Results of election remain unclear
Early returns reported — A3

Honoring our veterans
Flag presentations, ceremonies and dinners planned — A3



The Pagosa Springs SUN $1

PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 119 — NO. 6, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

More historic flooding hits Pagosa Country



Photo courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

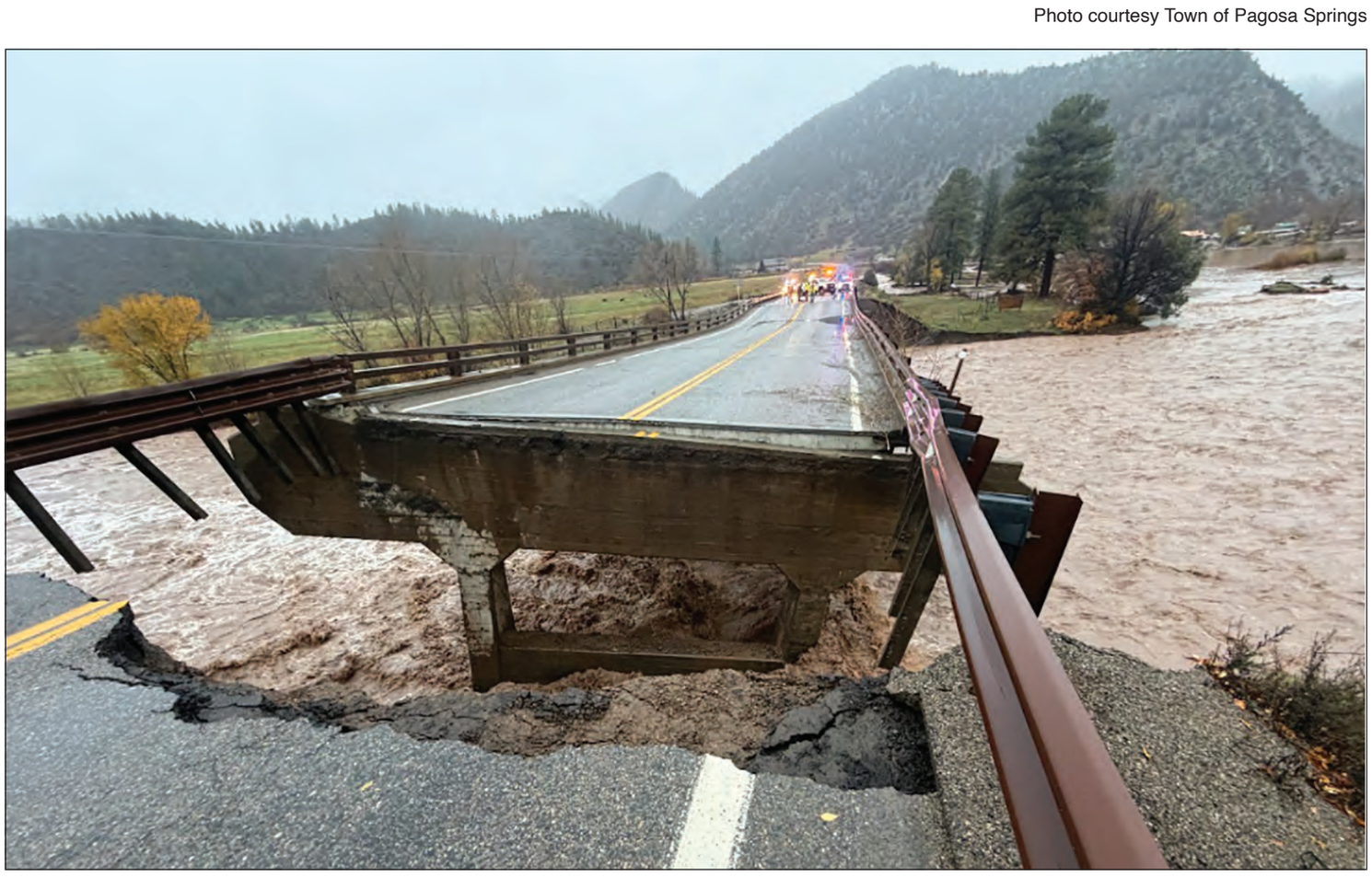


Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Additional major flooding early this week resulted in additional major damage to the area, compromising roads, bridges and, in at least one case, sweeping a house from its place along the river.

By Clayton Chaney and Randi Pierce
Staff Writers

For the second time in as many weeks, Pagosa Country experienced historic flooding.

And, for the second week in a row, there have been no known fatalities or injuries associated with the flooding incident, according to incident officials.

How historic that flooding was in terms of the record books, however, remains to be seen.

The gauge on the San Juan River at Pagosa Springs registered 16.81 feet at about 8 p.m.

The latest river forecast ahead of the feet was nearly 22 feet.

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux indicated during a community meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 3, that the San Juan River reached at least 2.5 feet higher on Nov. 1 and 2 than it did during the flooding that occurred on Oct. 23.

The San Juan River peaked at 15.02 feet at about 5:45 a.m. on Oct. 23.

"The last time the gauge read was at 16.9 feet," Le Roux said. "We do have figures that were working on getting that accurately quantified, but we understand it to have been in the region of 17 plus feet, which, if it exceeded 17.8 feet, it would've exceeded the all-time measured record for anything in this region, ever."

The 1911 flood peaked at 17.8 feet.

According to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Supervisory Hydrologic Technician Bryan Moore, the San Juan River

■ See Flooding A12

Additional flooding causes multiple area road closures

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

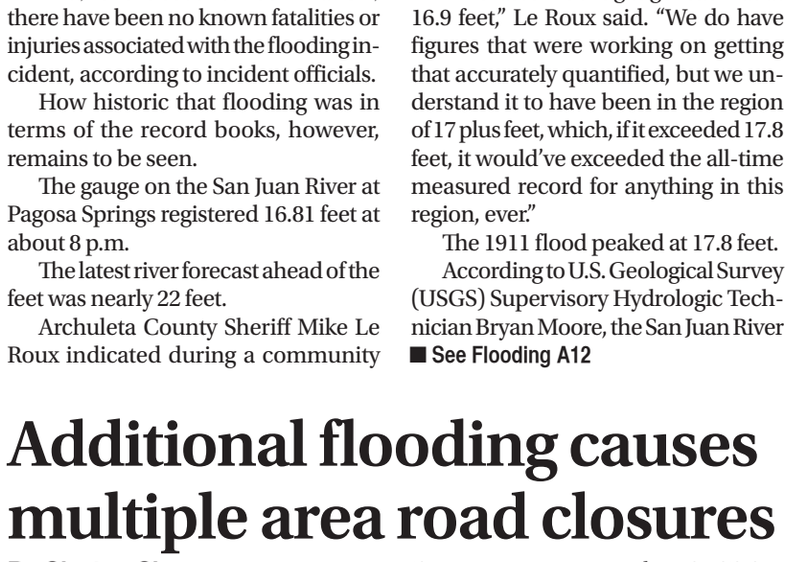
With two historic flooding events occurring in Archuleta County from Oct. 23 through Nov. 2, multiple town and county roads, state and U.S. highways have sustained significant damage, causing closures, along with some areas limited to one-lane traffic.

According to a press release from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) on Nov. 4, "Construction crews are currently prioritizing repair work on CO 151 at [mile point] 27, approximately four miles south of Chimney Rock. Teams are aiming to regain limited residential access later this week, possibly as early as Friday (11/6). Regaining access at [mile point] 30 will be the next priority."

The press release notes that Colo. 151 is currently closed from mile point 27 to mile point 30.

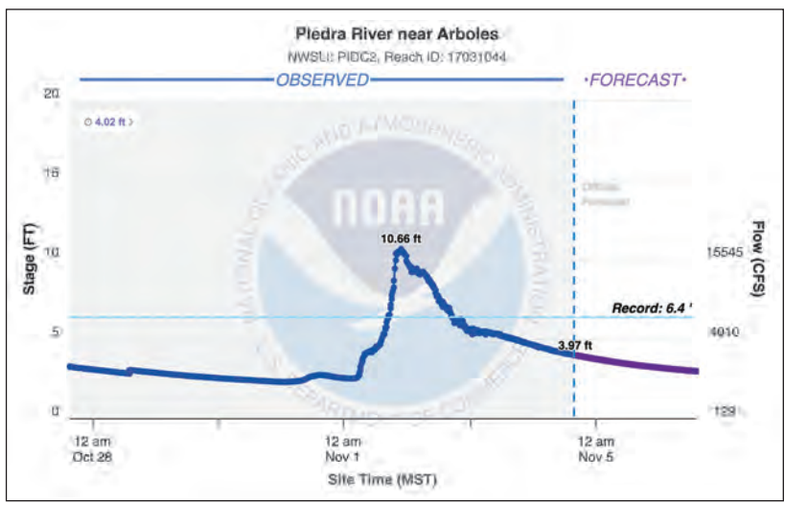
Significant damage has also oc-

■ See Closures A8



Graph courtesy National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Levels of the San Juan River at Pagosa Springs are shown before, during and after this week's flooding.



Graph courtesy National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Levels of the Piedra River near Arboles are shown before, during and after this week's flooding.

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

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HOT MINERAL SPRINGS"

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Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation Moisture	Type	Depth
10/27	58	28	T	NA	NA
10/28	59	29	0.02	NA	NA
10/29	60	29	0.00	NA	NA
10/30	62	32	0.01	NA	NA
10/31	57	38	0.75	NA	NA
11/1	51	41	1.00	NA	NA
11/2	44	33	2.10	NA	NA

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Our View

Part of so much more

Pagosa Country is in the midst of a span of time that has been difficult, but has also highlighted so much good and that we are a part of something special.

Most notably and at the front of most of our minds is the back-to-back flooding we just experienced.

It brought heartache, fear and destruction. It brought back memories of last year and fear for what the future might hold.

But it's also brought out a lot of care, compassion, generosity and resilience.

As Sheriff Mike Le Roux said earlier this week, we are a resilient community and this community has shown an overwhelming amount of support.

"Our resilience is showing through," he said.

We agree. We have seen and shown that Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County are truly a community worth bragging about.

And, again, we will highlight the fantastic work of our incident management and first responders. To get through as many major floods as we have without injury or worse it nothing short of amazing.

That resiliency was also on display with our local election this week.

Local and state officials were quick to work around numerous difficulties related to the flooding and find ways to allow Archuleta County's voters to speak their minds at the polls, regardless of the circumstances. Their hard work, problem solving and passion for elections helped us contribute to something so much greater than ourselves — democracy.

This place and the people in it continue to surprise us, mostly for the good.

Like we said last week, we're honored to call this place home.

Next week, we get to again focus on something much larger than ourselves — honoring our nation's veterans — on Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

These brave men and women have served in times of peace and war, stateside and around the world, to help keep our country and all we hold dear about it safe.

For that, we are deeply grateful.

Over the years, we've had the opportunity to cover numerous events that put our veterans at the forefront, such as the annual ceremonies and the Veterans Day breakfast hosted by local eighth-graders. These events teach and remind folks of all ages that there is much to be learned from our veterans, and much that we can so easily find ourselves taking for granted as we go through our everyday lives in peace, without much fear of being attacked by other nations on our own soil.

We've watched students listening attentively as they hear stories from veterans while looking through scrapbooks, records and other items shared by the veterans.

We've seen veterans brought to tears, feeling like their service is truly appreciated — in some instances for the first time.

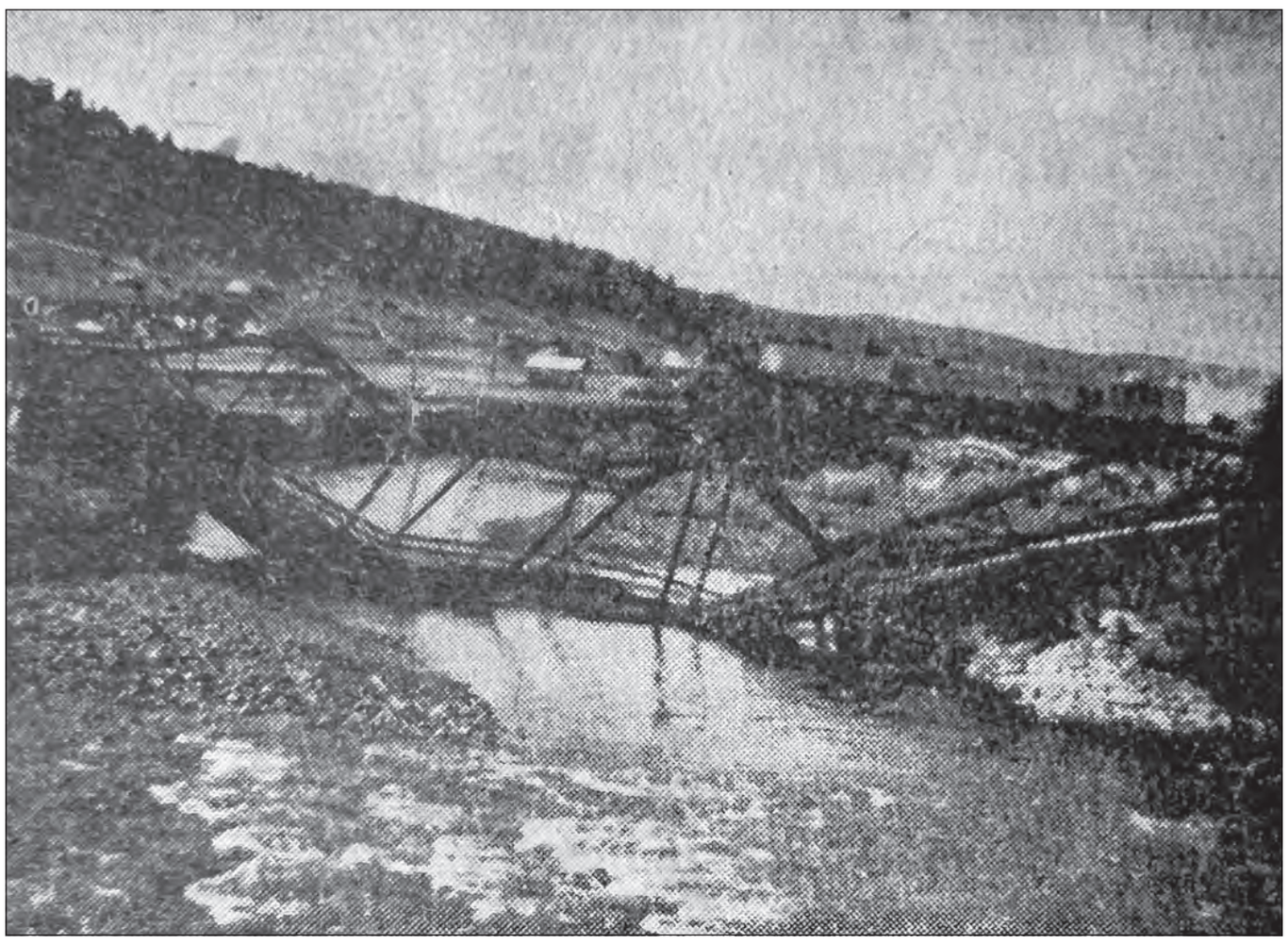
This year we again look forward to our local veterans having a time to shine, to be appreciated and thanked, and to serve and honor them after they put their lives on the line for us.

We hope you'll join in the celebration of their patriotism, love for our country and willingness to be part of something so much bigger.

If you are or have been a part of our military, thank you for your service.

Randi Pierce

Looking Back



From the Aug. 1, 1957, Pagosa SUN — High streams, melting snow and lots of rain caused plenty of damage to roads and bridges here in Archuleta county last week. The biggest loss was the bridge across the San Juan river here in town. The bridge was swept away about five o'clock last Friday evening after every effort had been made to save it.

The waters started rising very fast around noon and by late afternoon the debris and tree trunks were coming down so fast, it was impossible to keep them cleared from the bridge. In addition, the water was considerably higher than at any time during the runoff. Town officials obtained emergency equipment to try and save the bridge but to no avail.

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Legacies

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 5, 1926

Mr. and Mrs. Charley Masien and the former's brother, Claude Masien, who claimed to be from Eldorado Springs, Missouri, and had been at the Houser mill since July, where the two young men were employed, departed the evening of Election day for parts unknown. However, they have apparently taken with them Ethel, the 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Coggins, who also lives at the mill and no trace has yet been found of the quartet.

The getaway was made while Mr. and Mrs. Coggins were at the polls in Pagosa Springs, and suspicion that she had been taken by the Mesiens did not occur until later in the evening. The sheriff at Monte Vista was at once advised to be on the lookout for them, while Mr. Coggins made a quick trip to Durango by motor in the night, but without success in learning of their whereabouts.

They are now believed to be en route to Missouri and will no doubt be intercepted soon, in which case the Masiens will be brought back to Pagosa Springs to stand trial on a kidnapping charge. The young men are about 20 and 15 years old respectively.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 2, 1951

To be found elsewhere in this edition of the SUN is an ordinance being published by the town regarding parking. The ordinance provides for two hour parking only in certain hours on main street and other streets of the town.

The ordinance will be in effect immediately upon publication so motorists should observe the regulation if they desire to avoid traffic fines.

The ordinance was passed last spring but was not made final until signs were available to warn everyone of the restrictions. The measure was adopted in an effort to provide more parking space on the main street as many autos were parked in the same spot for periods as long as a week without being moved. The new law should eliminate all day parking and provide more space for those who come to town to transact business.

Remember the new law will be in effect starting Friday, November 2 and violations may cost up to ten dollars.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 4, 1976

Felix Gomez, an Archuleta County resident since 1912, passed away last Saturday at his home in Pagosa Junction. Mr. Gomez was well known throughout the San Juan Basin and his general merchandise store was a point of interest for many visitors to the area.

The police are investigating two car thefts that took place last Friday night. They say that an individual, or individuals, first took a car from near the post office and then abandoned it on Main Street. During this time a small youngster was asleep in the back seat and unaware of what was going on. Another vehicle was then taken from the same general area and was involved in an accident that knocked down a concrete wall at the REA office. The car was damaged. The investigation is continuing.

Ernest Yamaguchi cast the first ballot in Precinct 1 at the general election Tuesday. It was a heavy voting day, with Mr. Yamaguchi voting at 7 a.m. and a steady stream of voters followed from then until 7 p.m. This was true of all polling places in this county.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 1, 2001

Overall sales in Archuleta County continued at a record pace through September, apparently not affected by the national economic down turn.

The sales tax collected in the county during September of this year is $498,111, up 9.9 percent over the $453,048 collected during September of 2000.

Many economists regard sales tax collections as a good measure of the condition of the economy because of the taxes are directly linked with retail sales. The belief is that consumers spend more for products when they have confidence in the economy. It is therefore assumed that an increasing amount of sales taxes collected mean that consumers have money and have the confidence to spend it.

County sales tax collections for the year 2001 through September are 13.03 percent ahead of last year for the same span of months. Through September of this year, $3,782,834 has been collected. Through September of last year $3,346,780 was collected. Last year was a record year for sales tax collections in the county.







Photos courtesy Richard Sebastian

Capt. Richard Sebastian, DDS, retired, served in the U.S. Army in Korea 1969-1970, calling the service a way to honor his father and pay back the debt he felt he owed to his country.

A debt repaid: Capt. Richard Sebastian's service in Korea

By Richard Sebastian
Special to The SUN

Editor's note: Capt. Richard Sebastian, DDS, retired, served in the U.S. Army in Korea 1969-1970. The SUN is honored Sebastian chose to share his story with our readers and to help us continue our tradition of highlighting those who have served — and continue to serve— our country.

I am a retired dentist and a veteran who served in Korea during the Vietnam War.

My love and affection for my country harkens in great part to the way it treats the men and women who serve in its armed forces.

My father, PFC Sebastian R. DiBartolomeo, was killed in combat while fighting the Germans in World War II. I was 2 years old at the time of his death and was his only child.

The Veterans Administration has a special designation for orphan sons who have no male siblings. We are called "sole surviving sons." I am one of those.

As compensation for the loss of their fathers, sole surviving sons are accorded certain rights and privileges. They are exempt from being drafted into the armed services, and they are also eligible to receive educational benefits through the Veterans Administration (VA).

My dental career began in my junior year of high school when the VA sent an advisor to my school for the purpose of administering aptitude tests to help me in determining what career I would be most successful pursuing.

The top two results of that test were orthopedic surgeon or dentist. When I asked which one of these medical professionals would be getting calls in the middle of the night, the examiner said, "I suppose it would be the orthopedic surgeon." My reply was, "Well, I want to be the other one." From that time on, when anybody asked what I was going to do, I always answered, "I'm going to be a dentist."

Another perk of being a sole surviving son was that the VA, having chosen my career, allotted me $110 a month for the eight years it took to get my DDS degree. It was a lot of money back in those days and without it I probably wouldn't even have graduated from college. I was good with my hands in dental school, so working on patients was a breeze for me.

Medical and dental schools are sorely lacking in teaching students how to run the business aspect of their professions. I was determined that I was not only going to be a great dentist, I would also run a successful business. I took every course and every elective I could find that dealt with business management.

In honor of my father and in order to pay back the debt I felt I owed to my country.

For making my career possible, I volunteered for service in the Army Dental Corps the week before graduating. As is often the case, the recruiters' promise of getting a choice duty station was a myth. I had been married a little over a month to my beautiful young wife when the Army decided to send me to Korea, where wives of servicemen were not authorized.

After three weeks of basic training, I arrived at Camp Carroll, in central Korea, Sept. 2, 1969. Camp Carroll was a repair depot. Its main purpose was for rebuilding salvageable tanks and armored personnel carriers from the Vietnam battlefields.

The 665th dental detachment consisted of two dentists, one sergeant (who was also the office manager/dental assistant) and a Korean army dental hygienist.

Two dentists sharing an overworked dental assistant was a terribly inefficient use of resources.

■ See Service A11

Results of election remain unclear

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The results of the Nov. 3 general election in Archuleta County — including what voters decided on a trio of local ballot issues — remains undetermined as ballots continue to be counted.

Final tabulation will be completed by Nov. 13, according to Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta.

The results will be final on Nov. 25 following canvassing.

Contributing to the delay in results are election changes stemming from the flooding, transportation challenges due to the flooding and the process required to adjudicate ballots when write-in candidates are involved.

On Tuesday night, the Archuleta County Elections Office explained that vote totals were showing artificially low, with that due to the time it takes for the bipartisan election judges to review each ballot with a write-in candidate listed.

Archuleta County ballots featured two races with write-in candidates: U.S. senator and Archuleta County surveyor.

Archuleta noted that more than 7,000 voted ballots were returned, with more than 100 emergency ballots cast due to flooding.

Flooding, other challenges impact election

On Nov. 1, the Colorado Department of State notified voters of changes in some voting locations in Archuleta County due to flood risk.

Those changes resulted in moving vote centers and drop boxes, including locating some in La Plata County, and allowing emergency online voting.

Archuleta indicated Tuesday the county still has to receive ballots that were turned in in other counties to be counted.

She indicated that getting around to retrieve ballots was one of the most challenging parts of this election, as was communicating with voters.

"The transportation part of everything was really hard," she said, adding finding judges was also difficult. "Of course, the weather threw us for a loop. But, the support we have is just awesome. The clerks' association, surrounding clerks, state election management, sheriff's office — everybody — IT, Secretary of State's Office was huge."

Archuleta added that, when cellular issues persisted Tuesday, Verizon set up a mobile tower outside the elections office to help.

"The weather definitely made it hard," she said.

But, despite the challenges, Archuleta relayed the election went very well.

She noted everyone stepped up when needed, as they always do.

"I think everything went pretty smooth," she said.

Early returns

With 6,468 ballots counted as of press time Wednesday, the following were the vote totals for the three local ballot issues:

- Archuleta County's Ballot Issue 1A had 4,231 in favor (68.70 percent) and 1,928 against (31.30 percent).
- Archuleta School District's Ballot Issue 5A had 2,989 in favor (50.73 percent) and 2,903 against (49.27 percent).
- Upper San Juan Health Service District's Ballot Issue 7B had 4,681 in favor (78.61 percent) and 1,247 against (21.39 percent).

For additional Archuleta County results as they are available, see future issues of The SUN and www.PagosaSUN.com.

randi@pagosasun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Archuleta County Veterans Services Officer Raymond Taylor was recently received the Louis Nardini Award from the Colorado County Veterans Service Officers Association. Taylor received the award in recognition of outstanding performance and achievement in serving the veterans and families of Archuleta County.

Flag presentations, ceremonies and dinners planned to honor veterans

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Several events are planned over the next week to honor military veterans for their service to our country, with Veterans Day falling on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

In addition to the community events, the community is also taking part in the Operation Greenlight Program, where everyone is asked to show support by shining a green light at your home or business through Nov. 11.

Tuesday, Nov. 10

On Tuesday, Nov. 10, Pagosa Springs-area Marines and their guests are invited to celebrate the 251st birthday of the United States Marine Corps at Boss Hogg's Restaurant and Grill, 157 Navajo Trail Drive, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Wilderness Room on the restaurant's main floor.

The celebration will feature the traditional cake-cutting with a Mameluke sword and a video message from both the commandant and the sergeant major of the Marine Corps. The oldest and the youngest Marine in attendance will also be honored.

Attendees may order food and beverages from the menu at their own expense, with a 20 percent gratuity added. Complimentary birthday cake will be served.

Other service members, especially U.S. Navy corpsmen, are welcome. Dress is casual; however, uniforms are always welcome.

Contact Ed Robinson, (970) 731-0718, with any questions.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day will kick off with the 23rd annual breakfast hosted by the Pagosa Springs Middle School's eighth-grade class.

The breakfast will again be held at the Ross Aragon Community Center from 7:30 to 10 a.m.

The Color Guard will hold a flag presentation ceremony at 9 a.m.

All veterans are invited.

At 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 11, the Honor Guard will hold its formal ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park of Archuleta County, with the San Juan Squadron leading the event with a missing man formation flyover at 11 a.m.

That evening, the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a free spaghetti dinner for all veterans at Pope John Paul Catholic Church located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. beginning at 4 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14

The week will cap off with Vets-4Vets' annual dinner and dance at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse from 5 to 9 p.m.

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Commissioners discuss need for local gravel pit after Oct. 23 flooding

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Following the historic flooding event that took place on Oct. 23, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed the importance of having a local gravel pit to help streamline road repairs.

During a work session held by the BoCC on Oct. 27, Commissioner John Ranson explained that the county has been "working for a year and a half" on potential gravel pits that would be located on private property.

Ranson indicated that state statute applies a $50,000 permit fee to the county per gravel pit.

"We've been working on one with the [U.S. Forest Service], and that's like watching hair grow," he said, explaining that it is taking a lot of time due to "the bureaucracy."

Ranson then explained that the county has been working with a private property owner and that "we could have potentially three gravel pits within a very short period of time to help with this process."

Ranson added that it is going to be a "major expense" to rebuild roads within the county.

