

County Changes Subdivision Regulations

by Doris Cherry

In 30 days, Lincoln County will have a new set of subdivision regulations.

During their regular December 6 meeting at Ruidoso Convention Center, Lincoln County Commissioners held their third public hearing on the proposed changes and additions which were the result of public comments

from developers, realtors and county staff. This time commissioners approved the revised version of the county subdivision regulations.

The most discussed section in the regulations deals with alteration of parcel boundaries, or "lot splitting". The new regulations state that no plat reviewed and recommended for approval by the county planning and zoning

commission shall be altered by the subdivider without the full, clear knowledge and written authorization of the Lincoln County commission. Lot splitting in previously approved subdivisions where the lot splitting will increase the number of parcels, or change the type of class or subdivision will not be permitted without the permission of the county commission.

Commissioners agreed with county attorney Alan Morel that the new language makes it appear that lot splitting will be allowed. However, by 1996 new state regulations concerning lot splits will take affect in certain counties in the state. While Lincoln County will not be subject to the new law which prohibits lot splits in 1996, Morel said he will advise the commission to

add it to the county regulations.

While the new regulations will not apply retroactively to old subdivisions, one point of the new regulations will apply to subdivisions now in development. Formerly, the county required developers to post a "performance bond" to assure construction of roads and other utilities. That bond stayed in effect until the end

of the two-year test period imposed on any roads that are requested to be accepted into the county road maintenance system. Developers had requested the county allow a

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Carrizozo Luminaria Display To Be Bigger Than Ever This Year

Thanks to a lot of help from the community last weekend, the Carrizozo Luminaria display will be bigger than ever this year.

Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department Chief LeeRoy Zamora reported there were 12,750 bags filled last weekend. The bags will be placed along streets in Carrizozo on Christmas eve.

Beginning at 10 a.m. December 24, fire department personnel, and anyone else wanting to volunteer time, will begin placing the bags filled with sand along the middle and sides of Central Ave. (Highway 54), along the middle and sides of 12th Street and side streets which connect the Central and 12 Streets. Bags will also be placed along Aspen and Birch Aves. and on the overpass, on E. Ave. from Central Ave. to the Episcopal Church at 6th St., and on 8th Street by the fire department.

Lighting of the candles will begin as soon as all bags are placed along the streets, about 5 p.m. Zamora said the department will appreciate anyone who wants to help light the candles. Last year residents helped light the luminarias placed near their homes.

Once the bags are all lighted street lights will be dimmed and residents and visitors will be allowed to travel along the streets with only their vehicle parking lights on.

Donations to help defray costs for the lighting can be given to any fire department member or to the fund established at Norwest Bank in Carrizozo.

Christmas Cantata Sunday At Trinity Methodist Church

A Child Is Born, a Christmas cantata by John Purifoy, will be presented by the 18 member Trinity/Community Choir Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Carrizozo.

The choir is under the direction of Phyllis Schlegel and is accompanied by Jane Shafer.

Pastor Warren Schoenecker invites everyone to attend.



NEW OFFICE SPACE MEANT PACKING AND MOVING on December 5 when the offices of the South Central Mountain RC&D and Carrizozo NRCS Field Office, formerly upstairs in the annex of the Lincoln County Courthouse, moved to 409 Central in Carrizozo. The new larger office space, located next to the Carrizozo branch of Ruidoso State Bank, will comply with ADA regulations. From left: RC&D Coordinator Howard Shanks, Carrizozo SWCD District Clerk Sue Stearns and Range Conservationist Hollis Fuchs.

Natural Gas For Capitan Subdivisions Discussed

by Doris Cherry

By March 1996, crews will begin repaving work on Capitan's Third Street.

Capitan Board of Trustees during its regular meeting Monday accepted the contract and proposed design fee of \$24,597.30 from Engineers Inc. of Socorro for Phase 2 of the downtown street revitalization project. The project will be financed with a 1995 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA), which oversees local government, allowed the village to "roll over" the contract with Engineers Inc. for the second phase of the paving project. The company did the designs for Phase 1 which was the curb, gutter and drainage work and repaving of 4th Street, now completed.

