

# 5-member commission, 4-year terms for officials debated

By Doris Cherry

A proposal to adopt the five-member county commission with its related four-year terms for all county elected offices and redistricting into five districts with staggered terms received many favorable comments and some negative comments at a public hearing Tuesday filled with citizens representing many parts of the county.

Along with the more than

20 Federated Republican Women of Lincoln County, citizens filled the commission room to voice opinions on the proposals.

County clerk Martha Proctor briefly spoke on behalf of the proposal then introduced Andy Wynham, Alamogordo city commissioner and former Otero county chief deputy clerk, who spoke about the proposal. He said the positive aspects are more professionalism with elected officials,

more continuity, greater degree of representation and fewer violations of the Open Meetings Act.

Some negatives are the at-large election process of all commissioners is lost and voters only can elect the commissioner from their district; the additional costs of two more commissioners and redistricting, which is being done this year for state and congressional districts.

As for the cost, Wynham said the degree of profession-

alism and the extra time spent in the office which was used to campaign every two years make up for the costs to the county.

Already 15 New Mexico counties have five or more commissioners (Los Alamos has a city-county commission with seven members) and the remaining 18 have just three. Presently four of those 18 are looking at the five-member commission.

Commissioner Bill Elliott asked if any of the

counties have regrets of going to the five-member commission.

Wynham said none have, but seven was way too big, with too much infighting among members. Yet three is too small and came from an age when open meeting laws were not important and much of the business was done outside of the public meeting. Now with a three-member commission, members cannot even call each other to ask about a county

problem without violating the Open Meetings Act. According to the act, if two of three members are together to discuss county business, it can be considered a meeting and must be advertised to the public.

With five members, two can discuss without being a quorum. With the three member system, commissioners cannot even socialize without creating a potential violation of the act.

When the public hearing

opened to public comment, Albert Baca, county mapper, asked if the redistricting could be done "in-house."

Wynham said Otero County has done all redistricting in-house and found it not difficult. Standard guidelines exist for state level districting and use of census data for precincts will make the bulk of the work within the scope of county workers. He did suggest consultation with experts for certain problems.

Jack Page of Rancho Ruidoso agreed with Wynham and endorsed all he said. He worried if the county is forced into the five-member commission, it would cost more in hard feelings.

Jerry Carroll of Oscura wanted to know if there will be a provision to remove a "real booger" easily. Wynham said the proposal would provide a recall procedure for after two years.

Genevieve Sewell of Ruidoso favored the five-member commission which would provide a broader based outcome.

Yvonne Lanelli of Alto was against the five-member commission because of the added expense, the one-vote one-district method, while now she can contact any commissioner regardless of from her district. She also worried Ruidoso would claim a majority of the commissioners. She questioned why further subdivide the county into more districts, when it is already gerrymandered into three state districts, with greater expense.

Carroll also favored the five-member commission which he considered would be more responsive, provide security and continuity to elected officials, reduce overall costs with the election process and improve trust between the public and government.

Sally Black of Lincoln favored the five-member proposal strongly.

Orlando Montes Jr. of Ruidoso asked how Lincoln County can justify the five-member commission population-wise.

"It would make too many chiefs and not enough Indians," he said.

He feared the county would "throw away" money for two extra commissioners which could be used for some project.

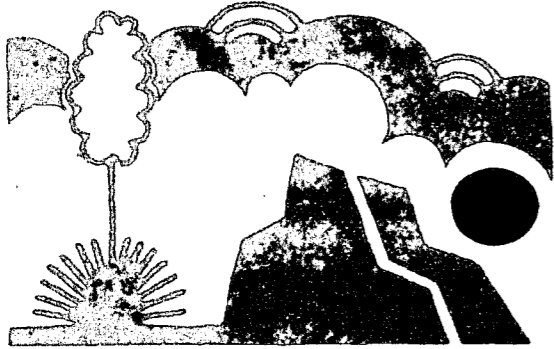
Spencer and Elliott explained the fears of a Ruidoso power block with the five-member commission could be realized now with three members. Since districts must have populations varying only by plus or minus 5 percent, the three now come in to the edges of Ruidoso.

Spencer said population is not what determines the need for the five-member board, rather the issues which the commission must address. He did not realize

(Con't. on P. 5)

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## LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS

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### Ruidoso Village Manager addresses water issues

By BLAKE MARTIN

At the March 26 Ruidoso Village Council meeting, Village Manager Ronald J. Wicker wasted no time in dealing with some of the village's water problems.

At the third ground storage tank, which Councilor Ron Andrews had addressed the meeting before concerning overflow, Wicker stated that the valve had been repaired and they would soon be getting it back into operation.

Also, he and the Water Committee are in the process of getting the Upper Canyon water treatment plant cleaned and analyzed. Apparently, the manifolds involved in the backwash system had been enlarged to the point that there was no longer adequate pressure. The 500,000 gallon plant will be brought back up to standards for peak usage, said Wicker.

Andrews then restated his question concerning Eagle Creek wells in opera-

tion, rather than use of the free flow system. The information was still not available. He mentioned that the wells may be operating at a flat electrical rate, and said it was not costing as much as he had anticipated before.

Wicker then addressed the regional wastewater treatment plant and collection system problems. In cooperation with village employees Richard Sanchez and John Ramos, he commented that the leased belt press is removing solids more efficiently than before, and that televised pictures of sewage pipe interiors were helping to indicate problem areas. In the future, he continued, efforts to comply with state regulations will help avoid fines issued by the environmental agencies.

Deputy Detective Cynthia "Lou" Wardwell was named Village Employee of the Month. This recognition was accompanied by a list of qualifications including her time management skills,

public relations, and involvement with Special Olympics and Santa Cops. The latter includes year-around caring for people in need. She noted that she is one of many hard-working people, and that she enjoys what she does for a living.

In regular items, a bid award was granted to purchase an inventory supply of materials for repair of the water distribution system. Fifty-four items were bid for, and five vendors were awarded the contracts from a budgeted amount of \$23,893.90.

Once again the joint powers agreement needed for the formation of the Solid Waste Authority was tabled until the next regular meeting. Councilor Bill Karn stated that the assets paragraph of the agreement concerning a sum of \$200,000 would be better spent on the civic events center. As mentioned in the last regular meeting, the village of Capitan has

(Con't. on P. 2)



EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS, left to right, Elaine Beaudry, Capitan; Helen Lock, Carrizozo; and Margaret Lightfoot, Corona, were among several county women who received top place ribbons for their entries in the annual Cultural Arts Show held in Tinnie this year. Beaudry is shown with a Kachina, Lock with clothing design, and Lightfoot with a knitted cardigan.

County commissioners

### Paving project shelved to save the big trees

This time the big trees won.

A project submitted to the New Mexico State Highway Dept. by the Lincoln County Road Dept. for matching funds to pave the upper portion of Cedar Creek near Ruidoso met with such disapproval, county commissioners dropped the whole project.