"I'm gonna advocate to go forward with a plan, regardless of what the state decides, and if they need to come put me in jail, good, but we're not paying $50,000 per permit in an emergency situation like this," he said.

During a joint work session held by the BoCC and Pagosa Springs Town Council on Oct. 26, County Manager Longinos Gonzalez explained that he county has asked Gov. Jared Polis to renew waivers on gravel pit permit fees within the county.

"It's not a lot of cost to the state, but it's a lot of cost to us," he said, explaining that having a local gravel pit would help the county fix its roads, particularly with more "long-term fixes."

During the Oct. 27 work session, Ranson described the gravel pit permit fees as another "unfunded mandate," adding that he's tired of the state "telling us what to do."

"We need gravel," Ranson said, adding that "it's time to step up and let's get this done."

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U.S. 160 reconstruction project completion delayed

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a meeting held by the Pagosa Springs Town Council on Tuesday, Nov. 3, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Region 5 Transportation Director Julie Constan explained that the reconstruction project of U.S. 160 through downtown Pagosa Springs will not be completed by the end of this year as originally planned.

"We are definitely going to be working that into a winter shutdown again," Constan said, explaining that is not what crews want to do, but that complications from the recent historic flooding events have hindered operations.

"They're just not going to get this project done by the end of the year," she said.

Constan explained the plan is for crews to remove barriers and barricades from 1st Street to 4th Street, "so we would open that up."

She noted that as much sidewalk work and road striping will be completed to get that section "as normal as we can."

She indicated that any place where barriers can be removed, "we are trying to get that done," and crews will return in the spring to finish the project.

CDOT Region 5 Communications Manager Lisa Schwantes also explained that the reconstruction project contractor, WW Clyde, is assisting CDOT with emergency recovery projects on other roads in the area that have sustained significant damage.

Mayor Shari Pierce asked what intersections will be open through the winter with the reconstruction project entering another winter shutdown.

Constan indicated that the goal is to have "all the intersections open, if we can."

She added, "I think we can, is what I was hearing."

Pierce noted that it is "kind of a maze" to get around parts of downtown Pagosa Springs currently.

In response to another question from the council, Constan explained that areas where new concrete has not been poured yet will remain that way through the winter, but that the plan is to have access for all business opened up through the winter.

Informative.
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Obituaries

Alva Lee Cox

8/5/37-10/27/26

Born at home in Pagosa Springs, Colo., Lee's heart never strayed far from that place of his origin. Named for his granddad, Alvie Patterson, and his dad, Lee Cox, he was a consummate outdoorsman, skier, ski instructor and lover of mountains — especially his San Juans.



Lee graduated in 1955 with the first class out of the new high school on main street in Pagosa, excelling academically and athletically — in football, basketball and baseball. He went on to graduate from Western State College in Gunnison, Colo., with a major in mathematics and a minor in physics, and was soon scooped up by the U.S. Army and stationed at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. There, his math and physics education was used in evolving the first building-size computers, which led him into a vocation that he followed throughout his working life.

He was a fourth-generation Pagosan with his maternal roots of the Patterson line and his paternal side carrying numerous generations of Protestant theologians, although his personal spiritual orientation was grounded in the beauty and magnificence of nature, mountains, family and helping others enjoy the things that meant the most to him — skiing and being out in the mountains.

For some 80 years, skiing was Lee's passion. Beginning at age 7 on the slopes and hills around Pagosa when his dad brought skis home from World War II, he progressed to the rope tows atop Wolf Creek Pass then on to the large ski areas around Denver. There, he became a National Ski Patrol volunteer ski patroller at Arapahoe Basin for 18 years, at Keystone when it first opened, and Squaw Pass Ski Area, then turned to instructing at Telluride and Powderhorn. He did that all while working at his main job in the IT field in the Denver area and later for 23 years at the county, then city of Montrose. After retirement, he kept busy by instructing at many areas, including back at his favorite, Wolf Creek. There, he was often sought out to teach private lessons to individuals who were intimidated by the sport. Gently and patiently, he led them step by step to success through his mantra of "Relax and Enjoy." At the upper end of the spectrum, he taught aspiring enthusiasts the art of skiing deep powder, steep faces or moguls. He also worked hard to instill a love of the outdoors in his children, and later his grandchildren. He and his family could often be found cross-country and downhill skiing, hiking, and backpacking together. Lee also enjoyed participating in the San Juan Mountain runners club while living in Montrose and later the Gray Wolves hiking group in Pagosa.

At the age of 89, he passed away at home in Cedaredge, with family close by.

Lee is survived by his loving wife, Sheila Ballard Cox, of Cedaredge, Colo.; his sons, Erik Cox and wife Melissa, of Bailey, Colo., and Shawn Cox, of Grand Junction, Colo.; a daughter, Lindsay Frost, and husband Clint, of Evergreen, Colo.; three grandchildren, James, Cameron and Avery; and his brother, Dean Cox, and wife Karen of Pagosa Springs, Colo.

At Lee's request, there will be no memorial service and his ashes will be scattered at treasured locations in the mountains. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Lee's memory to Hope West Hospice at 195 Stafford Lane, Delta, CO 81416 and/or Lewy Body Dementia research at Dementia Society of America, PO Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901.

Denise (Lihme) McCroddan

Denise (Lihme) McCroddan, age 85, of Springdale, Ark., was called home to be with the Lord on Oct. 31, 2026. Born in Elgin, Ill., on June 7, 1941, Denise dedicated her life to Christ as a teenager and remained active in ministry her entire life. She lived in Pagosa Springs, Colo., from 1987 through 1995.

She married Donald McCroddan on June 8, 1963. Together, they shared 39 years of marriage and raised two sons while stationed across the globe during Don's Navy career. Denise was deeply passionate about children's ministry, serving faithfully with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) for more than 30 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald; her parents; stepmother; and two of her siblings. She is survived by her children, Mark (Jennifer) McCroddan and Stephen (Leslie) McCroddan; grandchildren, Emalie (Austin) Smith and Evan McCroddan; sister, Lori (John) Manninen; sisters-in-law, Ethel Dunbar and Doris (Don) Soule; as well as nieces, nephews and cousins.

No formal service is planned; a private service will be held. Tributes may be shared online at McCroddan.com. Memorial contributions in Denise's honor may be made to Child Evangelism Fellowship at www.coloradocef.org/donate (designated for the Southwest Chapter).

Andy Ray David Rivas

Andy Ray David Rivas was called home on Oct. 21, 2026. Andy was born on Sept. 23, 1975, to Marie Ann Valdez and Henry Carl Rivas.



Andy was truly a kindred spirit and was loved by all who met him. He made friends everywhere he went. He always had a smile or a joke ready. He was always willing to help if you asked him. Andy loved all sports, music and family. If you see him, he always had on his headphones listening to his music or following the games. His passion for sports kept him busy playing in rec sports, basketball and softball. He was so proud of his family teams and even had some championships under his belt. He loved his Lakers and Miami Dolphins. Win or lose, he was faithful to support them.

Andy was inspired by his mom and dad from a young age to play music. His endless time practicing on his guitar landed him a spot on stage with the family band Variety Xpress. He loved to entertain people, whether it was for joy or to serve God in church.

Andy enjoyed fishing and outdoors. You could find him out back fishing on the lake with his nephews trying to catch a big one. He enjoyed working on his lawn and sitting on the deck watching the kids play. He enjoyed family get-togethers and sharing memories around his firepit.

Andy's biggest love was his family. His nieces and nephews and God-kids adored him. Andy took his role as husband, dad, son, brother and uncle very seriously. His love for them was unwavering. He made sure that they were safe and happy. He looked out for his wife, son and momma always. If everyone was OK, Andy was happy. His departure from this world will be felt for a lifetime to come. He was one of a kind.

"When the Golden sun is setting, and the earths path no more you trod. May your name in Gold be written in the autograph of God." — unknown.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." — Matthew 5:4.

Andy is preceded in death by his father, Henry Carl Rivas, and his brother, Jordan Joshua Rivas.

Andy is survived by his mother, Marie Ann Rivas; wife Kristina Rivas; son Tyler Rivas; sisters April Clark (Ryan Clark, Kaylee, Brooklyn, Cheyenne, Waylon, Dustin, Arecio and Charizma), Amber Garcia (Lando Garcia, Dorian, Janiah and Aleah), China Rivas (Quintin, Zariah, Symphony, Alessandra and Jordan), Kimberly Rivas Robles Perez (Jacinto Robles Perez, Mateo and Amayah), and Davina Rivas (Henry, Elijah and Avianna).

A rosary will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pagosa Springs, on Friday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Pope John II Catholic Church, Pagosa Springs, on Saturday, Nov. 7 at 10 a.m., followed by interment at Hilltop Cemetery.

Applications open for El Pomar Foundation's 2027 fellowship and internship program

El Pomar Foundation

El Pomar Foundation is seeking applicants for its 2027 fellowship and summer internship programs.

Recent college graduates and early-career professionals are invited to apply for the fellowship, a paid 22-month leadership development program. Rising college juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply for the internship, a paid 10-week summer opportunity. Both programs are designed to provide hands-on experience in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors, while offering participants meaningful professional development and exposure to community leadership across Colorado.

Applications for the fellowship opened Nov. 3 and close Dec. 15.

Internship applications open Jan. 5, 2027, and will close Feb. 12, 2027.

El Pomar's fellowship provides young leaders with the opportunity to grow, develop leadership skills and gain meaningful professional experience, helping ensure the long-term success of Colorado's organizations.

In 1991, El Pomar Foundation created the fellowship program for recent college graduates and early-career professionals to support the pipeline of leaders in the state of Colorado. Over the 22-month program, fellows work full-time for the foundation, spending their time supporting programs and grantmaking work, while participating in a comprehensive professional development curriculum.

To learn more about and apply for the fellowship, or to connect with a current fellow, visit El Pomar's website or email recruiting@elpomar.org.

Creating a leadership pipeline in the nonprofit sector means sparking interest in young people in Colorado.

In 1994, El Pomar Foundation created the summer internship program to encourage interest in the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors among continuing undergraduate college students.

El Pomar interns benefit from nonprofit work experience alongside professional development opportunities as they support many facets of the foundation. Interns work full-time for the foundation during the summer and are assigned to a position based on the foundation's needs and the intern's interests.

To learn more about and apply for the internship, or connect to learn more, visit our website or email recruiting@elpomar.org.

San Juan Outdoor Club slated to meet Nov. 5

By Addie Greer

San Juan Outdoor Club

At San Juan Outdoor Club's monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 5, attending members will be hearing from a world-traveled mountaineer who now teaches young people to sew using recycled materials in Cortez.

In 2013 Phil Henderson became the second Black person to summit Alaska's Denali, in 2018 led an all-Black ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro and in 2022 managed an expedition that doubled the number of Black climbers to reach the summit of Everest.

Henderson will speak to us about his nonprofit, Full Circle Expeditions, which uses scraps and returned materials from our much-liked Osprey backpack company to make new bags, cross body totes, etc. and how he got to this work from his background with the wilderness school NOLS, as well as his traveling experiences.

Please come out to socialize with your fellow nature lovers and hear an interesting story from a neighbor in nearby Cortez.

The meeting will take place at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse beginning at 6 p.m. with socializing and light snacks; the presentation will start at 6:30 p.m.

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Letters

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

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

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

Disgusted

Dear Editor:

I found myself completely disgusted after reading the last edition of the Preview. The ad on the last page titled "The Value of Suffering" proclaimed "I have smoked out the last remaining Philistines in Pagosa Springs and the entire county of Archuleta. They have been slain..." This is utterly racist, theist, and pretty clearly Christian Nationalist language that does not belong in print anywhere.

Shame on the author and shame on this paper, especially in light of the fact that the recent flood has forced so many of our friends and neighbors from their homes in this Town and County! How dare you?

P.S. as a native Coloradan and self-identified Philistine myself, I can tell you that no one has ever driven me out of anywhere, and they aren't about to, either.

Daniel Foster

Editor's note: The item referenced in the above letter is a paid advertisement. Advertisements reflect the advertisers' opinions and are not reflections of the values and beliefs of The SUN's staff.

Old courthouse building

Dear Editor:

After reading your October 15, 2026 article regarding the proposed renovations to the old courthouse/jail building, a few questions come to mind.

Archuleta constituents were told that the old courthouse/jail had major health and safety issues that the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) deemed unfixable or too costly to remediate. If this was the case, then why has the current owner been able to hire Reynolds Ash & Associates to do "facade and parking lot improvements" with the assumption being that the future scope of work would include renovations inside the building?

The article does not mention what measures will be taken by the new owner to address the reputed unhealthy/unsafe conditions that the public were told existed, which precipitated the abandonment of the building by the sheriff and the courthouse staff. However, the article does state that "Brad Ash, the lead architect on the project, explained that the renovations would aim to attract business opportunities for mercantile, boutiques, and restaurants . . ." One must assume in order for businesses to populate the renovated building, the planning and building department, along with any reputable architectural firm or construction company, would ensure the reputed health hazards are addressed properly and safety codes adhered to.

Therefore, the question remains: If this building is now a prime location for renovation and refurbishment, why did BoCC push through the costly new construction of a jail, sheriff's office and courthouse stating that the old courthouse was too costly to renovate? More costly than the new construction of said buildings? And to add insult to injury, on the jail they did so despite taxpayer and voter disapproval.

People of Archuleta take heed: Be sure to question and speak out regarding future county spending for buildings we arguably do not need and cannot afford.

Joanne Lucariello

Phones

Dear Editor:

My name is Arbor Moran and I am 10 years old. I live here in Pagosa Springs CO. I wanna talk a little bit about phones. Phones are like a robot that we use in our everyday life. Any time you get a notification or a text your hand goes into your pocket or purse or wherever your devices is and you bring it out the second you hear that sound. What if you are in a conversation and you hear someone text you what would you do? If you pick up your phone and see who it was, you might forget what you were saying and get distracted. Say it was something you really wanted to tell your friend, boss, teacher, or whoever you were talking to and then you just forgot. I know how annoying it is for that to happen but you just made that happen by looking at your phone. If you ignored it, you could've remembered your thought and maybe made your point and stayed connected with your friend. Which one would you rather do, remember your thought and check your phone later or check your phone then and possibly not make your point, and also lose the connection with the friend?

Arbor Moran

Thank you

Dear Editor:

Thank You All those helping / volunteering / paid employees like Road & Bridge & LPEA Paws, postal service's & Police, Fire & Rescue Department & yes our trash trucks, outside help like helicopters, National Guard, those driving longer routes to make it to their job to give us services we need and Pagosa counts on You.. madam mayor & are sheriff & All the city & county employees that are dealing with this unfortunate disaster Day and Night thank you & The Pagosa's Sun Staff that give us our weekly that informs us with much needed valuable information ASAP... Thank you, it really helps us who need direction & appreciate being kept up to speed on all that you share with us with Our Paper.

(Apologize if you weren't mentioned)

All of You are working hard in numerous ways & during All hr's of the Day & Night it's a long road ahead & you're giving your valuable time to be of help & service to our neighbors in need Awesome !!.. We are the lucky ones to have such a " get er done" community because of you and so many....

Robin Nay



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Crews will continue with debris clean up and assessing the condition of the work zone.

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of Nov. 9-14

When the U.S. 160 Pagosa Springs Reconstruction project started two years ago, we could not have imagined the flooding events that would impact the Pagosa Springs community.

We've become part of your community and will continue to work hard to serve you through this devastating time.

Our team is working to assess the work zone damage, dry out areas and clean up debris. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has asked us to evaluate and support the emergency repair efforts on the Piedra bridge and possibly at other locations around the area. We'll know more in the next few days about that operations plan.

CDOT remains committed to providing you information and updates on all the impacted highways. For affected highway locations and routes outside of the project work zone you're encouraged to continue using the following tools:

- My COtrip & Travel Alerts: Motorists can login in or sign up for their own COtrip account to subscribe and manage their travel alerts. They can also save their favorite routes and cameras, and customize their travel preferences.

Travel Alerts Link: https://subscription.cotrip.org/.

- Follow the CDOT News | Southwest Colorado Facebook group.

Stay informed and connect with the project

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

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation

CBI grant for Persons who Wander Extended to Nov. 20

Colorado Bureau of Investigation

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is encouraging law enforcement agencies to apply for grant funding that helps recover people who may have wandered.

In a recent recovery case, Aurora police officers partnered with a caregiver using AngelSense, a GPS safety device for at-risk children, to help locate a special-needs teen in early October. That device was purchased with funds from the Persons who Wander grant.

The application period for the new Persons Who Wander grant cycle opened Aug. 31. The deadline for submitting an application has been extended from Oct. 30 to Nov. 20.

There is $85,709 available to divide among applicants.

The intent of this grant program is to provide funding to assist local governments or their designees in locating missing persons with medical conditions such as Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, autism, brain injury, or developmental, cognitive, neurological, or chromosomal disorders.

This funding will encourage county sheriffs' departments, municipalities, and county or municipal designees to establish recovery programs and provide tools and equipment that will increase the chances of saving the lives of lost and missing persons. Priority will be given to recovery-focused technologies and equipment.

The funding can be used by any combination of counties and municipalities for the following purposes:

- Equipment costs.
- Technology costs.
- Training of search personnel.
- Outreach about recovery programs for persons who wander.
- Any other costs required to implement or maintain a recovery program for persons who wander will be considered.

Past awards have funded the following: drones, drone pilot training, thermal imager for remote searches, wearable tracking technology, as well as wandering program promotion and outreach.

Award amounts will vary by application. The grant fund totals $85,709.

The award period is Jan. 1, 2027 through June 30, 2027.

The Supporting Recovery Programs Persons Who Wander Grant Program announcement, application, and application instructions can be obtained at the CBI Persons Who Wander website.

Archuleta County Republican Women to meet Nov. 11

By Michele Turney

Archuleta County Republican Women

The Archuleta County Republican Women will have their November meeting at Boss Hogg's Restaurant on Nov. 11 from noon to 1 pm.

The speaker will be veteran Doug Brittain with some very interesting information. The title of his speech will be "The Way Home."

All Republicans are welcome to attend.

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

Letters from letter-writing campaigns may not be printed.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

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

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

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Photo courtesy Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Members of the Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution recently completed their annual First Responder Cookie Service Project on Oct. 29, delivering homemade cookies and heartfelt appreciation to agencies that serve and protect the Archuleta County community throughout the year, including members of the Colorado National Guard currently serving in the community.

Pagosa DAR honors first responders with annual cookie delivery

By Keena Carstensen
Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Members of the Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently completed their annual First Responder Cookie Service Project on Oct. 29, delivering homemade cookies and heartfelt appreciation to agencies that serve and protect the Archuleta County community throughout the year.

This year, DAR volunteers delivered treats to the Pagosa Fire Protection District, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Operations Center, Colorado National Guard, Pagosa Springs Humane Society, Pagosa Springs Police Department and the San Juan National Forest Pagosa Ranger District.

The annual project is a simple but meaningful way for DAR members to thank local first responders and emergency service personnel for their dedication, sacrifice and commitment to keeping the community safe. Whether responding to emergencies, protecting public lands, caring for animals or providing critical support during times of need, these organizations play an essential role in the well-being of area residents.

The Pagosa DAR ladies expressed their gratitude to all first responders for their tireless service and for everything they do on behalf of the community throughout the year.

Public Health reminds residents to avoid floodwater, take precautions

Archuleta County Public Health Department

Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD) reminds residents to take precautions during and after flooding.

Floodwater can contain sewage, harmful germs, chemicals and debris that can cause illness or injury. Flooded areas may also hide downed power lines, sharp objects and other hazards.

Protect yourself and your family

• Avoid floodwater. Do not walk, swim or allow children and pets to play in flooded areas. Avoid rivers, streams and lakes affected by flooding.

• Wash after contact. Clean exposed skin with soap and clean water as soon as possible. Wash hands often, especially before eating.

• Clean contaminated items. Wash clothing exposed to floodwater with hot water and detergent. Clean and disinfect toys and other items before reuse.

• Protect wounds. Keep cuts covered with waterproof bandages. Clean any wounds exposed to floodwater and watch for signs of infection.

• Consider getting a tetanus booster. Cleanup brings cuts and puncture wounds from debris hidden in mud and water. For anyone doing cleanup or entering heavily damaged areas. Get a booster if you are wounded and your last shot was more than five years ago — or you are not sure. Archuleta County Public Health can support you in getting your booster — call (970) 264-2409.

• Food precautions: If your home was flooded, your refrigerators and freezers were likely compromised and food should be discarded. If you were without power for an extended amount of time: Most refrigerators will keep food safely cold for about four hours if unopened. A full freezer will hold the temperature for approximately 48 hours if the door remains closed. For a freezer that is half full, keeping the door closed can maintain the temperature for 24 hours.

• Wash your pets. If you and your family pets have been outside in potentially contaminated areas, wash them down.

Know when to seek medical care

Contact a health care provider if you develop fever, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach cramps or signs of a wound infection, such as redness, swelling, or increasing pain. Seek medical care for deep cuts, puncture wounds or injuries involving debris. A tetanus booster may be needed.

Be aware of other hazards

• Standing water on roads: Water covers up road damage and mud that can impact your travel. Avoid driving through standing water whenever possible.

• Downed power lines: Stay away from fallen lines and nearby water. Report them to your utility provider or emergency services.

• Propane tanks: Do not move displaced tanks. Contact your local fire department.

• Damaged batteries: Flooded car batteries, lithium-ion batteries, and electric vehicles may pose electrical, chemical or fire hazards. Do not handle, charge or operate damaged equipment. Contact your local fire department for guidance.

The best way to protect yourself is to avoid floodwater whenever possible and use caution during cleanup.

Special considerations for those with wells and septic systems

Wells

• Turn off power to your well before any inspection happens.

• Test and disinfect: Your well will likely need to be tested and disinfected before use.

• If your cistern or well entry point was underwater or near the flood water, disinfecting and testing afterwards is recommended.

• If your cistern was not underwater but is showing signs of sediment or discoloration, disinfect and see if that clears your system, then test.

• Do not turn your pump on: Use extreme caution and do not turn on your pump until it has been inspected due to risk of electrical shock.

• Use alternative water for drinking and bathing.

Septic systems

• Let it dry out: Limit use while the system is drying out.

• Wait to pump the tank: Don't pump until groundwater levels drop. Extra pressure to an empty tank can compromise the system.

• Get help from a pro: If you think your system has been compromised, get professional help to assess the system.

Documents with more details and safety information for many of the above topics can be found at https://publichealth.archuletacounty.gov/.

For more information about floodwater safety, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Federal Highway Administration approves quick release funds to begin Southwest Colorado flood repairs

Colorado Department of Transportation

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has approved $6.5 million in quick-release funds to help the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) begin repairing highways damaged by severe flooding in southwest Colorado last week.

The funds are an initial portion of CDOT's request for federal emergency relief, which estimates about $65 million in damage to federal-aid roadways.

The emergency relief funds will go toward immediate repairs on U.S. 160, U.S. 550 and Colo. 151 — the three highways that sustained significant structural damage during historical rainfall from Oct. 22 through Oct. 25. In particular, these repairs will support work that is needed to restore roadway capacity before winter.

"I'm glad that the Federal Highway Administration has approved our request for immediate assistance to repair roads and highways that have been severely damaged by this storm before the winter weather makes it harder to do this work. Coloradans, businesses and emergency responders rely on these roads to get where they need to go and move goods across the state. We have resources on the ground now working around the clock to open damaged roads and highways, and this funding means our crews can start right away clearing debris and repaving roads," said Gov. Jared Polis.

"We are grateful to FHWA for acting so quickly and for their partnership," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "Southwest Colorado depends on these highways to move people, goods and emergency services. This funding means crews can start rebuilding now and restore safe and normal traffic patterns while the weather still lets us do the work. Under the best of circumstances, winter is a challenging time of year for both the traveling public and our highway maintainers who work around the clock to keep challenging mountain terrain safe. Restoring functionality to critical routes like U.S. 550 and U.S. 160 as quickly as possible is imperative."

"We are so appreciative of the support and rapid engagement from our federal partners," said Transportation Commissioner Barbara McLachlan. "Just days ago, CDOT submitted an emergency relief request to the Federal Highway Administration which included quick release funds to help get us back up and running before winter. Combined with the $5 million that the Transportation Commission approved from our contingency funds, these dollars will help us do just that. This is an example of partnership at work."

The FHWA is working closely with CDOT to ensure reconstruction and repairs from flooding are completed as soon as possible for the people of southwest Colorado. The emergency relief funding will help restore travel for residents who rely on these highways for their livelihoods and businesses.

The $65 million damage figure is a preliminary estimate. High water has limited full inspections of bridges and other structures, and CDOT expects to provide a more accurate and comprehensive estimate in eight to 10 weeks. Additional funding requests will follow as assessments continue.

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Flood relief donations: What is needed and where to give

Archuleta County, Town of Pagosa Springs

As Archuleta County continues recovering from devastating flooding, the generosity of individuals, businesses, organizations and neighboring communities has been extraordinary.

Financial assistance and donations of food, water and cleaning supplies will help local families navigate the challenges of damaged homes, disrupted utilities and the loss of everyday necessities.

With significant quantities of donated supplies already received, local flood recovery coordinators are encouraging those wishing to help to consider what is most needed and where donations should be delivered.

Where to deliver flood recovery supplies

Donations of needed supplies for flood recovery efforts may be delivered to the Archuleta County Extension Office at 344 U.S. 84. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thanks to generous contributions, the community has already received substantial quantities of several essential items, including: bottled water, disinfecting wipes, brooms, mops and mop buckets, and chlorine bleach. Additional donations of these items are not needed at this time unless specifically requested.

Those planning to donate large quantities of supplies are encouraged to coordinate in advance with Terri House, donations coordinator for the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County flood recovery efforts, at recovery@pagosasprings.co.gov to ensure there is adequate space and that the items are needed.

Food donations: support local food pantries

Individuals and organizations wishing to donate food are encouraged to direct their contributions to local food pantries.

Healthy Archuleta is helping connect residents with a network of community food pantries serving individuals and families throughout Archuleta County.

The following organizations are part of the local food pantry network:

- Community United Methodist Church: 434 Lewis St., (970) 264-5508.
- Pope John Paul II Catholic Church: 353 S. Pagosa Blvd., (970) 731-5744.
- St. Patrick's Episcopal Church: 225 South Pagosa Blvd., (970) 731-5801.
- Our Community Eats: 197 Navajo Trail Drive, (970) 902-0130.
- TARA's Helping Hands: Arboles, (970) 987-5033.

Because flooding may affect operating hours, accessibility and available storage, donors should contact the organizations before delivering food.

For information about the local food pantry network, contact Healthy Archuleta at (401) 206-4579 or visit foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

Used clothing and household items

Donations of used clothing and household items should be directed to the Humane Society Thrift Store or Methodist Thrift Shop.

These organizations are better equipped to receive and handle these types of donations. Donors should check with the stores before dropping off items.

Gift cards for food and gas are welcome

Gift cards for groceries and gasoline are another practical way to help individuals and families affected by flooding.