Trustees approved the final payment of \$188,940.82 to Drew Engineering of Ruidoso for its work on Phase 1. With the payment and the engineer's fees the total cost of Phase 1 was \$320,705, said Jay Santillanes, from Engineers Inc. The village received

a \$309,000 CDBG and matched the grant with \$20,000. That leaves \$8,800 from the Phase 1 grant, Santillanes said. However, he did not want to return the money. Rather he was working on it.

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Lincoln County Manager Resigns

by Doris Cherry

Citing personal reasons, Lincoln County Manager Carolin Cooney submitted her resignation effective January 15.

Cooney told THE NEWS that she informed county commission chairman Monroy Montes last Friday, and commissioners Bill Schwetzmann and L. Ray Nunley over the weekend about her resignation. She informed the courthouse officials and their staffs early this week also.

"It'll be real hard to leave," Cooney said. "I have mixed feelings."

But the long road between Lincoln County and her fiancé Roberto Rios who is director of the state economic develop-

Turnover Of Carrizozo School Employees Is Major Problem

by Doris Cherry

Teacher and other staff turnover at Carrizozo Schools is a problem that is keeping the district from moving forward.

This information was told to the Carrizozo board of education members who attended the New Mexico State Department of Education accreditation team exit meeting Friday, December 8.

State Tells Board Members School Should Strive For Consistency And Continuity

During the report of the team's preliminary findings, team leader Dr. Bill Blair made a plea to the Carrizozo school board members to strive for consistency and continuity in the district by slowing the turnover of super-

intendents, principals, counselors and teachers. "The inconsistency is a detriment to the students and community," Blair added.

Once the district finds a way to overcome the high turnover, it can more successfully implement the two areas focused in the district self-study, Blair continued. Part of the team visit was to verify the information the district provided in its self-study by

interviewing students, staff and members of the community. The team also reviewed required areas for compliance, such as curriculum and it looked at how the district is developing its Educational Plan for Student Success.

Dr. Blair said consistency becomes more important with the development of the Educational Plan for Student Success. "Development and implementation will be a real struggle for the district if the turnover continues," Blair said.

One of the victims of the high turnover is an outdated curriculum which does not provide all the credits students need for graduation. "All courses for credit need written curriculum, to assure consistency year to year," team member Luis Delgado said, during his report on his findings in the instructional process and support programs. He cited major areas of non-compliance: subjects required for graduation missing from the curriculum, and lack of, or outdated, written curriculum for all classes.

Delgado found the district did not provide geography as part of U.S./World History and economics as part of government which the state requires for graduation. "We'll not penalize the students for the lack of these credits," Delgado said about this year's graduating seniors.

The other areas of non-compliance Delgado cited were the lack of a separate health class for grades K-12 and no instruction on HIV as required by the state. Also he found that student four-year plan-

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County Wants To Review Finances

by Doris Cherry

Requests for a tax cut and an increase in salaries for county employees occupied considerable time at the day-long county commission meeting Dec. 6.

The lengthy discussion only resulted in confusion about what the projected revenues from this year's tax collection really are, and what the so-called surplus really is in the county budget. As a result,

county commissioner Wilton Howell, who proposed tax cuts if there is truly a "surplus", called for a meeting of the Board of Finance to get the figures straight.

During the meeting, Dec. 6, Howell said he wanted a "more basic county government that runs efficiently and meets the needs of the people." Howell said he thought the commission had displayed fiscal responsibility by accumulating a surplus which hovers around \$2.9 to \$3 million, while having taken care of the needs of county employees and departments. "Now we need to take care of the needs of the taxpayers," Howell said.

Howell proposed cutting at least one mill of discretionary tax and then "redefine services."