Although one residential property owner spoke in favor of paving the road at the county meeting Tuesday, another spoke against and carried dissenting messages from seven other property owners in the area. The county had also received two letters for the paving.

Eric Annala spoke against the paving because it would require widening the roadbed to 40 feet, which would mean cutting several very large trees estimated to be more than 100 years old. He said the area was so unique, yet so close to town and wanted the area to remain as it is.

Jarrett said the road now is so narrow no one can pass when there is ice on it. He wanted it paved to also cut down on the amount of dust.

Annala worried traffic could increase and would drive the stretch faster if

paved. He did agree some bad corners need to be widened, with a minimum of trees removed, new ditches cut and gravel could be put on the road.

Annala suggested the county ask the state for a variance to make the road narrower to avoid the trees or to go around them, but was told the state would not pay its

share of the 60-40 matching program. The state pays 60 percent of the costs of the project and the county 40 percent if it is done to state specifications. If not, the county will have to pay all the costs. Just the tree cutting alone was estimated at \$10,500, said county road manager Bill Cupit.

(Con't. on P. 8)

### Two plea bargain charges involving cocaine case

Two Ruidoso men nabbed in a drug bust last year won't have their three days in court.

Scheduled for a three-day court trial this week in district court, Michael S. Keaton, 22, and David T. Keaton, 23, pled no contest to two different cocaine charges before Judge Richard A. Parsons on March 20.

The men were arrested Sept. 26, 1990 at a fast food restaurant in Ruidoso after a month-long cooperative investigation by Ruidoso Police and Lincoln County Sheriff's officers.

Michael Keaton pled no contest to the charge of possession of cocaine with intent to transfer or traffic. He originally also was charged with conspiracy to traffic cocaine, possession of methamphetamines, and distribution of methamphetamines. Those charges were dropped as part of the plea agreement between Keaton's attorney Noel Orquiz and special assistant district attorney Scot Key. Keaton had pled not guilty to the charges

originally.

After finding Keaton guilty, Judge Parsons remanded him to the sheriff to transport to Western New Mexico Correctional Facility

Intake and Classification Center in Grants for a 60-day diagnosis prior to sentencing. Parsons will sentence

(Con't. on P. 3)

### Fire Storm 91 to test emergency response

Fire Storm 91, a full-scale exercise to test the Emergency Response Agencies of Lincoln County, will be conducted Wednesday, April 3.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, through the New Mexico Emergency Planning and Coordination Bureau, sponsors the local offices of emergency preparedness and requires exercises such as this periodically.

Local emergency preparedness coordinators Barry Cole of Ruidoso and Maggi Bohks of Lincoln County, along with representatives of

the fire departments, EMS, Sierra Blanca Regional Airport and law enforcement agencies throughout the county have planned a full day of activity involving all areas of response. Another area to be tested is the county emergency radio communications systems.

Residents with scanners or those who may be driving around the county and notice police, fire or ambulance vehicles should avoid interfering with the activity and should not overload the communication systems with telephone calls.

(Con't. on P. 8)

### Carrizozo Trustees' dialog on trash goes on, and on

Carrizozo Trustees had some questions answered about the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority at their meeting Tuesday.

Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority (LCSWA) vice-chairman Frank Warth (mayor of Capitan) secretary Stirling Spencer (county commissioner chairman) and attorney Robert Beauvais discussed the questions and settled fears that were voiced mainly by Carrizozo Trustee Harold Garcia.

Garcia had instructed an update of LCSWA activities to date be added to the agenda at the last town meeting, but nothing was listed Tues-

day night. He requested Mayor Cecilia Kuhnel give an update, as she is the town's representative on the authority board.

Kuhnel told of the meetings which officially began Jan. 25 in Ruidoso and have continued at a regular basis in Capitan, Ruidoso Downs and Carrizozo. She also told of the meeting in Capitan with Environmental Improvement Division (EID) representatives and one from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) who presented information on public-private partnerships. Kuhnel said the EPA is pushing for environmental

changes without providing any money.

Which prompted Garcia to ask if the \$1.5 million proposed by the LCSWA is federal money.

Kuhnel explained the \$1.5 million will be from revenue bond which will be collateralized with the money from all municipalities special environmental gross receipt taxes and from the county, estimated at \$150,000 a year.

Another concern was the status of the Capitan landfill. The little village dump which was closed as a Class B

(Con't. on P. 3)

# By the way



By P.E. Chavez



## PATRIOTISM BOOM

The business briefing section in *Insight* reports that Clyde Robin Seed Co. Inc. is suggesting that Americans show their patriotism by planting "a living tribute to Old Glory." The Hayward, CA company is selling a seed mixture for red, white and blue flowers. The company's popularity of Patriot's Dream soared after the Persian Gulf War broke out.

The \$9.95 seed packet blooms into a patch of blue lupine, red flax, daisies, poppies, bachelor's buttons, and more.

## SYMBOL OF FREEDOM

Among Birdie's Walker's clippings of war columns by Ernie Pyle I found a list of flag facts. It caught my attention because of this year's Gulf crisis, the issue of flag burning and patriotism in full force. According to one flag fact when the flag is worn out, dispose of it with due reverence: "The Union is first cut from the flag and then the two pieces, which no longer form a flag, are cremated."

Lisa Sanchez, a Carrizozo 2nd grade student, shares her opinion of what the American flag means to her:

"The flag is a symbol of freedom... It is very special to many people... It was used in many wars... Some people love to burn the flag... I would not like to do anything to it because it is a symbol of freedom... It is very special to Americans... It is very special to me... I hope it is very special for you, too."

## EASTER PARADE

Kenley Corp., a seasonal novelty maker is expanding its line of Yard Monsters to include trash bags shaped like bunnies, ducks and two decorative eggs, retailing for \$3 to \$4 each. The simple lawn decoration comes to life when stuffed with yard waste or crumpled newspapers.

Last Halloween the Mason, OH firm sold its entire stock of jack-o-lantern face, black cat and Frankenstein-faced bags.

## NEWSPAPER USES

What good is a newspaper? Birdie Walker, whose hobbies included clipping items from newspapers, clipped the following description penned by a 7-year-old girl from the West Coast:

"We need newspapers so we can know who kills and who droids and who shoots somebody. And who wants a house and who dies or who gets a baby. It tells if your dog is lost. They are good on shelves and to make bond-fires. They also do good under a baby's plate and keep dogs offa things. You can wrap potato peelings in em' You can put down one when you defrost. They tell about shows and how much things are."

## HOLIDAY CAKE

Mollie Mason of Capitan sent me a recipe for pistachio nut swirl cake. The cake when done is green in color. The recipe arrived too late to use for publication in time for St. Patrick's Day, March 17. I baked the cake and members of this household enjoyed it. I plan to bake it again for Easter.

To make the easy cake beat four eggs and 1 package of Jell-O Pistachio Instant Pudding in a large bowl. Add and beat at medium speed for 2 minutes: 1 package (2 layer size) yellow cake mix; 1 cup sour cream; 1/2 cup oil and 1/2 teaspoon almond extract.