Many residents are facing unexpected expenses as they work to recover, and gift cards provide flexibility to purchase food and fuel based on their immediate needs.

Gift cards may be dropped off at Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or mailed to:

Town of Pagosa Springs
Attn: Terri House, Flood Recovery Donations
P.O. Box 1859
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Donors are encouraged to identify the dollar amount of each gift card to assist with tracking and distribution.

Monetary donations for flood recovery

Those wishing to make financial contributions are encouraged to support the Community Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) at https://cfssc.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=3839 or other local organizations and recovery efforts assisting individuals and families affected by the flooding.

Monetary donations provide flexibility to respond to changing needs as recovery progresses, including expenses that may not be addressed through donated supplies.

Donors are encouraged to contact their preferred organization directly for information about how to contribute and how funds will be used to support flood recovery.

Recovery needs will continue to change

As residents return to their homes and assess damage, the community's needs will continue to evolve.

Families face challenges involving damaged wells, septic systems, household furnishings, appliances and other essential necessities. Some needs may not become apparent until residents are able to safely return to their properties.

Financial contributions and gift cards are especially useful because they provide flexibility to address changing needs.

"The outpouring of generosity has been remarkable, and we are thankful for every person and organization that wants to help," said House. "By directing donations to the appropriate locations and focusing on what is needed most, we can make sure that generosity has the greatest possible impact on our neighbors."

The recovery process will continue long after the floodwaters recede. The community's generosity and cooperation will play an important role in helping affected families rebuild their lives.

Disaster Assistance Center opening in Archuleta County to support community recovery

Archuleta County Public Health Department

In partnership with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and Colorado Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (COVOAD), Archuleta County announces the opening of the Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) to provide coordinated support and recovery resources for community members impacted by recent events.

The DAC will officially open on Thursday, Nov. 5, at the Wyndham Activity Center.

The hours of operation will be Sunday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Services and support available

By bringing together local, state and national nonprofit partners under one roof at the Wyndham Activity Center, we aim to make essential services accessible and efficient for every household affected.

Resources coming from outside the local area will be delayed until road are accessible for the nonprofit groups to mobilize.

What people can expect in the coming days

The DAC serves as a centralized hub connecting residents directly with recovery organizations, essential items and critical support services.

Visitors to the center will find:

- Cleanup and repair assistance: Guidance and information from partner organizations specializing in disaster recovery, site cleanup and structural repair.
- Household and personal property support: Resources and assistance to help replace lost household goods and essentials.
- Food and temporary housing: Direct guidance and intake support for individuals needing temporary shelter, emergency housing options and ongoing food assistance.
- Crisis counseling: On-site emotional and mental health support services to assist individuals and families navigating recovery.

Immediate supplies and distribution

As supplies are available, the DAC will distribute limited emergency items on-site for immediate pickup (while supplies last), including:

- Bottled water.
- Cleaning supplies.
- Navigational information and guides for additional local and regional resources.

Phased rollout of resource partners

Local organizations and county resources will be located at the DAC on opening day.

State, regional, and national nonprofit partners will begin arriving to expand available services as soon as regional travel corridors and roads reopen.

Helplines and disaster information

Residents needing information, navigational assistance or non-emergency support outside of DAC hours can connect with the following dedicated helplines:

- Archuleta County Incident Call Center: Call (970) 508-9928 for general disaster inquiries, local updates and local community assistance.
- 211 Colorado Assistance: Call 2-1-1, text your ZIP code to 898-211, or visit 211colorado.org to connect with resource navigators for emergency housing vouchers, food assistance, shelter and state/regional social services.

Travel to San Juan National Forest not advised following severe flooding

U.S. Forest Service

Travel on San Juan National Forest System Roads is strongly discouraged and not advised due to life-threatening hazards.

Record flooding across Southwest Colorado has left San Juan National Forest roads, trails and other infrastructure inaccessible, severely damaged and, in many cases, unpassable.

Highways across multiple counties are closed, and evacuation and shelter-in-place orders have been issued for multiple communities.

Don't become a statistic — rescue will not be readily available due to the current demand for search and rescue services.

"Public safety is our top priority, which is why we do not recommend travel on the San Juan National Forest at this time," said Forest Supervisor Steve Hattenbach on Monday morning, Nov. 2. "We will not begin to assess the extent of the damage until flood waters recede and our staff can begin to assess forest conditions. What we do know is that flood waters are extremely high, many roads and bridges are completely destroyed, and unsafe conditions persist on all three San Juan National Forest districts. We encourage the public to monitor the situation closely, and to postpone or cancel plans to visit the woods until conditions improve."

If you know of a forest visitor trapped down an unpassable road who needs evacuation help in:

- Archuleta County, call 911 or the non-emergency dispatch line at (970) 731-2160 when they are ready to be evacuated.
- La Plata County, call 911 if an emergency, or non-emergency dispatch at (970) 385-2900.

Please report abandoned property information if you are forced to leave vehicles behind by emailing the San Juan National Forest at sm.fs.sanjuannf@usda.gov with the subject line of "Personal Property." Please provide your name, phone number, license plates, description of property and a detailed location, in addition to any other pertinent information.

For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874, visit the forest website, or follow us on Facebook.

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PSMC Community CPR Class
Learn CPR through the American Heart Association on November 23rd



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

Cost: $55 per person
Instruction time: ~4 hours

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CPW offices, properties impacted by severe flooding in southwest Colorado

Colorado Parks and Wildlife



Photo courtesy Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Recent flooding is pictured at Navajo State Park along the Piedra River.

Because of severe flooding in Durango and across southwest Colorado, offices for Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in Durango and at Navajo State Park were closed Monday, Nov. 2.

"The historic flooding event we are experiencing is impacting our communities, our partners and our agency in a multitude of ways," said CPW Southwest Region Manager Cory Chick. "This is a dynamic situation with conditions changing hourly. Please understand that what southwest Colorado is facing right now is a disaster that will take considerable time to work through. As we all do our best to take care of our families, properties and neighbors, our staff will be working tirelessly to help in every way possible."

CPW staff are responding to the natural disaster in a multitude of ways across the San Luis Valley, at Navajo State Park and areas west of Wolf Creek Pass. CPW has also deployed its swiftwater rescue team to Archuleta County to assist with operations.

Navajo State Park

Staff at Navajo State Park have had a front-row seat to the devastation but have worked tirelessly both at the park and in surrounding communities while the San Juan River and Piedra River hit historic highs with as much as 45,000 cfs pouring into the reservoir.

The reservoir has raised 51 feet since Sept. 18, an incredible amount for a 35-mile long reservoir with 15,600 surface acres.

At this time, all Piedra River access at Navajo State Park is closed. The Sambrito Wetlands area is also temporarily closed. Access to the park is limited to Colo. 151 on the west side of the park in Arboles.

Access on Colo. 151 from the north between Chimney Rock and Arboles is completely cut off.

The visitor center at Navajo State Park will be indefinitely closed Mondays and Tuesdays. The boat ramp and aquatic nuisance species station are closed for the season.

Several campsites at the park remain open and are available if residents under evacuation need assistance. Staff at the park are available to assist those in need.

Durango Fish Hatchery

The Durango Fish Hatchery has experienced catastrophic flooding from the Animas River and Junction Creek.

The Animas River reached 13,000 cubic feet per second mid-morning, the second-highest level ever recorded and highest since the flood of 1911.

As of Nov. 2, hatchery staff was working around the clock to pump water away and position sandbags to protect the property and fish.

Hunting impacts

CPW is working alongside incident commands in Archuleta and La Plata counties as well as the Rio Grande National Forest and San Juan National Forest to determine impacts to properties.

However, staff cannot safely get into the field to assess conditions that are believed to be widely dangerous and unpassable.

The national forest is advising people to delay travel to the forest until assessments can be made regarding conditions.

At this time, travel to game management units (GMUs) 74, 741, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80 and 81 is strongly discouraged.

While parts of the affected GMUs may remain open, access to specific areas may be restricted due to conditions, closures or evacuations. You may need to plan to hunt in a different, accessible portion of your valid GMU.

If you are no longer interested in hunting in this unit, CPW will offer refunds and the restoration of preference points to pre-draw level for all hunters holding a license with the following hunt codes: DM075O3R, DF075O3R, DM075P3R, DF075P3R, DM077O3R, DF077O3R, DM077P3R, DM074O3R, DM074P3R, DM741O3R, DM741P3R, DF741P3R, DM080O3R, DF080O3R, EF074O3R, EF075O3R, EF077O3R, EF741O3R, EF080O3R and EF081O3R.

Licenses must be returned prior to the season opening (postmarked or dropped off at a CPW or State Park Office before close of business). If hunters wish to receive a refund for their license and have preference points restored to pre-draw level, they must fill out the form found at https://cpw.widen.net/s/znzjbxgv2s/licenserefundapplication and return it with their license. Those seeking a refund should be sure to mark both the refund box and the preference point restoration box along with writing "SW FLOODING" in the reason for the refund field.

Impacted hunters with a license for these hunt codes will receive an email. For license return questions, please call (303) 297-1192.

Hunters with over-the-counter (OTC) licenses have time to adjust and make alternative plans ahead of the start of the third rifle season Nov. 7. OTC bull elk hunters are highly advised they do not try to hunt any of these GMUs during the third rifle season.

Road and property closures

Several major road closures exist across southwest Colorado. For the latest highway closures, go to cotrip.org. Be advised that conditions continue to change rapidly.

The latest road and trail conditions for the Rio Grande National Forest and San Juan National Forest can be found online.

CPW continues to determine access to and condition of state wildlife area (SWA) properties. At this time, closures are in place of Devil Creek SWA, Higel SWA, Hot Creek SWA, Rio Grande SWA and Shriver-Wright SWA. Additional closures may be put in place as conditions warrant.

"Conditions are extremely dangerous," said CPW Area Wildlife Manager Rick Basagoitia of Monte Vista. "Even in places where the Forest Service has been able to punch through and open some roads and develop workarounds, we strongly advise against traveling into these places. While many hunting areas will still be accessible, a large number of hunters will all be funneled into the same areas because of access routes being closed off in other areas. Hunters need to make the decision for themselves if they want to crowd into these open areas."

Water quality

CPW Water Quality Program Manager Melynda May reported multiple major spills or complete destruction of sewage treatment plants across southwest Colorado.

As a result, much of the flood water is contaminated.

"Please avoid coming into contact with floodwaters as much as possible, keep any open wounds away from water, and wash any skin that comes into contact with floodwaters with soap and water as soon as possible," May said. "Alcohol gels are better than nothing, but are not a substitute for soap and water."

Closures

■ Continued from front

curred in multiple areas along U.S. 160, including the Piedra River bridge and on Wolf Creek Pass.

During a Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting held on Tuesday, Nov. 3, CDOT Region 5 Transportation Director Julie Constan explained that Wolf Creek Pass is closed again as crews are working to clean up multiple areas that sustained heavy mud and debris pile-ups.

She also noted that on the east side of Wolf Creek Pass, there is now a section of road that has washed out near the east side chain station.

"The highway is completely compromised through there," she said, explaining that CDOT has a contractor on-site and is working to establish one-lane traffic through that section, with work hopefully starting by the end of this week.

Constan also explained that a portion of U.S. 84 going south out of Pagosa Springs sustained some damage near mile marker 19, but that crews have been able to stabilize the area and that one-lane traffic is flowing through there.

Constan then explained that the Piedra River bridge on U.S. 160 "received significant damage."

Sections of the bridge were completely washed out, and the bridge is currently closed to traffic.

Constan explained that CDOT is hiring a contractor to install a temporary bridge as quickly as possible.

She noted that "a bunch of" erosion occurred along the river bank and that in order for a temporary bridge to be installed, contractors will need to establish new "anchors" for the bridge to sit on top of.

Constan added that engineering teams are "working around the clock" to address the situation, but that unfortunately "this could be a three- to four-week process before we get a temporary bridge put in there."

She added that the "goal" is to have one lane of traffic in each direction opened over the bridge during the winter months.

"They're all our top priorities," Constan said of the work needing to be done on Colo. 151 and U.S. 160.

County

According to an update form the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office posted on Nov. 3, multiple county roads remain closed.

Those include:

- U.S. 160 from mile marker 121.4 to the Piedra River bridge.
- County Road 700 from mile marker 12.5 to 16 (Pagosa Junction).
- County Road 500 from mile marker 13 to 34.
- County Road 335 from mile marker 2 and beyond.

Town

According to a public safety notice released by the Town of Pagosa Springs on Nov. 3, "multiple street closures remain in effect throughout the affected area."

Those closures include:

- Hermosa Street.
- San Juan Street.
- North 5th Street.
- Hot Springs boulevard, between U.S. 160 and San Juan Street.
- South 6th Street.

The notice also states, "Please respect all barricades, road closures, and restricted access points. Do not attempt to drive or walk around closure barriers."

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SUN photo/Shari Pierce

The Pagosa Springs History Museum clings onto the river bank Monday morning, Nov. 2, as flood waters threatened to wash the building away. Multiple documents and artifacts were successfully recovered.

Continuing the legacy: Pagosa Springs History Museum hangs on during floods

By Chad Richardson
Staff Writer

David Hamilton couldn't believe his eyes. The video of what was happening to the Pagosa Springs History Museum kept him awake at night — literally.

Hamilton serves as the president of the museum's board of directors and his mind filled with what was going to be lost.

"The first time I saw it, I couldn't believe it," Hamilton said. "All night long, I was waking up in my sleep thinking, 'It's toppled into the river. We've lost the whole thing.'"

Hamilton had good reason to be concerned. About half of the museum was on solid ground. The other half? A river raged under it.

"I originally thought, from the outside, that we had lost about a third of the contents of the museum," Hamilton said.

That assessment, though, changed for the better when Hamilton got a look inside.

"We lost what was in a custodial closet, and we lost our restroom," Hamilton said. "The toilet paper is still hanging on the wall, but everything else (from the restroom) is gone. We lost a farming and ranching display, but we were able to get in and move much of what was on the east side of the building back to the other side of the building."

Hamilton explained a crew was working at the museum Tuesday to install beams to reinforce the building. Crews will also be hard at work to finish moving exhibits and artifacts out of the teetering building into storage.

"Thankfully it hasn't toppled," Hamilton said. "I don't know that it will topple. The structure in there is pretty solid. I'm really pleased with what we've been able to save."

Hamilton, a retired administrator and principal of Pagosa Springs High School, saw one of his students this week while shopping. What Hamilton saw on that student's phone put things in perspective.

"He showed me a picture of his house," Hamilton said. "It was completely underwater. I thought, 'Things are bad at the museum, but they aren't that bad. We haven't lost it all.'"

What's different about the museum, though, is that its contents just aren't replaceable.

"If it was just stuff, that'd be one thing," Hamilton said, "but it's stuff that is near and dear to many people."

As the flood waters recede and cleanup begins, Hamilton and his colleagues at the museum are already thinking about what comes next.

Hamilton made it clear that it is their intention to rebuild and reopen.

"Back in the 1970s, our forefathers thought that it would be valuable to have a museum," he said. "With their sweat labor, they put together that museum. I feel like we need to continue in their footsteps and make sure we get this rebuilt somewhere, somehow, so that we can continue the legacy they set before us."

For more information on the museum, including how to donate, visit www.pagosamuseum.org.

What's next: Flood recovery, cleanup resources outlined

Town of Pagosa Springs

As recovery efforts continue following significant flooding in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County, several resources are available to help residents safely dispose of flood-damaged materials, access cleanup assistance and connect with community support services.

For additional information on resources in the town and county, see each organization's website and the related article about the Disaster Assistance Center.

Flood debris disposal locations

The Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County have designated locations for residents to dispose of flood-related debris.

• Town of Pagosa Springs: wood debris only — South Yamaguchi, 976 S. 5th St.

This location accepts wood debris resulting from flooded properties within town limits only.

No other materials are permitted, and wood debris must not be mixed with other waste.

• Archuleta County: wood debris only — CSU Extension Office, 344 B U.S. 84.

This location accepts wood debris resulting from flooded properties within Archuleta County only.

No other materials are permitted at this location.

• Archuleta County Landfill: flood-damaged materials — Archuleta County Landfill, 9179 County Road 500.

The landfill hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The landfill is accepting the following flood-damaged materials:

Appliances (white goods) damaged by floodwater.

Flood-damaged personal belongings.

Flood-damaged drywall, which must be separated from other debris before arrival.

Important safety notice: Drywall in older homes may contain asbestos in joint compound or tape. Improper removal can create serious health hazards. Residents are strongly encouraged to use qualified professionals experienced in handling asbestos-containing materials.

Please bring only materials damaged by the recent flooding.

Flood recovery assistance and community resources

Residents impacted by flooding can access additional support through the following organizations.

• 211 Colorado: Residents seeking assistance with re-entry information, shelter, temporary housing, food, clothing, financial assistance and other essential needs can connect with 211 Colorado.

Contact 211 Colorado by calling 211, texting 898-211 or visiting 211colorado.org.

Resource navigators can help connect individuals and families with available services.

• Crisis Cleanup volunteer cleanup assistance: Residents who need help cleaning up flood damage can request assistance through the Crisis Cleanup Hotline by calling (970) 283-7325.

Volunteer cleanup services are provided free of charge. However, assistance is not guaranteed due to high demand.

The Crisis Cleanup Hotline does not handle requests for food, shelter, insurance or other social services. Residents needing those services should contact 211 Colorado.

• Colorado Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (COVOAD): COVOAD coordinates community organizations and disaster recovery partners to support a collaborative, community-led response.

Individuals, organizations, and businesses interested in offering donations, volunteer assistance or professional services can connect with COVOAD.

Contact COVOAD by email at coloradovoad@gmail.com or visit covoad.org.

Important reminder: Assistance provided by COVOAD and its partners is free of charge. Private contractors and insurance adjusters may offer services, but they are not necessarily affiliated with COVOAD, and neither COVOAD nor local governments endorse their work.

Important reminder: Document flood damage

Residents and property owners whose homes or properties were impacted by the October flooding are strongly encouraged to document all damage.

Take photographs and videos of damaged property and belongings before beginning cleanup or repairs, whenever safe and possible.

Document affected structures, flooring, walls, appliances, furniture and other personal property. Keep receipts and records of cleanup or repair expenses.

If FEMA's Individual Assistance program is approved for this disaster, this documentation may be important in supporting future assistance applications and inspections.

When safe and practical, preserve samples of damaged materials, such as carpet or drywall, along with photographs and other supporting documentation. Do not delay necessary cleanup or retain contaminated materials that could pose a health risk.

Please note: FEMA Individual Assistance has not been approved at this time. Documenting damage does not guarantee eligibility for financial assistance.

Residents should also report flood-related property damage and unmet needs through the Archuleta County Crisis Track Survivors Portal at https://crisistrack.juvare.com/SurvivorPortal/index.html?cid=archuletaCO.

Permitting guidance

As residents and property owners begin flood cleanup and rebuilding efforts, certain activities involving rivers, streams, wetlands or streambanks may require authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has provided a fact sheet outlining applicable permit requirements, emergency permitting procedures, and activities that may be exempt from permitting.

View the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permitting Fact Sheet at https://bit.ly/4iuzAUk.

Property owners are encouraged to review this guidance before beginning work near waterways to determine if permits or additional coordination may be necessary.

Stay informed

Residents should continue following Archuleta County's Nixle alerts for emergency notifications, evacuation information, and public safety instructions.

Register with Nixle for citizen alerts and warnings at https://www.archuletacounty.gov/ser.../citizens-alert-nixle/.

The town appreciates the continued cooperation of residents, community organizations, volunteers, and recovery partners as Pagosa Springs works toward recovery.

Clear, sunny skies forecasted for upcoming week

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

In a change from the torrential rains and snow of last week, the weather for the upcoming week in Pagosa Country appears placid and sunny, with a few chances for snow showers, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).

According to the NWS forecast for Pagosa Springs, the area should have mostly clear skies with daytime highs in the 50 degrees and nighttime lows in the 20 degrees.

Thursday, Nov. 5, is predicted to have a high of 55 degrees with increasing cloud over the day, while Thursday night will be mostly cloudy with a low of 27 degrees.

Friday, Nov. 6, will see mostly sunny skies and a high of 54 degrees, while Friday night will be mostly clear with a low of 24 degrees.

Saturday, Nov. 7, will see more sun with a high of 58 degrees during the day and clear skies and a low of 24 degrees at night.

Sunday, Nov. 8, will continue the pattern with sunny skies and a high of 59 degrees during the day and mostly clear skies and a low of 26 degrees at night.

Generally clear and sunny conditions are forecasted to continue through Tuesday, according to the NWS.

Local weather forecasting service Pagosa Weather provided a similar forecast on Wednesday afternoon, predicting "lots of sun and dry to the middle of next week."

They added that a more "active pattern" of storms may begin on Nov. 14 or Nov. 15, but that it "doesn't look impressive for us."

Snow conditions

As of the afternoon of Wednesday, Nov. 4, the Natural Resources Conservation Service SNOTEL snow measurement site on the summit of Wolf Creek Pass indicated that the pass had a total 7.4 inches of snow water equivalent, up from 4 inches last Wednesday, Oct. 28.

Wolf Creek Ski Area reported a total of 12 inches of snow in the latest storm, bringing the yearly snow total to 39 inches so far.

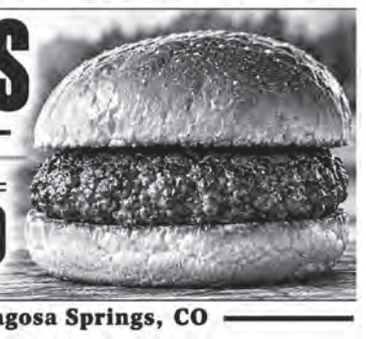
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The Mullins-Nickerson American Legion Post #108

Would like to INVITE ALL VETERANS to Our Community's Annual

Veterans Day Appreciation Events & Ceremonies

November 4th through 11th — Operation Green Light Program
Show support by shining a green light at your business or home lighting up our sky green

November 9th: Honoring Service and Teaching Respect for the Flag

Noon — The Honor Guard & Daughters of American Revolution collaborate to demonstrate a Flag Presentation & History for 5th graders at Pagosa Springs Middle School

November 10th: Marines Anniversary Celebration

6 p.m. — The Marines of Post #108 are hosting their annual Marine Celebration at Boss Hoggs

November 11th: Veterans Day

7:30-10 a.m. — 23rd Annual Veterans Breakfast Hosted by the Pagosa Springs 8th Grade Class held at the Community Center.

9 a.m. — The Color Guard will have a Flag Presentation Ceremony

11 a.m. — The Honor Guard will have a formal ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. The San Juan Squadron will begin our ceremony with the Missing Man Formation at 11 a.m. SHARP.

4 p.m. — The Knights of Columbus will be Hosting a free spaghetti dinner to all Veterans at John Paul II

November 14th: Veterans Dinner & Dance

5-9 p.m. — Vets4Vets is hosting a Dinner & Dance at the PLPOA Clubhouse. The Color Guard will Begin Opening Ceremony at 5 p.m.

Ways to show support

• Attend and Support Local Community Ceremonies

• Donate to our local Vets4Vets Organization. This goes to our Colorado Gives and this Month you can double your donation helping with local outreach

Or, by Simply saying, "Thank you," or Welcome them home

SCAN ME

2nd Annual
Winter Weather Wonder Event
Presented by Pagosa Weather

Join your forecasters ***Arleen and Shawn*** for an evening of snow talk, appetizers by ***Farrago Events,*** desserts from ***Cookies by Tracey,*** and a ***Rotary Club*** cash bar

**Friday, November 13th • 5:30-8:30 p.m.
at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse**

Special guest **Jessie Krebs** from Upper San Juan Search and Rescue to discuss "Handling Winter Emergencies & Survival".



Pagosa Weather

Area utilities see more damage after additional flooding

By Josh Pike, Randi Pierce and Clayton Chaney
Staff Writers

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) and the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) both experienced further damage in the flooding events on Nov. 1 and Nov. 2.

In a Monday, Nov. 2, update, PAWSD Programs Manager Renee Lewis explained that the district was having water pressure and service issues in downtown Pagosa Springs.

She stated that PAWSD had all available staff working on the issue with the goal of restoring service as soon as possible.

"If water service is currently off, it is because damaged portions of the distribution system have been isolated," she said. "This is to protect the overall system and public health. If customers have water, it is safe to drink."

Water service for many downtown residents and businesses appeared to be restored by Monday afternoon.

Lewis stated that all the district's water and wastewater treatment plants were fully functional, although the main PAWSD campus on Lyn Avenue, which also contains the district's wastewater treatment plant and one of its water treatment plants, was closed to the public due to "fluctuating high water in the area."

In a Wednesday, Nov. 4 update, Lewis stated that the district's water diversion on the West Fork of the San Juan River frequently requires removal of excess silt and debris and that the district expects this need to continue as the flood waters recede.

This diversion feeds the district's Snowball water treatment plant and also had to be cleared following the flooding incident on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23.

"Crews are working to stabilize pocket pressure issues in the downtown area," Lewis said.

She added that PAWSD is working with the Colorado Department of Transportation to schedule installation of a temporary water line to replace one at 1st Street that was damaged during the most recent flooding event.

In a Nov. 1 update, the Town of Pagosa Springs, which runs the PSSGID, informed residents that sewage was being discharged into the San Juan River near the U.S. 160 bridge at 1st Street.

The PSSGID did not provide any further information on damage suffered, system conditions, the sewage spill or progress on any repairs by press time Wednesday, Nov. 4.

However, Archuleta School District (ASD) announced Wednesday that, despite previously announcing its schools would reopen on Thursday, Nov. 5, its downtown schools are now slated to return on Tuesday, Nov. 10, due to damage to the PSSGID system.

"Unfortunately, as floodwaters have receded, additional damage to the Town of Pagosa Springs' sewer lines has been discovered," a Wednesday statement from the district reads. "Town Public Works officials informed us this morning that significant repairs are needed and that additional time is required to obtain materials and complete the work."

It notes that, at the town's request, ASD schools (except for Pagosa Peak Open School) will remain closed through Monday, Nov. 9, with plans to reopen on Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Because the sewer damage is limited to the downtown area, Pagosa Peak Open School will reopen tomorrow, Thursday, Nov. 5, as previously planned, according to the district.

"Thank you for your continued flexibility during this unprecedented event," the announcement states.

Geothermal system sustains damage

During a meeting held by the Pagosa Springs Town Council on Tuesday, Nov. 3, town staff explained that a geothermal line running underneath the pedestrian bridge connecting the San Juan Riverwalk to The Springs Resort had been compromised.

It was noted by staff that the damaged geothermal line runs from the town's geothermal building to the resort.

Council member Madeline Bergon asked if residents who rely on the town's geothermal system for heat are still "live," to which staff indicated they are not.

Staff explained that they are waiting on water levels to drop in order to replace that geothermal line.

Black Hills Energy using supplemental gas

According to a Nov. 4 update on the Black Hills Energy webpage for the Pagosa Springs area flooding, the company is using supplemental gas supplies while its infrastructure is repaired.

