catfish. Trout are best caught with lures, flies or natural bait, while bass are taken with top-surface lures, crank-baits, pork frogs or rubber worms. Perch and sunfish are most easily taken with worms or a fly, and catfish seem to prefer cut baits such as suckers or commercial stink baits. There is good early fishing at the reservoir from mid-April to mid-June. During this time, bank fishing is adequate, but thickening of aquatic vegetation later in the season makes a canoe, float tube or a small boat and

trolling motor useful.

Lake Capote Recreation Area

Lake Capote Recreation Area is owned and operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Properly permitted anglers can catch stocked rainbow trout, largemouth bass and channel catfish in the shadow of Chimney Rock.

No state fishing license is required, but anglers must obtain a valid license from the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. The 45-acre lake is open to daytime bank fishers, non-motorized boaters and belly-boaters using bait, spinning tackle or flies.

To get to Lake Capote, travel approximately 17 miles west of Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160, then turn south on Colo. 151. The well-marked entrance is on the left.

Navajo Reservoir

Navajo Reservoir and Navajo State Park are Colorado's version of Lake



MICHAEL PIERCE

Powell. The park offers a full-service marina with visitor center and conference room, rental cabins, ample tent and RV camping, picnic areas and nature trails in addition to great fishing.

Large catfish, trout, bass, pike, crappie, perch and kokanee salmon inhabit this 15,000 surface-acre lake. About a third of Navajo Reservoir is located in Colorado, while two-thirds is in New Mexico. Anglers wishing to fish both in Colorado and New Mexico waters must have both valid Colorado and New Mexico fishing licenses.

Anglers can use live bait at Navajo, but only live bait purchased from an authorized vendor at the reservoir. Anglers cannot bring their own live bait. Live minnows may be used as bait in both Colorado and New Mexico waters within Navajo State Park.

To access the park from Pagosa Springs, travel approximately 17 miles west on U.S. 160, then turn south on Colo. 151. Drive another 18 miles to Arboles, then turn left onto County Road 982 and proceed another 2 miles to the park.

Williams Creek Reservoir

This 508-acre mountain lake affords fine fishing for rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, brook trout and kokanee salmon. Sur-

rounded by lush forest and towering peaks, anglers will find that all standard forms of fishing prove productive at Williams Creek, though salmon are best taken with artificial lures and worms. In the morning and evening hours, bank fishing, a float tube or canoe provide sufficient access to surface-feeding fish. A sturdy motorboat will provide superior safety and access to fish during breezy afternoons. Keep in mind that whitewater wakes are not allowed.

To access the reservoir, drive 2 miles west from downtown Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160, then turn north onto Piedra Road. Continue north for approximately 24 miles, following signs to Williams Creek.

Wilderness

Some of the finest fishing in Pagosa Country is found in remote waters in designated wilderness areas. At higher elevations, the chance of anglers finding native cutthroat trout in streams and lakes protected by special regulations increases. In these pristine areas, solitude is the rule.

As in all federal wilderness areas, mechanized travel is prohibited in the Piedra Area, and Weminuche and South San Juan wilderness areas — anglers must

travel by foot or horseback only. Bicycles and carts are not allowed. Because travel distances can be great in these areas, visitors should be in shape, acclimated to the higher altitudes of the area and plan well for treks into the backcountry.

Weather is unpredictable, and high-country travelers should pack accordingly. Layered clothing, relevant forest and topographic maps, a compass or GPS, adequate shelter, food, water, matches and a headlamp or flashlight are essential. Anglers should also inform a responsible party about where they intend to fish and when they plan to return.

Severe flooding in October 2025 created ongoing safety and access concerns for San Juan National Forest users on some roads, trails and in waterways. Check conditions of an area prior to heading out at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/conditions.

Up-to-date information about backcountry fishing is also available from the Pagosa Ranger District office located at 180 Pagosa St. You can call the office at (970) 264-2268.



SKI & BOW RACK

970-264-2370

- Guided Fly Fishing Trips
- Indoor Archery Range
- Full Service Fly Shop
- Full Service Bow Shop
- Conventional Fishing Gear
- Hiking Gear
- Camping Equipment
- Fishing Rentals
- Kayak and SUP Rentals
- River Tube Rentals
- PFD Rentals
- Footwear
- Custom Orthotic Insoles





San Juan River Quality Fishing Project

Game fish 2 fish limit



Cutthroat trout

Crimson slash on either side of the throat beneath the lower jaw; heavier spotting towards the tail



Brown trout

Spotting pattern is made up of black spots and red-orange spots inside light blue circles



Brook trout

Pectoral, pelvic and anal fins often orange, edged with black and white; body is dark with white and red spots inside blue circles



Rainbow trout

Black spots on a light body and red stripe along sides

In order to maximize the quality of fishing in Pagosa, the town merchants, along with support from local government, have joined together to plant trophy-size trout in the river each summer.

Ideally, we'd like for everyone to enjoy hooking into a playful rainbow or a large brown and, because of that, we're asking that careful catch and release is practiced. Please note that a fishing license is required.

If you do keep fish, please stay at or under the daily two-fish limit so that we can keep more fish in the river for everyone to catch. Also note the wild, native fish to the Western Slope and release these immediately, as they are protected species and taking them from the water is illegal in Colorado.

Please enjoy our wonderful river. Happy fishing!

Native Western Slope fish Release immediately



Colorado pikeminnow

Adults may be green-gray to bronze on backs and silver to white along sides and bottoms



Razorback sucker

Bronze to yellow fish with a sharp-edge keel behind the head



Humpback chub

Green to silver and white with an abrupt hump behind the head



Bonytail chub

Slight hump and a long, narrow tail



CLAYTON CHANEY



Wildlife

BOB ENDRES

If you've brought your camera and are inclined to trek through the extensive wilderness that composes the greater portion of Pagosa Country, be prepared for the chance to snap the shot of a lifetime.

In a region that ranges from 6,000 to 13,000 feet in elevation, the 1.8-million-acre San Juan National Forest not only hosts a complex diversity of climate zones, ecological niches and micro-environments, but also is home to a vast array of wildlife that call these diverse habitats home. As the country climbs in elevation from the south and east to the mountains north and west, that diversity becomes apparent as high-desert plateau gently transitions into alpine forest, then dramatically ascends beyond the tree line to alpine tundra. While many species of wildlife prefer to inhabit a specific ecological zone, others travel throughout Pagosa Country, seeking resources and habitat wherever they can find them.

Coyotes, foxes, cougars and black bears may roam the region at almost any elevation and are a common sight (and sometimes a nuisance) for residents and visitors alike. A special, but not uncommon, sight is the symbol of our country — the bald eagle — soaring majestically above meadows, lakes or rivers at all elevations. Snapping a photo of one of these birds perched atop a ponderosa pine is a rare treat.

In the lower reaches, short-horned lizards, eastern fence lizards, western rattlesnakes and ringtail cats share sandy sage flats, arid rocky slopes, deep canyons and sandstone mesas with jackrabbits, prairie dogs, elk and mule deer. Piñon jays, turkey vultures, red-tailed hawks and golden eagles commonly grace the sun-drenched skies above the high-desert plateau.

In the high country, observers may see bighorn sheep, snowshoe hares, ptarmigan or a rare Canada lynx. Although normally

a denizen of high-country meadows, willow flats, forests and lakes north of Pagosa Springs, it is not unusual for the Shiras moose to be seen at most elevations. The largest member of the deer family, these creatures occasionally wander the streets and outskirts of town.

While the encroachment of civilization on some of the region's wilderness has decreased the numbers of several species in the area, many other species are thriving and even increasing in numbers, including foxes and coyotes, mule deer, bears, golden and bald eagles, wild turkeys and vultures. While mountain lions are normally solitary and secretive, reported sightings have become frequent, particularly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. Visitors and residents are cautioned not to feed local wildlife, especially as prey species can attract lions into residential areas. Food should never be left out to attract bears.

In the spring and early summer, infrequent hikers and wildlife watchers will invariably stumble upon a newborn fawn or elk calf. Baby birds, rabbits, foxes and squirrels may appear quite approachable, yet mother is almost certainly nearby. As long as a potential predator lurks about, she'll not return to feed or coddle her young. Therefore, it is always best to back away and leave little ones as they're found, and never touch or pick them up. They have not been abandoned. Survival in the wild is challenging enough without avoidable human interference.

In a bountiful area as rich and diverse as Pagosa Country, vigilant observers will enjoy an array of wildlife matched by few places on earth. The adventurous visitor traveling the canyons, mesas and forests early or late, moving in silence and employing a pair of good field glasses, is almost guaranteed to be rewarded with the sight of wildlife in their natural habitat — and the experience of a lifetime.

Elk Heart Outfitters

TRAIL RIDES

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

970-731-2952



Experience the beauty of the San Juan Mountains on horseback

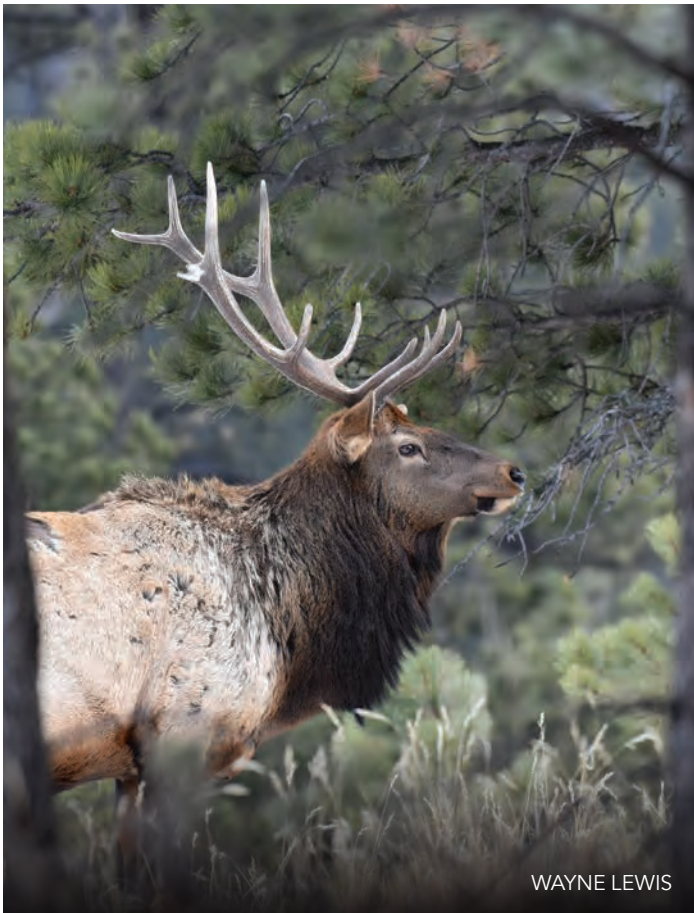
BOOK NOW



expert guides
friendly horses
family-owned



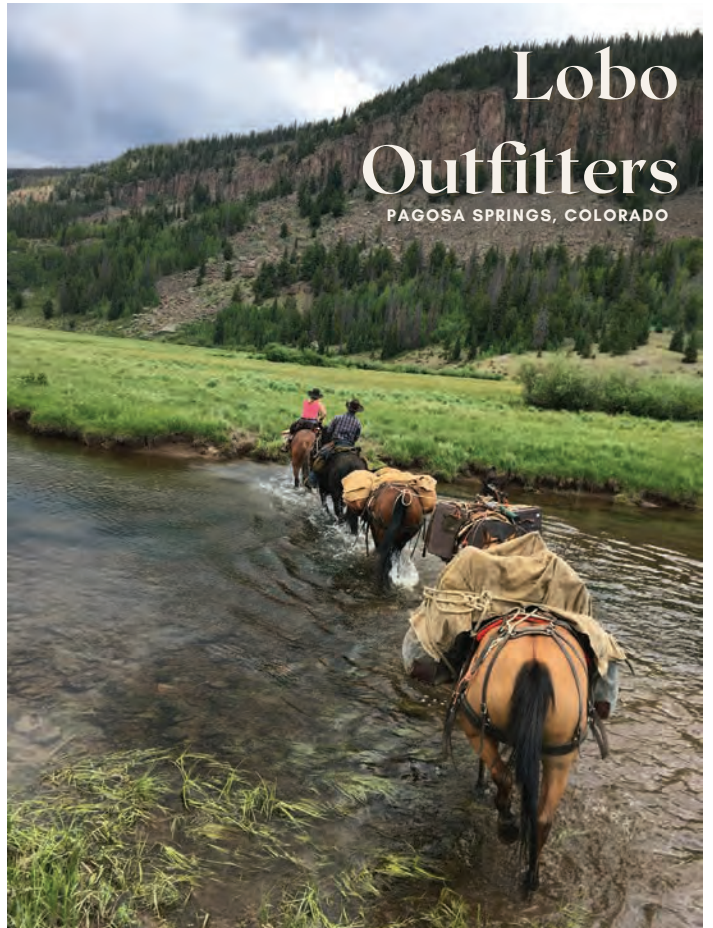
www.elkheartoutfitters.com



WAYNE LEWIS

Lobo Outfitters

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO



2 Hour Ride\$80 per person

Half Day Ride

Full Day Ride

Contact:

