Multiple town parks remain closed
Portions of trails still closed following flood — A7

SJWCD approves lawsuit settlement
PAWSD to consider agreement Nov. 16 — A8



The Pagosa Springs SUN

$1

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Special delivery









SUN photos/Randi Pierce

A Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control helicopter carrying La Plata County Clerk and Recorder Tiffany Lee and election judges delivers Archuleta County ballots to Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta and local election judges on Monday, Nov. 10. Some ballots were turned in in La Plata County due to flooding.

Local ballot issues approved by voters

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

With final tabulation for the Nov. 3 general election slated to be completed by Friday, Nov. 13, a trio of local ballot issues are poised to pass.

On Wednesday, Nov. 11, Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta explains to The SUN via email that the office still has a batch of ballots to count prior to the final tabulation, but that there weren't enough ballots to change any of the results.

Updated vote counts will be included in next week's issue of The SUN and on www.PagosaSUN.com following tabulation. The results will be finalized on Nov. 25 following canvassing.

As of the unofficial results report released shortly after 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, with 7,752 ballots counted, the following were the vote totals for the three local

■ See Voters A8

Response to historic flooding continues

By Clayton Chaney, Randi Pierce and Josh Pike
Staff Writers

Pagosa Country continues to contend with challenges and damage caused by a pair of major floods that moved through the area in recent weeks, with local, regional, state and federal resources continuing work in the area.

This week, county and state resources indicated the response is moving from an emergency to a recovery phase as Archuleta County lifted evacuation orders on Monday, Nov. 9.

The week also brought the confirmation of a death related to the flooding.

On Wednesday, Nov. 11, Archuleta County Coroner Brad Hunt confirmed that Robert Scott, 83, of Pagosa Springs, died on his home property off a U.S. Forest Service road near the Snowball drainage area.

Hunt indicated the cause of death was "drowning by flood," along with blunt-force trauma to the head and chest.

Hunt also indicated that Scott was found on his property on Nov. 8.

Mandatory evacuations lifted

On Monday, Nov. 9, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) announced that all mandatory evacuation orders related to the recent flooding had been lifted throughout Archuleta County.

"While this is an important step toward recovery, significant infrastructure damage remains throughout the County," a press release states. "Residents should only return home if it is safe to do so and reliable access is available via roads and bridges. Many

■ See Flooding A6

Agencies offer updates on flood-damaged roadways

By Clayton Chaney and Randi Pierce
Staff Writers

Roads continue to be an area of concern throughout the region following the recent flooding, with several area roads still closed and under repair.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Archuleta County offered updates this week on the progress of repairing damaged roadways.

CDOT

CDOT gave a briefing and issued a press release on Tuesday, Nov. 10, discussing repair work underway to prioritize critical flood repairs ahead of holiday travel.

According to CDOT, it has approximately 15 emergency work zones underway across five different highways following two consecutive flood events that impacted the region in a two-week time span.

"Our teams on the ground have made remarkable progress to make repairs after the two rounds of severe flooding," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "We won't stop this work to repair every damaged section of roadway, and some critical milestones that restore connectivity in southwest Colorado are very near. The team is currently on track to get limited traffic on Wolf Creek Pass open by this weekend, with Colo. 151 open before Thanksgiving. These roads will require speed reductions and extra traffic control, so we will need collaboration from the public to drive safely in these areas."

According to the press release, CDOT maintenance crews and contractors have been working around the clock to reopen critical routes and prioritize extensive repair work

■ See Roadways A10

September sales tax collections down 6.23 percent

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

According to data released by Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton late last week, sales tax collections in Archuleta County for September were reported to be down 6.23 percent compared to figures from September 2025.

Eaton's report notes that the 6.23 percent decrease translates to a total of $110,798.84 less received this September compared to September 2025.

For this September, Eaton notes that the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of $1,666,842.82 from the sales tax and retail marijuana sales tax,with $836,789.28 going to the county and $836,832.96 going to the town.

Sales tax collections have been a mixed bag in 2026, with most months reflecting a decrease when compared to the previous year.

January saw a decrease of 10.64 percent ($149,587.01) in sales tax collections, while numbers for February reflected a 1.17 percent increase ($16,020.75). March figures reflected a 1.01 percent ($15,560.32) decrease, while numbers for April reflected a 9.07 percent decrease ($125,110.70). May figures also showed a decrease of .48 percent ($6,553.63). June figures showed a 1.63 percent ($28,804) increase, and July figures showed a 1.12

■ See Sales A8

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Bennet, Hurd visit community

SUN photos/Clayton Chaney

Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce and Archuleta County Commissioner John Ranson speak with Sen. Michael Bennet and Rep. Jeff Hurd about damage caused throughout the community by the recent historic flooding events during their visit to Pagosa Springs on Friday, Nov. 6.

Opinion

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

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Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation Moisture	Type	Depth
11/3	52	27	0.03	NA	NA
11/4	50	27	0.03	NA	NA
11/5	55	25	0.01	NA	NA
11/6	52	29	0.00	NA	NA
11/7	58	25	0.00	NA	NA
11/8	58	25	0.00	NA	NA
11/9	60	25	0.00	NA	NA

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Our View

Another difficult week

It's been another difficult week in Pagosa Country, with so many of our community members learning the fates of their properties and homes following the recent floods.

We've heard multiple community members recount losing possessions, losing their accessible living space and losing their homes entirely.

We still have fellow community members who are unable to get out since the floods or who are unable to get home since evacuating.

Our hearts continue to be heavy, knowing that some we share our community with have no idea where they'll be able to live soon.

We are also absolutely devastated after learning of a death attributed to the flooding, and we send our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Robert Scott.

And we know this is far from over.

The heartache will continue as our neighbors continue to return home to begin the daunting task of cleaning up the devastation the floodwaters left.

Thankfully, the community has come together in breathtaking fashion to support each other with love, kindness, compassion, donations and physical goods.

We urge our community to keep up this spirit of loving and supporting each other, and to keep up the work of helping our neighbors and community members.

We continue to see people going the extra mile to ensure our community and those in it are taken care of in so many ways — roads, food, clothing, cleaning items, mental health and more — and for that we are so fortunate.

The need is far from done.

We need to continue to be there for each other. The next few months and years will continue to be difficult as we mourn what we've lost and figure out how to move forward.

Continue checking on each other. Continue lending a helping hand. Continue taking care of yourselves.

Continue supporting local resources, organizations and shops. By doing so, you support everyone in our community and help our corner of the world be more resilient.

We are also fortunate to continue to have bright spots to focus on amid the challenges of the last few weeks.

Despite historic flooding and with creative activity that included multiple helicopters, multiple counties and help from the state, Archuleta County successfully held its election.

Despite historic flooding that cut off portions of our community, school officials, coaches and parents helped the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team to make it to their second-round playoff game in Wellington on Nov. 7. They even made the state news as they made memories.

Despite the flooding, many of our community's school children got to return to the classrooms, to their friends and to a bit of normal this week.

Despite the flooding, the community continued to make a concerted effort to honor our nation's veterans through multiple events, ceremonies and efforts in honor of Veterans Day.

It was another difficult week, but we continue to be amazed by the wonderful people we share this community with and those here to help.

Let's continue to be in this together, and let's continue to love Pagosa (and the entire affected area).

Randi Pierce

Looking Back



From the Nov. 12, 1970, Pagosa SUN — RANCH SOLD — The East Fork Ranch of Frank Teal was sold last week and part of the ranch is shown above. This SUN photo was taken about midway through the ranch, from the Quartz Ridge trail vicinity. The ranch property runs well down the valley, and similar terrain is encountered above the point where the photo was taken. The East Fork is the stream in the photo, taken early in the spring while there were still patches of snow in the valley and considerable snow depths at higher altitudes.

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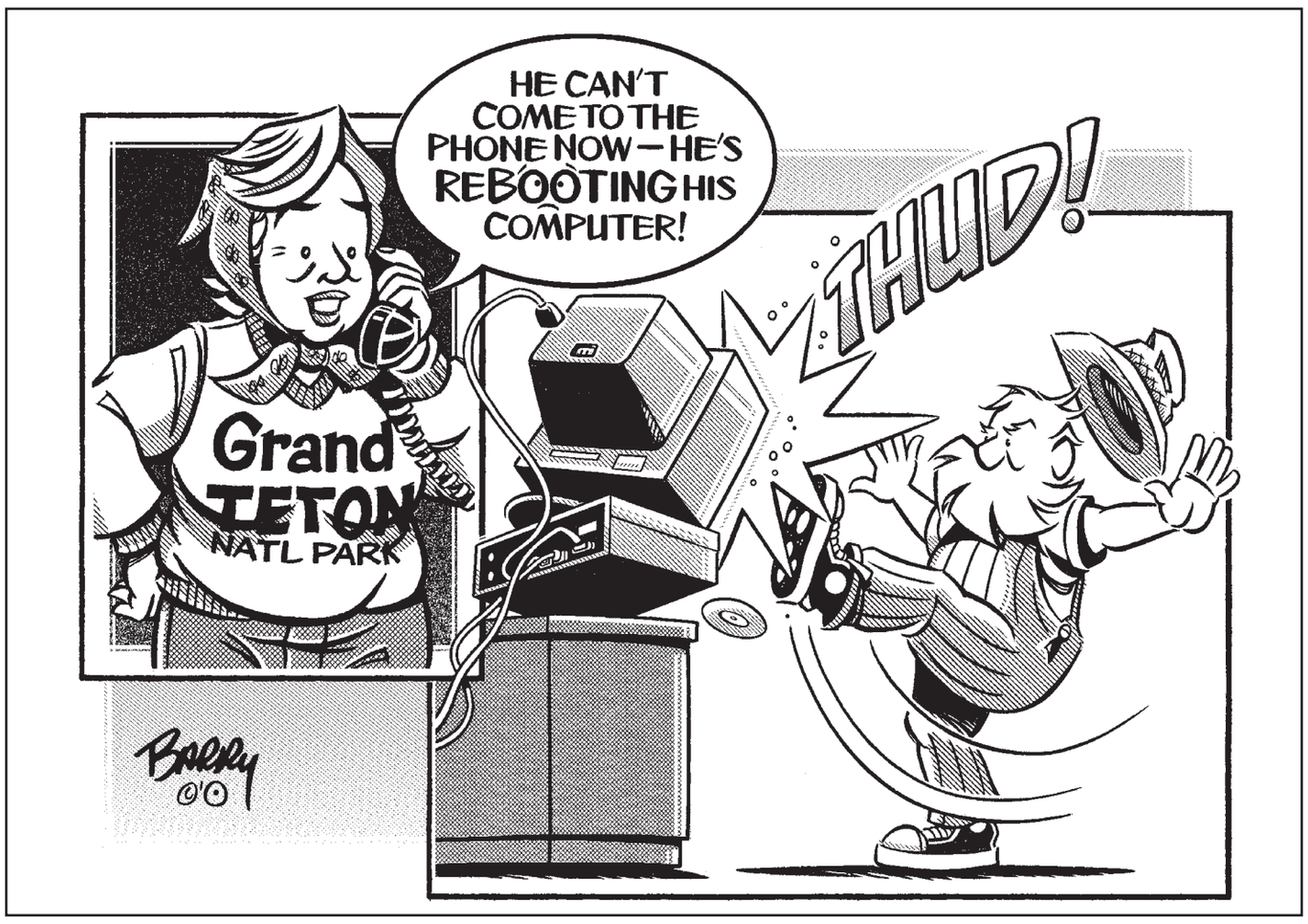
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Legacies

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 12, 1926

Score one for the radio! For by that means, the three alleged kidnappers of Ethel Coggins, the 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Coggins of Houser's mill were captured, together with the young girl, at Ford, near Dodge City, Kans., a short time after their descriptions were broadcasted over station KOA at Denver last night.

Bulletins were printed here and sent to all likely places along their prospective routes, and a copy was mailed to the radio station with the request that same be broadcasted. As stated, this was done last night about 6:30 and in less than two hours Mr. Coggins received a telegram message from Ford, Kansas stating that all four parties were taken to Dodge City to await further disposition.

Those being held are Charley and Claude Maslen and the former's wife, Mrs. Opal Maslen, formerly of Houser's mill, who left here on election day in two Ford cars, taking the Coggins girl with them, without her parents knowledge or consent.

Having crossed the Colorado-Kansas state line, the Maslens have violated the federal Mann act and will no doubt be turned over to the federal department for trial.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 9, 1951

The past week Clee Woods completed negotiations for the sale of an original story, "Squaw Man's Son," to Universal Pictures Company. The story makes use of the historical night of the breakout of the Apache Indians in 1885, under the famous chief, Geronimo. But it is not the usual cavalry-Indian stuff.

Rather, it portrays the tragedy of two families caught between the fury of whites and Apaches. The chief character is a young man, part Apache and part white, whose family tries to befriend both Indians and whites. The girl, age 19 and all white, had been a captive of the Apaches from age 7 to 13, and she still loves her Apache mother. Both girl and the hero become dramatically involved in the historic breakout.

The picture won't be filmed, probably, before next summer. It takes a great deal of time for a producer to put a story through all its many stages before it finally appears as a movie in the theaters.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 11, 1976

The school board adopted the largest budget in the district's history Tuesday night of this week. The total budget is $1,568,519. Despite the size of the budget the mill levy is down from last year. This is due to increased assessed valuation withing the district. State aid funds are down and the total take from the local taxpayers will be up over last year.

Much of the regular meeting of the school board Tuesday of this week was taken up by discussion and adoption of the 1977 budget, and of more facilities.

Dick Walker, district architect, was present to discuss with the boards preliminary ideas and plans for expanding the school facilities that are needed for the increased enrollment. At the present time, as a result of a citizens committee report, a new high school is planned.

Walker told the board of different concepts, outlined what his basic thoughts were concerning building design, and showed some rough sketches. After considerable discussion the board and superintendent agreed to spend two days visiting recently constructed schools before going further with planning.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 8, 2001

This year's assessed value of real property in Archuleta County is up by 10.4 percent when compared with the previous year, according to figures released from the assessor's office.

Translated into tax bills, the increase could mean that homeowners, on the average across the county, will have to write a larger check next year in order to pay property tax. On an individual basis, because of individual circumstances, some tax bills may not increase.

On Jan. 1 of this year, the assessed value of Archuleta County was $174,584,440, a 10.4 percent increase over Jan. 1, 2000, when the assessed value was $158,191,477. Property in Archuleta County and across the state was revalued this year because state law mandates revaluing real property each odd year.

While related to property taxes, appraised and assessed values are not the tax rate.

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.

Reconnected

Dear Editor:

Thank you! Thank you, Mike McDonald . Mike and his workers are a hero to the residents and property owners on the Upper Blanco Road (County Rd 326) and Blue Creek Road. The last storm completely washed out the culvert and cut the road in three places leaving all of us totally isolated and without electricity. Mike immediately showed up with his men and placed steel I beams across the raging river to give us a walkway to the other side. Then he brought in an 80 ton excavator and loader, contacted the county and began working day and night on the road without pay for his equipment or employees. After three days, he had re-installed the culvert and made drivable the three cuts in the road. Then, a dirt and gravel truck accidentally crushed the culvert, so he got a new and stronger one from the county and did it all again. Mike was not alone. Residents nearby also worked night and day with their own excavators, loaders and skid steers. Thank you Joe Fahrion , Cody Gebert and Kyler McKee who also volunteered their own excavators and heavy equipment and worked with Mike. Our "Island" of the Upper Blanco is now connected to the rest of the county. Thank you to all of you and many others that joined in to support them and reconnect us to the world.

Tom and Ellen Beavers

Free speech

Dear Editor:

Oh, I see - you're real Free Speech Warriors.

So, what if I want to place my own full page ad saying that we should run all the Christians out of the County and kill them?

Would you be just as comfortable with that as you are with printing ads that encourage people to do the same to non-christians? I think you would refuse, for the same reason you should have refused to print the one I mentioned last week.

Daniel Foster

Nothing but praise

Dear Editor:

I was privileged to work as a volunteer election watcher on November 3. I have nothing but praise for both Kristi Archuleta and Hazel Wedemeyer for the way they handled the election under very trying circumstances. What is very remarkable is their patient and professional demeanor when faced with frustrated voters. They both carefully explained procedures and calmed the electors in trying situations. Wedemeyer went out of her way to help voters on the phone navigate the filing of emergency ballots, an unusual way to vote for most people. I saw no one during my seven hours there be denied the right to vote. We all owe them a vote of thanks for helping to uphold the bedrock of democracy: the right to vote.

Lynn R. Frederick

Kudos

Dear Editor:

If anyone ever doubted the value of our local Pagosa Sun newspaper, one only has to inspect a copy of the November 5, 2026 edition. You and your staff have produced a comprehensive paper detailing the disastrous floods striking our region, including the damage, efforts to organize repairs and recovery, sources of assistance, and ways to volunteer.

I can't imagine how you managed to produce such a quality paper during such a stressful time for our community.

Kudos, kudos, and more kudos.

Robert Hagberg

Grassroots effort

Dear Editor:

Local residents recently led a petition drive to request federal emergency funds for our county following the recent floods. They collected over 1,000 signatures, which were submitted to the offices of Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper and Representative Hurd on November 5.

Among the many concerned residents who signed were those evacuated or directly affected by the devastating floods. Congratulations to our neighbors for their grassroots efforts to secure assistance for our community.

Kim Rochester

Climate change and elections

Dear Editor:

As a Democrat and Trump critic I l'm happy about the election results. However I'm very disappointed and worried about climate change rarely being mentioned as a campaign issue. It is an issue that politicians avoid talking about. With rising temperatures and extreme weather events occurring in Colorado and elsewhere it is a major issue that must be addressed.

David Ryan
Salida, Colo.

Anything but normal

Dear Editor:

Administering an election is a high-stress, high-stakes job under normal circumstances. What Archuleta County experienced around the 2026 General Election was anything but normal.

Everyone involved in the elections process, especially County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta and Elections Administrator Hazel Wedemeyer, deserves tremendous credit for their responsiveness, creativity, and hard work in the face of widespread flooding.

The Elections Office staff worked tirelessly to make sure Archuleta County citizens could exercise their right to vote. Colorado Public Radio recently reported Nov. 9 on the extraordinary cooperation between La Plata and Archuleta counties, including Archuleta administering an oath to a helicopter pilot so he could fly election equipment that needed to be moved.

Archuleta County is fortunate to have such talented and determined public servants in charge of our elections.

Shawna Seed
Chair, Archuleta County Democrats

Veterans Day

Dear Editor:

Veterans Day, a federal holiday that falls on November 11th, is designated as a day to honor the more than 21 million men and women who have served in the U.S. military.

It was first observed on November 11, 1919, as Armistice day in honor of the first anniversary of the end of World War 1, which officially ended on the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" in 1918.In 1926, Congress called for an annual observance of the anniversary and by 1938 it was an official federal holiday. A few decades later, in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower officially changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day, as it known today.

Thanks to the "Uniform Holiday Act of 1968", it was moved from it's November 11th date to a less-defined "Forth Monday in October" so workers could enjoy a long weekend. However, the move didn't last long. In 1975, President Gerald Ford returned the solemn day back to its original November 11 to honor the global historical significance of the day.

While it is important to thank those who have served or are serving on a regular basis, on Veterans Day, it's especially important to to take an extra moment to show military members gratitude for their sacrifice.

There are approximately 18 million Veterans in the U.S., and I am one of about 350,000 in our state of Colorado

Rick Walker

Just another Veterans Day

Dear Editor:

Tomorrow is Veterans Day. Just another Veterans Day in a long succession of them. Another November 11, another opportunity to pause, remember, and recognize those who have worn the uniform of our nation's armed forces.

But there is no such thing as just another Veterans Day.

Each one is as important as the first, because the passage of time does not diminish the meaning of service, the weight of sacrifice, or the debt of gratitude owed to those who answered their country's call.

When we think of veterans, our thoughts often turn to those who experienced combat. We remember the infantryman, the medic, the pilot, and the countless others who faced an enemy on the battlefield. Their courage and sacrifices deserve our deepest respect.

But military service has never been measured solely by proximity to enemy fire.

For every soldier fighting on the front lines, there were others delivering ammunition, maintaining equipment, preparing meals, transporting supplies, treating the wounded, repairing vehicles, and performing thousands of essential duties without which those in combat could not have survived.

Their contributions were no less important simply because their responsibilities were different.

Military service also brings hardships that seldom appear in history books. Long separations from loved ones. Loneliness. Exhaustion. Fear. Uncertainty. Uncomfortable living conditions. Missed birthdays, anni-

■ See Letters A4



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Crews prep the south side of U.S. 160 in the 100 block with the intent to seal the concrete for reopening the block the week of Nov. 16.

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of Nov. 16-20

Work activity

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 currently working toward a plan for winter shutdown. The flooding events have created challenges in the delivery of materials, equipment and resources needed for the project. WW Clyde is redirecting its resources to prioritize emergency repairs within the project work zone and on critical highway routes that provide access to Pagosa Springs. As such, this will be one of our last weekly updates, and the following work is planned as we go into the holiday season:

• 100 Block and 1st Street: Crews are cleaning and prepping the concrete for sealing prior to the winter season. Crews are also filling and paving asphalt where needed at the 1st Street intersection for continuity into the winter season.

• 1st Street through 5th Street: Road stripers are planning on coming to place striping in the downtown section prior to winter shut down. Striping activities will be conducted the week of Nov. 16, working around pending weather.

• Harman Park/Piedra: Asphalt is being paved at this intersection to fill in areas prior to winter shut down.

• Flood damage: Crews are backfilling damaged areas within the construction site and paving business driveways for continuity of business access for locals and visitors alike.

• Signage: Crews are planning the installation of permanent signage from 1st through 5th streets in preparation to fully open that section of the project.

Updates on impacted highways

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 and 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

Terry's COLORADO HOME SUPPLY
Pagosa Springs, CO

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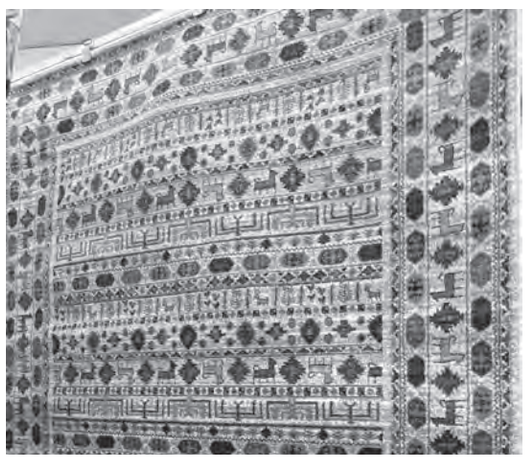
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Letters

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.

Obituaries

Wayne Justus

1952–2026

Celebrated Western artist Wayne Justus, 73, passed away peacefully at home on Nov. 4, 2026.



For more than five decades, Wayne captured the spirit of the American West through lifelike paintings of majestic mountains, horses, ranch life, real working cowboys, historic Native American life, hunting scenes and Civil War history — a subject of deep personal and historical fascination. His attention to detail captured not just their appearance, but their spirit and stories. Whether portraying horses crossing mountain streams, Native Americans, Civil War figures, or rugged landscapes, he made viewers feel as though they could step inside the scene.

A full-time professional artist since 1972, Wayne drew on firsthand experience working cattle ranches in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Colorado. Before marrying Cathy, he broke and trained thoroughbred racehorses in California. His lifelong love of horses and the West infused his art.