In a separate bowl mix 1/2 cup sugar; 1 teaspoon cinnamon and 1/2 cup finely chopped nuts. Pour one-third of batter into a greased and floured bundt pan. Sprinkle with half of the sugar mixture, cover with another one-third of batter; sprinkle the rest of the sugar mixture. Top with the rest of the batter.

Bake at 350 degree for 50 minutes or until center springs back when lightly touched. Cool 15 minutes before removing from pan.

## HATE TO COOK?

One morning a woman noticed that her washing machine wasn't working and asked her husband to fix it. "I don't have the time," he snapped. "Who do you think I am, the Maytag man?"

After breakfast, the wife tried to start the car to drive the kids to school, but it wouldn't go, so she suggested he check it. "Call a taxi!" shouted the husband. "Who do you think I am, Mr. Goodwrench?"

Coming home that evening, the contrite husband handed his wife a bouquet of flowers and asked if everything had gotten fixed. She explained that the bachelor next door had repaired the

washer and car. "What did it cost?" her husband wanted to know.

"Nothing—he just asked me to either bake him a cake or go out with him."

"What will you do?" Replied the wife, "Who do you think I am, Betty Crocker?"

## WORTH REPEATING

"Enthusiastic columnists burn the scandal at both ends"—anonymous

## KNOW IT ALL

How many can you answer?

What is a hagiography?

What is plumbism?

What is a lepidopterist?

What is zoonosis?

What is a kerfuffle?

What is a grifter?

Hagiography - a biography of saints or other holy figures.

Plumbism - lead poisoning.

Lepidopterist - a butterfly collector.

Zoonosis - an animal disease, such as rabies, which is communicable to man.

Kerfuffle - an uproar or noisy confusion.

Grifter - a swindler or con man.

## ONE LAST THOUGHT

Curiosity is a form of intelligence.

## Correction

A story in last week's issue stated voters could be purged from registration rolls if they did not vote in last year's primary and general elections. It should have stated voters could be purged if they did not vote in last year's primary OR general elections. For more information on voter registration contact the county clerk's office in Carrizozo at 648-2394.

## Village Council

been undergoing possible litigation regarding the usage of a dumpsite.

Definition of "unit" in regard to village water and sewer charges was addressed. Councillor Al Junge explained that an ordinance was devised 10 years ago to charge condominium residents per separate family usage. One condominium, he explained, might have been housing up to three families, so we set up separate water meters per resident.

Later, it became apparent that some families were being overcharged. The ordinance may be rewritten to allow citizens to file an affidavit as to why they should only be charged for one "unit."

Appointments to various boards and/or commissions were tabled until the next regular meeting in order to reserve that privilege for Mayor Alonso, as he was absent for this meeting. Doug Siddens, Eddie Nichols and Tim Hoyt have asked to be reassigned to the Planning and Zoning Commission, and Bill Rickard has asked the same for the Personnel Board.

Regarding lodger's tax business, the monthly deadline will be moved to the 25th of each month for the village. A reminder was also issued that those who do not file will be filed on for legal action by the village.

Police Chief Swenor was granted a joint powers agreement concerning the use of a receptionist by the village police, the state police, and the New Mexico Department of Public Transportation.

Wicker asked for \$4,000 to purchase a computer to better handle day-to-day activities in his office. The new computer will tie in with the present mainframe of the administration as well as be

used in applying new independent programs.

Finally, Chief Swenor in cooperation with assistant Fire Chief Barry Cole, reported a mock disaster to take place near the Sierra Blanca Airport on April 3 at 9 a.m. It will test the county's civil preparedness, he said.

Councillor J.D. James asked the village manager to kick off the spring clean-up

project in cooperation with Mainstreet Ruidoso and other interests. This should take place between the end of ski season on the 7th of April and the beginning of summer session on the 24th.

There will be a meeting April 2 at 10 a.m. involving the Lodger's Tax Committee, research on RFP, and civic center issues. The public is invited to attend.

## FREE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The Economic Development Corporation of Lincoln County offers FREE advice and assistance to new, developing and ongoing businesses. Every other Tuesday an experienced business counselor offers advice regarding growth, management, marketing, advertising, business plans, finance, etc. Appointments are scheduled by calling the EDCLC at

(505) 258-5867  
Appt. Hours: 8 AM to 2 PM  
1/22, 2/5, 2/19, 3/5

*Wanda Jackson*

*Country-Gospel Concert*

*Tuesday Night*

*April 9*

*7:00 P.M.*

*Carrizozo High School Old Gym*

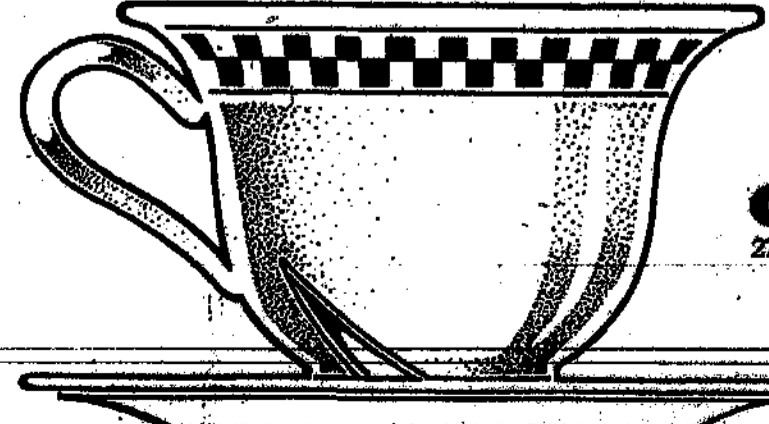
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# CAPITAN NEWS

By Margaret Rench

Same violent winds with severe cold ending last week with two inches of wet snow.

Michael Chavez, son of Jake and Iliya Chavez and grandson of Emacio Chonita Chavez, who joined the service and is in the tank brigade and was in active battle in Saudi Arabia was home two days last week visiting his family and friends. A big parade honored him with sirens leading and ending with many cars with people showing their pride and joy welcoming him home. We are so proud of you.

The Capitan School spring break started last weekend runs through Easter.

The Capitan Chamber of Commerce will meet April 1. They will discuss the Spring Cleanup Day.

The Capitan Athletic Booster Club is raising funds to send the girls and boys varsity basketball team to a basketball summer camp at Texas Tech University. Please support their upcoming fundraisers.

The junior class is sponsoring a cow plop April 6 at the fairgrounds. The juniors will be selling squares for \$2 each and the square that the cow "plops" in will win \$100. See the juniors and buy a square.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Payne of Carrizozo celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary March 14. I wish you many more of them.

Joe Strickland of Roswell

was in Capitan visiting his father, Bill Strickland.

Jimmy Don and Linda Wright and two children of Clayton, NM were in town last weekend visiting family and friends. Justin and Kimberly are spending their spring break in Capitan.