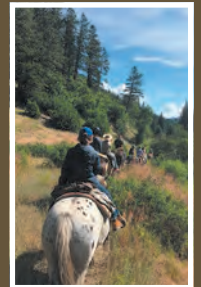
LOBO OUTFITTERS

970.749.0634 or 970.264.2812

lobooutfitters@gmail.com

Summer Pack Trips in the high country
foster the fondest family memories.

Let us create a trip for you.



@lobooutfitters
lobooutfitters.com



Lobo Outfitters, LLC is an equal opportunity service employer and provider,
operating under a special use permit on the San Juan and Rio Grande National Forest, Colorado License #2247.

BIRDING



RIPARIAN



American dipper

Cinclus mexicanus

An aquatic songbird of fast-flowing streams often found perched on a rock in the water, bobbing up and down. It dives into the water, and walks and swims along the bottom to forage for insects.

RIPARIAN

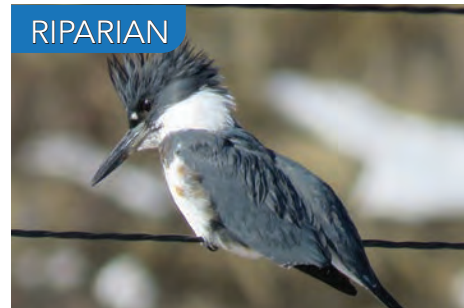


Yellow warbler

Setophaga petechia

A common summer resident in riparian trees and shrubs where males sing a sweet song. It is always on the move searching for insects along slender branches and leaves.

RIPARIAN



Belted kingfisher

Megasceryle alcyon

This bird patrols its territory near a river or lake, announcing its presence with a loud, rattling call. It watches from a perch or hovers over water before diving in headfirst to spear its prey.

RIPARIAN



Great blue heron

Ardea herodias

A tall, stately sentinel of aquatic shorelines. It stands motionless at the water's edge or wades slowly into shallow water while scanning for food before striking quickly at prey within range.

RIPARIAN



Bullock's oriole

Icterus bullockii

A bird with a sweet tooth attracted to juicy fruits, flower nectar and hummingbird feeders. Orange-colored males appear tropical. Less flashy females suspend woven nests from the tips of cottonwood branches.

PINE/OAK FOREST



Lewis's woodpecker

Melanerpes lewis

This colorful woodpecker watches from a high perch and sallies out like a flycatcher to snag aerial insects. Numbers are declining across their range, but they are still fairly common here.

PINE/OAK FOREST



Steller's jay

Cyanocitta stelleri

This crested western jay ascends a tree by hopping from branch to branch. Excellent mimic; can imitate cats, dogs, red-tailed hawks. It is quick to spy handouts at backyards, picnic tables and campgrounds.

PINE/OAK FOREST



Western tanager

Piranga ludoviciana

This bird arrives in May, bringing a splash of tropical color to open coniferous forests. Sings and forages in the upper layer of trees and shrubs, plucking insects from branches, twigs, leaves and flowers.

PINE/OAK FOREST



Black-headed grosbeak

Pheucticus melanocephalus

Both sexes fill summer forests with their long, sweet, loud songs and share duties of raising young. Its thick conical bill is used to crack seeds and crush hard-bodied insects and snails.

Southwest Colorado is home to a wide variety of birds, with some calling the area home year-round, some calling the area home during the warmer months and some using it as a resting spot on their migrations. Birdwatching in Pagosa Springs is easy and can be done from anywhere. A few areas touted by Audubon for birding include the San Juan Riverwalk, Echo Canyon Reservoir, Lake Capote and Chimney Rock National Monument. Watch out for some of these birds, highlighted by local members of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies.

PHOTOS: BYRON GRECO, CHARLES MARTINEZ, JEFFREY REICHEL

MEADOWS/FIELDS



Western meadowlark

Sturnella neglecta

Often detected in open fields by its bright yellow breast with black V or fluty effervescent song that signals spring. It nests in open grassland depressions and benefits from thoughtful mowing practices.

HIGH-ELEVATION FOREST



Ruby-crowned kinglet

Corthylio calendula

A small, gray-green busy bird of the summer high country that often flicks its wings. It has white wing bars and partial white spectacles. It is more easily located by its exuberant song from the tops of trees than by sight.

HIGH-ELEVATION FOREST



Dusky grouse

Dendragapus obscurus

This bird spends much of its time foraging on the ground in chickenlike fashion. Females are a brown and white camouflage; males are slate blue/gray/brown with a yellow eyebrow.

LAKES/PONDS



Western grebe

Aechmophorus occidentalis

Elegant birds of large lakes, where their loud songs ring across the water. They disappear during long dives for fish. Choreographed courtship displays include pairs running together across the water's surface.

LAKES/PONDS



Ruddy duck

Oxyura jamaicensis

This small, compact, diving duck holds its long, stiff, tail straight up. The colorful summer male has sky-blue scoop-shaped bill, white cheeks and black cap. It often feeds at night and sleeps during the day.

LAKES/PONDS



Green-winged teal

Anas crecca

A small dabbling duck that feeds along shorelines, on wetland ponds and mudflats. Fine comb-like projections on the edge of bill allow it to filter invertebrates from water. In flight, deep green wing patches are visible.

LAKES/PONDS



Osprey

Pandion haliaetus

This large, vocal raptor plunges feet first into river or lake to grab a fish in its talons. It arrives in spring from Central or South America to build huge stick nests on snags or man-made platforms.

LAKES/PONDS



Bald eagle

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

This bird of prey prefers fish, but will eat what's available. It makes large stick nests in trees close to water often reused year after year. Takes 3-4 years for juveniles to attain recognizable full adult plumage.

LAKES/PONDS



Song sparrow

Melospiza melodia

A resident of brushy habitats, often near water. Males sing from exposed perches. Makes short-distance flights to cover. Identified by a striped crown, long tail and coarse brown streaks on breast with central dark spot.



MICHAEL PIERCE

MOUNTAIN BIKING



If the mountains surrounding the town weren't hint enough, be assured, there are plenty of places to go mountain biking in Pagosa Country. Many years ago, the Pagosa Springs area was heavily logged, resulting in a multitude of Forest Service roads and trails. Now, more than 80 years later, those trails mean virtually limitless opportunities for mountain bikers. With a wide variety of routes and terrain, Pagosa Springs is an ideal mountain biking destination for riders of all skill levels. Be forewarned, however, that most area rides begin above 7,000 feet. Factor in time to acclimate before setting out on longer and more demanding rides. Pagosa Country has numerous trails that meet every level of rider. For more rideable areas, visit www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/sanjuan/recreation or www.pagosatrails.org.

When mountain biking, please observe a few precautions:

1. Wear a helmet.
2. Mountain weather changes rapidly — wear or bring clothing for capricious weather conditions.
3. Bring plenty of water.
4. Carry bike repair tools, including a spare tire, tire pump and tube patch kit.
5. Ride in control and with a friend.
6. Always tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
7. A few of the trails are hours away from outside help — plan accordingly.
8. Plan to return to your car before

- dark.
9. Remember to stay off private land and out of wilderness areas.
10. Wear blaze orange in the fall during hunting season.
11. Yield to horses. They are easily spooked.

Please pay heed to the following rules of the trail:

1. Ride on open trails only. Avoid trails when muddy and wet to prevent damage.
2. Leave no trace. Pick up trash.

3. Control your bicycle. Uphill traffic has the right of way.
4. Always yield to hikers.
5. Never spook animals.
6. Plan ahead: consider the elevation, weather, location, length and difficulty of ride.

For more information on routes, directions and maps, visit wolfcreek-wheelclub.org, fs.usda.gov/recmain/sanjuan/recreation, mtbproject.com, pagosatrails.org, singletracks.com and dustx2.com.

Trails in the Town of Pagosa Springs

Reservoir Hill

Difficulty: Beginner to advanced
Mileage: 1.4 to 4 miles
Route: Out and back or loop
Trails: Dirt, single and double track
Elevation range: 7,280 to 8,000 feet

Though quite challenging and secluded, the trail is easily accessible, and can be connected to the Dakota Springs Trail System with a short ride on the San Juan River Trail or Hot Springs Boulevard.

Getting there: Two trailheads access Reservoir Hill: Spa (above the Healing Waters Resort and Spa on Hot Springs Boulevard) and San Juan (behind the San Juan Motel, on U.S. 160). Both trailheads

have maps.

Dakota Springs Trail System

Difficulty: Beginner to advanced
Mileage: 2-mile loop, can be connected with Riverwalk path and Reservoir Hill
Route: Out and back, or loop
Trails: Dirt, single track
Elevation range: 7,280 to 8,000 feet

The best starting point for this urban single-track is the connector trail off South 5th Street in Yamaguchi Park. Take the connector trail next to the baseball field and then follow this amazing multi-loop trail counterclockwise as it winds behind the high school with two intercon-

necting trails.

You can now easily connect your Dakota Springs ride with the Reservoir Hill trail system by taking Hot Springs Boulevard, or the San Juan River Trail to the Reservoir Hill Trailhead.

DUST2 Connector Route

Difficulty: Beginner
Mileage: 0.4 miles
Route: Connector trail
Trail: Dirt, single track
Elevation: 7,000 feet

This single-track connector trail connects the Dakota Springs Trail System to Yamaguchi Park.

Trails near town

Cloman Park

Difficulty: Beginner and intermediate
Mileage: 2.2 miles
Route: Loop
Trails: Dirt, single track
Elevation: 7,300 feet

Cloman Park is an Archuleta County park with a 2.2 mile, multiuse, single-track figure eight winding through ponderosa pines. The lower part of the single-track loop is good for beginner riders, while the upper section is intermediate.

Getting there: Drive 1.3 miles north on Piedra Road from U.S. 160. Turn right on Cloman Boulevard for 1.4 miles. Stay left at the fork in the road, which then dead ends at the large parking lot.