Throughout his career, Wayne exhibited at art shows and galleries nationwide. Highlights included the Prix de West at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum (formerly the National Cowboy Hall of Fame) in Oklahoma City, the Cheyenne Frontier Days Western Art Show in Wyoming and the Masters of the American West Exhibition at the Gene Autry Museum in Los Angeles. In 2009, he received the Academy of Western Artists' Western Artist Award. Articles about Wayne's life, paintings, and artistic style appeared in Western Horseman, Southwest Art, and Art of the West. He was featured in the hardcover book "Contemporary Western Artists."

Wayne and Cathy made Pagosa Springs their home in 1978, building a life surrounded by horses, dogs and the landscape that inspired his work.

Wayne found peace and inspiration in the mountains he loved. For him, time spent in the mountains was more than an escape into nature; it was a spiritual experience. As he often told Cathy upon returning home, being in the mountains was "like being with God."

In an article by Gordon Johnson, Wayne was described as having "an inner calm, almost like a Buddhist monk in Western gear." Beneath his signature cowboy hat was a man of deep and unwavering faith in God, great honor and honesty, remarkable humility, and extraordinary talent. His quiet nature was complemented by quick wit and a lighthearted sense of humor. He loved playing his fiddle.

Above all, Wayne was an adoring husband and devoted partner to Cathy, his wife of 54 years. He was a man of integrity, a loyal friend, and someone who would do anything for those he loved.

Wayne is survived by his beloved wife, Cathy, and numerous family members, including aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Wayne leaves a lasting legacy through the friendships he built, the love he shared and the beauty of his paintings.

A memorial gathering will be held Friday, Nov. 20, at 2 p.m. at Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs. The service will also be livestreamed at PagosaBibleChurch.org. Select "Watch Live" to view.

Ben L. Lynch

Longtime Pagosa resident Ben Lynch passed away peacefully on Friday, Nov. 6, at Mercy Hospice in Durango, Colo. Ben was born and raised in Pagosa Springs and was very proud of his hometown and his many friends and family. Born on Aug. 22, 1938, in the family home on main street, he grew up in the '40s and '50s in a close-knit community. His



parents, Ben K. and June E. Lynch, moved to Pagosa Springs from Durango in 1935 and purchased Jackisch Drugstore. Ben K. and June were fixtures in the community who multitasked like all families did in those days. Aside from running the drugstore they ran the ambulance, operated a mortuary and served on many local boards and committees. Ben's life in Pagosa began with a strong family, adventure and a sense of service.

Ben graduated from Pagosa Springs High School in 1956 and went on to the University of Colorado, Boulder where he attained his pharmacy degree. Ben returned to Pagosa in the early '70s and partnered with his father at the drug store. After his father's death in 1976 he went on to run the store for the next 30 years. Many locals remember Ben as a mainstay at the drug store, where he was relied upon for medicine and sound advice. He never thought twice about opening the store at midnight to fill someone's prescription when it was needed. Coming into the drug store in those days may have included visiting with his business partner Rice Reavis about fishing in local streams or asking Emmit Martinez questions about early settlers in the area. He was also a member of the Lions Club, served on town council, steadfast Pagosa Pirate booster and formerly Knights of Columbus.

Ben enjoyed camping with his family, river adventures with his brother Casey Lynch, hunting with his friend Bob Shahan, skiing up at Wolf Creek with Dean and Lee Cox, flying small planes with Jim Cloman, playing golf with his sons and the ups and downs of being a Denver Bronco fan since the 1960s. He and his brother Jack had season tickets to the Broncos in the early '60s, when the team was not very good but there was always a fight in the south stands to keep people entertained.

Ben married Lucille Martinez in 1963 and had three sons. Lucille Lynch cared deeply about her family, her many relatives and her church. An amazing lady taken away too soon by breast cancer in 1983. Nine years later Ben found a new love in Judy Smith, and they were married happily for 35 years. Ben and Judy enjoyed traveling and spending time with friends and family. They traveled to some amazing places in retirement; Judy kept Ben on the move, and he adopted Judy's son and daughter as his own.

Ben is survived by his wife, Judy Lynch; brother Casey Lynch (Laurie); his sons, Larry Lynch (Dana), Grady Lynch, Jason Smith (Lisa) and David Lynch; and daughter Angela Tennant (Barrett). He is also survived by his grandchildren, Averie, Sydney, Collin, Julia and Cole; nephews Pat Lynch (Kristi), Mike Lynch (Neisa), Michael Lynch (Cora); and niece Kelly Lynch (Conner). He was preceded in death by his parents, Ben and June, his brother Jack Lynch, sister Maureen Lynch and first wife Lucille.

A small family burial at Hilltop Cemetery will occur this week and, because of the flooding and difficult travel issues, a Mass and celebration of his life will be scheduled sometime in the spring when all his friends and family can attend.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers to consider a donation to Pagosa Springs flood relief through the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado (indicate neighbors in need/Lynch in memo); or to Mercy Hospice Inpatient (Common Spirit/Mercy health foundation).

John Judson Taylor

The family of John Judson Taylor would like to let the community know of his passing on Nov. 5, 2026.

Obituary and celebration of life details to follow.



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners stand with community veterans after proclaiming Nov. 11 as Veterans Day in Archuleta County.

Department of Revenue announces tax relief for those impacted by southwestern Colorado flooding

Colorado Department of Revenue

Following the recent flooding in southwestern Colorado, the Colorado Department of Revenue is helping affected businesses by offering tax extensions.

More time to file and pay taxes

The Department of Revenue extended the deadlines for some state tax filings to Dec. 31. This applies to sales taxes that are due on Nov. 20 and Dec. 20.

Taxpayers can ask for penalty waivers for other taxes and fees due during November, including, for example, marijuana, fuel and the retailer delivery fee, by contacting the department.

Taxpayers affected by the floods have until Dec. 31, 2026, to file these taxes. This relief is for state taxes only. It does not apply in cities or counties that collect their own taxes.

How to get help

The department will not automatically apply this tax deadline waiver. Eligible taxpayers must call to request an extension of the deadline after receiving a bill.

To make a request, please call the Department of Revenue at (303) 238-SERV (7378). Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Letters

■ Continued from A3

versaries, and holidays. And the constant awareness that circumstances could change dramatically without warning.

Yet amid those hardships, something remarkable often emerged.

A bond between individuals who might otherwise never have met. People from different backgrounds, different beliefs, and different corners of America, united by a common responsibility.

To accomplish the mission, certainly. But perhaps even more importantly, to look after one another.

For many who served, the greatest concern was not personal comfort, recognition, or even their own safety. It was the welfare of the person beside them. The determination that, whatever happened, they would do everything possible to bring their fellow service members home.

That sense of responsibility does not disappear when the uniform is put away.

So, on this Veterans Day, let us remember that military service is not a competition in sacrifice. There are no insignificant assignments when lives depend upon everyone doing their part.

Whether a veteran served in combat or thousands of miles from the battlefield, whether the service lasted a few years or an entire career, each deserves our recognition and gratitude.

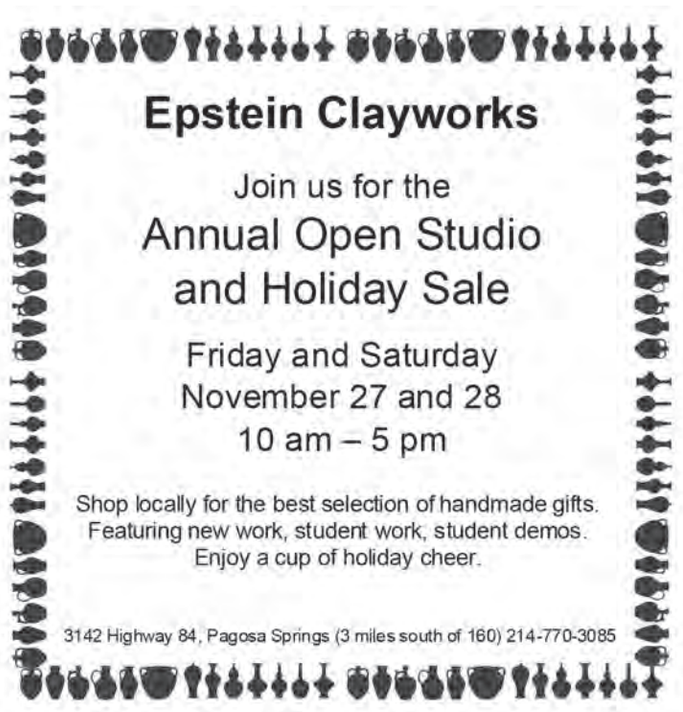
Yesterday was just another Veterans Day.

But for those who served, and for those who remember them, there will never be just another Veterans Day.

Russ Widener







Established 1909.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100











Photos courtesy Terri House

Organizations set up to assist community members impacted by the recent flooding at the Disaster Assistance Center that was open through Wednesday, Nov. 11.

Commissioners direct staff to move forward with new gravel pits

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted unanimously during its regular meeting held on Tuesday, Nov. 10, to direct county staff "to utilize various locations along County Road 500 corridor for gravel and coordinate with the State of Colorado."

The BoCC discussed the matter earlier that day during a work session in which Commissioner John Ranson indicated that "we made some significant progress in standing up some gravel pits ASAP."

County Manager Longinos Gonzalez explained that the county has been in conversations with private individuals and the U.S. Forest Service over the last few weeks about opportunities for gravel pits, noting that it is "somewhat based on the flooding."

Gonzalez explained that, after the flooding, people around the county have property that was filled with material they can legally excavate.

"And now you have available material," he said, explaining that people are offering it to the county to use for emergency road repairs.

"That still requires permits," Gonzales said, noting that in order for the county to extract the material, there is a process that needs to be followed.

Gonzalez also commented that the county hasn't received any promises yet in regard to the state potentially waiving permit fees on new gravel pits in the county.

Ranson explained that he was able to speak with a state representative during Sen. Michael Bennet's and Rep. Jeff Hurd's visit to Pagosa Springs on Friday, Nov. 6.

"I'm committed to not paying these fees," Ranson said, indicating that the state is willing to listen "instead of making money off our emergency."

Ranson commented on the importance of having gravel pits, saying, "These are a big deal."

He explained that the county could potentially come up with three gravel pits with private property owners, and that the U.S. Forest Service has indicated that five to eight gravel pits could be possible on its land.

Ranson claimed that having these local gravel pits could help save "almost 50 percent" of the cost for the community to rebuild its roads.

He added that having anywhere from three to eight gravel pits come out of the flooding disaster "could be nice for all the taxpayers."

Commissioner Warren Brown commented on the topic brought up during the work session about community members offering to use their equipment to assist the county with work on their property or roads.

"The county might not be able to sanction some things that you're doing, but we all understand that you have to do what you have to do to make your property viable, passable and livable," Brown said.

He also commented on the need for gravel, expressing a commitment to establishing the gravel pits.

Brown mentioned that he appreciates the state's willingness to look into waiving fees and giving its permission to move forward with the matter, "but we're going to get gravel."

Brown also noted that he understands the dislike of gravel pits, but that "it all begins and ends with rocks" in order to build homes and roads.

"We have to do what we have to do to help ourselves rebuild and to move forward," he said.

Commissioners sign letter of support to president for emergency federal assistance

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting held on Nov. 10, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved a letter of support addressed to President Donald Trump for the major disaster declaration requesting federal assistance for flood recovery.

The letter explains that the October 2026 flooding events were driven by "an extraordinary convergence of weather conditions."

The letter states, "We respectfully urge your immediate approval of federal disaster assistance to help our communities recover from the historic flooding and destructive debris flows that devastated our region.

"We have endured devastating, back-to-back floods, being forced to absorb repeated destruction, including from the damaging flooding in October 2025, which already significantly strained our resources. This disaster is particularly devastating because it follows repeated, back-to-back autumn flooding events, including the significant flooding of October 2025, which had already placed tremendous strain on our infrastructure, emergency response capabilities, and local budgets."

The letter also explains that over the past 12 months, Colorado has managed 12 declared disasters.

"With an incoming winter storm cycle threatening secondary washouts on already fragile, waterlogged terrain, our rural communities need help from FEMA," the letter states.

It adds that the destruction of essential public infrastructure has been extensive and that joint preliminary damage assessments have already validated $26.99 million in "Public Assistance-eligible damages in Archuleta and Rio Grande counties alone, more than twice Colorado's statewide per capita threshold."

The letter also notes that the full extent of destruction has not been captured yet.

The letter points out validated damages that include $10.6 million in damage to roads, bridges and culverts, including washout points along County Road 500.

"These transportation failures have disrupted access, compromised public safety, and threatened residents' and emergency responders' ability to reach essential services," the letter states.

It also explains that $8.59 million in damage to river parks and recreational infrastructure in Pagosa Springs has been validated, along with more than $2.4 million in "critical utility damage, including municipal lift stations taken offline, destroyed sewer mains, damage to sanitation districts, and contamination of dozens of rural private domestic water wells with E. coli.

"These impacts threaten public health, sanitation, and the reliable delivery of essential services," it states.

The letter goes on to explain that federal assistance is "essential" to restoring damaged infrastructure and supporting the community in recovery efforts.

The letter can be viewed in its entirety at www.archuletacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/Letter-to-President-for-Federal-Disaster-Assistance.pdf.

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Your source for community news:
The Pagosa Springs SUN

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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








Photos courtesy Terri House

Lower Blanco residents Kim Rochester and Christie Calderwood lead representatives from the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs, Colorado Baptist Disaster Relief, Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County and Archuleta County Commissioner John Ranson on a tour of their flood-ravaged neighborhood Tuesday, Nov. 10. The group surveyed the devastation left by recent flooding, assessed ongoing recovery needs, and discussed ways to coordinate cleanup efforts and assistance for affected residents.

Flooding

■ Continued from front

roads and bridges remain damaged or impassable, and access to certain areas may continue to be restricted.

"Crews continue working to restore critical infrastructure, but some repairs may take several months, particularly with winter approaching."

It also notes the ACSO "strongly encourages"residents in areas with compromised or limited access to consider voluntarily evacuating and making alternative living arrangements for the coming months.

"Damaged infrastructure and worsening winter conditions may significantly impact emergency response capabilities, access to essential supplies, and the ability to safely travel to and from these areas," it states.

The press release adds, "Residents are urged to evaluate their personal safety, access to utilities, and emergency needs before deciding to return or remain in affected areas. Please respect all road closures and barricades, avoid unsafe crossings, and continue monitoring official County updates."

Colorado National Guard continues response

On Monday, Nov. 9, the Colorado National Guard (CONG) also indicated its response to the flooding in southwest Colorado was entering the recovery phase as Task Force Ground Search and Rescue activated more than 20 CONG members with five tactical vehicles.

The task force, according to a CONG press release, is supporting incident command reconnaissance, assessment, recovery and extraction capabilities.

A Nov. 10 flood update from the ACSO notes the task force deployed to various areas, delivering meals ready to eat (MREs), drinking water and other essential support to residents impacted by the flooding.

It adds crews also made contact with 17 residents along the County Road 500 corridor, checking on their well-being, identifying immediate needs and gathering information to help determine what additional assistance may be necessary.

"These face-to-face interactions remain an important part of our response, particularly for residents living in areas where damaged infrastructure continues to limit access," the ACSO update states.

Since activating on Oct. 22, the CONG notes it has rescued 65 people and more than 30 pets in southwest Colorado.

"I'm proud of what our Colorado National Guard members have accomplished in the past couple weeks and know they will continue to be a critical asset our neighbors in need," said Director of Joint Staff U.S. Army Brig. Gen. William DiProfio. "Our teams have the capability to save lives, reduce suffering, and protect property, and they are doing a great job in a potentially high-risk environment."

CONG notes the use of its forces in a support role relieves local first responders actively responding to calls in the community.

Preliminary damage assessments

Joint preliminary damage assessments were slated to be conducted Tuesday, Nov. 10, through Thursday, Nov. 12, across southwest Colorado in Archuleta, Conejos, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma and Rio Grande counties, according to a press release from the Colorado State Emergency Operations Center.

According to the center, assessment teams include representatives from each county, the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

A member of United Way's 211 team was also join the individual assistance teams.

"Officials will conduct onsite assessments to verify damages caused by severe storms and flooding that occurred in October and November. The assessments are for both the FEMA Individual Assistance and Public Assistance programs," according to the center.

Joint preliminary damage assessments, it explains, are the first step required for the state to determine if a major disaster declaration can be requested by the governor to FEMA.

The verified information collected during the assessments is used to designate areas eligible for assistance and the type of assistance available.

Multiple damage assessment teams were slated to be in each county, with one team focusing on the Individual Assistance program and a second team supporting Public Assistance assessments.

All teams will work through Thursday. The team members will be identified with their official agency logos.

Preliminary damage assessments focused on FEMA's Individual Assistance program will identify the impact, type and extent of disaster damages to individuals and their primary homes, according to the center. Teams will also assess insurance coverage, local economic impact and other factors.

If requested and approved, the center explains, the Individual Assistance Program helps individuals and households with uninsured damages to primary homes and property that occurred during the incident period.

The state of Colorado has been working with the impacted counties and individuals to fully assess the damages. FEMA validates the information and documentation. The state will then use the verified information collected during the assessments to determine whether a major disaster declaration will be requested by the governor, it adds.

The assessments for FEMA's Public Assistance programs will identify and validate costs associated with damages to public infrastructure. If requested and approved, the center explains, FEMA's Public Assistance program provides funding to government agencies and certain private nonprofit organizations to repair or replace damaged public infrastructure and for emergency actions taken to protect lives and property.

If a major disaster declaration is made, the declaration will designate areas eligible for assistance and the type of assistance available, the center notes. There is no specific timeline for the federal government to approve or deny requests for presidential disaster declarations.

Utility updates

On Thursday, Nov. 5, the Town of Pagosa Springs announced that crews from Durango and Boulder had arrived to assist local teams with ongoing sewer system repairs.

Most of Archuleta School District's schools remained closed due to the needed sewer system work in the downtown area, with the district announcing on Monday, Nov. 9, "At this point, Town Public Works officials have completed needed repairs to the sewer system, downtown conditions have been deemed safe, all school buildings are safe for students and staff, we have sufficient staffing to support students' return, and transportation services are ready to resume (with some route adjustments ...)."

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) District Engineer Justin Ramsey provided an update to the PAWSD board on flooding impacts to the district at its Nov. 5 meeting.

Ramsey explained that PAWSD lost a water line under the bridge on U.S. 160 near 1st Street, depriving the businesses on the north side of the highway east of the bridge of water.

"The only way to get them water is to tie into the 6-inch line on the south side and bore underneath," Ramsey said, adding that PAWSD received permission to do this from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) on Nov. 4 and that PAWSD was working with the company CDOT had hired to do boring in the area since they have recent experience in the area and there is "a lot of risk" with a variety of buried infrastructure that could be damaged in the area.

He indicated that water for these businesses would be restored once the boring is complete.

Ramsey stated that a large amount of sediment accumulated in the pond used to divert water for the district's San Juan water treatment plant and that it would have to be removed before resuming operations of this plant.

He added that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment was also concerned about the potential for raw sewage contamination due to sewage spills into

■ See Flooding A7







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Multiple town parks, trail portions remain closed following flood damage

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Damage to the San Juan Riverwalk is seen from above at the San Juan Overlook on Tuesday, Nov. 10. Multiple sections of the Riverwalk suffered significant damage from recent flooding.

Multiple town parks remain closed after devastation caused by recent historic flooding.

During a Pagosa Springs Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting held on Nov. 5, Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis provided an update on the town's facilities.

"We no longer have complete trail connectivity like we used to," Lewis said, explaining that multiple areas of the San Juan Riverwalk were washed out.

He noted that, prior to this year's flooding events, there was trail connectivity downtown extending from the east end of town behind Riff Raff along the river all the way to Yamaguchi Park.

"We no longer have that," he said.

Lewis then explained that River Center Park "is gone" and that "everything that's in it was washed away."

The park featured playground equipment, a gazebo, a fishing dock, a trail system and two ponds "that are now full."

Lewis also mentioned that the 1st Street pedestrian bridge planned to be installed next year will now have to be reworked for a second time after being delayed by the October 2025 floods, as well.

"That bridge will not be going in next year," he said.

Cotton Hole Park was heavily damaged, as well, Lewis explained, noting that the majority of the concrete trail through that park was washed away.

"Everything just looks like one big battlefield," Lewis said, explaining how it's now difficult to differentiate public-owned versus privately owned lots in the area.

Lewis also mentioned that "half the asphalt's gone" from the cul-de-sac of Cotton Hole Park.

"The river is doing its thing and it's finding new ways," he said.

One portion of the trail that did survive is the section along Hermosa Street to Town Park, Lewis explained, noting that a lot of cleanup is needed, with the area still being closed.

"It's going to be a while," he said, mentioning that he does not anticipate any of the amenities at Town Park opening back up this year.

Lewis explained that the facilities need to be inspected and that special materials are needed for the playground.

He noted that the plan is to reopen Town Park sometime next spring.

Portions of the Riverwalk trail underneath the San Juan Overlook were washed out, along with the ramp going up to the Hot Springs pedestrian bridge.

Lewis also noted that the portion of the trail crossing McCabe Creek was washed away.

"So, there's a gap there," he said.

Lewis mentioned that there are still some sections of trail open that people can access, but that the total connectivity is gone. People will be able to use portions of the trail, but will have to turn around and go back the way they came.

"And that's the way it'll be for a while," he said.

Lewis commented that it is "heartbreaking" to see the damage, given how hard the community worked to recover after the October 2025 floods.

"We were just getting there from the last flood," he said, "and now we're back to ground zero."

Lewis added that town staff are approaching the situation with a good attitude, focusing on what they can get done with the funding that is available.

He clarified that "none of the pedestrian bridges are open" as they all need to be inspected.

He explained that the portion of the Riverwalk behind Town Hall and the Ross Aragon Community Center survived, but that a portion near the 6th Street pedestrian bridge "has been compromised underneath."

He also noted that the Rock Ridge Trail east of the Apache Street bridge and across from Yamaguchi Park was lost entirely.

"We not only lost the trail, we lost our easement," he said, explaining the whole area will need to be "reworked."

Lewis explained that the northeast corner of the trail at Yamaguchi Park did get covered in water, but "thank goodness we didn't get to 21 or 22 feet, because it would've been a different scenario."

Lewis also explained that Yamaguchi Park is still open, mentioning that "people shouldn't be afraid of coming to Pagosa" and that the town's most-used park is "wide open."

"Our biggest thing is making sure everyone's safe," Lewis said, asking people to please respect any barriers in place.

"The last thing I want is something tragic to happen after the event," he said.

Lewis explained that one of his "top priorities" is to get the Hot Springs pedestrian bridge fixed, noting that it will create some more connectivity through town.

He also spoke about how the flood has brought up another topic of what can be done differently in the parks in order to be more resilient to flooding events.

"Nothing is flood-proof, but are there changes we need to make within our parks to make them more resilient?" Lewis asked.

He mentioned that it may be worth considering the placement of future trails being placed farther from the river, and the layout of playground equipment at Town Park could be moved farther from the river.

Lewis noted those "are decisions to be made down the road," but that "the book's open for change."

He added, "If we're gonna spend the money, let's be smart about it."

Lewis also mentioned that Mary Fisher Park is full of debris and silt, with the park still closed.

Restrooms at Yamaguchi Park, Bell Tower Park and Centennial Park are open, Lewis noted.

Lewis explained that "things are going to be discovered" as the water continues to recede.

He explained that, with the accumulation of rock and debris near Mary Fisher Park, that has shifted the river to "hit harder" downstream and more water is being forced toward the bank along the Riverwalk trail underneath the San Juan Overlook.

Lewis noted that bank stabilization will need to occur early next spring, if not sooner, "cause we need to do something before our runoff happens."