"Recent flooding has affected portions of the natural gas supply infrastructure serving our region," the Nov. 4 update notes. "To maintain reliable service, supplemental supplies of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) are being used to support the natural gas distribution system while impacted supply pathways are restored. This temporary LNG/CNG operation helps strengthen system reliability and support customers, businesses, and critical community services during flood recovery efforts."

For more information on the Black Hills and the flooding, visit www.blackhillsenergy.com/news/pagosa-springs-flooding.

State temporarily relaxes enforcement of state law related to propane tanks

On Wednesday, Nov. 4, it was announced that, due to the ongoing flooding emergency, the Colorado Division of Oil and Public Safety is temporarily relaxing enforcement of a state law that generally prohibits propane companies from filling tanks owned by another provider.

According to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office and division, the temporary change is intended to help residents who are running out of propane or are in immediate danger of running out, particularly when freezing temperatures create health and safety risks.

If your propane provider cannot respond to your request for a delivery, another propane company may be able to fill your tank, the agencies explain, provided certain conditions are met:

- You must be out of propane or in imminent danger of running out.
- You must make a good-faith effort to contact your current propane provider.
- The alternate provider must attempt to contact the tank owner and document those efforts.
- All required propane safety inspections, testing, and regulations must be followed.

This is a temporary measure intended to protect residents during the disaster emergency and does not waive propane safety requirements.

For questions, contact Scott Wagner with the Colorado Division of Oil and Public Safety at (303) 378-6817 or scotta.wagner@state.co.us.

Please remember: Never attempt to connect propane containers or modify your propane system yourself. Improper connections can create serious fire, explosion, and carbon monoxide hazards.

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County provides flood update for Arboles residents

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County representatives held a community meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 3, to provide an update for Arboles residents on the impacts of recent flooding.

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux explained that the county has experienced "wide-scale devastation to the majority of our county road infrastructure," specifically noting county roads 500 and 551.

"We also sustained damage to the Piedra River bridge, making that impassable," he said, explaining that currently the only access into Pagosa Springs is U.S. 84.

Le Roux commented more on County Road 500, explaining that the road "is absolutely devastated, and [so is] our access down there."

Le Roux also indicated that the area experienced damage to a fiber line located in the Devil Creek area.

He noted there is a "huge footprint of disaster area to deal with."

"We're aware that services are compromised," he said, explaining that the county is leaning heavily on the area's main trash collection provider, Elite, to assist in coming up with a solution for service in the Arboles area.

Le Roux explained that currently the only route for that provider to get into Arboles is a three-hour trip through New Mexico.

"That's not really feasible," he said, indicating there may be alternative solutions out of Ignacio.

Le Roux explained that there are multiple areas of residents who are currently "landlocked" due to roads being washed out, and that plans are being developed in order to "sustain" those communities that now have an absence of significant infrastructure.

"I think we're in the best possible place we can be," Le Roux added, explaining that the state has "bent over backwards" to make sure the resources are made available to the county.

In response to a question from Commissioner Veronica Medina, Le Roux indicated that with the help of resources from the Colorado National Guard, "it's very doable" to have resources transported down to Arboles for residents currently in need.

One resident asked about a "leaking propane tank" near the Piedra River area, and how they could report that damage.

County Manager Longinos Gonzalez explained that there is a link on the county's website for residents to report damage, which can be found at www.archuletacounty.gov/2026/10/report-flood-damage-in-archuleta-county/.

Another resident asked about what can be done to get medications to residents who are currently landlocked.

Public Health Director Ashley Wilson explained that instead of providing medication dropoffs for an extended period of time, residents who are in need of medications would likely be evacuated in order to be able to receive the medications more timely.

Another resident asked about what is being done to get the Piedra River back to its "original channel."

"We did have some river channel changes with last year's event," Le Roux said, adding that he is unable to accurately answer how that will be addressed at this time.

He noted that a new river channel is now running through a gravel pit located along Colo. 151, and that the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Geological Survey would likely be involved in any river channel correction projects.

"But there are people looking at that already," he said.

Le Roux explained that there is now a nearly mile-long section of Colo. 151 "which is now the new river channel."

He also noted that the state started to address the situation on Colo. 151 "almost immediately."

He mentioned that after the Oct. 23 flood event, the plan was to establish temporary access through Colo. 151, but after the second storm on Nov. 1 and 2, that original plan is no longer viable.

"Unfortunately, we got another break just south of the Chimney Rock entrance" near mile marker 13.

"We have a 30-foot section of road blown out there, totally gone," he said.

In response to another question, Le Roux explained that three Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) deputies are landlocked in Arboles and able to respond to calls.

He also indicated that the ACSO is working with adjacent jurisdictions to assist with coverage.

"We do have patrol staff on that side that can't get to Pagosa," he said.

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Next 'Thinking Like Water' episode to focus on fire and flood

By Monica Nigon
Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership/Confluence Collective

The next screening of the "Thinking Like Water" series will be held Thursday, Nov. 12, at the Liberty Theatre at 7 p.m.

The episode, titled "Fire and Flood," highlights the increasing need for prioritizing catastrophic wildfire mitigation and planning for post-fire effects, including flooding, in the Southwest.

The event will begins with a second screening of "Beyond the Embers," which chronicles the 2025 Oak Fire and flooding.

Local experts working at the intersection of fire and flood will join us after both films to discuss their work in the region. Bill Trimarco from Wildfire Adapted Partnership and Matt Ford from the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership will offer insights on their work and answer questions from the audience.

The five-part docuseries "Thinking Like Water" follows "water wizard" Bill Zeedyk and his collaborators as they work to restore meadows and streams by working with nature.

Their methods are foundational in low-tech process-based restoration (LTPBR) practices, which involves using natural materials such as rocks and logs to slow water down in a drainage, decrease erosion, increase water storage and reconnect a drainage with its floodplain for increased fire and flood resilience.

LTPBR assists in raising local water tables, which keeps wet meadows, floodplains and stream margins green and moist, creating natural firebreaks that have up to three times higher plant survival rates during wildfires.

LTPBR can also be beneficial post-fire. As burned soils are hydrophobic, heavy rains on these soils can create catastrophic runoff events, disrupting municipal water supplies, recreational areas, homes, infrastructure and wildlife habitats. Rainfall that is normally captured and stored by vegetation can run off almost instantly, increasing the speed at which a drainage or creek will flood. LTPBR structures capture ash, sediment and charcoal and slow down the water in a post-fire landscape.

Join us to learn more about these practices and hear from local representatives about the intersection of fire and flood in our region.

Reserve your tickets at pagosamovies.com/movies. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m.







PSMC Welcomes



Erin Renfrew, MD

PSMC is proud to announce that Erin Renfrew, MD is joining the Primary Care clinic team and is accepting appointments.

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Governor requests major presidential disaster declaration

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Oct. 31, Gov. Jared Polis formally requested an expedited major disaster declaration (MDD) from President Donald Trump through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support recovery from recent flooding and debris flows in Southwestern Colorado.

The request seeks FEMA Public Assistance (PA) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding for Archuleta and Rio Grande counties following severe storms that occurred from Oct. 22-25.

If approved, the declaration would provide federal assistance to help repair damaged infrastructure and reduce future flood risks.

"Devastating flooding has damaged homes and businesses, washed away roads and disrupted the basic services Southwestern Colorado families depend on. Colorado has deployed rescue teams, delivered supplies, quickly restored use of roads and committed state funding to help communities respond and recover. The damage documented so far exceeds what state and local resources can address alone. I am asking President Trump to swiftly approve this request to help restore essential services, rebuild damaged infrastructure, and support these communities on their road to recovery," said Polis in a press release.

In an interview with The SUN, Polis specifically noted the funding could help with things like County Road 500 (Trujillo Road), some water treatment centers and some dams.

"We've inventoried the damage, we've checked the boxes, and we are confident that this meets all the criteria for a federal disaster declaration," Polis told The SUN.

"Due to the magnitude of the damages, the state made this request on an expedited basis to receive support as quickly as possible," the release notes. "The State will continue the joint damage assessments with FEMA and local governments in additional impacted counties and will add those to the request as those damages are identified."

On Oct. 22, Polis declared a disaster emergency for Alamosa, Archuleta, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Ouray, Rio Grande, San Juan and San Miguel counties. On Oct. 23, it was amended to include Conejos County.

The declarations activated the State Emergency Operations Plan, authorized emergency spending and purchasing and authorized Colorado National Guard support for flood response, evacuations and search and rescue.

> *"We feel very strong about this meeting the criteria and we're looking forward to working with our congressional delegation and hopefully the president will approve this in the near future."*
> **Jared Polis, Governor**

Colorado mobilized nearly 100 National Guard members with aviation and ground resources, deployed incident management teams and state field personnel, and delivered food, water and supplies, the press release notes. State agencies worked alongside local officials, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and community organizations to reach stranded residents, support evacuations and sheltering, and restore access to areas cut off by the flooding.

Joint damage assessments conducted by state, federal and local officials have already identified $26.989 million in PA-eligible costs across Archuleta and Rio Grande counties.

This preliminary estimate reflects only sites that assessment teams could safely inspect during the initial assessment period, the press release notes. Approximately 100 homes in Archuleta County remained inaccessible as of Oct. 29, meaning that additional damage and costs estimates will be documented as access in the area improves.

State, federal and local officials are continuing the work to identify damages in the other impacted counties.

Polis indicated during the Oct. 31 interview it was expected additional damage would be documented and that the next round of rain would cause more damage, but that the request can be amended with additional damage.

The press release notes FEMA, the state and local partners will continue to conduct assessments for additional PA and HMGP funding. Joint damage assessments will also include assessments of damages to individuals' properties and homes to determine what federal assistance can be made available for families, homeowners and businesses.

The initial assessments identified approximately $10.6 million in damage to local roads, bridges and culverts; $2.44 million in damage to public utilities; and $8.59 million in damage to parks and recreation facilities. Emergency protective measures account for another $4.16 million, with additional costs identified for water control facilities, public buildings and debris removal.

The MDD request seeks:

- PS, Categories A-G: This includes support for eligible recovery efforts that threaten essential public infrastructure. Eligible support includes debris removal, emergency protective measures, and repairs to roads, bridges, water control facilities, public buildings, utilities, parks and other public facilities.
- HMGP funding for affected jurisdictions: This includes support for efforts to reduce future flood and debris-flow damage, including larger culverts, riverband stabilization and infrastructure improvements.

Rather than waiting for every damaged site to become accessible, Colorado submitting the request on an expedited basis so that federal resources can arrive sooner.

"The catastrophic damage from this disaster has had widespread impacts on community members and local, state and tribal infrastructure. This request will help to rebuild this infrastructure, and speed up the recovery process," said Trevor Denney, Director of the Colorado Office of Emergency Management, via the press release.

In addition to the response resources, Colorado has also committed state resources to emergency repairs in the region. On Oct. 26, the Transportation Commission approved $5 million in contingency funds for the initial transportation response (see related article).

The MDD request is awaiting federal approval. Residents are encouraged to document damage and submit reports through county damage-reporting systems. Further information on the status of the state's request, and updates to any request for Individual Assistance, will be shared as soon as they become available.

"With any normal president, these things move pretty quickly, but it's been a bit of a mystery box with this president," Polis told The SUN, noting Trump did grant Colorado's declaration for the Aspen Acres Fire. "We feel very strong about this meeting the criteria and we're looking forward to working with our congressional delegation and hopefully the president will approve this in the near future."

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe, whose lands were also impacted by severe flooding, will pursue FEMA assistance independently from Colorado's request. Colorado has worked closely with tribal leadership throughout the flood response and recovery planning and supports the tribe's chosen path to securing federal assistance.

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Service

■ Continued from A3

When I arrived, one of the dentists had already left for home, and the other only had a month left in the service. So, soon enough, I was on my own. It was a heavy load for one dentist and a single helper to handle. Every time I called my commanding officer, asking where the second dentist was, he would say, "We're working on it".

This went on for several weeks, and then I got the first phone call.

Serendipity

Headquarters company had a 19-year-old trooper who claimed to be a conscientious objector. He was refusing to work any job which could possibly involve killing other people.

Even though Private Zimmerman may have been morally correct, refusing to work is still a court-martial offense and would eventually result in a dishonorable discharge.

However, Zimmerman said working in a medical facility would be in harmony with his beliefs.

The company commander called and asked if I could possibly use him in my clinic. When the commander explained to me the lifelong consequences of a dishonorable discharge, I said, "Send him over."

I interviewed Zimmerman and he seemed to be an intelligent, conscientious young man.

Here was the opportunity I had trained for. A dentist working with a trained assistant can work twice as fast as he could working alone. Zimmerman became my receptionist/scheduler, which allowed more time for Sgt. Hall to work chairside with me. There was a noticeable increase in our daily production output.

About three weeks later, I got another call from company headquarters. They had another conscientious objector with the same beliefs that Zimmerman had expressed. I interviewed Private Collins and immediately accepted him as the fifth member of my team.

As soon as he was reassigned to me, he became my take down, set up and sterilizer person. We now had a five-man clinic, and we began seeing a lot more patients each day. We were a good team. We liked each other, and we had a lot of fun. At this point, I gave up and stopped asking my CO for that second dentist.

As mentioned earlier, wives were not authorized in Korea, but a soldier could bring his wife over at his own expense. They would have to live on the economy and not on a base.

I was deeply in love with my young wife, and after pulling all the strings I finally managed to get her to Korea in January, six months after I had been in the country. I had remodeled an unused little red school house located at a German monastery about 2 miles from the base. (Where I got the furnishings, especially the toilet and the space heater is a whole other story). It was a joyous reunion.

Another soldier had brought his wife over a little before me. They were living in a hooch in the village near the base. She was 19 years old and a trained dental assistant. Her name was Elaine; she and my wife were the only two blonde Caucasians in that part of Korea. One day in February, she dropped by the clinic. She told me she was bored to tears and had little to do to keep her occupied. She asked if she could come and work with me and my team. Of course, we couldn't pay her, but that didn't matter. So, Elaine became the sixth member of my team.

All of a sudden, when the word got out that there was a cute blonde, blue-eyed girl working in the dental clinic, our morning sick call doubled. Needless to say, Elaine became my favorite assistant. Much to my delight, we began to really crank out dental procedures.

Once a year, in July, the Army inspector general did a thorough review of all of the dental clinics in Korea. The inspector, after reviewing our records, issued me a commendation citation with their highest rating, that being "superior." Apparently, my clinic was producing more dentistry than most of the two-man dental clinics in Korea at that time.

At this point, my commanding officer finally made a decision. There would not be a second dentist sent to Camp Carroll. I was on my own for the rest of my tour. We enjoyed working together and our success story more than compensated for not having that second "drill captain."

As far as payback to the U.S. government for helping to pay for my education, I estimate that I saved the United States approximately $24,000, which would have been the salary of a second dentist. That was about triple what the government had invested in my career. So, in tribute to my father's legacy and in gratitude to a grateful nation, payback with interest.

And the legacy continues.

Veterans

I am now well into my eighth decade and living a very active retirement. The VA takes care of my health care needs, relieving me from the financial burden of increasingly more expensive health care insurance.

I spend four months each year in Pagosa Springs, where I have become an active member of a veterans group there called Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. In my opinion, this grassroots organization is one of the finest veterans' organizations in the country.

It was founded in 2011 by six veterans who were concerned about the alarming number of veteran suicides in Archuleta County. At that time, local veterans had little or no access to health care or mental health counseling. The founders formed a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with just $24 in the bank and one simple mission: to help and support fellow veterans.

It wasn't long before the group successfully persuaded the Albuquerque VA district to begin providing health care, mental health services and counseling in Pagosa Springs. As these services became available, veteran suicide rates began to decline.

From this humble beginning, the Vets For Vets has grown to more than 250 members. Last year it raised more than $120,000 through fundraising events such as a golf tournament, concessions at community events and getting grants from government organizations.

This small group of dedicated ex-service people also provided more than 10,000 volunteer hours doing community service. There are no paid employees, and over 90 percent of the money raised goes directly to local veterans and their families.

My job with the Vets for Vets for the last two years has been to contact local businesses to see if they would be willing to give vets a discount. It has been a most rewarding experience. Because the Vets for Vets are so active in the community, local businesses are more than happy to recognize and support them. At the end of last summer, 64 local merchants had agreed to the discount program. That acceptance rate was over 95 percent.

Have the Vets made a difference? The answer is a resounding yes. In the 12 years since the organization became fully operational, there have been only three veteran suicides in Archuleta County. That represents a suicide rate approximately 96 percent lower than the national rate for veterans.

I feel privileged to be a member of such an extraordinary group of men and women whose commitment to serving both veterans and the community continues to make a lasting difference.

I am proud of my service in the military and, as far as payback goes, I got back much more than I ever gave.

We all served, but only those men and women who were in actual combat can know the real cost of their service. We all owe them so much.

When you see someone wearing the hat that says, "veteran," thank them for their service. It makes all the difference in the world.

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"You know that scene in Castaway where Tom Hanks's character is on the island and has a toothache and uses a rock to knock out his bad tooth?
A week ago, I was ready to do a Tom Hanks.
I was visiting Pagosa Springs (my happy place, but you'd hate it, you should totally never go there), and I had to get help. Black Diamond was the only practice that opened at 7:30am on Monday, so they got the call. Thankfully, they could fit me in that day. I thought I'd be told "this tooth needs to come out," and I was ready to say "SIGN ME UP." To my surprise, Dr. Nylund took a look and said the tooth looked fine, and he didn't like to meddle with teeth that can be saved. He suspected I was grinding my teeth at night, and that was the reason for my pain. He adjusted my bite while I was there and sent me away. I thought, "OK, there's no way that solved my problem...."
How wrong I was! Dr. Nylund had said it should feel better in a couple of days, and you know what? He was RIGHT! It totally worked. Once the pain subsided, I realized how grumpy I'd been for several days running. As soon as I returned home, I started wearing my night guard again. (PSA: Do not stop wearing your night guard if you've got one.)
So if you find yourself in Pagosa and need dental work (again, definitely do not go to Pagosa, it's not for you), go to Black Diamond!
- Krista J
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BLACK DIAMOND DENTAL PAGOSA SPRINGS



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



Photo courtesy Colorado Incident Management Team



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Multiple agencies respond to damage caused by historic flooding that swept through Pagosa Springs Nov. 1 and 2, as more roads and homes suffered damage for the second week in a row.

Flooding

■ Continued from front

reached a height of 16.81 feet at 8 p.m. on Nov. 1.

In an email to The SUN, he notes, "That is the current provisional value we are displaying at San Juan River at Pagosa Springs."

Moore also notes that there was a loss of data recording around 10 p.m. on Nov. 1.

Moore writes, "The next morning, a technician found a collapsed bridge railing which the stage sensor wiring was attached to."

He notes that the gauge was then reconnected, adding, "We're hopeful we captured the peak value, but we have some more interpretation to do before we can be certain."

Moore also notes that process may take awhile and that any "additional analysis could affect our final computed peak discharge value."

Last year, Pagosa Springs experienced what were then the third and fourth largest flooding events in record history with the San Juan River, peaking at 12.82 feet and 12.66 feet.

River levels

The other rivers that run through Archuleta County also experienced record flows early this week, according to National Water Predictions Service and Colorado River Basin Forecast Center data.

The Piedra River near Arboles hit 10.66 feet late Nov. 1, surpassing its previous records of 6.4 feet and Oct. 23's 10.48.

The Navajo River near Chromo hit 8.78 feet early Nov. 2, surpassing Oct. 23's 7.8 feet and the previous record of 5.1 feet.

The Rio Blanco near Pagosa Springs hit 5.67 feet early Nov. 2, just topping last time's 5.56 feet and the previous record of 5.26.

Rain totals

According to reports entered into the Community Collaborative rain, Hail and Snow Network (commonly called CoCoRaHS), between 2.7 and 4.57 inches of rain fell across all parts of Archuleta County from Oct. 29 through Nov. 2.

The highest report was 4.57 inches 7.2 miles northwest of Pagosa Springs.

Wolf Creek Ski Area reported a total of 12 inches of snow in the latest storm, bringing the yearly snow total to 39 inches so far.

Damage on damage

Like the previous flooding, this week's again contributed extensive damage to roads, homes and other critical infrastructure all throughout the county.

Archuleta County Commissioner Warren Brown indicated at a community meeting on Oct. 27, that 800 structures in the county had been impacted by the first round of flooding in October, with 540 of those structures being homes.

On Nov. 3, Incident Commander Charles Balke explained that, after the waters started receding, they were able to start getting "some boots back on the ground" to do ground for assessments, and were able to do some air reconnaissance flights.

He noted they were able to identify some areas of concern along County Road 500 and have started building plans for those who had been cut off and not able to get out.

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux noted mandatory evacuations were left in place in the week before the second flood due to ongoing risks and operations.

He noted that the second flood peaked nearly 2 feet higher, and some things that were hanging on and survived the first storm "didn't do as well the second time around."

Balke noted the damage from the second storm wasn't anything that incident managers weren't expecting given the predictions.

He noted there were areas that sustained a little more damage than predicted, but, overall, there was not damage they were not anticipating and trying to prepare for.

The flooding also caused a fiber line break due to surface runoff, which took out cellular and some internet capabilities. Services were restored the evening of Nov. 3.

Le Roux also noted the damage to roads, bridges and the power grid.

Balke noted two rescue missions have taken place during this fall's flooding — the hoist mission during the first flood and a more recent rescue of a resident due to the inability to access them and the need to evacuate them and their livestock in a timely manner to avoid a "catastrophic event."

During the reconnaissance mission, Balke indicated, they were able to view that property.

"Had we not been able to get that person out at that point in time and the livestock out, it could have been a much grimmer reporting on rescues," Balke said.

Le Roux noted there have been other evacuations that have taken place, with Balke noting about 50 people have been evacuated, as well as a number of animals.

The pair also addressed the unverified, preliminary number of buildings and homes affected.

Balke noted that, as of the morning of Nov. 2, they were working on the number of homes affected.

Balke confirmed that a house was swept from San Juan Street in town and demolished by a bridge.

He explained that, in some of the remote areas of the county, "We did lose several more homes."

He added some they knew would be losses due to the ongoing flow.

He guessed that perhaps 10 to 15 homes in the rural community in Archuleta County may have been lost.

Le Roux noted that, within the unincorporated area, there were 1,228 buildings in the affected areas and that they will work to identify what is not there.

Returning home

As of press time Wednesday, Nov. 4, all of the county's evacuation orders remained in place. The town lifted a portion of its evacuation order on Tuesday, Nov. 2, for areas not impacted by flood water.

"As people start making their way in, they're going to have to realize the system is still overloaded and taxes," Balke said, adding that no timeline for nonemergency help can be guaranteed.

He also suggested people should be prepared for what they will see when they re-enter following evacuations.

"Some of the properties have very significant damage to it, where other properties have very minor damage," he said. "So, we just want people to be mentally prepared that they could be returning to areas that have experienced significant damaged."

He acknowledged the significance of things to people.

Sports

Football



Photo courtesy Aubrie Limebrook

The Pirates raise their helmets while in Colorado Springs to take on the Banning Lewis Academy Stallions on Oct. 31 in the first round of the state playoffs. The Pirates won 33-13 and will next travel to Wellington to take on the defending state champions.

Pirates take down Banning Lewis in first round of playoffs

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate football team won its first-round playoff game last Saturday, Oct. 31, defeating the Banning Lewis Academy Stallions 33-13 in Colorado Springs.

The Pirates trailed 7-0 after the first quarter, but got on the scoreboard a little over halfway through the second quarter with a 10-yard touchdown by Alex Pacheco.

Pacheco then converted a two-point attempt, putting the Pirates up 8-7 going into halftime.

The Pirates were able to keep the Stallions from scoring in the third quarter, while adding to their lead with a 31-yard field goal made by Hudson Mazur.

The Pirates led 11-7 going into the fourth quarter, and would put up 22 more points while holding the Stallions to just six points to close out the game.

Mazur added to the Pirates' score with two rushing touchdowns in the fourth quarter, going for 22 and 13 yards.

Nehring emphasized how the Pirates are "a very physical football team" and credited the players for "going out and just wanting to bring it."

Pacheco found the end zone one more time on a 14-yard rushing touchdown.

Mazur converted two extra-point attempts, and Kasen Limebrook converted on a two-point attempt to bring the final score to 33-13.

PSHS Athletic Director and assistant defensive line coach Curtis Nehring explained that the deciding factor in the game was the Pirates' ability to play with a higher level of physicality than the Stallions.

He noted that the teams were matched up evenly, and that it was a close, hard-fought, back-and-forth kind of game until the fourth quarter.

"It was actually a really good game," Nehring said, noting that Banning Lewis is a quality team with good athletes.

He said of the Stallions, "Their kids played hard."

He added, "I don't think that [Banning Lewis] expected the physicality of Pagosa players."

Nehring also commended the Pirates' coaching staff, explaining that they were "really good about making adjustments in the second half."

Nehring emphasized how the Pirates are "a very physical football team" and credited the players for "going out and just wanting to bring

■ See Football A14

Volleyball

Lady Pirates end season on high note

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team ended its season on a high note, winning their final game at the Coal Ridge Tournament in New Castle.

The Lady Pirates closed their season out in New Castle, playing four games across Halloween weekend. The girls started with two games on Friday, Oct. 30, and then played two more the following day, on Saturday, Oct. 31.

Even though the Lady Pirates finished 1-3 at the tournament, coach Chelsea Caler indicates she's proud of the girls' effort across both days.

"We finished 1-3 on the weekend, but there were some really competitive moments," wrote Caler in an email to The SUN. "We played several close sets and were right there in a number of matches. Our biggest challenge was finding the consistency to finish those sets. I was proud of the way some of our players continued to compete, adjust and find opportunities to contribute in different roles."

The Lady Pirates started off the tournament Friday with a 1:45 p.m. game against 5A Grand Junction. The Lady Pirates fell 2-0, losing the first set 25-16 and the second set 25-22.

Dawson Iverson led the girls with six kills and three total blocks in the match. Liana Vega had a team-high two aces. Iverson and Darria Fiorenza each had a team-high five digs, and Vega led the girls with 10 assists.

Later on Friday, the girls matched up with 3A Delta and lost 2-1.

Delta won the first set 25-23, but the Lady Pirates won the next set 25-19 to force a third set. Delta eventually won 15-13 in a close set.

Iverson led the girls with 12 kills. Tatiana Monterroso had a team-high four aces. Malorie Morton and Avea Bruce each had a block. Fiorenza had 11 digs to lead the girls, and Vega had a team-high 21 assists in the match.

The Lady Pirates played their first match of Saturday against 3A Valley at 11:15 a.m.

The girls lost 2-0, losing the first set 25-22 and the second set 26-24.

Ellie Vining had a team-high six assists. Monterroso, Fiorenza and Vining each led the team with one ace. Vining and Bruce had the Lady Pirates' only two blocks. Monterroso led the girls with eight digs, and Vega had a team-high 17 assists in the match.