Turkey Springs Trail System

Difficulty: Beginner to intermediate
Mileage: 30-plus miles
Route: Out and back or loop
Trail: Dirt, single track, double track
Elevation: 7,000-7,500 feet

This is a great cross-country trail system with 30-plus miles of intertwining beginner and intermediate multiuse trails nestled within a forest. While well marked, it is easy to become turned around or end up on the ATV trails. Stop at each intersection and consult a map.

Getting there: The Turkey Springs trailhead is 5.3 miles north on Piedra Road from the intersection of Piedra Road and U.S. 160. The parking lot is on the left, immediately after the cattle guard.

SKI & BOW RACK

Original since 1985



Image of Larry Fisher, founder of the Ski and Bow Rack

- Ski and Snowboard Rentals
 - Snowshoe and Cross Country Rentals
 - Winter Clothing and Accessories
 - Helmets and Goggles
 - Custom Boot Fitting and Orthotic Insoles
 - Sled and Tube Rentals
 - Indoor Archery Range
 - Full Service Bow Shop
 - Guided Ice Fishing Trips
 - Ice Fishing Rentals
- 970-264-2370



Severe flooding in October 2025 created ongoing safety and access concerns for San Juan National Forest users on some roads, trails and in waterways. Check conditions of an area prior to heading out at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/conditions.

Mountain trails

Continental Divide Trail (CDT)

Difficulty: Intermediate to advanced

Mileage: 15-plus miles

Route: Out and back or loop

Trail: Dirt, single track

Description: The CDT is truly an "epic" Colorado trail. One of the area's most beautiful mountain biking venues, the CDT trail has it all.

Getting there: From the large parking area at the summit of Wolf Creek Pass, pedal through the meadow on an obvious trail and cross a creek on a wooden bridge. Turn left after crossing the bridge — there's a social trail here that heads right and will lead you off track.

From here, the trail climbs steadily through old-growth forest that's been heavily affected by pine beetles — a large percentage of the pines here are gray and dead. There are a few tight, steep switchbacks, but almost everything is easily rideable by an intermediate to advanced rider. Shortly after navigating some switchbacks in a scree field, the trail will contour around to a south aspect and you'll come to a "junction" with Treasure Mountain Trail No. 565. There is a USFS sign and a rock cairn, but the trail itself is basically nonexistent.

Past this junction, the trail gains the ridge just west of and below Alberta Peak, at the top of Wolf Creek Ski Area.

Treasure (565)

Difficulty: Advanced

Mileage: 8.1 miles

Route: Shuttle, out and back

Trail: Dirt, single track

This is a remote and solitary high-country trail in the South San Juan Mountains off Wolf Creek Pass with a big descent. It is truly a Colorado classic not to be missed. From the lower trailhead, the trail climbs on moderate grades through scenic aspens and firs. Eventually, the trail intersects Windy Pass Trail.

Getting there: This ride is best done as a shuttle. Many passenger vehicles will be able to reach the lower trailhead off East Fork Road. Look for parking or camping spots and ride on up the road to the trailhead.

If you plan to do this trail as a shuttle, from the top of Wolf Creek Pass, heed the warning above. You'll ride the Continental Divide Trail to the top of the ski area and look for a rock cairn and a USFS sign posted on a tree. These will be your only clues that there's a trail here because there's literally no signs of an actual path. Make your way down the grassy gully and head right when you reach the flat meadow below. Use of the MTB Project mobile app will be crucial to keeping you on track here. Head left into the trees and down the second pitch. The trail becomes much more apparent here, but it's still faint by most standards.

When you reach Wolf Creek Road (FS 725), head left for about a mile with a little climb to the epic single-track downhill section of the trail. Drop down the steep sidehill through the burn area.

After some great views and narrow sidehill, you'll come to another steep moonscape section. After a few creek crossings

and sections of true downhill riding, you'll arrive to a big, open meadow that is the Windy Pass Trail intersection. The rest of the trail has more flow and speed as it sweeps through aspen groves and meadows. Once you arrive at a cattle gate, the ride shreds down a sidehill through oak brush and open slopes until you reach the bottom.

The ride can be done as an out-and-back from the East Fork with many hike-a-bike sections after the Windy Pass Trail intersection.

It's better done as a shuttle from the Continental Divide Trail at the top of Wolf Creek Pass or riding up Wolf Creek Road (FS 725) to avoid the top steep section. Most people leave a car at the large parking area at the start of the East Fork Road 667.

Do-right Trail (642)

Difficulty: Advanced

Mileage: 3.8 miles of single track using a shuttle, 12 miles riding loop

Route: Shuttle or loop one way

Trail: Dirt, single track, gravel roads

Note: Motorcycles are permitted June 15 to Aug. 31 on single-track.

This is described as a loop ride, but the gravel road sections can be replaced by shuttling with two vehicles. You will climb from 7,500 feet to 9,100 feet and then descend back down to 7,500. Don't go alone. Advanced riders should find the entire loop rideable.

Getting there: Drive west from Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160 toward Durango for about 22 miles. Turn right onto First Fork Road (FS 622), this is on the east side of the Piedra River. Take First Fork Road north for approximately 7 miles to the Sheep Creek Trailhead and parking.

From the trailhead, do not ride the Sheep Creek Trail. Head east on Monument Road (FS 630) directly across from the trailhead for approximately 7 miles. This is a 1,600-foot elevation climb on a gravel road through aspen trees with big vistas of the Piedra Valley. Once you get to the turnaround at the end of Monument Road, take an immediate left to the west through the steel single track barrier. You are now on the Do-right Trail (642). This is a 3.8-mile, 1,500-foot descent back to First Fork Road. Once you reach the end of the single track, you are at First Fork Road. Take a left and head south for approximately 1 mile back to the Sheep Creek Trailhead.

Snowball Road (CR 200) and Jackson Mountain Loop (FS 37)

Difficulty: Beginning skills with intermediate fitness level, two river crossings

Mileage: 22 miles

Route: Loop

Trails: Graveled county road, dirt road, double-track dirt trail, highway with good shoulders

Elevation: 7,200 to 8,200 feet

Taking the entire loop from town is a great workout; however, if you shuttle, the ride can be divided up so one skips the highway or county road portion. There are about three gates on this ride. Remember to leave them either open or closed as you found them. This ride has two river crossings. Obviously, take precautions in the spring or early summer when the water level is up.

Getting there: The loop starts and ends in downtown Pagosa.

0.0 — Starting from the Hot Springs Boulevard bridge in downtown Pagosa Springs, ride east on Pagosa Street (U.S. 160) toward Wolf Creek Pass. Turn left at the Forest Service building on 2nd Street. This street turns into Snowball Road, and eventually the pavement ends. Continue on this gravelled county road for 4.3 miles.

FIND YOUR ADVENTURE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS



SALES - RENTAL - SERVICE

RENTALS

**BIKES: [E-BIKES, MTN, TOWNIES]
STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS,
KAYAKS, RIVER TUBES,
DISC GOLF, PICKLEBALL**

FULL SERVICE BIKE SHOP

**ADVENTURE APPAREL
OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS
MAPS & TRAIL INFO
GIFTS & SOUVENIRS**

**OPERATING
BIKE SKILLS CLINICS
MAY-OCTOBER**

PAGOSA MOUNTAIN SPORTS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND OPERATES UNDER SPECIAL USE PERMIT WITH
THE SAN JUAN NATIONAL FOREST.

**VISIT WEBSITE FOR
MORE DETAILS**



WWW.PAGOSAMOUNTAINSPTS.COM

970-507-7886

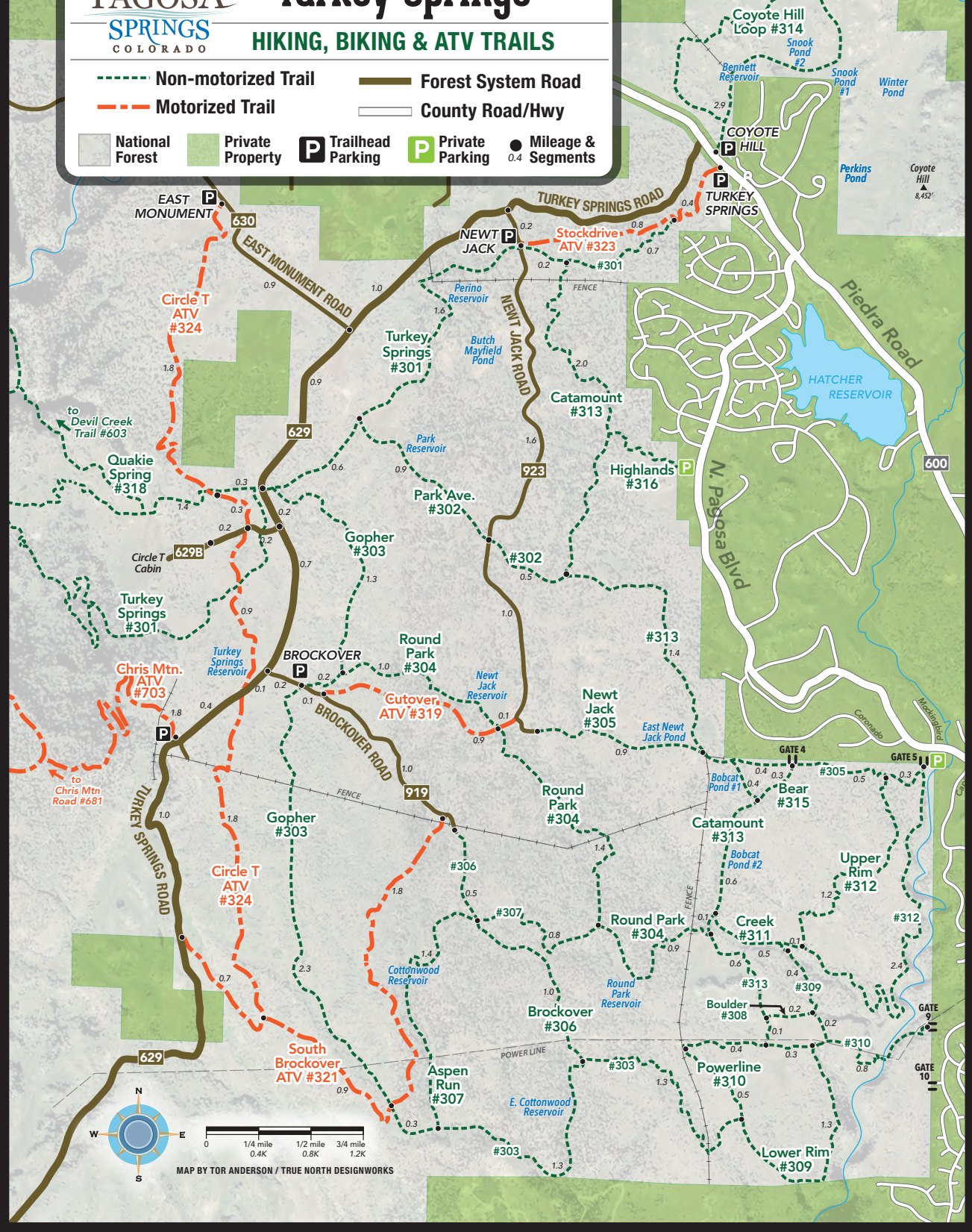
162 PAGOSA ST [DOWNTOWN]

**OPEN DURING DOWNTOWN CONSTRUCTION
PARKING BEHIND SHOP IN THE ALLEY**

Turkey Springs

HIKING, BIKING & ATV TRAILS

- Non-motorized Trail
- Motorized Trail
- Forest System Road
- County Road/Hwy
- National Forest
- Private Property
- P Trailhead Parking
- P Private Parking
- Mileage & Segments



MAP BY TOR ANDERSON / TRUE NORTH DESIGNWORKS

4.3 — This is the entrance to Four-mile Ranch. Ranch owners have agreed to allow access to the Forest Service road through the ranch, by proceeding through the ranch entrance and staying on the road. You will pass the ranch manager's house on the right. Looking to the north, one can begin to see Pagosa Peak.

