



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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50¢

# The Pagosa Springs

# SUN

## Charter school board approves re-entry plan

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors approved the school's re-entry plan Monday, with that plan outlining in-person and online education options for the upcoming school year.

The board approved the six-page plan unanimously during its regular meeting Tuesday.

"PPOS aims to provide a mission-driven quality education for our students at all times. We recognize that we may need to close in-person instruction for a variety of reasons including weather, natural hazards (wildfire) or for health concerns. The safety of our students and staff are at

the heart of our decision making," the plan's first section states. "When the need arises we will institute the distance learning plan to keep them safe. It is important to us as well that this distance learning plan helps to promote equity and remove barriers to education for as many of our students as possible. In distance learning, we strive to hold onto our model of inquiry, [project-based learning], and place-based education to engage our students in reaching their full potential. In addition, we acknowledge this is a fluid situation and we would like to be prepared for multiple situations considering all of the different aspects. We also

■ See School A8

## Local coalition rallying growers, securing food for food pantries

By John Finefrock  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Food Equity Coalition has been working to increase the local food supply since 2017.

Pauline Benetti, who is involved with the growers' group associated with the coalition, explained in an interview last week that one of the first big projects the group took on

was creating a food assessment of Archuleta County.

"By [food assessment] I'm not talking about what's in the grocery stores. [This is] a food assessment of the local system. What can we as a community produce in terms of food?"

Benetti noted the Pagosa area has some obvious problems related

■ See Food A8

## Medical center posts strong financials for June

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) had a strong June financially, according to a report given to the Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors on July 28.

"PSMC had a strong bottom line for June ending the month with net income of \$683,113," a written report to the board, which oversees PSMC,

explains.

Contributing to that bottom line, the report notes, were:

- Increasing volumes in all departments, "most notably in lab, radiology, surgery, oncology and infusion.

- "[R]educing contractual allowances which results from a change in how PSMC reserves for payer

■ See Medical A8

# The future of space:

## Col. Jesse Morehouse working to build up U.S. Space Command

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

Some may know Jesse Morehouse as the IT director for Archuleta School District, or remember when he was a computer science teacher at Pagosa Springs High School, or know that he serves in the military, among other roles he takes on in the community.

But not everyone may know that the colonel, who serves in the Colorado Army National Guard and has been in the military for 25 years, is probably one of the more qualified people in the National Guard in the nation when it comes to expertise in military space operations.

That knowledge is now being put to use in the form of a deployment to Colorado Springs, where Morehouse is currently working full-time to help stand up the U.S. Space Command, which was created by President Donald Trump last fall.

The U.S. Space Command, led by Gen. John "Jay" Raymond, a four-star general, focuses on military operations in space.

Raymond, in addition to being the commander for Space Command, is also chief of space operations for the U.S. Space Force and the senior commander of all space unified military forces, according to a fact sheet on the command's website.

"United States Space Command (USSPACECOM) is the newest of the eleven unified commands in the Department of Defense (DoD). USSPACECOM increases the ability of the Joint Force to project power and influence, reduces decision timelines for space operations, and brings focused attention to defending U.S. interests in space. Establishing USSPACECOM is a critical step in accelerating the ability of the Joint Force to defend vital national interests and deter adversaries," the fact sheet explains.

■ See Space A8



Photo courtesy Lt. Col. Trevor Nolan

Jesse Morehouse stands in front of the U.S. Space Command headquarters in Colorado Springs, where he is putting his military space expertise to use in helping to stand up the newest unified command.

## Community leaders discuss unified message around COVID-19

By John Finefrock  
Staff Writer

Amid rising COVID-19 cases in Archuleta County, community leaders on Tuesday discussed the virus in general and putting out a unified message to help curb its spread via a flyer campaign.

"I think that the trend is going the wrong way in our community," said Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb at the county commissioners' work session Tuesday, adding, "When you're trying to control a pandemic, the key is to test the people and get them quarantined so we don't spread it, and I think that if we don't all work together on this, the trend is just going to continue ... This could lead to another community shutdown, and I think that's what none of us want here."

Webb noted that one strategy to curb the spread of COVID-19 — wearing face coverings — has become "very politicized," but has been used for a long time in the health care industry.

"This is droplet protection," she

■ See COVID-19 A8



SUN photo/John Finefrock

Pagosa Springs Medical Center CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb speaks via teleconference with county leaders Tuesday. The commissioners, county staff and several other community leaders discussed putting forth a unified message about COVID-19 via a sign campaign.

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# Opinion

## The Pagosa Springs SUN

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## EDITORIAL

# How has the COVID-19 pandemic changed your life?

On Jan. 30, the World Health Organization declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 a "public health emergency of international concern."

On Jan. 31, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the virus a public health emergency.

On Feb. 26, Rhonda Webb, CEO of the Pagosa Springs Medical Center, activated the district's emergency operations plan for a pandemic.

On March 14, when Gov. Jared Polis closed down Wolf Creek Ski Area right at the start of the biggest week of spring break, our tourist-based economy came crashing down.

Two days later, a public health order closed bars, restaurants, theaters and casinos statewide.

Things have certainly changed in our community since then. We have witnessed an amazing resilience in our community.

This week we reached out to The SUN's Facebook followers and asked: "How has the COVID-19 pandemic changed your life?"

The following are some of the unedited responses that we've received.

Judith Farnam shared, "I think it is hard. We tend to choose what we believe and go with it. As a country, we tend to be pretty spoiled. Lots of freedom, ability to travel, etc. Then that just went away. I decided to try to embrace the change. I'm a nurse and believe in science. Do I love wearing a mask? No, never did, but I wear one. I stayed home and did my best. Developed more strategies for coping. Do I miss my family who don't live close? Absolutely! My motto became stay calm and carry on. I have spent lots of time making masks, gardening and trying to make the best of it."

Cindy Lucero wrote, "Not finding lysol disinfectant spray is the only thing that's got me in a sling, what happened to it. I think because it works they did away with it."

Deirdre Denali Rosenberg added, "Avoiding places we normally would go, because of so many from out of state. And just being pretty shocked by how nasty and cruel neighbors are being with each other for pretty much no reason."

Barbara Munro shared, "The biggest change we have experienced so far from COVID-19 is no traveling. We canceled going to Spring training in Arizona, an RV trip to WDW, and a steamboat cruise. I love Pagosa Springs, so it's not a bad place to be

when you have to stay home. We have tried to support local businesses, in a limited capacity, however, we do not support any business that does not enforce the governor's mandate to wear masks."

Carla Taylor added, "Not much, but have supported my local restaurants, by carryout/ curbside pick up. I feel really bad for all the small businesses."

Misty Carrasco wrote, "Nothing really for my family. Just the inability to go anywhere without a mask and being criticized if you don't have one on. And also the hate that has risen in people. Its horrible how even a small town like pagosa has become so hateful."

Katelyn Lopez shared, "I do my part and wear a mask because I care for humanity even now more than ever. During the first shutdown I was out of work from March 16-May 27th and still have anxiety of the fear of shutting down again. I bartend and serve here in town and it's been a tough summer just getting back into the swing of things. As a community during the shutdown people really came together to support local businesses. People have been hateful but there has been a lot of good from covid. So let's not forget about our community and that we will always come out stronger from difficult times."

Leila Johnston responded, "Katelyn Lopez, pm me where you work!! We will stop in for a cocktail."

Jan Havens shared, "I pretty much stay home. Cautious because of health issues. God bless my daughter, she does almost all shopping and errands."

Nikki Taylor wrote, "Its brought the meanest, self entitled group of tourists here in an effort to escape their own conditions at home. They have no regard for our county environmentally, they are rude to our service personnel and somehow believe that w/out them Pagosa would be nothing. The massive influx has changed our town drastically and therefore has changed life here for locals. I think we would have seen much more community unity and concern had there not been such massive influx. So much second home ownership has not helped either. Money is not God. Pagosa could have been so much more than a tourist trap. Or a Coronavirus escape destination."

Suzette Peak noted, "True test of humanity. Many passed. Epic fail for the rest!"

Tammy Boen wrote, "I go about my everyday life. I do the same thing every

day. I go to work and I come home. I go to bed and start all over again the next day. The only thing that has really changed is having to wear a mask 10 hrs a day and having to deal with the stupidity of those who can't give up a few minutes of having respect for the safety of others."

Sally Logee Neel added, "We retired from ministry after spending the past 12 years at St Patrick's Episcopal Church. It was sad not to be able to give hugs to our beloved friends. Lack of physical contact was particularly hard as we are a hugging congregation!"

Jenny Iguchi shared, "HUGS! I miss giving and receiving HUGS!"

Kameron Averitt Swithin added, "I fully respect all of the new rules, and I want to protect my neighbors! But, it breaks my heart when my 3 year old cries when I tell her that she can't give someone a hug..."

Anita Rowe Hinger chimed in, "I clean my house for 'entertainment.' But seriously, I make a more conscious effort to be thankful and not take connecting with others for granted. I'm getting better at shutting out people who speak / post negativity and toxicity. Even these current circumstances can end up being the best thing that ever happened, depending on mindset. I'm determined to make it so!"

Jeff Switzer wrote, "We have not been able to come back to visit friends in Pagosa. That was part of our plan when we moved last year! Jeff and Betty"

Rhonda Webb added, "How has it not changed my life would be a shorter answer."

Beth Anderson Einig shared, "I really miss dancing to Tim Sullivan!"

Lora-Jean Wilson wrote, "I have many friends who caught the virus and who have passed away from it. A friend of mine passed away from Covid last week leaving her daughter's behind as a single mom."

Kimberly Jean White added, "We haven't felt comfortable traveling so haven't been able to see our kids in California."

Annie Stone shared, "I have taken the isolation time to learn & create. I'm a weaver & I've tried & made a lot of new things. I also miss my friends sorely."

We received so many answers that we don't have room to print them all this week. We will share more next week. Until then, be safe and wear your mask, if you are able.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

## WHADDYA THINK?

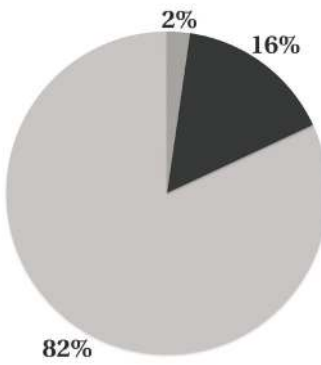
Are you abiding by the governor's mask order?

Poll results (393 votes)

No, I am medically unable to wear one. — 2 percent

No. — 16 percent

Yes. — 82 percent



Vote this week online:

Should Archuleta County schools offer in-person learning this fall?

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Steve Wadley

264-8304

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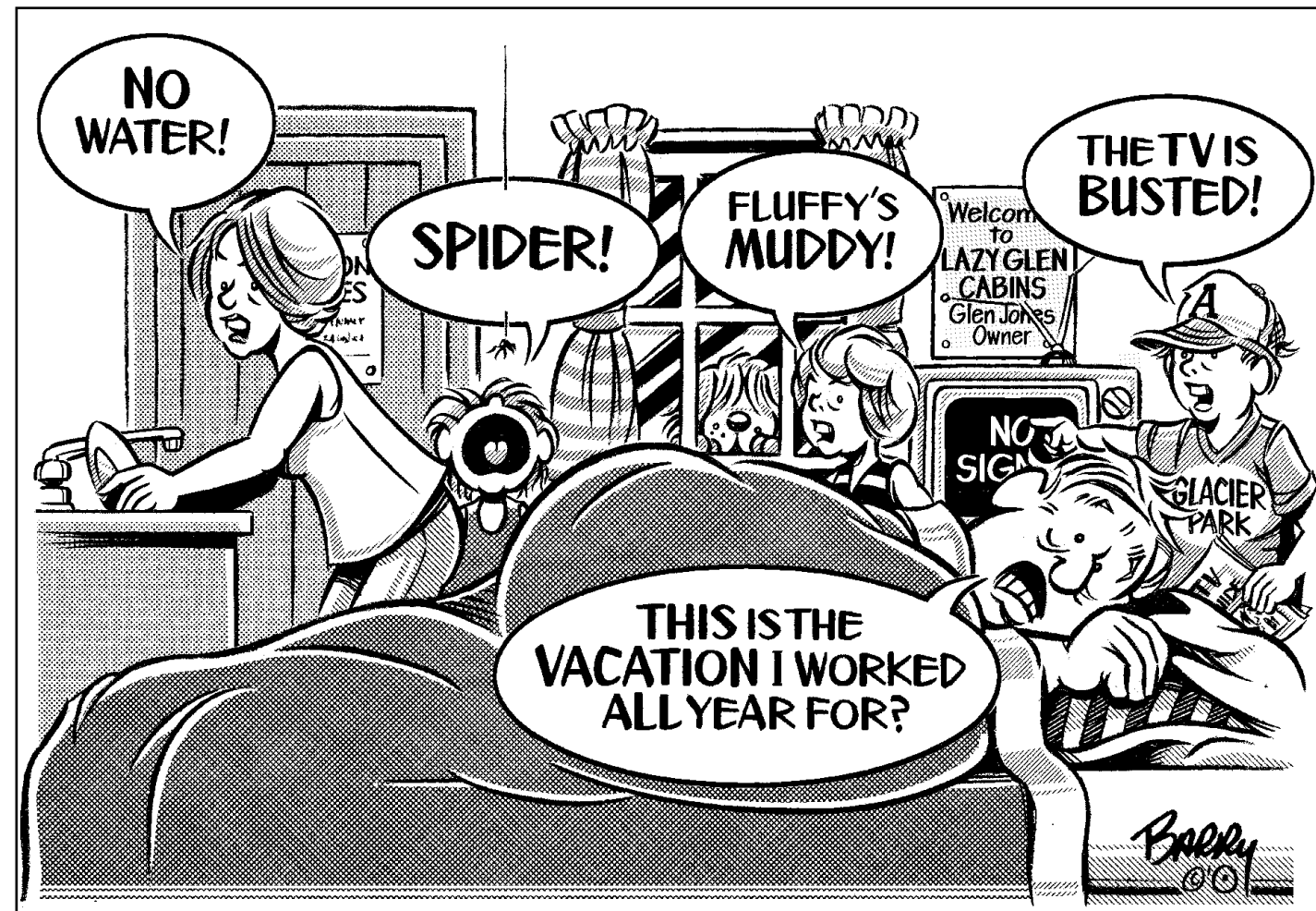
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## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 6, 1920

A water spout at the Chas. E. Harris ranch in Montezuma canon, on Sunday, July 25th, washed out his garden and five acres of peas, besides destroying two reservoirs. Mr. Harris fixes his loss as \$350.

R.M. Farrow has his new hay shed completed, with side sheds for implements and stock—a great improvement to one of the finest ranches on the Piedra.

No new cases of smallpox have been reported for about two weeks and it is believed there is no further danger. Jack Cagle, James Welch and Mrs. Tom Mellinger have been released from quarantine while Mrs. Wm. McComas and Vernon Kyle are still in isolation.

Vernon Breedlove and wife arrived in the city last evening for a month's vacation at this resort and vicinity. Mr. Breedlove is the feather-weight champion of the world, having held the title for ten years. He has been in the wrestling game for twelve years, has had over a thousand matches and has lost but seven. Mr. Breedlove comes to Pagosa Springs to rest up, fish and hunt.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 10, 1945

Silver and gold is the color scheme of Alley's Hardware and the Jackisch Drug Store fronts which made its appearance over the week-end. Both of these places of business, which rate with any or all Southwestern Colorado Hardware and Drug Stores, were "moved" by the last Big Pagosa Springs Fire in (1943) and were forced to move into a former Garage Building. "Both of these 'merchants' and we mean 'merchants,' took what was left. In the short time since the 'fire' they have "come back." Reverting a garage into a modern place of business, they have "breached the gap," and today have modern places of business which do credit to any city in the state.

The Pagosa Bar, which also suffered destruction during the 1943 fire, was this week being remodeled and re-decorated. Percy Chambers, the owner of the "Bar" at that time has since leased a building on the same street and since opened for business. This week it is getting a complete overhauling and re-decorating, once more indicating that he has faith in the future of Pagosaland. Mr. Chambers will be glad to have you call and see how he has reconverted the old Manhattan Cafe into a new and modern place.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 6, 1970

The volume of traffic through here this summer is something that many oldtimers and some not-so-old timers, never expected to see. When more than 3,000 vehicles pass a given spot in 24 hours, that is heavy traffic for highways of the type in this area. Almost anyone who has anything to do with the traveling public says that traffic is way up, that people are spending fairly freely, and that the rush business sure helps in the winter months that will be here one of these days.

State highway department is to start next week on an interesting experiment on the Wolf Creek Pass road. In the first test in Colorado 100 feet of the highway just over the top on the west side will get an underlay of styrafoam, synthetic material. The insulation, tried successfully in Alaska, combats heaving of the roadbed and frost boils. The styrafoam batts, two inches thick and 4x8 feet, will be installed the full road width, for 100 running feet, 15 inches under the road surface, which will be relaid over the styrafoam.

### 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 10, 1995

Complaints about bears wandering in local residential areas are increasing, and local Colorado Division of Wildlife officials say the rate of complaints is now at a record-setting pace. According to DOW officer Glen Eyre, he and fellow officer Mike Reid are receiving as many as four complaints per day about bears rambling across well-groomed lawns, tearing up hummingbird feeders and barbecue grills and shredding trash containers in a search for easy eats. "We don't get calls from bears," said Reid, "we get calls from people. The reality of the situation is we are getting more people moving here and building dwellings in bear habitat. The bears are doing what comes naturally, and they are doing well at it."

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

## 'Their guy'

Dear Editor:  
Capitalism's the best...right...the purer the better, no taxation, no Government involvement 'dats 'da best...right? Small business depends on it to start, grow and prosper. Want to know the 'purest' form of capitalism, well it's the narco & human trafficking industry ... \$billions of sales and lots & lots of jobs. Yup, the opium farmers in Afghanistan are even using 'green' (solar) power to provide about 2/3's of the world heroin. Maybe you know someone who's been kidnapped, if not rest easy, humans are being bought and sold into sex/work slavery worldwide by (ya gotta love'm) 'entrepreneurs.' Two shining examples of pure GOP dogma ... right ... or has the hat wearing American MAGA really made the U.S. into an impoverished lawless country?

For those stumbling abut with that info, let's ask the same question a little differently ... is pure greed good or just a reflection of the GOP's mantra for being a member of the cult-of-selfishness...so join the 'good' protestors take those masks off ... who cares about your fellow citizen ... Covid-19's a hoax.

GOP Senator Tom Cotton (no pun intended) of Arkansas just said "slavery was a necessary evil for the growth of America." Shocked..don't be because the pandemic has proven there is systemic racism in all the facets of our lives ... but..but..the apologists & twisters of truth swear "there is no systemic racism in America." Donald says

the current national BLM protesters are "terrorists," and to get more votes he started a "very special" para-military security group reporting only to him (not the Army or US Marshalls or DHS or any known organization) that he sends into cities/states he going to lose on election to "bring law & order" to loud applause from his supporters.

Trump supporters couldn't care if he's been caught lying to everyone over 20,000 times in four years..he's their guy. Or he's reduced America globally to it's lowest standing..ever..he's their guy. Or denies the pandemic and 150,000+ die..he's their guy. He pardons loyalists regardless of their crimes..he's their guy. Russia places a bounty on American service members to a small ' Hmmm' from GOP folks, better-call-Putin..he's their guy. Wait, 90+% of born-again evangelists support Donald, regardless that he just wished his old social party friend (a recruiter of minor girls for sex rings) "well"...twice..he's their guy...ever wonder if Jesus did come back what wpold he make of these 'true believers'? GOP political convention..bad..as his good folk (GOP voters) might catch Covid-19; but hey lets send your kids back to school cause "they don't catch the flu"...no worries, hydroxychloroquine is now touted an MD (recommended by Donald) believer in Alien DNA..really..is Trump really your guy?

And..to cap last week off..Stuart Stevens, lifelong GOP advocate, Mitt Romney's campaign mgr., prolific effective GOP ad producer just wrote a book titled "It was all a Lie." I'm sure for the GOP faithful will now see him as a deserter, regardless let's call it great week for Donald..he's their guy.

Dave Blake

## 'Truth prevails'

Dear Editor:  
I am writing this to the faithful readers of The SUN; of every political persuasion. I am hoping my wordings are met with open minds; that truth prevails.

A few days ago, I got up early, had breakfast, finished my chores, and decided to watch the congressional hearing of AG Bill Barr. I have watched said hearings as far back as Watergate but I never saw what I witnessed a few days back.

Now, I am wondering if I was in "La-La Land". I wanted to see a hearing that was as interesting as the Nixon debacle; saw nothing but a hard-hearted political beatdown of the AG.

That was not, at all, a hearing. Democratic representatives hammered Barr with virtually no intention of letting him clarify a presented statement or answer any hard questions. I guess I was guilty of wanting hard questions, given to Barr, being given the respectful allotted time to be addressed.

Barr was given a continuous, and disrespectful, retort of, "I'm reclaiming my allotted time". Translation, the AG was to shut up and not reply to any questions, statements, misunderstandings, spins, or outright falsehoods. It was a partisan D.C. beatdown; an attempt to leave him a pile of burnt ashes with his glasses at the top.

The proceedings had no fairness

what with Rep. Jerry Nadler holding the gavel. He's the same Nadler that called the obviously contrived Russian probe "proof" of collusion. Nadler is also on record as saying that left-of-Lenin antifa is a "myth" while said people, and their cohorts, continue to trash parts of American cities; causing beatings, injuries, even death, to citizens and police officers.

Now, two officers are grievously blind because of "peaceful" protesters continually shining lasers in their eyes...so heartbreaking. Nadler's democratic colleagues still rant that men and women law enforcement are "gestapo, storm troopers"; super-vilifying Nazi names.

I fully agree with former President Obama's ardent call for equal rights but his open maligning of police/federal agents, at Rep. Lewis' funeral, was a sucker punch to thinking Americans. And, former Vice President Biden agrees with such verbal trashing/defunding of law enforcement. Some of his brain is possibly compromised by old age...sad.

Such riotous actions, and the placating of said people, does not bode well for an American audience simply wanting truthful reasoning of several very complicated issues.

I also lament two horrible events, just days ago, that were caught on news videos. A despicable act of burning the American flag, on the street, with the severed head of a pig placed on the flag wearing a police cap.

The 2nd one being the burning of another flag with bibles being tossed into the flames. As a retired pastor/chaplain, and combat veteran, these additional actions by "peaceful" protesters thoroughly disgust me.

And, the democrats continue to look the other way. This is not the America that I fought for. Mine is the land of peaceful/civil protests against injustices.

Be well, Pagosa. Stan F. Counsel

## Con job

Dear Editor:  
I have received several calls from Jamaica, saying that I had won five

See Letters A4

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## Letters

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# Letters

■ Continued from A3

million dollars in some lottery. Since I never entered a lottery from Jamaica, I knew it was just another Democrat scam.

The calls came from the 876 area code, five separate numbers. I was supposed to call back to another 876 phone number, but never did.

I knew an old guy, senior citizen, who got the same scam calls, was somehow convinced that he had won five million dollars, and sent big money to Jamaica for whatever excuse the Democrat con-artist convinced him of like pre-pay the taxes on the winnings, or whatever excuse the con-artist convinced him about.

The man did not believe his friends and acquaintances that it was a scam, not legitimate.

After the man had emptied his own bank account, he did not have enough money left to pay his property taxes, so lost his house.

Someone paid the property taxes, and is now living in that house.

The elderly man is now living in some senior housing in Durango, and does not have the money, or a car, to go get a cup of coffee somewhere. Sad.

Do not fall for the same scam. If called, write down as much as you can about the scam, and present that paper to law enforcement.

I guess the con-artists never got taught to just go get a job, work for a living, and have a happy life. Prisons are full of people that all think the same way.

It is disgusting that the federal government does not do anything about the career criminals, the Mafia, the drug-pushers, the other criminals that do not want to work for a living. So we private citizens have to rely upon our own selves, and hopefully friends and acquaintances, to review and probe into what turns out to be a con job.

Doug Gould

## Many care deeply

Dear Editor:

I imagine that most of you are doing the same things that my husband and I are doing — catching up on items that need fixing, ordering even more than we usually do from Amazon and other online suppliers, checking out new recipes, keeping a calendar of the possible virtual meetings we might be interested in, learning something that we have always wanted to learn, and taking occasional naps. Some days, however, necessitate our getting into the truck and venturing into town for groceries or a visit with a doctor, or maybe buying a take-out lunch or dinner. Last week, I decided that I was ready to put on my mask and try a visit to a restaurant; I hadn't been inside any restaurant for months. It made me a little nervous; my doctors' admonitions to stay at home kept me aware of everyone around me. I particularly was aware of faces with masks and faces without. Fortunately, we had the option to

eat outside — it seemed safer. And, after a while I relaxed and enjoyed my lunch. But masks were at the forefront of my thoughts. At first, I was annoyed by those who, not wearing a mask, chose to walk right by our table. I was determined that that situation would not affect my having a good time. But after a while, my thoughts turned a corner and I found myself focusing on those who got out of their cars and promptly donned masks, moms who made sure the kids had masks on and who held out their little hands for the obligatory hand sanitizer, and several people who went out of their way to walk well away from where I was sitting. I was suddenly grateful for all those kind and thoughtful people who were doing their best to keep me from getting sick. As we were in the car and getting ready to leave the restaurant, two men walked by and I surprised myself by saying "Thanks so much for wearing your masks." They smiled and said, "Least we could do." They gave me a thumbs up and walked away. So, I'm writing to thank all of you who routinely put on a mask when you go outside; I am heartened to know that there are many, many people in our community who care deeply enough about others that they are willing to be somewhat inconvenienced by wearing a mask. Everyone ... stay safe, stay well.

Becky Herman

## Virtual meltdown

Dear Editor:

On Saturday morning, July 25th, the PLPOA Board held its Annual Meeting. On-site attendance was restricted due to the need to meet the current Public Health Orders. As a fall-back measure, the Board staff arranged for the public to participate in this meeting through the virtual on-line Zoom system. Great plan but it failed. So anyone planning to participate in this Public Meeting was shut out. Surely not in conformance with the spirit of any meeting intended to provide the property owners an opportunity to hear the various committee reports and get the latest news on accomplishments and planned events in the neighborhood. The Board was fully aware of the technical glitch but proceeded anyway. When asked if a quorum was met to allow the meeting to proceed, the General Manager said they had received the opinion of their legal council that because they had met the "25 person" rule that a quorum was met and the meeting could proceed. This rule is being misinterpreted and even if seeming to be in conformance, the mere fact that the public was shut out demanded that the meeting stop. The technical issue should have been resolved and if that was not achievable then the meeting should have been rescheduled. To not allow full public input is a fatal error in governing.