Twenty-eight men and women completed the AARP 55-Alive Mature Driving Program, March 21.

Classes were held at the Capitan Senior Citizens Center.

The instructor has agreed to hold another class on April 18-19 if at least 20 interested persons will register. Classes will be held both days from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Classes will again be held at the Capitan Senior Citizens Center and sponsored by the Capitan Chamber of Commerce. To register call Dorothy D. Smith, 354-2499.

The Corriente CowBelle committee reported the new budget for 1991 and has revised the by-laws for Corriente to reflect the change of local, state and national dues.

Chm. Willa Stone reported she is working on circulating scholarship applications.

The Lincoln County Ranch tour is progressing with advertising and the program being laid out. This will be held June 8 in Capitan.

Beverly Payne stated a puppet show arranged through New Mexico Wool Growers Assn. to be shown for AG Day to Hondo and

Capitan Schools. Napkins will be placed in local restaurants.

The New England Group has contacted Frs. Ruth Shannon regarding a meeting regarding financial planning, wills, etc. We hope to be included in a combined meeting with another CowBelle group, as we are annual.

A 4-H district meeting will be held in Capitan in June. Corriente has been contacted and asked to provide money to purchase meat for one hamburger fry for this group. All in attendance agreed on this expenditure.

Patsy Peralta gave a history and organization of the Smokey Bear Museum. This talk included plans for renovation of the building, improvement of the grounds, and planting of many trees. All this is being done in preparation for a Smokey Bear celebration in August 1994.

Mrs. Peralta reported attendance this winter had been low with an average of 300 to 400 per month. A public meeting is being held April 16 regarding renovation and improvement plans, and a meal provided by FHA girls. An annual Smokey Bear parade will be held in Capitan on May 9.

Corriente's next meeting will be April 8.

## Tree planters at work in state park

Smokey Bear Historical State Park in Capitan is getting spruced up these days.

Last week 10 students from a private school in Albuquerque came with their teacher Steve Wood to plant trees for the Trees New Mexico Program, coordinated by KNEW-TV at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales.

KNEW also purchased the seedling trees planted at the state park, New Mexico State Parks and New Mexico State Foresters also purchased trees for the program and US Forest Service assisted.

USFS will continue the tree planting program at the Cedar Creek campground soon.

The outdoor area at Smokey Bear Park in Capitan got some extra sprucing up with the help of state foresters, USFS, US Soil and Conservation and RC&D, coordinated by Howard Shanks recently.

Much of the planting is to get the park ready for Smokey's 50th anniversary celebration which begins in October 1993 and ends with a big party in August 1994.

## Innovative art program at Carrizozo Schools

Friday, April 5, promises to be a red letter day for students, parents and teachers when the Carrizozo Municipal Schools sponsor an innovative program of Artists Show and Tell in the school gym.

To enhance knowledge and recognition of what art is, where it can be found and how it is conceived and created, many local and neighboring artists have agreed to display their art forms and their tools of the trade. They will talk about the various techniques and processes used to develop their art and help the students discover the important

role artists and designers play in shaping the way we live.

Among the media to be featured are: leatherscraft, matting and framing, photography, dolls, weaving, china painting, pottery, sculpture, cake decorating, painting, drawing, quilting and ceramics.

The program, initiated and assembled by Polly Chavez, art program coordinator for Carrizozo Municipal Schools, will continue after 3:15 p.m. to give the general public an opportunity to explore this world of art presented to students during their normal school hours.

## Carrizozo Trustees

in September 1990 and a Class C landfill opened on the same site. Class C takes only construction and bulky trash such as branches. Now EID claims the Class B was not closed under its deadline of May, 1989 and is subject to post closure monitoring.

A lawsuit was filed against EID in May 1989 to make the state provide funding and other measures. Assuming the closure was covered because the lawsuit was settled after the village Class B landfill closed, the village was told otherwise by EID.

Beauvais, attorney for the village of Capitan also, has been negotiating with EID legal department about the closure deadline date and has agreed to disagree with EID. A tentative agreement has been made that EID will not prosecute Capitan for having no post closure-closure plan, since EID recognizes nothing hazardous was dumped into the village landfill.

Beauvais felt confident LCSWA and Capitan can work with the new administration in EID to resolve the liability. Once that is done, he was sure Carrizozo's and Ruidoso's doubts will clear.

Ruidoso also had not passed the joint power's agreement which will bind all the municipalities with the county for the LCSWA to begin the revenue bond sale.

Beauvais credited Carrizozo for being prudent to wait until the problem with the Capitan landfill is resolved. He suggested trustees could approve the joint power's agreement with the position LCSWA acquires the Capitan Class C only if the problem is resolved.

The joint powers agreement states LCSWA will acquire the solid waste assets from Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs and Capitan. Ruidoso

has the bulk of equipment with a transfer-compact station, dumpsters, collection trucks and large transport truck.

Any changes to the joint powers agreement must go through each municipality and the county for consideration and approval by all. Beauvais said he will have contingency language from Ruidoso in the agreement by the next meeting.

"I truly believe the matter will be resolved," he assured.

Garcia wanted to know how LCSWA members will be replaced, if a town representative goes out of office during tenure on LCSWA. Warth said by the mayor's appointment with consent of the trustees. He told of how membership was staggered at the last LCSWA meeting to keep a continuity of members.

Beauvais explained the reason for chief elected officers serving the first year was to set policy and rates. The mayors was Warth's idea, who believed the top elected officials should take all the heat for decisions.

Garcia also questioned a provision in the joint powers agreement making LCSWA responsible for all activities and no recourse back to the participating entities. Beauvais said no action taken by LCSWA will come back to Carrizozo or any of the participating entities.

The town is obligated only to provide funds from the special gross receipt tax through the life of the bond, whether it contracted with a private collection service (Southwest Disposal Corp.)

Warth said the special gross receipts must be used for such things as solid waste

and cannot be used for general fund.

Garcia also worried the LCSWA would impose fees at different rates in different areas of the county.

Beauvais said the rates have not been finalized, but the current thought is to have a uniform rate county wide, with a surcharge that may be added for distant areas such as Corona.

Garcia asked if a surcharge will be added for a municipality which does not join. Warth and Beauvais said no penalty will be imposed. They then spoke of the advantages, such as being a player when addressing disposal in long-term objectives—a landfill.

Warth told of how LCSWA will assume the liability of the generator of solid waste as required by the state and how Carrizozo alone cannot fight EID.

Beauvais told of other advantages, working with other counties to form a regional landfill, to establish solid waste districts to avoid fees for crossing over to dispose trash and of more leverage with more population.

Carrizozo will benefit as a player, part owner and not just customer, Beauvais said.

County manager Nick Pappas, who also attended the town meeting, said the future goal is to create a unit which will collect, transport, dispose, recycle, compost and educate.