5.3 — At this point, there is a Y in the road. The road to the left goes to the house and the iron gate to the right gains access to the national forest. Proceed through the gate on the right (FS 646), leaving the gate as you found it. The next 3 miles are on a pleasant dirt road along Snowball Creek. You will often see and hear hawks on the last part of this trail.

6.3 — At this point, you will ford Four-mile Creek.

8.5 — A driveway passes through a gate onto private property. Follow the road, which curves to the right to a ford of Snowball Creek.

9.6 — Proceed through the gate, go forward and curve to the right, joining a more pronounced trail. Next, stay left for a mile, ignoring the roads that exit to the right.

10.7 — Proceed through the gate. The next .1 mile down to Jackson Mountain Road (FS 037) is very steep.

10.8 — Jackson Mountain Road. Turn right onto the road and proceed for 3 miles to U.S. 160.

13.7 — U.S. 160. Turn right onto the highway and continue for about 8 miles to Pagosa Springs. It is very easy to eliminate this highway ride by leaving a shuttle here. The sign on U.S. 160 calls it Jackson Mountain Road.

Willow Draw (819)

Class: Intermediate

Mileage: 16 miles

This is a scenic loop from U.S. 160 and U.S. 84 junction. Road conditions range from highway to double track. From downtown Pagosa, ride east on U.S. 160 to the junction of U.S. 84. Turn right onto U.S. 84, then left onto Mill Creek Road. Go 4 miles. You will cross three cattle guards. Immediately after the third cattle guard, look for a double-track dirt road on your left. If you cross over the bridge at Mill Creek, you have gone too far. Once on the double track, you will cross Mill Creek, which may need to be forded on foot. Follow this dirt road generally north for the next 6 miles through Willow Draw and Dry Gulch to Fawn Gulch. Pass through two gates, which are usually closed. When you reach Fawn Gulch Road, turn left for a downhill to U.S. 160. Turn left onto U.S. 160. It is 4 miles back to town.

From Dirt Bikes to Side-by-Sides



**Repairs · Maintenance
Custom Suspensions**

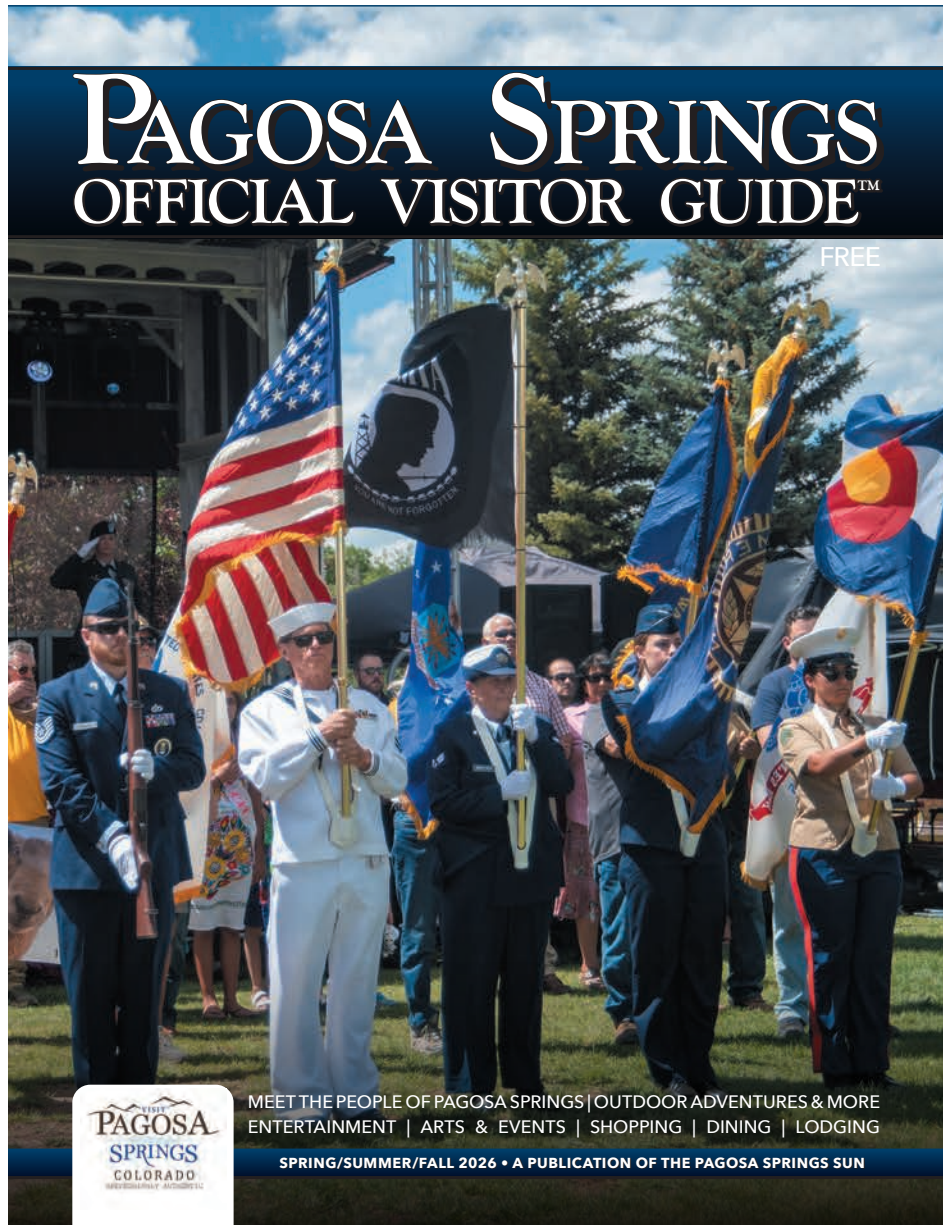
(855) 200-3551

**Same-Day Appointments
Text **VIP****

**9974 W U.S. Hwy 160
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147**

LET'S RIDE

Serving Pagosa, Bayfield and Durango



Showcase your business in our next guide

Call 970-264-2100
or email Shari@PagosaSUN.com

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

www.PagosaSUN.com

East Fork (FS 667)

Class: Beginner

Mileage: 8 miles

This is an easy route for beginners as it is fairly flat. The road follows the East Fork of the San Juan River through beautiful canyons into the pristine East Fork Valley (private property for 2 miles), before terminating at Silver Falls guard station. Silver Falls can be seen cascading down the mountainside directly behind the station. The road is a gravel road from U.S. 160 to the forest boundary (.25 mile). The rest is dirt, which can be very slick when wet. Watch for high water across the road in the springtime.

Lefthand Canyon to the Rito Blanco

Difficulty: Intermediate

Mileage: 18 miles

Route: Out and back

Trails: Graded and primitive roads, doubletrack (there is not an open ATV trail at this location)

Elevation Range: 7,400 to 8,400 feet

Beginning in the pine/oak valleys of Blanco Basin, this route climbs steadily into aspen/fir forest along Porcupine Road, ending at the tumbling Rito Blanco Creek. The first half of the ride travels along a mostly smooth, unmaintained primitive dirt road. At the end of this road, a steep and somewhat rocky doubletrack leads you to the top of Lefthand Canyon and onto the graded, maintained Porcupine Creek Road. From here, a moderate climb and descent ends at the Rito Blanco Creek, an excellent spot for a picnic lunch. Your return will be rewarded with an exhilarating descent back to the trailhead. (This trip can be done as a one-way, mostly downhill — see below.)

Getting there: From the junction of U.S. 160 and U.S. 84, drive south for 8.2 miles to Blanco Basin Road. Make a left and drive 3.3 miles up Blanco Basin Road to its junction with Lefthand Canyon Road (FR 011), on your left. Park and start here.

0.0 — Follow the steadily ascending Lefthand Canyon Road as it meanders north through rolling hills of pine, oak and meadow. You will climb about 600 feet to a fork in the road.

1.0 — Take the right fork. The road becomes primitive and less used while winding along a densely vegetated north-facing slope. To the left is Lefthand Canyon, mostly obscured by vegetation and topography. The canyon drains the lower reaches of the Rito Blanco. Look carefully for a doubletrack ascending a hillside meadow on your right.

3.4 — Follow the doubletrack to the top of the meadow. From here a rough doubletrack continues upward, in a northeasterly direction. Take this trail as it climbs over rocks and gullies for almost three-quarters of a mile.

4.4 — The trail ends, exiting onto the southern end of the graded and graveled Porcupine Road (FR 024). The rest of your ride to the Rito Blanco will be on this road. Continue on Porcupine Road as you ascend into the cooler forests of fir and aspen. Reach the high point of the ride at mile 5.8, which also marks a good turnaround spot for tired riders. A cool shady respite awaits who continue the descent to the banks of the Rito Blanco at mile 9.0.

Ride option: This ride may be done as a shuttle by leaving a car at the junction of Blanco Basin Road and U.S. 84. If you choose to do so, your trailhead then becomes the northern end of Porcupine Road. To get there, you must drive back to Mill Creek Road (CR 302, which becomes FR 662) located on U.S. 84 one-quarter mile south of the U.S. 160/U.S. 84 junction. Drive up Mill Creek Road about 9 miles, then take FR 665, which branches to the right. Porcupine Road (FR 024) intersects FR 665 in a little over 2 miles. Park here and ride. The Rito Blanco is about 1 mile downhill from here. The ride back to the shuttle car is mostly downhill.



An adventure to remember

Experience the power and passion of the sled dogs.

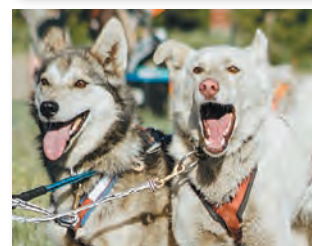
Enjoy the sound of their excitement as they sing their enthusiasm.

Ride in the cart along a scenic 3-mile trail with the dogs pulling you.

Involve yourself in all aspects of the excursion from learning about the sleds and equipment to harnessing the dogs.

Feel the love of the dogs when they share lots of hugs and kisses.

Save your memories of this experience with many opportunities for great photos.



Reservations are Required
Please call 970-819-5022
mountainpawsdogsledding.com

HIKING AND HORSEBACK RIDING



A bright blue sky as big as the ocean. Wildflowers and their brilliant colors. A new spring cascading down the mountain's jagged rock. A still lake tucked high near a summit.

This is Pagosa Country.

Leave the roads behind, kiss the asphalt goodbye. The San Juan National Forest is all around you. Pull off the side of the road. Park by a trailhead. Lace up your boots or saddle your horse. Strike out into nature.

Backcountry excursions offer visitors an opportunity to experience the sights, sounds and smells of the San Juan National Forest firsthand. Many trails are easily accessible and within relative proximity to downtown Pagosa Springs.

Use your car to reach one of the convenient starting points listed below, then leave it behind to wander trails winding beneath towering pines or along clear mountain streams.

The trails described here cover a variety of terrain and skill levels. U.S. Forest Service trail numbers are in parentheses next to the trail name.

Hiking and riding tips

- Set easy-to-achieve objectives. Unless you are backpacking, plan to return before dark.
- Stay on the trail. Shortcutting causes erosion and is hazardous to your safety, as well as to the safety of hikers below you.
- Think safety. Carry a map, water, snacks and clothing to keep you warm and dry. Weather conditions change rapidly in the mountains, and it may rain or snow at any time. Always travel with a friend, and always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Pack out your trash. Help keep the forest clean and pack out trash

someone else left behind.