During the meeting the board also discussed its adopted short-term and long-term goals, which were adopted in 2024.

According to the documents attached in the meeting's agenda, those short-term goals include:

- Improving river access.
- Parking lot improvements.
- Riverwalk improvements.
- Developing Yamaguchi South.
- Phase two of the Town-to-Lakes Trail.
- Skate park expansion.

The long-term goals include:

- Recreation center.
- Explore funding mechanisms for parks and recreation improvement and development.
- Town and county trail connectivity.
- Town and county growth collaboration.

Board member Mike Musgrove commented, "I think we need to step back and rethink the narrative of 100-year flood," mentioning how the town may be able to rebuild damaged parks and trails in a way that is more resilient to flooding events "to where it doesn't cost us millions of dollars every time it happens."

Board member Jason Taylor commented that the Riverwalk is an attraction, along with riverside parks, and that "those are things that bring people to town," but that it would be "foolish for us" not to try to reduce the impact of a future flooding event on the town's parks.

Taylor added that the 2024 adopted goals are still relevant, but that they need to be looked through with the "new lens" of flood hardening.

He mentioned that, as the board works through the adopted goals, "we need to do so with this particular issue in mind."

clayton@pagosasun.com

Flooding

■ Continued from A6

the river upstream and that the diversion and pond would have to be fully drained and cleaned before use resumes.

Ramsey indicated that the diversion and pipeline from the West Fork of the San Juan River that feeds the Snowball water treatment plant was damaged, but that PAWSD staff were still working to assess what this damage might be.

The water line that feeds the Log Park subdivision also broke, he stated, and PAWSD staff were working on repairing it.

The water line at the Apache Street bridge over the San Juan was also lost, but it did not result in customers losing water due to pipe infrastructure in the area and would be repaired at a later time, Ramsey indicated.

Stevens Reservoir also overflowed through its spillway and washed out part of Honeybee Place, although it did not damage the culverts on the road and the road is currently "passable."

He added that exposed pipes caused by washouts on North Pagosa Boulevard and Mockingbird Lane would also have to be replaced in the future, although they are currently functioning.

"I've told [District Manage Andrew Connor] many times, but, if you see the rest of the staff, including all the gals, tell them how much, I think I can speak for the board, say how much we appreciate them," said PAWSD chairman Gene Tautges. "There's a boatload of overtime that's gone in, so we're going to have some increased cost there, but considering we just went through one of the worst disasters this county's ever seen, I think we're doing all right."

As of Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 11, the PAWSD website contains a notice stating, "PAWSD is currently making repairs on the raw water line that provides water to the Snowball Water Treatment Plant. That is the primary water source for the downtown area. We do have an alternative water source while we make these repairs. The water is safe to drink, but please conserve for the next few days while the repairs are being made. Thank you for your cooperation."

No further updates on PAWSD repair efforts were available by press time.

As of Monday, Nov. 9, La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) noted on

■ See Flooding A8

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- Drowning response and prevention
- Opioid-associated life-threatening emergencies
- First aid basics for medical and environmental emergencies

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Instruction time: ~6 hours

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Love Pagosa: A Community United in Recovery

PAGOSA VIEW: November 2026
Town of Pagosa Springs

Following two weeks of back-to-back historic flooding, Pagosa Springs is coming together to recover and rebuild. Through **#LovePagosa**, a new community-wide initiative is helping turn compassion into action by connecting residents and businesses affected by flooding with volunteers, local organizations, and recovery resources. Through the Love Pagosa Volunteer Hub, community members can request assistance, sign up to volunteer, or find ways to support neighbors and local businesses.

This effort reflects the generosity, resilience, and community spirit that make Pagosa Springs special. The Town extends its heartfelt gratitude to first responders, employees, regional partners, local businesses, and neighbors who continue to step forward. While challenges remain, recovery is moving forward, and every act of kindness makes a difference.

You can be part of #LovePagosa! Explore the resources below to request help, volunteer, donate, or support local businesses as our community rebuilds together.

FLOOD RECOVERY RESOURCES & ASSISTANCE

Financial Assistance for Businesses
Region 9 Economic Development District and Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation are offering Business Disruption Loans of $1,000–$10,000 for eligible flood-affected businesses.
970-247-9621, region9edd.org

Assistance for Individuals & Families
Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) is providing essential supplies and emergency financial assistance to families affected by flooding.
970-585-6908,pagosacommunityinitiative.org

Help Finding Essential Services
211 Colorado connects residents with available food, temporary housing, clothing, financial assistance, and other essential services.
Call: 2-1-1, Text your ZIP code to 898-211,211colorado.org

Volunteer or Request Recovery Help
The Love Pagosa Flood Recovery Volunteer Hub connects volunteers with residents, families, and businesses in need of cleanup and recovery assistance.
https://love-pagosa.lovable.app/

Support Local Businesses & Families
Business Recovery Fund: pagosaspringscdc.org
Family Relief Donations: pagosacommunityinitiative.org/donate
Business Recovery Survey: surveymonkey.com/r/KDVPSGW

Community members are also encouraged to shop locally and support affected businesses whenever possible.

Stay Informed & Connected
For current flood recovery updates, assistance resources, volunteer opportunities, and community information, visit: pagosasprings.co.gov/349/OctoberNovember-2026-Flood-Recovery
OR scan the QR code to access the Town's recovery resource page.

For emergency alerts, text 81147 to 888777 or register at: local.nixle.com/register/

Follow the Town of Pagosa Springs on Facebook and Instagram for additional updates.

pagosasprings.co.gov
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pagosasprings.co.gov/newsletter
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Water conservancy approves lawsuit settlement, PAWSD to consider agreement Nov. 16

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its Nov. 6 meeting, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors voted to enter into a settlement agreement proposed by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), marking a key step in resolving the litigation between the districts.

The litigation concerned PAWSD's attempts to sell the Running Iron Ranch, where the SJWCD is working to build a reservoir, over the objections of the SJWCD.

The litigation was initiated by PAWSD when it began an effort to establish that the terms of a three-way agreement between the SJWCD, PAWSD and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) on the management of the property and the reservoir project allowed PAWSD to sell the ranch without the SJWCD's consent.

Following various filings and summary judgment by Archuleta District Court Judge Justin Fay on parts of the case, the districts initiated mediation and negotiations over a settlement in March.

The SJWCD board unanimously approved entering into and releasing the settlement agreement.

The board also unanimously voted to approve releasing a brief public statement proposed by SJWCD board member Candace Jones.

The statement reads, "Today, the San Juan Water Conservancy District voted to enter into a settlement agreement with the Pagosa Area Water [and] Sanitation District. Finishing the settlement agreement is an important step toward a final resolution of litigation PAWSD started in December 2024.

"Getting from terms outlined by the Districts in March to today's vote has been a long process. The Conservancy District accepted a revision of the settlement agreement PAWSD proposed yesterday. We look forward to the PAWSD board acting at its November 16 meeting to formally approve the settlement agreement.

"Failure to complete the settlement agreement would likely return the Districts to active litigation. That outcome is not in the best interest of either District or the community."

The PAWSD board discussed the litigation in an executive session at a special meeting on Nov. 5, but did not take any public votes or make any public statements on the issue.

The settlement agreement approved by the SJWCD includes a number of terms that will make significant impacts on the management and structure of the ranch and the ongoing reservoir project.

It states that the SJWCD will retain a real estate broker and sell off a portion of the Running Iron Ranch not needed for the reservoir project that can be sold off at a price that will fully pay off Loan A, the loan from the CWCB to purchase the ranch that PAWSD is currently making payments on.

The sale must also pay off PAWSD's $219,104.95 principal portion of the 2026 Loan A payment and any annual payments PAWSD makes between the approval of the settlement and the sale.

The purchase of the ranch was initially supported by a $9,219,363 loan to PAWSD and a $1 million grant to the SJWCD.

A 2015 three-way agreement between PAWSD, the SJWCD and the CWCB divided the loan into a $4,290,930.32 Loan A to be repaid over 20 years ending in 2036 and a $4,565,000 Loan B to be repaid over 20 years beginning in 2036. Both of these loan values do not include interest, which is 1.75 percent for Loan A and 3.50 percent for Loan B.

The settlement agreement also indicates that the SJWCD will be responsible for negotiating a new or amended loan agreement for Loan B with the CWCB, which will now be repaid by the SJWCD.

The SJWCD will be responsible for negotiating the conveyance of PAWSD's remaining interests in the ranch and its associated Park Ditch Company water shares to the SJWCD and for negotiating the CWCB releasing PAWSD from its obligations to the CWCB related to the reservoir project.

The agreement indicates that, if the SJWCD does not enter into a contract to sell a portion of the ranch and reach an agreement to release PAWSD from its CWCB obligations prior to Dec. 31, 2027, PAWSD will have the right to terminate the settlement agreement.

The settlement states that the districts will both file to dismiss the lawsuit between them with prejudice and with each party paying its own attorney's fees and costs following the completion of the transactions outlined in the agreement.

"The Districts' only remaining claims against each other shall be the potential claims stemming from the Districts' performance (or lack of performance) of the obligations set forth in this Agreement," the settlement states.

The settlement also requires PAWSD to cooperate with the SJWCD's ongoing community water supply study work and its planning for the reservoir, with the bounds of Colorado open records laws and its nondisclosure agreements.

The settlement adds that PAWSD will provide "reasonable non-financial support" for the SJWCD planning efforts for the reservoir and will acknowledge the reservoir as a potential water supply option in its own water demand growth planning.

It adds that PAWSD also agrees to reasonably cooperate and provide assurances of support in future water court filings concerning conditional water rights associated with the reservoir project.

These terms will expire if these conditional water rights are canceled, if the SJWCD sells the ranch, if it formally abandons the reservoir project or by Dec. 31, 2029.

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Flooding

■ Continued from A7

its website that 145 meters remain out, the majority of which are just north and east of Lake Navajo off Colo. 151 and County Road 500.

"Accessibility continues to be the main obstacle," the website states in the Nov. 9 updates. "Today, crews are working on smaller, scattered outages throughout Archuleta county. Crews are also addressing several poles and cables around our services area that were washed out or displaced by flood waters.

It notes that, along Colo. 151 LPEA has multiple poles that need to be replaced and lines that must be rerouted.

"As soon as we can access this area, we'll get the remaining 28 meters back in power," it states.

For County Road 500, it notes, "Landowner are working with Archuleta County Road and Bridge crews to gain some access into this area."

Communications outage planned for Nov. 12

According to the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office, CenturyLink/Lumen is required to perform a preemptive cut and splice of the main fiber optic line between Pagosa and Durango from 7 to 11 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12, to avoid a unplanned outage at a location where CDOT needs to perform emergency repairs on U.S. 160.

"CDOT is working [feverishly] to get the Hwy 160/151 corridor open ASAP and a recently discovered flood exposed conduit is preventing these necessary repairs from commencing," a statement from the office explains.

It adds that, like any unplanned fiber cut, during the outage window there will be virtually no cell coverage, no CenturyLink, Zito or Clearnetworx land-based Internet, and Visionary will be on its backup microwave link, but probably very sluggish due very high demand.

Governor issues update

"Coloradans are known for supporting each other, and we are seeing that again across Southwestern Colorado as communities recover from severe flooding. The state has teams on the ground and resources ready for Coloradans who have lost homes, income or access to basic services. This is a collaborative effort and I am thankful to the Colorado National Guard, local teams, state teams, volunteers, and everyone working around-the-clock on search and rescue, road repair and critical disaster recovery efforts. We are making sure workers, families and small businesses can find support, rebuild and have as many resources as possible to get back on their feet," said Gov. Jared Polis in a Tuesday, Nov. 10, update.

The update also included additional resources available to those impacted by the flooding.

Resources for impacted workers

To assist affected workers and employers, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) compiled an online list of resources to help workers navigate the various wage replacement resources available to them including:

• Paid sick leave covered by the Healthy Families and Workplaces Act (HFWA): Under HFWA, workers who missed work due to the flood evacuations, loss of power or damage may be able to use their accrued paid sick leave to cover these absences.

• Temporary wage replacement through Unemployment Insurance (UI): Workers who lost their jobs due to flooding, cannot reach their workplace, or their employer closed because of flooding, may be eligible for unemployment insurance. Whether or not workers receive unemployment benefits depends on individual circumstances and Colorado law.

• Paid family and medical leave via the Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program: Workers who were injured or became ill because of the flooding may qualify for paid medical leave while they recover. This includes mental health conditions that require ongoing care. If a family member was injured or became ill, workers may qualify for paid leave to care for them.

"Coloradans living in the southwest part of our state have endured devastating flooding, and we're committed to ensuring impacted workers are aware of the support and resources available to them," said CDLE Executive Director Joe Barela. "We stand alongside our local communities and partner agencies, as Southwestern Colorado navigates recovery."

Additional resources for impacted Coloradans

• Survivor portal: https://crisis-track.juvare.com/SurvivorPortal/index.html.

• Immediate emergencies: Call 911.

• Emergency alerts: Coloradans are encouraged to sign up to receive emergency alerts for their county.

• Assistance, shelter and temporary lodging: Coloradans can call 211, text their zip code to 898-211, or visit 211 Colorado's disaster response page.

• Road conditions and closures: Visit COtrip.org or use the COtrip Planner app.

• Volunteer cleanup assistance: To request free volunteer help, call (970) 283-7325.

• Local updates, damage-reporting links and additional resources: Visit DHSEM's regularly updated State Emergency Operation Center Updates page at https://dhsem.colorado.gov/taxonomy/term/100014.

Additional information on resources is available at www.PagosaSUN.com.

Voters

■ Continued from front

ballot issues:

• Archuleta County's Ballot Issue 1A (increasing the lodging tax) had 4,950 votes in favor (67.63 percent) and 2,369 against (32.37 percent).

• Archuleta School District's Ballot Issue 5A (approving a bond for a new school if a Building Excellent Schools Today grant is received) had 3,535 in favor (50.65 percent) and 3,444 against (49.35 percent).

• Upper San Juan Health Service District's Ballot Issue 7B (extending is waiver from the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights) had 5,440 in favor (77.03 percent) and 1,622 against (22.97 percent).

Contributing to the delay in results were election changes stemming from the flooding, which included Archuleta administering an oath to a helicopter pilot to be able to have election equipment transported to La Plata County and having voted ballots transported back to Archuleta County via helicopter Monday, Nov. 9.

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.

Delays also stemmed from transportation challenges due to the flooding and the process required to adjudicate ballots when write-in candidates are involved.

Archuleta previously explained bipartisan election judges reviewed each ballot with a write-in candidate listed, with Archuleta County ballots featuring two races with write-in candidates: U.S. senator and Archuleta County surveyor.

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Sales

■ Continued from front

percent ($21,331.76) decrease. August figures also reflected a decrease of 2.85 percent ($47,627.53).

According to Eaton's data, a total of $13,846,477.25 in sales tax has been collected so far this year.

Categories that were up in the month-to-month comparison according to Eaton's data include:

• Construction at 17.16 percent, or $5,486.73.

• Manufacturing at 72.62 percent, or $48,003.94.

• Finance and Insurance at 66.09 percent, or $1,568.76.

• Real Estate, Rental and Leasing at 28.3 percent, or $8,408.28.

• Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 2.66 percent, or $396.60.

• Other Services (except Public Administration) at 20.42 percent, or $5,544.28.

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

• Retail Trade at 13.16 percent, or $132,470.15.

• Information at 15.52 percent, or $5,267.93.

• Accommodation and Food Services at 11.58 percent, or $39,306.87.

• Miscellaneous at 1.40 percent, or $3,162.48.

According to data in Eaton's press release, the year-to-date comparison for January through September shows the town and county are down 3.02 percent, or $431,834.77 less than the same timeframe last year.

Categories that were up in comparison to year-to-date comparison according to Eaton's data include:

• Finance and Insurance at 40.56 percent, or $7,273.60.

• Real Estate, Rental and Leasing at 12.7 percent, or $33,738.90.

• Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 19.13 percent, or $20,101.17.

Categories that were down in the year-to-date comparison include:

• Construction at 25.25 percent, or $69,457.20.

• Manufacturing at 7.74 percent, or $51,685.27.

• Retail Trade at 1.52 percent, or $116,421.96.

• Information at 5.58 percent, or $14,421.79.

• Accommodation and Food Service at 6.16 percent, or $173,961.82.

• Other Services (except Public Administration) at 2.84 percent, or $6,814.12.

• Miscellaneous at 3.01 percent, or $60,186.28.

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Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs History Museum

A portion of the interior of the Pagosa Springs History Museum is shown following the past week's flood. The farming and ranching exhibit fell into the river below when the floor collapsed after the river washed out the bank below the building.

Pagosa Springs History Museum shares update, next steps

Pagosa Springs History Museum

In the days following the flooding that greatly impacted the Pagosa Springs History Museum, a lot has happened.

It is estimated that 80 percent of the collection was able to be removed from the museum structure following the event. With the help of many, the interior was shored up to stabilize the building, and crews packed up artifacts and brought them out to safety.

The eagle created by Worthe Crouse, one of our founders, is safe.

The quilts are safe. This includes the "Pine Trees of Pagosa" and the redwork top that recorded so many of the names of people in our community from the early 1900s.

The history vault is safe. The history vault was created this past season as a collection of history of the area and includes many stories donated by families that settled the area.

There are areas of the museum that are unable to be accessed for safety reasons, and some items were too large to remove through the opening into the museum.

The major loss of the collection is the farming and ranching exhibit that dropped into the rushing waters as the floor of the museum fell.

What's next

The museum structure needs to be demolished and the materials hauled away for safety reasons. The museum board is working with the Town of Pagosa Springs and other agencies to move forward with this. A timeline has not yet been established for when this will happen.

The museum board is working with state and local agencies who have experience in protecting and recovering cultural heritage in the event of an emergency. These professionals reached out immediately following the news of the flooding and the impact on the museum and are helping with resources.

After these first steps are completed, the museum board will consider the future of the museum. Many decisions will need to be made, one step at a time.

Contributions to the museum may be made by going to pagosamuseum.org and clicking on the "Donate" link or mailing a check directly to the museum at P.O. Box 1711, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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Historic floods wipe out drought, more precipitation forecast

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

According to the most recent map published by the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) on Nov. 3, all of Archuleta County is drought-free.

The USDM also indicates that the county was drought-free on Oct. 27.

This comes after more than 9 inches of rain fell across the county from Oct. 22 through Nov. 3, which caused two historic flooding events.

According to data entered into the Community Collaborative, Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRHaS), some areas of Archuleta County reported upwards of 11 inches of rain during that time period. Additional precipitation data can be viewed at https://maps.cocorahs.org.

According to the USDM, Archuleta County went from having 100 percent of the county in a stage one moderate drought on Oct. 13 to being drought-free by Oct. 27.

Archuleta County is one of eight southwestern Colorado counties that became 100 percent drought-free during that time, with multiple other counties left with slight portions in an "abnormally dry" stage.

Forecast

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), sunny skies and mild temperatures are expected around Pagosa Country today, Nov. 12, and tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 13.

Starting on Friday night there is a chance of showers in Pagosa Springs with a low of 30 degrees.

For Saturday, Nov. 14, the high is forecast at 46 degrees with a 90 percent chance of rain and snow showers throughout the day. Rain and snow showers are likely to continue throughout the night, with a low of 27 degrees forecast.

For Sunday, Nov.15, the high is forecast at 48 degrees with partly sunny skies as no more precipitation is in the forecast again until early next week, on Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Colder temperatures and higher snow amounts are expected along Wolf Creek Pass over the weekend following sunny skies and temperatures around 40 degrees on Thursday and Friday.

According to the NWS, there is a 30 percent chance of snow showers along the pass Friday night, Nov. 13, with a low of 27 degrees forecast.

For Saturday, Nov. 14, the high is forecast at 30 degrees with a 90 percent chance of snow showers, which are likely to continue into the night with a low of 22 degrees.

For Sunday, Nov. 15, the high is forecast at 34 degrees with mostly sunny skies.

According to a forecast by Shawn Prochazka with Pagosa Weather on Nov. 10, he indicates that 2 to 4 inches of snow accumulation is possible in the mountains and that Pagosa Springs could receive its first "measurable" snow of the season.

Prochazka also notes that the upcoming storm looks like a "typical" fall storm for the area.

"I do not expect another flooding event," Prochazka wrote.

According to a weather outlook released by the Grand Junction NWS office on Nov. 11, a low pressure system will approach from the west this weekend and, as it approaches, "moisture-rich southwesterly flow will produce mountain snow (above 8,000-9,000 feet) and valley rain."

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Commissioners delay closing of Country Center Drive access

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) tabled its decision on a resolution to temporarily close the public access to Country Center Drive from north Pagosa Boulevard until its first regular meeting in December.

The BoCC voted unanimously to amend the meeting's agenda, tabling its decision on the resolution until the first week of December.

According to the agenda, "This Resolution is to vacate and close public access to Country Center Drive from North Pagosa Blvd., Pagosa Springs, County of Archuleta, due to public health, welfare and safety concerns."

During the meeting, County Attorney Cathleen Giovannini said that the county still feels like "there are some concerns" about the access road, but given the recent flooding events, the county does not want to "inconvenience" residents with any more road closures.

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Contributions can be made at the Bank of Colorado Pagosa Springs Branch 205 Country Center Dr.

Questions may be directed to Pennie DeClark at 970-731-4166.

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Roadways

■ Continued from front

on several highways, including U.S. 160 Wolf Creek Pass between Pagosa Springs and South Fork.

"Contractors began work to stabilize and restore travel on Wolf Creek Pass only days after the first storm washed out a section of road east of the summit," said CDOT Regional Transportation Director Julie Constan. "The second round of rain damaged additional sections of road, but we are hopeful the pass will open to motorists, with some safety restrictions, by the end of the week."

Lew noted CDOT is working to finalize damage estimates, but that it had submitted a request to the Federal Highway Administration for $65 million in funds — including $6.5 million in quick-release funds for repairs before winter — following the first flood and was granted the $6.5 million.

She also noted the Colorado Transportation Commission authorized using its contingency funds to help start repairs.

Lew noted some of the estimates require design decisions to be made, explaining the need to get the plans right in order to build back stronger than before.

As of Nov. 10, three sections of highway remained fully closed: U.S. 160 over Wolf Creek Pass, U.S. 160 at the Piedra River bridge and Colo. 151 south of Chimney Rock Monument.

U.S. 160 Wolf Creek Pass

According to CDOT, "The second storm system on Nov. 1 caused significant destruction at several new locations along the 26-mile mountain corridor between Pagosa Springs and South Fork."

It adds, "On the east side of the pass, through The Narrows, crews have been reconstructing new segments of road where washouts and undercutting occurred along the river banks. West of the summit, extensive mud and rockslide clearing operations are taking place. Additional work to stabilize highway shoulders, mitigate rockfall and install protective barriers will need to be completed in order to make this roadway safe for the traveling public. US 160 Wolf Creek Pass is anticipated to open within a week, weather dependent. Motorists can expect one-lane alternating traffic through multiple work zones."

Constan explained some of the slides on the pass were 200 feet in length and, in areas, guard rails were "hanging in thin air."

She added it's been a "huge effort."

Colo. 151

CDOT notes floodwaters completely washed out two segments of road south of Chimney Rock National Monument, which damaged drainage infrastructure along a 3-mile stretch of highway (mile points 27 to 30).

"Work to restore this bypass is critical to gain access between Pagosa Springs and Durango and is anticipated to be completed before Thanksgiving, likely with speed reductions and flaggers at ongoing work zones," the press release states. "Reopening this work zone will eliminate the need for a detour through New Mexico, cutting the 3.5 hour drive down to approximately 1.5 hours between Durango and Pagosa Springs."