The girls played their final game of the tournament and of the season later that day against 4A Rifle.

After losing the first set 25-22, the girls roared back to take two of three, winning the second set 25-21 and the third set 16-14.

"It was nice to finish the weekend with a win and give the girls something positive to take away from the tournament," wrote Caler. "It's always good to see the team put things together and finish competing."

The girls finished the season as the 45th ranked team in 3A with a 6-17 overall record and a 2-4 record in league play, which allowed them to finish in fourth place in the league.

Caler emphasizes that this season taught the Lady Pirates that accountability, communication and coachability are essential for a successful program.

"Talent alone isn't enough," wrote Caler. "Growth requires a willingness to accept feedback, make adjustments, trust the process and put the team first. It also takes a shared commitment from athletes, coaches and families to create an environment where players can develop and succeed. Those are standards we'll continue to prioritize moving forward."

The team is losing a group of five seniors this year. Iverson, Nevaeh Evans, Monterroso, Morton and Saleisha Black all played their final match in a Lady Pirate uniform this season.

"I'm grateful for the time our seniors invested in the program," wrote Caler. "They brought experience and leadership to the court. I wish each of them the best as they move into their next chapter."

Despite the year coming to a close just last week, Caler is already excited for next year. Next year's squad will return six players from this year's team and the junior varsity team was built specifically with the future of the program in mind, emphasizes Caler.

"We have a competitive group of younger athletes who have been developing their skills, learning our systems and preparing for those next opportunities," wrote Caler. "Our staff has put a lot of thought into building continuity between levels, and I'm excited to see that investment carry forward. There's a strong foundation here, and I'm excited about where we can take it."

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

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



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Football

■ Continued from A13

it."

The Pirates put up a total of 338 yards of total offense, led by Mazur, who ran for 144 yards and three touchdowns on 13 attempts.

Pacheco racked up 131 yards and two touchdowns on 17 attempts, and Gage Sams rushed for 57 yards on six carries.

Limebrook was unsuccessful on two passing attempts, and ran for 5 yards on three carries.

On the defensive side, Colby Ross led the Pirates in solo tackles on the day, coming up with eight.

Sams recorded five solo tackles, as did Ty Garcia.

Sams also came up with one interception, which he returned for 32 yards.

With the win, the Pirates advance to the second round of the 2A state playoffs, and will travel to Wellington to take on the defending state champions, the Wellington Eagles.

The Eagles received a first-round playoff bye and have not played a game since Oct. 23.

Wellington ended the regular season with an overall record of 8-1 and were ranked as the No. 3 team in the state.

The Pirates entered the playoffs as the No. 19 team in the state.

With road closures in effect across the southwest region of the state, Nehring explained that travel details are still being finalized, but the plan is for the Pirates to leave Pagosa Springs today, Nov. 5, and stay near Wellington.

The Pirates are scheduled to take on the Eagles at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 7, in Wellington.

Nehring added the Pirates' mentality going into the matchup is similar to what it was going into their game against Banning Lewis.

He noted that the team isn't leaving town with any unknowns and all of the players' families are safe after historic flooding swept through Pagosa Springs.

Nehring commented that this is hopefully a chance for the players to step outside of some of the chaos in town and get to "do something sort of normal."

"It's football, it can't not be fun," Nehring added.

Coach Nathan Morales was unavailable for comment as of press time Wednesday.

clayton@pagosasun.com

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The Pagosa Springs SUN
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Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Plaintiff: FRANKLIN E. WITHROW III
Defendants: SONNY R. COWAN; PATRICK DISNER; ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY
Case Number:
2026 CV 30043
Murray Wilkening, P.C.
Murray Wilkening Atty. Reg. #:15302
7691 Shaffer Parkway Suite B
Littleton, CO 80127
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone: (303)763-8988
Email: murray@mwilkening.com
SUMMONS
TO THE DEFENDANTS NAMED ABOVE:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee.
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.
The following documents are also served with this summons: **DISTRICT COURT CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET**
Dated this 12th day of August 2026.
/s/ Murray Wilkening
By Murray Wilkening - #15302
Published October 22, 29, November 5, 12, and 19, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (320851)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Plaintiff: FRANKLIN E. WITHROW III
Defendants: MELISSA R. MCPEAK; ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY
Case Number:
2026 CV 30042
Murray Wilkening, P.C.
Murray Wilkening Atty. Reg. #:15302
7691 Shaffer Parkway Suite B
Littleton, CO 80127
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone: (303)763-8988
Email: murray@mwilkening.com
SUMMONS
TO THE DEFENDANTS NAMED ABOVE:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee.
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The following documents are also served with this summons: **DISTRICT COURT CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET**
Dated this 12th day of August 2026.
/s/ Murray Wilkening
By Murray Wilkening - #15302
Published October 22, 29, November 5, 12, and 19, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (320853)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Plaintiff: FRANKLIN E. WITHROW III
Defendants: DELDEV, INC., a Colorado corporation; ALL
UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE
PROPERTY
Case Number:
2026 CV 30047
Murray Wilkening, P.C.
Murray Wilkening Atty. Reg. #:15302
7691 Shaffer Parkway Suite B
Littleton, CO 80127
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone: (303)763-8988
Email: murray@mwilkening.com
SUMMONS
TO THE DEFENDANTS NAMED ABOVE:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee.
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.
The following documents are also served with this summons: **DISTRICT COURT CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET**
Dated this 16th day of August 2026.
/s/ Murray Wilkening
By Murray Wilkening - #15302
Published October 22, 29, November 5, 12, and 19, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (320863)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Plaintiff: FRANKLIN E. WITHROW III
Defendants: SANDRA ASBURY JOHNSON; CLAUDIA ASBURY; CLEVE ASBURY; ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS
CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY
Case Number:
2026 CV 30049
Murray Wilkening, P.C.
Murray Wilkening Atty. Reg. #:15302
7691 Shaffer Parkway Suite B
Littleton, CO 80127
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone: (303)763-8988
Email: murray@mwilkening.com
SUMMONS
TO THE DEFENDANTS NAMED ABOVE:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee.
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.
The following documents are also served with this summons: **DISTRICT COURT CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET**
Dated this 16th day of August 2026.
/s/ Murray Wilkening
By Murray Wilkening - #15302
Published October 22, 29, November 5, 12, and 19, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (320958)

FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HEARING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2026
Application for a CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, for a Bed & Breakfast at Subdivision: PAGOSA IN THE PINES Block: 10 Lot: 10X PIP Sec: 16 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W, 78 W Golf Place, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.
Comments regarding this application may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, phone: (970) 264-1390 or planning@archuleta-county.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners on November 17, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published October 29 and November 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (321653)

FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HEARING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2026
Application for CERULEAN SKIES RANCH BOARD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, for an RV Park at 6116 US Highway 84, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.
Comments regarding this application may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, phone: (970) 264-1390 or planning@archuleta-county.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners on November 17, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published October 29 and November 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (321657)

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT
NOTICE is hereby given that on **November 13th, 2026**, at **12:00 p.m.**, final settlement will be made with **TRC Construction**, 789 NM 516, Flora Vista, New Mexico, 87415 by the **Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District**, 551 Hot Springs Blvd Pagosa Springs, Colorado, on a contract for labor and materials for a project known as **McCabe Creek Sewer Replacement Project** and that any person, co-partnership, company, association of persons, or corporation who has an unpaid claim against **TRC Construction.**, or its subcontractors, for labor and materials, may, at any time, up to closing of business the last work day prior to final settlement, that is, by **November 13th, 2026**, file a verified statement of the amount due with the **Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (Attn. Kyle Rickert** krickert@pagosasprings.co.gov pursuant to Section 38-26-107, C.R.S., as amended.
Failure on the part of the Claimant to make such verified statement, prior to the final settlement on the contract with **TRC Construction** will relieve the **Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District** from any liability for such Claimant's claim.
PUBLISHED BY THE ORDER OF **Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District**.
Published November 5 and 12, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (322661)

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for Annexation for property located along Mill Creek Road (C.R. 302) also known as Archuleta County Parcel #570118401002 and known as the Strohecker Minor Subdivision Lot 2B.
The applicant, Mountain Crossing, LLC, is requesting annexation of this 0.33-acre parcel into Town boundaries and for the property to be zoned Mixed-Use Corridor (MU-C).
The stated purpose of this annexation is to meet the requirement for Mountain Crossing Subdivision to have secondary access from Mill Creek.
The Town Council will conduct a public hearing on the Resolution of Intent to Annex: **Tuesday, November 17, 2026 @ 5 pm and Planning Commission on November 24, 2026 @ 5:30 pm,** to consider the annexation petition and determine if it is in substantial compliance with the Annexation Act, C.R.S 31-12-108.
The Public Hearings will be conducted in Town Hall Located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd.
For more information and anyone wishing to provide comments, please contact the Town Planning Department at 970-585-8610 or at oodell@pagosasprings.co.gov or attend the public hearing. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing.
Published October 15, 22, 29 and November 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (320268)

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for a Density Bonus at Town Terrace, located at 262 Pagosa Street.
The proposed Density Bonus relates to a conversion of office space to a residential unit that will be offered, and deed restricted, at the Affordable Workforce Housing Rate based on the State's AMI categories. The Density Bonus is being requested because the current property is capped at their allowable density for the Mixed-Use Town Center District (MU-TC).
The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 5:30 pm to consider the Density Bonus application and make a recommendation to Town Council. Town Council will hear this proposal on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 5:00 pm.
Public Hearings and Meetings will be conducted at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and available for remote attendance via the Zoom meeting platform. To access the meeting agendas and staff reports, click the round **Minutes and Agendas** tab located at the bottom of the photo on the Town's website home page at pagosasprings.co.gov. You may also view the application at mypagosa.org/proposed-development-
projects.
We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the public hearing dates, with any questions via phone at 970-585-8610 or email at oodell@pagosasprings.co.gov. Written comments received 7 days prior to the meeting or public hearing will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and/or Town Council for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing.
Please note that your public comments submitted on MyPagosa.org or via email will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for their consideration.
Published November 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (322272)

FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HEARING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2026
Rezoning of RURAL Sec: 31 Twn: 35 Rng: 1W LOT 3, (NW4SW4), 570131300007, 760 River Forest Dr, Pagosa Springs, CO. The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL RANCHING (AR) with a proposed change to RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RR).
Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, phone: (970) 264-1390 or planning@archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners on November 17, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published October 29 and November 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (321655)

PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

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

Legal advertising

Deadline: Friday noon*

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

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

ARCHULETA COUNTY
SEPTEMBER 2026 PAYABLES

VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
WOOLPERT	PROFESSIONAL SVCS	$424,749.50
CIGNA HEALTH	EMPL MED BENEFITS	$200,274.07
SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS	MED SVCS	$54,340.00
INLAND KENWORTH	ENG REBUILD/PARTS/SUPP	$53,216.25
STANTON TULLY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$48,519.01
LEDS	ERTB PROJ SEMI-ANN BILLING	$45,028.99
WELLS FARGO	CNTY P-CARD PURCHASES	$43,663.54
PINNACOL ASSURANCE	WORKER'S COMP DUES	$40,804.00
DIESEL DIRECT	FUEL	$39,498.81
FLYERS ENERGY	CNTY FUEL	$24,854.04
KS STATEBANK	VEH LEASE	$24,675.00
CURTIS BLUE LINE	UNIFORMS/EMBROIDERIES	$21,273.41
STROHECKER ASPHALT & PAVING	PINES DR RESURFACING	$20,949.44
JAYDEN CARNLEY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$20,811.26
DAVIS ENGINEERING SVC	PINES DR RESURFACING ENG & DESIGN	$18,500.00
WAYDE SUTHERLAND	LIVESTOCK SALE	$18,201.96
LILYANNE DECLARK	LIVESTOCK SALE	$17,621.65
VAL'S VIP CLEANING	CNTY CLEANING SVCS	$17,590.00
JEBRON KETCHUM	LIVESTOCK SALE	$15,849.70
MADISON DECLARK	LIVESTOCK SALE	$15,740.45
DUKE KETCHUM	LIVESTOCK SALE	$15,500.20
CARLIE BRIDGES	LIVESTOCK SALE	$14,380.16
ASHTON TULLY	FAIR LIVESTOCK SALE	$13,943.66
EMMA CARNLEY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$13,841.51
BELLA ADKISSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$13,497.46
DESERT MTN CORP	MAG CHLORIDE	$13,434.94
ETHAN CARNLEY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$13,362.58
SHORT-ELLIOTT-HENDRICKSON	LF MONITORING	$12,914.93
LPEA	CNTY ELECTRIC UTILITIES	$12,476.33
COLTER CARNLEY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$12,392.58
WILLIAM RAY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$12,158.56
HR GREEN	CPU PROFESSIONAL SVCS	$10,696.00
SHAMROCK FOODS	INMATE FOOD/KITCHEN SUPP	$10,616.93
TRISTAN ESPINOSA	LIVESTOCK SALE	$10,520.48
TYLER SOTTEK	LIVESTOCK SALE	$10,055.95
ANA GALLEGOS	LIVESTOCK SALE	$9,695.98
ADELYN HITTLE	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,625.49
DELTA DENTAL OF CO	EMPL DEN BENEFITS	$8,595.68
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	EMPL LIFE/ACC BENEFITS	$8,441.64
RILEY SANDERS	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,373.30
MADISEN STRETTON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,345.12
TAYLOR COLE	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,344.20
DALTIN HOOVER	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,202.18
THE PS SUN	CNTY PUBLICATIONS	$8,193.83
MICHAEL ESPINOSA	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,143.98
DEKKLYN FIORENZA	LIVESTOCK SALE	$8,119.73
SW CO MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	INMATE MENTAL HEALTH SVCS	$7,648.73
TRENT WOODS	SWCHCC RRC BILLING	$7,581.00
WYATT OSBORN	LIVESTOCK SALE	$7,258.72
BENJAMIN STRETTON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$7,229.62
VEDA DEITEMEYER	LIVESTOCK SALE	$7,097.75
CENTURYLINK	CNTY LANDLINES	$6,609.30
CORINNA GALABOTA	LIVESTOCK SALES	$6,577.40
HANNAH STRETTON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$6,531.22
WYNDHAM VACATION RESORTS	RENT 305 VILLAGE DR	$6,500.00
ALIVIA STRETTON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$6,405.12
AVERY ADKISSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$6,350.85
VAN DIEST SUPPLY	HERBICIDES	$6,086.31
NO BS AUTOMOTIVE	VEH SVCS	$5,970.46
JESSE RAY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,890.10
RELADYNE WEST	FLEET SUPP	$5,795.39
JORI WILSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,555.45
CLAIRE ADKISSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,361.45
CHASE OSBORN	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,313.87
STETSON OSBORN	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,303.87
AYLA IBRAM	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,196.55
CAMRYN MEES	LIVESTOCK SALE	$5,186.85
NICOLAS TATOR	LIVESTOCK SALE	$4,614.55
MICHAEL BERNDT	CS VEH	$4,500.00
RIDGE ADKISSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$4,381.75
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	CNTY COPIER USAGE	$4,256.50
KLAYTON CANDELARIA	LIVESTOCK SALE	$4,231.10
BRISTOL JACOBSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$4,207.77
HDR ENGINEERING	AIRPORT AIP FEE	$4,200.00
NINA WOOD	LIVESTOCK SALE	$4,192.60
ROSE MOUNTAIN	MNTHLY LEASE	$4,166.67
CADE TATOR	LIVESTOCK SALE	$4,153.80
STATE OF CO	RENEWALS	$3,995.88
HADLEY ADKISSON	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,993.75
CORA LINHARDT	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,979.20
ANNABETH RAY	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,954.95
TROPHIES TOMORROW	PHOTO PLAQUES	$3,892.00
VALUEWEST	COMMERICAL CONSULTING	$3,800.00
WINTER PORTER	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,780.35
BRYNN LOOPER	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,668.80
SYDNEY PLAKE	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,586.35
TRIAN STAHR	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,586.35
ARCH CNTY 4-H	CHUCKWAGON TICKETS/SUPP/SPONSORSHP	$3,515.77
KOLTEN CANDELARIA	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,513.60
EMBERLYNNE BERTRAM	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,489.35
GARRETT FRIE	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,440.85
AT&T	CNTY CELL PHONES	$3,331.72
PARTS PLUS OF NM	FLEET PARTS/SUPP	$3,280.17
NICOLETTA IBRAM	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,256.55
TRENT TATOR	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,159.55
MORGAN COLE	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,077.10
ELIJAH FOSS	FAIR LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,033.45
AMAYA LINHARDT	LIVESTOCK SALE	$3,004.35
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MICHAEL PREUIT	LIVESTOCK SALE	$2,926.75
WESTERN HERITAGE EVENT CENTER	BLDG RNTLS	$2,800.00
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PARKER'S WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS	FURNITURE/INSTALL	$2,628.62
ARIA TAYLOR	LIVESTOCK SALE	$2,616.35
NORA FORREST	LIVESTOCK SALE	$2,441.45
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CHARLIE HAYMAKER	LIVESTOCK SALES	$2,318.45
HADASSAH TRUJILLO	LIVESTOCK SALE	$2,229.27
FAITH LEE	LIVESTOCK SALE	$2,107.10
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QUADIENT FINANCE	PREPAID POSTAGE	$2,000.00
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BIANCA ZISA	LIVESTOCK SALE	$1,942.20
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LIBERTY VOTE USA	TONER	$449.15
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C TORRES	PER DIEM-RUNWAY REHAB-REVIEW MTG	$386.98
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L PAQUETTE	PER DIEM-PHIR CONF	$247.00
L SANCHEZ	PER DIEM-PHIR CONF	$247.00
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H WEDEMEYER	PER DIEM-CSS FALL REG TRNG	$170.00
K ARCHULETA	PER DIEM-CSS FALL REG TRNG	$170.00
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LA PLATA CNTY CORONER	MORGUE FEE	$100.00
L CAPRE	SWCHCC STEERING CMTE BILLING	$100.00
ARCH CNTY SOLID WASTE	DUMP CHGS	$90.00
KENDRA HITTLE	REIMB-FAIR SUPP	$84.39
GLORIA MACHT	CPR/1ST AID CLASSES	$80.00
PAGCO	FLEET SUPP	$74.99
K BETZER	REIMB-MILEAGE	$62.32
CO DEPT OF STATE	REGIST FALL REG TRNG	$60.00
DANIEL HARPER	REIMB-MILEAGE	$59.86
DURANGO MOTOR CO	FLEET PART	$52.19
T-MOBILE	PROCESS FEE	$50.00
SAN JUAN TOOLS	FLEET TOOL	$40.35
ANSWER TOPEKA	ANSWERING SVC	$28.50
FERRELLGAS	PROPANE	$24.82
SUSAN COPENHEAVER	TAILORING SVCS	$15.00
	TOTAL	$1,833,812.98

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CROSS-COUNTRY



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

Madi Stretton, the lone Lady Pirate to qualify for last weekend's state championships, smiles as she runs to a 79th-place finish in her final race for the school



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

Rylan Ash takes on the season's final cross-country meet, where he finished 39th with a time of 17 minutes, 26.10 seconds.



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

Weston Sweet runs to a placed 95th-place finish at last weekend's state championship meet in Colorado Springs.

Trio of Pirate runners compete in state cross-country championships

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate cross-country season came to an end Saturday, Oct. 31, as three Pirates raced at the state championships in Colorado Springs.

Despite both the boys' and girls' teams falling just short in qualifying at the regional meet, Rylan Ash, Weston Sweet and Madi Stretton all competed individually in Colorado Springs with Pagosa Springs across their chest.

Even amidst the historic flooding in Pagosa Springs in the week leading up to the race and the days after, the three athletes were still able to represent their community on the course.

"We're just really grateful to be there," Kurz said. "It was great. I mean, one of the referees was like, we're so glad you made it and heard about the flooding. And so I was glad that we were able to make it there and represent our community and looking forward to hopefully more kids having the opportunity."

On the boys' side, Ash finished 39th with a time of 17 minutes, 26.10 seconds and Sweet placed 95th with a time of 18:18.20.

Stretton, the lone Pagosa Springs girl who competed, placed 79th with a time of 22:03.50.

Even though the course that they raced on isn't necessarily fast, according to Kurz, Stretton ran a time on par with the times she ran at the fastest courses of the season.

"She was smiling during the race, looked like she was having a good time and just really enjoying a really good culmination of her four-year career," Kurz said. "So, that was real special for her. She wasn't projected to qualify place-wise, but she was able to go and that was just phenomenal for her because she's an extremely hard worker. It was great to see her finish off her career with a real great race."

While Ash and Sweet didn't have their best races of the season on Saturday, Kurz indicated he is confident that they'll be back, hopefully with the rest of their team, in the next two years — and he suggested that they're hungry to get better.

"It's really good to have two guys run that course and have experience with this so they can share that with the younger guys," said Kurz.

Overall, Kurz explained he was really impressed with what he saw out of the teams, both boys and girls, this season.

The dedication, specifically, to get better in such a tough division stood out to Kurz as the season went on this year.

Kurz emphasized that the team is losing leaders. Stretton, Lucy Rivera, Adi Oelking, Isaac Hanto and Stetson Osborn all graduate at the end of the school year, but their impact will continue to be remembered.

"It's going to be tough to fill their shoes," Kurz said. "They're just great leaders in that they work hard every workout, put 100 percent effort in. They've got great attitudes."

Still, Kurz indicated he is excited for next year and the opportunities and challenges it will bring. The team this year was really young and really deep, and Kurz stated he is excited to see the athletes continue to dig deep and not only become better runners, but better versions of themselves.

"[We] continue to build that culture," Kurz said, "and just creating a program that is a competitive program that also just helps these kids grow character-wise and is just a positive outlet for them. That's the overarching goal: becoming better versions of themselves and challenge themselves to do things that they didn't think were possible."



Photo courtesy Janine Emmets

Senior Jackson Chaney leads the front of the second wave of JV boys at last weekend's Colorado High School Cycling League State Championships.



Photo courtesy Janine Emmets

Senior Aaron Sowle vies for his position in the start of the JV boys' race at the Colorado High School Cycling League State Championships.

DUST2 team caps off season at state championship

By Adelyn Hittle
DUST2

To put an end to another spectacular racing season, 10 DUST2 racers traveled to Glenwood Springs, Colo., for the Colorado High School Cycling League State Championships that took place last weekend (Oct. 30-31).

The race was situated around the Spring Valley Campus of Colorado Mountain College and included doubletrack and gravel hills, as well as fun, flowy downhill singletrack and a technical singletrack climb to come into the finish. Each lap included 5.6 miles and 653 feet of elevation gain from a starting elevation of 5,760 feet.

Because the race took place on Halloween, the theme of the race was "haunted beach party," and the DUST2 team came prepared. It showed up with Hawaiian shirts, beach balls and plenty of spooky decorations to bring some stoke to the race.

Due to very rainy weather in the area, the race was postponed from Oct. 24-25 to preserve trail conditions. Instead of a two-day event as the state race has been in the past, the race was also condensed to one day because of the predicted rainy weather for Sunday, which made for a very full day as the race course had to accommodate 792 racers from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Beginning the first race of the day were the freshmen boys at 8 a.m. completing two laps. Elias Gorman was the sole DUST2 racer competing in this category, and he raced in with a time of one hour, three minutes to place 91st out of 142 participants. Gorman added 245 points to the team total.

Following shortly after the freshmen boys were the junior varsity boys at 9:25 a.m. with two Pagosa Springs racers. Jackson Chaney (senior, legacy rider) raced in first for Pagosa Springs with a time of 58 minutes for two laps to place 116th (260 points). Aaron Sowle (senior, legacy) rolled in shortly after Chaney with a time of 59 minutes to place 120th (256 points). There were 134 participants in this category.

At 10:50 a.m., the next category took the course. This category was junior varsity girls with one DUST2 rider. Gianna Shaeffer (junior) represented this category and logged an impressive time of 1:05 to place 35th and add 354 points to the team total. There were 99 participants in this category.

The sophomore girls took the course next at 12:15 p.m. with one rider representing DUST2. Quinn Howard raced across the line with a time of 1:09 for two laps to place 38th and tally 306 more points for the DUST2 team. There were 57 participants in this category.

Beginning next was the sophomore boys' category at 1:40 p.m. with DUST2's largest representation of three riders. Ward Halterman was the first Pagosa Springs rider to race in for two laps with a time of 1:01 to place 94th out of 134 (242 points). Coming in shortly after was Amon Phillips with a time of 1:03 to place 105th (231 points). Drake Anderson followed behind Phillips with a time of 1:11 to place 124th (212 points).

As the sophomores began, so did the rain, making the course slippery and muddy, but the riders persevered.

The varsity boys and girls were the last to race the course, with the boys beginning at 3:15 p.m., and the girls following a few minutes after.

The varsity riders raced three laps on the course, but, due to the trail conditions from the sophomore race, part of the course was cut off to make each lap around 1 mile shorter.

Justin Sewell (senior, legacy rider) was the only DUST2 varsity boys rider, and he raced in with an impressive time of 1:06 for three laps to place 61st out of 99 competitors and add 350 points to the team.

In the varsity girls' category, Adelyn Hittle was the only Pagosa Springs rider. Hittle raced in for three laps with a time of 1:13 to place 28th out of 58 riders and add 411 points to the team total.

The Yeti Skills course, a technical short course for riders to test their bike-handling skills, was set up during the day. Coaches Janine Emmets and Weston Phillips logged the fastest times on the course for the female and male coach categories, respectively.

At the awards ceremony following all of the races, DUST2 was honored with placing third in the Golden Pick Award, which is an award given to teams that log the most trail work hours per athlete. The team put in the work this year, and it shows in the local Pagosa Springs trails.

Overall, the team tallied up 2,867 points on the day, and had a fantastic day of racing.

This state championship race signaled the end of the Colorado High School Cycling League's 2026 season, and the end of the six DUST2 seniors' spectacular racing careers.

The whole team was thankful to make it home safely from the race before the flood began to worsen.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN

Section B

The Pagosa Springs SUN — November 5, 2026

Honoring Our TROOPS & VETERANS



We proudly salute America's veterans and active-duty military whose courage and dedication have protected our freedom and our way of life for generations.

We recognize their service and their sacrifice, their selflessness and their bravery, their hard work and their faith.

Please join us in celebrating the men and women of our military, past and present, this Veterans Day.