- During hunting seasons, wear a blaze orange vest to help keep you safe in the woods.
- Share the trails. The trails listed are shared by many visitors, some using horses, and in some areas, bicycles or ATVs. For the safety of all involved, give horse riders the right of way by moving well off the trail on the downhill side when it is safe to do so. To avoid startling the horses, say "hello" so they know you are a person, not a predator.
- Trail signs are usually found at trailheads and major junctions of maintained trails. Take a moment to read the information posted at trailheads. Not all junctions or cross-country routes are signed.

• A Pagosa Country map is available to direct you to the various trailheads. It is also a good idea to pick up a national forest map that clearly shows all access roads, trails and special area boundaries.

You can also check out the Forest Service Interactive Visitor Map to find out about recreational opportunities at www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/sanjuan/recreation.

Current information about trail conditions are available at www.pagosatrails.org, the Visitor Center located at 105 Hot Springs Blvd., and the Pagosa Ranger District office at U.S. 160 and 2nd Street. The Forest Service office is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It is closed for all federal holidays.

Fourmile Falls (569)

Length: 7.6 miles | Difficulty: Moderate

Take Lewis Street north, veer left immediately on 5th street; stay right on Fourmile Road for 8 miles; (CR 400/FS 645); right at junction to the trailhead. The trailhead elevation is 9,190 feet, at falls 9,600, at end 11,221. The hike to the falls is approximately 3.5 miles each way. The first 3 miles is relatively easy through an open valley. After the waterfall, the trail becomes steep and is not recommended for stock. Hikers should proceed with caution. Fourmile Falls is one of the more popular points of interest, and the trail in can be busy.

Opal Lake (564)

Length: 1.2 miles | Difficulty: Easy/moderate

Drive south on U.S. 84 from Pagosa Springs approximately 8 miles to Blanco Basin Road (CR 326). After driving 10 miles, turn right across the Blanco River Bridge.

Follow the Castle Creek Road (FS 660) to the signed junction. Turn right and drive a short distance to the trailhead on the right with an elevation of 8,733 feet, ending at 9,216. The trail to Opal Lake is 1.2 miles and takes about 45 minutes to hike. A portion of the trail is steep before it traverses an open meadow to the lake. The lake is bordered by wooded hillsides and a sheer mountain face. Minerals deposited at the inlet give the lake its milky color.

Piedra Falls (671)

Length: .4 miles | Difficulty: Easy

Drive north on Piedra Road (CR 600/FS 631) 17.8 miles to the junction at Sportsman's Supply. Leave Piedra Road and continue on Middle Fork Road (FS 636) for 2 miles. Take the first road to the right, East Toner Road (FS 637). It is 7.5 miles to the end. The trailhead elevation is 8,239 feet and ends at 8,340 feet. Do not attempt the road in wet weather. The hike is .4 miles, or 15 minutes, each way. It is a

great hike for all ages. Walk upstream to a head gate where the trail begins. The trail continues above and west of the head gate and river to the falls.

Treasure Falls (563)

Length: .4 miles | Difficulty: Easy

Treasure Falls is named for Treasure Mountain, an area rich in folklore and stories of a large buried treasure. Whether or not the treasure actually exists, Treasure Falls offers visitors a breathtaking fortune in scenery.

To get there, take U.S. 160 east for 15 miles; take a right into a large parking area. The trailhead elevation is 8,123 feet. To the left of the parking lot is a short trail that will take you to the base of the falls. Follow the trail .25 miles to the bridge at the base of the falls. There is a more difficult trail to the right that also leads to the waterfall. Standing in the refreshing spray on the bridge, the falls rush down the cliff toward you. The elevation gain is 325 feet.



Turkey Creek Trail (580)

Length: 5.2 miles | Difficulty: Easy/moderate

Drive 7.3 miles northeast of Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160 to Jackson Mountain Road (FS 37) on the left. Follow it for 4 miles to the end of the road. This trail is the longest in this section of the Weminuche Wilderness. It is 5.2 miles to the wilderness boundary, then 14.2 miles to the Continental Divide trailhead at an elevation of 8,240 feet. There is breathtaking scenery to the Continental Divide. Choose your own destination here. The 5-mile hike will take you to the first creek crossing.

Anderson Trail (579)

Length: 8.5 miles | Difficulty: Moderate/difficult

See Fourmile Falls Trail for directions. This trail begins at the Fourmile Trailhead, at an elevation of 9,190 feet, to the left of the Fourmile Trail. This trail climbs steadily for about 4 miles to skirt the east side of Pagosa Peak. The summit of the peak is 12,640 feet. There is a total elevation gain of 4,391 feet. The trail continues on to Fourmile Lake. It is about 2 miles to the junction with the Fourmile Trail. From the junction, it is 6.6 miles back to the trail-

head and very steep in some areas. Snow will linger on this trail into early summer. Check conditions before you go.

Williams Creek (587)

Length: 9.4 miles | Difficulty: Moderate/Difficult

Drive north on Piedra Road (CR 600) about 22 miles. Turn right on Williams Creek Road (FS 640) and go past Williams Creek Reservoir and Cimarrona Campground, continuing on to the trailhead at 8,360 feet at the end of the road. The trail follows Williams Creek northward into the Weminuche Wilderness. The old Spanish name for Williams Creek was Huerto — garden-like. The first few miles of Williams Creek trail give the impression of a gi-

gantic walled garden. Across the creek to the right is a group of peaks eroded from volcanic rock. Set your own destination — it continues on to the Continental Divide.

Piedra River Trail (596)

Length: 11.2 miles | Difficulty: Moderate/difficult

The upper terminus of the trail begins on Piedra Road (CR 600), about 16 miles north of town. After crossing the Piedra River, the trailhead parking lot is on the left. The trail starts on the canyon rim and then descends to the river. Sheer cliffs rise on both sides for over several hundred feet. This is a moderate trail if you only go the 3.5 miles to the footbridge. For a longer hike, follow the river for another

At Altitude

The hikes described here begin at altitudes near 8,000 feet and some top out near 12,000 feet. Each hike is classified as “easy” to “difficult.” Only those in good physical condition should attempt the difficult hikes. Remember, when you go downhill you will have to climb back up when you return. Pace yourself, drink water and eat snacks to help prevent altitude sickness. Symptoms include headache, loss of appetite, and weakness or drowsiness. If affected, descend quickly. If symptoms persist, seek medical aid.

8.5 miles. The trail passes several box canyons to end at the bridge on the First Fork of the Piedra Road. Confirm that First Fork Road (FS 622) is open and shuttle a vehicle to the First Fork Bridge for the longer hike. The trailhead elevation is 7,695 feet, ending at 7,116 (which is the beginning for First Fork Trailhead.)

Continental Divide Trail North (813)

Length: Depends | Difficulty: Easy/difficult

Turn left on the dirt road just past the Continental Divide marker at the summit of Wolf Creek Pass. Drive 1.5 miles to the Lobo Overlook parking area and microwave tower site. The trail begins behind the microwave tower and follows the Continental Divide, which is the backbone of the continent and the dividing line for eastern and western watersheds. From the trailhead, you can embark on an easy day hike or begin an extended backcountry journey. Hiking options along the Continental Divide Trail seem limitless. The trailhead elevation at Lobo Overlook is 11,747 feet.

Cimarrona Trail (586)

Length: 8.6 miles | Difficulty: Moderate/difficult

Drive north on Piedra Road (CR 600) to Williams Lake Road. The trail begins on the left side of Williams Lake Road just beyond the entrance of Cimarrona Campground. The trailhead elevation is 8,375 feet. The first 2 miles of trail are moderately easy, wandering through conifer and aspen stands. Then, many switchbacks start a steep ascent. Choose your destination — the trail continues on to the Continental Divide Trail at Squaw Pass.

West Fork or Rainbow Trail (561)

Length: 11.74 miles | Difficulty: Moderate

Drive on U.S. 160 East for 14 miles, then turn left on West Fork Road (FS 648) for 3 miles, passing a campground and the river. The trailhead elevation is 9,040 feet. It is 13 miles from the trailhead to the Continental Divide at Piedra Pass. This trail ascends 3,600 feet with several stream crossings and steep grades. Portions of this trail cross private property, so stay on the trail. At 4.5 miles, there is a junction with the Beaver Creek Trail (560). Some camping restrictions apply. Check before you go. The highest point is 11,700 feet. The combination of the West Fork Trail and Turkey

Creek Trail is known as the Rainbow Trail.

Ice Cave Ridge Trail

Length: .5 miles | Difficulty: Easy

Drive to the Piedra River Trail (596) parking area to access this trail. From the parking area, start on the Piedra River Trail, elevation 7,695 feet, for several hundred yards, then follow the old road bed to the right. This is an easy, short trail up Ice Cave Ridge. The fissures on the side of the ridge contain snow deposited through the winter that is hidden from the sun. After melting and compressing, the ice remains in the fissures as late as the end of June. From the ridge at the top, you have a good view of the Piedra Valley and other ridges. Use caution when viewing the ice fissures. Watch your footing, and keep children near you and dogs leashed.

Treasure Mountain Trail (565)

Length: 8.1 miles | Difficulty: Moderate/difficult

A spectacular trail to Windy Pass starts from the East Fork Road. Drive 8 miles northeast on U.S. 160, turn right on the East Fork Road and travel approximately 7 miles to the trailhead, elevation 8,179 feet. A small sign on the left side of the road marks the trailhead. After approximately 3 miles, the Windy Pass Trail from the southwest intersects this trail in a large scenic park. Windy Pass is about .75 miles to the west of this junction. You can return the

way you came up, or go down to U.S. 160 (if you left a car there). You could go to the top of Windy Pass from U.S. 160, but it isn't as scenic.

Continental Divide, Alberta Peak (813)

Length: 2.5 miles | Difficulty: Moderate/difficult

Travel east on U.S. 160 22.6 miles to the summit of Wolf Creek Pass. The trail begins on the south side of the road, just east of the Continental Divide information kiosk. The trailhead elevation is 10,856 feet. A trail travels south and climbs to the west of Wolf Creek Ski Area. It then leads to rocky ridges on the west side of Alberta Peak. The trail to the top of the peak (11,870 feet) is not marked, although a 15- to 20-minute scramble will take you to the top. There are many beautiful vistas along the ridge.

Severe flooding in October 2025 created ongoing safety and access concerns for San Juan National Forest users on some roads, trails and in waterways. Check conditions of an area prior to heading out at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/conditions.



RANDY OSGA



SCENIC DRIVES



Much of the incredible natural wonder that surrounds Pagosa Country can be observed from the comfort of a conventional vehicle. However, one must be warned: Just because the car may be comfortable does not mean the driving conditions are always easy.

Before taking a drive of high-altitude discovery, know that high-mountain driving offers hazards as well as unforgettable views; weather conditions can change in the blink of an eye. While most of the roads recommended for the tours listed here are all-weather gravel roads, conditions can vary. Some roads require four-wheel-drive vehicles; many will test your driving skills and courage.

Go prepared. A San Juan National Forest map, available at the Pagosa Ranger District, is a benefit.

Excellent scenic vantage areas are located along all routes. Many of the trips are in remote areas with little traffic, so plan accordingly. Water, blankets, a GPS system (or a map and compass for those who prefer to remain old school), a full sack of snacks and leaving an itinerary with someone else is highly recommended.

Check road conditions and check for closures before heading out; call the Pagosa Ranger District at (970) 264-2268.

Motor Vehicle Use Map

The San Juan National Forest provides a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) that identifies all designated roads and trails that are open to wheeled motorized travel on the Pagosa Ranger District. The map is the legal document used to enforce travel rules. It does not identify nonmotorized recreational routes. It is the responsibility

of the motor vehicle user to acquire the current MVUM.