Constan also noted the progress made on the highway this week, with south-end access for local residents who had been stranded since the first flood in October completed on Nov. 8.

"We've had some success there," she said.

U.S. 160 at the Piedra River bridge

"Critical access between the communities of Pagosa Springs and Durango has been severed since Oct. 31 when flood waters collapsed the piers of the Piedra River Bridge (Mile Point 121)," the press release states.

CDOT explained the structure requires a complete rebuild and the embankment has to be built up after a lot was lost during the flooding.

"A contractor has begun work to prep the site, remove the remaining sections of the old bridge and begin construction of a temporary bridge on a temporary alignment before winter," the press release explains. "After a temporary bridge is in place, work to reconstruct a permanent structure will be completed."

The temporary bridge is anticipated to be in place by sometime in January 2027, Lew explained, adding they are working to shave time off that estimate.

The agency noted the permanent bridge is to be rebuilt in 2027.

U.S. 160 at Sheep Springs

Currently open to one-lane alternating traffic, Constan explained that U.S. 160 at Sheep Springs west of Pagosa Springs sustained embankment damage, undercutting of the highway and the eastbound travel lane washed away.

She noted repairs are progressing, including embankment stabilization, subgrade rebuilding and repaving of the highway.

Other damage

Constan noted there are several areas where portions of highway were lost, including U.S. 84, where stabilization is underway.

She noted the plan is to have one lane in each direction on U.S. 84 by winter.

She added the Jackson Mountain Slip east of Pagosa Springs saw "significant movement."

Other areas that sustained damage include Yellow Jack Pass east of Bayfield, Devil's and Martinez creeks west of Pagosa Springs and the San Juan River Village area east of Pagosa Springs.

Constan explained that she had seen photos of and hear of the floods of 1911, but never thought she would see anything like that in her lifetime.

"But we did," she said, adding it's been hard to watch the devastation, but it's been "cool" to be part of the recovery.

CDOT recommends using COtrip.org or the COtrip Planner App when planning travel routes within the state. Up-to-date highway impacts, detours and closures are most accurate on COtrip. Impacts may change daily and are reflected on COtrip ahead of other mapping sites.

Archuleta County

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Nov. 10, Public Works Director Mike Torres provided an update on multiple roads damaged by the recent flooding events.

"What we're focused on right now is the quick, simple fixes," Torres said, explaining that the priority is being placed on fixes that allow residents access to their homes and to the grocery store.

He explained that initially after the flooding events the county had 150 miles of impassable roads, but that it is now down to an estimated 50 miles of impassable roadways.

"Of course, a lot of that is going to be County Road 500," he said, noting that some areas on County Road 917 are still impassable due to crews not being able to access the road with Colo. 151 being shutdown.

Torres noted that county crews are working on county roads 339, 335 and 700, and that county roads 326 and 359 have been opened.

"We did lose a bridge down County Road 700," Torres said, explaining that there is also a "big erosion spot" near mile marker 12 that crews are trying to address.

"We have so much damage throughout the entire county," he said.

He explained that he has been working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to gather all the necessary information and documentation of damage needed for federal assistance.

Torres commented that the Town of Pagosa Springs, Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Jicarilla Apache Tribe have been great partners to work with in assisting each other in responding to the disaster.

"Pretty awesome to see our community come together and help each other out," Torres said.

He also explained that with the county not having received any federal assistance funds yet, the current approach within the Public Works Department is treating matters as if no federal funds will be received by the county.

Torres commented that the county has a limited number of staff to operate equipment and is unable to get every issue addressed immediately, "but we're trying."

Torres asked for patience from the community as the county is looking at all possibilities to help restore access to homes and critical services.

He added that it won't happen overnight, and that "this event was massive."

Commissioner John Ranson explained that the BoCC was able to put a "significant amount into reserves" this past year, and may hold a special meeting "to discuss moving $1 million from reserves into the Road and Bridge fund."

As of press time Wednesday, no special meeting had been scheduled, with the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 1:30 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room at 398 Lewis St.

"It's what reserves are for," Ranson said, adding that he is confident that the county will receive assistance from FEMA. "I feel like we're gonna get some help."

Torres stressed that some roads have taken priority over others as the focus is on restoring access to homes and essential services.

"We're all doing what we can at this point," he said.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that a "tremendous" amount of work has been put in by county staff and other agencies in responding to the disaster.

Torres explained that there are still some residents along County Road 500 who do not have power.

He also noted that past mile marker 12 on County Road 500, "the road is now the river."

Torres explained that crews are still working to clear power lines and restore access to the area.

"It may take some time," he said.

Torres commented on residents who are offering to help the county clear roads and debris, saying, "We don't have the funds to pay for that right now."

He explained that the concern is that allowing people to assist the county with their own equipment right now may cause more of an issue later on.

"Let Road and Bridge handle this," he said.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked about other roads, like Carrico Street, Rainbow Drive and Alamosa Place, noting those are not main roads, but inquired as to what residents should expect as far as work being done.

"The way we're treating this is, if you can get to and from your house, then we're probably gonna push you off," Torres said, referencing residents who are unable to reach their homes due to a washout on North Pagosa Boulevard.

"Things like that are gonna take priority," he added.

Ranson commented that the county is going to need some private help in rebuilding, and it could do so while also keeping it "under control."

He stressed that the county has to be responsible with spending funds to rebuild county infrastructure.

"I think it's important that we start bringing in some private help; we can't handle it," Ranson said.

Medina also commented that any time the county is spending taxpayer dollars, "we should keep it local."

In response to a question from Medina, County Attorney Cathleen Giovaninni explained that the county is able to do sole-source contracts in the case of an emergency.

"We're not gonna wait for the government," Ranson said, emphasizing that the county is in an emergency situation. "It is an emergency, and people need to understand that."

"I agree, and we're doing everything we can right now," Torres said.

Brown mentioned that there may be some obstacle in having private citizens assisting the county in rebuilding efforts, but explained that "there's nothing against one neighbor helping out another neighbor."

Town of Pagosa Springs

The town also continues to have road closures due to flooding, including Hermosa Street, San Juan Street, North 5th Street and South 6th Street.

An Oct. 27 update from the town indicates North 5th Street and South 6th Street will remain closed for the "foreseeable future."

The update adds, "Detours are available, and motorists should continue following posted signage and using caution near affected areas."

Heartfelt Thanks

Annual Mass and Potluck. Sharing food, friendship, and fellowship made this a special community gathering. Your generosity and helping hands made it all possible.

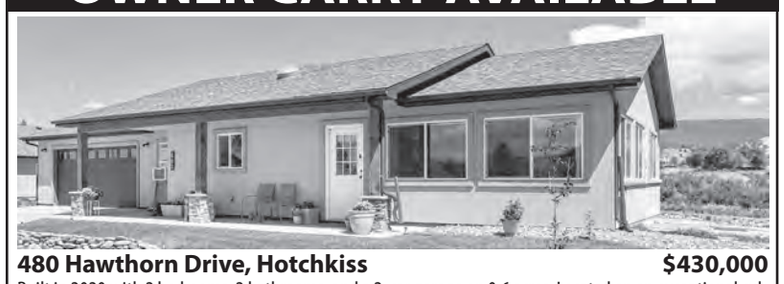
We would like to give special thanks to:

- Father Samuel Auta and Deacon Mark McVay.
- Pagosa Mountain Tent Rentals aand Bernie Martinez for their generous contribution toward the tent, chairs, and tables.
- Manual Trujillo and the sopapilla crew.
- David and Vickie Gallegos and all the silent auction donors for making the auction such a success.
- Our family, grandkids, and friends for the helping hands and energy that brought so much joy to the gathering.

To everyone who brought a dish, shared a smile, or lent a hand: thank you for making this gathering a celebration of community. We are grateful for the kindness, friendship, and generosity you shared with us.

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County authorizes temporary building permit fee waivers for flood recovery

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Tuesday, Nov. 10, the board unanimously approved Resolution 2026-83, temporarily authorizing building permit fee waivers and expedited administrative approvals for flood relief.

According to the resolution, "establishing a temporary 100% waiver of County-controlled permitting, building, and planning fees for disaster-damaged properties serves a vital public purpose and promotes the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Archuleta County."

The resolution also defines eligibility criteria for waivers and states the property must have suffered damage directly caused by the flooding events and have "reasonable documentation."

According to the resolution, the availability of the temporary fee waivers will last for six months — until May 10, 2027 — "unless explicitly extended by a subsequent Resolution of the Board."

Before voting on the matter, Commissioner John Ranson clarified that the resolution could be extended after the initial six-month period.

Commissioner Veronica Medina stated that she initially had some concern about the six-month period not being enough time for the community, but noted she is "comfortable" with the BoCC being able to extend the resolution at a later date.

Earlier that day during a work session held by the BoCC, County Attorney Cathleen Giovaninni explained that the state has a template for this type of resolution and recommends not going over six months at a time.

County Manager Longinos Gonzalez explained during the work session that the BoCC approved a resolution in 2017 that allows the county to waive certain regulations and fees in order "to facilitate the efficient restoration of buildings and properties within the county" under a disaster declaration.

He also explained that some of the "reasonable documentation" property owners could provide in order to receive a waiver could include Invoices "demonstrating you've spent money on some of this."

During the work session, Medina also asked about what property owners need to do for a variance in order to perform riverbank stabilization work to protect their homes and other buildings.

Medina commented that the river is now "running through people's homes" in some cases, noting that the "river is not where it was before."

Paralegal Tonya McCann explained that floodplain variances are possible for property owners to be able to perform bank stabilization "to shore up and support their homes."

She also explained that those variances can be approved by the BoCC in public hearings with a 24-hour notice, or potentially through emergency meetings called by the BoCC.

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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!
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Education



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Rotary Club

Members of the Rotary Club welcome Aron Engelsz, from Szodliget, Hungary, as the exchange student this school year. Aron is in the middle of the Rotary presidents (from left to right): Allen Roth, Terri House, Jann Pitcher and Cindi Galabota.

Rotary welcomes exchange student from Hungary

By Lisa Scott
Pagosa Springs Rotary Club

The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club is currently hosting Aron Engelsz, high school sophomore, from Szodliget, Hungary, who arrived in Pagosa Springs at the end of August.

Szodliget is the greater metropolitan area of Budapest, on the eastern bank of the Danube River. The small town boasts a peaceful riverside atmosphere, natural beauty and traditional Hungarian lifestyle. The proximity to the historic European city of Budapest is beneficial as this breathtaking European capital is where grand historic architecture, the scenic Danube River, thermal baths, vibrant cafes and rich culture come together in an enchanting blend of old-world elegance and modern charm.

Szodliget's father is a health and safety officer for a pharmaceutical company, his mother works in home design and he has an older sister completing high school.

At Pagosa Springs High School, Szodliget is enrolled in typical American classes including U.S. and world history, English and math. He has filled his schedule with other classes that have a personal interest like biomedical science, intro to business and drones.

Szodliget's outdoor interests include snow skiing and scuba diving. He is very anxious to become a regular at Wolf Creek Ski Area and skied on opening day with his host family. Dave and Stewart Bellina and their son Noah, a junior, and sister Camellia, a freshman, are Szodliget's first host family.

Last school year, Wennei Chan, from Taiwan, was hosted by the following families: the Bellinas, Carole and Dave Nasralla and their daughter Anja, and Cindi and Scott Galabota and their daughter Corinna. Everyone had wonderful exchange experiences and made close family connections.

This year, Marcy Barnas is an outbound Rotary exchange student spending her year in Japan, in the Kyoto/Nara district, in the western region of the country surrounded by scenic mountains southwest of Tokyo.

The Rotary exchange program is always interested in talking with students that are interested in the outbound program and families that are interested in hosting a student. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this opportunity should contact Rotarians Lisa Scott, (970) 749-4268, lisascott5680@icloud.com; Ronnie Doctor, (920) 946-6367; or Granton Bartz, (970) 946-2827.

The Rotary Clubs in Pagosa Springs have participated in the International Youth Exchange Program since 1991. Students apply for this opportunity through the local Rotary Club and are interviewed and selected by committees in each country. Once a student is placed, they spend 10 months in that community, attending high school, and live with two or three different families during their time abroad. This way, they experience different family environments and meet a wider variety of people.

Rotary clubs in Pagosa Springs include the noon club, which meets Thursdays at noon at Coyote Moon, and the evening club meets the first and third Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at Ramon's. Rotary is always accepting new members and invites anyone who would like to explore the opportunity to make contact with any community Rotarian or the names listed above.

Rotary International is an international service organization whose purpose is to bring together dedicated individuals to exchange ideas, build relationships, take action and help build goodwill and peace in the world. There are approximately 1.2 million members serving communities through more than 36,000 Rotary Clubs in more than 200 countries worldwide.

El Pomar Foundation approves $155,800 for organizations in southwest region

El Pomar Foundation

El Pomar trustees approved $155,800 allocated to 19 nonprofit organizations and government agencies in the Southwest region at the Foundation's most recent Trustees meeting.

Through the Foundation's grant making process, the following organizations were awarded grants:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Colorado (Durango): $15,000 for general operating support; competitive.
- The Community Treehouse (Bayfield): $15,000 for general operating support; regional council.
- Crow Canyon Archaeological Center (Cortez): $1,000 for general operating support; staff merit.
- Dolores County Public Library (Dove Creek): $8,000 for DC Excel After School program; regional council.
- Dove's Nest (Dove Creek): $10,000 for general operating support; regional council.
- Durango Cowboy Poetry Gathering Inc.: $5,000 for general operating support; regional merit.
- Durango Nordic Ski Club Inc.: $5,000 for youth programs in Colorado; Bill and Kathy Hybl Fund.
- DUST2 (Pagosa Springs): $5,000 for youth cycling opportunities; Bill and Kathy Hybl Fund.
- Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County (Pagosa Springs): $4,000 for general operating support; regional merit.
- Explorers Early Childhood Education Inc. (Durango): – $15,000 for general operating support; regional council.
- Montezuma County Public Health (Cortez): $1,800 for RISE suicide walk and related mental health programming; regional council.
- Pagosa Community Initiative (Pagosa Springs): $10,000 for general operating support; regional merit.
- Painted Sky Dental (Bayfield): $6,000 for Archuleta County youth and senior dental services; regional merit.
- Rico Trails Alliance: $10,000 for general operating support; regional merit.
- Silverton Family Learning Center Inc.: $7,000 for general operating support; regional merit.
- Silverton Public Library: $3,000 for general operating support; regional merit.
- Southern Colorado Community Action Agency Inc. (Ignacio): $15,000 for Project Venture program; competitive.
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe (Ignacio): $5,000 for Boys and Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe general operating support; regional merit.
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe (Ignacio): $5,000 for Boys and Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Torch Club program; regional merit.
- Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (Pagosa Springs): $10,000 for Wildfire Ready Action Plan; competitive.

In an effort to increase impact and establish connections across the entire state, the Regional Partnerships program was established in 2003. Each of the Foundation's 11 regional councils advises El Pomar trustees and recommends grants to help support its communities.

The Southwest Regional Council recommends grants in Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties. Council members are regional leaders in the business, nonprofit and public sectors and provide firsthand information about current needs in their own communities.

Founded by Spencer and Julie Penrose in 1937, El Pomar Foundation has an established legacy of general purpose grant making. The competitive process remains the foundation's primary vehicle for organizations to receive funding. Additionally, over the last 89 years, El Pomar has either developed or been entrusted with the stewardship of several other funds, as well as presenting merit grants in each region recommended by trustees and regional council members. Competitive applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

The Bill and Kathy Hybl Fund supports Olympic, Paralympic, and youth sports. Bill Hybl, a lifetime public servant, has long been dedicated to amateur sport. Currently chairman of the United States Olympic Endowment, he believes the ideals of excellence, fair play and hard work through sport are important for athletes as well as children.

To view a full listing of El Pomar's funds and grant-making areas, please visit www.elpomar.org/grant-making/.

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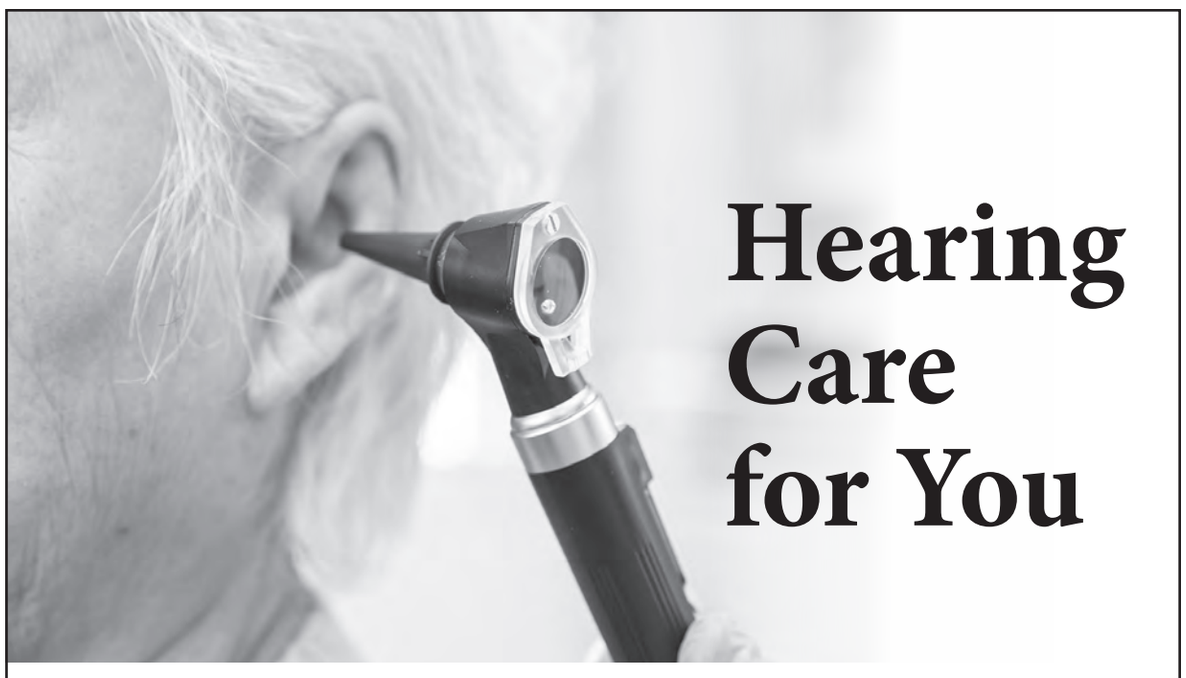
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Sending humanitarian aid to Arboles

Photos courtesy Terri House, Sherri Foster and Denise Mudroch

The Colorado National Guard works with multiple community organizations and individuals in Pagosa Springs and Arboles to deliver much-needed supplies to Arboles on Wednesday, Nov. 4.





















Sports

Football

Pirates bow out of playoffs with loss to Wellington

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team's season came to an end last Saturday, Nov. 7, losing its second-round playoff matchup against the defending state champion Wellington Eagles.

In the midst of historic flooding happening in Pagosa Springs, the Pirates made back-to-back journeys to the Front Range and northern Colorado to compete in this year's playoffs.

After defeating the Banning Lewis Academy Stallions on Oct. 31 in Colorado Springs, the Pirates made it back home before flooding swept through the area on Nov. 1 and 2.

That win set up the Pirates second-round matchup against the Wellington Eagles in Wellington.

The team was able to make it up to Wellington for Saturday's matchup, but only had a couple of days of practice between playoff matchups.

The Pirates lost to the defending state champions 54-0.

The Pirates put up a total of 40 yards on offense on the night, with Gage Sams racking up 15 yards on nine carries.

Alex Pacheco ran for a total of 2 yards on nine carries, Hudson Mazur put up 14 yards on six carries, and Kasen Limebrook ran for 9 yards on five carries.

Limebrook was unsuccessful on all three of his pass attempts on the night.

Mazur led the Pirates on defense with 10 solo tackles, followed by Colby Ross with six.

Vinny Fish and Reese Jenkins each had four solo tackles on the night.

"With everything we had going on … it was challenging," coach Nathan Morales said.

He explained how the team, and himself, have to learn how to "work through those things," mentioning it's important to focus on controlling the "controllables."

"We never know where life's gonna take us, but we just gotta try to persevere through those things and not let it be a distraction," he said.

Morales praised the Pirates' effort against the Eagles, noting he thought they played well for only being able to get two practices in before the game.

Archuleta School District (ASD) was forced to close school from Nov. 2 through Nov. 9 due to flooding in the area.

"They're a really good football team, and we just ran into them at the wrong time," Morales said of the Eagles.

Morales also mentioned there are no excuses and that, "no matter what's going on in our lives, we have to finish."

He expressed how proud he is of the Pirates and their dedication to one another throughout the whole season.

He explained that he was proud of the team as a whole for "how close they are as a group," noting, "that's what makes it fun" — having an entire squad focused on the same goal and enjoying being around each other.

Morales noted that all of the Pirates were safe and healthy after the flooding events, and that this year's experiences have provided learning opportunities going forward.

> *"We never know where life's gonna take us, but we just gotta try to persevere through those things and not let it be a distraction."*
> **Coach Nathan Morales**

He also spoke highly of the five seniors who finished the season with the Pirates this year, saying he is "super proud of our seniors."

He explained that the team "leaned" on those seniors all year long.

"I'm proud of those five men, and I think they're gonna go on to do great things," he said.

Those five seniors are Hudson Mazur, Jimmy Elledge, Jerry Su, Braylon Landry and Zander Lefthandbull.

"Those are guys that we'll talk about in the future," Morales said, noting that they are a part of a long line of seniors before them who have set the standard for Pirate football.

"We're definitely gonna miss those guys," he said, noting those are "guys that up-and-coming players want to be like."

Morales mentioned that Su served as a player/manager, assisting the team with getting game-time drone video footage, and would also come in for special teams plays.

In a statement shared with The SUN, Morales wrote of the five seniors, "You finished what you started, and that says a lot about who you are. We're going to miss you. Thank you for everything you give this program."

Morales also spoke about the team's first-round playoff matchup against the Banning Lewis Academy Stallions, in which the Pirates won by a score of 33-13.

"[I'm] proud of the way they came together," Morales said of the Pirates, noting that Pagosa Springs was the only "underdog" in terms of rankings to win in the first round.

Morales mentioned the Pirates game against Coal Ridge being canceled effected their potential playoff path, explaining that if the Pirates were able to play that last regular-season game against Coal Ridge, that likely would've affected playoff seeding.

He went on to express gratitude to the Pagosa Springs community and mentioned that the Pirate football program can be successful.

"I believe in our team, and I believe in our community and our school," he said.

Morales explained the Pirates competed in the 2A Western Slope League this year, calling it one of the toughest leagues in 2A football.

He relayed that five teams from the league made the playoffs, with four of those teams poised to make a deep playoff run this year.

"I thought we were playing well," Morales said of the Pirates' performances at the end of the season, adding, "We're in a league that's gonna make us better, for sure, and we gotta play high-level football all year."

Morales commented that it was good to get a playoff win this year, noting again that the Pirates could've had a very different playoff path.

"I gotta make sure we're playing really good football early on, and we're finishing strong also, and I think that'll lead to more post-season success going forward," Morales said.

Morales also spoke about how the upcoming season starts now, indicating he's excited for what is in store for next year.

He noted the Pirates have a big junior and freshman class, along with good athletes in the sophomore class.

"We're gonna work hard," Morales said. "That way we start and end on a higher note."

Morales also thanked and praised an extensive list of community members, school district staff, businesses, parents, administrators and coaches that he credits for making the Pirates football season happen.