Spencer commented about LCSWA as a west side observer who worries what was going on in the "big trees." He saw the LCSWA as Ruidoso giving up short term gain for a long term goal. He also knew there is no threat of a Ruidoso block of power in the board because he has seen Ruidoso representatives vote against their own mayor. Spencer also told of the local municipalities option to add on to the basic

(Cont. on P. 7)

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# OPINION

Did you know that you can legally mail a first-class letter for 3 cents per half ounce? Neither did I until last week when a reader in Tehachapi, CA sent a photocopy of a letter mailed in Bakersfield in February 1991, with a 3-cent stamp affixed, and which was promptly delivered to the addressee in Tehachapi without postage due. Which prompted KDNO Radio in Delano, CA to examine the law enacted by congress which established the 3-cent postage rate. Here is the way the law reads: "The Domestic letter rate of 3 cents per half ounce is established by Congressional Law (12 Statutes at Large, CH. 71, Sec. 22). Any other rate constitutes a criminal violation of 18 USC 1726."

Here is how that Sec. 22, passed by congress, reads: "And be it further enacted, that the rate of postage on all domestic letters transmitted in the mails of the United States, and not exceeding one-half ounce in weight, shall be uniform at 3 cents; and for each half ounce, or fraction thereof of additional weight, there shall be charged an additional rate of 3 cents, to be in all cases prepaid by postage stamps plainly affixed to such letter."

"Whoever, being a postmaster or other person authorized to receive the postage of mail matter fraudulently demands or receives any rate of postage or gratuity or reward other than is provided by law for the postage of such mail matter, shall be fined not more than \$100 or imprisoned not more than six months or both." (Then follows titles of court cases substantiating and upholding such penalties.)

The recently imposed 29-cent postage stamp was not authorized by congress. In fact, congress has enacted no postage rate since the one cited above, which limits postage to 3 cents per half ounce.

SEC. 3621 of Title 39 (Postal Service), reads as follows: "Except as otherwise provided, the Governors are authorized to establish reasonable and equitable classes of mail and reasonable and equitable rates of postage and fees for postal services. Rates can be established by the Governors only if not 'otherwise provided.' But congress has 'otherwise provided' by setting the fee at 3 cents, and it has not been rescinded or amended by congress to this day. Further, the Postal Service is only allowed by Sec. 301, Title 5 to make regulations, not laws. There is a difference between law and regulations. Regulations are enacted only to enforce the intent of the law. Regulations are not the work of congress and do not have the effect of law. Criminal prosecution under Title 18, Sec. 1726 pertains to violations of laws, not of administrative regulations. So says Radio KDNO.

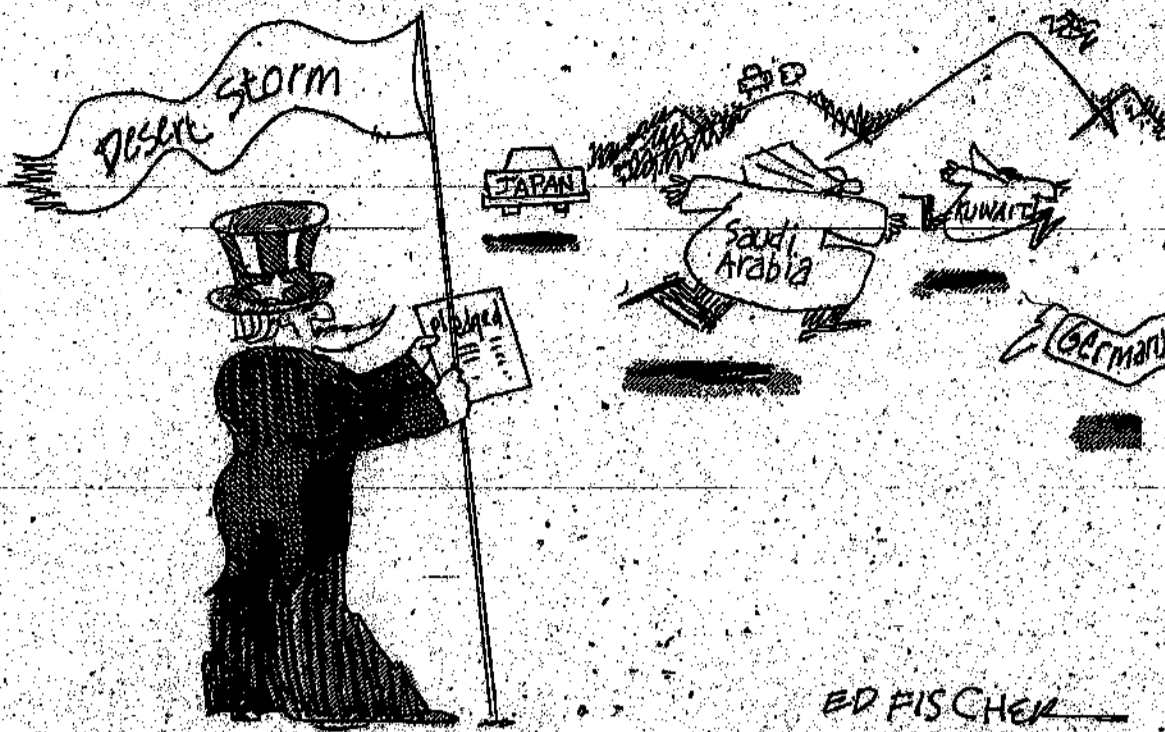
I am indebted to Marian Sampson of Mourning Cloak Ranch and Botanical Garden, Tehachapi, CA for this interesting information on the 3-cent stamp. Now if Cong. Joe Skeen wants to be a hero to his constituents and the American public, he should check out these postal regulations vis-a-vis the law and let the people know what he comes up with.

Never mind what the law is, the cost of mailing a few hundred copies of the Lincoln County News has recently gone from about \$60 a week to \$100 a week. That's quite a jump, especially considering that there has been no improvement in postal service or delivery. On the contrary, our Feb. 1 issue of the *Washington Inquirer* was delivered to me in Carrizozo promptly on March 18.

The next time you hear some politician babbling about what a free country this is and what a potfull of religious liberty we enjoy, remind him/her of 10-year-old Audrey Pearson of Manassa, VA who was instructed by school officials that she couldn't read the Bible on the school bus.

Apple Computer Inc. is opening a factory in Colorado that will employ 800 to 1,000 people with an estimated annual payroll of \$24.5 million. The State of Colorado provided the following incentives to Apple—\$1 million for job training, a \$500 state income tax credit for each new job, and an agreement to build a new Interstate 26 interchange to serve the plant. But New Mexico, howling for economic development, has laws against offering businesses incentives to locate here. Instead, prospective new businesses are whammed with the most outrageous gross receipts tax in the United States and the fourth highest business tax among the 50 states. Yet the late-lamented New Mexico Legislature, in a financial crisis, voted to spend \$750,000 for a statue of the state's first governor, Don Juan de Onate, along with a visitor center. Onate? Economic development?