The map is free, district specific and available electronically at fs.usda.gov/main/sanjuan/maps-pubs, or paper maps are available at San Juan National Forest offices during operating hours.

Forest maps and MVUM's are also available for purchase and download to

use via Avenza Maps™, a free mobile app that enables users to navigate in real time across the national forest using official forest maps as the background.

You can also check out the Interactive Visitor Map by visiting fs.usda.gov/sanjuan. For more information, contact the Pagosa Ranger District at (970) 264-2268.

East Fork - Silver Falls - Elwood Pass - Quartz Meadow

Approximately 30+ miles round trip

From town, start by traveling 12 miles east of U.S. 160. Take a right on East Fork Road (FS 667). The first few miles of this route are suitable for most passenger vehicles; after that, high-clearance vehicles are recommended as there are multiple water crossings. The canyon opens up into a breathtaking river valley with impressive mountain views. Silver Falls is located about 8 miles from U.S. 160. The trail begins on the north side of the road (left). Hike up past the old guard station about 1/8 mile to reach the base of the falls. At the upper end of the valley, about 12 miles from U.S. 160, at a fork stay left toward Elwood Pass, a more technical drive, or right to Quartz Meadow.

Summitville – Platoro – Cumbres Pass – Chama

Approximately 100+ miles — all-day trip

On Wolf Creek Pass, approximately 6.5 miles from the east side of the summit, take Park Creek (FS 380), and proceed to

Summitville (mining ghost town last used in the 1970s). Continue toward Elwood Pass and south to Platoro. Upon reaching N.M. Hwy. 17, turn right and cross Cumbres Pass. You will follow the route of the Cumbres and Toltec narrow gauge railroad to Chama, N.M. From there it is 48 miles back to Pagosa Springs via U.S. 17, 84. This route is suitable for conventional vehicles.

Plumtaw - Piedra Loop - Williams Creek Reservoir

Approximately 35-60 miles round trip

This route takes you past amazing vistas and multiple trailheads for recreational options. From U.S. 160, turn north at Lewis Street and take the immediate left fork in the road. At about 1/4 mile, take the right fork and follow Fourmile Road (CR 400, which becomes FS 645) about 8 miles. Take the left fork and follow Plumtaw Road (FS 634); you can continue your trip in two directions. Where Plumtaw Road descends to the Piedra Road, turn right to the Piedra River Trail and continue to Williams Creek Reservoir, a scenic, high-mountain reservoir. If you turn left, you will continue back to Pagosa Springs. The roads are suitable

for all vehicles. This is a great route for viewing fall foliage.

Lobo Overlook - Continental Divide

Approximately 45 miles

Suitable for conventional vehicles and as close to the top of the world as you can get by vehicle in this area. Turn north off U.S. 160 at the summit of Wolf Creek Pass, follow the road up to the transmitter site. A spectacular vantage point and a picnic area are provided at the topographical crest of the mountain. A section of the Continental Divide Trail is accessible from the radio tower; parking is available. The road is accessible late June to early September.

Blanco Basin

Approximately 40 miles round trip

This is one of the most scenic drives in the state of Colorado, especially when fall colors are bright. The route is south on U.S. 84 for 8 miles to the Blanco Basin turnout (CR 326). Follow the road to the head of the basin and magnificent views of the Continental Divide, Square Top Mountain and Oil Mountain. For an even more spectacular side trip, turn right onto



Castle Creek Road (FS 660), cross the Rio Blanco and proceed to the end of the road at Fish Creek, about 6 miles. The last 2.5 miles of the road to Fish Creek is very slick when wet. Roads are all-weather and suitable for conventional vehicles. Return by the same route.

Mill Creek - Nipple Mountain Road

Approximately 32 miles round trip
Turn onto Mill Creek Road (CR 302) just north of the county fairgrounds from U.S. 84. At approximately 7 miles, take the right fork (FS 665) and proceed east to the Nipple Mountain area, another 12 miles. The trip will provide a vast panorama of the upper San Juan Valley. Proceed through the saddle separating Oil and Square Top mountains. From this vantage point, you will be able to observe the Blanco Basin. The road dead ends. Return by the same route.

Pagosa Junction

Approximately 45-50 miles round trip
Go south on 8th Street out of Pagosa Springs, turning right on Apache Street, which becomes Trujillo Road (CR 500), through the early-day settlements of

Juanita and Trujillo. See historic Pagosa Junction. From there, the route goes up Cat Creek Gap (CR 700) past the now-deserted Talian Mine and the Lone Tree Catholic Church, a landmark. Return to Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160. Continuing on CR 500 will take you to Navajo Lake and Navajo State Park. Return to Pagosa Springs via Colo. 151, past Chimney Rock National Monument, and on U.S. 160. The roads are all suitable for conventional vehicles.

Wolf Creek Pass

Approximately 80 miles round trip
You can easily spend a day exploring Wolf Creek Pass. Starting from Pagosa Springs, stop at Treasure Falls about 16 miles east of town. The next stop is the West Fork Valley Overlook, a scene featured in the movie "Vacation" and one certain to leave an impression. You will have a view of Treasure Falls from above — a great vantage point of the valley below. The next stop is the Continental Divide and Wolf Creek summit. As you head down the pass toward South Fork, check out Alberta Reservoir (near Wolf Creek Ski Area), Big Meadows Reservoir or Tucker Ponds to see small alpine lakes.

Know before you go

Many of the trips listed here are in remote areas with little traffic — plan accordingly. Water, blankets, a GPS system (or a map, coordinates and compass), a full sack of snacks and leaving an itinerary with someone is highly recommended. Conditions change quickly. Please use the recreation map as a guide.

Severe flooding in October 2025 created ongoing safety and access concerns for San Juan National Forest users on some roads, trails and in waterways. Check conditions of an area prior to heading out at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/conditions.

Check with the ranger district office in the area you plan to visit to get the most current information on road conditions and closures; call the Pagosa Ranger District at (970) 264-2268.



Waterfalls, canyons & rapids

ELISE SONIAT

As the seasons change from winter to spring and summer, and the rugged land begins once more to be warm, water, at first as a drip, begins to roll from the snow-capped mountain peaks. Before long, the drip turns into a rush, and the mountainsides are filled with waterfalls, streams and rivers.

Many water wonders await the hiker and backcountry mountain runner, horseback rider and biker. Find one of the area's waterfalls and take time to sit and enjoy the calming and beautiful spectacle.

Treasure Falls

Treasure Falls is named for Treasure Mountain, an area rich in folklore and stories of a large buried treasure. Most accounts suggest that a treasure chest full of gold was buried in the area after a group of Frenchmen were "waylaid" by either Spanish explorers or Native Americans.

Whatever the circumstances, Treasure Falls offers visitors a breathtaking fortune in scenery.

To get there, travel east on U.S. 160 approximately 15 miles from the San Juan River bridge at the east end of Pagosa Springs. As you approach the base of Wolf Creek Pass, turn right into a large parking area. The trailhead (No. 563) elevation is 8,123 feet. To the left of the parking lot is a short trail that will take you to the base of the falls. Follow the trail a quarter mile to the bridge at the base of the falls. There is a more difficult trail to the right that also leads to the waterfall. Standing in the refreshing spray on the bridge, the falls rush down the cliff toward you. In the winter, these falls create a frozen blue sculpture. The elevation gain is 325 feet. Many visitors photograph the falls and surrounding vistas from the parking area and nearby Overlook Bridge at the base of the falls.

Silver Falls

Day travelers can easily view or visit Silver Falls near the old historic Silver Falls Forest Service Guard Station. Following a scenic drive on a maintained gravel road into the backcountry, a trail to the falls is short, but fairly steep.

To get there, travel east on U.S. 160 approximately 10 miles from the San Juan River bridge at the east end of Pagosa Springs. Just after crossing the West Fork of the San Juan River, turn right (east) on East Fork Road (FS 667) leading to the East Fork River and campground. Follow the road and river approximately 8 miles where, on the north side (left), you'll see the falls, an old guard station and primitive parking area beyond.

A word of caution — in early spring, there are two vehicle stream crossings that are often hazardous during high water. Also, the last 2 miles of road crosses private land where visitors must respect private property rights and remain in the roadway.

To reach the base of the falls, follow the footpath through a gate and hike about an eighth of a mile.

Elwood Creek Cascades

The route to Elwood Pass and the Elwood Creek Cascades turns to a four-wheel-drive road best suited to high-clearance vehicles with a short wheelbase. Late summer or early autumn, when the aspens are shimmering gold, may be the ideal time to negotiate this rather precarious course. Because travelers must ford the East Fork of the San Juan River near where it begins at the confluence of Elwood and Crater creeks, spring high-water season is not the time to go.

To view these cascades, proceed up the East Fork Road as you would to Silver Falls. About a mile past the old guard station and

parking area, East Fork Road branches left from Quartz Meadow Road to the right. From there on, this narrow and primitive course offers many steep grades and seemingly bottomless mud holes. Beyond the river crossing, the road climbs abruptly out of the canyon. From high on the mountainside, Elwood Cascades is visible.

Another word of caution: Because the road to Elwood Pass is challenging even when dry, only experienced drivers should attempt its passage.

Fourmile Falls

The first of two spectacular falls is a tall "bridal veil" fall on aptly-named Fall Creek, but viewing its splendor requires a 3-mile hike (one way) into the Weminuche Wilderness north of Pagosa Springs. A bit further along Fourmile Trail No. 569 (on the right), the more voluminous Fourmile Falls tumbles hundreds of feet over a sheer precipice of dark volcanic rock.

The route to these popular summertime destinations begins in town at U.S. 160 and Lewis Street. Turn north on Lewis, then an immediate left on 5th Street, which becomes Fourmile Road. Follow Fourmile Road (CR 400/FS 645) right at junction to the trailhead. The trailhead elevation is 9,190 feet.

The hike is approximately 3.5 miles each way. The first 3 miles to Fourmile Falls is relatively easy with gently rolling terrain through an open valley. After the waterfall, the trail becomes steep and is not recommended for stock. Hikers should proceed

with caution. There are longer day hikes and backpacking loop options available. Please reference a Forest Service or topographical map for information.

Keep in mind, with Fourmile Falls being one of the more popular points of interest in the Pagosa Ranger District, the trail in can be quite crowded on pleasant summer days.

Piedra Falls

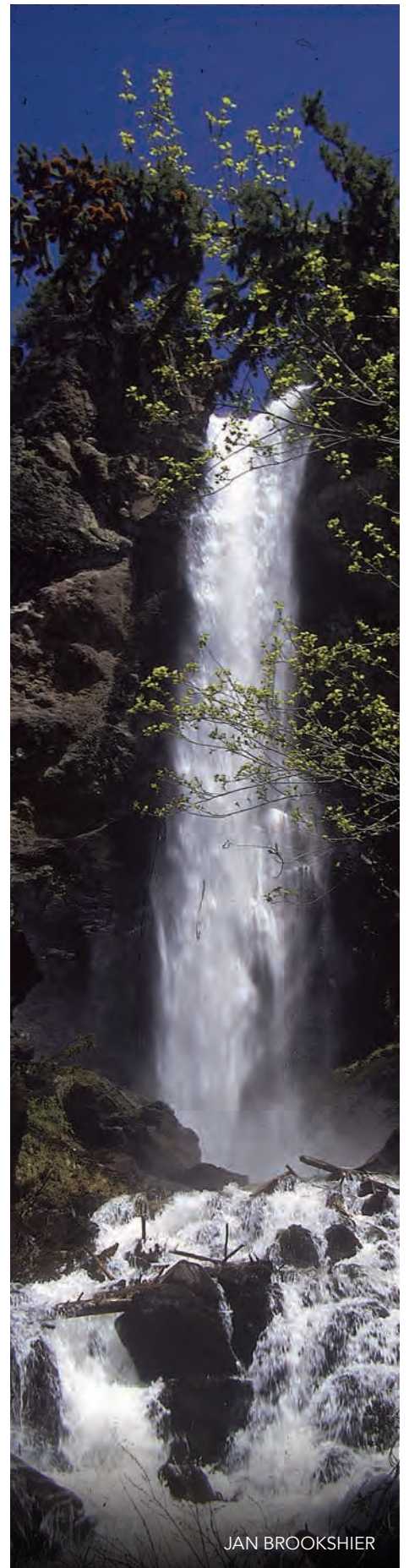
Piedra Falls is one of the most popular in the Pagosa Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest.