Morales expressed thanks to his assistant coaches Jordan Caler, Ryan Plake, Davian Coss and Evan Raymond, along with "Coach Vando."

Morales mentioned numerous parents and community members involved in coordinating team gatherings and acquiring team equipment.

He expressed thanks to Wendy and Jeff Sams, Stewart Bellina, Renae Smith, Belinda Hewitt, Brandi Campbell, Jylissa Alonzo, Laura Jenkins, Cristi and Ben Dozier, and Mellisa Slaybaugh.

Morales also thanked the Pirate stat crew, praising the work of Butch Mackey, Michael Martinez and Ryan Martinez.

"We wouldn't get all-state or all-league recognition without the stat crew," he said.

Morales noted the ASD administration, noting work by Josh Sanchez, Jason Taylor and Curtis Nehring on the district's facilities.

A special thanks was given to the team's primary bus driver, Scott "Bobcat" Miller.

"Thank you for getting us everywhere we needed to go and getting us home safe, all those miles," Morales wrote of Miller to The SUN.

"And to every family who sent snacks, fed the team, or helped out along the way: we saw it, and we appreciate it," Morales wrote.

Morales also mentioned that Aubrie Limebrook organized "all of it," from snacks and team meals to merchandise and volunteers.

"Without her, none of this happens," Morales wrote.

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Outdoors

Weminuche Audubon to begin preparing for Christmas Bird Count at November meeting

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

In November, Weminuche Audubon members begin planning for the annual Christmas Bird Count in December.

Will we be wearing parkas or shorts this year when we're out tallying all the birds we identify in our count circle?

To dust off our skills and get us ready to count birds, Audubon Rockies Community Naturalist Keith Bruno will lead us in three classes in winter bird identification.

The November class will focus on waterfowl. Area lakes are currently hosting these birds and providing opportunities to test our identification skills while lakes are still thawed. Additional classes covering songbirds (Dec. 9) and raptors (Dec. 16) will be held. Everyone is welcome to join us in these fun classes where audience participation is encouraged.

The public is invited to join us at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street on Wednesday, Nov. 18.

We are a welcoming group and always look forward to meeting new people, both those who live here and those passing through.

The meeting will begin promptly at 6 p.m. and finish by 8 p.m. Come anytime after 5:30 p.m. to socialize with appetizers and snacks before the meeting starts. Please note the earlier start time for this meeting.

Please enter through the side door off the parking lot or let us know to open the main door for handicap entrance.

In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food or cash for the church food bank.

For those unable to attend in person, a link to join the meeting on Zoom will be posted on our website, weminucheaudubon.org, prior to the meeting.

Plan to join us on Dec. 19 for the 127th annual Christmas Bird Count, when we head out in teams to count birds in our Pagosa Springs circle.

You don't have to be an expert to help us count all the birds that we identify on count day. Our 15-mile diameter count circle, centered in town and branching out in all directions, is divided into eight zones. If you live within one of the count zones, you can also participate by counting birds at your home feeders.

Data generated from the count is an important scientific tool used in understanding and predicting how birds respond to changes in our environment.

Send us an email and we will add your name to the list of participants, weminucheaudubon@gmail.com.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers refunds to fourth rifle season hunters in flood-impacted units

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will extend refund opportunities to hunters in numerous game management units (GMUs) directly impacted by historic flooding in southwest Colorado.

Major highway closures along with closed county and Forest Service roads have severely reduced access to public lands.

After quickly establishing refund opportunities for third rifle season hunters ahead of the start of the season Nov. 7, CPW began to coordinate with national forest partners and impacted counties to determine timelines for repairs to closed roads.

As field staff have been able to assess conditions, it is clear considerable time is needed before the public can safely access many areas. For that reason, CPW will offer refunds to hunters in impacted units for the fourth rifle season that runs Nov. 18-22.

Travel into GMUs 74, 75, 77, 78, 80, 81, 741, 751 and 771 is still strongly discouraged at this time.

CPW has approved fourth season refund opportunities for the following deer hunt codes: DM075O4R, DF075O4R, DM075P4R, DF075P4R, DM077O4R, DF077O4R, DM077P4R, DM074O4R, DM741O4R, DM741P4R, DF741P4R and DM080O4R.

CPW has also approved fourth season refund opportunities for the following elk hunt codes: EM074O4R, EF074O4R, EF741O4R, EM074P4R, EF074P4R, EM075O4R, EF075O4R, EM075P4R, EF075P4R, EM077O4R, EF077O4R, EM077P4R, EF077P4R, EF080O4R, EF081O4R and EM080O4R.

All refund fees will be waived for customers holding these licenses, and any preference points used to draw the license will be restored to the pre-draw level.

Refunds for third rifle season hunters needed to be submitted before the season began Nov. 7.

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 here 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.

Licenses returned for these units will not be reissued. If customers with other hunt codes are directly impacted by the floods and would like to apply for an exception, they may submit their license with proof of the impact and the request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

More information regarding hunting license refunds, reversals and exchanges can be found online on the CPW website.

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

Several major road closures still 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.

Public Notices

At a regular scheduled meeting of the Mineral County Board of County Commissioners, the Board adopted, upon second reading, the **Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Colorado Prohibiting the Accumulation of Rubbish in the Unincorporated Areas of Mineral County.** The Ordinance will take effect 30 days from the publication date. Published November 12, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (323499)

BEFORE THE COLORADO ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
NOTICE AND APPLICATION FOR HEARING
DOCKET NO. 261000274
TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
Pursuant to Rule 523.d, the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission Staff has applied to the Commission for an Order Finding Violation against BEEMAN OIL & GAS INC (Operator No. 7125), to adjudicate allegations in the Notice of Alleged Violation No. 403737909.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to: 1) the general jurisdiction of the Energy and Carbon Management Commission of the State of Colorado under § 34-60-105, C.R.S.; 2) specific powers granted pursuant to § 34-60-106, C.R.S.; 3) the Colorado Administrative Procedures Act at § 24-4-105, C.R.S.; and 4) the Commission's Series 500 Rules at 2 C.C.R. 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled this matter for hearing before an ECMC Hearing Officer at the following date, time, and location (subject to change):
Date: January 12, 2027
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place:
Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203
Virtual Hearing with Remote Access via Google Meet
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/teu-oqoo-fwz
Or dial: (US)+1 413-338-0408
PIN: 938 548 362#
For more information about connecting to the videoconference, contact Hearing Officer Jon Peskin, jon.peskin@state.co.us or 303-579-9828
Deadline for Affected Persons to Petition: December 11, 2026
The Notice and documents related to this matter including a complete list of affected Facilities can be found on our "Hearing eFiling System Document Search" page here https://oitco.hylandcloud.com/DNRCOGPublicAccess/index.html. Select "Search for Docket Related Documents" from the pull-down menu, use the above "Docket Number", and select "Search".
Published November 12, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (323432)

Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District
Notice of Budget Hearing
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors of Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District for the budget year 2027. Such proposed budget will be considered at the meeting of the Board of Directors held at the Colorado's Timber Ridge Clubhouse, 31 Shooting Star Dr, Pagosa Springs, Co., on November 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM. The 2027 proposed budget will also be posted on the CTRMD website at ctrmd.org. Any interested electors within Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District may inspect the budget or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the amended budget.
Published November 12, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (322672)

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.
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*. (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*. (320859)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Plaintiff: FRANKLIN E. WITHROW III
Defendants: MEADPROP UNITS, a Colorado LLC; ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY
Case Number:
2026 CV 30048
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)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Tel.: 970.264.8160
Plaintiff:
Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
v.
Defendants:
Charles H Miel, et al.
Case No.: 2026CV30008
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM
This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium, recorded on August 10, 2000, Reception Number 20007580, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered **July 7, 2026,** in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows:
See **Exhibit "A"** attached hereto and made apart hereof
Owner(s): **DOLORES FAY MATZAT; FERNANDO ROHDE SHOTWELL; MARGUERITE WENDY SHOTWELL; MIA G JACKSON; WILLIAM T REYNOLDS; EVELYN F REYNOLDS; JAMES E CHATFIELD; THELMA E CHAT- FIELD; M. MARGARET MCMAINS; HOWARD MC- MAINS; JERRY WAYNE MCMAINS; MARY K MCMAINS; STEPHEN M HALL; CARLA C HALL; MORRIS H RYAN; ANNA L RYAN; MICHAEL D POINTS; EDIE F POINTS; VALERIE MAE HALL; EDWIN LEROY BROWN; HAZEL L DARDAR; SYLVIA T WEBB; DONNA PALMER; MARY MARGARET CROW; JERRY HASELBAUER; DORIS LANE; CHARLES D RALLS; MARTHA L WEG; VANESSA SHEREE ALVAREZ; JOHN L SUMMERS; MARY EVE SUMMERS; MILTON D BRACY; MARY PAULINE BRACY; PATRICK MARK CLOPTON; AMY RUTH CLOPTON; RHONDA KLOTZ STEADMAN; VICTORIA JENSEN; STANFORD L JENSEN; JOE A GOMEZ; LOUANN GOMEZ; MARIA CARROLL; JAMES CARROLL**
Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium, recorded on August 10, 2000, Reception Number 20007580, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Teal Landing Property Owners Association, Inc.
Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.
Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
Association Assessments Due to: Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A"
Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act
THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CUR- RENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.
The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assess- ments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST
THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will, at **9 o'clock A.M., on January 6, 2027, Sale Number 2026-04** in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property de- scribed above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication: 11/12/2026
Last Publication: 12/10/2026
Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun
NOTICE OF RIGHTS
YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NO- TICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.
The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:
Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or con- ducted at the Sheriff's Department for Archuleta County, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, 970-264-8434.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed this 23 day of September 2026.
By: /s/ Mike Le Roux, Sheriff
Archuleta County, Colorado
EXHIBIT "A"
Teal Landing Condominiums Matter Amount
CHARLES H MIEL (C#171102445) A 276,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
Unpaid Assessments: $2,111.40
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $3,356.23
DOLORES FAY MATZAT (C#171505670) A 77,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
Unpaid Assessments: $760.33
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,005.16
FERNANDO ROHDE SHOTWELL and MARGUERITE WENDY SHOTWELL (C#171506231) A 64,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
Unpaid Assessments: $756.50
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,001.33
MIA G JACKSON (C#4252401859) A 126,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,506.17
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,751.00
WILLIAM T REYNOLDS and EVELYN F REYNOLDS (C#170111603) A 154,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225 and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,414.35
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,659.18
JAMES E CHATFIELD and THELMA E CHATFIELD (C#170121545) A 126,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225 and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
Unpaid Assessments: $969.10
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,213.93
M. MARGARET MCMAINS and HOWARD MCMAINS and JERRY WAYNE MCMAINS and MARY K MCMAINS (C#170709067) A 154,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225 and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,402.14
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgment Amount: $2,646.97
STEPHEN M HALL and CARLA C HALL (C#170202741) A 154,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
Unpaid Assessments: $947.60
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,192.43
MORRIS H RYAN and ANNA L RYAN (C#170204168) A 126,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
Unpaid Assessments: $2,322.79
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $3,567.62
MICHAEL D POINTS and EDIE F POINTS (C#170307227) A 105,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
Unpaid Assessments: $659.10
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $1,903.93
VALERIE MAE HALL AND EDWIN LEROY BROWN (C#171208333) A 92,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,038.42
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,283.25
HAZEL L DARDAR (C#170809750) A 210,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425 and 1426 in Building Number(s) 14,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,453.77
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,698.60
SYLVIA T WEBB (C#171403256) A 105,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425 and 1426 in Building Number(s) 14,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,189.55
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,434.38
DONNA PALMER (C#4252300619) A 69,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425 and 1426 in Building Number(s) 14,
Unpaid Assessments: $930.18
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,175.01
MARY MARGARET CROW (C#170214522) A 105,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s) 15,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,032.40
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,277.23
JERRY HASELBAUER and DORIS LANE (C#170214811) A 126,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s) 15,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,794.04
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $3,038.87
CHARLES D RALLS (C#170216261) A 78,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s) 15,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,307.74
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $2,552.57
MARTHA L WEG (C#170300693) A 84,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s) 15,
Unpaid Assessments: $516.88
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgment Amount: $1,761.71
VANESSA SHEREE ALVAREZ (C#171500283) A 154,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s) 15,
Unpaid Assessments: $4,988.72
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $6,233.55
JOHN L SUMMERS and MARY EVE SUMMERS (C#170304349) A 118,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,160.20
Costs: $1,000.00
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,405.03
MILTON D BRACY and MARY PAULINE BRACY (C#170706006) A 231,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,775.54
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $3,020.37
PATRICK MARK CLOPTON and AMY RUTH CLOPTON (C#171301005) A 145,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16,
Unpaid Assessments: $892.24
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,137.07
RHONDA KLOTZ STEADMAN (C#171502768) A 105,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16,
Unpaid Assessments: $726.84
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgment Amount: $1,971.67
VICTORIA JENSEN and STANFORD L JENSEN (C#170308662) A 84,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1711, 1712, 1713, 1714, 1715, 1716, 1721, 1722, 1723, 1724, 1725, and 1726 in Building Number(s) 17,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,009.26
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,254.09
JOE A GOMEZ and LOUANN GOMEZ (C#170311039) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1711, 1712, 1713, 1714, 1715, 1716, 1721, 1722, 1723, 1724, 1725, and 1726 in Building Number(s) 17,
Unpaid Assessments: $1,418.25
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $2,663.08
MARIA CARROLL and JAMES CARROLL (C#170807523) A 364,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1711, 1712, 1713, 1714, 1715, 1716, 1721, 1722, 1723, 1724, 1725, and 1726 in Building Number(s) 17,
Unpaid Assessments: $3,579.06
Costs: $244.83
Attorney's Fees: $1,000.00
Judgement Amount: $4,823.89
In **Teal Landing Condominium.** All as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said build- ing as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Numbers 20102922, 20105650, 20106879, 20203146, 20204764, 20304272, 20209496, and subject to Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded at Re- ception Number 20007580, and all subsequent supplemental Plats or Declaration thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Published November 12, 19, 26, December 3 and 10, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (323493)

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 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.*

Film series to continue Nov. 12 with 'Thinking Like Water: Fire and Flood'

By Brooks Letchworth
San Juan Mountains Association

As our community recovers from a season of ashes and mud, many are wondering what is being done to mitigate these problems and what each of us can do to help.

The "Thinking Like Water" film events are an effort to answer these very questions.

We have seen the Pagosa community come together to help people impacted by wildfire and catastrophic flooding. We have seen town, county, state and federal agencies working to respond to these natural disasters.

As we move forward, it is crucial to do so with a strategy for how individual landowner actions fit like puzzle pieces in the larger picture of preparedness.

The focus of the "Thinking Like Water" films is how Bill Zeedyk and others have mapped out ways that we can mitigate fire and flood risks using low tech process based restoration techniques. Though the structures are simple in design, they function to slow water down, increase soil absorption and reduce erosion. Zeedyk's work has provided a toolkit for communities to build resilience by working with nature.

"Fire and Flood" is the second film event in this series hosted by the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership, San Juan Mountains Association, Audubon Rockies, Chama Peak Land Alliance and Confluence Collective with support from the Biophilia Foundation.

The event will begin with the short film about last year's Oak Fire called "Beyond the Embers" highlighting how each of us play a part in protecting our neighbors, followed by a panel of speakers presenting about the Wildfire Readiness Action Plan put together by local agencies and nonprofit partners.

Join us at the Liberty Theater at 7 p.m. on Nov. 12; the doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

San Juan National Forest plans winter pile burning

U.S. Forest Service

The San Juan National Forest is planning to burn slash piles this fall and winter.

Forest Service officials estimate this work may continue through early spring, as conditions allow.

Certified prescribed fire specialists use pile burns to help improve forest health and wildlife habitat, and reduce the risk of wildfire near private residences and other infrastructure.

Slash piles are generated from forest thinning and timber sales and are piled and burned to remove the debris that would fuel wildfire.

Planned pile burns

Pile burns planned for the San Juan National Forest include the following.

Columbine Ranger District

- Animas Overlook: National Forest System Road (NFSR) 171 Junction Creek Road, 160 piles, 7.5 acres.
- Junction Creek Road; NFSR 171 Junction Creek Road, 32 piles, 15 acres.
- Falls Creek; La Plata County Road 205, 120 piles, 10 acres.
- High Meadows: La Plata County Road 205, 30 piles, 26 acres.
- North Fosset Gulch: NFSR 613 Fosset Gulch Road, 100 piles, 32 acres.
- South Fosset Gulch: NFSR 613 Fosset Gulch Road, 15 piles, one acre.
- East Animas: La Plata County Road 250, 60 piles, eight acres.
- Ellington Lane: NFSR 603, 40 piles, eight acres.
- First Notch Road: Near NFSR 620 First Notch Road, nine piles, 50 acres.

Pagosa Ranger District

Smoke will be visible from the U.S. 160 and U.S. 84 corridors while piles consume.

- Kenny Flat: Boone Creek Timber Sale, NFSR 006 and 006C, five piles, 38 acres.
- Coyote Hill: County Rd 600 (Piedra Road) and NFS Trail 314 (Coyote Hill), 20 piles, 1.25 acres.
- Eight Mile Mesa, NFSR 651 andNFSR 651B, 25 piles: 10 acres.
- Fawn Gulch: NFSR 666 Fawn Gulch Road, 13 acres, 30 piles.
- Jackson Mountain: Griffin Timber Sale, NFSR 37 and 738, 80 piles, 380 acres.
- Brockover: Gobbler Timber Sale, NFSR 919 (Brockover), NFS Trail 303 (Gopher) and Trail 321 (Brockover ATV Trail), 200 piles, 271 acres.
- Mariposa: Mariposa Timber Sale near NFSR 024, 25 piles, 75 acres.
- Sand Bench, North Fork Timber Sale, NFSR 642, 8 piles, 104 acres.
- Snow Angel, NFSR 629, 15 piles, four acres.
- Trail Ridge: Trail Ridge Timber Sale, NFSR 639, 10 piles, 13 acres.
- Turkey Springs: NFSR 629 and NFSR 629B, 20 piles, nine acres.
- West Fork, NFSR 648, 15 piles, four acres.

Dolores Ranger District

- Garb: NFSR 504 and spur roads near Little Mair Draw, 46 piles, 541 acres.
- Double Decker: NFSRs 504, 512 and 514 near Glade Guard Station, 826 piles, 630 acres.
- Orange Peel: NFSRs 526 and 527 near Beaver Rim Gravel Pit, 30 piles, 268 acres.
- Plateau: NFSRs 523 and 247 near Trimble Point, 38 piles, 305 acres.
- Horsetooth: NFSRs 508, 520 and 521.A near Wolf Den and Ferris Reservoir, 17 piles, 195 acres.
- 504 Piles: NFSRs 504 and 216 in Glade area, 25 piles, 15 acres.

Closures or safety notes

No closures are associated with this planned prescribed fire activity. However, visitors should remain alert in the area as firefighters work.

Smoke information

While smoke may be visible, the Forest Service works closely with air quality specialists and closely monitors smoke during prescribed fires. Prescribed fires are timed for best smoke management.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, visit https://cdphe.colorado.gov/apcd/wood-smoke-and-your-health.

Visit https://fire.airnow.gov/ for current air quality information.

If smoke is present on roadways, drivers should slow down and turn on headlights. Please do not report these fires, as firefighters will remain on scene throughout ignitions and patrol afterwards.

Additional notifications

The Forest Service will evaluate conditions in the days and hours before ignition. Notifications for pile burning will be posted on Facebook and InciWeb. If conditions are not favorable, planned prescribed fire activities may be postponed or canceled.

Editor's note: This article was submitted to The SUN prior to this fall's flooding and may be subject to change.

State releases new Colorado Geothermal Market Assessment report

State of Colorado

On Oct. 29, Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) released the Colorado Geothermal Market Assessment report at the 2026 National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), which evaluates the current geothermal market, perceptions of geothermal technologies, and potential geothermal resources for heating/cooling and electricity generation across five geographic regions in the state.

The report highlights the state's leadership in geothermal, and will help state and local policymakers, utilities, project developers, investors, workforce development entities and others to align on strategy to advance geothermal in Colorado.

"We know that by harnessing the heat beneath our feet we are saving Coloradans money. Colorado is showing the nation what is possible when you invest in innovative clean energy technologies to use natural resources to power, heat and cool our homes. This new report is a roadmap to our geothermal future, backed by data-driven strategies to streamline geothermal developments and increase access to geothermal energy across Colorado," said Polis.

Geothermal energy has practical applications to reduce emissions and energy costs across multiple sectors, including buildings, electricity generation and industry/manufacturing.

"As Colorado makes rapid progress toward net-zero greenhouse gas pollution by 2050, geothermal technologies will play a huge role in keeping our homes warm, our lights on and our air clean," said CEO Executive Director Will Toor. "We are already seeing growing adoption of efficient geothermal heating and cooling in Colorado homes and businesses, alongside ongoing exploration into geothermal resources for clean, firm electricity generation and industrial uses. With input from key experts across diverse sectors, this assessment supports ongoing collaboration and smart decision-making to maximize the benefits of geothermal while continuing our national leadership in innovative climate solutions."

The CEO worked with the Home Energy Efficiency Team and eight working groups of industry leaders, researchers, utilities and partner agencies to complete this assessment.

These working groups provided insights on specific topics related to geothermal, such as electricity generation, thermal energy networks, project financing, international partnerships, workforce development, and education and awareness. Structured interviews with industry, local government, academic, utility and other partners, and review of existing data and research also informed the assessment.

The assessment addresses:

- Feasibility of different types of geothermal projects in each of the five regions.
- Locations and project types of $42.6 million in state geothermal incentive awards, including 81 percent for thermal energy networks, 12 percent for geothermal electricity exploration and 7 percent for direct use/waste heat recovery projects.
- Impact of geothermal legislation from 2022 through 2026, including lessons learned to date.
- Case studies of different geothermal technology applications.
- Financing and business model exploration, especially for geothermal electricity.
- Similarity in workforce skills and hiring demand between the geothermal, oil and gas, and other related sectors.
- Barriers and benefits of geothermal adoption.
- Strategies to advance Colorado's geothermal market potential.

The report findings highlight Colorado's diverse geothermal resource potential to support energy efficient, zero-emission heating and cooling, and clean, firm electricity generation across the state.

Geothermal for heating and cooling is a viable solution to reduce heating costs, support grid resilience and improve air quality in all regions of Colorado.

For electricity generation, there are particularly strong near-term opportunities in the Denver-Julesburg Basin, where there is existing data about local geology from the oil and gas industry, and near retiring coal plants with existing electric transmission infrastructure.

The assessment also found a 60 percent overlap in geothermal workforce skills with the oil and gas sector, indicating geothermal's potential to create jobs in communities most impacted by the transition away from fossil fuels.

Workforce development and training in geothermal technologies will support the build-out of geothermal solutions in Colorado while offering new career pathways to Coloradans in just transition communities.

The CEO will showcase the Geothermal Market Assessment at an upcoming webinar at noon on Nov. 16 and at Colorado's inaugural Geothermal Solutions Summit, which will take place from Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 at the Colorado School of Mines.

The Geothermal Solutions Summit will bring together geothermal developers, utilities, researchers, policymakers, service companies and community leaders from around the world to highlight rapid innovation and leadership in geothermal solutions. The summit is a partnership between the Payne Institute for Public Policy at the Colorado School of Mines, CEO, the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission, and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade.

The CEO recently awarded an additional $409,000 through the Geothermal Energy Tax Credit Offering for three thermal energy network studies in Craig, Rico, and Idaho Springs. See the Geothermal Incentive Awards tracker for more details.

The report is available at https://bit.ly/3WUkekM.

