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The Pueblo Chieftain

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026 | CHIEFTAIN.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

'Air Without ICE'



The entrance to Pueblo Memorial Airport in November 2023 ZACH HILLSTROM/THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN



Mural on the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center. ZACHARY ALLEN/THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Fun Things to Do in this weekend and beyond

Pueblo Chieftain
USA TODAY NETWORK

Friday, Jan. 23

Latino Chamber's State of the Chamber Breakfast

Senior Resource Development Agency, 230 S. Union Ave. | 8-9:30 a.m. | Start your morning with the Latino Chamber at the State of the Chamber Breakfast. The chamber will highlight key achievements from the past year, share plans for 2026, and discuss its continued efforts to champion local businesses and community growth. Tickets cost \$30 and can be purchased through the chamber's website, pueblolatinochamber.com.

Adult Coloring Book Pyjama Night at The Ethos

615 E. Mesa Ave. | 5-10 p.m. | Come color with friends in your PJs at this free event. Some pages will be provided, or you can bring your own coloring books. Some colored pencils, crayons, markers and other coloring implements will also be provided.

Saturday, Jan. 24

Fourth Annual Bigger Than Roe Event at The Ethos

615 E. Mesa Ave. | 5:30-10 p.m. | Pueblo Pro-Choice presents a free indoor community gathering centered on solidarity, celebration, and taking action together. Bring donations for the community effort: a canned food and non-perishables drive (items must be unexpired).

'Robin Beattie - Colorado State Fair Gallery Emerging Artist Choice: A Quilted Canvas Art Exhibit' at Sangre de Cristo

210 N. Santa Fe Ave. | 1-4 p.m. |

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Safe protest areas requested at Pueblo airport

James Bartolo
Pueblo Chieftain
USA TODAY NETWORK

A grassroots group concerned about the Pueblo Memorial Airport potentially being used for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) flights wants the airport to be prepared for an influx of protests at the airport.

Air Without ICE Co-founder Sally Moore spoke to the Pueblo Memorial Airport Advisory Committee on Jan. 20, 2026. She asked the airport to consider adopting policy similar to Washington state's King County International Airport that identifies specific spaces for protestors to gather and outlines how protests may be safely conducted.

Moore also asked the airport to consider making publicly available a log of all ICE flights and an airport live stream. Both of these things are available on King County's website.

"With these two things available, I think you would find that most people won't feel the need to be here in person to protest," Moore told the Pueblo Memorial Airport Advisory Committee.

The City of Pueblo owns and operates the Pueblo Memorial Airport. A city statement shared with the Chieftain on Jan. 21, 2026 said that the airport "remains in the same status" as an October 2025 update given to Pueblo

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City Council.

"First and foremost, there are no ICE flights being conducted at Pueblo Memorial Airport. There are no plans, discussions and or agreements for such flights," Pueblo Director of Aviation Greg Pedroza said in an Oct. 23, 2025 memo.

The Jan. 21, 2026 statement shared by the city also said that protest permits are currently available through the Pueblo Police Department.

"The City of Pueblo supports our citizens' constitutional right to protest," the statement said.

While the city has maintained that "there are no plans, discussions and or agreements," Moore told the Chieftain

on Jan. 20 that Pueblo's proximity to potential ICE detention facilities in places like La Junta and Walsenburg could result in the Pueblo Memorial Airport being utilized for "shuffle" flights between facilities.

"When that happens, we expect there will be a lot of people that will want to protest," Moore said.

Moore also told the Chieftain that the Pueblo Memorial Airport adopting policy and practices similar to the King County International Airport will help the Pueblo airport "in the area of public opinion" and allow attention to be directed toward businesses contracting with ICE—not the airport.

Under the King County International Airport's policy on free speech activities, individuals are allowed to demonstrate in designated areas between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. The policy also prohibits harassment, vehicle obstruction, inciting violence, carrying banners on hazard-posing poles among other activities.

Moore told the Chieftain that she felt Air Without ICE's request was well received by the advisory committee.

Pueblo Chieftain reporter James Bartolo can be reached at JBartolo@gannett.com. Support local news; subscribe to the Pueblo Chieftain at subscribe.chieftain.com.



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