## The mother of all bill collecting



### Watch Over

## WASHINGTON

Les Kinsolving

### OLIVER STONE'S LATEST TRASH-AMERICA MOVIE: DRUGGIE JIM MORRISON OF 'THE DOORS'

Oliver Stone is that Yale dropout and movie-maker who makes himself very big bucks in a career of cinematic Hate-America.

After having trashed the US Army as a collection of Frankenstein, and all of Wall Street as a gathering of workaholic thieves, Stone is currently working on a film to defame the CIA as the alleged assassins of John F. Kennedy.

Stone's most recently completed masterpiece is an entire, full-length film devoted to the memory of an even greater creep than

Stone is: rock singer Jim Morrison of "The Doors."

This disgusting slob and clay-footed idol of the sick sixties was a drunk and a drug addict of such gigantic proportions as rivaled only by his massive amount of fornicating and abusing women.

Just the hero for Oliver Stone, who gave us those two fraud films "Platoon" and "Born on The Fourth of July" — and why doesn't this national defamer have the minimal decency to emigrate to Hanoi — and take Jane Fonda with him?

"The Doors" has been rather widely panned by such critics as John Podhoretz, who describes the film as "wildly self-conscious, extremely silly, occasionally entertaining and stupefyingly

pretentious... as dated as one of those old acid trip pictures, with Peter Fonda starring at the sun."

In addition to making lots of money on his assorted depravities, the monstrous Mr. Morrison was the subject of what is surely the world's most memorable typographical error. The *The Miami Beach Sun-Reporter*, in covering Morrison's trial for indecent exposure, got this story somehow mixed in with their food editor's copy, with the following, eye-opening result:

"The arresting officer testified that Morrison, in front of an audience of 2,000, lowered his trousers, seized his sexual organs and shook them. When soaked in warm milk, add nutmeg and bring to a boil — it is delicious."

## Inside The Capitol

By Jay Miller



SANTA FE—Gambling bills drew another bust hand in the 1991 Legislature.

Many proponents hoped that with economic conditions being poor, lawmakers might be more accepting of the opportunities offered by gambling proposals.

A lottery would help take pressure off the sagging state budget. Video gaming in depressed resort areas would help bring tourists back. But such was not to be. Gambling supporters drew aces and eights once again.

The session started as though this might be the year. Several lawmakers made public statements that they had never supported any gambling legislation in the past but conditions this year were such that limited forms of gambling might be acceptable.

So what happened? Obviously New Mexico is a conservative state. Many citizens have qualms about the moral, religious and social consequences of gambling. But Arizona and Colorado are at least as conservative — and they have lotteries. Besides Indian bingo palaces do well and public opinion polls continually produce findings that New Mexicans support lotteries by a big margin.

So what's the problem? It may be the stakes are too low in New Mexico to make us an attractive market for those who would profit from the gambling business. The folks who sell the tools of the lottery trade may feel if they can get a law passed here easily, they'll stay in the

game. Otherwise, why stick with a likely loser if the pot isn't that big?

Then there was the Arizona sting operation. The scam was a bill to legalize casino gambling. Some New Mexico lawmakers, teetering on the edge of deciding whether they were in or out of the game, may have decided caution would be an excellent idea under the circumstances. Even if no one was offering big bucks to vote for gambling, the appearance to the voters back home might be more suspicious this year than in the past.

Then there were the existing gambling interests that feared a loss of revenue with the introduction of competition. The horse race tracks are chief among this group. They aren't dumb. Rather than outright opposition, they look for ways to cut themselves in on the deal. Three years ago, they devised a method by which horse races would determine lottery winners. This year horse track owners successfully attached an amendment to a video gaming bill that would have allowed the machines at all race tracks in the state.

But nothing seemed to help. As usual, gambling measures managed to get through the Senate but they always drew a losing hand in the House. It wasn't as though gambling proponents didn't try. New Ruidoso Rep. John Underwood energetically pushed to get video gaming into his community in every way he knew how. He combined it with a lot-

tery. He tried a local referendum. He tried a statewide referendum. When he lost, he moved for reconsideration and came back the next day.

Gambling opponent, GOP Rep. Linn Tytler of Albuquerque, found occasion to remark on almost a daily basis about how many times Underwood's bills had been raised from the dead. It continued all the way to the final morning when Underwood made his last try. At 10 a.m., with two hours left in the session Tytler threatened to filibuster the final hours away unless the bill was pulled from the floor, making way for other important last-minute measures. She implored that she didn't want to act like a senator, but that she would do so in order to assure the measure did not

(Con't. on P. 5)

## Letters to the Editor

### CFR, the new world order

EDITOR—What if, out of America's population of 246.1 million, there were only 2,540 left-handed people?

What if, out of that relatively small number, many hundreds of south paws held important posts in every presidential administration for the past few decades?

What if those positions included the most sensitive jobs in areas relating to money, foreign policy and national security?

What if every cabinet-level office holder one met stuck out his left hand to shake hands? If that were to happen, Americans would rightly want to know why and what was so special about left-handed people.

Yet a similarly small but unique group, not necessarily left-handed, has enjoyed just such a hold on top-level government positions for a long time. No matter whether Democrats or Republicans are in power, most of the important cabinet-level positions have been and are still held by members of a semi-secretive group called the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).

The CFR, funded in recent years by David Rockefeller and currently consisting of 2,540 members, works to bring about a one-world government monopoly in which a small international elite would yield total economic, social, and political control. The CFR is above religion, traditional national cultures, political creeds, ideology and political parties; it is international in scope. The CFR believes national sovereignty should be subordinated to a global one-world order.

President Bush is the Establishment's CFR ideal. Not surprisingly, he has surrounded himself with a CFR trained cadre.

For example, among the Bush Administration officials who are members of the CFR are the following: Richard G. Darman, Lawrence S. Eagleburger, Alan Greenspan, Brent Snowcroft, Richard Cheney, Nicholas Brady, Dick Thornburgh, William Webster and Thomas Pickering.

Americans should begin to ask their elected representatives about why the members of the CFR are always so well-represented in the seats of power?

Citizens should also let Congress know that they are not in favor of surrendering America's sovereignty to a one-world socialist government, as planned by the CFR and the Trilateral Commission, which is a similar organization to the CFR.

ELLEN EDWARDS, Lodi, CA

## EVENTS

### THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Lincoln County Planning and Zoning Commission meets at 7 p.m. in the commissioners chambers in the courthouse in Carrizozo. Items on the agenda include: review of proposed utility ordinance and proposed subdivision amendments.

Lincoln County Democrats will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the North 40 at Cree Meadows Country Club in Ruidoso. The speaker will be state representative John Underwood who will report on the recent legislative session. Dinner can be ordered from the menu and there will be a no-host bar. Guests are invited.

### MONDAY, APRIL 1

Capitan Chamber of Commerce meets at 11:30 at Smokey Bear Restaurant.