Located at the end of a gentle, 1/4-mile trail where the East Fork of the Piedra River meets the Weminuche Wilderness boundary, it cascades over two large steps among sheer volcanic cliffs.

To get there, drive north on Piedra Road (CR 600/FS 631) 17.8 miles to the junction at Sportsman's Supply. Leave Piedra Road and continue on Middle Fork Road (FS 636) for 2 miles. Take the first road to the right, East Toner Road (FS 637). It is 7.5 miles to the end. The trailhead elevation is 7,695 feet.

A word of caution: East Toner Road is graveled and typically accessible May through November, depending on snow conditions. Do not attempt this road in wet weather.

The hike on trail no. 671 is .4 miles each way. This is a great hike for all ages. Walk upstream to a head gate where the trail begins. The trail continues above and west of the head gate and river to the falls. The hike is about 15 minutes each way.



JAN BROOKSHIER

Know before you go

Backcountry travelers should always prepare for emergencies before venturing far past civilization. Even relatively minor injuries in a remote area can turn serious, particularly if the victim faces spending a night (or more) in the woods. Sliding off road or getting stuck will almost certainly result in very expensive assistance.

Before setting out, review maps and weather reports, determine intended routes and travel times, and inform at least two close friends or family members of planned destination and when you expect to return. Wilderness trail users should register their entry and departure times at all Forest Service trailheads.

Much of the Weminuche Wilderness has been affected by an outbreak of spruce beetles, which have killed the majority of mature spruce trees. Fires have also weakened the trees. As a result, visitors must use extra caution when traveling in the vicinity of dead or dying trees. Always be aware of your surroundings.

Additionally, severe flooding in October 2025 created ongoing safety and access concerns for San Juan National Forest users on some roads, trails and in waterways. Check conditions of an area prior to heading out at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/conditions.

Adventurers ought never travel alone, should dress appropriately for current and forecast conditions, and should carry a first aid kit and know how to use it. If serious injury does occur, tend to the victim's immediate needs, then get to a landline or within cellphone range and dial 911. For less serious matters where help is still required, call Archuleta County Combined Dispatch at (970) 731-2160.



Real Estate & Home Guide

JAMES BROWN

Father and son construct the future, decode the past

James E. Brown, a master builder with more than 50 years of experience, has spent decades decoding the engineering behind the ancient structures in the Giza Plateau.

Brown is also the founder of Colorado Dream Homes (CDH), a name many in Archuleta County may recognize. Brown founded the firm alongside his wife, Debra, who now runs the business with their son, Cayce Brown, also the co-founder of Our Home Pagosa.

CDH was founded in 1994 with the goal to build homes that showcase their craftsmanship and serve as pioneers in energy efficiency. The company specializes in energy-efficient, low-maintenance homes designed specifically for the Rocky Mountains.

CDH, a full-service construction company in Archuleta County, has completed more than 200 homes and commercial buildings. The firm has also secured five national awards for energy efficiency, including four National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Energy Value Housing Awards for the nation's Best Energy Efficient Home Design and Construction in a Cold Climate Region. In 1999, they were also named the EPA Energy Star Small Home Builder of the Year in the United States.

The family-owned business is rooted in a philosophy of "form follows function," which James has also applied in his internationally recognized research on ancient Egypt. Since a life-changing event in 1977, James has been a dedicated researcher of ancient Egyptian technology, focusing specifically on the

Great Pyramid of Giza.

His decades of work and research back his theory that the pyramids were not merely tombs for pharaohs, but were sophisticated machines designed for energy manipulation and water electrification.

Cayce noted that his father's background in construction gave him a unique perspective, helping him to look at things differently when it came to structural design.

"As in form follows function, he's looking at these different chambers in the pyramid that they're claiming are a place that stores a body," Cayce said. "He's looking at the practicality of that and saying, 'Well, that doesn't make sense. So, what could it be?'"

James also found that the pyramids themselves show no real signs, like carvings or artifacts, of being tombs, noting that the royal mummies were discovered 500 miles away in the Valley of the Kings and are now housed in Egypt's national museum.

"There's no hard evidence to indicate they were burial grounds," he added. "So that, to me, was a clincher that you can't claim what they are."

James and Cayce also recently received national recognition for their collaborative work with Find Fire Digital Services on "Hidden Truths of Ancient Egypt," a video series that translates James' decades of research into an educational visual narrative.

The first episode, "Fire in Middle Part 1," was honored with

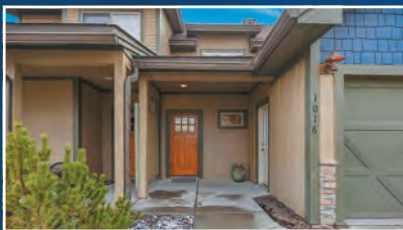
Let Lily and Laura help find your next home.



31 Vista San Juan. 3 bed., 3 bath, expansive views, single level. \$995,000. MLS 826583



62 Jackson Court. 5 bed., 3 bath, views of Square Top, end of cul-de-sac. \$855,000. MLS 832020



135 Eaton Drive. 3 bed., 3 bath, primary on main level. \$580,000. MLS 831733



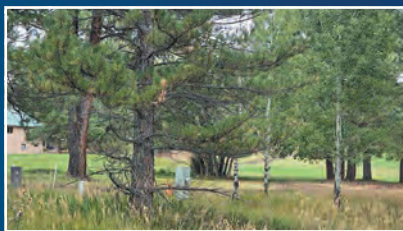
225 East Pagosa St., current location of East Side Market. \$550,000. MLS 831823



1135 Park Avenue. 2 bed., 2 bath, single level, fully furnished. \$537,900. MLS 831688



3500 US W Hwy. 160. 2 bed., 1 bath, oversized garage. \$374,900. MLS 830350



94 Pines Club Place. .21 acre on paved road, mountain views. \$80,000. MLS 828144



492 Circle Drive, gentle sloping lot, 1.48 acres. \$65,000. MLS 821943



1151 Trails Boulevard. Big mountain views, .23 acre. \$42,000. MLS 822729



634 Cactus Drive. Driveway in, 1.0 acre. \$38,000. MLS 825006



100 Little Pine Ln., .10 acre. \$35,000. MLS 826604



Laura Daniels

Broker

970-946-9281

30 years in Pagosa



**TEAM PAGOSA
REALTY GROUP**

970-731-8599

**117 Navajo Trail
Suite C**

View Area Listings at:
www.teampagosa.com
www.pagosaspringsrealty.com

I pay title closing costs for Veterans!



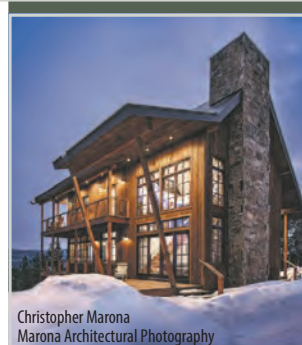
The Tile & Carpet Store

SHOWROOM ♦ WAREHOUSE

tile & natural stone
waterproof flooring ♦ hardwood flooring
carpet (custom orders & in-stock) ♦ area rugs
stacked stone panels ♦ in-floor heating
Schluter products & setting materials

Call us at (970) 731-5282

204 Bastille Drive
thetileandcarpetstorepagosa.com



Reflections in Wood

**Custom Luxury Homes
Building to Your Needs**

**All Phases of
New Construction
and Remodels**

**20 years experience
building in
Pagosa Springs**

**Cullen Dalton
970-946-4937
culldalton@gmail.com**

a Bronze Telly Award, which recognizes excellence in video and television. The goal is to release the second and third episodes of the series simultaneously in the fall of 2026, Cayce shared.

James' media work dissects the Giza Plateau to show how its unique features could have been used to produce energy. In his writing, he describes how the Giza Plateau functioned as a massive industrial complex, utilizing advanced principles of physics and electrical conductivity.

"I try to duplicate the things I discover, try to make sure there's legitimacy to it," he shared.

This research also led him to found the Ancient Energy Research Center and self-publish several critically acclaimed books, including "Fire in Middle: Mystery of the Great Pyramid Solved," "Electric Ancient Egyptians" and "Giza's Industrial Complex."

He is also currently in the process of publishing his fourth book, "They Lied to Us About Ancient Egypt."

Having traveled to Egypt five times since the 1970s, Brown has gathered evidence and data to support his alternative theories and ongoing research and documented through around 20,000 photos in all.

"I was just compelled to learn more and more," he said. "And on every trip, I found out more information, and I found the whole area of Egypt there is totally misunderstood."

James shared that he aims to tell the truth and expose what's there, noting that using a multitude of photos lets the reader decide for themselves what to think.

"What I'm doing is outlining, and in my books, I go into a lot of detail," he said. "I use pictures, and I let the reader draw their own conclusions. You know, this is what I saw, and this is what I believe."

You can find more about James and his research at jamesernestbrown.com.



The Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™

Published two times per year by
The Pagosa Springs SUN
O'Rourke Media Group –
Pagosa Springs, LLC

For correspondence,
subscriptions and advertising:
P.O. Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
(970) 264-2100

To advertise in this publication:
shari@pagosasun.com

www.PagosaSUN.com
www.ExplorePagosa.com

Copyright ©2026
The Pagosa Springs SUN
All rights reserved.

Reproduction in whole or part
without written permission
from the publisher is
expressly prohibited.

Every effort was made to ensure accuracy of the information in this guide as of press time. However, O'Rourke Media Group – Pagosa Springs, LLC assumes no responsibility for errors, changes or omissions.

Cover photo:
Randi Pierce



Ready to Make Your Move?



Call today — expert
real estate service
that gets results!

**Where Integrity
& Experience Meet**



Barbara Swindlehurst
Broker/Owner

(303) 618-7423

Barbara@MountainMeadowRealEstate.com



Shellie Hogue
Broker Associate

(970) 759-8109

shelliechogue@gmail.com



Michael Averette

Broker Associate/ Serving San Luis Valley

(205) 393-0699

Michael.Averette@gmail.com



Gail Brault

Broker Associate

(970) 946-2051

GailBrault1957@gmail.com



409 Lewis Street
MountainMeadowRealEstate.info





AM SALVAGE

Reclaimed Lumber/Barnwood

Largest Selection & Best Prices in Colorado!

Wide plank unfinished
white oak
flooring.

Over 40,000 sq. ft. of
1x barn siding, under cover,
in the yard.

1"x3"-7' gray shi lap.
Long lengths available.

Pressure Treated Fire
retardant wood siding.

Rusty roof metal.

Rough sawn
2x and 3x brown lumber.

Large Doug Fir
8"x10"x30'+, 10"x10"x30'+, 8"x16"x20',
12"x12"x20', 6"x12", 3"x10"x20'+

Hand hewn slab siding.

Long hand hewn timbers.