Closure orders in place for roads on Pagosa and Columbine ranger districts

San Juan National Forest

For the safety of the public, the San Juan National Forest has implemented two closure orders on the Pagosa and Columbine ranger districts.

These closures prohibit motorized traffic on all listed roads through Dec. 31.

Pedestrians, equestrians, and cyclists are allowed on these roads at your own risk. Find the full closure orders and maps on our Alerts page.

Visit the San Juan National Forest current conditions page at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/conditions for the most up-to-date information on all road conditions, as well as maps of open roads. For additional details, you can call our post-flood information line at (970) 501-5830.

The described roads include the following National Forest System (NFS) roads in their entirety, unless otherwise noted.

Columbine Ranger District roads

- 069: Baldy Mountain.
- 133: Little Beaver.
- 171: Junction Creek (County Road [CR] 204).
- 498: Columbus Basin.
- 537: Spring Creek (CR 335).
- 550: Hotel Draw.
- 578: Hermosa Park.
- 579: Cascade Divide.
- 580: Relay Creek.
- 581: Elbert Creek.
- 583: Coal Bank.
- 585: South Mineral, above the campground.
- 590: Andrews Lake.
- 591: Lime Creek.
- 595: Burnt Timber.
- 597: East Florida.
- 599: Red Creek.
- 601: Seismograph.
- 604: Bear Creek.
- 613: Fosset Gulch.
- 620: First Notch.
- 679: Ophir Pass.
- 682: Missionary Ridge.
- 724: Middle Mountain, above Berri Gate.
- 740: Mitchell Lakes.
- 756: Boundary.
- 772: Purgatory.
- 792: Bedrock Creek OHV Trail.
- 794: Boren Creek OHV Trail.
- 815: Clear Lake.
- 820: Chattanooga.
- 821: Silver Cloud.
- 822: Bullion King.
- 823: Black Bear.
- 825: U.S. Basin.
- CR 124: La Plata Canyon.

Pagosa Ranger District roads

- 618: Archuleta Creek.
- 621: Lower Piedra.
- 622: First Fork.
- 627: Devil Creek.
- 628: Snow Springs Trailhead.
- 629: Lower Turkey Springs, middle section between gates.
- 630.1: Monument Park West.
- 631: Mosca.
- 639: Trail Ridge.
- 645: Fourmile past Lost Valley of the San Juans, includes Fourmile Trailhead.
- 646: Snowball.
- 648: West Fork, past West Fork Campground.
- 648.A: West Fork A.
- 649.B: Burns Canyon B.
- 651: Eight Mile.
- 656: Blanco River.
- 657.C: Blanco Basin C.
- 826: Devil Mountain.
- 667: East Fork.
- 668: Leche Creek.
- 684: Quartz Creek.
- 735: Aspen Spur.
- 759: Oppenheimer.
- 842: Deep Canyon.
- 006: Kenney Flats.
- 653.B: Valle Seco B.
- 024: Porcupine.
- 033: Hatcher.
- 023: Opal Lake.
- 039: Fall Creek.
- 725: Wolf Creek.
- 642: Sand Bench.
- 843: Cemetery Road.
- 660: Castle Creek.
- 665: Nipple Mountain, from closure gate past 029 Echo Canyon.

Just because roads are passable now does not mean they will be when you turn around. Although the flood waters have begun to recede from the national forest, conditions still remain unstable in many areas and roads may continue to deteriorate. First responders are put into high-risk situations to rescue trapped visitors, and this also takes resources from higher-need areas.

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



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Thanksgiving issue
Thursday, November 26
Early Deadlines

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Noon, Friday, November 20

Classified Advertising
10 a.m., Monday, November 23

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, November 19

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, in observance of Thanksgiving

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Early Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov. 19 • Noon to 1:30 p.m. • St. Patrick's Episcopal Church



Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Early Thanksgiving Meal to be served next Thursday, Nov. 19

By Anthony Aldwell
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

The Early Pagosa Community Thanksgiving Meal will be served to all comers next Thursday, Nov. 19, in the parking lot of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., from noon to 1:30 p.m., or until the 400 plus projected take-away meals are all served.

St. Patrick's parishioners will be preparing a traditional Thanksgiving dinner Wednesday and Thursday mornings to enable an efficient drive-through distribution starting at noon next Thursday.

This annual community feast, offered free to the public one week before the actual Thanksgiving Day, will include roasted turkey, savory dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans and home-baked pies.

"This year it is especially meaningful to share our Thanksgiving gratitude with our Pagosa neighbors," stated St. Patrick's Rector Wren Blessing. "That's why we want everyone to know they are all truly welcome to partake in this special community meal."

Please note this year's change of meal distribution location from downtown to St. Patrick's Church, next to Pagosa Springs Medical Center uptown.

To accommodate downtown residents, Mountain Express Transit (MET) will provide two shuttles on Nov. 19 from the Community United Methodist Church transit stop at 434 Lewis St. to St. Patrick's at noon and 12:45 p.m., and return downtown after riders have received their meal.

We all need an uplifting moment in light of the recent challenges in our community. Come enjoy this meal, and have a happy Thanksgiving.



Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

St. Patrick's members work together to prepare next week's Early Community Thanksgiving Meal, set to be served on Thursday, Nov. 19.

Live Performers

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

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

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Nov. 12 End of Life Education meeting to focus on emergency response

By Joan Mieritz
End of Life Education

We have only two sessions left for this season of End of Life Education.

I am planning on having sessions again in the spring depending on the timing of flu, etc. season. Let me know if there is any special topic (old or new topic) you want presented.

The meetings will begin at 1 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis S., in their fellowship hall with a side door right off the parking lot. (The front doors are often locked if there are no other church activities.)

There is a basket for a church donation or people can bring food for the church pantry, but otherwise there is no cost.

When you come to any of our meetings you can get the booklet for end-of-life decisions that is given to you when you enter a hospital in Colorado. Now is a better time to get it and carefully read the choices that you can make. We can answer any questions that you have.

On Nov. 12, we will try again to meet with the emergency medical team to find out what happens when you call 911.

You may hope your fairy godmother shows up, but it is actually a team of what I think are true heroes. This is when you need to have a do-not-resuscitate form on your refrigerator.

You might ask why you would ever want to not be resuscitated. The truth of the matter is that if they resuscitate you, it means that you were actually dead. I have decided that if I am dead, I would prefer to stay dead. My life was great and it is over, and I am grateful for a quick and easy end.

Now, for some people, especially at an early age, resuscitation makes sense. I know of a man who was resuscitated in his 50s, and he is happy he did it. But, if you have lived a full life there comes a point that you don't want to be resuscitated only to die again, perhaps a slower and more painful process. There is life and then there is also quality of life, so this is an important decision to be considered and made.

We will be having our final gathering for this season on Dec. 10. We will review what we talked about, answer all questions and discuss topics for next season.

I wish that people knew how important these sessions can be and how they can help themselves by being as prepared as possible. It is not morbid to face reality, and it

■ See Education on next page

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Pagosa Weather to host second annual Winter Weather Wonder event

By Arleen Prochazka
Pagosa Weather

This is a reminder that 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.

Food donations for the folks affected by the flood will be accepted.

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.

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Vets 4 Vets to hold annual fundraiser Nov. 14

By Rick Walker
Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County

On Nov. 14, Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County (Vets 4 Vets) will host its third annual dinner and dance.

It will be held at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse at 230 Port Ave. and will run from 5 to 9 p.m. Dinner will be a fabulous meal featuring Texas barbecued brisket with all the trimmings. Music will be provided by a local favorite band, Soul Fire, with classic rock and country swing.

There will be an awesome silent auction with dozens of items that you won't want to miss, plus a great and entertaining live auction with our favorite auctioneer, Tim Gallagher. The live auction will feature numerous firearms, both contemporary and a few classic, and collectible items, as well.

This event is to raise funds to support our continuing mission to assist our local and area veterans who are in need.

Vets 4 Vets provides emergency assistance for veterans with a wide variety of help, including rent and mortgage assistance, utility payments, firewood, auto and truck repair, new tires, mental health counseling, appliance repairs, and more.

Please join us for a wonderful, fun event, and to help us continue our mission. Vets 4 vets is a 501(c)(3) registered Colorado nonprofit.

For tickets, visit www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/annual-veterans-day-dinner-and-dance.

Education

■ continued from previous page

does not make you sad. Talking or thinking about death does not influence its timing. It can make you love others and appreciate much more the life you have and available choices there are.

I feel that I have grown as a person each time I have done these sessions. This is the common problem of all mankind. If you've tried to have the best and fullest life possible, adding this information and these discussion topics can only be an asset.

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264-2100

Love Pagosa: A Community United in Recovery

PAGOSA VIEW: November 2026
Town of Pagosa Springs

Following two weeks of back-to-back historic flooding, Pagosa Springs is coming together to recover and rebuild. Through **#LovePagosa**, a new community-wide initiative is helping turn compassion into action by connecting residents and businesses affected by flooding with volunteers, local organizations, and recovery resources. Through the Love Pagosa Volunteer Hub, community members can request assistance, sign up to volunteer, or find ways to support neighbors and local businesses.

This effort reflects the generosity, resilience, and community spirit that make Pagosa Springs special. The Town extends its heartfelt gratitude to first responders, employees, regional partners, local businesses, and neighbors who continue to step forward. While challenges remain, recovery is moving forward, and every act of kindness makes a difference.

You can be part of #LovePagosa! Explore the resources below to request help, volunteer, donate, or support local businesses as our community rebuilds together.

FLOOD RECOVERY RESOURCES & ASSISTANCE

Financial Assistance for Businesses
Region 9 Economic Development District and Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation are offering Business Disruption Loans of $1,000–$10,000 for eligible flood-affected businesses.
970-247-9621, region9edd.org

Assistance for Individuals & Families
Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) is providing essential supplies and emergency financial assistance to families affected by flooding.
970-585-6908,pagosacommunityinitiative.org

Help Finding Essential Services
211 Colorado connects residents with available food, temporary housing, clothing, financial assistance, and other essential services.
Call: 2-1-1, Text your ZIP code to 898-211,211colorado.org

Volunteer or Request Recovery Help
The Love Pagosa Flood Recovery Volunteer Hub connects volunteers with residents, families, and businesses in need of cleanup and recovery assistance.
https://love-pagosa.lovable.app/

Support Local Businesses & Families
Business Recovery Fund: pagosaspringscdc.org
Family Relief Donations: pagosacommunityinitiative.org/donate
Business Recovery Survey: surveymonkey.com/r/KDVPSGW

Community members are also encouraged to shop locally and support affected businesses whenever possible.

Stay Informed & Connected
For current flood recovery updates, assistance resources, volunteer opportunities, and community information, visit: pagosasprings.co.gov/349/OctoberNovember-2026-Flood-Recovery
OR scan the QR code to access the Town's recovery resource page.

For emergency alerts, text 81147 to 888777 or register at: local.nixle.com/register/

Follow the Town of Pagosa Springs on Facebook and Instagram for additional updates.

pagosasprings.co.gov
View the town's monthly e-newsletter online at
pagosasprings.co.gov/newsletter
Town of Pagosa Springs I pagosasprings.co.gov I #lovepagosa

Pagosa Community Initiative launches annual Chrystal Snow Memorial Toy Drive

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) is beginning its annual Chrystal Snow Memorial Toy Drive, inviting residents throughout Archuleta County to help make the holiday season brighter for local children and families.

Each year, the number of children and families served by PCI grows exponentially. Last year alone, PCI provided holiday support to more than 125 families and more than 330 children through the toy drive alone.

With the need continuing to grow, especially with the recent floods and families displaced, the organization is asking the community to join together to help ensure every child experiences the joy of receiving a gift.

Collection boxes are now available at participating businesses and churches throughout town and will remain in place through Dec. 9. Residents are encouraged to donate new, unwrapped toys at participating locations, with some including the Community United Methodist Church, Les Schwab, Pagosa Barber Shop, Bank of the San Juans, Ace Hardware, Grace Church, CrossFit, Bliss Sweets, Rosie's Pizza, Patria and the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association.

Donations may also be dropped off at the PCI office, located at 550B Hot Springs Blvd., Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Toy distribution to participating families will take place on the weekend of Dec. 12.

Residents who cannot shop for a toy can donate through PCI's website and the organization will shop on their behalf. Please indicate "toy drive" in the comments when donating.

For families who wish to receive toys, please register at PCI's website or scan the QR code on any of the toy collection boxes or flyers throughout town.

PCI also needs volunteers to work its table at Walmart and help collect toy donations. Those interested in volunteering can visit www.pagosacommunityinitiative.org to sign up. The website also includes information about donating, family registration and additional ways to support the drive.

For more information, contact Randye at (970) 585-6253 or randye@pagosacommunityinitiative.org.

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Funds will go to the Pagosa Community Initiative and Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs to go **directly to helping flood victims in Archuleta County.**

Contributions can be made at the
Bank of Colorado Pagosa Springs Branch
205 Country Center Dr.

Questions may be directed to
Pennie DeClark at 970-731-4166.

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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Scott Morehead (left) as Roy Scheider, Cameron Vargas (foreground) as Richard Dreyfuss and Tim Moore (background) as Robert Shaw pass the time aboard the Orca in Thingamajig Theatre Company's production of "The Shark Is Broken." The comedy, set during the troubled filming of "Jaws," concludes its run at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts with three final performances Nov. 13-15. Tickets are available at pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

'The Shark Is Broken' to take its final bow this weekend

By Samantha Luck
Thingamajig Theatre Company

A good deal of what made "Jaws" a great movie can be traced to a mechanical shark that refused to do its job.

The notoriously unreliable contraption broke down so often during filming that director Steven Spielberg was forced to keep it largely out of sight. Meanwhile, his three leading actors were left with an unusual amount of time on their hands.

As it turns out, that was probably not a good idea.

Thingamajig Theatre Company's production of "The Shark Is Broken" concludes its run at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts this weekend, with three final performances Nov. 13, 14 and 15.

Written by Ian Shaw, the son of "Jaws" actor Robert Shaw, and Joseph Nixon, the play takes audiences back to the troubled 1974 film shoot, where Robert Shaw, Roy Scheider and Richard Dreyfuss find themselves stranded aboard the Orca, waiting for the mechanical shark to be repaired.

With nothing particularly useful to do, the actors entertain themselves with card games, drinking, arguments and increasingly personal insults. Robert Shaw, the seasoned British actor, has little patience for the insecurities of his younger colleague Dreyfuss, whose considerable ambition is matched by an equally considerable need for reassurance. Scheider, caught between the two, does his best to maintain some semblance of peace.

He is not especially successful.

Directed by Laura Moore, the Pagosa production features Tim Moore as Robert Shaw, Scott Morehead as Scheider and Cameron Vargas as Dreyfuss. The three actors spend the entire evening together aboard a cramped fishing boat, where minor irritations have a way of becoming major confrontations.

Much of the comedy comes from the audience knowing something the characters do not. Today, "Jaws" is recognized as a landmark in American filmmaking, a movie that changed the industry and helped invent the modern summer blockbuster. But during its production, the cast had no particular reason to believe they were making history. They were working on an over-budget picture about a giant fish, with a director who was still relatively inexperienced and a mechanical monster that rarely cooperated.

The actors' arguments about careers, artistic credibility and the prospect of being remembered take on a rather different meaning when viewed from 50 years in the future.

Yet the play is not entirely concerned with Hollywood egos. Beneath the jokes and professional rivalries are some surprisingly candid examinations of insecurity, aging and the peculiar business of making a living as an actor. The writing also touches on Robert Shaw's complicated personal history, particularly as the men discuss the now-famous USS Indianapolis speech, one of the most haunting moments in the original film.

That the play was co-written by Robert Shaw's son gives these scenes an additional layer of interest. Ian Shaw is not simply revisiting a cel-

■ See Center on next page

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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

Disaster relief items to be distributed Saturday

Pagosa Springs Church of Christ

Were you evacuated or directly impacted by the recent flooding?

The Pagosa Springs Church of Christ will be offering free disaster relief items to those impacted by the recent flooding and evacuation on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Archuleta County Mountain Express Transit facility at 83 Harman Park Drive.

Items include family food boxes, personal hygiene kits, infant care items, cleaning supplies, clothing and more while supplies last.

Please do not block any entrances to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

If you have any questions, please email pagosachurchofchrist@gmail.com or leave a voicemail at (970) 264-2552.

Center

■ continued from previous page

ebrated movie. He is also examining a father whose public reputation and private struggles were not always easily reconciled.

For audiences familiar with "Jaws," the production offers an entertaining glimpse into the circumstances surrounding a film that has become part of American popular culture. Those who have never seen the movie will find plenty to enjoy in the uneasy relationship among three very different men who have been obliged to share a small boat for considerably longer than any of them would prefer.

After opening Thingamajig's 2026-2027 fall and winter season on Oct. 9, "The Shark Is Broken" will close Sunday, Nov. 15. This weekend represents the final opportunity for Pagosa audiences to catch the production before the Orca makes its last voyage.

The remaining performances are Friday, Nov. 13, and Saturday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 15, at 3 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Tickets range from $29 to $42 and are available at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

The production runs approximately 90 minutes without intermission and is rated PG-13 for strong language, alcohol use and adult themes.



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Photo courtesy Curtains Up Pagosa

Honk's energetic ducklings encounter their strange brother, the "Ugly Duckling," portrayed by Andrew Borders, in Curtains Up Pagosa's "Honk, the Musical." The story will hit the stage for four performances Nov. 19-21.

'Honk, the Musical' set to land in Pagosa Springs Nov. 19-21

By Anthony Aldwell
Curtains Up Pagosa

Most of us are familiar with Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale of "The Ugly Duckling," in which a strange looking bird is hatched in a duck's nest, only to actually be a handsome swan after enduring ridicule and hardship during his early days.

Like most fairy tales, this is a family-friendly show with a message that will appeal to both children and adults, complete with tunes and melodies that will continue to ring in your mind after the applause and bows.

This endearing story comes alive on Curtains Up Pagosa's stage at the Pagosa Springs High School next weekend as our community theater presents "Honk, the Musical" in four performances: at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, Nov. 19, 20 and 21, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, Nov. 21.

Once again, Curtains Up pursues its community theater mission of entertainment and education by utilizing our local talent to produce a show that includes 55 Pagosa residents on stage, back stage and in our live pit orchestra, from ages 8 to 80.

So, amid our recent difficult days in Pagosa, support our community theater and enjoy an evening out by joining these ducks, geese, turkey, and even a mangy cat and ebullient frog by attending one (or more) of our four shows next weekend.

Tickets are now available online at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa. Adult tickets on line are $22.50, while seniors and students are $18.34. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

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Coming together to rebuild: strength of community collaboration on display

Healthy Archuleta

In the wake of the historic flooding in Archuleta County, we have been reminded of something that makes our community special: the willingness of neighbors, organizations, churches, businesses and volunteers to come together, share resources and support one another when it matters most.

Recovery is not something any one organization or agency can accomplish alone. It takes collaboration, communication and a shared commitment to making sure no one is left behind. Over the past two weeks, we have witnessed this spirit of cooperation in many ways, from helping families access food and other resources to neighbors working together to restore community spaces damaged by the floods.

Healthy Archuleta has been working alongside town and county emergency and recovery teams, local food pantries, and community volunteers to help maintain access to food and connect residents with available resources.

At the Disaster Assistance Center, volunteers have been sharing information about local food pantries and helping residents learn where they can turn for assistance.

Behind the scenes, Food Pantry Network partners have been identifying emerging needs, sharing resources and coordinating food assistance during flood recovery. Healthy Archuleta has supported these efforts by distributing gift cards to local pantries so patrons can purchase food and coordinating the distribution of pallets of donated food to meet community needs. This work demonstrates the value of relationships and partnerships built over time, which become even more important during a crisis.

The flooding has also disrupted other efforts to support community health and well-being.

We were deeply disappointed to cancel this year's Archuleta Health Fair and Expo due to the initial flooding, knowing how many residents look forward to accessing health information, screenings and other resources through this annual event.

With the additional flooding and ongoing recovery efforts, the health department has had to postpone the planned laboratory services until after Thanksgiving. We are grateful for their continued partnership and commitment to making these services available as circumstances allow.

Meanwhile, Healthy Archuleta is exploring other ways to connect residents with health resources and services that would have been available through the health fair.

This spirit of cooperation was especially visible in efforts to restore the Pagosa Springs Community Garden following recent flood damage. At our Growers and Producers Forum on Nov. 5, community members gathered to discuss the garden's future and explore how it might be rebuilt to better coexist with the river.

During the meeting, representatives from the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) graciously offered to include the garden in an upcoming community cleanup day they had organized, a wonderful example of neighbors helping neighbors.

Just two days later, on Saturday, Nov. 7, many community members turned out to participate in the GGP-organized cleanup efforts. The positive energy and shared determination to help restore our community's growing spaces were evident as neighbors of all ages came together to lend a hand. What began as a conversation about the garden's future quickly turned into hands-on action, reflecting the generosity, enthusiasm, and collective spirit of a community eager to rebuild.

Beyond this effort, this collaboration reflects a shared commitment to supporting local growers, restoring spaces for food production and sustaining community gardening for years to come. Plans for the garden's next chapter are being explored with the town, the garden coordinator, longtime gardeners and other community members. The hope is to create a garden that can thrive alongside the river in greater harmony with the natural environment while continuing to contribute to our local food system.

As we rebuild, we also have an opportunity to involve our young people in meaningful ways. Recovery is about more than restoring buildings, gardens and community spaces. It is also about strengthening connections, fostering a sense of belonging and helping people of all ages feel they have a role in shaping our community's future. Inviting youth to participate, listening to their ideas and supporting their emotional well-being are important parts of that process.

We are deeply grateful to the volunteers staffing the Disaster Assistance Center, those who helped with garden efforts, the food pantries and their dedicated volunteers, and the many individuals, churches, businesses, agencies and organizations working quietly behind the scenes. Some are donating food and supplies, others are offering financial support, and many are simply showing up wherever an extra pair of hands is needed. Every contribution matters.

As recovery continues, we encourage everyone to consider how they might contribute, whether by volunteering a few hours, sharing an idea, making a donation, connecting someone with resources or checking on a neighbor who may need support. We also encourage organizations, churches, neighborhood groups and others coordinating recovery activities to share what they are doing and where additional help is needed. By staying connected and sharing resources, we can make the most of our collective strengths and reach more people.

Healthy Archuleta relies on a dedicated network of volunteers and strong community partnerships. We welcome individuals and groups interested in volunteering, sharing ideas, providing resources or making donations to support ongoing recovery efforts. To learn how you can get involved, please contact us at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com or visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

Rebuilding will take time, and our community's needs will continue to evolve. Whether ensuring access to food, connecting residents with health services, restoring community spaces or creating opportunities for young people to participate, each effort is part of a larger commitment to caring for one another. The kindness, generosity and cooperation we are witnessing remind us that our greatest strength lies in our relationships and willingness to work together. Through these shared efforts, we have an opportunity not only to recover from these historic floods, but to build an even stronger, healthier, more connected and more resilient Archuleta County.

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Learn CPR through the American Heart Association on November 21st

This in-person course is designed for individuals with little or no medical training. Participants learn how to perform CPR and safely and effectively use an automated external defibrillator (AED).
Topics include:
· Signs of heart attack or stroke
· Adult, child, and infant CPR and AED use
· Choking relief for adults, children, and infants
· Drowning response and prevention
· Opioid-associated life-threatening emergencies
· First aid basics for medical and environmental emergencies
Cost: $85 per person
Instruction time: ~6 hours
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Community Foundation starts first round of grants for flood support

By Kim Cassels
Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

In the days and weeks since the flooding began, Southwest Colorado's communities have come together in a tremendous way to help one another.