A taxpayer who lives in the county, Joe Zagone, said he did not oppose paying the current taxes, but he would like to see some of the extra money go to a project for the county kids. He proposed the county provide funds to help the village of Ruidoso construct an indoor swimming pool that would be used by all the kids in the county. "If we don't address the issues (of our kids) then we'll be buying more patrol cars," Zagone said.

Commission Chairman

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Final Exams Next Week For C'zozo High School

Final exams will be held at Carrizozo High School next week. On Monday, December 18, finals will be given for first, third and fifth period classes from 8:15 until 11:30, with 10 minute breaks between test periods. Tuesday, December 19 tests for second, fourth and sixth period classes will be given on the same time schedule as Monday. On Wednesday, December 20, the final for seventh period classes will be given at 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. Regular classes will be held after the first hour, until early release at noon.

All buses will run at 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Teachers will work the normal day hours Monday and Tuesday.

School lets out for Christmas vacation at 12 noon, Wednesday, December 20. Report cards will be issued after Christmas break. Classes resume at the regular time Thursday, January 4, 1996.

County Changes

"maintenance bond" in a percentage less than the performance bond, to be placed during the two year test period. The maintenance bond provision was added to the regulations which commissioners finally approved.

The new regulations also provide for a process for property owners to vacate plats.

A property owner asked if the regulations could include a section prohibiting low flying aircraft. Commissioners were unable to obligate the owner, because such regulation is done solely by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

There was considerable discussion about the powers of planning and zoning commission, which reviews all proposed developments and makes recommendation on action to the commissioners. Commissioners were concerned about allowing wording in the regulations that state "approval" from planning and zoning. All such wording was changed to "review and recommendation."

Copies of the finalized regulations are available from the county manager's office in the courthouse in Carrizozo.

The subdivision regulations are currently the only instru-

ment the county has to control or regulate growth. While the county has a zoning ordinance on the books, the document is unenforceable because there are no accompanying maps which designate zones. Zoning is so unpopular that commissioners rejected a proposal to have the county planning and zoning commission look again at the zoning issue. County manager Carolin Cooney said county zoning could be worked on after the Rural and Ag Affairs Advisory Committee's Comprehensive Land Use Plan is completed.

While commissioner Bill Schwettmann was willing to look at the zoning again, chairman Monroy Montes said there is no public support. "The public is not sympathetic to zoning now," Montes said. "If we're not willing to enforce (zoning) why waste our time."

Late in the Dec. 6 meeting (which ended at 6:45 p.m.) commissioners also debated the issue of where to hold their regular meetings while they were trying to set their 1996 meetings calendar. Commissioner Wilton Howell wanted to require that at least two county commission meetings be held in Ruidoso, and Schwettmann wanted at least one meeting in the

Capitan area. Howell's motion to have two meetings in Ruidoso and one in Capitan died for the lack of a second. Instead commissioners on a 3-1 vote (Howell dissenting) approved the 1996 calendar which sets meetings on Tuesdays on: January 9, February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, Friday June 7 (for canvassing votes from the primary election), July 2, August 6, September 10, October 1, Friday November 8 (for canvassing votes from general election) and December 3.

Commissioners did not specify where the meetings will be held, reserving their right to make that determination each meeting, or to be automatically held at the courthouse in Carrizozo.

Commissioners also adopted the official holiday calendar. In the first round of action, Spencer made a motion to accept the calendar, except to change January 15 which is now Martin Luther King birthday, to "Don Diego de Vargas" Day. Schwettmann seconded the motion, which only got a yes vote from Spencer. The holiday calendar, including the Jan. 15 Martin Luther King birthday, was approved as presented.

Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority Is To Be Closed For Holiday

Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority (LCSWA) offices and recycling center in Ruidoso Downs, and the Capitan landfill will be closed for Christmas weekend, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, December 23-25.

There also will be no special pick ups during those days.

Trash collections will run as usual on Friday and Monday, said LCSWA manager Corlis Dobson.