This event concerns me greatly in another way. In last week's Business Section of the SUN, Mary Jo

Coulehan wrote a very pertinent article titled: "Get virtually involved in your community". What a timely article in light of the fiasco at the PLPOA Annual Meeting. Ms. Coulehan is with the Pagosa Area Chamber of Commerce and the article points out the numerous Community Meetings now being conducted virtually. Absolutely the sign of the times. We have participated in the Town Council and Tourism Board meetings over the last month. When it works it is a great tool. Seems like the "officials" practice a higher level of decorum since the usual attendance of none at the Town Council meetings could now see a good number of viewers and in "real time"

Here's the "Meltdown" part. We all have neighbors that have been working remotely. We are also getting daily reports on how schools are going to function. There is talk about fractions (no pun) of the student body participating in remote learning. (hate that idea too but that's for another day). So just how well does your internet service function at your place? Silly question ... right? Well get ready for our internet to even get worse. Once we have more people working from home, the kids on the internet to join their classmates on the Algebra assignment and your now "in-home" college student Zooming in on the lecture on Newton's Law. That's when the Meltdown will happen. Here's the visual. Think of the ending of the Wizard of Oz. The wicked witch ... "I'm melting". So it won't just be that 3 hours of no internet each and every Sunday evening. It's going to be every evening. And just like we couldn't participate in the PLPOA Annual Meeting. You might miss that all important staff meeting or your college student will get further and further behind. Or you and the kid will be arguing over the WIFI at 3:00 AM. The only time there is life on the internet.

Of course, we hope to be wrong. But also hoped to at least get an apology from the PLPOA but not a word. Telling us ... something we'll have to live with because nothing will be done to address this coming Meltdown.

Celia and Tony Medrano

## Racism

Dear Editor:

In the July 9 edition of the Sun, Charles Wenzel presented a politically motivated revisionist history of the Democratic and Republican Parties. Mr. Wenzel would have us believe that the Democratic Party is the real racist party and the Republicans are the untarnished party of Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. I'd like to provide a little more context to Mr. Wenzel's "history lesson."

I will agree that southern white slaveholders and segregationists were mostly Democrats, the so-called "Solid South." What Mr. Wenzel conveniently ignores is that there were as many white Demo-

crats in the north as in the south. The first modern Democratic President was Andrew Jackson of Tennessee, who was certainly a racist, particularly toward Native Americans. However, Jackson's VP was Martin Van Buren of New York, a northerner and later President himself. In fact, until 1964, only one Democratic candidate for President, successful or unsuccessful, was not from the Union/Northern states. That candidate was James Polk of Tennessee. And Polk's VP was from Pennsylvania.

In 1860, the Democratic Party split into two factions, Northern and Southern. Each faction had its own candidate for President. Looking at the popular vote for both Democratic candidates, had they not split, Abraham Lincoln would probably not have been elected President. Northern Democrats were pro-Union and anti-slavery as the Republicans of the day.

Fast forward to 1948. At the Democratic Convention, the Party adopted a civil rights plank. This caused a walk-out by Southern delegates, who launched a third-party "Dixiecrat" ticket led by Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, who later became a Republican. President Truman also had desegregated the military, much to the dismay of southerners.

Mr. Wenzel calls LBJ a "racist" who did not really believe in civil rights. Being from Texas, LBJ might have harbored some racist views through his early life. But there is no evidence that he later opposed civil rights. In fact, as a Senator, LBJ refused to sign the "Southern Manifesto" in 1956 which opposed desegregation. As President, he worked tirelessly for the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act. In his address to a joint session of Congress in 1963, Johnson told the legislators, "No memorial oration or eulogy could more eloquently honor President Kennedy's memory than the earliest possible passage of the civil rights bill for which he fought so long."

Mr. Wenzel claims that Martin Luther King Jr. was a Republican. This is wishful thinking. King said, "I don't think the Republican Party is a party full of the almighty God, nor is the Democratic Party.... And I'm not inextricably bound to either

■ See Letters A5

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# Letters

Continued from A4

party." He did support and vote for both JFK and LBJ.

Finally, Mr. Wenzel's real failure is that he ignores the near-total shift of the south to the Republican Party after the 1960s, a new "Solid South." So, if the south is more racist than the north, it is Republicans who now represent this racism, not Democrats.

John Porco

## 'New normal'

Dear Editor:

In reading last week's article, "The new normal: Urban renewal authority discusses July 14 election results", I am pleased that our people passed this initiative so that the people, not just the overlapping Town and URA counsels are making very important tax and growth decisions.

Town Manager, Andrea Phillips, explained "adding that it's not new taxes that someone would be voting on, or an increase to the tax rate. The districts and the entities will always get what they've always gotten, plus an inflationary amount." This push seems to want us, the people, to feel good that this whole URA method will not raise taxes ... yeah ... and that the amount of money available, even an inflation raise, will be the same ... yeah. However, that may not be what we the people might need most understand. The designation of the blight area is clearly legal but morally wrong (Town counsel lost trust), rather this area is a beautiful natural piece of prime real estate in downtown owned by wealthy interests in our community. The

ultimate goal of this supposed blight area designation is development, which brings with it more town managed infrastructure and people, so the result is the same amount for more, thus less for each. The pie might be the same size as Andrea Phillips states, but let's understand that it will be split among more demands, the result being less for each. See the pro URA spin? I'm happy the people are now involved.

The other thing that this article seems to push forward (threaten) is that the Pagosa Springs URA is the only way this community will attract new development ... how did we live and grow without a URA for so long. Good development requires investment and risk; I want good development, and if its good, the investment will be rewarded. I am comforted knowing the people not just the counsels will be involved. We love this community and will do good things for it, so please counsels don't be so quick to dismiss our involvement with lawsuits and loopholes, work with the people as we have spoken.

Mike Schaefer

## Masks are effective

Dear Editor:

A recent letter to the editor about masks for COVID-19 states "they are not giving us the real masks that would be of real effect". Then the author compares the effectiveness of cotton masks to chain link fences keeping out mosquitoes. This is a ridiculous and misleading analogy and only emboldens anti-mask zealots.

I'm not sure who "they" are that

the authors say should be giving us "real masks". Unfortunately in in this pandemic, which the world was not prepared for, we have the personal responsibility to obtain our own mask. All one has to do is an internet search for COVID-19 mask and it will tell you how to make an effective mask or purchase one. It's that simple.

Let's look at the science.

A study from the University of Illinois found that many household fabrics can be effective when used for masks. A used dish cloth (85% polyester, 15 % nylon) had a blocking efficiency of 97.9%. A study from the Univ. Of Chicago showed a 99% and 82% blocking efficiency of large and small droplets respectively with a mask using 2 layers of high thread count cotton (600 threads per inch (TPI). Florida Atlantic Univ. Study showed a bandanna (85 TPI) allowed droplets from a simulated cough to travel 3 feet 7 inches. A stitched cotton mask with 2 layers of cotton fabric (70 TPI) allowed the droplets to travel only 2.5 inches.

Small holes or leaks around the edges can lower the efficiency by 50%. A mask which puffs in and out with your breath correlates with a good (not perfect) fit.

Research will tell you that masks won't provide full protection but masks made with the right combination of materials and worn properly offers protection to the wearer in the 30 to 50% range or possibly more (May Chu PhD, epidemiology, CO School of Public Health).

Models predict that if 80% of the people wear a mask that is only 60% effective, (easily achievable with a

cloth mask) we can stop the spread of COVID-19. (The Atlantic, April 22 2020).

Richard Shildt, M.D.

## Angels

Dear Editor:

Yes, a "More Perfect Union" ... I am thankful to have been able to spend my final years amidst some of God's most awesome creations, our beautiful and inspiring mountains, our blue skies and sunny days, along with beautiful "breaks" of "snowy" days — all are rich in spiritual blessings.

Progress since the beginning of creation has brought awesome forests of tall buildings, busy highways that accommodate all kinds of "fast-moving" vehicles, all going "somewhere". Those who must live those lives today seek respect from it all to enjoy "time out" in awe of God's creations and our little community welcomes all.

Max Bland in his "Thunder Moon Series", states that the stars in the sky are the faces of the "Sky People" (God's Angels) looking down on us, reminding us of His love. When you feel a little forlorn, especially living in today's isolation, turn off your TV, your devices, your outdoor lights, walk outside, take a deep breath, and look up at God's Angels — you will know you are loved.

I recall my Dad's nightly "vigil". Just before bed-time, he would go outside, gaze at the stars before coming back in. I'm sure that was something his cowboy Dad practiced and yes, the felt blessed.

Bask in God's love,

Patty Tillerson

# Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

## Thursday, Aug. 6

**Town of Pagosa Springs Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting.** 5:30 p.m. See town website for participation information.

## Tuesday, Aug. 11

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

**Archuleta County Republican Women's meeting.** Noon, Boss Hogg's, 157 Navajo Trail Drive. Subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.

**Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Commission meeting and work session.** 5:30 p.m. See town website for participation information.

**Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting.** 6 p.m., virtual meeting. See the agenda at <https://go.boarddocs.com/co/asdco/Board.nsf/Public> for participation information.

## Wednesday, Aug. 12

**Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation regular board meeting.** 5:30 p.m. Zoom meeting. See the CDC website for the agenda and link: [www.pagosaspingscdc.org](http://www.pagosaspingscdc.org).

## Thursday, Aug. 13

**San Juan Water Conservancy District joint work session.** 4 p.m., PAWS administrative offices, 100 Lyn Ave.

**Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular meeting.** 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.

## Tuesday, Aug. 18

**Archuleta County Board of County**

**Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting.** 1:30 p.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

## Wednesday, Aug. 19

**Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting.** Noon, Pagosa Brewing, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. Subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.

**Upper San Juan Library District board meeting.** 4 p.m., Zoom meeting. Join at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/79928556999>.

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# Town-to-Pagosa Lakes Trail alignment, estimates reviewed

By **Chris Mannara**  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the proposed alignment of the Harman Park hill portion of the Town to Pagosa Lakes commuter trail at a regular meeting on July 23.

Planning Director James Dickhoff noted that, in conjunction with design and engineering consultants Bohannon Huston, the trail alignment was developed up the western side of the Harman Park hill from the Cornerstone Drive cul-de-sac.

The trail will be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and about 10 feet wide, according to agenda documentation.

Past direction from town council was that the alignment not be along U.S. 160 because of driving speeds on that portion of the highway, Dickhoff noted.

"It was thought that it would probably be the best route to try and get it up on the private property up Harman hill there and eventually connecting with the Piedra

Road intersection at the highway," he said. "This project does contemplate and include pedestrian crossing facilities to be installed at the Piedra Road and Highway 160 intersection."

The project was described as being "substantial," according to Dickhoff.

The trail alignment requires easements from four property owners who, according to Dickhoff, have been contacted to review the alignment.

Easements must be done through the Federal Uniform Act (FUA), which also requires the town to hire a third-party consultant that is approved by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and that specializes in FUA purchases, he added.

"Even if we were to get all of these donated to the town that process is still at least six months. If we have to purchase any of these easements, that process can extend past a year," he said. "It's a pretty lengthy process."

According to agenda documentation, design consultants note

that an asphalt trail surface would cost about \$1,817,225 and a concrete trail surface would be about \$1,869,325.

"As we get closer to final design, these figures will be refined much further," he said. "Right now, these figures are based on very preliminary considerations, and for the most part, the engineer has provided some conservative estimates being as we don't know everything about the design yet."

Dickhoff noted that Archuleta County is looking to place a transportation facility on its recently acquired property from the Harman estate.

This change will not result in much of a cost change and may only add about 30 lineal feet to the project, according to Dickhoff.

The town has \$1,344,595 in CDOT grant funds for the project with a required local match of 20 percent, or \$268,919, Dickhoff explained.

"The town is obligated to pay any overages of this. So, we do anticipate that our match is going

to be larger than that minimum 20 percent match based on our initial engineering cost estimates," he said.

## Council thoughts

Council member Shari Pierce raised the question on whether or not there were discussions to align the trail with the sidewalks that are already in place for possible cost savings.

"I really like the idea of solar lighting for our trails and I think it's great if we want to link in with the county's property," council member Nicole DeMarco said. "Having multiple sidewalks and trails right next to each other, I don't think, is the best use of money."


Dickhoff noted that it could be something to consider, but the town would have to secure easements from every property owner along Harman Park Drive.

Following more discussion, town council unanimously approved the proposed trail alignment.

*chris@pagosasun.com*


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*Romans 3:9-10*

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Do you find yourself with the same thoughts; needing forgiveness and a Savior? Will you join me in becoming the righteousness of God in Him?

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Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

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*II Corinthians 5:20-21*

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## Obituaries

### Salvador Martinez

Salvador Martinez, age 96, passed away on Wednesday, July 29, in Pagosa Springs, Colo. He was born on May 12, 1924, in New Mexico to Ralph and Antonina Martinez. He attended school until the fourth grade, when he left the classroom and began what would become a lifelong love of the outdoors by helping his father tend sheep. He married Theresa Lydia Gallegos and together they raised four children.



Salvador enjoyed the outdoors and spent his working years working irrigation, herding sheep, working at local ranches and working at the local sawmill. He loved fishing, hunting and spending time with his family. He often told stories about the adventures he had while working and spending time in the San Juan Mountains. He loved his home of Pagosa Springs and had many friends and family and deep ties to the community. In his later years, he cherished spending time visiting with friends and family in his home and talking to loved ones on the phone.

### Marianne Maria Scoggins

Marianne Maria Scoggins passed away Aug. 2 at home in Pagosa Springs, Colo. She was 90 years old.



She was born in Frankfurt on Main, Germany, on June 20, 1930, to Antone and Luise Mueller. She grew up in Germany and left 1949 when she met and married Wiley W. Scoggins. The young family moved to Dallas, Texas, where Wiley was from, and began their lives together. To them were born three sons: Dennis, Garry and Ricky.

She was an excellent mother, homemaker and housewife for her family and excelled at the skills that made a house a home. The family moved to Pagosa Springs in 1972

When you visited Salvador in his home, you could always be assured you would spend time sitting at the kitchen table, often eating homemade French fries, sopapillas, beans and green chile. He would often tell stories about the pictures hanging on his living room walls of all the extended family. Always one for a bargain, he enjoyed spending time attending auctions, going to antique stores and finding others' old treasures at yard sales.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Antonina; his wife, Theresa; and his sister, Aurora. He is survived by brothers Ray and Albert (Angie); and sister Lydia; children Melinda (Roger), Nina (James), Tomas (Kathy) and Salvador; grandchildren Jeremiah, Jessica, Makala (Jesse) and Tyler (Sarah); great-grandchildren Bella, Dominic, Sophia and Opal; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He will be missed by his large family, friends and lifelong neighbors in the Pagosa Springs community.

Services were held on Wednesday, Aug. 5, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, Pagosa Springs. Burial followed at Hilltop Cemetery. The service can be viewed online, on YouTube, and at www.youtube.com/user/thehoodmortuary/videos.

### Gentry Michael Roth

On July 18, Heaven gained another Angel. Gentry Michael Roth, born Nov. 10, 1977, passed away at the University of Washington Hospital. He had been working on the necessary steps to be put on their lung transplant list. He had started having health issues his senior year in high school. In 2006, he was diagnosed with lupus. I think he had undergone just about every lab test known to man trying to figure out what was wrong. He was such a strong young man, he never complained. Lupus is an autoimmune disorder that manifests itself in many different ways. It mainly affected his lungs; he had multiple other conditions related to lupus, but his lungs kept getting worse.



Gentry was born in Denver, Colo., to Greg and Sharon Roth; he was a sixth generation Coloradan. When he was 1 year old, the family was able to be transferred to Pagosa Springs. Greg and Sharon both grew up in Durango and were happy to get back to the Western Slope to raise their son. He loved his years in school in Pagosa and gave us so many happy memories. He had many great friends in every generation. He loved people, from babies to the elderly. He graduated from high school in 1996 and went on to college at CSU in Fort Collins. During his time in high school, he earned his black belt in taekwondo in Mr. Rick Bass' class, an accomplishment of which he was very proud. He graduated from CSU in 2000 with a degree in forensic science. He was a real CSU guy. His first

job was in San Jose, Calif. He worked in their crime lab. His main focus was DNA, but had become very accomplished in many different aspects of crime analysis. In 2005, he was able to get a newly formed position in Denver working at both the CBI and Jefferson County labs. During his career, Gentry helped solve several cold cases and was able to keep a serial rapist in jail. He and his family moved to Oregon in 2017 and started his own business, Mach 1 Forensics.

In 2003, Gentry married the love of his life, Michelle McWilliams. For the first nine years of their married life, they traveled extensively and saw so many places and things. In 2012, they welcomed their first child, a beautiful little girl, Ulani Mei, and three years later, an adorable little red-headed boy, Wyatt. He was such a happy and loving husband and father.

Gentry was preceded in death by both sets of grandparents, Rollie and Ella Roth, and Sherman and Kathryn Michael, and also his dear friend and brother-in-law, Ryan McWilliams, who was Michelle's twin.

Gentry is survived by his parents, Greg and Sharon Roth; his wife, Michelle; daughter Ulani and son Wyatt; Michelle's parents, Gene and Mary McWilliams; his Uncle Merle (Debbie) Michael; his cousins, Chris (Heather) and Tanya Roth and Casey (Karli) Michael; and the brothers of his heart, Craig Moore and Frank Savage.

There is not a service planned at this time. Hopefully, this coronavirus will settle down and we will have a memory party for him. Instead of flowers, please donate to the GoFundMe site, https://www.gofundme.com/f/roth-family-support, to help Michelle and the kids.

### Archuleta County Stage 1 fire restriction rescinded

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Monday, Aug. 3.  
Please continue to follow safe burning practices and remember that, in accordance with Archuleta County Resolution 18-2017, all open burning requires a permit. Permits can be purchased from the Pagosa Fire Protection District at Station 1, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the Pagosa Fire Protection District, hereby notifies residents of Archuleta County that the Stage 1 fire restriction has been rescinded, effective as of noon,

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# Business

## Urban renewal authority looks at powers, purposes, projects

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

A brief overview of the various state-enabled powers and purposes of the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority (PSURA) was provided to the PSURA commission members at a regular meeting on July 23.

PSURA Executive Director Andrea Phillips noted that tax-increment financing (TIF) is one of the main ways that urban renewal authorities (URAs) get projects going.

However, a URA can also do a variety of other things, according to Phillips, including but not limited to designating plan areas and conducting plan studies, surveying and studying blighted areas, purchasing and assembling properties, negotiating, entering into contracts, and taking other actions for urban renewal.

A URA can engage the community and seek feedback on future projects; borrow and invest funds to complete projects; acquire, rent and lease; manage and dispose of property; and

develop appropriate regulations for buildings and land use, she added later.

PSURA commissioner Greg Schulte noted that he is excited about identifying project areas within the PSURA boundaries.

### Handling projects

According to Phillips, she has already received interest from developers with potential projects for the PSURA.

However, Phillips raised the question on how the PSURA wants to see the process of projects go moving forward, whether it be engaging developers or letting interested parties come to the PSURA's attention.

"I think I would like to see both. Obviously we can start identifying areas and potential projects that we would like to see, but we've already got people who are coming to us and I think we need to listen to them and see what they are thinking and see if we can figure out the best ways that the URA can help support that," PSURA Chair Don Volger said.

In situations where a developer would approach the PSURA about a potential project, oftentimes that developer has the land secured or owns the building for the project, PSURA commissioner Mat deGraaf noted.

deGraaf suggested that, when developers come to the town planning department with their proposed project that the planning department could inform them of the PSURA.

"I think a lot of work was done with defining areas for potential projects when the community created the prospectus for opportunity zones. So, I think that seems like a very natural layering of incentives and some of this work has been done," PSURA commissioner Nicole DeMarco said.

It's going to be very important for the PSURA to make itself known to the community, PSURA commissioner Rory Burnett noted.

"I really think that we have to be the first ones that step out, as the board, to identify those projects and put our hand out and say we're here to help," he said.

chris@pagosahun.com

## The beginning of innovation: Town discusses being grant sponsor for Powerhouse renovation

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

At a regular meeting of the Pagosa Springs Town Council on July 23, council discussed the town potentially serving as the fiscal sponsor for the Pagosa Innovation Center (PIC), which is seeking grant funding to establish co-working space locally.

The PIC is seeking funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in order to renovate the old Powerhouse building for the project, according to Town Manager Andrea Phillips.

Phillips noted she was approached by PIC co-founder Michael Whiting about this request.

"Michael and his partners are planning on applying for this grant. It's a U.S. Economic De-

velopment Administration (EDA) Grant and they are asking for support from the town to serve as a fiscal sponsor for the grant," she said.

According to Phillips, the EDA awarded \$1.5 billion to assist communities that have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and \$193 million of that total is available for a five-state region that includes Colorado.

"The funds must be awarded by the EDA by September 2020 and examples of projects include resiliency planning, entrepreneurial support projects to assist in economic diversification, construction of infrastructure and facilities to support economic recovery," Phillips said. "The applicants have to clearly demonstrate how the project will help the community respond and recover

from the pandemic."

Additionally, the PIC needs to show how its project aligns with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy through Region 9, Phillips explained.

The PIC is requesting \$2 million in EDA funds that would be matched with other sources for a total of \$2.5 million in project costs, Phillips explained further.

"If we do decide to move forward with this, and they get the grant, we would want the Pagosa Innovation Center to help us cover our costs that we might incur from this," Phillips said, citing a special audit or legal fees as examples.

Phillips explained that she believes there is a lot of possibility for the "underutilized" Powerhouse building.

"It's in a very visible location, so I think they've got some really

interesting plans there that could help with economic and community development," she said, adding that space for co-working and high-speed broadband are planned.

Council member Matt DeGuise commented that he is in favor of the PIC project involving the Powerhouse building, adding that it could even be a good project for the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority.

"I think these are the kinds of projects that we want to support and I'm behind going to the next stage for staff to move forward," council member Rory Burnett said.

Agenda documentation for the meeting notes that town staff will draft a resolution and letter of application for the grant for council to review at its next meeting.

chris@pagosahun.com

## Positively Pagosa: Join in the campaign

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area  
Chamber of Commerce

The COVID-19 pandemic year of 2020 has certainly been a year many of us have not experienced before. Lives have changed in so many ways: school attendance, work attendance, shopping, events, social distancing and basically the way we interact. To mask or not to mask has been one of the most divisive issues I have encountered in my years at the Chamber.

However, in the face of adversity most often comes positive change. We learn to do things differently. We improve productivity; we improve processes; we learn to work smarter rather than harder. This is one of the aspects in this time of change that the Chamber would like to focus on through our Positively Pagosa campaign.

We would like people to Think Positive, Share Positive, Be Positive and Live #PositivelyPagosa. What can this campaign do for you? What we're looking to communicate are some of the positive projects, acts of kindness, new work systems, new processes, unsung heroes and many more activities that our community experiences every day.

What have you done differently in your business that has really worked and you'd like to share with other businesses so that they too might learn a new, effective way to do business? Is there someone who you know of that has done an act or multiple acts of kindness like shopping for some or running errands;

what about all of the people who have devoted their time to making thousands of masks? There are so many people and so many acts of kindness that have made a positive impact on our community. I believe that many people don't even know all the projects and acts of kindness or changes in the work place or community that have actually made a positive impact.

How do you share these positive notices? First off, visit the Chamber's website at [www.pagosachamber.com](http://www.pagosachamber.com). Click on the any of the social media links: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram. Somewhere in your post, include the campaign hashtag #PositivelyPagosa. Then tell us about your experience, tag someone else's positive act of kindness or positivity, and share. We would like to learn from other experiences and celebrate those businesses, organizations and individuals who have been making a positive influence in our community. In addition, "like" the #PositivelyPagosa links through the various social media platforms.

Thank you, Pagosa, for sharing good works and business practices during this difficult time. Catch someone doing something good. Let's move forward and be grateful for so much that we have in our community such as resilient businesses, kind people and dedicated individuals. Share the successes.

### Stop the knock

Census takers will soon be knocking on your door and visiting households that have not

completed the 2020 census. Want to "Stop the Knock?" Complete the 2020 census today by going to [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov).

The Archuleta County Complete Count Committee has received comments from people that they have never received their census 2020 "invitation." If you did not receive a card at your physical address or post office, don't worry — you can still easily complete the census. Go to the website and when prompted, just put in your physical address. That will get you into the system to complete the simple 10-question survey.

Some additional tips and suggestions: If you are a second home owner, still complete the census for the home that you own here in Pagosa Springs, especially if it is used as a short-term rental. Unfortunately, Archuleta County will not receive any funding attributed to this address, but it will help with the response numbers and help census workers when the census is complete from cross-referencing addresses

and having to assess that this is a second home. When asked in the survey how many people were living at that address at the time you would answer zero. Complete the survey and that's it. If this home is used as a long-term rental, the renter should complete the survey. Therefore, if you are renting a home or apartment, please complete the survey. Your presence in Pagosa Springs is very important and brings much needed funding to our county.

Year to date, Archuleta County only has a response rate of 39.3 percent compared to the 2010 Census response rate of 43 percent. We can do better, Archuleta County. If you have questions about how to complete the census, contact Mary Jo at the Chamber at 264-2360. If you need to borrow a computer to complete the census or need help navigating to the census website, visit the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library on 8th Street and one of the helpful staff members there will assist you in logging on.

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## Card of Thanks

### Frederick

Today I went shopping at Walmart. There was a lady at the entrance greeting customers and offering a mask to anyone who did not have a mask on. What a wonderful surprise that Walmart and many other stores in Pagosa are trying to flatten the curve and improve our quality of life, and keep Pagosa safe.

It is not that hard to "wear a

mask." If you are not worried about your own life, think about the elderly in this community. Parents, please teach your children the basics of life: to respect their elders, and be kind. I will continue to do the majority of my shopping at Walmart because they are a great example of what should be done for the community in the middle of a pandemic. Thank you, Walmart.

J. Frederick

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# Space

■ Continued from front

"As a member of the National Guard, I got called up because I have a significant amount of expertise in military space operations and I've served in military space-types of assignments for over 10 years," Morehouse explained.