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is grateful for the first responders, neighbors, volunteers and organizations doing this work, as well as the individuals and businesses who have organized numerous ways to support the foundation's emergency funds.

Raised so far, as of noon on Nov. 6:

• Archuleta County Flood Recovery Fund: $103,491.

• La Plata County Flood Recovery Fund: $183,351.

Word of Thanks with 9News has also helped raise $158,358 so far for flood recovery on swcogives.org. These dollars will be divided evenly between both counties in December when the funds are transferred to the foundation.

The foundation has been meeting with local officials and nonprofits to learn which needs are most immediate. With their insight, the first round of grants will be dedicated to organizations providing direct assistance for basic needs. This includes housing, financial assistance, food and supplies.

Following are the organizations and services receiving the first round of grants.

Archuleta Flood Recovery Fund: $35,000 total

• Friends and Neighbors in Need (FANIN): $5,000 for gas cards for individuals with extended commutes due to damaged and washed-out roads, including the closure of U.S. 160. Cards will be distributed at Pagosa Catholic Community Church, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and the Community United Methodist Church.

• Pagosa Community Initiative: $10,000 to provide emergency financial assistance.

• Our Community Eats: $20,000 to restock the pantry with essential items, including protein.

La Plata Flood Recovery Fund: $40,000 total

• Housing Solutions for the Southwest, CEAC (Supports Archuleta and La Plata): $25,000 to help with housing needs.

• La Plata Family Center: $10,000 for emergency assistance for those who have lost documents in the flood to help qualify for support services, as well as translation for Spanish-speaking residents needing resources.

• TARA Community Center (Supports Archuleta and La Plata): $5,000 to provide food and supplies for rural communities with limited road access around Arboles, Ignacio and Bayfield.

These funds are directed to organizations set up to provide support to individuals and families in the community, and they are not distributed directly to individuals.

The foundation is continuing to work with local nonprofits and officials to help inform where these dollars will have the most impact. Updates will continue as new grants are made.

To support the foundation's Emergency Flood Recovery Fund, visit swcommunityfoundation.org/cerf/.





Generation Wild brings back 'Give the Outdoors' initiative to encourage gifting outdoor experiences to kids this holiday season

Great Outdoors Colorado

Generation Wild, a movement from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) that connects kids and families with the outdoors, is bringing back its popular Give the Outdoors initiative, offering free downloadable gift certificates for outdoor experiences that parents can give their children this holiday season.

At a time when many holiday gifts encourage more time indoors, Give the Outdoors invites families to give something different: memorable experiences, quality time together and opportunities for kids to play outside.

The vast majority of gift guides focus on indoor or screen-based gifts. Reviewed.com's roundup of 45 Best Toys of 2026 features a pretend CEO desk and no toys meant for outdoor play. Target's list of Bullseye's Top Toys 2026 features a bestselling gaming system but zero toys specific to outdoor play.

Generation Wild's Give the Outdoors invites families to unplug during the winter and step outside to connect with nature and each other in a meaningful way.

"The holiday gifts children receive shape how they'll spend their time in the weeks and months to follow," said GOCO Executive Director Jackie Miller. "When we give kids opportunities to play outside, we're giving them more than a day of fun. We're giving them opportunities to build confidence, spark curiosity, move their bodies, relax in nature and spend time with the people they love. That's why we're excited to bring back Give the Outdoors and help families create memories together this holiday season."

More than 1,500 Give the Outdoors certificates were downloaded by parents last year, and Generation Wild is aiming to surpass that number for 2026 and get more families outside.

Newly designed certificates for 2026 bring back a few of the most downloadable activities from last year and debut several new options. Suggested adventures include:

- Hot cocoa picnic.
- Bundle up scavenger hunt.
- Snowflake swinging.
- Flashlight freeze tag.
- Stargazing and s'more grazing.
- Sledding safari.
- Wonderfully wild winter ride.
- Create your own.

"Parents are looking for activities that bring the family together without adding more to their to-do list," said Miller. "These experiences are intentionally simple, flexible and accessible. Whether families have 20 minutes outside after dinner or a full afternoon to explore, every moment spent outdoors can help kids feel happier, healthier and more connected to nature."

Parents can head to GenerationWild.com to print adventure gift certificates.

About Generation Wild

Generation Wild was created by GOCO to connect Colorado kids to the outdoors by increasing the amount of time they spend outside.

The program is made up of a statewide communications campaign designed to inspire Colorado families using tools like a list of 100 Things to Do Before You're 12, and a network of 15 Generation Wild communities engaging more than 400,000 youth participants with outdoor programs, activities and career-pathways in the outdoors.

Generation Wild has become a leader in the outdoor movement by executing several statewide initiatives such as Say Hi with a Snowman, Wilderflowers, World's Longest Hopscotch, and "Wilder," the film.

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We're all in the boat together

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

Artist's Lane

This time, being with our family and all together, has been valuable.

The raging river clawed ruthlessly at our little community, shaking and whirling us around like a limp rag doll, dropping the whole county — houses, businesses, roads and bridges — into a pile of rubbish.

It's been a wild ride and we're still holding on. I've been heartbroken, mind-muddled, and feeling such pain for the people and all their losses and damage. I am convinced that the old-timers and the new ones who have joined our community still love our town, and are willing to roll up their sleeves to do the hard work. They're not opposed to getting their hands dirty and digging through the mud to make Pagosa beautiful again.

There isn't any isolated place that hasn't been affected. We are all in the same boat, wondering what to do. Where to start. And, where the money is going to come from?

My children set a plan in motion. "We are moving you to our house. We can take care of you there. The best place for us to wait out these floods is our side of the Blanco River."

They have taken good care of my Sweet Al and me. We are not that easy to take care of. We evacuated to wait out the floods.

Our children's home is safe; they still have electricity, gas, water and food in the freezer. They have plenty of beds, plus three recliners for us old folks. Rain and a mudslide came crashing down the Archuleta Canyon, filling their pond full of mud in front, but missed their house.

Everyone will have their stories to tell when everything becomes normal again. It's going to be a long time coming, I have a feeling.

We have felt the love from everyone. They all asked about us. We are more than fine.

Our neighbor waded through the waters to our home. He said it was dry inside, but still a lot of damage on the outside. The new 500-gallon propane tank, installed after the first flood, broke away from the gas line again. Our well is in question and live wires are in our yard. The electric pole is about to fall. All the cabins are ruined and we have ordered a roll-off dumpster to take care of the debris.

Our son's apartment took the bulk of the damage. He had 18 inches of water last time, and more this time. Pulling up flooring and throwing away water-soaked furniture, he's gutted his apartment. He's got more mud to shovel out.

We've been isolated, but we are thankful for all the videos posted on Facebook. We are praying for everyone. We shake our heads as to what has happened. We have talked about the 100-year flood for the past 60 years; I guess we are seeing it. In one of the postings, a lady said she was terrified. That's a call for prayer. I don't know who she is, but I'm praying for her.

This time, being with our family and all together, has been valuable. We have taken advantage of the situation to understand and experience the growing changes with my Sweet Al in his limited days.

Like the raging river coming for Pagosa, dementia has violently come for Al's fragile mind, leaving just a shred of recognition or connection with anything.

His nights and days are turned around. He sneaks out of bed. Someone hears him in the living room. He's standing at the window in the dark, dropping decorative bottles off the windowsill onto the floor. He has pulled out things from the closet and moved items around our daughter's kitchen drawers. He's busy doing his thing, but has put everyone on high alert.

Wrapped up in family love, there isn't a moment that a story isn't happening, to be told or laughed about later. Sometimes we just have to laugh. It's the only way to handle these things that could break a person.

Our faith still holds. Even though everyone has lost so much, God says He has planted heaven in us. It's a declaration of his protection and restoration. It's a good thing, because what He has planted in us — heaven's love, joy and generosity — we have felt from everyone. We are still in the boat. No one that I know of has jumped overboard.

"And I have put My words in your mouth; I have covered you with the shadow of My hand, that I may plant the heavens, lay the foundations of the earth, and say to Zion, 'You are My people'" — Isaiah 51:16.

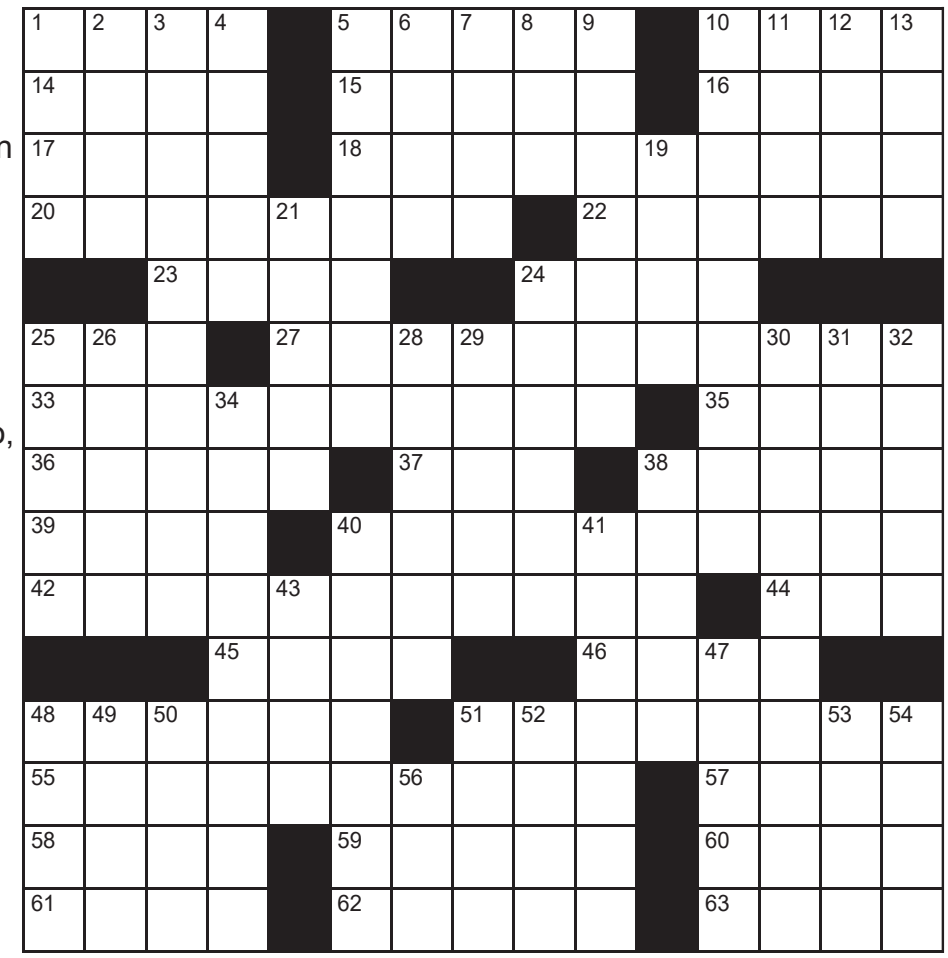
Final brushstroke: We all love this community. The people of Pagosa are resilient. Everyone has come together to help each other. We've had people from other parts of Colorado offer to come and help dig us out. It might be next spring before it will happen.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke



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ACROSS

1 Leveling device
5 Touches down
10 Soak up the sun
14 Top-notch
15 Type of acid
16 NY canal
17 ___ Hari
18 All the words you know
20 Do some cardio, e.g.
22 Certain payoffs
23 Puppeteer pioneer Tony
24 Shopper's aid
25 To the rear
27 Tendency
33 Like summer heat, maybe
35 ROFL relative
36 Some wedding guests
37 NYC to RI direction
38 Pragmatic believer
39 Rating unit
40 Not real-world
42 "The Queen" Oscar winner
44 Combustion residue
45 Back-to-school mo.
46 Widespread
48 Back-talker
51 Sports no-no's
55 Unintentional
57 Farm young
58 Tandoori bread
59 Pasta topper
60 Prefix with China
61 Bumper blemish
62 Church council
63 Rush order?

DOWN

1 "Likewise"
2 Bigfoot photo, e.g.
3 Type of flu
4 Ben Stiller's mom Anne
5 "Girlfriend" singer Avril
6 "Famous" cookie maker
7 Congenial
8 Genetic letters
9 In tears
10 Puts down
11 Kuwaiti, e.g.
12 Paddock papa
13 Things on rings
19 Celestial bear
21 Raters, briefly
24 Kind of equation
25 Put to shame
26 Marching band instrument
28 Charging need
29 Eyelid cosmetic
30 Knockoffs
31 Welcome desert sight
32 Gunslinger's mark
34 Freaking out
38 Iraqi money
40 Dazzle
41 Brought down
43 Urgent want
47 Actress Vergara
48 Ocean liner?
49 Berry in some smoothies
50 Read a bar code
51 Flabbergast
52 Mexican fare
53 Bit of baby talk
54 Sow chow
56 Vote of dissent

Answers to Previous Crossword:

A	R	I	S	E	■	M	A	R	S	■	A	R	G	O
H	I	N	T	S	■	A	G	U	E	■	T	E	R	N
A	C	C	E	S	S	I	O	N	S	■	L	A	O	S
B	A	H	R	A	I	N	■	N	A	T	A	L	I	E
■	■	■	E	Y	E	S	■	E	M	I	N	E	N	T
L	E	S	S	E	R	■	G	R	E	E	T	S	■	■
A	L	C	■	D	R	I	E	S	■	S	I	T	E	S
M	E	R	E	■	A	N	N	U	M	■	S	A	S	H
E	V	E	N	S	■	T	E	P	I	D	■	T	S	U
■	■	E	C	C	L	E	S	■	D	O	R	E	E	N
U	N	C	H	A	I	N	■	S	A	G	A	■	■	■
B	A	H	A	M	A	S	■	L	I	S	P	I	N	G
O	D	I	N	■	B	I	P	A	R	T	I	S	A	N
A	I	N	T	■	L	V	I	V	■	A	N	I	T	A
T	A	G	S	■	E	E	G	S	■	R	E	S	E	T

PagosaSUN.com

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to continue focus on covenant

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Unitarian Universalism (UU) is a covenantal faith. Stated more simply, our free faith is not based on a set doctrine or creed that tells us what to believe.

Covenant calls us beyond ourselves into faithful relationship sustained by love and accountability to those marginalized by systems of oppression. This theme invites us to deepen our understanding of covenant as a practice, one of belonging, mutual care, courageous accountability, and collective transformation (UUA.org).

This Sunday, Nov. 15, the Pagosa UU Fellowship's 10:30 a.m. service will focus on the ways we come together holding our covenant and core values essential to the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. With love at the center, let us gather, celebrate and give thanks for the caring community we together have created within this fellowship.

Michael Demchak, presenter for this topic, was raised in UU, and states, "That at the core of our faith is our covenant; an agreement of how we try to live and be together. Through love and respect for one another, we create a community that allows for individual thoughts and beliefs, while also supporting and helping one another. "

As a lay leader for this UU Fellowship, Demchak serves as chair of the Steering Committee and lead of the Service Planning Team. In addition to being a lifelong UU, Demchak's background in pagan studies and ritual have enriched the fellowship's programs and spiritual growth.

We are grateful for his leadership and benefit from the ministry to our community. Come with curiosity to our small congregation, where all of who you are is welcome and celebrated.

PagosaUU.org is a place you will find additional information and the most recent monthly newsletter.

We also offer space for groups holding events at the UU Community Hub.

The Tara Pagosa Meditation Group has been ongoing for several years and continues to meet most Sundays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. If interested, we invite you to email the fellowship asking to be added to the meditation email list to receive notifications about upcoming Dharma events or cancellations. Attending on Zoom is an option if you cannot attend in person.

Qigong practice is held on Mondays at 1 p.m., and all are welcome for this gentle and grounding practice.

Wise and Wakeful Circle is another group utilizing the Hub. Held the second and fourth Saturdays at 10 a.m. This group is open to all interested in deepening connection with others.

The Pagosa UU Fellowship is located in the Greenbrier Plaza, Unit B-15, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak. We welcome all who are looking for a warm community of open hearts and minds, to "Make Friends, Grow in Spirit and Do Good."

FBLA announces Nov. 16 blood drive

By Gage Sams

Pagosa Springs High School Future Business Leaders of America

The Pagosa Springs High School Future Business Leaders of America is holding a blood drive on Monday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It will be held at the high school in the library.

Please bring either your school ID or a driver's license. Sixteen- and 17-year-olds are required to have e-consent barcodes. You can find the e-consent forms at www.vitalant.org/donate/econsent.

Thank you for your support.





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The Pagosa Springs SUN



Pagosa Scene . . .

Clean up at the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) site

Photos courtesy Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

Scene ... cleaning up flood debris and damage in portions of Centennial Park. After word spread through word of mouth, more than 50 people showed up Saturday morning, Nov. 7, to begin clean up and repairs at the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) site in Centennial Park. Volunteers worked at the GGP, the Rotary Garden, Audubon's Native Plants Garden and the Pagosa Springs Community Garden.









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 downy woodpecker.

North America's smallest woodpecker is a permanent resident across Canada and all of the United States except Hawaii and the most arid southwestern regions. They occupy open woodlands, particularly those with deciduous trees, and riparian areas along streams. In summer, downy woodpeckers consume enormous numbers of insects, including some that are forest and agricultural pests. Their small size allows them to feed on places like weed stems and galls that larger woodpeckers can't reach.

In winter, they are frequently found foraging in mixed flocks with birds of similar size, including nuthatches and chickadees. They readily come to feeders, especially those with suet, and add acorns, berries and grains to their diet. Male and female downies maintain separate feeding areas in fall and early winter, with pairs forming in late winter. Even when the sexes are together, they separate feeding areas, with males chasing females away from the best feeding spots.

Downies share adaptations with other woodpecker species that allow them to drill on trees and uncover insects and larvae under the bark. They are able to position their toes with two forward and two backward to better cling onto the trunk, and a stiff tail provides stability when they lean back. Feathers over the nostrils and nictitating membranes that shield the eyes keep wood particles out.

The downy woodpecker's name is a reference to the soft, white feathers that make up the white stripe on its black lower back. Its head is striped in black and white, with males wearing a small patch of red on the nape. Black wings are checkered with white patches and the white outer tail feathers have black spots. Its bill is short and chisel-like.

Distinguishing between the nearly identical downy and hairy woodpecker species can present a challenge. When the two are together, the larger size of the hairy is apparent. The hairy's bill relative to head size is much longer, and its outer tail feathers are not spotted.

Research has presented evidence that the plumage mimicry between downy and hairy woodpeckers is an example of one species evolving to look like another. When mimicry like this occurs in nature, it is believed to confer an advantage to one of the species.

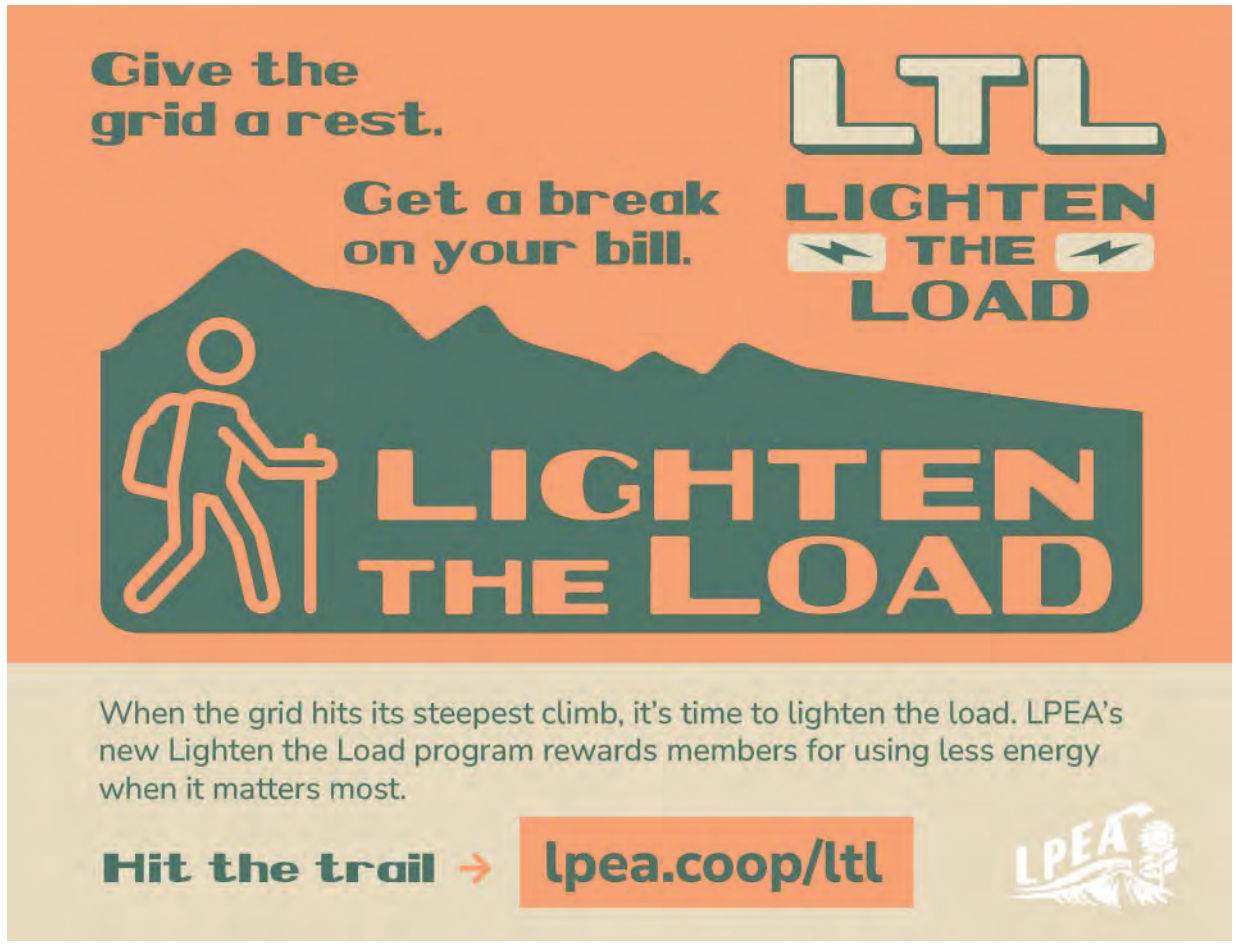
For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN





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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

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.

'Thinking Like Water' Screening: 'Fire and Flood. 7 p.m., Liberty Theatre. Join a collaboration of local organizations for the screening of the second in the five-part film series. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

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).

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.

Vets 4 Vets Fundraiser. 5-9 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse. Tickets for the third annual dinner and dance are available at visit www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/annual-veterans-day-dinner-and-dance.

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.

Future Business Leaders of America Blood Drive. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School library. For more information or to schedule a donation, visit www.vitalant.org.

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 Spanish 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.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

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

■ **See Calendar on next page**



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Thanksgiving issue

Thursday, November 26

Early Deadlines

Display Advertising

Noon, Friday, November 20

Classified Advertising

10 a.m., Monday, November 23

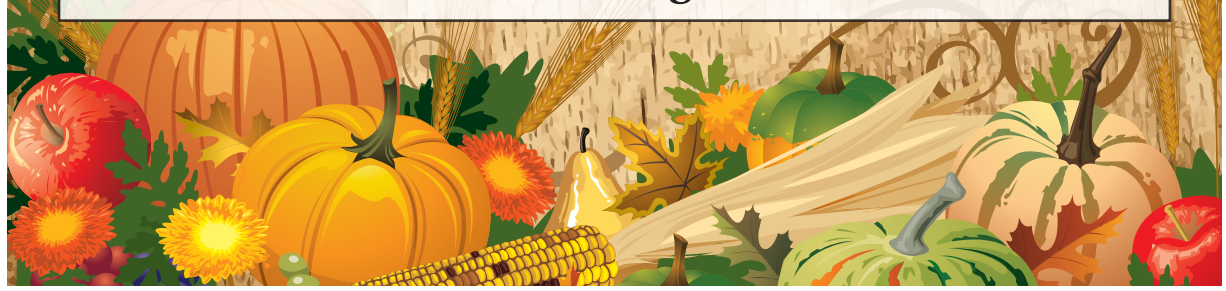
Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, November 19

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed
Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27,
in observance of Thanksgiving

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

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.