A change has been made in the hours for accepting waste at the Capitan landfill. No waste will be taken at the landfill after 3:30, Dobson said.



CARRIZOZO SCHOOL CHRISTMAS MUSICAL PROGRAM Tuesday included an afternoon and evening performance with music by the high school band, fifth and sixth grade band, and singing by students in kindergarten through eighth grades. Performers included the second grade (photo above) and kindergarten and pre-school (photo below.)



County Wants To Review . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Monroy Montes said the \$2.5 million reserve is a safe cushion. "Lincoln County is sound," Montes said. "We're not headed into a desperate situation, but nor are we well cushioned." Montes acknowledged the issue of less taxing is popular nationwide. "But Lincoln County is not a high-tax county."

Commissioner Bill Schwettmann said, "The surplus could be wiped out tomorrow." He spoke about the situation at Fort Stanton. He also mentioned how the county has a large property which is costing an excessive amount of money.

Later in the meeting elected officials, clerk Martha Proctor and treasurer Joan Park, requested commissioners consider a 10 percent cost of living salary increase for county employees. However, Park could not produce an understandable report on the projected revenues from the 1995 tax collections, and Howell had misinformation about the average county employee salary which he claimed was at least \$7,000 a year higher than the average state salary level.

While commissioners agreed with the elected officials that employees had not received any cost of living salary increases since 1991, commissioners also were concerned that such a raise would further increase the salaries of some employees who received salary adjustments this year.

Because of the confusion about the numbers, Howell requested the figures on the projected revenues from the 1995 tax collections, and further documentation for the salary increases be presented during the board of finance workshop set for January 8, at the courthouse in Carrizozo.

In other business, commissioners:

--Heard a report from new Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority manager Corlis Dobson who expressed his commitment to secure and see that equipment is adequate and maintained and rotated on a regular basis. Dobson said citizens should call his office at 378-4697 if there are problems.

--Directed the owner of a barn which was constructed over a dedicated county road near Bonito lake be contacted to remove the structure.

--Adopted an ordinance

which amends the county's 1994 collective bargaining ordinance, with amendments recommended by the state labor board. It was reported that there are indications from the sheriff's deputies association they desire to begin collective bargaining.

--Established a road review committee which will routinely conduct road reviews at the request of the county commission. Commissioners will appoint the five road review members at the January meeting.

--Considered a proposal for a joint Lincoln County/Village of Ruidoso cemetery. Concerns were such a cemetery would compete with a private owned cemetery in the Ruidoso valley.

--Accepted the lowest responsive bid for replacement of the Capitan Senior Center roof from Lloyd's of Logan, only after considerable discussion about the procedure the

county now uses for advising potential bidders about additions to the bid. Montes later told *THE NEWS* it all points out the need for the county to hire a purchasing officer.

--Approved appointments of David Vigil as property owner and Dick Swenor as member at large (he received 12 nominations) to the Lincoln Historic Preservation Board which meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Dr. Woods Annex in Lincoln.

--Okayed re-appointments of Jolinda Perryman, Kathleen Hellman and Joel Bonnell to the Ag and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee which meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 9 a.m. in the commissioners' room in the courthouse in Carrizozo.

--Approved re-appointments of Wayne Mason and Virginia Danielson to the Lincoln County Senior Citizens Olympic Committee.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAYS

—Alcoholic Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. at Carrizozo Senior Citizens Center. Call 648-2313 for information.

—Adult singles group meets at the Marie Laveaux Restaurant at 1214 Mechem in Ruidoso for no host dinner at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 258-3246 or 354-2635.

—Preschool Story hour from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Carrizozo Public School Library.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

—Ruidoso Downs Senior Center Christmas potluck dinner at noon. Center will furnish ham, tea and coffee. Please bring a covered dish.

—Capitan Board of Education meets at 6 p.m. in the board conference room.