Morehouse has served in a wide variety of space-related duty assignments, with the colonel explaining some of those assignments have included being a team leader on a team that advises commands led by three-star generals on how to integrate space operations into their military, being a battalion commander for one of the three space battalions in the Army and the only in the National Guard, and deploying to the Middle East to work in space operations there.

"When that was stood up, there was a requirement suddenly for many, many people with space expertise, and there's not enough people in the active military across the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and now Space Force to fill all the positions," Morehouse explained, noting that each branch of the military is working to train more people

in space, but with the creation of Space Command, there was a sudden need for more people than were being trained and they reached into the Reserves and National Guard for people with space experience to fill some of the positions needed. "Through that process, they called me up."

Morehouse was called up in January and anticipates the deployment will be for a full year.

Morehouse is serving as the space policy and doctrine division chief under the U.S. Space Command future plans directorate.

"I'm the person who coordinates the inputs from United States Space Command on any space policy or doctrine types of issues," Morehouse explained. "So, for instance, when we're talking about what should

appropriate, responsible behaviors look like for satellite operators in space, there's a piece of that, there's an input to that government-wide conversation that comes out of United States Space Command, and I'm the person who coordinates from all the different experts who we have within the Command to come up with what our collective input into

that conversation should be."

Those things are important, he noted, because what the U.S. government agrees should be responsible, appropriate behaviors the country will follow oftentimes become internationally accepted norms and behaviors.

"So, it's really important to get 'em right, and also to make sure that we don't decide to do things that might not be a good idea for us in the future," he said.

To accomplish his charge, Morehouse explained he organizes and facilitates planning sessions and they do a lot of reviews of policies that other branches of the government are proposing that involve a space component such as satellites or operations with satellites.

Morehouse is also responsible for the revisions within the DoD for space doctrine — the guiding tenets used for operating in space.

The colonel also revealed one of his team's missions over the last few weeks was to prepare representatives from the U.S. for discussions taking place in Vienna, Austria, between Russian and U.S. delegations.

Those talks are reported to in-

clude security in space and nuclear arms control.

"This is definitely an interesting time to be involved in space," Morehouse wrote in an email to The SUN.

The U.S. military has been in space operations since shortly after World War II when it launched military rockets into space for the first time, Morehouse explained, but much of what it is involved in now is because the space environment has changed a lot over the last decade.

He further explained, "other nations who are potential competitors to the United States have vastly increased their presence in space, and now you have a lot of commercial companies who are also fielding many more satellites in space than you've ever seen — you know, hundreds and hundreds more satellites than ... in all of previous ... years combined, with new capabilities and new ideas on what to do in space. So, it's becoming a much more congested environment with many different people who have many different ideas about what they want to do there."

The role of the U.S. military in that environment, he suggested, is to, as much as possible, guarantee the highest level of stability so governments and commercial entities can "all prosper and can pursue their objectives in a safe and orderly way."

Intelligence plays a huge part, Morehouse explained, noting there are very high classification levels involved in everything Space Command does.

"One of the refrains in any domain of military operations is that intelligence drives operations, like you can't do anything well if you don't understand what's going on really well first," he said.

# Food

■ Continued from front

to growing food: a short growing season, poor-quality soils, access to water and limited numbers of people growing food.

Michelle Huck, treasurer for the food coalition, explained how the food coalition is working with local growers.

"What happens is a lot of times they have extra [food], they often times just give it away or sometimes it goes to waste," she said. "So we're working with them to donate to the local food pantries to get those fresh-grown foods available."

Benetti explained around the same time as the food assessment project was getting started, the coalition started to "coalesce" around different groups in the community, including the six different food pantries located throughout the county.

Benetti indicated that with the coalition's help, the TARA Community Center in Arboles became a food pantry and the coalition was able to bolster other food programs in the county.

"We were able to fund some CSAs, community-supported agriculture, so we were able to support some CSAs that would deliver food to the food pantries," she said.

The coalition has rallied local food growers into a more unified group.

"We have maybe two or three, three or four small commercial outfits around here, the rest of the growing is done in people's backyards and people's greenhouses," Benetti said. "We created a network around that, an effort to increase the amount of food that was being grown."

# Medical

■ Continued from front

contractuals (this change follows a recommendation of the CFO approved by the auditor) ..."

• Strong cash collections that decreased accounts receivable from \$11.3 million at the end of February to \$9 million at the end of June.

Representation by Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Chelle Keplinger showed PSMC logged \$5,522,257 in gross revenues in June — \$210,684 above budget and \$669,340 above last year.

Net patient revenue totaled \$3,373,769 for June, which was \$771,259 above budget and \$670,259 above last year.

Year to date through June, the medical center lists gross revenues totaling \$28,848,563, which is about \$1.3 million below budget and is \$131,390 above last year.

Through that same time period, PSMC's net revenue totals \$14,753,454, which is \$593,133 below budget and \$617,246 below the

Intelligence is twofold, he explained, with one part being where you get it from and the other part being what kind of technology is used to gather the intelligence.

"Every government is going to keep their capabilities, ... they're going to play those capabilities close to their chest, right? They don't want other nations or potential competitors to gain insights into what technology is truly being used by that nation," he said.

Morehouse noted that Space Command is working hard to try to reduce the classification level of anything it can to be more transparent, both about what the U.S. is doing and what potential adversaries are doing.

"Part of the conversation is to speak frankly about the actions of ourselves and others, and highlight the things that we're doing that are responsible and try to advocate for those to become more widely accepted," he said.

Morehouse also indicated that Space Command is using the strengths of the U.S. and other nations to create partnerships among nations that could prove beneficial both now and in the future.

"The United States military has the best what we call, like a space surveillance network, out of any country in the world," Morehouse said, meaning the U.S. can see what's in orbit and track different things in space better than any other nation, from satellites down to space junk and debris.

"All of that information we actually share with other space-faring nations, so we give them that data set so they can analyze it and ... make more responsible choices with their own satellites," he said. "And then we

## Food bank stress in the time of COVID

Benetti noted the food coalition was "happily" involved in the food assessment project when the COVID-19 pandemic changed both the lives and the food needs of many members of the local community.

"And then March happened. And we were asked to engage instead in an emergency food supply effort because the clientele for the food pantries just simply doubled, it was up to 300 boxes a week," she said, adding, "So then that's when we started looking for funding and the community was very generous, community organizations were very generous, and we were actually able to purchase some CSAs to increase the amount of local fresh food because until then, the food pantries had been supplying nonperishables."

Huck explained the coalition had to get creative in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in regard to securing food for the food pantries.

"Another thing we've been able to do is sustain a working relationship with the food bank over in Durango and we've been able to purchase some pallets of food," she said. "Because at the beginning of the virus, we were having trouble finding food to purchase because it was flying off the shelves."

The coalition also helped coordinate with the local grocery stores in Pagosa Springs to donate vegetables to the food pantries, though Benetti noted, it isn't fresh produce and the coalition's larger goal is to increase the supply of fresh vegetables grown locally.

"We're still doing that right now," she said. "We're working on increasing that food supply."

also issue warnings if the computer models make it look like two satellites might be coming close to each other at some point in the future so that the operators know that maybe they need to maneuver a little bit to make things safe."

The U.S., he explained, also enters into agreements with other countries where the U.S. will give that country better data if that country can help the U.S. with whatever their specialization is in terms of space-oriented technologies.

"We figure out how we can create win-win situations where we can partner with each other," he said, adding that one of Space Command's initiatives is to increase partnerships between space-faring nations so there is already trust when "stickier" problems arise.

The future of space, he suggested, will be interesting and will come with opportunities for global partnerships.

"When you think about space, ... a lot of people think about it in terms of science fiction movies that they've seen or maybe some dated excerpt of going to the moon or whatnot, and I think that one of the key takeaways for everyone is that space is a medium that provides a lot of potential for the human race and the United States of America," he said, adding later, "I think that we're poised on a very interesting future when it comes to how we use space. I don't think it's going to look like sci-fi movies, but I do think that we're all going to enjoy the benefits of a continued exploration and exploitation of the space environment. And I think ... the future of space is going to be a real interesting one."

*randi@pagosasun.com*

# School

■ Continued from front

acknowledged that each family has different comfort levels with situations and we strive to provide a option [sic] for each family to be part of our community in a manner they are comfortable with."

The document lists several goals for the upcoming school year:

• Maximize in-person learning in as safe and healthy a way as possible.

• Ensure a reasonable level of safety for students and staff for in-person learning.

• Minimize disruptions to education by facilitating timely responses to COVID-19 through cohorting students and staff when possible, screening for symptomatic individuals, following recommended guidance, and coordinating closely with local and state public health agencies.

• Ensure equity in educational opportunity by considering learning and health needs of all students, including those with varying health conditions, economic backgrounds, language skills, or educational needs.

• Providing families choice that allows for a quality education within their level of comfort related to COVID-19."

The plan then outlines the two options in the school's "Road Map to Re-opening Fall 2020," which include in-person learning with planning for closures and a full distance-learning option.

The document explains the rationale for the in-person option, as well as the staffing plan, mitigation practices, other considerations and plans for different lengths of possible closures, from 24 hours to a week or longer.

The document also outlines the reasons for using distance learning, academic procedures related to that option, technology and the basic distance-learning schedule.

In discussing the re-entry plan Monday, PPOS board member Bill Hudson asked about assigning each student a tablet, which could cut down on sanitizing costs, with School Director Angela Reali Crossland explaining that PPOS doesn't have enough for each student, but had enough for every student who needed one when the school went to distance learning in the spring.

She noted that they are about \$300 each with licensing and the school could get more using federal CARES Act funding within about a

week if needed.

Hudson also expressed hesitancy given the death rate in Colorado and cases in surrounding areas, suggesting as many students should do the distance option as possible, and asked his fellow board members if the school should encourage families to do one option over the other if they're on the fence.

Multiple board members suggested that decision is up to the parents, with Reali Crossland suggesting that all of the staff's concerns and medical concerns could be addressed.

"I really love the plan, personally," said board president Ursala Hudson, noting she is as excited as she can be for a plan like this.

Bill Hudson moved to approve the plan, with Mark Weiler seconding and the board approving it unanimously.

Reali Crossland noted during the meeting that parents will be given until Aug. 8 to commit to online or in-person learning for the upcoming school year, and that choice will stay in place until Thanksgiving.

For more information about the school's plan, visit [www.pagosa-peakopenschool.org](http://www.pagosa-peakopenschool.org).

# COVID-19

■ Continued from front

said of face coverings. "We've been doing droplet protection for decades in health care — it just cuts down on how much droplets contain the virus coming out into the community and it keeps you from getting exposed to my droplets. If you walk into [Pagosa Springs Medical Center], long before COVID and said, 'I think I have the flu,' somebody would have handed you a mask and the nurse would have made me put one on before I came in your room just to keep some protection ... I just hate to see our community back up and have our businesses have to close down again. It's just been so devastating for all of us."

"I agree with what our doc said," said Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger. "I think she hit the nail on the head that we want to do everything reasonably possible to go ahead and prevent another shutdown. And so if we can have that united message, I think that would be wonderful."

Archuleta School District Superintendent Kim LeBlanc-Esparza, who started the job in June, explained during the discussion that, locally, residents are much more concerned about COVID-19 than they were about a month ago.

"Over the last five to six weeks, I've conducted pretty extensive surveys of our staff and our community of families," she said. "And while five or six weeks ago, honestly we had less than 10 to 12 percent of people who were worried in any way shape or form about letting kids walk back into our schools in person, and just in the last four days the new survey that we've put out ... I've got 35 to 36 percent of staff and families saying they're concerned about their kids

walking back into schools in person given the rate of transmission that has happened in our community over the last four weeks."

She added, "So anything we can do around masks, around hand-washing, around wiping down surfaces that are frequently touched, all of those things are going to help us put a lid on some of the transmission and help us get our kids back in school. We want nothing more than to start school in the fall on September the 8th, but we also have to keep in mind that when kids come to school, that it increases our risk of spread because it's so many young people and frankly, adults, in one facility every day and we want to make sure we do it well. Our staff is committed to doing it well, but we need the community's help to make sure that we do not spread this virus."

"I would just like to urge all of the leadership in the community to set the example for others by following these guidelines and wearing the masks," said Pagosa Springs Town Council member Shari Pierce, adding, "I know a lot of people do look at the leadership of the community and we should set the example."

"And I know I don't like to wear masks, but when I go into somebody's business that's requesting it, I put it on. It's all about respect," Commissioner Ron Maez responded.

"I would just reinforce Shari's point about all of us need to set the example and display the leadership," said Greg Schulte, chair of the Upper San Juan Health Service District.

"I think we can come together," Maez said. "We're a very tight community. We don't always agree with everything that we're talking about, but I think we can agree that we don't

# Archuleta County COVID-19 case count

The following information was current as of press time Wednesday.

San Juan Basin Public Health data:

Residents: 37

Residents recovered: 9

Nonresidents: 33

wanna be shut down again."

The county, town, fire district, medical center, school district, health department and the sheriff's office have all applied their logos and support to a flyer campaign that states, in the draft presented Tuesday, to "Keep Our Community Open" and lists strategies to combat the spread of COVID-19, including wearing a face covering, social distancing, washing hands and regularly cleaning surfaces.

The campaign is expected to be pushed to the public in the upcoming weeks.

## The commissioners and COVID

At the county commissioners' regular meeting later on Tuesday, resident Lisa Jensen criticized the commissioners' response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is really unfortunate — truly is infuriating — that you chose to do nothing last month to protect Archuleta County residents and visitors," she said, adding, "You have ignored the advice, the knowledge, the wisdom, the advice and pleas from our local health and medical professionals and health care providers to please do something to protect the citizens here."

Throughout the pandemic, the county commissioners have not strictly followed state guidelines relating to face coverings, social distancing or the number of people permitted to gather for government functions.

County Attorney Todd Weaver told The SUN last month that the part of amended Public Health Order 20-28 that currently sets guidelines for government functions amid the COVID-19 pandemic is found in Section II.

Part of Section II reads, "All Businesses and Government Functions shall all follow the protocols below," which include:

• "maintain 6 foot separation between employees and discourage shared spaces;"

• "avoid gatherings (meetings, ■ See COVID-19 A13

Benetti explained ongoing goals of the group are:

• Create an equitable community-based food system.

• Expand the coalition's cooking class offerings, though she noted this will be easier when the COVID-19 pandemic ends.

• Build a "community hub" that could be used for food storage and could include a commercial kitchen.

• Provide incentives for local growers to grow more food.

• Build more community gardens.

• Create a "mobile work crew" to maintain community gardens.

• Expand the coalition's youth group.

• Develop a USDA-certified meat processing plant in Archuleta County, as there are currently none.

• Increase the locally grown food supply in the county.

Benetti highlighted that one of the major accomplishments of the food coalition was bringing all the food pantries together "so they could share and receive more food."

She said the COVID-19 pandemic illustrates the need to increase the locally grown food supply as it "proved to us that without [a local food supply] we are subject to the whims of what's going on in the rest of the country."

Matt Dodson, director of the Archuleta County Department of Human Services, said the food coalition is "a vital resource in our community" and that by bolstering food bank offerings locally, families have further support in putting food on the table.

More information about the food coalition, including how to make a donation, can be found at [foodcoalition4archuleta.org](http://foodcoalition4archuleta.org).

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bottom line is \$1,081,807, which is \$202,095 above budget and \$1,046,813 above the prior year.

Keplinger informed the board that, because of the strong month, PSMC did not apply any federal stimulus funds to its bottom line in June.

PSMC ended June with 64.9 days cash on hand, down from 78.9 the previous month, according to Keplinger's report, with the CFO explaining that dip is due to bond payments.

"PSMC makes its semi-annual bond payments in June so cash dipped to 65 days but days of cash continues to be in a strong position in light of the circumstances of 2020," the written report states.

Last year, Keplinger told the board, PSMC had 39.3 days of cash on hand.

"First comment: Wow," board member Jason Cox said before asking more about the change in reserving funds for payer contractuals.



# Council discusses new marijuana license types

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

Marijuana license types were a topic of discussion by the Pagosa Springs Town Council at a regular meeting on July 23.

The town approved the licensing of marijuana facilities in 2015, according to Town Clerk April Hessman.

Additionally, the town follows closely with what the county had in terms of licensing and regulations which require that 70 percent of sales of marijuana have to be grown in Archuleta County, Hessman described.

Currently, the town has licenses available for the following types of establishments through its code: medical marijuana centers, retail stores, retail cultivation facilities, optional premises cultivation and medical marijuana-infused products manufacturing (MIP), according to Hessman.

She also explained that the town only has a MIP license for medical products. Medical MIPs pertain to using medically cultivated marijuana to produce the products.

"The town also, what they did, is separate the town in half and determined there would be three licenses on the east side and three licenses on the west side," Hessman said. "The licenses are for stores or centers."

There is one business that hopes to implement the use of a retail MIP license, but at this time the town does not have a license for that, Hessman noted.

Other licenses that have come before the state recently are delivery licenses and hospitality licenses, according to Hessman.

"Right now, delivery for medical marijuana started January of 2020. The delivery of a retail store or recreational marijuana, that doesn't begin until January of 2021," she said.

There are currently restrictions in place for the delivery of medical marijuana including age requirements, surcharges and the recipient must be a patient, according to Hessman.

There are three different types of hospitality licenses, according to Hessman, with those being hospitality room, hospitality, and sales and mobile hospitality.

A hospitality room license allows for the consumption of marijuana on-site, Hessman explained.

"There isn't any purchase or sale at a hospitality room-type license, but the establishment can sell and serve food and drinks. Liquor is not allowed on that property," she said.

A hospitality and sales license, akin to bar, would allow for the purchase of a product from that establishment on-site and the product would be consumed on-site, she described.

Food and drinks are permitted with this license, just not alcohol, Hessman noted.

Mobile hospitality licenses would be for charters, buses or limousines, Hessman described.

"That also is bring your own. You can't purchase from the driver," she

said. "There has to be a separation for the driver, obviously, in that situation."

Hessman explained that by discussing the various types of licenses, council will be up to date on the information and can answer any questions.

During public comment, community member Jeremy Bonin explained that council might want to consider a delivery license for marijuana.

"That should maybe be talked about in the upcoming months and getting that license out because you guys have to opt into having delivery; it would really just be in the city limits with you guys," Bonin said.

Bonin also noted that hospitality establishments could be a "really good idea" for the town.

"I think that there's a real lack of places for people to go to consume these products. I think that comes up in the parks and public spaces around the community at times," he said. "I think having a place for people to go and congregate and enjoy having a smoke just like they would go somewhere and have a beer is kind of spirit of the law was when they said let's regulate it like alcohol."

Council member Mat deGraaf explained that it "only makes sense" to move forward with the retail MIP license, but noted he wasn't sure on delivery and hospitality licenses.

"At this point, it almost seems comical that we're talking about another place for people to con-

gregate," he said.

Council member Nicole DeMarco noted she is in favor of the retail MIP license, calling it a chance to "diversify our economy and actually have some production jobs here."

The discussion on delivery licenses should be done with the county, DeMarco noted.

"I do support the hospitality, as well," she said. "This might be an opportunity for businesses to make capital investments."

When business owners are requesting ways in which town council can support them, council needs to entertain those ideas and see how it can be a partner with the business owners in the community, council member Rory Burnett added.

"I also think it would be very helpful to understand what the county is doing and making sure that we are in good communication with them with whatever step that we take," Burnett said.

Council member Shari Pierce added that the retail MIP license was a "logical next step" for the town.

"I don't think we really need to address the hospitality aspects of it right now given COVID. I think that stuff could wait," Pierce said.

Following more discussion, deGraaf noted that council was in agreement that the retail MIP license should move forward and that council would like to hear from the county about the hospitality licenses.

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# County supports putting national popular vote issue on ballot

By John Finerock  
Staff Writer

At their regular meeting on July 21, the Archuleta County commissioners passed a resolution supporting that a referendum petition for Colorado Senate Bill 19-042, which concerns an interstate agreement to elect the president of the United States by national popular vote, be put on Colorado's 2020 fall ballot.

The language of the resolution explains that on March 15, 2019, Colorado Gov. Jared Polis signed the National Popular Vote bill into law, making the state the 13th jurisdiction to enact the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

"What the national popular vote compact would do, once it goes into effect and if Colorado is a part of it, it would change how Colorado would cast its electoral votes," said County Attorney Todd Weaver at the meeting. "It would go from the candidate who won the popular

vote in Colorado to the candidate who won the popular vote nationwide."

Weaver explained there needs to be an additional 74 electoral votes worth of states to sign onto the compact before it goes into effect and it will have no impact on the upcoming presidential election this fall.

The resolution states:

• "WHEREAS, when (or if) the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact goes into effect, it would require Colorado's Presidential Electors to cast their votes for the candidate for President who received the most votes nationally, even if that candidate did not receive the most votes in Colorado ...  
• "... the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (the 'Board') believes it is in the best interest of the citizens of Archuleta County to maintain and preserve the current Presidential electoral system ...  
• "... the Board believes that putting the question on the Novem-

ber 2020 ballot will be in the best interest of Archuleta County and its citizens ..."

"What the resolution is supporting is that the voters of Colorado decide whether or not to join and to put it on the ballot for this fall, it's in support of that," Weaver said, noting that the Colorado General Assembly voted to join the compact and the governor signed it into law.

"I'm for putting it on the ballot 'cause it's a bad idea," said Commissioner Steve Wadley, advocating to keep the electoral college the way it is currently. "Anybody needs to know they should just check with me."

He continued, "I believe in the electoral college, and small states, if you got a brain cell, understand the electoral college for a smaller state [is important]. Otherwise people go to Chicago and LA and Denver, New York or whatever and win the election the rest of us are fly-over."  
Senate Bill 19-042, "CONCERNING ADOPTION OF AN AGREE-







MENT AMONG THE STATES TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE" will be on Colorado's November's ballot as a referendum petition.

"A referendum petition is a petition circulated to gather the signatures of registered Colorado voters in an attempt to have a bill that was passed by the legislature placed on the ballot as a statewide ballot issue," according to the Colorado secretary of state's website.

Supporters of the referendum gathered enough signatures to qualify for Colorado's 2020 ballot about a year ago.

Commissioner Ron Maez explained in a phone call he thought it was important for the board to publicly advocate that the voters of Colorado get to decide this issue.

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# Public health director finalist for position in Washington state

By John Finerock  
Staff Writer

Liane Jollon, executive director of San Juan Basin Public Health, is one of three finalists for the position of director of the Benton County Health Department.

According to an article published Monday in the Corvallis Gazette-Times, Jollon is a finalist alongside Paula Mandel, public health deputy director of the Pima County Health Department in

Tucson, Ariz., and Lindsay Rogers, associate commissioner of health and developmental services for the Health and Human Services Commission in Austin, Texas.

Benton County is located in southeastern Washington state on the border with Oregon.

Jollon provided a statement to The SUN on Monday regarding being a finalist for the position: "As The Pagosa Sun has reported, Archuleta County has announced plans to investigate withdrawing

from San Juan Basin Public Health in order to form its own county health department.

"Given the uncertain future of our health district, it makes sense for me to look into additional opportunities—including this chance to fulfill the duties of a public health director for a community where I have a prior professional relationship and would be very honored to serve."

It is unclear when a final decision will be made about the position.

# SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Board of Education of Archuleta School District 50 JT announces the vacancy of School Board Director District One (1). Candidates must live within the boundaries of Director District One (1). Legal descriptions of the Director Districts are available at [mypagosaschools.com](http://mypagosaschools.com) under the "School Board" tab, or by contacting Robyn Bennett at 970-264-2228 x 5401. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be considered for the vacant school director position needs to submit a letter of interest by 3 pm on August 27, 2020, to the District Office at 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs; by email, [rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us](mailto:rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us); or by mail to: Executive Assistant Robyn Bennett, PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. The letter of intent should address the following: 1. Why do you want to be on the Board? 2. Do you plan on running for the position once your term expires in November of 2021? 3. What is your philosophy of education as it relates to serving on the Board?


The Board of Education plans to conduct interviews on September 8, 2020.

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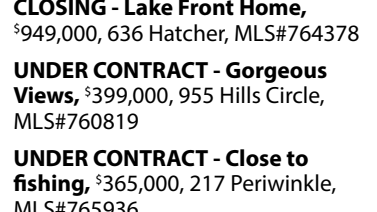
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**SOLD - Perfect Getaway,** \$359,500, 122 Dutton Drive, MLS#765080  
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# Council addresses ethical and professional standards

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

Ethical and professional standards for both elected and appointed officials of the Town of Pagosa Springs was a topic of discussion at a day-long strategic planning retreat of the Pagosa Springs Town Council on July 31.

Before fully discussing the topic, council members, along with Town Manager Andrea Phillips, pitched various goals they would like to accomplish regarding ethical and professional standards.

Phillips suggested coming up with things that should be in a code of conduct, for example.

Another idea suggested were things like an agreement on what should be confidential.

"There is an ethics code, if you will, as part of our municipal code, and it really deals with things like conflict of interest," Phillips explained, noting that it does not include guidance on how town council should talk to the media or how issues get resolved that fall outside of the standards of conduct.

Communities usually have an ethics code, but also a local body can make a standard or "norms of conduct" which can be utilized for other boards and commissions, Phillips explained.

"When they come on to serve as a representative of the town, they're agreeing to following x, y and z," Phillips said.

There are some rules that can be common between town staff and elected and appointed officials, Phillips noted.

"We talk about things like outside employment, we talk about social

media, we talk about conflict of interest," she said. "The fact that they are a public servant and they are being watched."

## Interactions with others and the public

One item touched upon by Phillips is how various boards of the town want to run meetings, what the expectations are, and how that relates to interacting with town staff and others.

"I think setting expectations that, no, you don't have to agree with everything that the town says and does, but you are a representative of the town. You're an extension of town government," she said. "I think something that came up recently is we didn't have a good process to say, 'Hey, person, you need to abide by these things and you're not doing that, so how do we address this?'"

Speaking as one voice is really good, but it's also good for members of boards to have differing opinions, council member Madeline Bergon noted.

"I think after a decision has been made, you don't go and pick apart that decision," she said. "Once a decision has been made, kind of roll with it."

Appointees and elected officials should come in and be ready to hash things out and discuss things thoroughly and also to bring different ideas and opinions to the table, Phillips added.

"Once an action is made and direction is given by consensus to the staff, then kind of stand up for that decision and don't take it personally," Phillips said.

Bergon noted that sometimes items are not discussed as thoroughly

as they should be.

"Sometimes I think when we make decisions, it's kind of a little bit rushed," she said.