Tween Book and Art Club. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Adventure with books and art activities in this fun-filled hour. This month's book is "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens. Copies are available to check out from the library.

Teen Escape Room: Enchanted Forest. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 14-17/grades 9-12. You encounter some strange fairy-tale creatures while walking through the woods. Will you be able to find your way back?

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Nov. 18

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.

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.

Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Local volunteer Sharee Grazda can be reached at (970) 946-2760 for answers to questions or to schedule an appointment. You can also register online at Vitalant.org or call Vitalant at (877) 258-4825.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train Dominoes. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mindful Drawing. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Weminuche Audubon Society. 5:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Meet at 5:30 p.m. to socialize before the meeting begins at 6 p.m. Visit www.weminucheaudubon.org for a Zoom link if unable to attend in person.

Thursday, Nov. 19

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.

Early Community Thanksgiving Meal. Noon-1:30 p.m., St Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. All are welcome to pick up a dinner of turkey and trimmings. A MET shuttle will from from the Methodist Church downtown at noon and 12:45 p.m.

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

■ **See Calendar on next page**

WINDOW COVERINGS

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The team of Black Diamond Dental emphasizes the importance of routine dental care and healthy gums as part of maintaining a healthy smile and overall well-being.

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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

2363 Eagle Dr Unit A, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

970-398-2398

www.blackdiamonddds.com

BLACK DIAMOND DENTAL PAGOSA SPRINGS

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

charger and passwords.

Beginner's Quilt Square. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Want to learn how to quilt a square? A basic introduction to quilting will be held in the new makerspace.

Tween Escape Room: Enchanted Forest. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 11-13/grades 5-8. You encounter some strange fairy-tale creatures while walking through the woods. Will you be able to find your way back?

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Honk, the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets for this lively musical comedy are $22.50 for adults, and $18.34 for seniors and students, and are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Friday, Nov. 20

Boot-Scootin' Baby Dance Party. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Grab your partner and head to the library for a western-themed baby dance party. There will be a dance floor, ball pit, disco ball, bubbles, game and more. This event will have semi-loud music and flashing lights.

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.

Early Explorers: Grocery Store. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 3-5 with caregivers. Explore the world of grocery stores in a safe and age-appropriate environment. Make crafts, read some stories, move around, play in the sensory bin and more. Dress for mess.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Honk, the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets for this lively musical comedy are $22.50 for adults, and $18.34 for seniors and students, and are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. All quilters and wanna-be quilters are welcome. Social hour is from 9:30-10:30 a.m., with the meeting beginning at 10:30 a.m. For more information on meetings and classes, email pagosapiecemakers@gmail.com.

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.

Puzzle Palooza. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Put together some puzzles and have some family fun.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Any type and experience level of needleworker is welcome.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Honk, the Musical.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets for this lively musical comedy are $22.50 for adults, and $18.34 for seniors and students, and are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Honk, the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets for this lively musical comedy are $22.50 for adults, and $18.34 for seniors and students, and are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Monday, Nov. 23

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 Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. A Sisson Library program.

Tuesday, Nov. 24

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.

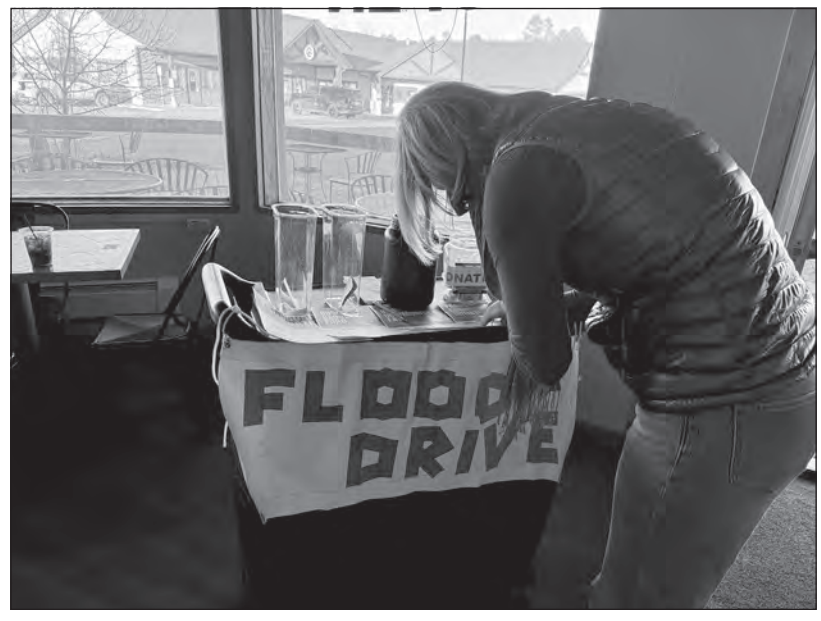
Rummikub. 1:15-3:45 p.m., Senior Center.

Teen Advisory Group. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 12-18. Be a voice at your library. Build leadership skills, mentor others and plan programs that interest you. Snacks will be provided.

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.







Photos courtesy Archuleta County Democratic Party

More than 100 attend the Archuleta County Democratic Party's "Raise a Glass; Lift Up Your Neighbors" event on Nov. 7 at Uncle's Bar and Social Club on Nov. 7. The event was held to toast election results and raise funds for flood relief. The county party raised more than $4,000 for flood relief, with proceeds set to go to four local organizations: Pagosa Community Initiative, Community Foundation, Our Community Eats and the Love Pagosa Flood Business Recovery Fund. The county party also donated $500 of its own funds to the Community Foundation.

November is National Gratitude Month

By Barbara Brattin
PREVIEW Columnist

It may seem like a cruel thing to bring up gratitude when our community is reeling from the devastation of two back to back flood events.

Clearly, I am one of the lucky ones, with only a foot of water in my home's crawlspace to contend with. But as I worry about both my own home and the library building, I can only find gratitude for the losses we did not experience.

During the campaign to build the library, I often second guessed myself about starting the project when we hadn't completed fundraising, and often as the project continued, we felt like we took one step forward and two steps back as we faced unplanned expenses to repair the existing building. Our existing crawlspace was full of mold, one of the sump pumps had stopped working and an old unused boiler left behind continued to leak into the space. The foundation needed repair. The old roof was in need of reinforcement.

This week, I look back on what could have been during the recent flooding event, had we not moved forward with the new building when we did. As it is, both our crawlspaces are dry and the building sustained no damage at all. Thanks to the diligence of our architects and the workmanship of our contractor, we have built the new building to withstand many years of weather to come. I couldn't be more grateful.

Upcoming programs

• Beginner's Quilt Square (adults): Thursday, Nov. 19, 2 to 4 p.m.

• Crafternoon Paper Towel Roll Towers (ages 3-5 with a caregiver): Friday, Nov. 13, 4 to 5 p.m.

• LEGO Build Robots (all ages): Saturday, Nov. 14, 11 a.m. to noon.

• Tween Book and Art Club: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 4 to 5 p.m.

• Escape Room Enchanted Forest (teens): Tuesday, Nov. 17, 4 to 5 p.m.

• Early Explorers Grocery Store (ages 3-5 with a caregiver): Friday, Nov. 20, 4 to 5 p.m.

• Puzzle Palooza (all ages): Saturday, Nov. 21, 11 a.m. to noon.

For a full list of upcoming programs, check www.pagosalibrary.org.

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.

Library News

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.

■ See Library on next page



Hearing Care for You

WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE AN AUDIOLOGIST?

We offer advanced testing to evaluate a full understanding of your hearing and ear health, not just basic hearing levels. This includes detailed tone and speech testing, middle ear and inner ear measures, and a clear explanation of results so you receive precise, evidence-based recommendations tailored to your needs.

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Hearing aids are carefully selected, fit, and programmed to match your unique hearing profile, lifestyle, and listening goals. Ongoing services—including follow-up visits, fine-tuning, cleanings, and repair support—help ensure your devices stay comfortable, dependable, and performing at their best over time for you.

TINNITUS TREATMENT

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.

Call today for your consultation!

Robert Melton, AuD
Doctor of Audiology
Hearing & Tinnitus Specialist

HEARING & TINNITUS SOLUTIONS

970-444-2314



Library

■ continued from previous page

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.

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 Madeline Bell delivers a time travel romance in "The Austen Affair." Two feuding actors starring in a stage adaptation of "Northanger Abbey" are transported back in time to Jane Austen's era where they need to ad-lib their way through regency England to make their way home.

• Tom Clavin and Bob Drury team up to deliver a true story of extraordinary heroism in "The Phantom: The Untold Story of the American Marine the Nazis Could Not Kill."

• William Johnstone is back, this time co-writing with J.A. Johnstone to deliver a new western, "Fury Over Texas." A confederate soldier escapes New York's infamous Elmira Prison and starts a new life in Pine Lick, Texas, where he becomes the sheriff.

New nonfiction

• From journalist Cory Doctorow comes a new prescription for surviving the future, "The Reverse Centaur's Guide to Life After AI: How to Think About Artificial Intelligence Before It's Too Late." The centaur is a concept from automation theory where the machine makes the human stronger and more productive but remains under human direction. The reverse centaur is a variation on the centaur model where AI is now directing the show. Doctorow warns us of the impending shift to the reverse centaur state.

• In "The Best Kind of American," Middle East expert Kim Gattas takes us back to 1984 Beirut and the assassination of Malcolm Kerr, the president of the American University in Beirut at the time, and father of basketball star Steve Kerr. There was no investigation of his death and four decades later the mystery lingers within the complexity of the region's war-torn history.

• The director of the Memory and Healthy Aging Program at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Dr. Zaldy Tan, brings us "What to Remember When You Are Forgetting: How to Live and Thrive with Memory Loss, Alzheimer's, and Other Dementias."

• "Animals Taught Me Everything," from Creede, Colo., author Pam Houston, is a delightful compendium of stories about her furry friends and the wisdom they left behind.

• Celebrity astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson teams up with head writer for the Star Wars podcast Lindsey Nyx Walker in "Lost in Space: 5,000 Facts for Navigating the Universe."

New fiction

• "The Memory of Borrowed Books" by Meg Anderson follows one librarian who discovers a hidden room of unfinished memories and must find the one that can save her beloved library from closing forever.

• In "Night Objects" by Eli Raphael, protagonist Lenny is enrolled at Blanchard, a prestigious boarding school for the ultra-wealthy after the unexpected death of her mother. Haunted secrets and the dark side of privilege await her.

• "Natural Way of Things" by Charlotte Wood is a dark tale of escape from bondage. When women awaken from a drugged sleep to find themselves imprisoned in a broken-down property in the middle of a desert, they have no idea where they are or how they came to be there. As time goes by it becomes clear that the only ones to save them are themselves.

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.

HUD Publisher's Notice

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

SUDOKU

	2	8		3	1	7		
7		1			8		4	5
	3		5		7		1	
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Level: Beginner

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:

5	2	8	4	3	1	7	6	9
7	9	1	2	6	8	3	4	5
4	3	6	5	9	7	8	1	2
9	8	5	3	1	2	6	7	4
2	1	3	7	4	6	9	5	8
3	4	7	8	5	9	2	6	1
6	7	9	1	2	5	4	3	8
1	5	4	6	8	3	2	9	7
8	6	3	9	7	4	1	2	3

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

November is recognized as National Diabetes Awareness Month, a time to bring attention to a disease that affects millions of Americans, including many older adults.

Diabetes is a condition that affects how the body processes blood sugar (glucose) and, if left unmanaged, it can lead to serious health complications such as heart disease, kidney damage, vision loss, nerve damage and an increased risk of falls and mobility problems.

As we age, it becomes especially important to understand the warning signs of diabetes, which may include increased thirst, frequent urination, unusual fatigue, blurred vision and slow-healing wounds.

Some people may have diabetes without experiencing noticeable symptoms, making routine health screenings and annual wellness visits especially important. Early detection, healthy eating habits, regular physical activity and proper medical care can make a significant difference in managing diabetes and maintaining a good quality of life.

At Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI), we encourage older adults to take an active role in protecting their health and learning about the risks associated with diabetes.

Making healthy food choices, staying physically active, taking medications as prescribed and keeping regular appointments with health care providers are important steps toward prevention and management.

Our Meals on Wheels, congregate dining and Grab-N-Go meal programs help support older adults by providing nutritious meal options and opportunities to stay socially connected.

We also encourage seniors to speak with their health care providers about blood sugar testing and any concerns they may have.

Senior News

Diabetes does not have to prevent someone from enjoying an active, independent and fulfilling life. This November, let's make our health a priority, stay informed, and remember that small, healthy choices today can make a big difference in our well-being tomorrow.

Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving closures

ASI will 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 us-

■ See Senior on page 23



VOLUNTEERING SHOWN TO HELP WITH DEPRESSION



Investing time with others may be the new prescription for those who deal with depression. See today's excerpt.

Studies of the relationship between volunteering and health demonstrate that there is a significant relationship between volunteering and good health: when older adults volunteer, they not only help their community but also experience better health in later years, whether in terms of greater longevity, higher functional ability, or lower rates of depression.

These findings are particularly relevant today as Baby Boomers-the generation of 77 million Americans born between 1946 and 1964- reach the age typically associated with retirement.

We know that Baby Boomers in their late 40s to mid-50s are volunteering at a higher rate than earlier generations did at the same age.

However, efforts should be made to not only maintain current levels of volunteering among Baby Boomers, but to keep those Baby Boomers who already volunteer, serving in the future by providing substantial, challenging, and fulfilling volunteer experiences. The results of such efforts will not only help solve community problems, but simultaneously enhance the health of the growing number of older adults.

Source: "The Health Benefits of Volunteering: A Review of Recent Research." http://www.nationalservice.gov/

Bonus Tip: Visit http://www.AmazingFacts.org for spiritual refreshment every week!

"Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered." Proverbs 11:25 ESV

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.
Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.

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Over 25 years experience

THANKSGIVING TABLE WORD SEARCH

R	G	M	K	A	T	C	T	D	C	Y	W	H	W	Y	E	K	R	U	T
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B	C	T	E	M	W	Y	F	Y	T	C	A	P	N	G	T	Y	S	A	I
V	O	N	W	P	L	C	H	U	E	R	W	R	N	T	A	T	S	H	Y
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A	V	A	V	O	M	T	S	A	E	F	L	E	B	H	O	P	T	U	L
V	W	A	I	A	F	T	F	M	V	E	W	M	F	E	F	P	M	B	V
Y	M	E	Y	G	S	E	O	T	A	T	O	P	T	E	E	W	S	U	I
H	D	P	C	O	R	N	U	C	O	P	I	A	F	W	B	I	Y	D	P

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

CASSEROLE
CENTERPIECE
CORNBREAD
CORNUCOPIA
CRANBERRY
DESSERT
DINNER
FEAST
GATHERING
GOURD
GRATITUDE
GRAVY
HARVEST
LEFTOVERS
MAYFLOWER
PARADE
PILGRIMS
PUMPKIN PIE
STUFFING
SWEET POTATOES
TABLE
TURKEY
WAMPANOAG
WISHBONE

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The Pagosa Springs SUN

Annual holiday lighting contest announced

Visit Pagosa Springs

Especially this year, Pagosa Springs needs to be bright with holiday cheer this season.

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board and The Pagosa Springs SUN are once again sponsoring a lighting contest this holiday season.

The lighting contest will make the holiday season shine. It includes enhanced lighting in downtown Pagosa, as well as many other festive events taking place in and around the Pagosa Springs area through the end of December.

Participating addresses will be promoted to locals and visitors. Voting will be conducted online between Nov. 27 and Dec. 26. Please decorate by Dec. 4.

All entries submitted by Wednesday, Nov. 18, will be included.

Residential lighting contest

The holiday residential lighting competition will award cash prizes for first ($1,000), second ($500) and third ($250).

Participating residential properties must be decorated by Dec. 4.

Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 31.

We ask residential properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Dec. 4 and the end of the year.

Business lighting contest

The business lighting contest is open to any Pagosa Springs area business with a property to decorate.

Participating businesses must decorate by Dec. 4. We ask business properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Dec. 4 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 31st.

Business prizes of first ($1,000), second ($500) and third ($250) will be awarded as advertising in The Pagosa Springs SUN. Advertising funds must be used by Dec. 31, 2027.

Storefront window contest

The Storefront Window Contest is open to any Pagosa Springs area business with a storefront window to decorate. Participating businesses must decorate by Dec. 4.

We ask business properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Dec. 4 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 31.

Storefront window prizes of first ($500), second ($250) and third ($125) will be awarded as advertising in The Pagosa Springs SUN. Advertising funds must be used by Dec. 31, 2027.

How to enter

To enter the contest, please complete the following form by end of day on Wednesday, Nov. 18: https://bit.ly/2026HolidayLightingContest.

Veterans Crisis Line

free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365.

(800) 273-8255 or text 838255

Keep up with the news of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.

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Horses • Boats • Tools • Furniture • You name it!

The Pagosa Springs SUN

To place your classified ad, call (970) 264-2100

Senior

■ continued from page 21

ing a set of tiles and the current year score card. Play includes groups of three or four players and follows a pattern of division exchange and display of tiles.

Bring your card and come to play or watch and learn from 1:15 to 3:45 p.m. Tuesdays at the Senior Center.

Bridge

The game of bridge is held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m.

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of play, with the final round reached sometime between two and three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

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.

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 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. 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.

Monday, Nov. 16 — Tortilla-lime crusted tilapia with tartar sauce, broccoli cornbread, garden salad, fruit, cookies and milk.

Tuesday, Nov. 17 — Mushroom, spinach and gouda quiche, yellow squash, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt and milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 18 — Beef meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas and pearl onions, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Thursday, Nov. 19 — Chicken fajitas with tortillas, guacamole, sour cream, salsa, garden salad, fruit, muffin and milk.

Friday, Nov. 20 — BBQ country ribs, green beans, corn casserole, garden salad, fruit, apple crisp 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.

OWNER CARRY AVAILABLE



480 Hawthorn Drive, Hotchkiss $430,000

Built in 2020 with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a 2-car garage on 0.6 acres. Located on an exceptional cul-de-sac lot with fantastic views in the coveted North Ridge Meadows neighborhood. Includes radiant heat, a contemporary kitchen with stainless steel appliances and excellent irrigation water.

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MISCELLANEOUS



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.



Meet Wasabi!

This sweet adult male has a mellow personality and is ready for a home of his own.
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ANNOUNCING NEW BUSINESS. Steve's MidCentury Modern Furniture and Decor. Tentative opening date of Nov. 20, 11a.m. -5p.m.. 298 Bastille Dr., Unit B4. Look for display ad in next week's paper.

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.

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.).

PERSONALS

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

SERVICES

ASPENGLOW LANDSCAPING/ YARD MAINTENANCE/ YARD CLEANUP. Mowing, trimming, raking and tree trimming. Tractor available for planting and landscaping. (970)946-2061.

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HOME REMODELS and improvements at affordable prices. Bathrooms, kitchens, additions, decks, drywall, painting, siding and more. Call: (970)844-0554.

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PagosaSUN.com

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Clip & bring with check or credit card number to The SUN office, 457 Lewis Street
To place ad by phone, call (970) 264-2100
Classified ads may be emailed to classads@pagosasun.com
Or, place your ad online at PagosaSUN.com
Payment must be received by the deadline.
Classified deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.
(Earlier deadlines for holidays.)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Phone _____
Category: _____
Ad: _____

Please run ad _____ consecutive weeks
(The Pagosa Springs SUN is published once a week on Thursdays.)
Charge for line ads — 20 word minimum
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$ _____ is enclosed. ($12 minimum)
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Classified Categories

Announcements	Miscellaneous
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Commercial for Rent	Personals
Commercial Property	Pets
Condos	Ranches
For Sale	Recreational Vehicles
Health	Residential Rentals
Help Wanted	Services
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RISE ABOVE VIOLENCEis seeking a **Director of Advocacy** to lead a team of advocates who provide 24- hour support and advocacy services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office; have excellent public speaking, teaching and leadership skills; and, be a highly organized, independent worker. Position is full time with benefits. BA in human services or related field preferred. Equitable experience will be considered. Rise is an equal opportunity employer where we celebrate diversity and are committed to inclusion. Visit www.riseaboveviolence.org for complete job description. Email resume to carmen@riseaboveviolence.org.

HELP WANTED

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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.M. 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.

FOR SALE

ART AND CRAFT SUPPLIES. Closing home studio. Leather hides, beads, handmade paper, turquoise, crystals, jewelry, frames, albums, matts, shells, quills, driftwood, saguaro ribs, yarn, ribbon, pots, file cabinet, book case; everything goes. $444. (970)749-4272.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up $255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

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.

LUCY'S TAMALES NOW TAKING orders for Christmas season til Jan. 1. Pick up on Saturday's at 335 Rob Snow Rd. Red chili pork, green and red beef, chicken green chili. (970)317-1071.

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.

FOR SALE

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.

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.

ONE EXTREMELY HANDSOME Australian Shepherd puppy, male, blue eyes. (808)330-2000.

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.

YARD SALES

ESTATE SALE ON SATURDAY, Nov. 14-15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Furniture, household, art, tools, something for everyone. 178 Hidden Dr. Pagosa Springs. Go to www.nesestatesales.com for photos.

Place your classified ad online!

Go to: PagosaSUN.com >> Shop Local

>> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

(970) 264-2100 Classifieds (970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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.

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.

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.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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.

SMALL WAREHOUSE NEAR DOWNTOWN. 10x15 with garage door and electricity included. $100/ month. Michael C. Branch. (970)769-2036.

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.

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.

PagosaSUN.com

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

3 BEDROOM ,2 BATHROOM duplex. $1700/ month plus deposit. Water paid, fenced backyard, garage. Close to City Market/ hospital. Pets on approval. Open house Friday Nov. 13, 5-7p.m., Saturday Nov. 14, 11a.m.-1p.m. 534 Park Ave, Unit A.

3 BEDROOM 3 BATHROOM duplex. $1700/ month plus deposit. Water paid. Garage, deck with view of mountains. Pets on approval. Open house Nov. 14, 2-4p.m., Nov. 15, 2-4p.m. 86 E Golf Pl., Unit A.

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.

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.

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.

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.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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.

UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATHROOM, 1 car garage townhome in Whispering Pines. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Buying *or* Selling?



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672

JANN C PITCHER REAL ESTATE

MarcieLewis.com

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

1.0 ACRE, 2RVS, compact garage, water well, 3- bedroom septic installed, power, satellite internet, 5 minutes from highway. No HOA. Call Deborah, (970)903-2817, deb@archuletaproperties.com.

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.

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

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified.

PagosaSUN.com

Pagosa Scene . . .



Rotarians lend helping hands

Photos courtesy Jann Pitcher, Jon Johnson and Ed Feragen

Scene ... Rotarians lend helping hands to aid in flood cleanup along Hermosa Street on Saturday, Nov. 7. The recent flooding left behind debris and mud, as well as damaged homes.