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Private First Class
Atascadero, CA



Donald Aarvold
U.S. Army
Private
Pagosa Springs, CO



Chuck Allen
U.S. Navy Seabees
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Howard Allston
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Connor Aragon
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Staff Sergeant
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U.S. Army
SP4/E4
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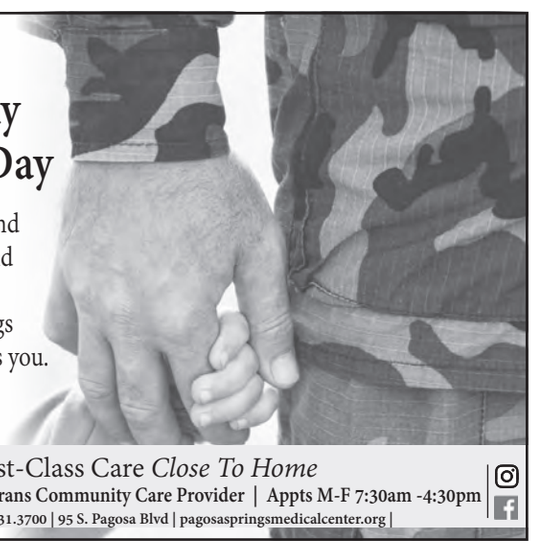
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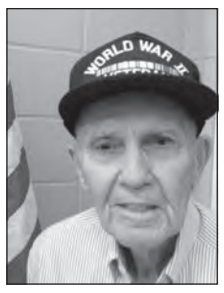
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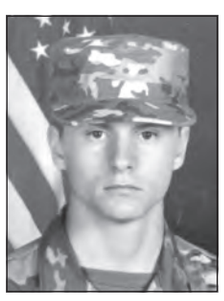
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U.S. Navy
GMG 2



Harold L. Smith
U.S. Navy
Coxswain V6
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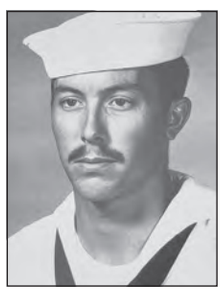
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Pagosa Springs, CO



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U.S. Navy
AMS 3



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U.S. Navy
E3
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SP4
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U.S. Army
Pagosa Springs, CO



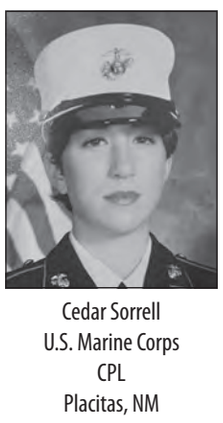
Robert Snow
U.S. Army
Arboles, CO



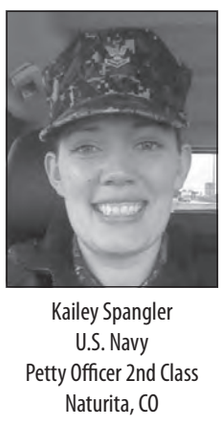
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U.S. Marine Corps
Corporal
Chicago, IL



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U.S. Army
Specialist E-4
Pagosa Springs, CO



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CPL
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Naturita, CO



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2nd Class Petty Officer
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Port William, OH



Vera Stern
U.S. Navy WAVES
Yeoman 2nd Class
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Private First Class
Pagosa Springs, CO



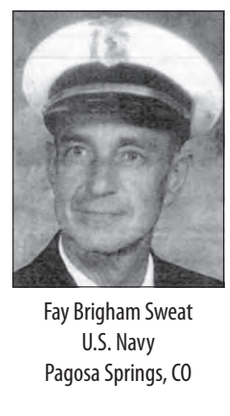
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Imperial Beach, CA



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Aurora, CO



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U.S. Air Force
Master Sgt.
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Lisa Thomas
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PFC E-3
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SPC
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SPC
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U.S. Navy
EM/3rd Class
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Lance Corporal
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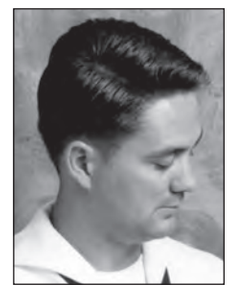
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Lt. Colonel
Pagosa Springs, CO



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Thoreau, NM



Scott Torres
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Joe Torres III
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E5
Thoreau, NM



Joe Torres Jr.
Staff Sergeant E6
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Neil Umali
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E5 Staff Sergeant
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PFC WWII



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U.S. Marine Corps
Lt. Col. (retired)
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J. Mencor Valdez
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SGT E5
Pagosa Springs, CO



Joe M. Valdez
U.S. Army
Private
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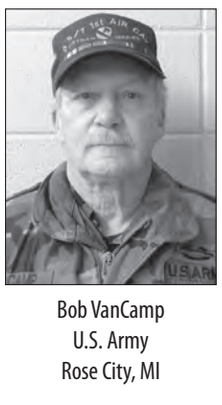
Tony Valdez
U.S. Army
SPC4 Medic
Denver, CO



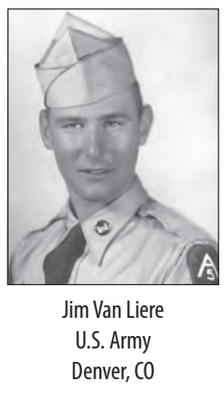
Edward J. Valentine
U.S. Army
PFC
Cleveland, OH



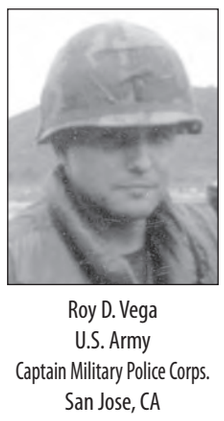
Val Valentine
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Pagosa Springs, CO



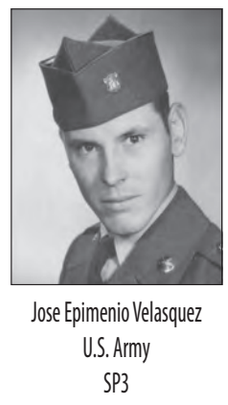
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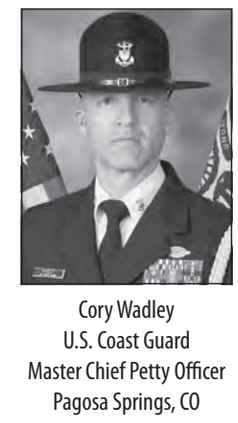
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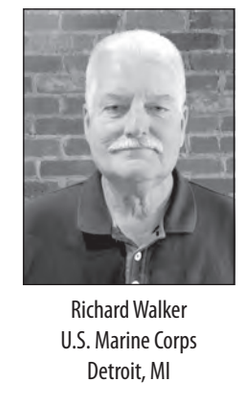
E.D. Velazquez
U.S. Navy
2nd Class
Pagosa Springs, CO



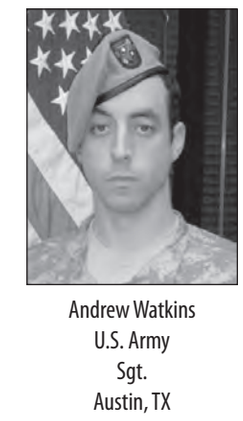
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How to connect with food resources during flood recovery

Healthy Archuleta

As Archuleta County continues to respond to and recover from the recent historic flooding, Healthy Archuleta reminds community members that local food pantries are available to help individuals and families who may need additional food support during this challenging time.

Through the Archuleta Food Pantry Network, community members can connect with local organizations providing food assistance.

More information on the Archuleta Food Pantry Network and the pantry schedules can be found on Healthy Archuleta's website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/food-pantry-network.html.

Residents are encouraged to contact food pantries directly to learn about distribution hours and access during this flood response period.

Food Pantries in Archuleta include:

• Community United Methodist Church: 434 Lewis St., (970) 264-5508.

• Our Community Eats: 197 Navajo Trail Drive, (970) 902-0130.

• Pope John Paul II Catholic Church: 353 S. Pagosa Blvd., (970) 731-5744.

• St. Patrick's Episcopal Church: 225 S. Pagosa Boulevard, (970) 731-5801.

• TARA's Helping Hands: Arboles, (970) 987-5033.

Healthy Archuleta can also help connect residents with food resources. Individuals and families who need assistance identifying an available pantry, or have questions about local food support, can call Healthy Archuleta at (401) 206-4579.

The Food Pantry Network brings together local organizations to strengthen access to nutritious food, coordinate resources and support neighbors throughout Archuleta County. During flood recovery, this collaboration is especially important in helping residents find the assistance they need.

For more information about the Food Pantry Network, visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/food-pantry-network.html.

Amid flood recovery, Salvation Army continues helping Archuleta county neighbors

Archuleta County Salvation Army

As our Archuleta County community begins recovering from two devastating flood events, the Archuleta County Salvation Army extends its thoughts and prayers to everyone affected. We are grateful to the many residents who have stepped forward to help their neighbors during this difficult time.

Our local Salvation Army has been assisting with the emergency response by providing relief to National Guard units deployed to our community and helping families displaced by the flooding.

Meanwhile, preparations are underway for the Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle fundraising campaign, which supports local individuals and families facing hardship throughout the year and during the holiday season.

We recognize that many residents are already devoting their time and energy to flood recovery, while others are dealing with the effects of the flooding themselves. Those immediate needs come first, and we understand that this may not be the right time for everyone to volunteer.

For those who are able, even an hour or two of bell ringing during the holiday season can make a meaningful difference. Ninety percent of the Red Kettle donations stay in Archuleta County and help us continue serving local residents in need.

As our community faces the challenges ahead, the Salvation Army remains committed to helping our neighbors, both in times of crisis and throughout the year.

Those interested in volunteering for the 2026 Red Kettle campaign can sign up online at https://tinyurl.com/ArchuletaVolunteers or find information on our local Salvation Army volunteer Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/RedKettle.Volunteers/.

For further information, contact Tom Bruin at tom.redkettle@gmail.com or call (224) 730-7910.

Live Performers

Thursday
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

Sunday
Neon Mallard: Karaoke, 7 p.m.

Wednesday
Cues and Brews: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

The PREVIEW is a publication of

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Pagosa Community Initiative steps up flood recovery efforts

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

As the Pagosa Springs community responds to the devastating effects of recent flooding, Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) is helping local families meet immediate needs while connecting residents with longer-term support.

PCI's shelves are stocked with emergency supplies, including cleaning products, toiletries, paper goods, first-aid items and other essentials. Thanks to the generosity of community members, PCI is prepared to assist neighbors who may be facing difficult and uncertain days ahead.

The organization's support extends beyond supplies. PCI can help residents navigate challenges and connect with community resources for housing, food, mental-health support, emergency financial assistance and family support. Residents who are unsure where to turn are encouraged to contact PCI for guidance and help exploring available options.

"We're here to listen, help you explore your options and connect you with the support you need," PCI's executive director, Rebecca Tenpenny, shared in a community message.

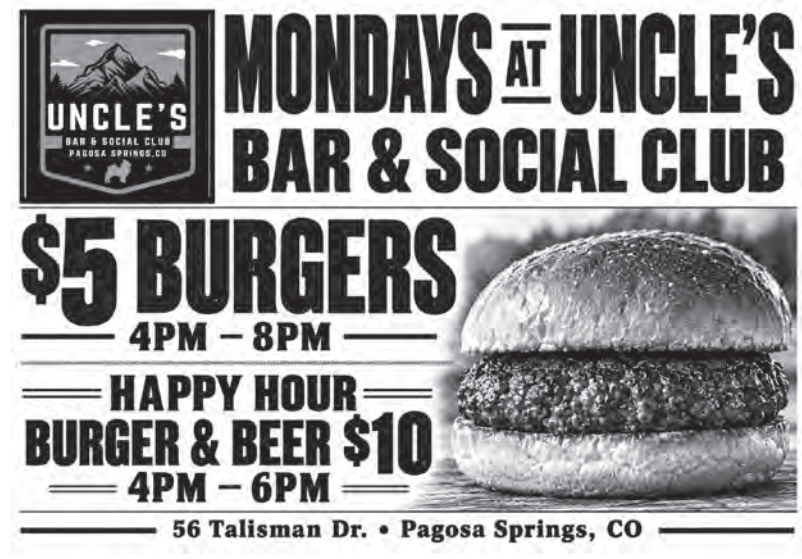
Donations support local families

PCI is asking community members to help sustain flood-response and recovery efforts. One hundred percent of donations received through PCI's website or other channels will go directly toward helping local families affected by the flooding.

Contributions of any size can make a difference. Donations will help PCI purchase emergency supplies and provide financial assistance to families in need. Community members can donate online at www.pagosacommunityinitiative.org.

PCI also welcomes community support through volunteering and donations of needed supplies. Individuals and organizations wishing to coordinate assistance are encouraged to contact PCI before making large or specialized donations so resources can be directed where they are most useful.

■ See Recovery on next page







Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society to discuss history of Colorado's railroads at Saturday meeting

By Keena Carstensen
Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society will hold its regular monthly meeting this Saturday, Nov. 7.

We will meet from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St., in the fellowship hall.

The program will begin at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a brief business meeting.

Did you know that Pagosa Springs was served by passenger rail from 1900 through 1935? The town's original passenger depot still stands as a reminder of this important chapter in local history.

Residents are invited to join West Jackson, Pagosa Springs native and dedicated rail enthusiast, for a presentation exploring the history of Colorado's railroads, with a focus on Southern Colorado. The program will cover the Denver & Rio Grande system, the San Juan Extension, the Rio Grande & Pagosa Springs Railroad, the Rio Grande, Pagosa & Northern Railroad, and the Pagosa Lumber Company.

Discover how these rail lines supported commerce, transportation and daily life in Pagosa Springs during the early 1900s. It's sure to be an enjoyable trip through local history.

The genealogical society meets on the first Saturday of each month. It hosts guest speakers on a wide range of topics relating to genealogy and history, including the rich history of our area.

For more information, contact Keena Carstensen at keenaruntherace@gmail.com.

Pagosa Weather to host second annual Winter Weather Wonder event

By Arleen Prochazka
Pagosa Weather

Pagosa Weather forecasters Shawn and Arleen Prochazka will help the community prepare for winter by hosting their second annual Winter Weather Wonder event on Friday, Nov. 13, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse.

This annual gathering is a free event and open to the public.

Pagosa Weather, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation, was founded in 2016 to provide meteorological information and education and give back to the community. The organization's leaders, Arleen and Shawn Prochazka, are members of the American Meteorological Society and are Archuleta County Weather Ready Nation Ambassadors. They partner with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to inspire the community to be better informed and prepared, thus helping to minimize, mitigate and avoid the impacts of natural disasters.

They were recognized by NOAA at the national level as 2022 WRN Ambassadors of Excellence. They are also the National Weather Service Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network coordinators for Archuleta County.

"What's in store for us this winter? After two abysmal winters, this snow season has got to be better. There's a lot of talk about the Super El Niño this year, but will its influence give us more snow in southwest Colorado? Join us at this event to find out," said Arleen Prochazka.

Arleen and Shawn Prochazka will provide their annual winter outlook, then special guest Jessie Krebs, with the Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, will discuss "Handling Winter Emergencies and Survival" — important information for skiers, snowboarders, snowshoers and winter travelers.

Event schedule

- 5:30 p.m.: Appetizers.
- 6 p.m.: Winter outlook.
- 6:45 p.m.: Snow-themed cookies for dessert.
- 7 p.m.: "Handling Winter Emergencies and Survival."

A cash bar provided by the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs.

Get there early: The first 50 attendees get a free Pagosa Weather windshield ice scraper/snow brush.

For additional information, contact Pagosa Weather at PagosaWeather@gmail.com.

Recovery

■ continued from previous page

Financial contributions are often the most flexible way to support disaster recovery, allowing organizations to purchase supplies and respond to changing needs.

Help is available

Residents affected by the flooding, or anyone who knows a family in need, can contact PCI to ask about available resources and assistance.

PCI is purchasing supplies for families and accepting applications for financial assistance as recovery continues.

The PCI Family Resource Center is open at 550 B Hot Springs Blvd.:

- Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For information, assistance or referrals, call (970) 585-6461.

PCI can help connect residents with support related to:

- Emergency supplies.
- Food and basic necessities.
- Housing resources.
- Mental-health support.
- Emergency financial assistance.
- Family support.
- Flood recovery referrals.

Residents facing immediate life-safety emergencies should call 911. For other flood-related needs, contacting PCI as soon as possible can help connect families with available resources and next steps.

As Pagosa recovers, PCI is encouraging neighbors to support one another through donations, volunteering and direct outreach. Together, the community can help local families recover and rebuild, one household at a time.

To donate or learn more, visit www.pagosacommunityinitiative.org.

To request help, call (970) 585-6461 or visit the PCI Family Resource Center at 550 B Hot Springs Blvd. Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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U.S. Marine Corps birthday celebration planned for Nov. 10

By Ed Robinson
Pagosa Springs Marine Corps Birthday Committee

On Tuesday, Nov. 10, Pagosa Springs-area Marines and their guests are invited to celebrate the 251st birthday of the United States Marine Corps at Boss Hogg's Restaurant and Grill, 157 Navajo Trail Drive, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Wilderness Room on the restaurant's main floor.

The celebration will feature the traditional cake-cutting with a Mameluke sword and a video message from both the commandant and the sergeant major of the Marine Corps. The oldest and the youngest Marine in attendance will also be honored.

Attendees may order food and beverages from the menu at their own expense, with a 20 percent gratuity added. Complimentary birthday cake will be served.

Other service members, especially U.S. Navy corpsmen, are welcome. Dress is casual; however, uniforms are always welcome.

Contact Ed Robinson, (970) 731-0718, with any questions.

Semper fidelis.

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970.582.2011

Blood donations needed: Drive set for Nov. 18

By Sharee Grazda
Special to The PREVIEW

Holiday travel, winter weather, seasonal illnesses,and busy year-end schedules often result in fewer blood donations during the winter months.

Patient needs, however, don't take a holiday.

Hospitals rely on blood donations every day to help accident victims, cancer patients, surgical patients, new mothers and others in need of lifesaving transfusions.

You can help strengthen the blood supply this winter by registering and attending our next drive scheduled at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse on Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Local volunteer Sharee Grazda can be reached at (970) 946-2760 by call or text to answer your questions or schedule an appointment for you.

You may also register online at Vitalant.org, or call Vitalant at 1-877-258-4825.

Thank you for caring and sharing this winter season.

Oktoberfest fundraiser rescheduled

Our Savior Lutheran School

Due to the recent weather, Our Savior Lutheran School has rescheduled its Oktoberfest fundraiser.

The event will now take place on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Due to the postponement, a few changes have been made to the event. The night will still include a catered dinner, live music, open bar, and silent and live auctions. Unfortunately, there will not be a pig roast, but there will be pulled pork, spicy chicken, mashed potatoes, coleslaw and Hawaiian rolls, and Mountain Alibi will provide live music during the event.

Tickets remain available for purchase at oslcpagosa.org, where you can also see the silent and live auction items. Tickets are $50 for a single ticket and $300 for a table of eight.







Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Volunteers ready to prepare this year's Community Thanksgiving Meal, to be served by St. Patrick's Episcopal Church on Thursday, Nov. 19.

Early Community Thanksgiving Meal set for Nov. 19

By Anthony Aldwell
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Amid the recent difficult days in Pagosa Country, one tradition will continue: The early Pagosa Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be available to all on Thursday, Nov. 19, one week ahead of the actual Thanksgiving holiday.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will again sponsor a full and free Thanksgiving dinner, but instead of distributing the meal at the Catholic Parish Hall on Lewis Street downtown, this take-away meal will be available uptown at St. Patrick's parking lot, 225 South Pagosa Blvd., just south of the hospital, from noon until 1:30 p.m. or until the food runs out.

In light of the change of the distribution location from downtown to uptown, Mountain Express Transit (MET) will provide two shuttles on Nov. 19 from the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St. to St. Patrick's at 12 and 12:45 p.m., and return downtown after riders have received their meal.

All are welcome to participate in Pagosa's community celebration of Thanksgiving.



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Join your forecasters ***Arleen and Shawn*** for an evening of snow talk, appetizers by ***Farrago Events,*** desserts from ***Cookies by Tracey,*** and a ***Rotary Club*** cash bar

Friday, November 13th • 5:30-8:30 p.m.
at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse

Special guest **Jessie Krebs** from Upper San Juan Search and Rescue to discuss "Handling Winter Emergencies & Survival".



Pagosa Weather

Tickets now on sale for Curtains Up Pagosa's 'Honk, the Musical,' set for Nov. 19-21

By Anthony Aldwell
Curtains Up Pagosa

Pagosa Springs' community theater, Curtains Up Pagosa, will present "Honk, the Musical," based on Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale "The Ugly Duckling," at 7 p.m. on Nov. 19 and 20, with a 2 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m. show on Saturday, Nov 21.

This lively musical comedy, to be performed at Pagosa Springs High School, will feature the on-stage, backstage and pit orchestra talents of more than 50 Pagosa community members.

Tickets are now available online at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa. Adult tickets online are $22.50, while senior and student tickets are $18.34.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Save the dates for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

• Nov. 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., weather dependent: "Refresh Body, Mind and Spirit Sessions." Call or text (970) 309-6067.

The center also offers educational classes and workshops.

About us

The SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is a 501(c)(3). We are an all-inclusive community honoring all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine. We are the "Good Vibe Tribe" who practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

The vision of SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is to empower each participating member to become their "best self." Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through self empowerment and awareness of the creator's divinity.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at Xanadu private retreat. Obtain information by joining us, emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com or texting/calling (970) 510-0309.





The Mullins-Nickerson American Legion Post #108

Would like to INVITE ALL VETERANS to Our Community's Annual

Veterans Day Appreciation Events & Ceremonies

November 4th through 11th — Operation Green Light Program

Show support by shining a green light at your business or home lighting up our sky green

November 9th: Honoring Service and Teaching Respect for the Flag

Noon — The Honor Guard & Daughters of American Revolution collaborate to demonstrate a Flag Presentation & History for 5th graders at Pagosa Springs Middle School

November 10th: Marines Anniversary Celebration

6 p.m. — The Marines of Post #108 are hosting their annual Marine Celebration at Boss Hoggs

November 11th: Veterans Day

7:30-10 a.m. — 23rd Annual Veterans Breakfast Hosted by the Pagosa Springs 8th Grade Class held at the Community Center.

9 a.m. — The Color Guard will have a Flag Presentation Ceremony

11 a.m. — The Honor Guard will have a formal ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. The San Juan Squadron will begin our ceremony with the Missing Man Formation at 11 a.m. SHARP.

4 p.m. — The Knights of Columbus will be Hosting a free spaghetti dinner to all Veterans at John Paul II

November 14th: Veterans Dinner & Dance

5-9 p.m. — Vets4Vets is hosting a Dinner & Dance at the PLPOA Clubhouse. The Color Guard will Begin Opening Ceremony at 5 p.m.

Ways to show support

• Attend and Support Local Community Ceremonies

• Donate to our local Vets4Vets Organization. This goes to our Colorado Gives and this Month you can double your donation helping with local outreach

Or, by Simply saying, "Thank you," or Welcome them home

SCAN ME



Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Scott Morehead, Cameron Vargas and Tim Moore wait aboard the Orca in "Thingamajig Theatre Company's The Shark Is Broken," playing through Nov. 15.

A delayed goodbye for the Addams Family, and more trouble aboard the Orca on tap for Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By Samantha Luck
Thingamajig Theatre Company

The trouble with actors, as "The Shark Is Broken" gleefully suggests, is that they do not necessarily stop performing when the camera does. The trouble with the Addams family is that they cannot quite manage to behave when company comes over. Both problems will be on display this week at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Recent flooding in Pagosa Springs has disrupted far more than the local theater calendar. Among the changes is the postponed finale of Thingamajig Theatre Company's teen production of "The Addams Family Young@Part."

Originally scheduled for Nov. 1, the performance has been rescheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7, at 3 p.m. It is a small adjustment in the context of a much larger community emergency, but an important one for the young cast, who now have the chance to take their final bows together.

The story begins with a secret, which is rarely a promising foundation for family harmony. Wednesday Addams (Olive Fladwood) has fallen in love with Lucas Beineke, a boy whose family is alarmingly normal. She asks her father, Gomez (Finlay Moore), not to tell her mother, Morticia (Leela Simpson). Gomez, whose devotion to Morticia is practically a full-time occupation, must attempt the unfamiliar art of deceiving his wife. Then Lucas and his parents arrive for dinner.

The jokes come dressed in black, but the questions beneath them are recognizably human. What happens when a child grows up into someone her parents did not quite anticipate? And who, exactly, gets to decide what a normal family looks like? Thingamajig's young cast has a fine assortment of eccentrics to work with, but the show's affection for its characters is what makes the mischief stick.

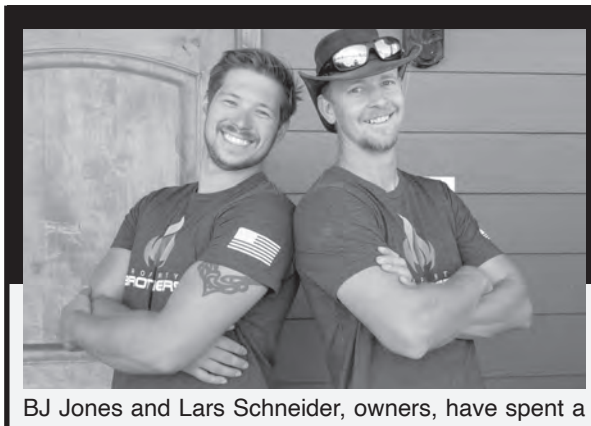
There is a different kind of family quarrel taking place aboard the Orca in "The Shark Is Broken." Set during the notoriously difficult filming of

■ See Center on next page

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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Leela Simpson performs as Morticia Addams and Finlay Moore as Gomez Addams dance a tango in "The Addams Family Young@Part." After a delay due to flooding, the teen company will present its final performation on Saturday, Nov. 7.

Center

■ continued from previous page

"Jaws," the play traps Robert Shaw, Roy Scheider and Richard Dreyfuss together while their mechanical co-star repeatedly malfunctions. The shark may be out of commission, but the actors' egos are in excellent working order.

Written by Ian Shaw and Joseph Nixon, and directed by Laura Moore, the comedy stars Tim Moore as Robert Shaw, Scott Morehead as Roy Scheider and Cameron Vargas as Richard Dreyfuss.

Their conversations wander through ambition, insecurity, politics, fame and the uneasy chemistry of three men who need one another professionally but might prefer a little more personal space. In a play about a movie monster, the most entertaining dangers are entirely human.

"The Shark Is Broken" performs Thursday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 8, at 3 p.m. Its run continues through Nov. 15. That makes Saturday an unusual double feature: a 3 p.m. visit to the Addams mansion, followed by a 7 p.m. return to the Orca. Neither gathering is likely to end in polite conversation.

Both shows are presented at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. Tickets and information are available at pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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Topics include:
· Signs of heart attack or stroke
· Adult, child, and infant CPR and AED use
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· Drowning response and prevention
· Opioid-associated life-threatening emergencies

Cost: $55 per person

Instruction time: ~4 hours

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

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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, Nov. 5

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Stretching and Mobility Class. 9:45-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those ages 55 and up.

Tai Chi. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. An Archuleta Senior Center program.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Taylor will answer basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., and provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Bring your device charger and passwords.

Healthy Archuleta Growers and Producers Forum. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library, Community Room A. The topic will be "Water Wise."

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Social time will begin at 6 p.m., followed by an educational presentation at 7 p.m.