Council member Nicole DeMarco added that there is a balance in council discussion where sometimes council can focus too much on analysis.

Later in the discussion, council member Rory Burnett suggested that council members refer community members to certain elected officials when they are approached with specific questions.

"People are going to approach you guys because you're the representative," Phillips said. "You're elected. They are going to come to you because they know you in these different circles."

For particular issues, the first question should often be if that community member has gone to that particular department head, Mayor Don Volger suggested.

"I don't think always directing them to staff is necessarily a good thing. We need to be able to listen to them and help them with their problems if we can," council member Shari Pierce said.

Some community members may be scared of retaliation from town staff, Pierce explained, adding that she believes it is her role to work as a mediator between the community and town staff.

"I don't even know if we need to be here if we're going to turn around and say don't talk to me, go talk to staff," she said.

More continuous learning and training for board members could also be an option as well, Phillips added later.

"It's a major liability to have vol-

unteers out there who are not trained," she said. "I think people also get confused about what their role is."

Some confusion can stem from the Colorado Open Meetings Law, for example, according to Phillips.

"It's hard to know what's allowed and what isn't, especially when you first come in to this new public space that most of us have never inhabited ever," council member Mat deGraaf said.

Having an onboarding webinar that people have to watch could be helpful, DeMarco noted.

"Training is very important and I think we should do something on an annual basis," Pierce said.

deGraaf noted that town council members need to be careful about what they perceive their level of expertise is on a given subject.

Specifically, deGraaf explained that he tries to err on the side of caution when it comes to giving advice to the public.

## Other questions

Later in the discussion, Phillips explained that she wanted some feedback on guidelines for contacting the town's attorney, Clayton Buchner, adding that questions had come up from representatives from the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority.

"Technically, the attorney reports to you guys," Phillips said to council.

deGraaf noted that this would be a "use or abuse" sort of situation when it comes to talking to the town attorney.

If board members want to ask a personal question of Buchner on something on a meeting agenda, that's one thing, according to Bergon, but board members should not ask questions and try to "maneuver a side on an agenda item."

Additionally, Phillips noted that she does not need to be involved with every conflict of interest discussion with Buchner, but she should be notified of those discussions so town staff is not caught off guard by the charge for using Buchner's services.

For advisory board members, Burnett suggested that if they would like to ask Buchner a question, they should go to their respective board's director to start the process.

# The Blotter

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

**Archuleta County Sheriff's Office**  
Calls for service over two weeks: 413.

July 20 — Third-degree criminal trespass, Butte Drive.

July 20 — Under investigation, Colo. 151.

July 20 — Found property, County Road 600.

July 20 — State warrant, County Road 600.

July 21 — Computer crime-misdemeanor, all other thefts, criminal impersonation, Buttercup Drive.

July 22 — Marijuana concentrate-production/cultivation/manufacturing, Evergreen Drive.

July 22 — Information only, North Pagosa Boulevard.

July 22 — Dog at large (third offense no injury), Caballo Place.

July 23 — Warrant arrest, County Road 600.

July 24 — Failure to appear (bench warrants), County Road 600.

July 25 — County warrant, Country Center Drive.

July 25 — Harassment by phone or computer, Kelsey Circle.

July 25 — Agency assist, Cloud Cap Avenue.

July 25 — Information only, Navajo Trail Drive.

July 25 — Improper registration, expired license plates, drove vehicle without insurance, failed to display valid registration, Colorado license plate violation, drove vehicle when license canceled, U.S. 160.

July 25 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160.

July 26 — Warrant arrest, Pines Club Place.

July 27 — Gathering identity information by deception, computer crime-misdemeanor, identity theft-possesses, Estates Circle.

July 27 — Information only, Hersch Ave.

July 28 — Second-degree burglary, U.S. 160.

July 28 — Domestic violence, cruelty to animals, false imprisonment, harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, menacing-felony-aggravated-weapon, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Crooked Road.

July 29 — Warrant arrest, Navajo Trail Drive/North Pagosa Boulevard.

July 29 — Under investigation, Navajo Trail Drive.

July 30 — Unlawful sexual contact, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 30 — Warrant arrest, Talisman Drive.

Aug. 1 — Agency assist, Buttercup Drive.

Aug. 1 — Under investigation, Evergreen Drive.

Aug. 1 — Information only, Colo. 151.

Aug. 1 — Reckless endangerment, Steep Place.

Aug. 1 — Found property, North Pagosa Boulevard.

Aug. 2 — Under investigation, U.S. 160.

Aug. 2 — Under investigation, North Pagosa Boulevard.

**Pagosa Springs Police Department**  
Calls for service over week: 143.

July 27 — Warrant arrest, North 5th Street.

July 28 — Trespass warning, Pagosa Street.

July 28 — Theft, Pagosa Street.

July 29 — Drove vehicle without valid driver's license/failed to observe or disregarded traffic control device, East Pagosa Street.

July 29 — Criminal trespass, Lewis Street.

July 31 — Criminal mischief, South 5th Street.

**6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson**

July 20 — Robert D. Eggleston, vehicular eluding, 12 months Department of Corrections, total fines and costs — \$428.50.

July 20 — Abrien Rain Lobato, vehicular eluding, 30 months direct sentence to community corrections, total fines and costs — \$768.50.

**Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**

July 15 — Patti K. Stivers, driving under the influence, 15 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$1,320.50.

July 21 — Mackenzie A. Cates, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$210.50.

July 22 — Jeffery M. Bentley, failed to stop at stop sign, total fines and costs — \$107.50.

July 22 — Autum Hujus, fail to yield right of way/stop sign, total fines and costs — \$172.50.

July 22 — William Gittings, driving under restraint-outstanding judgment, total fines and costs \$111.50.

July 22 — Judi R. Gillespie, failed to stop at stop sign, total fines and costs — \$65.

July 22 — Flavio L. Garcia, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$163.50.

July 22 — Ashlyn Deyapp, stop sign-fail to stop, total fines and costs — \$172.50.

July 22 — Jordyn L. Webster, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$163.50.

July 22 — Daniel C. Suarez, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.

July 22 — Jared Silva, driving under restraint-outstanding judgment, total fines and costs — \$111.50.

July 22 — Katie M. Hamblen, license plates-expired, total fines and costs — \$120.50.

July 22 — Daniel M. Snow, failed to stop at stop sign, total fines and costs — \$107.50.

July 22 — Diana V. Garza, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 10 days jail suspended imposition, total fines and costs — \$334.50.

July 24 — Steven P. Eye, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$98.50.

July 27 — Samuel K. Bard, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$170.50.

July 29 — Lewis Meyer Stavrowsky, wrong way-traffic circle, driver's license-not in possession, total fines and costs — \$194.50.

July 29 — Keagan Smith, license

plates-expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.

July 29 — Derek A. Pepen, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.

July 29 — Robert L. Moring, improper pass-sign/markers, total fines and costs — \$202.50.

July 29 — Suzanna Hess McCauley, license plates-expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.

July 29 — Desiree Dawn McBrayer, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.

July 29 — Jessie K. Lee, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$235.50.

July 29 — Gregory Reed Koepf, speeding 5-9 over limit, total fines and costs — \$195.

July 29 — Rachael Earley, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.

July 29 — Taylor James DeIaco, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.

July 29 — Brock N. Cordova, speeding 5-9 over limit, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$336.50.

July 29 — Caryn Adrian, speeding 20-24 over limit, total fines and costs — \$344.50.

July 29 — Chelsea B. Accaputo-Stevenson, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$235.50.

July 29 — James Stone, speeding 1-4 over limit, total fines and costs — \$83.50.

July 29 — Jason P. Goodhue, driving too slowly, total fines and costs — \$103.50.

July 29 — Joshua J. White, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$170.50.

July 29 — Fatima Del Rosa Gutierrez Garcia, failed to stop at stop sign, total fines and costs — \$107.50.

July 29 — Jason M. Moore, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$170.50.

**Sixth Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey Raymond Wilson.**

No report.

**Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**

July 14 — Christopher Merrill, animal running at large prohibited, interference with animal control officer, total fines and costs — \$110.

July 14 — Juvenile, marijuana prohibited, 12 months supervised probation, 24 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$170.

July 14 — Glenn Delhiero, unsafe backing, two points off, total fines and costs — \$77.

July 28 — Davina Cizek, animal running at large prohibited, total fines and costs — \$60.

July 28 — McKenzie Graham, animal running at large prohibited, total fines and costs — \$60.

July 28 — Timothy Decker, indecent exposure, 12 months unsupervised probation, 48 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$85.

July 28 — Seric Warner, speeding 10-19 mph over PFL, four points off, marijuana prohibited, possession of drug paraphernalia, total fines and costs — \$297.

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# Sports

## CHSAA releases modified sports seasons schedule

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

Sports will look a little different this year for Colorado high school athletes, including those at Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS).

The Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) announced its 2020-2021 athletics and activities calendar Tuesday after receiving the go-ahead from the state.

"The health and safety of our student participants, coaches, officials and essential personnel, including volunteers is a primary concern for the return of interscholastic athletics and activities," said CHSAA Commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green in a Tuesday press release. "We are very grateful for the state, health and educational leaders for their shared commitment of a return to these highly beneficial education programs when it is deemed safe for all school communities."

CHSAA's press release notes that the calendar follows "months of collaboration with Gov. Jared Polis, the CHSAA Resocialization Task Force, the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the state's COVID-19 Response team, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the CHSAA Board of Directors and administrative staff."

"I am super excited that all of the sports have a season," said PSHS Athletic Director Marcie Ham. "I think it's great that they're all going to have the opportunity to play."

Instead of three seasons like normal, the upcoming school year will be split into four shortened seasons — seasons A, B, C and D — with some traditional fall sports moved to next spring to increase the likelihood of an uninterrupted season and because they cannot be played under the current guidelines.



SUN photo/Terri House

Pagosa Springs High School cross-country coach Rachael Christiansen runs with athletes during a summer workout recently. On Tuesday, the Colorado High School Activities Association released a modified sports season schedule for the upcoming school year.

"Due to the restrictive nature of the current state guidelines, and the ability to follow Colorado Department of Education requirements, all contact sports have been moved to a season which will commence later in the calendar, and allow for playoffs and culminating events without creating new conflicts," the press release notes.

"This was a contingency plan," Blanford-Green said during a Tuesday press conference on the seasons, noting that CHSAA was optimistic it would be able to start on time with the traditional seasons.

Under this year's four-season system, CHSAANow.com explains, "Each season is approximately seven weeks from start to finish. Sports will have their regular season competition limits reduced. The postseason for each sport will also

be shortened, including the number of state qualifiers."

For PSHS, fall sports, or Season A, will include golf, which began on Aug. 3 and will conclude Oct. 5 and 6, and cross-country, which will begin Aug. 12 and conclude on Oct. 17.

There is then a break until January, with Season B set to include basketball, spirit competition, girls' swimming and wrestling at PSHS.

Those sports will begin on Jan. 4, 2021, and will run through early March, with basketball and wrestling set to conclude on March 6, 2021.

Season C will include football, boys' soccer and girls' volleyball at PSHS.

Football is slated to begin Feb. 22, 2021, and boys' soccer and girls' volleyball are set to begin on March 1, 2021. Those seasons will run through early May.

Season D will begin in late April and will include track and field, baseball and girls' soccer, with that season set to conclude in late June.

"In anticipation of data from the state which shows a likely resurgence of COVID-19 cases in late fall, there will be a participation moratorium from Oct. 18, 2020 to Jan. 3, 2021," CHSAANow.com states.

At his Tuesday press conference,

Polis also acknowledged there will be outbreaks, teams that won't be able to play for periods of time and that some athletes won't participate due to coronavirus concerns, but expressed that he's "thrilled" student athletes will be able to participate in sports.

Ham noted that the changes in seasons will mean there will be more logistical work when it's already complicated to coordinate use of the high school's only gym, and pointed out that some sports may play at different times (Saturday football games are a possibility instead of Friday night, for example) due to the changed seasons.

But, she told The SUN, the school's coaches are all on board and are excited to know when their seasons are so they can plan.

"We have amazingly positive coaches and they are all on board," she said, noting that there were no negative comments from the coaches.

Sport-specific details are expected to be released Thursday, Aug. 6 via CHSAANow.org.

Ham noted that PSHS is not sure what its next steps will be, but that Intermountain League representatives are meeting Friday.

randi@pagosasun.com

## Youth football registration begins

By Aubrie Limebrook  
Pagosa Springs Youth Football Association

The Pagosa Springs Youth Football Association board members have met many times over the summer to discuss the possibility as well as difficulties with having a normal football season starting this month.

After a lot of discussion, following COVID-19 mandates and guidelines closely, speaking with

other leagues and checking the interest level in our community, we have decided to begin the registration process to play youth football.

Please email pagosaspringsyouthfootball@gmail.com and we will email you the registration forms. Registration ends Aug. 16, with practice starting on Aug. 17. See our Facebook page for more information: Pagosa Springs Youth Football.

### RECREATION NEWS

## Youth soccer registration for ages 5-12 underway

By Darren Lewis  
SUN Columnist

The Recreation Department is accepting youth soccer registrations for ages 5-12 through Aug. 28. The cost is \$35 and you may register only at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

There will be four divisions: 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Each division

will have a maximum participation of 32 players. Registrations will be taken on a first-come basis. You may download the registration from www.pagosasprings.co.gov or pick one up at the Community Center.

Please feel free to contact the Recreation Department with any questions, 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233.

## Cards of Thanks

### Loaves and Fishes

How wonderful it is to see the kindness of this community in response to a huge surge of hungry people. During the last five months of the pandemic, Loaves and Fishes has served 8,848 meals in comparison to a year ago during the same time frame when 3,722 meals were served. Free meals are given to people walking up to the entrance of the Parish Hall on Lewis Street or at the curbside in front of the building.

Thank you to all sponsors providing funds for the weekly hot, nutritious meals and volunteers serving the meals in take-out con-

tainers and benefactors stopping by to give donations. Thanks also to City Market for their ongoing contributions to Loaves and Fishes.

With gratitude for your compassion,

Board of Directors, Loaves and Fishes of Archuleta County

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I would like to thank our post office employees for their service during this difficult time. Considering they are understaffed and more people are ordering online, they are handling the extra volume with smiles and patience. Please allow extra time when you come and bring your smiles and patience.

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# Outdoors

## Boaters rescued after storm capsizes boat during storm at Navajo Lake

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

A group of people from Durango were rescued on the evening of July 27 after a boat capsized from a wave on Navajo Lake.

Around 5:30 p.m. on July 27, Navajo State Park (NSP) received a call from a man who reported that the battery in his boat had died and he requested a tow, according to an email from Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Southwest Region Public Information Officer Joe Lewandowski.

An NSP ranger arrived on scene to a location that was a couple of miles south of the New Mexico state line with the stalled boat being 20 yards off shore in a cove, Lewandowski's email describes.

There were 16 people in total in the party with some on the boat and some on shore when NSP rangers arrived.

"Rangers hooked up the boat for a tow. He was able to take 6 people on the patrol boat, 10 were placed in the stalled boat. It was a 24-foot jet boat. All 16 people couldn't be put on the patrol boat during the tow," Lewandowski wrote.

But after the tow had started, Lewandowski wrote that a "vicious wind storm" hit Navajo Lake and caused waves of 6 feet or higher.

"The water swamped the jet boat and it capsized. A ranger immediately detached the line, and



the patrol boat went around to pick up everyone out of the water. No one was hurt," he wrote. "The ranger drove into a protected cove and waited out the storm. All were then taken back to the marina that's where the boat had been launched."

As of July 28, Lewandowski noted that the boat was found

and towed back to the marina and CPW equipment was used to turn the boat right side up with Lewandowski describing the boat as "salvageable."

NSP Manager Brian Sandy explained in an interview on Wednesday that this was the first time an incident like this has occurred since he has been manager.

"When they were towing them, the storm came in and the waves came in, they said about 6- to 8-foot waves, and a wave came over the bow of the boat that they were towing and swamped it. With all that water in the boat and the waves, it caused the boat to capsize," Sandy said.

chris@pagosahun.com

Photo courtesy Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Ten people were rescued when a boat capsized due to waves in a storm at Navajo Lake while being towed on July 27. The boat was recovered and is reported as being salvageable.

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San Juan Water Conservancy District invites your comments on our draft Strategic Plan.

Available on the District's website  
[www.sjwcd.org](http://www.sjwcd.org).

Comments due by 5:00 p.m.  
on September 7, 2020  
to John Porco at [jporco.sjwcd@gmail.com](mailto:jporco.sjwcd@gmail.com).

## Paragliding accident leads to rescue mission

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

A male subject who was involved in a paragliding accident in the area of Treasure Mountain required rescue and assistance from local agencies around 5:20 p.m. on the evening of July 31.

"I'm not exactly sure what happened in the launch, but it seems like once he launched, his wing was compromised in some way and he went over and kind of landed in the tree line just below the cliff band," Office of Emergency Management

(OEM) Director Mike Le Roux said in an interview on Monday.

The man was able to make a call to 911 for help, and OEM personnel were able to speak with the man and get GPS coordinates for his location, Le Roux noted.

"We mobilized a team, we headed up in that direction. We accessed the area through I think it's called Falls Creek, Forest Service Road 039," Le Roux said. "We took the team in on one ATV and two side-by-sides. We managed to get gear and equipment to a particular location. I would suppose a quarter

mile below his location, but it was almost vertical at that point."

Another team was sent out to make patient contact, do a patient assessment and stabilize him, Le Roux noted.

The rest of the team accessed the male subject through a crevice through the use of a rope ladder, he added.

"We could climb up there and get resources up to him," Le Roux said. "When we got up there, we were able to establish a landing zone at about 11,200 feet. It was a treeless knoll platform that we were

able to land Flight For Life in."

Flight For Life was called around 8:30 p.m., according to Le Roux, adding that they left with the patient around 11:30 p.m.

Final resources left the scene at around 1 a.m., Le Roux added later. Le Roux did not know what kind of injuries the male subject sustained during the accident.

Along with OEM, Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, Pagosa Springs Medical Center EMS, and Mineral County Search and Rescue assisted in the mission, according to Le Roux.

chris@pagosahun.com

## Water production down to 14 million gallons

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

From July 24 through July 30 of this year, water production totaled 14.14 million gallons, according to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey.

The Snowball water treatment plant produced 3.95 million gallons in that timeframe, the Hatcher water treatment plant produced 6.36 million gallons and the San Juan water treatment plant produced another 3.83 million gallons.

In that same time period last year, water production was listed at 18.23 million gallons.

From July 17 through July 23 of this year, water production totaled 17.27 million gallons.

This week, two local lakes remain full, as they were last week, according to Ramsey's press release; those are Lake Pagosa and Village Lake.

Hatcher Lake is 23 inches from full this week, or 92.90 percent full.

Last week, Hatcher Lake was 20 inches from full.

This week, Stevens Lake is 32 inches from full, or 90.48 percent full. Last week, it was 23.3 inches from full.

Lake Forest is 2 inches from full this week, or 98.48 percent full. Last week, Lake Forest was 7 inches from full.

Collective diversion flows remain at 4.3 cubic feet per second (cfs), with the West Fork diversion adding 3 cfs and the San Juan diversion adding another 1.3 cfs.

### River report

As of Wednesday, the San Juan River had a reported flow of 43.5 cfs. This is below the average for Aug. 5 of 214 cfs, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The highest flow for Aug. 5 came in 1999 when the San Juan River had a flow of 1,050 cfs. The lowest came in 2002 when the San Juan had a flow of 18.2 cfs.

chris@pagosahun.com

## Water district to consider conflict-of-interest memo

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) will consider a conflict-of-interest memo at its next regular meeting on Aug. 17 at 5 p.m.

In an interview on Wednesday, SJWCD President Al Pfister explained that this type of disclosure or memo is common for many local bodies and the district felt like it should implement one as well.

The memo will be drafted by the district's legal counsel, Jeff Kane, Pfister noted.

"All of us have to be operating within certain parameters," Pfister said.

During the meeting on July 20, Pfister explained that he thought that everyone on the SJWCD

board understood why this memo needed to be created.

"The memo was designed to set the foundation for having a standard for which the board had to operate," Pfister said.

Most organizations have conflict-of-interest disclosures or memos for a variety of reasons, Pfister noted.

"If we're issuing a contract or request for proposals that if somehow you have some business relationship or family relationship, essentially a board member's vote would be influenced by the relationship they have with somebody that's putting in a proposal," Pfister said. "They may benefit financially, whether it's directly or indirectly, by an action of the board."

chris@pagosahun.com

## Piedra Road maintenance to begin Aug. 10

By Esther Godson  
San Juan National Forest

The San Juan National Forest will be conducting road maintenance activities on Piedra Road (NFSR 631) the week of Aug. 10. Work will start Monday and is anticipated to conclude Friday, Aug. 14.

The maintenance will include replacing three nonfunctioning culverts and a cattle guard that can no longer be repaired.

Culverts will be replaced at miles 16.8, 19.5 and 24.5. The cattle guard located near Bridge Campground, at mile 18.9, will be removed and a new one installed. Travelers can expect and be pre-

pared to see workers and road machinery in these areas.

Forest visitors should obey all traffic signs and exercise caution when traveling this route during the week of Aug. 10. Although every effort will be made to facilitate the flow of traffic, travelers should be prepared for delays of up to 30 minutes in the areas undergoing maintenance.

For more information, contact the San Juan National Forest roads manager, Pete Merkel, at 385-1323.

All offices on the San Juan National Forest are conducting business and providing services virtually. For information on the San Juan National Forest, call 247-4874.

## County, town extend declarations of local disaster

By John Finebrock  
and Chris Mannara  
Staff Writers

Both the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County have extended their respective local disaster orders in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

At a regular meeting on Aug. 4, the Pagosa Springs Town Council voted unanimously to extend its local disaster order through Dec. 31.

"By keeping this in place, this helps to make us eligible for possible reimbursements for federal funding and other expenditures that we may incur as a result of responding to the virus," said

Town Manager Andrea Phillips. The original local disaster declaration was signed on March 16 and was then ratified and extended by town council at a meeting on March 19.

"It has been extended by town council several times," Phillips said, noting that the most recent local disaster order was set to expire on Aug. 4.

At its regular meeting on Tuesday, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted to extend the Declaration of Local Disaster until no later than Sept. 15.

The county commissioners voted to extend the declaration by resolution on April 21, May 5, June 2, July 7 and on Tuesday.

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Plaintiff:  
ANDREW GUINN  
v.  
Defendants:  
HB RANCHO, LLC; JAMES R. DANOHER and EDITH L. DANOHER; PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION; and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION.

Submitting Attorney:  
Duke Eggleston, #24965  
Eggleston Kosnik LLC  
566 Main Ave.  
Durango, CO 81301  
Phone Number: (970) 403-1580  
E-mail: [deggleston@e-klaw.com](mailto:deggleston@e-klaw.com)  
Case Number: 2020CV30054

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
PLAINTIFF ANDREW GUINN  
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:  
HB RANCHO, LLC  
JAMES R. DANOHER and EDITH L. DANOHER  
ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice. This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situated in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:  
Lot 366 in Pagosa Highlands Estates, according to the plat thereof filed for record February 7, 1972, as Reception No. 75409, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado.

and

Lot 173, Pagosa Trails, according to the plat thereof filed for record September 13, 1971 as Reception No. 74885. Respectfully Submitted this 23rd day of July, 2020.  
Published in The Pagosa Springs Sun  
First Publication: July 30, 2020  
Last Publication: August 27, 2020  
Eggleston Kosnik LLC  
s/ Duke Eggleston  
Duke Eggleston, #24965  
566 Main Ave.  
Durango, CO 81301  
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Published July 30, August 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Estate of Robert Thomas Dorgan, Deceased  
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All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before November 23, 2020, or the claims may be forever barred.

Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law  
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Published July 30, August 6 and 13, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION:**  
Request for Qualifications/Proposals:  
Notice is hereby given that Archuleta County is soliciting Qualifications and Proposals from qualified general contractors to provide preconstruction and construction services for the new Archuleta County Combined Courts Facility. Five sets (one bound, four unbound) and one electronic file, clearly marked with "2020 Combined Courts Facility" along with the name, address and telephone number of the bidder, will be received at 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, until 2:00 p.m., August 19, 2020. As soon as practical after the bid closing time, all bids shall be opened in public and read aloud. Bids received after the closing time shall be returned unopened to the bidder. A PDF version of bidding instructions may be obtained directly from Larry Walton, Finance Director ([lwalt@archuletacounty.org](mailto:lwalt@archuletacounty.org)), or downloaded from the "Bids" page of the County website at: <http://www.archuletacounty.org/Bids.aspx>.  
Published August 6 and 13, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

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SAN JUAN BASIN AREA AGENCY ON AGING NEWS

# Medicare coverage for skilled nursing and skilled therapy

By Kay Kaylor  
SUN Columnist

I advocate for residents in extended care and assisted living residences as the region's lead long-term care ombudsman. I also am a Senior Medicare Patrol and State Health Insurance Assistance Program counselor, all as an employee of San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA). Information on the many aging and care concerns will be included here.

July marked the 55th anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid and the 30th anniversary of the American with Disabilities Act. As the Center for Medicare Advocacy (CMA) notes in a July 30 Alert, "These landmark laws have vastly improved the lives of Americans and remain legislative monuments to what policymakers can achieve when they truly focus on the needs of their constituents."

Among the Medicare changes since then is the Jimmo v. Sebelius settlement of January 2013, which advocates still must cite to help beneficiaries. This settlement agreement addresses certain language on how Medicare covers skilled nursing care, such as in the

rehabilitation wings of nursing homes, and skilled therapy services, including home health and outpatient therapy.

As the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) notes on its webpage, some health care providers may not be familiar with the settlement and may "erroneously" believe that the "Medicare program covers nursing and therapy services under these benefits only when a beneficiary is expected to improve."

Instead, provided that all other coverage criteria are met, CMS says that skilled nursing services would be covered if they are "necessary to maintain the patient's current condition or prevent or slow further deterioration." The Medicare beneficiary must require skilled care to safely and effectively address particular care needs.

For skilled therapy services, an individualized assessment of the person's clinical condition must demonstrate that the "specialized judgment, knowledge and skill of a qualified therapist" are needed for a safe and effective program to, again, maintain the person's current condition or prevent or slow further deterioration.

In other words, as stated in a CMS Jimmo Fact Sheet, "coverage cannot be denied based on the absence of potential for improvement or restoration."