—Community Christmas Program sponsored by Capitan High School Rodeo Club at 7 p.m. Capitan school multipurpose building.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

—Carrizozo Rotary Club chili supper at Carrizozo School cafeteria, 4-7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

—Smokey Bear's Christmas, Capitan Open House, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Smokey Bear Park in Capitan. Merchants will be open.

—Gospel music program with country/western and contemporary gospel songs at Evangelistic Assembly Church at 711 E Ave. in Carrizozo at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

—Mountain Ministry Parish Christmas Service at 11 a.m. at Claunch Community Center. Pot luck dinner follows.

—Christmas Cantata at Trinity United Methodist Church in Carrizozo at 4 p.m. Public invited.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

—Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority meets at 10 a.m. at the authority offices in Ruidoso Downs.

—Carrizozo Board of Education meets at 6 p.m. in school conference room.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

—Special meeting of Ruidoso Village Council at 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

—Lincoln County Planning and Zoning Commission meets at 7 p.m. in commissioner's meeting room in Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

—Christmas Eve Mass at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Corona at 5 p.m.

—Christmas Eve candlelight service at Trinity United Methodist Church at 8 p.m.

—Christmas Eve Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Capitan at 8 p.m.

—Midnight Mass at Santa Rita Catholic Church in Carrizozo.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

—New Year's Eve service at Evangelistic Assembly Church, 711 E Ave. in Carrizozo at 10:30 p.m. The service will be shared with Pastor Johnnie Johnson of Carrizozo Community Church. Refreshments will follow.

Santa Cops Needs More Donations For Christmas This Year

Attributed to the dry warm fall that has left the county with a dire lack of snow, skiing visitors and busy shops, Santa Cops's cupboard is bare.

"We have enough for only about 100 families," said Freda McSwane, Santa Cop organizer. "Donations are really low. I think the weather is having a lot to do with it."

Santa Cops is keeping its shop in Sierra Mall in Ruidoso open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. to accept any donations of good used coats, new toys or clothes, and food until Thursday, December 21.

Also food donations can be taken to Zia Natural Gas company office in Ruidoso Downs and Lincoln Cablevision office in Ruidoso.

Another way for citizens to help the Santa Cops program is by participating in the Santa Cops Angel Trees. Located at Ruidoso State Bank in Capitan, and Norwest Banks in Carrizozo and Ruidoso, the trees feature handmade beaded ornaments in the shape of candles. On each ornament is a number which represents a needy child. Along with the number is the child's age, sex and interests when possible. To participate all one has to do is choose an ornament and purchase a toy or other gift appropriate to the child's age and sex and interests. Wrap the toy and return it to the tree from which the ornament was taken, by Wednesday, December 20 at the latest.

Law enforcement officers, and members of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse will serve as Santa's helpers to distribute the gifts, clothes and food over the weekend before Christmas.

Santa Claus To Visit Carrizozo December 23rd

Santa Claus will make an early visit to Carrizozo on top of a bright red fire engine. At 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, Santa Claus will be at Spencer Park in Carrizozo to give out sweets to area children.

Before Santa gets started, members of the Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department will give away the television for which they have been taken donations on chances to win.