San Juan Outdoor Club. 6 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. There will be social time and snacks at 6 p.m., followed by a presentation by mountaineer Phil Henderson at 6:30 p.m.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Shark is Broken.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Friday, Nov. 6

Baby Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For ages 0-2. Join for stories, songs and giggles. Stay and play after storytime and connect with fellow caregivers.

Good News Club. 1:15-3:15 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email melanie.jonason@att.net.

Saturday, Nov. 7

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. Register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. West Jackson will talk about Colorado's railroad history.

Puzzle Palooza. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Put together some puzzles and have some family fun.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Addams Family Musical.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Shark is Broken.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, Nov. 8

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Shark is Broken.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Surviving the Holidays. 5-7 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Find help in your grief, especially during the holidays. For more information, call (970) 731-2205.

Monday, Nov. 9

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Drop-in Session: Future of the Library. 10 a.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

Drop-in Session: Future of the Library. 3 p.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

Conversational Spanish. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. A Sisson Library program.

Drop-in Session: Future of the Library. 5 p.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

DivorceCare. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church library, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. DivorceCare is a program that provides a safe environment for persons who have gone through, are going through or are considering going through a divorce. You can register online or join at any class during the 13-week session. For more information, call Jim and Holly Shook at (951) 733-1893 or email jshookup@gmail.com, or the church at (970) 731-2205 or centerpointchurchpagosa@gmail.com. There is no cost for the program.

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Stretching and Mobility Class. 9:45-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those ages 55 and up.

Coffee and Kiddos Playgroup. 10-11 a.m., Aspire Medical Services and Education, 602 S. 8th St. For those with kids ages birth to 3 years old.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Rummikub. 1:15-3:45 p.m., Senior Center.

Drop-in Session: Future of the

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Library. 2 p.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to discuss "A Mystery of Mysteries: The Death and Life of Edgar Allen Poe" by Mark Dawidziak. Books are available to check out from the library.

Cricut Card-making Makerspace Class. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. The library will provide all the materials for you to make a greeting card.

Teen Secret Snacks. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 14-17. See if you really know your favorite treats. Join for tasty treats and a few laughs as you try a few different secret snacks. Get them all right for a small prize.

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

U.S. Marine Corps 251st Birthday Celebration. 6-8 p.m., Boss Hogg's Restaurant and Saloon, 57 Navajo Trail Drive. Food and drink may be ordered; there will be complementary birthday cake. Other service members are welcome. Contact Ed Robinson, (970) 731-0718, with any questions.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-year-olds where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Drop-in Session: Future of the Library (Parent and Caregiver Focus). 11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

Archuleta County Republican Women. Noon-1 p.m., Boss Hogg's Restaurant.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train Dominoes. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mindful Drawing. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Drop-in Session: Future of the Library. 2 p.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

Legal Clinic. 2-3:40 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via 20-minute appointments. Registration opens Nov. 1 and space is limited. Registration is required. Call (970) 264-2209.

Make Your Own Claw Machine. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-10. Learn how to make a claw machine to move around, drop and grab whatever you can think of.

Drop-in Session: Future of the Library. 6 p.m., Sisson Library. Talk about challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how the library can improve. Sign up at www.pagosalibrary.org or call (970) 264-2209.

Order of the Eastern Star Peace and Harmony Chapter #158. 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 277 Lewis St. Call Donna at (970) 946-8201 for more information.

Thursday, Nov. 12

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Stretching and Mobility Class. 9:45-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those ages 55 and up.

End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Tai Chi. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. An Archuleta Senior Center program.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Taylor will answer basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., and provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Bring your device charger and passwords.

Tween Secret Snacks. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 11-13. See if you really know your favorite treats. Join for tasty treats and a few laughs as you try a few different secret snacks. Get them all right for a small prize.

Friday, Nov. 13

Good News Club. 1:15-3:15 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email melanie.jonason@att.net.

Bingo. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Crafternoon: Paper Towel Roll Towers. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 3-5 with caregivers. Create a magical tower of your own design.

Winter Weather Wonder Event. 5:30-8:30 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse. Join Pagosa Weather's Arleen and Shawn Prochazka for a winter outlook, as well as Jesse Krebs for a talk on "Handling Winter Emergencies and Survival."

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Shark is Broken.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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Preview Calendar

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Saturday, Nov. 14

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. Register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

Pagosa Springs Scrapbook and Crafters Club. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center dining room. Bring your creative and scrapbooking projects and share time with other crafters. Bring a dish to share for the potluck lunch.

LEGO Build: Robots. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Use the library's collection of LEGO bricks to create marvelous creations.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Any type and experience level of needleworker is welcome.

Oktoberfest Fundraiser. 5-9 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School, 56 Meadows Drive. Tickets are $50 or $300 for a table of eight. Tickets can be purchased at www.oslcpagosa.org.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Shark is Broken.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, Nov. 15

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Shark is Broken.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Monday, Nov. 16

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Conversational Spanish. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Span-

■ See Calendar on next page

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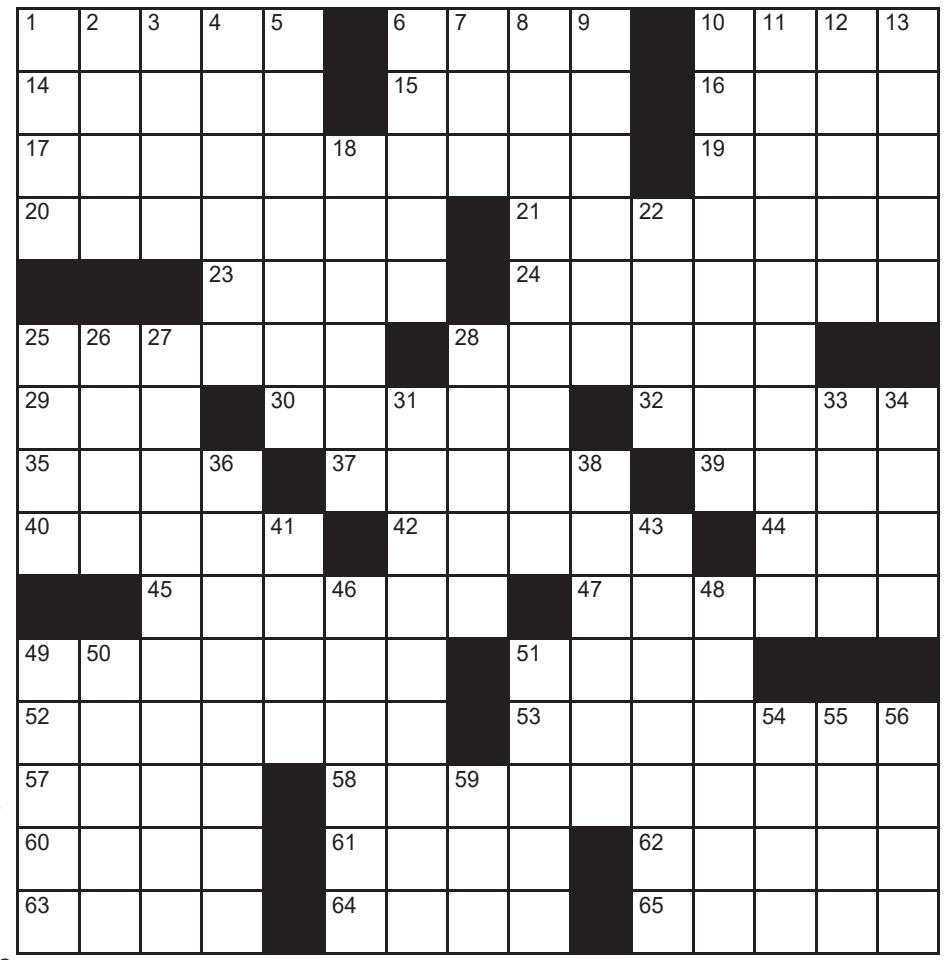
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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke



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ACROSS

1 Greet the dawn
6 Scratches up
10 Ship of Greek myth
14 Some people can't take them
15 Chills and fever
16 Sea swallow
17 Collection additions
19 Neighbor of Thailand
20 Persian Gulf nation
21 Hollywood's Portman
23 Spud's buds
24 Renowned
25 One of two evils
28 Welcomes in
29 Booze (abbr.)
30 Towels off
32 Spots to build on
35 ___ mortals
37 Per ___ (yearly)
39 Window part
40 Makes level
42 Lukewarm
44 Nashville sch.
45 Proverbs follower, for short
47 Original Mouseketeer ___ Tracey
49 Release
51 Michener work
52 Nassau's country
53 Speaking like Daffy
57 Viking war god
58 Two-sided
60 "___ Misbehavin'"
61 Ukraine city
62 One of the Pointer Sisters
63 Dog collar danglers
64 Brain scans
65 Bowling lane button

DOWN

1 "Moby Dick" captain
2 Costa ___
3 Short distance
4 Cubic meters
5 Attempted
6 Water conduits
7 Give it ___ (try)
8 Not quite winners
9 Kind of oil
10 Lost island of myth
11 Home business?
12 Often-pulled muscle
13 Beginning
18 Spoken letter "s"
22 Gets even with?
25 Weak, as an excuse
26 Mountain stat.
27 Crying shrilly
28 Pool contents?
31 Trait shapers
33 Abstract being
34 Blackball
36 Charms
38 Like some collisions
41 Con game
43 Part of Canis Major
46 On the hook, legally
48 Forcible seizure
49 German sub
50 Olympian Comaneci
51 Czechs or Poles
54 Fertility goddess
55 ___ the Great (boy detective)
56 Small fly
59 Pot-bellied pet

Answers to Previous Crossword:

O	D	D	E	R	■	A	R	A	B	■	A	R	E	S
L	E	O	N	E	■	L	O	M	E	■	B	A	R	E
A	L	L	E	G	A	T	I	O	N	■	S	I	R	I
F	I	E	■	E	X	O	S	K	E	L	E	T	O	N
■	■	F	I	N	E	S	T	■	F	I	N	A	L	E
L	A	U	R	E	L	■	E	D	I	C	T	■	■	■
A	B	L	E	R	■	P	R	I	C	E	■	A	B	M
P	U	L	S	A	T	E	■	D	E	N	T	U	R	E
S	T	Y	■	T	O	R	S	O	■	S	U	G	A	R
■	■	■	S	I	R	U	P	■	R	E	F	U	S	E
N	E	S	T	O	R	■	A	D	O	P	T	S	■	■
E	X	P	O	N	E	N	T	I	A	L	■	T	A	M
P	I	O	N	■	N	E	U	T	R	A	L	I	T	Y
A	L	O	E	■	T	I	L	T	■	T	E	N	O	R
L	E	N	S	■	S	L	A	Y	■	E	D	E	M	A

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the Wilson's snipe.

Despite being one of the most common and widespread shorebirds in North America, this bird can be difficult to spot. Its cryptic coloring and secretive nature can have you looking right at the snipe without actually seeing it. This is a solitary creature of wet fields, bogs and pond edges. It avoids areas of tall, dense vegetation, but requires the cover of sedges, rushes and cattails to duck in and hide. Feathers patterned in buff and brown with stripes and bars, which include three long buffy stripes on the back and a striped head, provide camouflage against the muddy edges where the snipe is often found.

Without having to perform weight training, this bird develops extra large pectoral muscles that can make up one-quarter of its total weight and give it a pudgy look. These muscles power the straight, strong flight this bird achieves at speeds up to 60 miles per hour, but when a snipe is flushed, it explodes in zigzagging flight that is hard for a predator to track. The term "sniper" was originally given to those British soldiers in the 1770s who were accurate enough shots to successfully hunt the snipe as a game bird.

The Wilson's snipe uses its long, straight bill to probe in the soft mud and detect and capture prey underground. The sensitive and flexible bill tip can feel insect larvae and earthworms that burrow in damp soil and open to slurp them up with the bill still buried. Eyes set far back on its head provide the snipe with vision to the front, sides and back, even while feeding with its bill buried in the mud.

The haunting winnowing sound associated with the Wilson's snipe during courtship is not a vocalization, but instead is produced in flight by air rushing over the spread outer tail feathers. Renowned wildlife recordist Kevin Colver introduced it as "A bewildering, wavering sound drifts from everywhere and yet from nowhere."

The Wilson's snipe is still common enough that it is one of only two shorebird species allowed to be hunted in the United States. Over half of the 35 shorebird species found in North America are in trouble. Unregulated hunting on their wintering grounds may be a factor in population declines.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

ish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. A Sisson Library program.

Pagosa Unplugged. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join a community of local musicians who play for fun and learning. Jams are the first and third Mondays of each month.

DivorceCare. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church library, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. DivorceCare is a program that provides a safe environment for persons who have gone through, are going through or are considering going through a divorce. You can register online or join at any class during the 13-week session. For more information, call Jim and Holly Shook at (951) 733-1893 or email jshookup@gmail.com, or the church at (970) 731-2205 or centerpointchurchpagosa@gmail.com. There is no cost for the program.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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"You know that scene in Castaway where Tom Hanks's character is on the island and has a toothache and uses a rock to knock out his bad tooth?

A week ago, I was ready to do a Tom Hanks.

I was visiting Pagosa Springs (my happy place, but you'd hate it, you should totally never go there), and I had to get help. Black Diamond was the only practice that opened at 7:30am on Monday, so they got the call. Thankfully, they could fit me in that day. I thought I'd be told "this tooth needs to come out," and I was ready to say "SIGN ME UP." To my surprise, Dr. Nylund took a look and said the tooth looked fine, and he didn't like to meddle with teeth that can be saved. He suspected I was grinding my teeth at night, and that was the reason for my pain. He adjusted my bite while I was there and sent me away. I thought, "OK, there's no way that solved my problem...."

How wrong I was! Dr. Nylund had said it should feel better in a couple of days, and you know what? He was RIGHT! It totally worked. Once the pain subsided, I realized how grumpy I'd been for several days running. As soon as I returned home, I started wearing my night guard again. (PSA: Do not stop wearing your night guard if you've got one.)

So if you find yourself in Pagosa and need dental work (again, definitely do not go to Pagosa, it's not for you), go to Black Diamond!

- Krista J

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BLACK DIAMOND DENTAL PAGOSA SPRINGS

It's a little too late

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

Artist's Lane

It seems we aren't ready to hear until we are ready to hear. I've given my own advice to many people knowing they weren't going to take it. They had plenty of excuses.

I didn't know where our conversation would lead. I'm not an alarmist, I'm pretty peaceful.

I always feel great. No problem. Apparently, I have severe arthritis in both hips. They are shot and are bone-on-bone. I use a walker to walk because of my unsteadiness and the fear of falling.

My son-in-law reprimanded me, "You know this didn't happen overnight. You were sick before the accident. You Slade women never go to the doctor."

Because we didn't need to.

"You wouldn't walk on the Costco concrete floor because you said it hurt."

"Well, it did. I was hedging against when I would feel the pain in my back later."

My son-in-law, ready to debate, said what's been on his mind for years. "All of you should have been going for annual medical check-ups."

Why? We didn't feel that bad.

"That's no excuse. Today, you have all these things wrong with you. This didn't start two years ago. It's been going on for years."

I know. I've had an irregular heartbeat all my life. I have lived with it. Today, they have a fancy name, atrial fibrillation of the heart. It's called Afib for short. Some of the risk factors include high blood pressure, diabetes (Type 2), both which I seem to have.

The conversation had turned too serious for me. I belted out Tanya Tucker's song made famous in 1992. "Well it's a little too late to do the right thing now." I laughed in order to take the pressure off the situation.

He wasn't ready to drop the subject. He put on more pressure. "You're taking all those pills. You're just like my wife. She'll go to work when she's sick. Her sisters do the same thing."

"Because they have jobs. They need to show up. Well, the accident saved my life. I'm taking all those pills because I have things wrong with me that I didn't know before. Plus, I have to be ready to have hip surgery in December."

"That's what I'm telling you."

I turned to my daughter, "Listen to us. It used to be that all my conversations were about projects I was working on; now all I ever talk about is the next doctor visit, hospital appointments, my new primary doctor, how many times I wake up in the night, and how we will navigate the next drive to Durango. Has life come to this?"

It seems we aren't ready to hear until we are ready to hear. I've given my own advice to many people knowing they weren't going to take it. They had plenty of excuses.

I also have had my excuses. I couldn't believe I needed to go to the doctor just to go. I came from healthy stock. Our three girls shoveled snow and mud, worked alongside my husband and son hauling wood and rocks, holding a board, adding an extra room and painting.

Who needed a doctor? Living on the Blanco, without running water, and without an electric pole or telephone lines, conditioned all of us for tough situations. Two years ago, during the shrimp boil, with over one hundred people attending, the well went out, no water for the guests, but my children had the shrimp boil anyway. The guests learned how to flush the toilet with 1-gallon-jar of water and a twist of the wrist. No big deal.

The Blanco Fire and the 10-day evacuation was a bump in the road, we took it in stride. Our whole family moved to a ranch home and my children didn't miss a day of work. A week later, to thank the people who helped in the fire and all the neighborhood who had to evacuate with us, our children had their annual shrimp boil. More than 150 came to the celebration. The fire came close, but no one was hurt and none of the houses were lost. We have all gone on with our lives. We all made it without a scratch.

So, when my son-in-law chided me about not having a yearly checkup, I let his words roll off my back. I am also very aware that I have some serious problems, but it's a little too late to do the right thing now. All I can do is repair what is wrong.

Words mean nothing until we need advice. None is taken until one is ready to hear. When reality sets in, then we will roll up our sleeves, let them take blood samples, prick the finger, take the numbers on the scales as truth and make scheduled follow-up appointments.

Final brushstroke: Today, it's a little too late, but I am ready to learn what I need to know. I'm taking my medicine faithfully, heeding test results, making sure to be at all my doctor appointments. I'll do everything I need to do to before this hip surgery. I'm ready to throw off this walker and start driving again.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

HUD Publisher's Notice

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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SUDOKU

		6						
			9	2				
	7			4				8
	8	3					2	
					2		6	
			5			1		
6							8	9
		4	3					5
5			6		9	4		

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

ANSWER:

2	7	4	9	1	6	8	3	5
5	1	6	7	8	3	4	9	2
9	8	3	4	5	2	7	1	6
4	9	1	8	3	5	2	6	7
3	6	8	2	9	7	5	4	1
7	2	5	1	6	4	3	8	9
8	5	2	6	4	1	9	7	3
6	4	7	3	2	9	1	5	8
1	3	9	5	7	8	6	2	4

Honoring our veterans: a lifetime of service and sacrifice

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

Veterans Day is a special opportunity to pause, reflect and express our heartfelt gratitude to the men and women who have served our country in the United States Armed Forces.

At Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI), we believe it is important to celebrate Veterans Day because freedom, security and the opportunities we enjoy today have been protected by the courage and sacrifice of those who answered our nation's call.

Veterans Day is more than a date on the calendar; it is a reminder that behind every uniform is a person with a story, a family and a lifetime of experiences. Recognizing our veterans allows us to honor their dedication, remember their sacrifices and ensure that their service is never forgotten.

At ASI, we also believe it is especially important to recognize older adults for their service, contributions and the wisdom they bring to our community.

Many of the seniors we serve have spent their lives protecting our freedoms, raising families, supporting their neighbors and helping build the communities we enjoy today.

They deserve more than a simple thank you; they deserve respect, appreciation, companionship and continued opportunities to feel valued and connected.

As we observe Veterans Day, we encourage everyone to reach out to a veteran, listen to their stories, offer a sincere word of gratitude or simply let them know their service matters.

At ASI, honoring our veterans and older adults reflects our commitment to strengthening community connections, preserving dignity and ensuring that those who have given so much to others know how much they mean to us.

To all our veterans, thank you for your service, your courage and your sacrifice. We are forever grateful.

Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving closures

ASI will be closed on Wednesday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day.

ASI will also be closed for Thanksgiving, Nov. 26, and Nov. 27.

No meals or services will be provided on those days.

Senior Conversations

The very popular Senior Conversations with local Bill Salmansohn takes place on Mondays from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Salmansohn brings to the conversations a variety of topics designed to stimulate discussions within a safe and comfortable environment as we explore our well-being and shared experiences.

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others in the Archuleta community, fostering sharing and friendships.

Snacks will be provided.

Afterward, hosted by Robin Williams, stay for a get-together created for those who wish to continue the conversation. This opportunity is typically from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., following Senior Conversations. The group occasionally reconvenes as an informal gathering at various local restaurants.

Stretching and mobility classes

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. at the Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center.

The stretching and mobility classes for adults age 55 or better are designed to help build balance in the body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of techniques that can help enhance overall movement efficiency.

Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

The program is instructed by local ballet dance instructor Dee Pitchon, who will provide modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the exercises.

American mahjong

American mahjong is played using a set of tiles and the current year score card. Play includes groups of three or four players and follows a pattern of division exchange and display of tiles.

Bring your card and come to play or watch and learn from 1:15 to 3:45 p.m. Tuesdays at the Senior Center.

Bridge

The game of bridge is held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m.

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of play, with the final round reached sometime between two and three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed.

■ See Senior on next page





WANT TO LOWER YOUR STRESS?



Selfishness and isolation contribute to and exacerbate stress. It may seem counterintuitive, but helping others is a great de-stressor. If you need helping figuring out where to begin, today's excerpt will help.

Creating a balanced lifestyle that includes service to others can help you feel less stress as well, as you feel more connected to your spirit, more grateful for what you have, and less invested in the 'rat race' that causes stress for so many of us.

Focusing on the positive in life, and creating more positive things in the world, can help you to maintain greater feelings of happiness and fulfillment as well.

The following articles can give you ideas and resources for how to create a life that includes more helping others.

Finding Meaning Through Helping Others: Do you have a nagging feeling that something's missing? Many people find volunteering time, money or castoffs as a way to give life meaning. Learn more about how getting involved in a cause you believe in can help reduce stress, increase happiness, and bring more meaning to your life. These tips make it easy for people of various lifestyles.

Network For Good: This site can help you keep track of your charitable donations for tax purposes. Better still, it can help you find volunteer opportunities in your area that fit your criteria, whether you're looking to help a lonely senior, play with a homeless puppy, or get involved with a different cause.

Source: "How Helping Others Can Reduce Stress and Increase Happiness." By Elizabeth Scott. http://stress.about.com/

Bonus Tip: Visit http://www.AmazingFacts.org for spiritual refreshment every week!

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;" Philippians 4:6

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.
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Senior

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No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Rummikub

Come check out Rummikub on Tuesdays from 1:15 to 3:45 p.m. It is a tile-based game for two to four players, combining elements of the card game rummy and mahjong.

Emotional freedom

On the second Thursday of the month from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., join the "Tappers," who practice a self-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, depression, insomnia and more.

Everything you need to get started is included in this fun, engaging, supportive class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

Mindful drawing

Mindful drawing is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Join our friendly instructor, Roberta Strickland.

Classes are every Wednesday from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Senior Center.

This activity is open to all ages. Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

Mexican train dominoes

Mexican train dominoes meets on Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Tai chi

Tai Chi classes are held at the Senior Center on Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Tai chi is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this meditative practice. The 19 movements and one pose are designed to stimulate, circulate and balance the vital energy that is inherent in all of us.

Bingo

The next dates for bingo are Fridays, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Participation is free, and all we ask is you bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required; just show up.

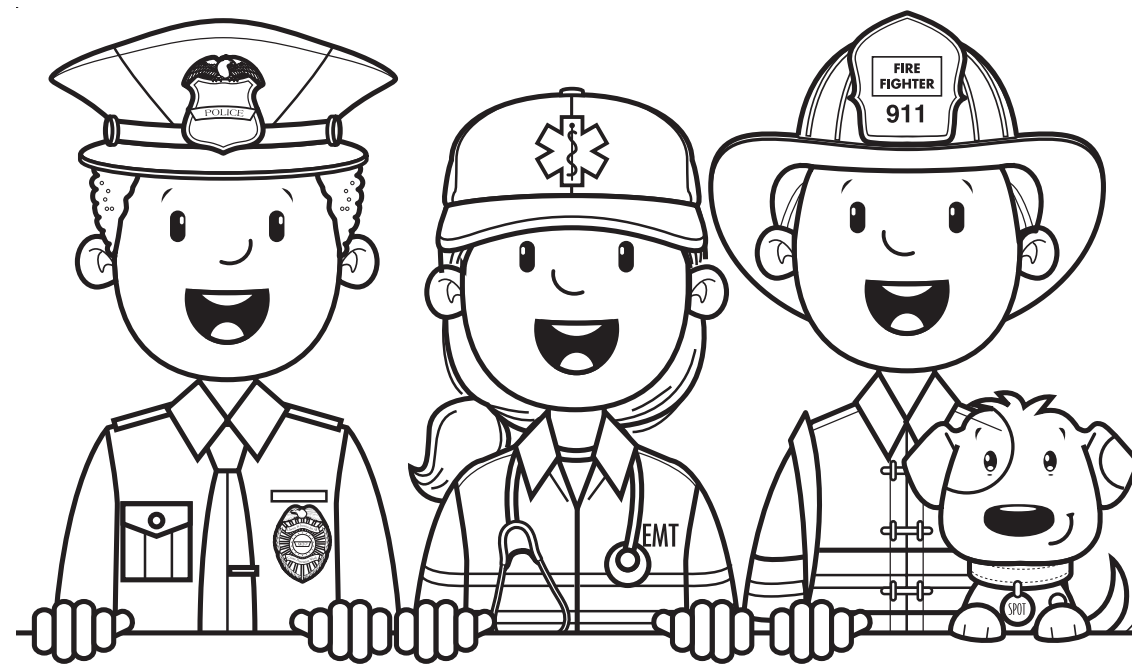
All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone. Seats are first come, first served.

Scrapbooking and

■ See Senior on next page

Coloring fun

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



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Senior

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crafters club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters Club continues to hold monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., within the dining hall in the Senior Center.

This creative tradition has been happening since 2005, and we invite all creative individuals to come and share ideas, connect with new and old friends, learn/share creative techniques, share supplies and indulge in a potluck lunch together. Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group.

Help us create an intergenerational community. Those ages 18 and older are welcome. For those youth age 17 and younger, we kindly request an adult chaperone accompany them.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your request to copenhavercreative@gmail.com and you will receive a notification each month of the upcoming meeting, along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking and more.

Share lunch Monday through Friday

Join local elders, their friends, family and community at the Community Cafe, also known as the Silver Fox's Den, in person for delicious meals Mondays through Fridays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Grab 'N' Go pickup via our convenient portico is also available all week.

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 8:45 a.m. weekdays. Please say whether it is dine-in or Grab 'N' Go.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of $6, but no one will be turned away. There is a $10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage.

Community Cafe menu

Call or text (970) 264-2167 before 8:45 a.m. Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed on short notice.

Thursday, Nov. 5 — Butternut squash ravioli with Alfredo sauce, Swiss chard, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, muffin, milk.

Friday, Nov. 6 — Swedish meatballs over egg noodles, peas, baked potato salad, garden salad, fruit, blueberry pie and milk.