CMA notes that despite the Jimmo settlement, "Coverage for medically necessary services to which people are entitled under Medicare law remain difficult to obtain, especially for people with longer-term, chronic and debilitating conditions," and gives home health care as an example.

## New stimulus program begins for Farmers Market

Starting with the July 11 Farmers Market in Pagosa Springs, SJBAAA is offering a new program that provides coupons for a limited number of older adult and caregiving shoppers who prefer to purchase local fresh produce. To apply, please contact Debra Herrera at 403-2164. The coupons will be available for 10 people in the beginning, and the program will continue if successful. The 10 people each will receive \$50 in \$5 coupons for the market.

The funds for the coupons come from the federal CARES Act, which

was passed to help stimulate the economy and give support during the COVID-19 pandemic, so the coupons expire by Oct. 31.

The approved coupon users must follow the market's entrance and social distancing requirements of keeping 6 feet apart and wearing a face covering. Anyone with preexisting health conditions due to oxygen limitations is exempt, but should let Herrera know. Those who have been accepted will be on a list; they must stop at the Farmers Market booth and mention that they are checking in for the SJBAAA CARES Act program.

The market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is located on the south side of U.S. 160 at the east end of town within the East Side Market. The intended final Farmers Market date is Sept. 26.

This program is also offered to residents of Montezuma County and will be implemented soon in the region's other counties.

SJBAAA offers resources for people age 60 and older on Medicare. For further information, please call or text 403-2165 or send an email to leadombudsman@sjbaa.org.

## SENIOR NEWS

# Take-out meals continue at Senior Center

By Cheryl Wilkinson  
SUN Columnist

The Pagosa Spring Senior Center is continuing its temporary closing of the congregate dining room due to coronavirus.

In order to continue providing meals, we are offering take-out hot meals and a salad with a drive-up option under the portico at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

These meals will be available Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. There is a \$4 suggested donation for lunch for those age 60 and better. If you need to have your meal delivered, please call 264-2167 to see if this option is available in your area.

The cost per meal for the public age 59 and under is \$8.50. The meals include a salad, hot meal, drink and dessert or bread.

Please call 264-2167 to make a reservation for pickup. We are also continuing our Meals on Wheels program.

There will be no games, classes, or presentations during this time. The staff will be available by phone. If you need to speak to a staff member, please call 264-2167.

## The Community Café menu

Thursday, Aug. 6 — Bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich with avocado, potato salad, deviled egg, milk, salad and magic cookie bar.

Friday, Aug. 7 — Salmon taco, corn on the cob with butter, Texas caviar, cilantro/lime rice, milk, fruit and lemon bar.

Monday, Aug. 10 — Barbecue chicken wings, roasted sweet potatoes, dinner roll with butter, milk, salad and brownie.

Tuesday, Aug. 11 — Braised beef short ribs, mashed potatoes, dinner roll with butter, milk, salad and lemon poppyseed muffin.

Wednesday, Aug. 12 — Pulled pork, loaded baked potato, dinner roll, milk, salad and sugar cookie fruit bar.

Thursday, Aug. 13 — Avocado egg salad sandwich, broccoli salad, milk, salad and magic cookie bar. Reservations and cancellations are

required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to drive through and pick up a meal at the Community Café at the Senior Center.

For your convenience, you can make your reservations in advance or have a standing reservation on days you know you will always pick up. Please cancel if you cannot attend on your standing reservation days. We want to thank everyone for their support by observing our reservation policy. This helps ensure that everyone with reservations receives a meal and enables us to provide additional and healthier meals.

Due to COVID-19, food supplies have been affected. Substitutions will be made accordingly.

## Locals

### Prudhomme, Blevins

The following local residents have earned a degree from Western Governors University:

- Kelly Prudhomme received a master of arts, mathematics education (K-6).
- Mckenna Blevins received a bachelor of science, nursing.

### Kimberly Taylor Dawson

Students honored on the Dean's List at Baylor University include Kimberly Taylor Dawson.

### Hunter Keplinger

The University of Wyoming lists Hunter Keplinger on the 2020 spring semester President's Honor Roll.

The President's Honor Roll consists of regularly enrolled undergraduates who earned a 4.0 ("A") GPA for the semester. To be eligible, students must have been enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours taken for letter grades.

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# COVID-19

Continued from A8

waiting rooms, etc) of more than 10 people or provide sufficient spaces where appropriate distancing can be maintained if larger gatherings are required by law, such as for some government functions like trials;

• "require face coverings for all employees in public indoor spaces pursuant to Executive Order D 2020 138..."

Asked by The SUN via email if the commissioners were following those guidelines, Weaver wrote, "My role (among many) as the County Attorney is to review and interpret rules, regulations, statutes, etc. on a number of matters and a wide variety of topics that impact the County and then counsel and provide legal advice to elected officials and department heads. It is in the discretion of the elected officials and/or department heads to follow my legal counsel and advice."

In an interview Wednesday, Maez commented on what the county attorney told him a few days ago, after the commissioners' started fielding

questions from the public about why they weren't wearing masks during meetings.

"He said we need to do something or I urge you to wear a mask," said Maez.

In phone interviews Wednesday, Commissioner Alvin Schaaf explained he never asked Weaver for advice nor received any, and Commissioner Steve Wadley said, "It'd be inappropriate for me to comment on any direction we've gotten from our lawyer."

Asked why he doesn't wear a face covering during county commissioner meetings, Maez said, "It's hard to talk to, it's hard to talk through to get a clear comment out. But since the question's been raised, I've changed the whole format for the commissioners already. From ongoing here on out everybody's gonna Zoom, that's it. Starting Tuesday."

"Why don't I wear a mask? Cause I got health problems that won't allow me to wear a mask and still stay breathin'," Schaaf said, adding,

"I tried to wear the mask, can't do it 'cause my oxygen levels are still too low."

"I think I'll just start wearing a mask, set a good example," Wadley said.

Wadley also noted he feels like the commissioners have complied with state health orders.

"We went from Zoom to 6 feet apart and no public in the meetings, you know, at all, so I felt like we've been distancing and everything else and then the commissioners stay out of each others' office so there's no interaction. So, I've felt like we've complied," he said.

"I'm just not one of those persons that prescribes to, 'Hey, we gotta do everything we're told just because somebody else might get offended by it,'" Schaaf said, adding, "I don't work for the governor and/or health department. I don't enforce mask laws. That's not my job — I am not the mask police. If you wear a mask, great. If you don't, it's not my job to enforce that."

john@pagosasun.com



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# preview

## ARTS & LIFE



Photo courtesy Beth Tollefsen

August 6, 2020

# Virtual Auction for the Animals set for Aug. 29

By Mike Stoll  
Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

Is it new normal or no normal?

Either way, with restrictions on social gatherings still prudently in place, the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs (HSPS) is not inviting you to dress up and come to the 26th annual Auction for the Animals. Instead, we're bringing the auction to you.

After 25 consecutive years of hosting our live, in-person auction fundraiser, we're taking this year's version virtual and online. On Aug. 29, you can tune in at 6:30 p.m. from the comfort of your own home and enjoy an hour full of fun and entertainment supporting our local shelter animals. Dress code is your-home casual, so wear whatever you like because the shelter dogs and cats won't mind a bit as long as you join in.

This year's virtual event will feature a silent auction, as well as live entertainment. Auction items will be available for online preview beginning Aug. 15, and bidding will commence on Aug. 21. The auction will conclude on Aug. 31. Live entertainment this year will feature music from local favorite singer/songwriter Tim Sullivan and a pet fashion show.

Mixing pets and creative costumes in a live setting has the potential to be entertaining in a number of ways, so tune in for the fun and be prepared to vote for your favorites in the categories of most creative, funniest and most unexpected. To learn more about Tim Sullivan or pet fashion show participation, or to preview and bid on silent auction items, go to [www.hspagosa.org](http://www.hspagosa.org)

Headlining this year's silent auction is a 2010 silver Ford F150 crew cab 5.4L V8 four-wheel drive pickup truck. This is a one-owner vehicle with fewer than 77,000 original miles, kept in a garage. Regularly serviced, with a new pristine windshield, no damage or accidents, with a Carfax report available. June 2020 service included new tires, oil change and filters, multipoint inspection and service to battery terminals and cables. Truck has XM radio and is equipped with sync, power door locks, cruise control, tow hitch receiver, a WARN M8000 premium winch and large elk/deer grille guard. Pickup has a 6-foot Rhino lining bed with nationwide lifetime warranty, locking tailgate, keyless entry, power windows and all owner

manuals included.

Here's a brief sampling of additional silent auction items. How about a 25 horsepower 4x4 Komodo tractor with loader and only 54 hours of service time? We have a variety of signed art and prints, including two beautiful pet prints by Colorado artist Tracy Miller and a limited-edition Patrick Nagel Commemorative No.1 framed serigraph. For rock music fans, there's a framed photo of Aerosmith, autographed by all the band members, with certificate of authenticity. If you prefer to dance to your own beat, we have a set of four beautiful natural pedestal drums. Other auction items include a selection of fine jewelry, multiple gift baskets, trip packages, gift certificates for local dining and much, much more.

Exclusive to this year's silent auction is one South African animal watching and photo safari trip (land package only) with a newly extended 24-month expiration window (until summer/fall 2022). The trip includes seven days and six nights in either the Zulu Nyala Heritage Safari Lodge or the Hemingway tented camp. This trip is offered through a reputable company and was paid for and donated back to HSPS by someone unable to travel. As a paid trip, the opening bid will start at a super competitive price. It will be a great value for a once-in-a-lifetime trip.

No live auction this year means we can't host a catered dinner. But local food will still be a highlight of our virtual event. Several restaurants are partnering with HSPS and donating a percentage of their food sales from Aug. 29 to support our animal shelter. Buy yourself some lunch or order some takeout dinner to enjoy during the virtual event from our partner restaurants and you'll be supporting both local eateries and the shelter animals at the same time.

The HSPS is a local private nonprofit organization that operates the only animal shelter in Archuleta County. Your local humane society does not receive funding from the Humane Society of the United States, American Humane, ASPCA or any other national animal welfare organizations. Private donations, grants, and thrift store revenues cover only a portion of animal shelter operating expenses. The remainder of shelter costs must be met through fundraising events like the Virtual Auction for the Animals. The HSPS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, all donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.



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# Free weekly garden talk: 'Harvesting and Storing, Part 3'

By Leslie Wustrack  
Pagosa Springs Community Gardeners

The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is sponsoring a free online educational series on gardening throughout the spring and summer months. Renowned expert Ron Chacey covers all topics related to gardening in the Pagosa Springs area. All gardening talks are free and accessible via computer or telephone.

On Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 5:30 p.m., Chacey, the eminent regional vegetable grower and an original founder of the Pagosa Springs Community Garden, will present "Harvesting and Storing, Part 3."

The evening's format begins with photos of Chacey's personal garden and a discussion of what he is currently doing in his garden. An in-depth presentation on harvesting and storing vegetables will follow.

Chacey stated, "These subjects are large and will require a few weeks to cover."

Deciding when to pick each vegetable can be difficult; every vegetable exhibits unique indicators. The best methods of storage, short and long term, for each vegetable will also be discussed.

If interested viewers have a particular vegetable that they'd appreciate Chacey discussing, all are invited to email their requests to PagosaSpringsCommunityGarden@gmail.com. The response to the subject has been tremendous, thus, the harvesting and storing talks have been extended to four weeks. During Chacey's talk, participants will be invited to share their input.

An avid grower with seven decades plus of experience, Chacey is a believer in trial and error in all areas of gardening. Chacey believes that learning from mistakes is the foundation of successful gardening.

The 5:30 p.m. free gardening talk will be held via Zoom or telephone. To join our email list and receive weekly talk information, please send an email to pagosaspringscommunitygarden@gmail.com. For the Aug. 12 talk, please visit <http://www.Facebook.com/PagosaSpringsCommunityGarden> or email PagosaSpringsCommunityGarden@gmail.com for easy links to the talks.

The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is located at the end of 5th Street on the San Juan River in downtown Pagosa Springs. Decades old, the garden is on land owned by the Town of Pagosa

Spring, and plots are granted to the town's citizens free of charge. In 2017, the garden was rejuvenated by community volunteers with the assistance of local Pagosa Springs businesses. Raised beds and deer-out fencing were constructed with donated lumber. Soil amendments, fertilizers, seeds, plant starts, tools, hoses and other necessary

items are all provided through the generosity of Pagosa Springs businesses. The Town of Pagosa Springs provides free water for the Pagosa Springs Community Garden.

The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is free and open to all. Residents and town visitors are invited to stop by and enjoy the lovely space.

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Photos courtesy Pauline Benetti

The sixth Pagosa Farmers Market and going strong — and safely. Everyone (almost) is cooperating with the mask ordinance and keeping the required distance and, if they forget, are open to suggestion and/or the offer of a free mask. The Farmers Market has new offerings — grass-fed beef, pasture-raised chicken and cheese — in addition to fresh local vegetables and other offerings. The market takes place Saturday mornings at the east end of town.



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Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

Jason Rose as Kerchak and Kaitlen Smith as Kala in the 2019 Curtains Up Pagosa production of “Tarzan.” In August, the organization will present the “Stayin’ Alive” concert series featuring its actors.

## Curtains Up Pagosa announces ‘Stayin’ Alive’ concert series

By Dale Johnson  
Curtains Up Pagosa

Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP) is excited to announce its “Stayin’ Alive” concert series.

We have been missing our CUP family and performances this summer. We have been missing our work, rehearsals, the song and dance, and each other, and we want to share the music.

For the month of August, we

will be featuring CUP actors singing and dancing Broadway. These performances will be on video, featured on our CUP Facebook page.

We will happily accept donations to keep us “Stayin’ Alive,” either on our Web page, curtain-suppagosa.org, or by mail at P.O. Box 2218.

We are excited to perform for you and appreciate your continued support of our theater organization of 31 years.

## Sunday devotionals offered by the Baha’i Faith

By Paulette Heber  
Baha’i Community of Archuleta County

The Baha’i Community of Archuleta County hosts weekly devotionals every Sunday morning from 10 to 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. All are welcome.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/884668836?pwd=bkdEeVlaSWN0bFRMdFhidXpzWjV5Zz09>, call-in number: (669) 900-6833, meeting ID: 884 668 836.

A weekly theme is reflected in the prayers, music, poetry and selections from world religions and various sources. All are encouraged to contribute inspirational pieces. This Sunday, Aug. 9, our theme is

“The Manifestations of God.”

“For a single purpose were the Prophets, each and all, sent down to earth; for this was Christ made manifest, for this did Baha’u’llah raise up the call of the Lord: that the world of man should become the world of God ... and unity, fellowship and love be won for the whole human race.” — Abdu’l Baha.

The Baha’i Faith is a world religion whose purpose is to unite all people of the world in one universal cause, one common faith.

To learn more about the Baha’i Faith, please visit the official international website of the Baha’i Faith at [www.bahai.org](http://www.bahai.org). Our local contact is [archuletabahais@gmail.com](mailto:archuletabahais@gmail.com).

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# Changing of the guard at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

By Sarah Riehm  
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

On July 31, Father Doug Neel and his wife, Sally, retired from St. Patrick's Episcopal Church after 12 years of service. In August, the Rev. Lyn "call me Lyn" Burns assumes Father Doug's duties and Sarah Riehm steps into the role of music director.

Burns eagerly looks forward to her post as interim rector for a year while a permanent rector is sought.

"I've known the Neels and their work at St. Pat's for a number of years. I know it is a healthy, vibrant church under their leadership. My job during this interim time is to help St. Patrick's grow into its future. I love these 'in between' spaces, where I can help a church deal with what I consider to be their wilderness journey. Just like the Israelites in the Old Testament, we will be navigating through this time of uncertainty, of unknowing. God calls us to deep reflection and listening to chart the course ahead. A transition time is potentially one of the most productive times to learn about and grow into who we are and whose we are. We must stay grounded and deeply connected to the Source of Love especially in this time of turmoil. Each of us as Christians today must allow ourselves to be formed by God in new ways. Especially now with COVID-19, we are all being changed whether we want to or not. Our God is a dynamic, changing, beckoning and very active God," she said.

Burns was born and raised in South Africa. She left her country of birth in 1979, first for two years to Canada and then to the United States. She graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in



Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

**Sarah Riehm, left, is the new music director at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church following the retirement of Sally Neel.**

2006 and then spent a year at the Mayo Clinic in the resident chaplaincy program. Since then, she has served in Episcopal churches across Colorado, including St. Ambrose in Boulder (March 2019 to now), St. Paul's in Fort Collins, St. Charles in Fort Morgan and St. Benedict's in La Veta.

She feels especially called to ministries of social justice. At the height of apartheid, she left South Africa for political reasons and credits her time there for kindling her passion to promote justice for marginalized people. Currently,

she serves on the Race Task Force for the Colorado Diocese.

Her approach to working in a new parish is highly collaborative.

"I try to enter each new church very mindfully," she said. Burns intends to spend considerable time in the coming weeks gathering input from church and community members. "The contribution that I hope to make at St. Pat's includes deepening our spirituality as disciples of Christ, helping people discern and claim their spiritual gifts and listening to what God is

■ See Guard on next page



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**"What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; as it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one;"**

*Romans 3:9-10*

I want to live righteously; to do right and be right with God. I try but my mind tells me I fail so often.

How can I make it right when I fail? Give money. Do good deeds. Say I am sorry enough times. All the things I try fall short. I need forgiveness.

Jesus went to the cross for my failings. He took my place and punishment so I might find forgiveness and become righteous. I need a Savior.

Do you find yourself with the same thoughts; needing forgiveness and a Savior? Will you join me in becoming the righteousness of God in Him?

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

*II Corinthians 5:20-21*

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Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Lyn Burns will join St. Patrick's Episcopal Church as its interim rector while a permanent rector is sought.

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## Guard

■ continued from previous page calling us to become as the Body of Christ now, in this place, in this time. Church looks and feels quite different right now — for the time being, we are not able to sing, nor may we celebrate communion, which is such a central part of our Episcopal identity. One of my priorities will be to explore additional ways of connecting people by hosting live-streaming worship opportunities that include a virtual coffee hour, Bible study and book discussions.”

Burns has two children — a daughter, Jess, in Boston, and a son, Stephen, in Telluride. She is also the proud new grandmother of 7-month-old Myles.

Burns' first Sunday at St. Patrick's will be on Aug. 23. Services are held at 8 and 10 a.m. For the next two Sundays, worship and congregational care will be led by the Rev. Tom Ashbrook, an active member at St. Patrick's.

The church is located at 225 South Pagosa Blvd. on the west end of town. If you wish to attend a service during this time of social distancing, please call the office to make a reservation (731-5801) or reserve through the church's email registration system. Seating at each service is currently restricted to 40 people. Masks are required for entry and your temperature will be taken at the door. Please join the congregation of St. Patrick's in welcoming Burns.

### New music director

Riehm (pronounced Reem) took over as music director on Aug. 2. She will be playing organ, piano and harp, coordinating the popular monthly unplugged services and directing the choir when singing can safely resume. She and her husband, Chuck, vacationed in Pagosa Springs for seven years and moved here permanently when

■ See Guard on next page

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# Only You know what is good

By Sami Fortin  
Special to The PREVIEW

Dear Lord Jesus,  
Only You know what is good. You tell us to rejoice and be glad, not to worry about a thing, but with a heart full of thankfulness bring all our requests to you.

Only You can keep us from fretting over things and when we bring our problems to You, You offer us peace in exchange.

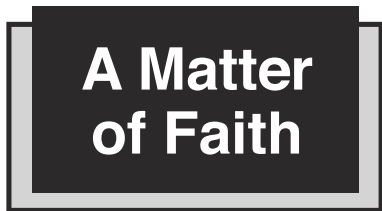
Only You can possibly know what is true, noble, absolutely right, the things that are pure, whatever is lovely, admirable, if anything is excellent or worthy of our praise, so we ask You to open our eyes, the eyes of our heart, that we might know them, too.

When we open Your word, You open a world of different thoughts; You make a way for us to change our minds about You and about the world around us.

When we learn to trust You and start living our lives around your throne, You take us to the greatest heights of bliss.

When we start looking for meaning and truths in the world around us we come up empty-handed and disappointed. When we seek You and want to know our purpose, or meaning to life, you show us Your heart, Your intentions toward us, Your ability to cover every area with an astounding amount of love and beauty.

Only when we're able to take that step of faith and believe, even when we're afraid or have doubts, it is the critical moment You come in and sweep us off our feet. Nothing



*With You I have found what is good. This good lasts forever.*

is like it was before. You wipe out the old (the person I used to be is no longer) and You bring in the new (someone I never knew was there).

Only You can take something meant for evil and turn it out for good. You're the only one I know that can renew me on the inside just by reading Your word and changing my mind.

Only You can give us the courage to step out in faith and believe in the lives around us, and possibly change the world as we know it for the better.

Only with You living inside us are we able to be content in any and every situation or circumstance, whether we have enough to eat or still hungry, whether we have enough to live on or we're constantly in need. It is through You that we have the strength to do everything you've called us to.

Only You are able to bring us out of the depths of pain and sorrow, and exchange it for beauty, love, joy and peace. The truth that our hearts long for, for You are the one that placed those longings is our heart to begin with.

I have found that You are my source of joy and peace, my abundance of love and patience, that these are all gifts, presents from a Father that loves His children no matter what.

Whatever we have learned, heard or received from You, or even seen in You, if we will put it into practice, (You promise) the God of peace will be with us.

With You I have found what is good. This good lasts forever. Come eat, taste and see the Lord is good.

Thank you, Father,  
In Jesus' mighty name, amen.  
Send your "Matter of Faith" submissions to [editor@pagosahun.com](mailto:editor@pagosahun.com).



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## Guard

■ continued from previous page  
Chuck Riehm retired from IBM in March 2019.

"I've been a church musician all my life," said Riehm.

Her first paid organist position began when her grandmother retired from the bench when Riehm was 10, at the First Baptist Church of Clinton, Iowa. She has been an organist, contemporary worship music leader and choir director in churches in the Dallas area, as well as Michigan and Connecticut.

She has a deep love for traditional church music and hymns. Riehm also enjoys an eclectic mix of church music traditions, from the lovely southern harp tunes of Appalachia to bluegrass gospel, to the grand choral traditions of beloved English composer/conductors.

She looks forward to discovering everyone's favorite hymns and service music at St. Pat's, as well as working with church members to provide special music until the choir can resume.

As Burns said, "One of the most important things we can do during this interim time is to use music to provide familiarity and comfort."

Most recently, Riehm has served as a substitute organist at the Community United Methodist Church in Pagosa, where she also sang alto in the choir. Last fall, she was the pianist for the Curtains Up Pagosa production of "Willy Wonka." She played her concert harp in last December's Heralds of Christmas concert and her Celtic harp in the March edition of Unplugged.

She is a working playwright; her most recent production of the play "Bibo and Bertie," about the last year in the life of Albert Einstein, was presented via Zoom by San Antonio's Public Theater in June 2020. Her plays have been seen across the country, including New York's historic Soho Theatre and the Kennedy Center. She also writes a daily blog based on the life and teachings of St. Hildegard von Bingen: [www.livinghildegard.com](http://www.livinghildegard.com).



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# As the world zooms

My Sweet Al dropped his shoulders and looked like a lost little boy. "It's almost over."

He looked how I would imagine him to look after his mother called him for supper and told him to put away all of his toys.

As for me, when I heard the words, "It's almost over," I did a happy dance right there in the living room.

"It's about time. I've had just about all I can take of this NASCAR thing. It's three or four races a week plus preshow and postshow commentary."

I should be more supportive of his pastime, but I'm not. Last week, my Sweet Al was sitting in his easy chair, remote in hand, staring at a blank television screen.

"What's wrong?" I asked.

"I watched the whole race with only six laps to go and the DVR cut off. Now I don't know who won."

I suppose I could have Googled the answer, but decided to put my foot to the pedal instead.

"I am trying to finish my next book. I cannot be on call worrying about your race. All you need to do is hit the microphone button on the remote and tell it what you want."

As I started to leave the room, my Sweet Al picked up the remote and said, "Can you tell my wife to tell me who won the race today?"

I have never known anyone to get as frustrated over racing as my husband. Especially, if there is a rain delay or a race is postponed for one reason or another. After all, it's just a bunch of cars going around in circles a few hundred times. What is so exciting about that?

In his defense, he doesn't complain when I sit at my desk writing until late in the night. In fact, rare is a word spoken when I am on video conference three or four times a week, although we do have the occasional meeting of the minds.

"My Zoom is not the same as your zoom. I'm being productive. You're just watching cars drive by. Me, I'm changing the world."

"My driver won a million dollars today. How much did you make on your last book?"

After 60 years of marriage, I have learned when to put it in park. Besides, maybe my next book should be about racing.

The other morning over breakfast, Al couldn't stop talking about a documentary that he had watched

## Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



*"It's about time. I've had just about all I can take of this NASCAR thing. It's three or four races a week plus preshow and postshow commentary."*

the night before. It was about the men who outran the sheriff transporting moonshine across county lines. His family is from the south and has a history of "running." I guess he thought that if he gave racing enough context and historical value, I might sit down and watch a race with him.

I hate to say it, but it was the only thing that came to mind. "You are not in 'The Dukes of Hazzard' and the closest thing you'll get to driving a tricked-out engine is your lawn mower. And, no, I am still not interested in watching a NASCAR race with you."

Our children, who take up for their dad at every turn, tell me I need to be more sensitive. They want me to make him a snack and then sit with him and his dog while they eat and watch the race.

Enough is enough. Next, they will be telling me to dress up like Daisy Duke in a tied-up skimpy red shirt and cutoffs.

Final brushstroke: I guess we all need to respect each other's zoom. For some, it's where boys want to be boys, even at 84 years old, pretending they are in the driver's seat going 200 miles per hour in 130-degree heat. For me, it's a social connection. A prayer group, a Bible study or a time to meet with fellow authors. Thankfully, we have evolved from the days of moonshine. But, to keep peace, like it or not, sometimes we just have to go along for each other's ride.

### Readers' comments

Send your comments to [bettyslade@centurytel.net](mailto:bettyslade@centurytel.net).



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Photo courtesy John Motter

The four Chapson brothers, shown here, grew up on the At Last Ranch.

## The Montoya-Howe Sheepmen's Cattlemen's War

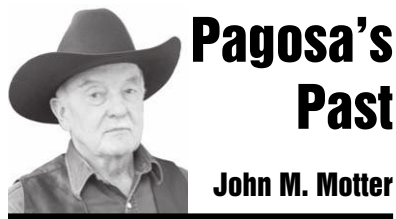
One of the saddest stories in local history is known as the Montoya-Howe Sheepmen's Cattlemen's War that took place in 1892.