First Monday, a monthly meeting of the Republican Party of Lincoln County will be at 6 p.m. at K-Bob's Restaurant in Ruidoso. There will be a special program by Sheriff James McSwane. All are invited.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Carrizozo Soil and Water Conservation District meets at 7 p.m. at the Soil and Water Office in the Courthouse Annex.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority meets at 9 a.m. at the county sub-office at 105 Kansas City Road in Ruidoso.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 4

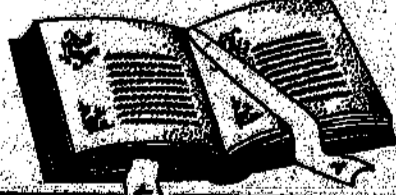
Upper Hondo Soil and Water Conservation District meets at 7 p.m. in the District Office in Capitan on Highway 380.

Lincoln County/Ruidoso Extraterritorial Zoning Commission meets at 6:30 p.m. in the county sub-office at 105 Kansas City Road in Ruidoso.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Lincoln County Sheriff's posse will meet at 3 p.m. in the fair building in Capitan.

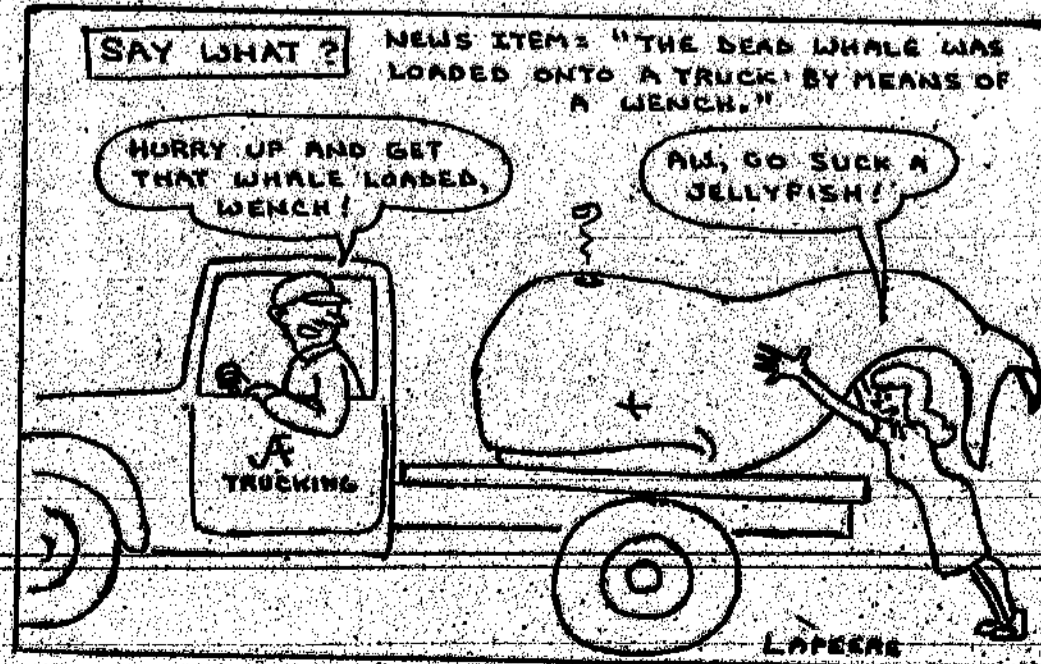
## CELEBRATE the miracle of Easter



## Lincoln County News

USPS 313460

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# Commissioners

(Continued from Page 1)

before his election how much time the office would require.

Mary Skeen from the Hondo Valley area was for the five-member commission because she has not gotten answers in the past and has seen the buck passed from one to the other. She believed one member for each district only would make that person more responsible.

Ben Hall of Ruidoso area favored the four-year term, since the two-year term was the "biggest injustice in county government." The constitutional amendment for the four-year terms was voted down four years ago, but Hall favored it in the legislature at that time. He was not fond of the five districts in Lincoln County however, due to the small population, and because three of the five touch into Ruidoso.

Fran Siddens asked for another meeting with more specific costs of the redistricting. She had heard of great costs (\$100,000) involved with the redistricting and thought the public should be told of these.

Wynham said the \$100,000 seemed exaggerated because the five members would not mean more voting machines, just set up fees for the printers of ballots for the five separate districts, like the three state districts now. "I never heard of the \$100,000 costs anywhere but Bernalillo County."

Proctor said the county's 12 precincts would be divided into five districts, requiring no more voting machines.

Commissioner Monroy Montes said he polled people on the phone and found most favor the five-member commission, but also found most people are poorly informed. He took a neutral position at this time, but requested more information and another public hearing.

Hall also noted many counties and cities have been forced to go with the five-member commission. Wynham said the governments forced to go with the five-member commission did so after lawsuits by voting rights groups, which never lose in court.

Carroll wanted to know the cost to the county every two years with the five-member system. Since the terms will be staggered for all elected officials, an election will be held every two years. Instead of all commissioners running each election, only some will run, then two years later the others will run.

Siddens said not all elected officials ignore their jobs during election time, and as for costs, "nothing is as easy as they say." She requested the county talk with counties which went with the five-members for cost estimates. "We need input."

Coleta Elliott favored the five-member commission and spoke of a League of Women Voters survey which indicated Corona and Hondo people feel they are not represented on roads and other issues.

resented on roads and other issues.

"The county won't go broke on two more salaries," she said.

Rusty Lanelli of Alto liked the two-year terms because voters could "throw the rascals out."

Lois Aldrich of Capitan said the two-year terms is an antiquated idea.

Long after the public hearing, commissioners discussed the mechanics of redistricting further. County Attorney Robert Beauvais said the commissioners could approve the five-member board concept first, then begin the redistricting, estimated to cost \$5-7,000. A problem happens when existing precincts are broken, which requires state approval.

Proctor said she would seek professional advice on the redistricting.

Commissioners scheduled another public hearing at the next county meeting, Tuesday, April 16, for consideration and adoption of the five-member commission with four-year terms for all elected county officials.

A public hearing on the Ordinance 19-1.1 to add a performance evaluation and an impaired employees plan to the Lincoln County Personnel Ordinance found no disfavor and the ordinance was passed. Beauvais said the evaluation and plan would provide the documentation needed if an employee termination was challenged.

County manager Nick Pappas met with elected officials and department heads about the proposed changes to the personnel ordinance. The changes are not punitive, rather are a way of working with employees in a positive manner. The plan would allow employees with addiction or personal problems to discuss such with supervisors and devise a plan of treatment with a supplemental sick leave up to 30 days.

A public hearing to take public input on what project for a Community Development Block Grant application had little response. Last meeting Tierra Del Sol Housing of Las Cruces proposed the county apply for CDBG to renovate 20 Lincoln County housing units. However, no one from Tierra Del Sol was at the meeting Tuesday. Rosemary Montoya from San Patricio, with her mother, did request an application for the renovation and spoke briefly of the need for such a project in the county.

Another ODBG public hearing will be scheduled for the May 7 meeting.