Monday, Nov. 9 — Pasta primavera with marinara sauce, garlic bread, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, Nov. 10 — Plum chicken, jasmine rice, snow peas, garden salad, fruit, chocolate cake and milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 11 — Closed for Veterans Day.

Thursday, Nov. 12 — Codfish Veracruz, quinoa rice pilaf, broccoli, garden salad, fruit, dessert bar and milk.

Friday, Nov. 13 — Butternut squash and mushroom lasagna, spinach and onions, bread, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. The meals are delivered by our wonderful volunteers. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167 for how to sign up for the program.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Mountain Express Transit senior paratransit services

Seniors over the age of 60 can be verified to receive services through discounted paratransit services, free bus rides and pick up at your home to bring you to the Senior Center for lunch. To become eligible, there is a form to complete.

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry can contact the Mountain Express Transit (MET) to schedule a ride with its paratransit service.

Call the Archuleta County MET at (970) 264-2250 for information.

Medicare assistance by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call the Medicare line at (970) 403-6759 for an appointment and where to meet.

Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has positions open. Terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term.

Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.

Please stop by our offices at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to pick up an application or call (970) 264-2167 for more information.

Support the Senior Center

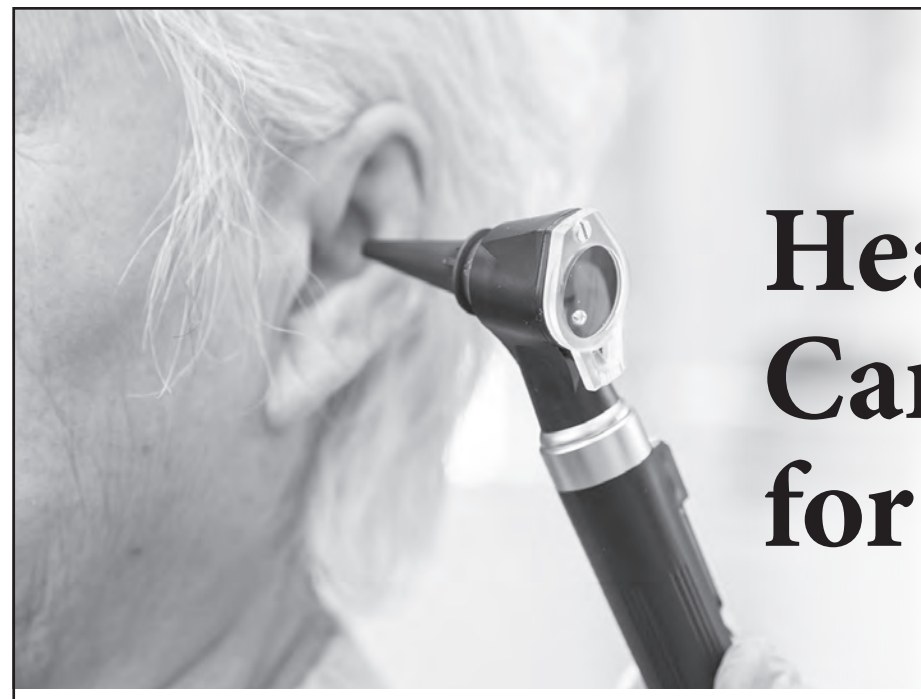
Starting in 2026, small donations can be deducted without itemizing your tax return. It is the Permanent Universal Charitable Deduction.

Here's what this means: For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2025, those who do not itemize can deduct up to $1,000 for individual tax filing and $2,000 for married couples filing jointly.

The goal of this provision is to recognize and encourage charitable giving across all income levels, potentially boosting donations from middle-income households who may not itemize their deductions. This change has the potential to significantly impact charitable giving patterns by incentivizing a broader base of donors.

You may mail your donation to ASI, P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or please visit our website: www.psseniors.org/ (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.



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A range of options are now available to reduce the impact of ringing or buzzing in your ears so it feels less intrusive, day and night. Strategies include sound therapy, bimodal neuromodulation, hearing aids with tinnitus features, and counseling approaches to help your brain filter and manage noise effectively.

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Robert Melton, AuD
Doctor of Audiology
Hearing & Tinnitus Specialist

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MEN'S HEALTH WORD SEARCH

M	M	G	E	T	H	E	R	A	P	Y	E	M	O	O	S	I	A	K	A
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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AGING
ANDROGENS
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CANCER
CHECKUP
DEPRESSION
DOCTOR
EXERCISE
FITNESS
HAIR LOSS
HEALTH
INFERTILITY
LIVER
MOVEMBER
MUSCLE
MUSTACHE
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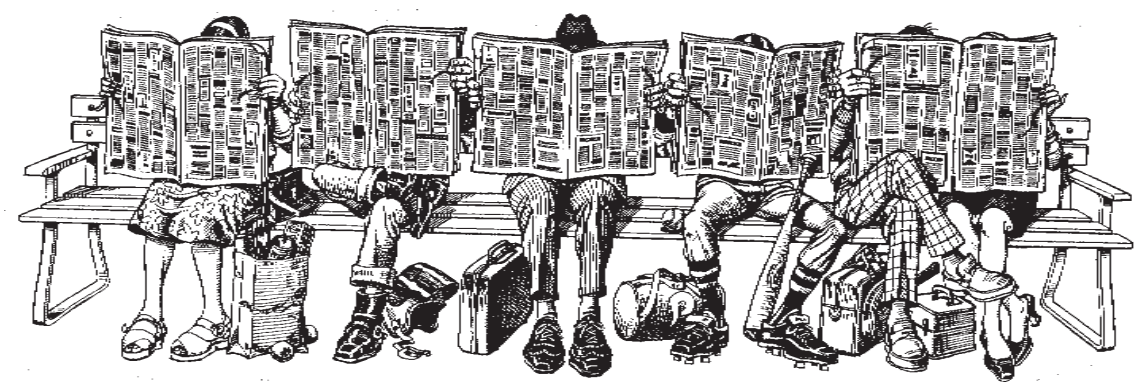
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Ruby Sisson Library focusing on fundamentals

By Barbara Brattin
PREVIEW Columnist

Library News

My oldest son and I are big baseball fans, and this year we were especially excited that the Milwaukee Brewers went to the World Series.

While I simply love friendly competition and watching tremendously talented young athletes at play, Neil has more of an insider's view. He talks about strategy and execution and the reason he so admired the Brewers this year. Simply put, they focus on the fundamentals. No show boating, no home run hitters. Work the counts, run the bases, put the ball in play. Selfless teamwork.

Here at the library, we focus on our own set of fundamentals. We build great collections and programs, serve each visitor with competence and good cheer, and carefully steward your tax dollars to deliver a great return on investment. Ask anyone in town why they love the library and the first thing they will say is the staff. It's our team that makes us shine. Their creativity and enthusiasm build the collections and programs that delight you and inspire your children to learn. They tirelessly problem-solve your questions and technology puzzles to simplify your life and create a warm sense of belonging where everyone is welcome. They seek the grant funding to provide the extras, reusing and repurposing what we do have to keep us running on a small budget.

That makes for a championship team.

Stop in soon and see us, and if you have some free time Nov. 9-11, join us for some planning sessions to help us decide what programs and services to prioritize for the next three years. The link to sign up for an in-person focus group is at www.pagosalibrary.org. Too busy to attend? Choose the option to take the online survey instead.

Thank you.

Public comment period open on 2027 budget

If you're interested in seeing where our income comes from and how we spend the funds, now is the time for public comments on our 2027 budget proposal.

You can view a copy of the proposed budget on our website at www.pagosalibrary.org. From now until Nov. 18, you can submit your comments to director@pagosalibrary.org.

A budget hearing will take place on Nov. 18 at the library, at which time the library board will hold an open forum for your feedback before finalizing the budget.

Help us plan the future

During the month of November, we are collecting feedback from everyone in the community about what you would like the library to prioritize for the next three years.

We'll begin the week of Nov. 9 with in-person drop-in sessions to talk about the challenges of living in Pagosa Springs, how the library affects your life and how we can improve. We're hoping to hear from parents and caregivers, seniors, Library Foundation and Friends members, and everyone in the community who has an interest in the library's future.

Please join us at any of these one hour drop-in sessions. Sign up on the library's website (www.pagosalibrary.org) or give us a call at (970) 264-2209.

- Monday, Nov. 9: 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 11, 11:30 a.m. (parent and caregiver focus), 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

If none of these sessions work with your schedule, or if you're not comfortable talking in front of others, we will offer several additional opportunities to provide feedback, including online surveys and a "talkback" board at the library.

Thanks for helping us dream the future.

Required minimum distribution looming? Consider the library

If you're pondering how to manage this year's required minimum distribution from your tax-deferred retirement account, consider making a direct transfer to the Ruby M. Sisson Library Foundation.

You'll avoid income taxes on the amount you transfer directly, and you'll help the library do even more wonderful things.

The Foundation EIN is 83-1063172. Contact foundation@pagosalibrary.org with any questions. And, thank you.

Six new computers available for public use

Thanks to a grant from the Statewide Internet Portal Authority, we've added six new public computers to our technology offerings. Internet, Microsoft Word and printing are available.

Volunteer opportunities in our adult education programs

GED Program

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer tutor to help members of our community get their GED? Are you a retired teacher? Are you an expert in math, science, language arts or history who wants to make a difference and has some extra time to give?

The library is looking for tutors to work with students one-on-one for a few hours a week to help us keep our Adult Education GED program thriving.

If you are interested in becoming a tutor for the GED program, or are a student seeking tutoring, please email our adult basic education coordinator, Nicole, at esl@pagosalibrary.org. No experience is required; training and supervision will be provided.

Intercambio/English as a Second Language (ESL)

If you are someone who enjoys cultural exchanges, or are looking to brush up on your Spanish, think about joining our new Intercambio program at the Library.

Intercambio connects volunteers with adult English language learners through relationship-based one-on-one classes. Our ESL curriculum requires no prior teaching or second language experience, just a positive attitude and a little extra time in your week. Our curriculum, training and ongoing support make teaching easy, enjoyable and impactful.

If you are interested in learning more about our adult basic education classes, either as a volunteer tutor, or a student, please email our adult basic education coordinator, Nicole, at esl@pagosalibrary.org.

New meeting rooms ready to reserve

Your new library offers one large community room that can be divided into two smaller rooms. We also have two new study rooms.

If you would like to reserve a room, give us a call. Our website will soon offer you the option to reserve meeting rooms on your own. Stay tuned.

New Craft and Hobby database marks makerspace opening

To celebrate the opening of our new makerspace, we are launching a new database called Craft and Hobby.

Packed with videos for all ages teaching skills like sewing, woodworking, gardening and outdoor photography, Craft and Hobby is available free with your library card online from home or on the go.

We are planning lots of hands-on activities in the new makerspace and will be using Craft and Hobby to provide instruction for participants.

Take a look at the extensive catalog of instructional video at www.pagosalibrary.org/how-to.

Radon detectors available for checkout

The Colorado State library recently partnered with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to provide a limited number of radon detectors to libraries for circulation.

The Ruby Sisson Library has two units available to check out with a library card for a three-week loan. Instructions are included in the kit. Reserve one through the library catalog or ask at the front desk.

Activities calendars

Pick up monthly calendars at the library or check the website, www.pagosalibrary.org/events-calendar, so you don't miss any of the free programs, events and activities available to you and your family.

This coming week's featured programs:

- Baby Storytime (ages 0-2): Friday, Nov. 6, 11 a.m.
- Puzzle Palooza: Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m. to noon.
- Conversational Spanish: Monday, Nov. 9, 4 to 5 p.m.
- Ruby's Book Club: Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Cricut Card Making Makerspace

■ See Library on page 24



(970) 264-2100 Classifieds (970) 264-2100

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MISCELLANEOUS



Meet Earl Grey!

This playful 3-month-old male kitten is ready for a home of his own. Earl Grey loves to climb and explore. Call the Humane Society at (970) 731-4771.



Meet Buster!

This sweet 5-year-old male Akita is ready for a home! He's very loyal and wants to be with people all the time! Call the Humane Society at (970) 731-4771.

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MISCELLANEOUS

SELLERS BEWARE: Scams involving buyers trying to deceive sellers have have taken place in our community. Do not accept checks, money orders or other payment methods for more than the payment price where you are asked to pay the overpayment to the buyer or another person. Consult with your financial institution to be sure the payment method is not fake before you allow the item to be picked up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/ text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

PAGOSA AA: 315 N. 2nd Street, County Road 200 (.2 miles off Hwy. 160). Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30p.m. Tuesday Men's meeting 5:30p.m. Tuesday - Thursday, 12 noon, Friday Women's meeting 11:30a.m. Saturday 10a.m. Sunday 10a.m. Sunday Zoom 10a.m. Zoom: ID 858-319-763 password 754-234. For information call Kathi (970)946-1482, Ranza (970)903-3849 or (970)731-9774 or central office (888)333-9649.

SAVE THE DATE: December 5. Shoppe till you drop. 50% off all regular priced items. Made in Colorado Shoppe.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Diamond: (970)264-1073. Charlotte: (970)903-9690. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hrs.).

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PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS and The Green House are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer sales bonuses, product sampling, employee discounts, paid sick leave, and comprehensive on-site training. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required, when hired. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed.com.

PART -TIME MAINTENANCE /GROUNDS. Hands-on position includes general maintenance, groundskeeping, and an early-morning pool cleaning rotation. 20-25 hours /week. Experience with tools is a plus, but we're happy to train someone with a strong work ethic and willingness to learn. More details at pshotsprings.com. Submit application /resume at Healing Waters Resort & Spa,140 Hot Springs Blvd., or email sales@pshotsprings.com. Subject: Maintenance.

WINGS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER is seeking a Full- Time Toddler Teacher- a fun-loving, caring, and creative professional to support the growth and learning of our young students. $20- 25/ hour, Monday- Friday.

AUTOS

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

SMALL CRANE BUSINESS FOR SALE. National Crane truck, business, client list, and all attachments come with business. Inquire at (970)903-2381.

FOR SALE

30 ACRES, NATIONAL FOREST on three sides. Off- grid, upgraded solar system. 2200 sq. ft. log cabin. 2 baths, lots of storage. Large shop. $1 million. Call for appointment to see. (970)946-2253.

4 SET TIRES COOPER DISCOVERER 275/60R20 AT3 S4. Good tread. $480 (970)946-0305, leave message.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up $255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

Firewood Delivered, Doug Fir/ Pine mix. $250 per cord, $1400 for 6 cords. Call Kathie (303)358-6218.

FORKLIFT Lektro model 2020. Manufactured in the middle 1960s. Max lift 1000 pounds. No forks. Currently has a roll clamp on it. Uses 6x8L 16 deep cycle batteries, included. Hydraulic pump doesn't work, chain driven steering needs a little work. $500. Call Shari, (970)264-2101.

HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE. Contact (702)208-7576 for info.

NEED FIREWOOD? Get a HUGE dump truck load split and delivered for $600! Pine mix. Guaranteed full cords. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

SELLERS BEWARE: Scams involving buyers trying to deceive sellers have have taken place in our community. Do not accept checks, money orders or other payment methods for more than the payment price where you are asked to pay the overpayment to the buyer or another person. Consult with your financial institution to be sure the payment method is not fake before you allow the item to be picked up.

TWO 50-GALLON STEEL DRUMS with lids. Used, great condition, clean, $35 each. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

PagosaSUN.com

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>> Place Your Classified Ad

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Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

(970) 264-2100 Classifieds (970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

TURNKEY 2014 POLARIS RZR XP 1000. 2-seater with Lumna trailer set up for emergency response, rough terrain, and high- water or storm preparedness. Clean title, garage- kept, 4400 miles. Many extras. Great emergency and recovery setup. Winch and Recovery: Heavy- duty winch for clearing storm debris and self-recovery. Lighting: LED lighting for night operations. Tires: High- clearance suspension with aggressive off- road treads for emergency travel. Reduced to $13,000 (RZR and Trailer). Text: (702)371-0672, (702)524-8883.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL STORAGE/ HOBBY GARAGE/ Office Space. Approximately 1800 sq. ft. One bathroom. 14 ft. x 10 ft. garage door/ high ceilings. Radiant floor heating/ finished drywall interior. $1800 a month/ $1800 deposit. 218 Hopi Drive, Pagosa Springs. Call or text (903)327-3345.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE AVAILABLE. Liberty Theatre building. Main Street access, parking, AC, fiber Internet, Eastern Range and river views, keyless entry. Call Anna, (970)398-1271.

FLEXIBLE COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL 1,000 sq. ft. space on the western side of Pagosa Springs available January 1. Comes with overhead garage door, side door, and bathroom. It will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized. Tenants in compound include building trades, personal training, UPS, light manufacturing and artists. Rent is $1,050/ month. Please contact Jessica at raswheeler@gmail.com.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

LARGE COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL LOTS in Cloman Park. 112 acre lot— $995 /month. and 1.27 acre lot— $750 /month. Ideal for contractors, storage, etc. Utilities are located at the street. Tenant must verify end use with the county. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

PAGOSA SECURE STORAGE- 80 Bastille Drive. Offering "Smokin Deals" on all units. Temperature Controlled Units available. Managed by Team Pagosa Realty (970)731-8599 Call today for availability.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term rental from 135 SF to 205 SF, priced from $465-$669/ month. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

SEARCHING FOR THE RIGHT PERSON — professional office space/ desk available. This is a shared space in a professional office where we have a desk or two. Kitchen and conference room available. Beautiful surroundings. Call (970)946-0930. $750 per month.

TWO ADJOINING OFFICES DOWNTOWN Upstairs. Rent one or both. $350 per month per office. Includes utilities, Internet and shared kitchen. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PagosaSUN.com

Office Space for Lease in Pagosa Springs

Newly remodeled space in the First Southwest Bank building, conveniently located off Highway 160. Suites ranging from 160 to 1,585 square feet — perfect for solo professionals or growing teams.

- Flexible suite sizes to fit your business
- Shared conference room access
- Break room and restrooms
- Large on-site parking lot
- Prime, high-visibility Hwy 160 location



Contact Melanie Russek for leasing details and availability.
melanie.russek@fswb.com
866-641-3792

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

2 BEDROOM 2 BATHROOM country home. 7 miles west of Pagosa. Utilities and water renter's expense. No smoking. $2000/ month. (970)398-0303.

3 BEDROOM 1 BATHROOM house for rent. Private ranch 10 miles from town. Water, trash, sewage, plowing and mowing. $1500/ month. (309)948-9220.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH, w/ 2 car garage, granite, carpet bedroom. 1st and last month's rent and $1500 deposit. $2289 per month. No smoking or pets. Call (970)903-3942. 151 Masters Cir.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH for lease. Enjoy stunning creek, canyon, pasture, and mountain views, including V-Rock and the San Juan Mountains. Situated on a private 35-acre retreat bordering National Forest, this property offers a private lake for paddleboarding, direct access to hiking and outdoor recreation, horse pasture potential, pet -friendly living (with approval), barn and storage use, and a large garage/RV garage with space for up to 5 –6 vehicles, RVs, or trailers. Perfect for an outdoor lifestyle in a quiet, retreat-like setting. $3,500–$6,500/month depending on included amenities and storage needs. Text (970)398-0518.

BEAUTIFUL BRAND NEW DUPLEX units A and B. Spacious 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 1 car garage units. Bonus office or den area. Pets allowed. Call for more information. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or teampagosa.com.

DOWNTOWN NEAR HIGH SCHOOL and Yamaguchi. 800 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $1600. (720)320-4921. Tree, parking, patios, storage, 650 S. 6th.

FLOOD- DISPLACED FAMILIES and animals— housing available. We have a home available for families displaced by the recent flooding, including those with pets, horses, or livestock. Our beautiful 3 bedroom/ 2 bathroom home on 35 acres in Alpine Lakes Ranch will be available around Nov. 7. Horse/ cattle pasture, barn, oversized garage, RV parking and storage options. Short or long-term rentals considered. Insurance-funded housing welcome, but not required. Call JP: (970)398-0518.

FLOOD- DISPLACED RESTAURANTS — kitchen and bar available at The Colorado Garden Company. If the recent flooding has displaced your restaurant, café, catering business, or food service operation, we may have a place for you. Our commercial kitchen, bar, and covered pavilion at The Colorado Garden Company in Pagosa Springs are available to help local food businesses get back up and running. Temporary or longer-term arrangements considered. Call JP: (970)398-0518.

FRESHLY UPDATED 800 SQ. FT. APARTMENT in four plex in Pagosa Lakes Subdivision. Call for details. Coming available November 1. W/D included, most utilities paid. $1475, $1000 deposit. Call Lee (970)946-3856 or John (303)881-1407.

FURNISHED DOWNTOWN 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH townhome with a 1 car garage. Available 12/10/26- 09/30/27. Call Team Pagosa for more information. (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

LONG- TERM RENTAL: 4 bedroom 2.5 bathroom house. Approved pets allowed. Nice neighborhood, conveniently located with a fenced yard. Call (580)651-2288 for details and an application.

NEWER ENERGY EFFICIENT DUPLEX 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 1 car garage, granite counters, stainless appliances, water and sewer included. Available now. $1,800/ month. No pets. Background and credit check; $40 application fee. 1 year lease; will consider a 6 month lease if you were affected by flooding. First month's rent and security deposit due at lease signing. Call Ron (970)946-5010.

PARTIALLY FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM 1.5 BATH condo near Lake Pagosa. Available NOW. Call for more information. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

PARTIALLY FURNISHED 3 BEDROOM 2 bathroom, 2 car garage home on the way up to Wolf Creek Ski Area. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

PARTIALLY FURNISHED HOME on 5 acres. 1240 sq. ft. 2 bedrooms with loft. 2 bath. Off paved road. 2401 Meadows, close to town. $2200. (719)510-1984.

RV SINGLE SITE on 5 acres. Large paved hilltop area at end of cul-de-sac. No traffic, mountain views. 1 mile south of hospital. City water, septic, 30 amp electric. $800/ month. Burt, (619)992-9100.

SHERPA REAL ESTATE is now managing long-term rentals. Clear communication from a name you already trust. Ready to rent your home? Call now to get started (970)444-2570. Visit our website https://www.sherparealestate.com/rentals or stop by one of our two locations.

SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOM APARTMENT in downtown with beautiful views. Rent $1181. Large floor plan, affordable living through tax credit program. Income and eligibility requirements apply. hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

TRINITY APARTMENTS. Unit available. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath, $1500 per month. Includes washer, dryer, utilities. Please call (970)946-7190 for an application.

TWO-BEDROOM APARTMENT AVAILABLE. 7th street behind Natural Grocers. Walking distance to hot springs and and old downtown. (720)470-2653.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATHROOM, 1 car garage townhome in Whispering Pines. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

UNFURNISHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH 1 car garage home. 1 pet allowed. Call for more information. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

UNFURNISHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH 2 car garage home in nice neighborhood. Water paid. Available NOW. Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599 or teampagosa.com.

HOMES FOR SALE

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BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED 3 BR 2BA HOME 1680 sq. ft., all newer appliances, nice wood and metal accents, close to shopping. $260,000. Peggy Andrews, Independent Broker, (970)946-0473.

NEAR NAVAJO LAKE, 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on 2.2 acres on quiet street, central water, lots of updates, $355,000. Peggy Andrews, Independent Broker. (970)946-0473.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

ARBOLES 2 ACRES with approved septic and well. $100,000. Peggy Andrews, Independent Broker, (970)946-0473.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified.
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Library

■ continued from page 19

Class: Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2 to 4 p.m.

• Teen Secret Snacks: Tuesday, Nov. 10, 4 to 5 p.m.

• Family Storytime: Wednesdays, 10 to 11 a.m.

• Free Legal Clinic: Wednesday, Nov. 11, 3 to 4 p.m., registration required.

• Make Your Own Claw Machine: Wednesday, Nov. 11, 4 to 5 p.m.

Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursdays. Taylor helps with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets, and also provides assistance in accessing the library's online resources. No appointment is needed, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you.

New fall titles ready for checkout

Thanks to the State Grants to Libraries program offered through the Colorado State Library, we will be investing an extra $1,482 in large print titles this year and providing a year of access to Hoopla e-books and e-audiobooks. We greatly appreciate this state support.

New in large print

• Author Leigh Bardugo's final installment in the Ninth House horror series, "Dead Beat," arrived just in time for Halloween. Alex Stern returns from hell but leaves the underworld door open, unleashing demons onto the Yale campus and the streets of New Haven.

• Beloved lady detective Mma Ramotswe returns to save the reputation of the local elephant sanctuary in "The Big Cats Dance Party," Alexander McCall Smith's 27th installment in his "No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency" series.

• In Jeffrey Archer's final novel, "Adam and Eve," the daughter of an Earl pairs with the son of a local shepherd to resist Hitler's invasion of the British Isles.

• Danielle Steel returns with "Ruthless." A senior magazine editor forms an unlikely alliance with a tech billionaire to uncover the evil acts of the man she's been assigned to profile.

New nonfiction

• In "The Confederacy Myth: How an Insurrection of Slaveholders Tried to Destroy the United States," historian Connor Williams poses one big question: What can Americans learn about our divided country today from the Civil War that divided us in the past?

• "Redemption" from Pulitzer Prize winner Lawrence Wright recounts the story of seven condemned women on death row in Texas and the Sisters of Mary Morning Star nuns dedicated to their redemption.

• "Simply Ina: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook" from popular chef Ina Garten provides simple, fast recipes for everyday great meals.

New fiction

• Another high-octane thriller from Lee Child and Andrew Child, "Chain Reaction," is the 31st novel in the Jack Reacher series. Gen.Susan Turner needs someone to find out who murdered a team member, someone who will subsequently disappear. Reacher heads for Summertown, Colo., to do just that.

• Author and podcaster Greta Kelly penned a new thriller, "The Throwaways." When Aster Calloway sold her grandmother's bejeweled music box, she had no idea that inside that box was a list of names that protected defected KGB operatives, including her grandmother.

• Bestselling fantasy author Rebecca Yarros delivers the long-awaited #3.5 in her Empyrean series. Welcome to "Threshing Day," the brutal, high-stakes trial where would-be riders at Basgiath War College fight to earn the bond of a dragon or die trying (also available on CD audiobook).

• Richard Paul Evans's new novel, "Mercy's Child," is set in 1874 gilded New York, where a wealthy woman's determination to save a child from the unspeakable conditions in Hell's Kitchen sets up a battle against the city's most powerful institutions.

For a full list of new titles and to reserve your copy, go to www.pagosalibrary.org and choose "Search the Catalog" at the top of the screen.

Don't forget, if there is a waiting list for the book, it may be available now in e-book or e-audiobook on Hoopla or Libby.

Need help? Just ask. We love talking about books.

The library will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday from Nov. 26 through Nov. 29. Don't find yourself short of good books. Stop in and stock up soon.

GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in New York on November 2, 1966. However, I was raised in Los Angeles. I studied theater at Northwestern University. I became a household name in the mid-1990s while starring on a very popular TV show about a group of young people living in New York City.

Answer: David Schwimmer

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