The young William Howe family started the year 1892 with bright prospects. They'd started a promising cattle ranch and constructed a comfortable home with a view of the San Juan River. Brother Abe homesteaded the adjoining ranch to the north. Down through history, the Howe ranch located at the foot of Wolf Creek Pass has become known as the At Last Ranch.

Adding to the family's joyful expectations, teenage bride Jennie Howe was carrying her first child.

Then, as the year progressed, tragedy struck. Jennie died giving birth to a baby boy. The baby died four months later.

As you might expect, the heart-broken father, his brother Abe, family friend Old Joe Mann, and others were holding a wake in the family living room, grieving the loss of Wil-



liam's one and only son.

Old Joe Mann, staring out the front window, scratching his head and looking back over his shoulder, growls, "Hey guys, lessin' I be mistook, that there's a herd a mangy woolies down there cross that crick. You take a look-see while I put on my six-shooter and saddle up. I'm a gittin' a powerful taste for mutton."

Down across the San Juan River, Juan de Dios Montoya, his brother and a hired hand were busily pushing a flock of 20,000 or so sheep along the west bank of the river with the intention of turning up the East Fork of the San Juan and crossing over the Continental Divide at

Elwood Pass to the family home in Monte Vista.

A shepherd's job is to be on the lookout for danger and that was what Juan was doing. A glance across the river revealed, coming at full speed, three horses and their riders. Danger! The riders were pulling rifles from scabbards and looking for a target.

Juan jumped from his horse and dived behind a large boulder, but not before taking a bullet from the nearest rider, William Howe, who was already splashing across the river. Juan squinted down the barrel of his old buffalo rifle, squeezed the trigger and fired. William's horse stumbled, spilling his rider out of the saddle, blood spurting from his lifeless body into the muddied river. Brother Abe and Old Joe Mann yanked their horses around and raced to the aid of their fallen comrade, too little, too late.

Next week, we'll continue the story as Pagosa Springs Sheriff Billy Kern tracks down the sheepherders.

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# Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

## Thursday, Aug. 6

**Storywalk for Kids: 'Imagine Your Story.'** Get outdoors and follow the pages of the book to enjoy a story as you stroll along. After you finish, pick up materials for a craft or activity at the library during curbside hours. Josie will post signs outside the library that follow the sidewalk up toward the elementary school detailing a new storywalk. This week's theme is glow-in-the-dark adventures. Call 264-2209 for more information.

**Flora of Chimney Rock.** 8:45 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A thousand years ago, the people who lived at Chimney Rock depended on the plants around them for food, fuel, tools, housing, clothing, medicine and art. At this program, visitors will receive an introduction to some of the plant species that grow at Chimney Rock and their uses by ancestral Puebloan people. The 1.5-hour guided tour will include the Great House and requires negotiation of a steep, rough trail with exposure to heights and drop-offs. Visitors must arrive for check-in at 8:45 a.m. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$8 per child (5-12). Space is limited to nine visitors. For more information and tickets, visit [www.chimneyrockco.org](http://www.chimneyrockco.org) or call (877) 444-6777.

**Outdoor Labyrinth Guided Walk.** 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., the wooden cross behind the parking lot. Docents provide information and inspiration regarding the Chartres-designed labyrinth. It is a path of releasing, receiving and renewal. We encourage social distancing and wearing a mask in the presence of others. In addition to the Thursday guided tour, the labyrinth is available seven days a week.

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

**Tech Time.** Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

**New Thought Center for Inspirational Living Presents Courtyard Concert.** 6 to 8 p.m., Best Western Lodge. Music by the Retro Cats. Benefit for Aspire. Bring lawn chair or blanket and picnic snacks. Cash bar available. Rain or shine. Tickets

will be available at the door or call (970) 309-6067.

## Friday, Aug. 7

**HER Story.** 8:30-9:30 a.m., 140 Country Center Drive, Unit 2. A women's group providing a safe, supportive space to grow and heal as you share your story. An opportunity to meet other women in your community in a peer-supported group focused on healing from trauma, abuse or violence.

**Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights.** 8:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email [movies@ppos.co](mailto:movies@ppos.co) for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

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## Saturday, Aug. 8

**Pagosa Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., East Side Market. Available for purchase will be essential products only. For more information, contact Pauline Benetti at

264-5232.

**Discovery Time.** 2:30 p.m. For all ages. Join us for games, art ideas, science experiments, history and more via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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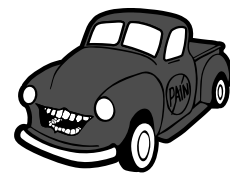
## Tuesday, Aug. 11

**Archuleta County Republican Women.** Noon, Break Room Brewing Company, 2045 Eagle Drive.

**Tech Time.** Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

**Ruby's Book Club Via Zoom.** 1-2 p.m. Our book club for adults resumes via Zoom when we discuss "Circe" by Madeline Miller. Contact [brad@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:brad@pagosalibrary.org) if you

■ See Calendar on next page



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# Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**  
want to attend or need a copy of the book.

**GED Classes.** 2-7 p.m., Sisson Library. GED classes plus HiSet, CDL and other tutoring from Mark is available by appointment for both new and returning students. Call 264-2209 for more information or to make an appointment.

**Dungeons and Dragons via Zoom.** 3-5 p.m. Go on an adventure from the comfort of your couch. This program is open to teens and young adults. Contact [claire@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:claire@pagosalibrary.org) for details on how to join.

**ESL English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Please register so we can keep it to a small group in our limited open spaces. No walk-ins, as the front door will be locked. Call 264-2209 for more information and to register.

**Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights.** 8:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email [movies@ppos.co](mailto:movies@ppos.co) for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

## Wednesday, Aug. 12

**Family Storytime.** 10 a.m. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs. Wednesday storytimes are on Facebook Live, so if you go to Facebook at 10 a.m., you can interact with Josie. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more

information.

**Tech Time.** Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

**Garden Talks with Ron Chacey.** 5:30 p.m. This year you will be able to attend from the comfort of your own home. Just tune in via Zoom from your computer, iPad or mobile device. First, Chacey will talk about what's going on in his personal garden. You will view current photos of his plants, garden beds and hoop houses. Everyone will be muted, but also be able to submit questions or comments via chat. Then there will be a question-and-answer period.

## Thursday, Aug. 13

**Cardboard Car Race and Costume Contest.** August 13-20 we're hosting an all ages cardboard car race. Pick up the materials to make your own cardboard car and then return to race on the track set up outside the library. If you love to dress up or create costumes, select a character and deck yourself out for this "cosplay" contest. From August 10-14 submit a picture of yourself to [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org) or drop by and we will take a picture of you. Prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories. Call 264-2209 for more information.

**Outdoor Labyrinth Guided Walk.** 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., the wooden cross behind the parking lot. Docents provide information and inspiration regarding the Chartres-designed labyrinth. It is a path of releasing, receiving and renewal. We encourage social distancing and wearing a mask in the presence of others. In addition to the Thursday guided tour, the labyrinth

is available seven days a week.  
**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

**Tech Time.** Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

Submit your calendar items to [editor@pagosason.com](mailto:editor@pagosason.com); mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.



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## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to eyes.

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Cataract

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 A U L D T O E U U S A R G R R H N P R R  
 L M N A U H D L S T B B I S Y T O O E B  
 R S C N N U A H G P P E S M N H I D A D  
 M T B C A T A R A C T D U B G A U L D S  
 S S E I G R E L L A L R S S N L H A I P  
 U R Y V P P V C C T Y S U I O M Y A N D  
 C E H A E L G B N R E O T A P O B L G O  
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 G F T P R I N M D R R N C V O O I U L T  
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 Y N I A P F E M P A E O N B S H L F N D  
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- BLURRY
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- CATARACT
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# Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Barry Knott

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the solitary sandpiper.

Between late July through the middle of September, the solitary sandpiper occasionally stops here on its long migratory journey from breeding grounds in the boreal forests of northern Canada and the Arctic. It winters in a broad area from the extreme southern United States to points south as far as South America.

Unlike other sandpipers which migrate in small to large flocks, as the name suggests, this bird makes its long journey alone. An unusual shorebird, in migration and in winter, it is an inland bird, often found at high-elevation forested ponds and lakes.

Unique among North American shorebirds, the solitary sandpiper commonly nests in trees, using last year's nests of those songbird species which make sturdy nests that survive the winter. It nests by freshwater lakes, ponds and creeks in muskeg bogs of spruce forests. Because its nesting habitat is remote and inaccessible, it is one of the least understood shorebird species.

A prominent white eye ring, small white spots on the olive-brown back, and white underside are identifying traits of this medium-sized sandpiper in breeding plumage. Its long legs are olive colored.

This bird is primarily an insectivore, but also opportunistic, eating crustaceans, mollusks and whatever else it stirs up by shaking a foot in muddy shores or shallow water. Hunting by sight, it snatches prey from the surface and rarely probes in the substrate. Navigating thousands of miles on its own makes this a truly remarkable bird.

For information on future events, visit [www.weminucheadubon.org](http://www.weminucheadubon.org) and [www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/](https://www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/).

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# SUDOKU

		3	9			8	6	1
8		5						3
	6							
6	2			1			5	
7	3				5			9
	5				4	2	1	7
5	9	7		6	8	1	2	
4	8					7	3	6
		6						

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!

3	1	6	4	7	2	9	8	5
4	8	2	5	9	1	7	3	6
5	9	7	3	6	8	1	2	4
9	5	8	6	3	4	2	1	7
7	3	1	2	8	5	6	4	9
6	2	4	7	1	9	3	5	8
1	6	9	8	4	3	5	7	2
8	7	5	1	2	6	4	9	3
2	4	3	9	5	7	8	6	1

ANSWER:

# The great beer keg project

By James R. Van Liere  
Special to The SUN

When most people hear the words “beer keg” or “beer kegs,” visions of hot summer days, picnics, hot dogs, hamburgers and, of course, beer, come to mind — but not for me. I am only reminded of a crazy incident that happened about 40 years ago, when I was starting my own consulting structural engineering business.

I have worked on many unique and interesting projects, including Christo’s Running Fence in California and a geodesic dome to serve as a barn for horses, but the beer keg project sticks in my mind as one of the most unusual.

This incident started as one of those innocent situations that anyone can somehow become involved in, not thinking much about it at the time, but, in retrospect, wondering, “How did I ever get mixed up in this mess?”

In this case, a gentleman who had an office down the hall, and whom I occasionally met in the elevator, stopped by one morning. While engaging in casual small talk, I sensed he had something on his mind, but was reluctant to discuss it. After a couple of minutes, he asked if I made drawings and did drafting in my business. Because this was one of the essential tasks in any engineering business, I told him yes, all the time, as a matter of fact. Again, he hesitated briefly, but finally got around to asking if I could make a neat, small drawing of a beer keg if he provided the dimensions.

He didn’t want anything fancy, just a simple but clear layout of a beer keg showing the top and side views with its basic dimensions, and he would pay me for my time and expenses. Because this was obviously a simple task, I told him I would do it for him, there would be no charge, and I could have it ready right after lunch, thinking it wouldn’t take more than about 30 minutes.

Of course, I was slightly curious as to why he needed a drawing of a beer keg, but then it wasn’t my business to pry into his business. In the structural engineering business, one never knows what the next client will bring in the door as a project. Although deeply involved in the design of a large office building at the time, I managed to put together a nice little drawing of the beer keg in about 20 minutes and gave it to him right after lunch, as promised.

He liked it, and then hemmed and hawed around again, finally asking me if I could figure out how high a beer keg would float in water if it was empty. I told him I would need to know the weight of the keg to make that calculation, which he immediately provided. Fifteen

## The Writers’ Circle

minutes later, I returned with the answer and, of course, by now I was dying of curiosity, so I asked him what this was about.

He explained that he was a broker and had a contract with the local brewery to purchase outdated aluminum beer kegs, which he intended to resell at a profit. Unfortunately, his contract was due to expire in 30 days, and he still didn’t have a buyer for the kegs. He went on to explain the kegs could no longer be used to transport beer because the law now required beer kegs be made of stainless steel. Of course, I had to ask him how many kegs we were talking about and he answered 300,000.

“Got any ideas what they can be used for, besides beer?” he asked.

“Are you kidding?” I answered, “I haven’t the faintest idea what someone would do with 300,000 illegal, empty beer kegs!”

“Well,” he said, “if you have any ideas, let me know. So far I’ve only had two thoughts — cut them in half and make barbecues or sell them as dune buggy gas tanks. Anyway, this is why I needed your drawing, so I can fax or mail a description to potential buyers.”

After this conversation, I decided to get back to work. I had a deadline to meet and didn’t have any more time to spend on this beer keg foolishness.

A couple of days later, my friend came by the office to see if I had any ideas on how to use the beer kegs, and I didn’t.

“Well,” he said, “if you find a buyer, I’ll split the profits with you.”

“Oh, really? How much would that be?” I asked.

He then went on to explain that he thought the kegs could be sold for \$5 or \$6 dollars apiece, and after deducting his cost of one dollar and another dollar to grind off the name of the brewery, the net profit might be \$4 per keg, or \$1,200,000 split two ways. Wow! That was hard to believe. I could make \$600,000 for selling a few beer kegs. The only problem was I didn’t know anyone who could use 300,000 outdated, illegal aluminum beer kegs.

“Keep trying” he said, “maybe you’ll think of someone.”

It was back to work for me, but in the back of my mind, I was trying to think of someone who could use those darn kegs. I called a few friends and acquaintances in the construction industry, but no luck. Finally, I called the last person on my list, who I was sure would have no use for them whatsoever.

Much to my surprise, he thought he might know someone who might know someone who would be interested. About 30 minutes later, he called back and told me to expect a phone call from, of all places, a boat off the coast of Florida.

Sure enough, 10 minutes later I received a call from someone who refused to identify himself, but wanted more details (and in the background, I could hear seagulls). After explaining the basic arrangement to him, he insisted on knowing the name of the brewery, because he didn’t think he should be required to pay the broker’s fee; he would deal with the brewery directly.

When I refused to name the brewery or the broker, the voice on the other end said, “Well, a couple of guys with baseball bats could take care of a few knees if some convincing was required.”

At that point, I told him to forget the whole thing and hung up. About 10 minutes later, this person called again to say he found the name of the brewery (which wouldn’t have been too difficult) and called it directly. The brewery confirmed it had the beer kegs and they were for sale, but he would have to go through the broker if he wanted to buy them. At this point, he said he was no longer interested and hung up. By now I was completely exasperated with the whole idea, so again I just went back to work, relieved to know I was done with this beer keg nonsense.

A couple of days later, Julie, my part-time secretary on a work-

■ See Circle on next page

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# SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Board of Education of Archuleta School District 50 JT announces the vacancy of School Board Director District One (1). Candidates must live within the boundaries of Director District One (1). Legal descriptions of the Director Districts are available at [mypagosaschools.com](http://mypagosaschools.com) under the “School Board” tab, or by contacting Robyn Bennett at 970-264-2228 x 5401. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be considered for the vacant school director position needs to submit a letter of interest by 3 pm on August 27, 2020, to the District Office at 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs; by email, [rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us](mailto:rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us); or by mail to: Executive Assistant Robyn Bennett, PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. The letter of intent should address the following: 1. Why do you want to be on the Board? 2. Do you plan on running for the position once your term expires in November of 2021? 3. What is your philosophy of education as it relates to serving on the Board?

The Board of Education plans to conduct interviews on September 8, 2020.



# City Market drop box reopens, plus cardboard car race and costume contest

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

You will be pleased to know that our courier service is resuming three times a week, which means you now can drop your returns of books, CDs and DVDs in the drop box at City Market.

Of course, you can continue to bring them to the drop box at the library as well. Your City Market returns will undergo the same rigorous three-day quarantine process as returns at the library.

## Cardboard car race and costume contest

If the COVID-19 restrictions are getting you down, we have two fun free new events for you.

Aug. 13-20, we're hosting an all-ages cardboard car race. Pick up the materials to make your own cardboard car and then return to race on the track set up outside the library.

If you love to dress up or create costumes, select a character and deck yourself out like your character for this "cosplay" contest, a term used for dressing up as a way of expressing something that matters to you and expressing your character in mannerisms or speech. From Aug. 10-14, submit a picture of yourself in your cosplay to [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org) or drop by the library as we will take a picture of you. Prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories including superheroes, fantasy, animated characters, anime/manga and more. Contact the library for more guidelines and rules.

## Archuleta census response very low

As of July 29, only 39.2 percent of Archuleta County households had completed the census. Archuleta County needs your help because this is a very low response rate so far into the census process.

Your participation directly affects hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding for the next 10 years for local and regional agencies and projects like health clinics,



fire departments, schools, social services like Medicaid, even roads and highways. Our county needs your participation to get our fair share of these federal dollars. If you have not already completed this important questionnaire, please do so at your earliest convenience.

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. The law ensures that your private information is never published and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

The deadline to complete the census online or by telephone has been extended to Oct. 31. Please contact Brad or Josie at the library if you have any census-related questions, or visit [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov) for more information.

## Summer Reading Program

The free all-ages Summer Reading Program at your library has been extended through the end of August, a decision that came from a desire to bring continued learning and fun to our community throughout the summer, according to Meg Wempe, director.

"It also provides more opportunity for us to purchase gift certificates from local businesses for our prizes to do our small part to help economic recovery," she said.

If you haven't already signed up, we hope you'll take this opportunity to join us now. You will receive a "choose your own adventure" booklet with fun activities and challenges. Completing them makes you eligible to win weekly prizes purchased from local businesses. There are adventure booklets for four groups: pre-K, K-5, teen and adult.

To sign up, call us at 264-2209,

email [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org) or register online at [pagosalibrary.org/summer-reading](http://pagosalibrary.org/summer-reading). We need to know your name, contact information, and what age group to assign you to.

## Details of our partial reopening

Here's a summary of your library's current operations:

- Up to 30 patrons at a time can come into the building Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to return books, browse, register for a new library card, make copies, send faxes, pick up tax forms and check out materials like books, DVDs, CDs and periodicals.

- The first hour every weekday — from 9 to 10 a.m. — is reserved for seniors and other high-risk people.

- Eight computers are available weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., three by advance appointment and five for walk-ins. Call us at 264-2209 or email [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org).

■ See Library on next page

# Contact-Free, Safe and Easy Storage Rentals

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[allstoragepagosa.com](http://allstoragepagosa.com)

Shop the SUN classifieds

## Circle

■ continued from previous page used to tell us when something went wrong, "Ah yes, the best laid plans of mice and men ..."

After this disappointment, I let the project go. A couple of years later, I ran into my broker friend, who, shortly after this incident moved across town to another office building. Of course, we had to reminisce about the great beer keg project and how close we had come to being millionaires. He never

did sell those darn beer kegs and a recent phone call to the brewery confirmed that they were no longer around. But every so often when I drove by the brewery, I couldn't help but wonder what life would have been like if we had sold those kegs, or if I could have just found a use for them. What a mental exercise.

So, what would you have done with 300,000 used aluminum beer kegs?

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“Being able to see the product growing while you are shopping is a very cool experience. Staff is helpful and make the purchase easy and stress free. Good shop but a little hidden which makes it pretty quick to buy what you need. Love it!”

-Blake L.

# Library

■ **continued from previous page**  
 org to schedule a time. In most cases, computer usage will be limited to two hours per day. Staff will clean and disinfect the computers between uses.

- One early literacy computer is available for youngsters on a walk-in basis Monday through Saturday.

- Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for building entry and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for computer use.

- Curbside service continues Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for those not comfortable coming into the building. Call 264-2209 when you are in the parking lot so staff can bring the items out for you. If you put a hold on something, please wait for your usual alert (email, phone call or text) before coming to pick it up.

- Hand sanitizers are available and there will be frequent cleanings inside the building throughout the day. Please practice social distancing and wear facial coverings while you are in the building. If you don't have a mask, we are happy to give one to you.

- Notary public service is available Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$5 per notary.

- Tech time, ESL and GED are available. See details below.

- You can place holds on items from other libraries. They are in different stages of courier service and reopening, so items may take longer than usual.

- If you do not have a library card but want to use our online resources, you can self-register. From our website, click "My Account" in the top right. It is the usual login page for current patrons, and it now has (in blue) an option to "Register for a new Library Card." There's a short form and then staff will get back in touch with you to provide your login credentials. If you previously self-registered, you now can pick up your physical card after providing proof of address.

- We're happy to provide tech help over the phone for our online resources.

- Please note we are not accepting meeting room reservations or hosting any large in-person programming at this time.

## Ruby's Book Club via Zoom

On Tuesday, Aug. 11, from 1 to 2 p.m. our book club for adults resumes via Zoom when we discuss "Circe" by Madeline Miller. Contact [brad@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:brad@pagosalibrary.org) if you want to attend or need a copy of the book. This book club meets the second Tuesday of every month.

## Tech Time

Make an appointment for one of three slots available from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays

and Thursdays. Brad will help one person (or one couple) at a time.

## ESL

In-person classes take place Tuesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. Please register so we can keep it to a small group in our limited open spaces. No walk-ins, as the front door will be locked.

## GED and other tutoring

GED classes plus HiSet, CDL and other in-person tutoring from Mark is available on Tuesdays from 2 to 7 p.m. by appointment for both new and returning students.

## Dungeons and Dragons via Zoom

Join us via Zoom on Tuesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. for Dungeons and Dragons, open to teens and young adults. Contact [claire@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:claire@pagosalibrary.org) for details on how to join.

## Children's programs on Facebook

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m., join us on the library's Facebook page.

Wednesday storytimes are now on Facebook Live, so if you go to Facebook at 10 a.m. you can interact with Josie. Saturday's Discovery Times — with games, art ideas, science experiments, history and more — are prerecorded.

If you have a Facebook account, log in to Facebook and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon (a lowercase f) in the upper left hand corner of the screen. Or contact us and we can send you a direct link.

## Storywalks for kids

Every other Thursday, Josie, your early literacy librarian, posts signs outside the library that follow the sidewalk up towards the elementary school detailing a new Summer Reading Storywalk for kids. The Aug. 6-20 theme is glow-in-the-dark adventures. Get outdoors and follow the pages of a book as you stroll along. After you finish, pick up materials for a craft or activity at the library. By popular demand, Storywalks will continue until the snow makes it too difficult to proceed.

## Free legal clinic by appointment

The free legal clinic previously held at your library each month is now by appointment on Aug. 14 from 2 to 3 p.m. Instead of patrons coming in to the library, the volunteer attorney will phone you directly.

To be added to the sign-up sheet for these calls, send an email titled "Sign-up for Free Legal Clinic," with your first name and phone number, to [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org),

or phone or stop by the library.

The volunteer attorney's time is limited, so the first to sign up will be the first served. Our volunteer attorney can answer your questions related to civil law, including unemployment benefits, landlord-tenant issues and more.

## Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"He Started It" by Samantha

■ See Library on next page



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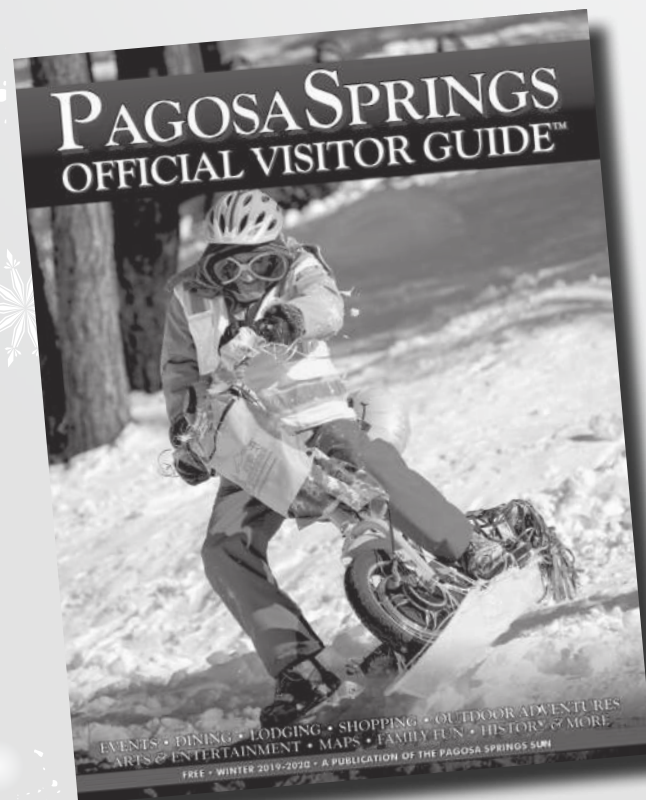
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The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

A publication of The Pagosa Springs SUN



# New Thought topic: You are enough

By Lisa Burnson  
New Thought Center  
for Inspirational Living

“Wholeheartedness is vulnerability and worthiness, facing uncertainty and emotional risks, and knowing that I am enough.” — Brene Brown.

From childhood on, we get many messages from parents, teachers, spiritual traditions and other sources that point us in the direction we should go in personal growth and development. These are well-intended, yet often they carry an unintended message that can keep us stuck — but what if you're not really stuck?

All are welcome to join New

Thought Center for Inspirational Living this Sunday, Aug. 9, at 10 a.m. Our speakers will be Drs. Larry and Evelyn Malone, marriage and family psychotherapists, organizational consultants, and international human relations and emotional intelligence trainers. Their presentation is titled “Self-Efficacy: You Are Enough,” and will be followed by a guided meditation on that topic.

We will have spirited live music.

Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for social distancing.

Staying home? Please tune into our YouTube channel: Pagosa New Thought.

## Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each

Wednesday at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

Thursday, Aug. 6, 6 to 8 p.m. at Best Western Lodge. Come to the Courtyard Concert to benefit Aspire, which provides prenatal and early childhood education and programs. Music by the Retro Cats. Rain or shine. Please bring lawn chair or blanket and picnic snacks. Cash bar available. Tickets available at the door or call (970) 309-6067.

Future Courtyard Concerts: Aug. 20, and Sept. 3 and 17 will feature Bob Heminger, the Retro Cats and Cosmic Lightfoot, and will benefit Chimney Rock, Habitat for Humanity and Rise Above Violence. Outside alcohol is not allowed. Text (970) 309-6067 for more information.