Open by appointment in Gunnison

barnwoodamsalvage.com ■ greenbldr@gmail.com ■ (970) 596-2407

Flihan's
Interior/Exterior Flooring solutions



Call, Text or
Email us Today!

(970) 903 - 0911
(970) 946 - 6395

www.FlihansFlooring.com
Mike@FlihansFlooring.com

BEST FLOORING RETAILER & INSTALLERS IN FOUR CORNERS

We are locally owned and family-run for generations - we've been installing quality flooring since 1985. We specialize in interior and exterior flooring, including Carpet, Vinyl/LVP, Hardwood, Tile, and Turf. At our core, we believe every customer deserves expert service and top-quality results - period.

Price Match Guarantee:

**We're confident we can get you
the best quality for the right price
- we match, you save.****

** Flihan's will match the price of identical flooring materials sold by a store located in the Four Corners. Ask us for more information



Locally owned | 40+ years experience | Most trusted installers in Four Corners

LIKE
Borrowing
Sugar
FROM THE
Neighbors.

IF BY "SUGAR"
YOU MEAN MONEY.
AND BY "NEIGHBORS"
YOU MEAN NEIGHBORS.

You can count on neighbors to help you out when you need it most. And if what you need is a personal, business or home loan, come see your neighbors. Because we believe in community. Streets and neighborhoods and the people who live there. Just don't ask us to move furniture. That's why we sold the truck.

BANK OF THE SAN JUANS
A DIVISION OF GLACIER BANK
ONE BIG HAPPY LITTLE BANK

WWW.BANKSANJUANS.COM
144 EAST EIGHTH ST. DURANGO CO 81301 970.247.1818
1710 NORTH MAIN DURANGO CO 81301 970.247.2828
125 NORT SPRINGS BLVD. PAGOSA SPRINGS CO 81347 970.244.1818
FDIC

Interior Dreams

One Store. Lots of Options.



From floor to ceiling, Interior Dreams is your stop for decorating your home in Pagosa Springs.



Interior Dreams carries today's leading brands for flooring, furniture, window coverings, mattresses and more — all at prices that won't break the bank and will leave you feeling great.



Whether you're new to Pagosa Springs or remodeling your current home, make sure you stop by Interior Dreams today.

Interior Dreams

interiordreamspagosa.com
(970) 731-4101 • 301 N. PAGOSA BLVD.

WWW.ASPENANDBIRCHHOMES.COM

ASPEN+BIRCH HOMES

CUSTOM HOMES - INTERIOR DESIGN

PAGOSA SPRINGS

TREES COLORADO MOUNTAINS STARGAZING

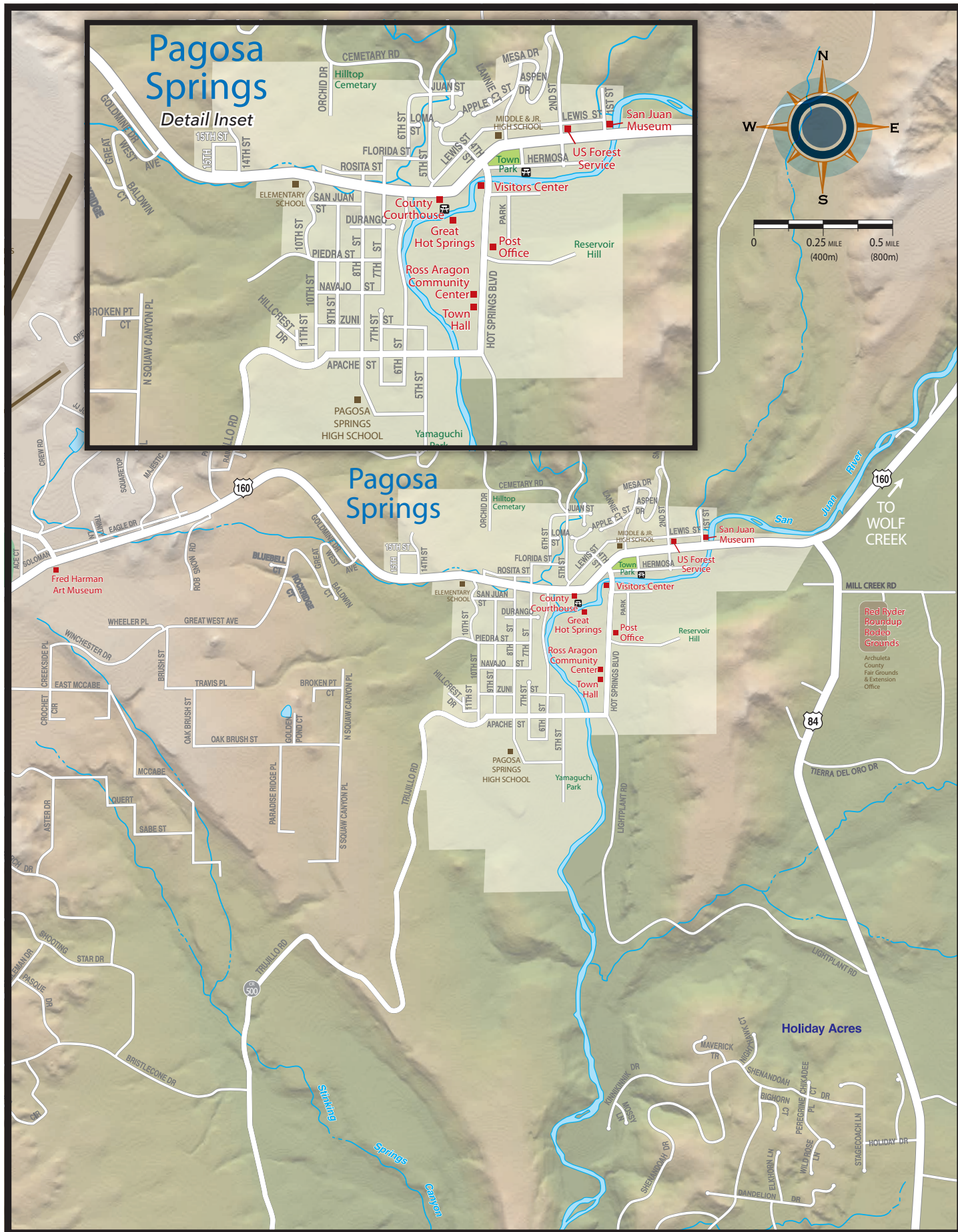
HOT SPRINGS **SHOP DINE** **HISTORY MUSEUM** **ART MUSIC**

TRAILS CONTINENTAL DIVIDE SAN JUAN RIVER HIKE BIKE RAFT HORSEBACK RIDES RIVERWALK

So Much To Do! Stay informed with The Pagosa Springs SUN

The Pagosa Springs **SUN** Subscribe today at PagosaSUN.com





ABOUT THE AREA



Physical description



Archuleta County is comprised of 872,960 acres. Only 34 percent of lands in Archuleta County are in private ownership. Tribal lands comprise 14.4 percent of the county. Most of the northern and eastern portions of the county (51.6 percent) are within the San Juan National Forest. There is a total of approximately 2.8 million acres of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management surrounding Archuleta County.

Geography



Land area (square miles) — 1,350
Persons per square mile — 9.9

Housing and Income



Median value owner-occupied housing — \$478,100
Households — 5,921
Persons per household — 2.32
Per capita money income — \$45,172
Median household income — \$83,065
Persons in poverty — 10.5 percent

Population



Source: US Census Bureau State & County QuickFacts
2023 estimate — 14,112

Education



District 50 Joint Office (970) 264-2228
www.mypagosaschools.com
High School (970) 264-2231
Middle School, 5th-6th grades (970) 264-2256
Middle School, 7th-8th grades (970) 264-2794
Elementary School (970) 264-2229
Pagosa Peak Open School (970) 317-2151
San Juan Mountain School (970) 264-2231, ext. 9247
The Training Advantage (970) 264-5627
GOAL Academy (877) PRO-GOAL

Utilities



Electric

La Plata Electric Association, (970) 247-5786,
www.lpea.coop

Gas/Natural

Black Hills Energy, (888) 890-5554,
www.blackhillsenergy.com

Propane

Arrowhead Propane, (970) 582-3225
Basin Coop, (970) 247-3066
Inter-Mountain Propane, (970) 264-1301
Selph's Propane, (970) 731-3737

Water

Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation,
(970) 731-2691, www.pawsd.org

Sanitation

Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation,
(970) 731-2691, www.pawsd.org
Town of Pagosa Springs, (970) 264-4151, www.pagosasprings.co.gov

Trash

Elite Recycling & Disposal, (970) 731-2012
Waste Management, (970) 264-5622
Bruin Waste, (970) 864-7531
County Transfer Station, (970) 264-5660

Road conditions



Colorado Department of Transportation

511 or (303) 639-1111, www.cotrip.org
Archuleta County Road Report
(970) 264-5555

New Mexico Road Report

(800) 432-4269, www.nmroads.com

Taxes



Sales and User Tax: 2.9 percent state, 4 percent county, 1 percent town.

County sales tax revenue is divided between county and town.

Lodgers' Tax: A 4.9 percent tax is collected from the lodging industry in town limits. The county collects a 2 percent tax for lodging. Lodging tax is used for tourism promotion, among other things.

Primary Source of Town & County Revenue: Retail sales taxes, property taxes and charges for services.

Government



Town Government:

www.pagosasprings.co.gov
Home Rule Municipality
Town council with elected mayor and six councilors elected for alternating four-year terms, town manager is appointed. Date of incorporation: 1891.

County Government:

www.archuletacounty.org.
Three county commissioners elected for alternating four-year terms.

Media



Newspaper: The Pagosa Springs SUN
www.pagosasun.com
(970) 264-2100

Tourism & business development



Pagosa Springs Community Development Corp.
www.pagosaspringscdc.org, (970) 264-2360

Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce
www.pagosaspringschamber.com, (970) 264-2360

Pagosa Springs Area Tourism
www.visitpagosasprings.com, www.explorepagosa.com
(970) 585-1200 or (866) 438-4917

Region 9 Economic Development District
(970) 247-9621, www.scan.org

Fort Lewis College Small Business Development
(970) 247-7009, <http://sbdcfortlewis.org/>

THERE'S ONLY ONE FEELING OF HOME



One feeling like finally seeing your place after you've emptied all the moving boxes. That moment when four walls and a roof become the home you've always wanted. If you're on the search for that special place, we're the community bank that'll help you get there.

THE BANK OF COLORADO DIFFERENCE IS SIMPLE.
CONTACT WADE OR PENNIE TO EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!



WADE SLINGERLAND

Senior Loan Officer
(970) 769-0785 Cell
NMLS #1419534
Wade.Slingerland@bankofcolorado.com

- ♦ VA, FHA, USDA and Conventional Loans
- ♦ CHFA Participating Lender
- ♦ Jumbo Loans



PENNIE DECLARK

Market President
970-731-4166 Office
970-903-3242 Cell
NMLS #1025992
Pennie.DeClark@bankofcolorado.com

- ♦ Land Loans
- ♦ Construction Loans
- ♦ Portfolio Loans
- ♦ Personal & Business Accounts



Bank of Colorado®

T H E R E ' S O N L Y O N E



PAGOSA SPRINGS 205 Country Center Dr., 970.731.4166

MEMBER FDIC

JANN C PITCHER REAL ESTATE



SINCE 1996

Celebrating 30 Years

Helping People Find Home in Pagosa Springs

It would be our privilege and honor to help you



Local Roots, Lasting Trust



Jann C Pitcher Real Estate

janncpitcher.com | 970 731-4065

2261 Eagle Drive | Pagosa Springs Colorado 81147