Howard Shanks with South Central RC&D told of the activities planned for Smokey Bear's 50th anniversary in 1994 in Capitan and Washington, DC and local efforts to coordinate.

An April 16 dinner will kick off the efforts in Capitan and Shanks invited the commissioners.

Pappas suggested a representative request funds for the celebration from the county at budget time.

Dick Weber, chairman of the Sun Country Airline Project, requested the county pledge \$75 toward a matching fund for a feasibility study, comprehensive business plan, research study into the differences between resort, rural and traditional larger urban air service and a technical analysis of potential hardware requirements.

More than 104 contributors have pledged with a goal of \$10,000.

Pappas advocated commissioners support the study, since the small dollar amount was just a token, yet the county generates a lot of money with tourism, which the airline proposes to increase by providing regular air service. It also would lend the county's name in

support of the project for the state's behalf.

Beauvais worried the donation would violate the anti-donation laws, but suggested the appropriation be structured so the county gets some kind of consideration in return.

Spencer did not care to support the issue he believed was 5-10 years premature, since there is not enough volume to provide regular air service now. He also wanted the Mescalero Tribe to ask for support in this, since he thought the tribe would be the big beneficiaries of the air service.

Weber said Ski Apache is a contributor and supports the study.

Commissioners made no commitment or pledge.

Mountain State Construction won the bid for gravel for the Schlarb Road Project in Carrizozo with a price of \$8.90 a cubic yard. Two others bid, had prices more than \$10 a cubic yard. Triadic will continue to

provide data processing services. Beauvais will negotiate a liability clause in the contract to protect the county.

An amendment to the contract with the New Mexico State Agency on Aging which will allow extra time to complete the renovations of the recreation room at Zia Senior Citizens Center was approved. It will extend the contract period to June 30.

Maggi Bohks was given the green light to apply for the Dollar for Life distributions for all six ambulance services. The annual application will provide a minimum of \$3000 to each local recipient.

Commissioners authorized the publication of intent to hold a public hearing for an ordinance establishing franchise fees for utilities that use county rights-of-way.

The typical 2 percent fee will provide funds to the county and will be passed on to consumers from the utilities.

Pappas said property owners have carried the bur-

den of government too long and advocated use of gross receipt taxes and franchise fees which charge all users. Road manager Bill Cupit was given the green light to hire another blade operator for the Corona area. The position will be advertised.

A list of courthouse complex improvements was tabled until commissioners have time to review it and determine costs of badly needed roof repairs. \$104,417.15 is left in the mill levy fund and can be used for such projects.

Budgets for the Bonito Fire Dept. and for the Sheriff's Dept. were adjusted. The sheriff's office requested a transfer of \$20,000 into the care and feeding of prisoners budget item from the general fund. Sheriff's office administrative secretary Laurie Ventura said the jail made \$64,449.50 to date by keeping prisoners from the municipalities and Otero County.

One reason for the deficit was the large number of prisoners from Otero, which had said last year would have a new facility and would not need Lincoln County Jail

space. Thus, Sheriff James McSwane did not budget as much this year for care and feeding of prisoners. However, Otero County did not complete its facility. Also, Ventura said one prisoner had extensive medical problems which the county is required to have treated.

Commissioners granted the \$20,000 transfer request.

A new line item was created in the budget to allow for the \$30,000 from the one-eighth of one percent special environmental gross receipt tax passed last year. The tax will help finance revenue bonds for the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority.

The list of maintained county roads was approved for submittal to the state highway department. The list was from last year, which needs updating, but cannot be done until the new county road map is finished. Administrative assistant Martha Guevara noted some roads found not to be dedicated roads, which were listed before, have been taken off.

During reports from elected officials and department heads, commissioners

credited Bohks for the \$29,000 received from the EMS Special Projects fund for a communication upgrade. With the funds Bohks hopes to purchase a new logging recorder for the dispatch office at the jail and other communication equipment.

A survey will be taken of similar sized counties to determine a need to increase county liquor license fees.

A problem with a resolution passed at the last meeting allowing two commissioners to approve a purchase order over the telephone led commissioners to attempt to rescind the resolution. Beauvais advised against it and suggested the subject be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Bohks also told of Corona opting into the E-911 system, Ernie Gonzales winning the Outstanding EMS award for the region, and the good things happening with the Fire Services organization, started by Pappas.

Commissioners went into closed session at 5:05 p.m.

Furr's

Easter

GREETINGS

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<p style="text-align: center;">5-LB. BAG</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;"><b>POTATOES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(YOU SAVE .80¢)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.69</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;"><b>SMOKED HAMS</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <p>Butt 1/2.....LB.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.39</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">YOU SAVE .50¢</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <p>Shank 1/2.....LB.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.29</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">YOU SAVE .40¢</div> </div>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">MEATS</p> <p>BOSTON BUTT (YOU SAVE .60¢ LB.)</p> <p><b>PORK ROAST</b>.....LB. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.49</span></p> <p>PEYTON BRAND (YOU SAVE .50¢)</p> <p><b>SLICED BACON</b>.....12-OZ. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.29</span></p> <p>PEYTON BRAND (YOU SAVE .50¢)</p> <p><b>CHORIZO</b>.....8-OZ. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">99¢</span></p> <p>FURR'S (YOU SAVE .70¢)</p> <p><b>ICE CREAM</b>.....1/2-GAL. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$2.09</span></p> <p>CANNED (YOU SAVE .50¢)</p> <p><b>COCA COLA</b>.....6-PACK <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.69</span></p> <p>FURR'S, BROWN &amp; (YOU SAVE .20¢)</p> <p><b>SERVE ROLLS</b>..... <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">59¢</span></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PRODUCE</p> <p>FRESH (YOU SAVE .50¢ LB.)</p> <p><b>BROCCOLI</b>.....LB. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.49</span></p> <p>FRESH (YOU SAVE .50¢ LB.)</p> <p><b>ASPARAGUS</b>.....LB. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.69</span></p> <p>FRESH (YOU SAVE .10¢ LB.)</p> <p><b>YAMS</b>.....LB. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">59¢</span></p> <p>ALWAYS SAVE (YOU SAVE .15¢)</p> <p><b>MAC/CHEESE</b>.....7-1/4-OZ. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">3/\$1</span></p> <p>MJB BRAND (YOU SAVE \$1.40)</p> <p><b>COFFEE</b>.....13-OZ. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$1.89</span></p> <p>SCOTT BRAND</p> <p><b>TISSUE</b>.....4-RL. PKG. <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$2.00</span></p>

Insider

come to a vote.

Minutes later House Majority Leader Michael Olguin moved to set the bill aside "temporarily" in order to move on to other business. That was the end of gambling legislation for 1991—except for one bill that snuck through legalizing parimutuel bicycle racing on Sandia Pueblo. Observers are wondering whether that will be any more successful than the parimutuel mule racing that was legalized a few years ago.

And lest you think it is over, Underwood's parting words this session were: "I'll be back new year."