# Library

## continued from previous page

Downing follows siblings, one a killer, at a reunion after a family death. “The Order” by Daniel Silva is a Gabriel Allon thriller. “Cajun Justice” by James Patterson and Tucker Axum is set in the Louisiana bayou. “The End of Her” by Shari Lapena follows a couple after a woman from his past shows up with accusations. “Robert Ludlum’s The Bourne Evolution” by Brian Freeman is a Jason Bourne thriller. “Playing Nice” by JP Delaney is a psychological thriller about babies switched at birth.

## Other novels

“True Places” by Sonja Yoerg begins when a mother encounters a young girl on the Blue Ridge Parkway. “Girls of Summer” by Nancy Thayer is a family story set on Nantucket. “What You Wish For” by Katherine Center features a new school principal who’s become a rule-enforcing tough guy.

## Nonfiction

“Defender in Chief” by John Yoo is an exploration of presidential power and defense of Trump’s actions. “Twilight of Democracy” by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Anne Applebaum explains the world’s shift to authoritarianism. “Bright Precious Thing” by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Gail Caldwell is a memoir about how the woman’s movement revolutionized and saved her life. “White Too Long” by Robert P. Jones is an analysis of the relationship between Christianity and white supremacy.

“The Unidentified” by cultural historian Colin Dickey looks at our obsession with monsters, aliens and other unexplained phenomenon. “Love and Meaning After 50” by Drs. Julia L. Mayer and Barry J. Jacobs offers advice on the 10 most important challenges to strengthen long-term relationships. “Butch Cassidy” by Charles Leerhsen is a biography of this complicated and notorious criminal. “Chiquis

Keto” by Chiquis Rivera is the 21-day starter kit for Latin food lovers.

## Books on CD

“The Boy from the Woods” by Harlan Coben begins with a missing teenage girl. “The Persuasion” by Iris Johansen is an Eve Duncan mystery. “Devoted” by Dean Koontz is a thriller about a terrifying threat to humanity. “The Last Trial” by Scott Turow is a legal thriller. “Fair Warning” by Michael Connelly features journalist Jack McEvoy. “The Suicide House” by Charlie Donlea opens with a murder in a prestigious prep school. “Into Darkness” by Terry Goodkind is book five in the Children of D’Hara fantasy series.

## Downloadable e-books and audiobooks

Ever since March, we have been buying more downloadable e-books and downloadable audio books for patrons of all ages — children, tweens, teens and adults.

Using cloudLibrary, you can download a book to read or an audio book to listen to. The items in cloudLibrary are purchased separately from physical items, so the books available are different — and it continues to use the consortium’s contributions, not just those that we bought. That is why you need to select AspenCat Union Catalog when setting up cloudLibrary for use.

Please email or phone us at 264-2209 if you need our help setting up this service on your device.

## Donations

We are deeply grateful to several donors for their generous contributions — from Patricia Howard and Donald Logan in honor of Bob and Carole Howard, from Bonni Pszola, and from Pam and Henry McGivern in memory of Susan Haney.

Material donations now can be put into the drop boxes both at the library and also at City Market. Donations will undergo the same

rigorous three-day quarantine process as returns.

## Quotable quote

“I think about all the people who’ve had to go through it alone, with no one to touch them, hug them, wipe a tear from their faces, laugh with them. We’re humans. We need to be together, even if it’s only on FaceTime.” — Actor-singer-songwriter Rita Wilson who, with her husband Tom Hanks, came down with COVID-19 when he was filming in Australia.

## Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, CDs and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at [pagosalibrary.org](http://pagosalibrary.org).

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# The basic steps to a VA claim

By Raymond Taylor

Archuleta County Veterans Service Office

The veterans service officer's duty is to assist the veteran in putting together the best claim possible, to ensure receipt, review and the highest disability rating afforded by law.

Step No. 1: The claim must be a service-connected injury or illness that occurred or was aggravated while on active duty. You must have medical documentation showing you were treated while on active duty.

Exceptions: Presumptive conditions, file claim or receive treatment with one year of date of discharge.

Step No. 2: You must have an existing disability. Medical documentation showing that today the disability exists. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) currently looks at medical documentation of up to one year from today (current diagnosis).

Step No 3: The bridge (or nexus) between step 1 and 2, connect how the disability is related. Medical records, discharge (DD-214), and doctor letters stating that the two steps are connected.

Then comes the submission of all documents and forms to the VA, of the best claim possible.

Step No. 4: The veterans administration with put the claim together and order a compensation exam (C&P exam). You must attend this exam or the claim will be denied for "failure to report to exam."

Step No. 5: The VA adjudicates the claim and either awards or denies benefits.

If the VA denies the claim or veteran wants to dispute the award, the appeal process will then begin.

## Vets4Vets grant

The Vets4Vets has received a grant from the Colorado Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. This is to support veterans in our community through the following assistance: housing,

## Veterans Corner

Raymond Taylor



utilities, mental health counseling, dental services, travel assistance, automobile repairs, gas and food cards and emergency veteran assistance.

Contact Vets4Vets at (970) 799-VETS or www.Vets4VetsPCO.org.

## Contact information

Veterans: Thank you for your service. Welcome home.

For further information on VA benefits, please call or stop by the Archuleta County Veterans Service Office (VSO), located at the Pagosa Springs Senior Center in the Ross Aragon Community Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The office: 264-4013, fax number: 264-4014, and email is raytaylor@archuletacounty.org. Bring your DD Form 214 (discharge) for applications to VA programs or benefits for which the veteran may be entitled to enroll, and for filing in the Archuleta County VSO. Always leave a message and phone number to contact you.

The following veterans groups meet in Pagosa Springs:

- American Legion Post 108: second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.
- Veterans for Veterans: every Tuesday at 10 a.m., Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.
- Combat Veterans PTSD Group: every other Tuesday at noon,

Community United Methodist Church, Lewis Street. Contact Gary Hanneman at 946-2540.

• Women's Group of Spouses of Veterans: first and third Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., Dr. Carter's office; contact Charlotte at 903-9690.

## Important information

- 799-VETS, www.Vets4VetsPCO.org.
- Durango VA Outpatient Clinic: 247-2214.
- Farmington VA Center: (505) 326-4383.
- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M.: (800) 465-8262.
- VA Health Care Emergency Notification: (844) 724-7842.

The Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365. Call (800) 273-8255, chat online or text 838255.

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

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264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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**MEET THE CANDIDATES!** The Archuleta County Republican Central Committee (ACRCC) will hold a meeting August 12th at Pagosa Brewing & Grill, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. at 12p.m. Come and meet our County Commissioner candidates, Warren Brown from district one and Ronnie Maez from district 2, our Colorado State Representative candidate Marilyn Harris and, from the Cory Gardner campaign, Jay T. Misany. The meeting is open to the public and due to the governors' mandate on restaurants, we urge all attendees to order lunch; we support our local businesses and do not want to inconvenience the employees. Out of respect for Pagosa Brewing, please wear a face mask until safely seated in the dining/meeting area. Any questions contact Debbie Van Gundy acrc-vc@outlook.com or Marilyn Harris (970)749-4499, marilyn-harris44@aol.com. Paid for by the ACRCC.



**MAISY:** I'm Maisy, the sweetest cat you'll ever meet. I'm 3 years old, love to talk, and am very affectionate. Need some kitty cuddles? Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



**PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER** is looking for a **Radiology Tech.** The Tech performs radiographic procedures to assist in a diagnosis of disease and injuries. The Radiologic Technologist works effectively with patients and patients' families and maintains a cooperative relationship with interdepartmental personnel. Applicant must have CT experience. This is a PRN (on-call) position. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or human resources office or downloaded at [www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org](http://www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org). Applications and resumes must be submitted to Mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EOE.

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**BOOST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM** with Ion Cleanse foot baths. Sessions performed outdoors. COVID-19 protocols followed. \$50 per session or prepay 10 sessions at \$45 each. Call (970)264-3856 between 9a.m.-5p.m.

**2007 BIG TEX 18' HEAVY** duty trailer. 1988 34' Gulfstream RV. 30" Sears electric snowblower. 1949 Ford 8N tractor with blade and brush hog. Tires for 3/4 ton Ford/ Chevy. 15' upright freezer. 731-0704.

**HOME GYM FITNESS:** Body Solid standing trainer, attached seat. Powerhouse Fitness set of weights, 8# to 30#, rack. NordicTrack stationary bicycle, electric screen, ipod connections. 946-4810.

**OUTDOOR COURTYARD CONCERTS.** Thursdays, 6-8p.m. at the Best Western. August 6, 20, September 3 and 17. Tickets on sale \$10. Live bands to benefit charities. (970)309-6067.



**BIRDIE:** I'm Birdie, a 5-year-old girl who is loyal as the day is long. I prefer to be your only pet and if you have a great fenced yard for us to play in together, I'd love to be your wing-girl! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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**SIMPLY CLEAN- EFFICIENT AND THOROUGH!** Housecleaning services. Call Erin to schedule a cleaning. (949)566-3906.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP** winter hours beginning on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 6p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Charlotte (970)903-9690.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PLEASE RELOCATE** the AT&T Bastille Drive cell tower away from humans so that working moms, dads, shoppers and passers by don't get microwaved and possible cancers. Thank you, Zhenia. 731-5098.

**AL-ANON MEETS EVERY TUESDAY** at 6p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. [www.al-anon-co.org](http://www.al-anon-co.org). As of 3/31, our meeting space is temporarily unavailable due to COVID-19 precautions. For updates, please text (303)815-8569. For a list of online and phone meetings, please visit [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org).

**FEEL LIKE LIFE** is getting the better of you? Prayer changes things. Call the Jesus Cafe or come by Monday through Friday, 11a.m.-4p.m. or Sunday, 1-3p.m. Call (760)946-1238. Next to the theater.

**TRADITIONAL ALANON GROUP:** Traditional AlAnon Group meets Mondays, 6p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

**THE PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP** of Alcoholics Anonymous is now meeting online once a day, every day, Sunday- Saturday. For meeting schedule and information, email [aapagosa@gmail.com](mailto:aapagosa@gmail.com), or call Val at (970)946-6086.

**DELICIOUS FOOD FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY,** 11a.m. to 7p.m. Pulled Pork, Reuben's, Smoked Brisket at north entrance to City Market. Call (619)277-0193. Jersey Lily's and Lil Bit Of Texas BBQ cooking!

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**PREPARE, PLAN, SAVE!** Let me build your shed or cabin. Framing, decks, demolition, siding, painting, drywall and more! Best price in town! Call (970)946-8660 (leave a message).

**SIMPLY CLEAN- EFFICIENT AND THOROUGH!** Housecleaning services. Call Erin to schedule a cleaning. (949)566-3906.

**CHILD CARE PROVIDERS** in Colorado may return to regular group sizes and licensed capacity beginning Thursday, June 4th. Seeds of Learning has a few openings in different age classrooms effective immediately. If you are interested or have questions, please call Lynne or Dee at (970)264-5513.

**SKIDSTEER WORK- POST HOLES,** grading, back filling garages, decks, remodels, additions, snow removal and more! (970)903-7567, Steve.

**JUNK IN YOUR YARD?** Construction cleanup and hauling off debris. Call Eric 946-2061.

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264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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**CNA CLASS STARTING SOON.** Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Competitive wages and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

**HELP WANTED PART-TIME OR** full-time, at Pagosa Bar and Silver Dollar Liquor Store. Must be able to work weekends and nights. Apply at Silver Dollar Liquor Store.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS. CONSULTING SERVICES** TO STUDY ALTERNATIVE USES FOR WEST FORK RESERVOIR AND CANAL WATER RIGHTS. SAN JUAN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT. The District is in need of a contractor/consulting firm to develop and analyze a range of alternatives that enable the SJWCD to partially fulfill its charge and meet its court settlement obligations for the West Fork Reservoir and Canal water rights. Full RFP can be found on our website at [www.sjwcd.org](http://www.sjwcd.org).

**MARKETING ASSISTANT.** We are looking for a dependable, innovative person to help us grow our expanding brand as we look for new opportunities and creative ways to edge out the competition. Do you work well with others? Are you a creative thinker? Come work for a great company that continues to grow and thrive in our ever-changing economy. Duties and responsibilities include: Update multiple websites weekly/ monthly; Daily/Weekly posts to social media; Organize, present and design print and digital advertising for multiple locations; Design and order merchandise for multiple locations; Update online menu systems daily/ weekly; Assist Marketing Director and Owner with various tasks. Must have experience in marketing involving both print and digital mediums. Adobe and MS Office skills required. I.T. experience is a plus but not required. Previous experience in the cannabis industry is preferred but not required. A Colorado M.E.D. Badge is required before you can start work. Please submit your resume to [employment@jandjinc.net](mailto:employment@jandjinc.net).

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**CARETAKER POSITION WANTED. LOCAL** business professional looking for short or long term caretaker role in the Pagosa Springs area. Excellent references from the area. (217)457-2222.

**LANDSCAPING/ YARD MAINTENANCE/ YARD CLEANUP.** Mowing, trimming, raking and tree trimming. Tractor available for planting and landscaping. 946-2061.

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**DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED-** willing to train. Join a team of hard working professionals! Weekends and holidays off, beautiful facility, modern equipment, excellent pay. Get the satisfaction of helping people! email resume to [PagosaSmiles@yahoo.com](mailto:PagosaSmiles@yahoo.com).

**RETAIL LIQUOR STORE** needs reliable, dependable sales clerk. Raise after training. Some lifting required. Must have good attendance record. PU app at PLAZA LIQUOR downtown.

**LOOKING FOR A CAREER OPPORTUNITY** and being a part of your local community? 1st SouthWest Bank is hiring a Teller, offering a strong benefit package and career growth opportunities. EOE. Go to <https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/> for more details and to apply.

**PAGOSA FUNKY TRUNK** is looking to hire part-time staff. Apply within. (970)731-6040.

**THE DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL** is accepting applications for a full-time Physical Education Teacher. The position would include Junior High PE classes and High School Strength and Conditioning class. To apply, please visit [dnscd.org](http://dnscd.org) to download the application and submit completed applications to Aaron Horrocks at [ahorrocks@urtigers.co](mailto:ahorrocks@urtigers.co) or call (719)657-4040, ext. 1001 for more information.

**DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** is seeking an energetic, caring candidate to serve as a PARA-EDUCATOR. Applicants must have a high school diploma. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; [aduda@del-norte.k12.co.us](mailto:aduda@del-norte.k12.co.us); or call at (719)657-4030. The position will be opened until filled. You can pick up an application on-line at [www.dnscd.org](http://www.dnscd.org).

**THE JUNCTION RESTAURANT** is now hiring line cooks. Please apply in person. 264-5729.

**FULL-TIME SERVER/ BARTENDER POSITION** available at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery. Must have positive customer service skills and reliable. Please apply in person.

**FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR** wanted. Must be experienced and have a wide variety of skills, needs to pass background check and have a valid driver's license. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

**VETERINARY TECHNICIAN.** We are looking for a 3/4 time Veterinary Technician to join our team. Animal care experience required. Veterinary experience preferred but will train qualified person. Please bring resumes to Pagosa Veterinary Clinic at 101 County Road 411. No phone calls please.

## HELP WANTED

**WE ARE SEEKING** a versatile individual who can help us with chairside dental assisting and front office administration. No experience necessary; will train the right candidate. Please send resume to [denprac@yahoo.com](mailto:denprac@yahoo.com).

**AMERICA'S AUTO CARE & TIRE** is currently hiring for a tire/ lube tech, experienced mechanic and service advisor/ assistant store manager. We are a family owned and operated auto repair and tire store. Submit apps online at [americasautocare.com/careers](http://americasautocare.com/careers) or call Cody at (970)394-0639.

**SEEKING SERVERS AND BARTENDERS-** Pagosa Brewing & Grill seeks part- and full-time serving team members. Applications at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. and Facebook. No phone calls.

**GROWING SPACES IS LOOKING** for experienced Production and Installation team members who can help fabricate and construct Growing Dome Greenhouses. You will assemble and package Growing Dome kits, fabricate lumber to specifications, and learn to build Growing Domes in the field, under the direction of a supervisor. Must have experience with compound miter saws, drill press, circular saws and other hand tools. Must have strong work ethic, positive attitude, team player and be able to follow all safety and COVID procedures. \$15-\$20/ hour based on experience. Based in Pagosa Springs, Growing Spaces has been enabling gardeners, communities and businesses to grow fresh, healthy organic food year round for 30 years. We are looking for talented, motivated team members who have a passion for healthy living and helping customers succeed in growing their dream gardens. Send your resume to [employment@growingspaces.com](mailto:employment@growingspaces.com), print our application from [growingspaces.com/employment](http://growingspaces.com/employment) or visit us at 1868B Majestic Drive, Pagosa Springs. (970)731-2120. Growing Spaces is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**USE YOUR CAREGIVING TALENTS** to help others stay in their home. Training and flexible schedule. LifeCare (970)516-1234.

**PART-TIME HELP FOR LANDSCAPING WORK.** Must be experienced with mowing, weed eating, trimming. Call Eric, 946-2061.

**FULL-TIME KITCHEN LINE COOK** needed at The Buck Stops Here. Must be reliable and dependable. Apply with Kevin.

**KITCHEN HELP, MORNING AND** afternoon shifts. No experience necessary. Flexible schedule and competitive wages. Apply in person, Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs. EOE.

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CITY** Hall Cafe and Coyote Moon Bar and Grill. All positions. Apply within or call (970)398-0355.

**APPLIANCE REPAIR.** Scheduled hours are Monday through Friday with weekends off. Experience preferred. Must be reliable and pass background check. Apply in person at Sears, 2800 Cornerstone Drive.

**PART-TIME SALES ASSOCIATE NEEDED.** We're looking for a positive friendly and self motivated person who is willing to work weekends. Stop by and pick up an application at Goodman's Department Store.

**LOST CAJUN: HIRING FOR** a part-time FOH Server and Experienced Kitchen Staff. Multiple shifts are available. Must apply within the store. Pay is depending on experience for the kitchen openings.

## HELP WANTED

**MASSAGE THERAPIST/ ESTHETICIAN/ CHIROPRACTOR/ ACUPUNCTURIST.** Hiring Certified/ Licensed Professionals for busy established premier wellness spa in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. You are interested in being a permanent part of the team as an independent contractor for: Scheduled shifts and/or on call ability, willing to schedule during 10-7 opening hours and can self manage. Competitive commission, beautiful working environment with perks, and discounts on amenities. Training provided for additional services (optional). 3 positions. Send resume to [info@pagosawellness.com](mailto:info@pagosawellness.com) or call (970)422-7161 for more information.

**MASTERCORP- A RESORT HOSPITALITY** leader is looking for local talent to join our staff of Housekeepers to join our beautiful resort: Wyndham Pagosa. We provide: weekly pay based on performance (average \$16/ hour). Paid training. People proud culture team environment. Advancement opportunities. To apply visit [www.applymc.com](http://www.applymc.com) or contact Daniel (760)613-8852.

**GOOD EARTH MEDS** (Recreational Cannabis) is seeking a person for sales and prep work. Computer and basic math skills are a plus. MED badge is required before starting. Send resume to: "bdelany@centurytel.net".

**PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING** a yard associate/ driver. Lumber experience is a plus. Duties include helping customers in the yard, loading/ unloading trucks, and providing inventory support. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefit package that includes Holiday Pay, Paid Time Off, 401(k) and medical and dental insurance for full time employees. Please apply in person or contact Darrin at (970)731-4111.

**FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION** at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

**JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED** but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

**TAX PREPARER:** Immediate need for a year-round tax preparer to work 30-40 hours per week. Other tax related admin duties will be required. Flexible schedule. Please send resume and salary requirements by fax to (970)264-4451 or by email to [jjas@jaccountingsvc.com](mailto:jjas@jaccountingsvc.com).

**SMALL HOTEL HIRING PART-TIME** housekeeper. Must be available weekends. Pay rate depending on experience. Please call 731-5345.

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AND WOOD** splitting, immediate position. 40 hours a week. Dependable transportation. Position through mid November or when Wolf Creek Ski opens. Good pay. 3R Ranch, 264-5160.

**ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE,** 214 Pagosa St. Experienced Kitchen Staff- starting pay \$14 an hour- increases upon performance reviews. Come work in our professional kitchen. Be a part of Chef Travis's team. Apply Wednesday-Friday in person, 1p.m.-4p.m.

**PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND GREENHOUSE PAGOSA** are looking for happy, enthusiastic people to join our budding business. We are willing to train the right candidate if you're committed to being a part of this continually growing industry. Please send a copy of your resume to [employment@jandjinc.net](mailto:employment@jandjinc.net) along with a copy of your **Colorado M.E.D. Badge.**

## HELP WANTED

**RISE ABOVE VIOLENCE** is seeking a Youth Advocacy and Program Coordinator for the advancement of our youth violence prevention education programs. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office; have excellent public speaking and teaching skills; and, be a highly organized, independent worker. Position is FT with benefits. BA in human services, education or related field preferred. Equitable experience will be considered. Rise is an equal opportunity employer where we celebrate diversity and are committed to inclusion. Email resume to [carmen@riseaboveviolence.org](mailto:carmen@riseaboveviolence.org).

**LOCAL LANDSCAPING COMPANY** is seeking seasonal workers for landscaping and irrigation installations. Experience is a plus! Must have reliable transportation. Call Buck Frisbee Landscaping at (970)946-0996.

**WILSON, REA, BECKEL & ASSOCIATES** is now accepting applications for a permanent part-time receptionist with the possibility of leading to full time. Hours will be from 9a.m. to 1p.m. Job responsibility includes: greeting clients, answering the phone, computer skills, knowledge of Word and Excel, assembly of tax returns. Submit resume and references to [jolene@wrbcps.com](mailto:jolene@wrbcps.com) or fax to (970)731-1041.

**DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL** is looking for an energetic and experienced candidate to serve as our 7-12 Art Teacher for the 2020/2021 school year. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a Visual Art endorsement. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Aaron Horrocks, DNHS Principal at [ahorrocks@urtigers.co](mailto:ahorrocks@urtigers.co) or contact Aaron at (719)657-4040. Applications can be obtained online at [www.dnscd.org](http://www.dnscd.org).

**JOURNALIST - THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN** is seeking qualified candidates for a reporter position. Must demonstrate aptitude for, and commitment to community newspaper journalism. Candidates must be prepared to handle deadlines, cover breaking news, report on sports and government and write features. Position is 30 hours a week. Send cover letter including salary expectations, resume, references and clips to Reporter Position, The Pagosa Springs SUN, PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or hand-deliver them to the paper at 457 Lewis St. Emailed submissions are acceptable ([helpwanted@pagosason.com](mailto:helpwanted@pagosason.com)). The Pagosa Springs SUN, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

**AYURVEDIC TECHNICIAN CANDIDATES.** Hiring licensed, certified or student Professionals (MD, ND, NMD, DO, DC, CMT, LMT, RYI, RYT, YA, RN, LVN, CVN, MA) for busy established premier wellness spa in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. You are interested in being a permanent part of the team for: Scheduled shifts and/or on call ability, willing to schedule during 10-7 opening hours and can self manage. Competitive commission, beautiful working environment with perks, and discounts on amenities. Ayurvedic Technician Training will be a part of your commitment and includes multiple locations (optional). 2 positions. Send resume to [info@pagosawellness.com](mailto:info@pagosawellness.com) or call (970)422-7161 for more information.

**CAREGIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY.** No experience necessary. Must be caring and compassionate. Visit us at [www.peoplecarehs.com](http://www.peoplecarehs.com). Contact Deandra at [dberes@peoplecarehs.com](mailto:dberes@peoplecarehs.com) or (970)399-8257.

## HELP WANTED

**SONOCO IS NOW HIRING** full or part-time cashier plus store services and maintenance. Requires good customer service and interaction with co-workers. Apply within.

**LEAD & LINE COOKS.** Pagosa Brewing seeks kitchen team members for Line and Lead Cooks. Apply at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. and Facebook. No phone calls.

**SEEDS OF LEARNING** is accepting applications for a full-time, year round assistant preschool teacher. This person must have a warm, friendly personality, be sensitive to the feelings and needs of others and able to work with and relate well with children, families and co-workers. Must have a minimum of an associate's degree in Early Childhood (or related field) or be in the process of completing the degree. This person will actively participate in planning and implementing the curriculum as well as assessing the needs of individual children. A resume with education and experience is required. Please call Lynne or Dee at (970)264-5513.

**HUMANE SOCIETY THRIFT STORE** of Pagosa Springs, now hiring Tuesday through Saturday. Process incoming donations, price, tag and display inventory; cashier and customer service; must be able to lift repetitively and may help with pickups and deliveries; must be a team player and adhere to COVID-19 safety protocols (includes wearing mask and frequent cleaning); reliable transportation, valid driver's license, social security card and background check required. Pick up application and apply in person at the Humane Society Thrift Store, 279 Pagosa Street/ Hwy. 160 E between 10a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

**CAREGIVER TO PROVIDE IN-HOME CARE** for female in her mid nineties living in Pagosa Springs. Prefer someone that has experience working with the elderly that need assistance with daily living. Job would involve various requirements such as: cooking, laundry, bathing, light cleaning and provide some basic companionship and interactions to mitigate loneliness. While on duty, work for another via telework is acceptable. Please call (970)731-2846.

**HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE** full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

**TIM BROWN CUSTOM HOMES** is looking for a few high quality, detail oriented craftsmen to help in the framing, interior finishing and painting of our custom homes. We have been building homes in Pagosa Springs for 23 years. Work year around with us and enjoy top pay, paid holidays, paid vacation and a retirement plan. Please call (970)731-7071 or stop by the office at 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., Unit B16.

**SUSHI FUSION FULL-TIME KITCHEN** and server positions. Immediate opening. Excellent pay plus tips in both positions. Apply in person or text (316)461-9613.

**PREP COOK. PREPARE COOKING** ingredients by washing and chopping vegetables, cutting meat etc. Undertake basic cooking duties such as reducing sauces, parboiling food, etc. Prepare simple dishes such as salads, entrees, etc. Maintain a clean and orderly kitchen by washing dishes, sanitizing surfaces, taking out trash, etc. Please contact [charlie@psseniors.org](mailto:charlie@psseniors.org).

264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

## HELP WANTED

**LA SEGUNDA IS ACCEPTING** job applications for clerk and store help. Knowledge of retail sales helpful but can train. Inquire at the store at 1501 W. Hwy. 160 on Put Hill. No drugs, must pass drug test.

**HILLSIDE INN IS LOOKING** for a team player to join our housekeeping staff. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Please send your resume to hillsideinnpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

**SMOKE RINGS IS NOW** taking applications for budtenders. Bring your resume by 266 E. Pagosa St.

**PAGOSA BAKING COMPANY** is seeking organized, positive, and hard working individuals who are eager to learn and willing to cross-train. Must work weekends. Looking for team players. Will train on espresso. Application at [www.pagosabakingcompany.com/opportunities](http://www.pagosabakingcompany.com/opportunities) and on our Facebook Page.

**ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT** has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website [www.mypagosa-schools.com](http://www.mypagosa-schools.com) under the "Job Postings" icon. Opening for 20-21 school year: Bus Driver; Part-time Bus Aide; and Elementary School Paraprofessional. For more information contact Laura Mijares at [lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us](mailto:lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us).

**ARCHULETA COUNTY IS HIRING.** The Archuleta County is accepting employment applications for full- and part-time positions: Deputy Motor Vehicle and Elections Clerk, Planning Department Office Assistant, Equipment Operator I, Lead Mechanic, Transportation Program Coordinator, Bus Drivers, Emergency Services Dispatcher, Sheriff's Office- Detention Deputy and Administrative Assistant. Visit [www.archuletacounty.org](http://www.archuletacounty.org) for job description and wage details. Submit applications to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or fax (970)264-1879 or email [HrDepartment@archuletacounty.org](mailto:HrDepartment@archuletacounty.org). Archuleta County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**CHOW DOWN PET SUPPLIES** is looking for someone to join our team this summer. Full-time help is needed immediately. Applicants must have excellent customer service skills, be self-motivated and have a strong love for animals and their well being. Pick up application in person. 100 County Center Drive.

**LOOKING FOR A NAIL Tech** to take over existing clientele in a well established salon. Call (970)946-5593.

**PAGOSA LIQUOR HIRING FULL-TIME** cashier. Please apply at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

**PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER** is looking for **Nutritional Service Workers** to prepare and cook food for hospital patients, staff, and visitors. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits including, paid time off, medical, dental, vision, life insurance, retirement and flexible schedule. Scheduled hours between 6:30a.m. to 6:30p.m. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front tent, or downloaded at [www.pagosapricesmedicalcenter.org](http://www.pagosapricesmedicalcenter.org). Please email applications and resumes to [mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org](mailto:mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org) or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

## HELP WANTED

We believe in finding your perfect place.



Current openings available at Club Wyndham Pagosa in beautiful Pagosa Springs, Colorado!!

We are looking for friendly, energetic people who have a genuine desire for Hospitality.

Please visit our website for current openings --> [wyndcareers.com](http://wyndcareers.com)  
Part-time and Full-time positions available in Resort Operations.

Competitive Pay and Benefits including, Medical, Vision, Dental, 401K Retirement, Paid Time Off and Travel Discounts!

If you are interested or have any questions, please call Meghan at 970-398-1835

Apply now at [wyndcareers.com](http://wyndcareers.com)

**WYNDHAM**  
•DESTINATIONS

**FIRST INN IS SEEKING** morning front desk receptionist with great personality and customer service experience. Call (970)507-7118 or inquire within.

**NOW HIRING FULL-TIME FRONT COUNTER** associate with positive customer service skills. Job includes waiting on customers with their meat and seafood needs, packaging meat, taking phone orders, cash register sales. Must be able to multi task and be friendly. Customer service experience preferred. Please apply in person with Kevin at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery.

**DELIVERY/ WAREHOUSE. PERFORMS DELIVERY,** warehouse and installation functions. Scheduled hours are Monday through Friday with weekends off. Experience preferred. Must be reliable and pass background check. Starting wage is \$15/ hour. Apply in person at Sears, 2800 Cornerstone Drive.

**PEAK DELI HIRING IMMEDIATELY** for skilled line cook with multitasking abilities and customer service skills; counter help also needed. NO CALLS. Stop in for application.

## HELP WANTED

**ROOF LABORER NEEDED. MUST** have some metal experience. \$15-\$20 per hour depending on experience. Call San Juan Roofing, (970)749-0830.

**TRI-COUNTY HEAD START** is seeking a Pre-school Floater/ Cook Assistant. This position will assist with the preparation of breakfast and lunch; both are catered; responsibilities include delivering to classrooms and cleaning up after both breakfast and lunch. This position floats to all classrooms to provide breaks to teachers and aides along with stepping in to sub as needed. Minimum requirements are a Child Development Associates (CDA) or HS/GED and willingness to obtain CDA. Tri-County Head Start will assist you in obtaining the training and experience needed to obtain the CDA requirement. Apply online at [www.tchs4c.org](http://www.tchs4c.org); on our Careers page. Equal Opportunity Employer.

**HIGHER GROUNDS NOW ACCEPTING** resumes. Must be able to work weekends, able to multitask, dependable, enjoy customer service and a desire to learn about coffee, food and baking.

## PETS



Is your dog ready to beat the summer heat?

We've added a NEW SHOP groomer at our Pagosa Springs location!

Serving the Pagosa Springs region for over 18 years, we provide full grooming services one on one with your pet including bath and brush, complete haircuts, blowouts, nail trims, and shave downs.

Call for an appointment & quote!  
Shop: Kelly at 303-819-2015  
Mobile: Barb at 970-903-1290

**ADOPT FROM THE** Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).

**DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM.** Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

## YARD SALES

**MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE,** August 8 from 7:30a.m.-1:30p.m. at 818 Rosita Street.

**BIG YARD SALE.** Saturday, August 8, 9a.m. No early birds. Household decor, like new foam mattresses, some furniture, camping gear, other miscellaneous. 44 Scratch Ct.

**MOVING SALE, 87 DUTTON DR.** Coffee table, small appliances, decorating items, hoses and reels. Something for everyone. Saturday, August 8, 8a.m.-1p.m. No early birds.

**HANDCRAFTED HOME DECOR SALE.** Saturday, August 8, 10a.m.-4p.m. at 140 Country Center Dr., Unit 2, behind Verizon in City Market center.

**MOVING SALE. SATURDAY, AUGUST 8th.** 7:30a.m. sharp. Household items, knick-knacks, furniture, tools, kitchen and more. Highway 160 west, right on Pinon Causeway, left on Village, right on Eaton, Unit #1006. Rain or shine. AEHPAN.

**BE SURE TO CHECK** for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

## PERSONALS

**IT CAN STOP!** Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

## LIVESTOCK

**HORSE BOARDING AVAILABLE, UP** to 2 horses. Stall and running stream through 10 acre fenced pasture. \$100 per month. (970)883-2600.

**GRASS HAY, SMALL BALES,** \$7/ bale or \$6/ bale for 100+. Call Shad at (970)946-2972.

**HORSE PASTURE IN THE** Arboles/ Allison area, \$65/ month paid upfront for 6 months, October 1 through April 1. Call Shad at (970)946-2972.

**5 EGG-LAYING HENS** for sale. \$15 each. If interested, call Sam at (970)507-1660.

**HAY, TIMOTHY, BROME, ORCHARD** grass, alfalfa mix, 65# bales. Stacked and covered. \$8/ bale, #800 bales. Call or text (970)903-3049.

## FOR SALE

**CRAFT FACED INSULATION:** 10 R38C 10-1/4x23x48, \$93 each. 5 R30 10x23x48, \$71 each. 18 R19 5-1/2x15x93, \$43 each. 34 R11 3-1/2x15x40, \$25 each. OSB 7/16x4x8, \$10 each. (970)946-2888.

**GRASSROOTS MEATS NOW ACCEPTING** orders for fall delivery of quarters, halves, and whole 100% grass finished beef, ground beef packages, half and whole grass finished lambs and pastured pigs, and bulk packs of organic chicken. Call Lois at (970)582-0166 or order online at [www.grassrootsmeats.com](http://www.grassrootsmeats.com).

**CUSTOM RANCH HOME FURNISHINGS** and equipment for sale. Leather couches, wool rugs, master bedroom furnishings and more. Pagosa Springs area. Call for information and details. Taking appointments. (256)656-5560 or (970)264-2517.

**CRAFTSMAN 10" DIRECT DRIVE** table saw on legs with table side extensions, \$100. Call Bill (303)378-1185.

**HOME GYM FITNESS:** Body Solid standing trainer, attached seat. Powerhouse Fitness set of weights, 8# to 30#, rack. NordicTrack stationary bicycle, electric screen, ipod connections. 946-4810.

Sell it in  
The  
SUN  
Classifieds

264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

## FOR SALE



**Technology • Knives • Tools  
Clothing • Shoes • Home Goods  
Sporting Goods • Helmets  
& More**

*Low prices on a wide  
variety of merchandise!*

**Open  
Mon-Sat  
10-6**

**2035 Eagle Drive  
#106**

*Locally raised*

## Grass Fed Beef

100% Angus  
Half or Whole  
Beefs Available



**Call 970-731-1103**  
for details on pricing and  
to place your reservation

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN INFRARED SAUNA.** Immune support. Durango model, 2-3 person. New condition. Asking \$2,500. 264-2088.

**12 YARDS FILL DIRT,** \$125. 12 yards top soil, \$400. Delivered in core area. (970)946-6262.

**28 TON LOG SPLITTER.** Honda GC190 motor. Used 3 seasons by single family. Asking \$850. (970)759-9630.

**FUN BOAT. 2006 CRAIG** Cat. 25HP, \$3,000. Pagosa. (970)560-2011.

**FIREWOOD. 2 CORDS SPLIT,** \$350 delivered. 2 cord minimum. Jeff (970)903-2997.

**COUCHES, BEDS, TABLES, LAMPS** and much more. Call for more information. (808)756-4303.

**BROWN LEATHER RECLINING SOFA.** Like new, 85" long by 38" wide, \$100. Call Carol (262)945-9283.

**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. 731-PAWN (7296).

**SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** \$175 per cord. (970)317-3120.

**SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** \$220/cord. Delivered. Pine, spruce, aspen mix. Also have bundles for \$10. (970)661-3888.

**WANTED: FULL CORD OF OAK.** Will pay \$250. 264-6132.

**SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** (970)317-4933.

**WHOLE HOUSE BRICK LINED** wood burning stove, \$100. Windows- assortment of sizes. (970)398-9136.

**NEED FIREWOOD?** Get a HUGE dump truck load delivered for \$400! The wood is a Pine mix. Loads are GUARANTEED to be full cords. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

## FOR SALE

**PINE FIREWOOD, SPLIT** for medium size wood stove. Pick up or delivered. One half cord, \$100. 731-9490.

**ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOME-OWNERS.** Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

**OLYMPIA STEEL BUILDING.** 25 ft. x 40 ft. New, still in crate with plans. Garage door 12' x 12'H, 1 steel man door. Snow Load 93 psf. Asking \$14,500. (970)946-1593.

**TRUNDLE BED, HICKORY WOOD,** with bedding and two mattresses. 946-4810.

## RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

**27' 5TH WHEEL ALPINLITE** 1987. Second owner. Newer refrigerator, water heater, AC, fully functional. Easy pull. \$3,490. (602)826-5925.

**30' 2002 5TH WHEEL.** Rear living room, center kitchen, 2 slides, fully functional. Available end of September. \$6,900 firm (602)826-5925.

**2018 42' 5TH WHEEL** trailer. 4 slides, 3 ACs, 2 bedrooms, electric awning, washer/ dryer. \$35,000 OBO. Cell (817)372-5331.

**31' AIRSTREAM, LIKE NEW.** Sleeps 6 with bunk beds. Reduced to \$50,000. (970)946-2888.

**SWINGER BY GEORGIE BOY** motorhome. 32', 66,000 original miles, kept under cover, beautiful, very well kept. Asking \$7,500. (210)313-8589, leave message or text. 2001 Taylor Lane, #95.

**2011 KEYSTONE OUTBACK RS230** toy hauler. Set up for outside kitchen and TV mount. Very good condition, \$14,000. (760)331-3338.

## AUTOS

**1979 JEEP CJ-7.** New engine 2004- 304 V8; 4" suspension lift, 37" tires; Tuffy lockable console, full roll cage, 4 point harnesses, custom seats; 9.5 Ti WARN Winch; CB. \$5,750 OBO. (970)985-5764.

**2004 GRAY CHEVROLET SILVERADO** 1500 extended cab. 148,500 miles. Topper with fitted rubber bed mat included. Maintenance records available. \$7,000 OBO. Call or text (970)305-0143.

**2015 SUBARU LIMITED AWD.** VG condition. Pearl white with tan/ black interior. Great in snow and ice, sunroof, leather seats, nav., blind spot indicator, rear camera, seat heaters, Harmon sound, alloy wheels, roof rack and more. New all-weather tires, 63,600 miles. \$17,900. Call Debbie at (949)340-6934.

**4X4 SILVER CHEVY SILVERADO.** 1997, 151,000 miles, well maintained, heat and AC, comes with plow. Call or text JJ (970)880-2598.

**2014 BMW X128i.** 37,000 miles. \$19,900 firm. (970)946-2888.

**2009 FORD SPORT TRAC.** 169,400 miles, AUL limited warranty until 8/18. New tires, suspension, windshield. \$7,300. (970)389-2801.

**2004 FORD RANGER 4X4** pickup. Extended cab, automatic, new tires. low mileage, on second engine. Asking \$8,500 or best offer. (970)946-1275.

## VACATION RENTALS

**SPECIAL: RELAX, ENJOY NATURE.** 2 bedroom, sleeps 8. Great family getaway. Golf, hot springs, scenic sights. August 30th through September 4th, \$1,050. Call now. (719)651-4114.

**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! www.NexthomeRMR.com (970)507-8655.

## RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

**RENTAL AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 1ST.** 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2,400 sq. ft. home on fully landscaped half acre. 2 minutes from grocery store. Walking distance to many uptown shops. Pagosa Peak views and large deck. Sodded for outdoor recreation with many beautiful trees. Enjoy loft office and extra upstairs living room. Large driveway with 2 car garage. (Rent includes professional snow removal and lawn care.) \$2,200/ month. For inquires call (970)749-0208.

**3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH CONDO.** Great location, lake views. Nonsmoker, no pets. \$1,400 deposit, \$1,400/ month plus gas and electric, year lease. (970)731-2522 or (970)749-1759.

**OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS.** We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! www.NexthomeRMR.com (970)507-8655.

**2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH** unfurnished, very clean duplex. Laundry room with washer/ dryer hookup, single car garage or storage, quiet area, close to shopping. \$1,000/ month for two, plus utilities plus deposit plus last month's rent with approved rental application. No pets, nonsmoking. 1 year lease. Available August 1st. Call Norman Ragle, (970)946-2340, leave text or voice message.

**BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL. LOOKING TO** rent in the Pagosa Springs area. Short or long term. Need internet and mobile phone availability. Local references. (217)248-6040.

**CHARMING DOWNTOWN 2 BEDROOM,** 1 bath cottage. Newly remodeled, fully furnished. Gardener's paradise. \$1,300 plus utilities. Walk everywhere, great location, quiet street. No smoking. Text for information (970)582-0148.

**3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH FURNISHED** executive home on 35 acres bordering national forest. Gated community, 10 minutes from town. 1 year lease, \$3,000/ month. Pets with \$300 nonrefundable deposit. Available 8/20. (970)946-1682.

**TPRENTALS.COM FOR LONG TERM** rental needs. (970)731-8599.

**RV SINGLE SITE** on 8 acres. Gorgeous hilltop location. End of cul-de-sac, no traffic, close to shopping. Hook ups city water, septic, electric. \$600/ month. Burt (619)992-9100.

**33 FEMALE AND SMALL DOG** need housing. Dog just had 2nd ACL surgery. Hard working, clean and quiet. Good references, need by October 1st. Please help! ((970)409-0188.

## RESIDENTIAL RENTALS



**Archuleta Housing**

**We are accepting applications for 2, 3, & 4 bedroom apartments.**

Our 1-Bedroom waitlist is closed.

Call Carol to discuss  
970-398-1860  
Applications accepted  
Tuesday, Wednesday  
and Thursday.

**Archuleta Housing Corp.**

Office is located at  
703 San Juan St., Ste 205  
Hours: 9-12 & 1-3 M-F  
www.archuletahousing.com



**Archuleta Housing**

**Archuleta Housing for the Elderly**

Located at:  
634 S 8th St.  
Pagosa Springs, CO

**Waitlist is closed until further notice.**

**Archuleta Housing Corp.**

Office is located at  
703 San Juan St., Ste 205  
Hours: 9-12 & 1-3 M-F  
www.archuletahousing.com

**SEEKING CLEAN, QUIET, CONSCIENTIOUS** tenant for 1 bedroom+ simply furnished cabin. 7 miles west of City Market. 4WD needed for hauling water. No pets/ smoking/ Dish. \$800/ month plus utilities and deposits. 731-5098.

**3 BEDROOM, 2-1/2 BATH,** 1,950 SF home Lake Hatcher area. Garage, views, decks, gas fireplace, new paint and carpets. No pets or smokers. First, last, security deposit. Tenant pays utilities. 1 year lease. \$1,800. (970)946-4967.

## RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

**BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA.** Newly remodeled 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Furnished and unfurnished. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. (970)946-4773.

**LONG TERM RENTALS** available. Call Sunetha, (970)459-4411 or sunethaproperties.com.

## COMMERCIAL RENTALS

**DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL, OFFICE** or retail space. Approximately 900 SF. \$750/ month. (970)903-6283.

**PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE.** Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza. High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

**HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE.** Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

**5 OFFICES WITH RECEPTION.** 4 at 150 sq. ft. 1 at 230 sq. ft. 2,000 sq. ft. of shop/ warehouse space. Call (970)946-0874.

**COOPERATIVE RENTAL UNIT.** 140 Country Center Dr., Unit 2. Unit is 100% ADA accessible with access to 2 ADA compliant bathrooms, handicap parking/ramp. Rent per session, day or weekend. Short term rental only. Great for massage therapists, psychotherapist, office away from home, weekend workshop, trunk/product show, anonymous support groups etc. Rental package options. Call (970)903-9278 for details and reservations.

**ON SITE RENTALS** and portable storage containers available for delivery. Rodent proof, the best storage around at Let's Store It. 731-0007.

**SHOP/WAREHOUSE. 2,000 SQ. FT.** 14'x14' overhead door, 2 entrance doors. (970)946-3762, Doug.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**ANOTHER PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS** is for sale. Successful 15 year old local Pagosa Ice Company is being sold because of personal health reasons. For more information, please call and leave a message at (970)731-8600. Very serious inquiries only.

**LOOKING TO PURCHASE A BUSINESS** in the Pagosa Springs area. \$100,000 plus cash flow preferred. No restaurants. (843)813-1556.

**DOWNTOWN RETAIL STORE** for sale. Turnkey and profitable. Inventory, POS system, website, email list and fixtures all included in sale. \$242,900. (970)759-0310 www.footprintspagosa.com.

**PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS** for sale. Oxygen bar and retail shop. For more information, call (405)274-3955.

## RANCHES

**88+ ACRES ON THE PIEDRA** River. 4,000+ SF ranch house, 15 acres irrigated, orchard, fenced and cross fenced, excellent hunting, \$849,000. Peggy Andrews Independent Broker (970)946-0473.



264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

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**LOOKING FOR A GREAT "FIX AND FLIP"** to make some money on? Perfect setting on oversized lot with 2 acre greenbelt and views to Lake Hatcher. Walk down the road and put your kayak in! Needs more exterior updating than interior. Pop the outside space and decks, minor interior upgrades and resell. Perfect for a "Hands On Buyer." 1548 Hills Circle. Contact Heather Simpson, Pagosa Source Real Estate Advisors, (720)447-1236, (970)264-7000. www.PagosaRealEstate.com.

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME** in SJRR and about 100 yards from the San Juan River or National Forest. Approximately 7 miles to Pagosa or 17 miles to Wolf Creek Ski Area. Vacation or full-time home selling fully furnished including hot tub. Freshly stained and priced to sell at \$399,000. Eddie Ring Wolf Creek Realty (970)759-8032.

**2 ACRES WITH 3 BEDROOM**, 2 bath, oversized 2-car garage, greenhouse, horse setup. \$395,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**LOG CABIN ON THE CONEJOS RIVER**, 3 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, 3 garage, 2.3 acres in gated community with national forest access, \$780,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**7 GARAGES, 3 BEDROOM**, 3-1/2 bath, views of Navajo Lake and San Juan Mountains, 1.6 acres city water, NO HOA, \$555,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH** singlewide with oversized carport on 1 acre. Backing to green space with great views. \$165,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**OUTSTANDING FAMILY GETAWAY.** Log cabin- 5 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 3-car garage, 20 acres. Backs to Pagosa Lakes. NO HOA. \$695,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**LUXURY HOME ON THE CONEJOS** River in gated community with national forest access. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-car garage, 1.4 acres. \$1,600,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**3 BEDROOM, 3+ BATH** on 42 acres near Bayfield. Pines, meadows, views, end of the road access to national forest. Call (970)903-7160 for website and information.

**GOOD GRAZING, NICE VIEWS & PRIVACY.** 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2,738 sq. ft. custom-built home. 10 grassy acres, fenced and cross-fenced. 4-stall barn with 2nd floor hobby room. 10 minutes to up- and downtown Pagosa Springs. \$749,000. Photos and information at www.GoodGrazing.net. Call owner at (970)799-4598.

**SELLING OR BUYING? I am INDEPENDENT,** I work for YOU! 18 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.



"Thank you, Britney, for believing in me and helping me meet my goals! You are truly an amazing realtor!" —Teresa Anderson

**#HumansOverHouses**

Each office is independently owned and operated



## Embrace Life, Live Pagosa

Looking to Buy or Sell in Southwest Colorado?

We support our US Vets, retired or active, with concessions at closing. Nationwide advertising on listings. • Reduced commissions. FREE value opinion on your property.

Call today to experience the NextHome difference!



ROCKY MOUNTAIN REALTY & RENTALS

56 Talisman Dr., Unit 2 • www.NextHomeRMR.com • 970.507.8655



**329 SADDLE CIRCLE | MLS 765154**  
Offered At \$358,400

BRAND NEW HOME ~ Pagosa Highlands Estates  
3 BR, 2 BA ~ Borders Greenbelt ~ 1-Level  
Floor To Ceiling Fireplace ~ Many Upgrades  
Open Concept Living Room ~ Lots Of Natural Light



**Brent & JaNae Christians**  
970.759.6844  
www.TeamChristians.com

**MEADOWS: 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH**, oversized 2-car garage log home. 7 acres, awesome views, tall pines. \$565,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**1898 HISTORIC BLANCO HOME- FSBO.** 5 +/- acres, water rights, ornamental pond, detached garage, potting shed, garden office, newly remodeled. \$315,000. (970)264-5476, by appointment only, NO trespassing. 14 Rito Blanco Drive, Pagosa Springs.

**PROPERTY**

**1.5 ACRES WITH WATER TAP** available, with power to the property, nestled in the trees by Navajo Lake, \$60,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**2260 PIEDRA ROAD.** 1/3 acre, \$9,000. Finance available. hoganpagosa@gmail.com.

**PROPERTY**

**1/4 ACRE LOT AT 528 Morro Circle**, Lake Hatcher Park. Spectacular Pagosa Peak view. Flat with Ponderosa pines. \$32,000. Call or text John at (970)903-2674.

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# The wall with Mexico will come tumbling down

By Gary Paul Nabhan  
PREVIEW Columnist

Few walls last forever. Last winter, part of President Donald Trump's new border wall wavered toward collapse under the force of strong winds whipping through the twin cities of Calxico and Mexicali. An 80-foot segment lurched into Mexican territory and it took cranes from the U.S. side to right the steel panels.

Most of the families I know that live close to the border have arrived at the same conclusion: The monstrous wall so close to them has further militarized our international boundary with Mexico. They say that a steel barrier with a yard-wide concrete footer — and lighting that never dims — permanently blocks the free flow of wildlife, seeds, pollen, water, religious pilgrims and essential workers across the U.S.-Mexico border. We have watched U.S. agencies rush to build a wall through the poorest communities in western North America without local consent.

Both supporters and opponents of this bigger wall speak fatalistically about the barrier. They seem to concede that more miles of wall are irreversible because the courts have upheld Trump's legal waivers of 41 state and federal laws.

Meanwhile, the wall does damage wherever it's built or expanded. Habitats for endangered species have been fragmented and human remains in sacred sites have been desecrated. The doom-and-gloomers say there is no going back.

But one needs to read only a bit of world history to realize that walls can come down as quickly as they were put up.

Thirty years ago this last November, the Berlin Wall was demolished after 26 years of dividing Berlin and East Germany from West Germany. Its deconstruction cost far less than

## Writers on the Range

its original construction, thanks in part to eager people who pitched in to turn the concrete part of the wall back into rubble. The two sections of Berlin have now been reunited for a longer period of time than the construction of the wall in 1961 divided them.

Closer to home, the first barrier built on our southern border, dividing Nogales Arizona from Nogales Sonora, came tumbling down faster than the walls at the Battle of Jericho. This wall was erected a little over a century ago, during the time that Mexico was in the depths of a revolution.

American-made rifles were frequently smuggled into Sonora through Ambos Nogales. To slow the flow of firearms, Sonora's Gov. Maytorena ordered the erection of an 11-strand barbed wire fence to run down the middle of International Street, where the two countries met.

Yes. That's right: The first border barrier along the boundary line was erected to keep U.S. citizens from illegally passing rifles into Mexico.

But that first border wall so enraged the community of Ambos Nogales that it was brought down within a mere four months of its being erected. As soon as Gen. Obregón defeated Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa in Nogales, Sonora, in 1915, he ordered the 11-strand fence torn down.

Regardless of your political stance about our current border policies, it is time that we recognize that a permanent border wall is not

a fait accompli. The pandemic has reminded us what a true "national emergency" is, and a hyped-up emergency at the border does not justify such environmental and economic costs.

If we don't want it, it can be legally de-authorized, once again allowing surface waters to flow. Dozens of species of wildlife now threatened by habitat fragmentation could once again migrate and seeds could tumble across the desert floor.

A debate is already underway about how the wall should be deconstructed, how its materials could be recycled, how sacred sites along its pathway would be reconsecrated and how damaged natural habitats could at last be restored.

I live just 14 miles as the crow flies from the Arizona-Sonora, Mexico, border, and though no one can predict when the times will dramatically change, it is never too early to consider the possibility that this foolish wall will fall.

It is already time to support a broad-based "Border Wall De-Commission," one with United States, Mexican and tribal nation representatives. Let us now envision and restore a more just and humane future along our border with Mexico, and with transborder tribes.

*Gary Paul Nabhan, a contributor to writersontherange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to lively discussion about the West, is a Franciscan Brother and desert ecologist who has lived and worked on both sides of the border for four decades.*

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