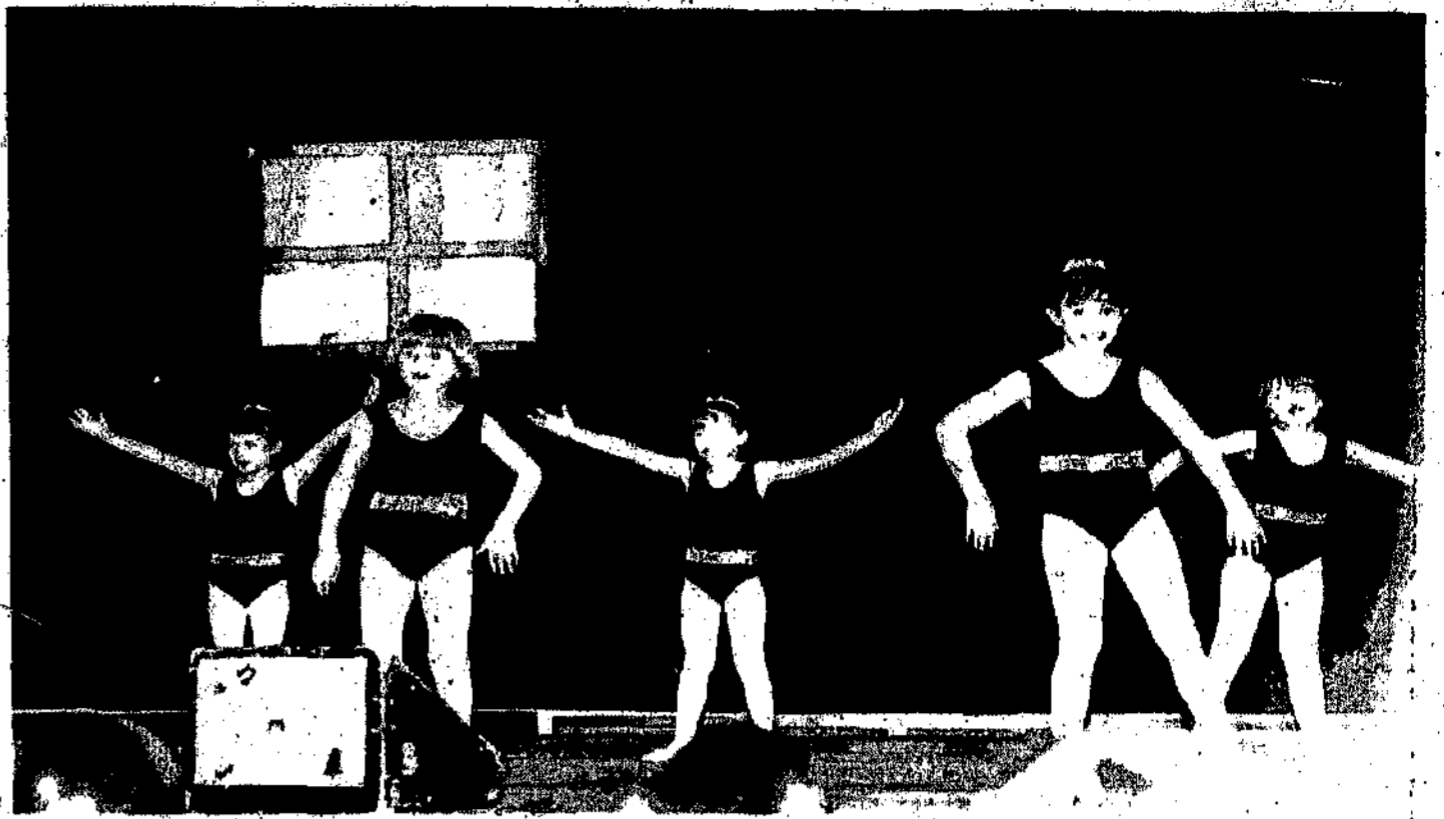
After Santa visits with children at the park, Santa will take sweets to, and visit, the prisoners at the county jail, several elderly shut-ins, and clients at New Horizons Developmental Center. Santa also gives the clients presents (which have been purchased by New Horizons).

Santa will go back to the north pole as soon as he's done in Carrizozo, to get ready for his BIG night on Christmas Eve.

American Legion Christmas Party Held In Capitan

The Capitan American Legion Post 57 and the American Legion Auxiliary held their annual Christmas party and dinner Dec. 5 at the Smokey Bear Restaurant in Capitan.

Those present at the dinner meeting were Bob and Thelma Stephens, Art and Jo Blazer, Floyd and Virginia Danielson, C.E. and Martha Chavez, Fred and Lucy Savaterra, Bob and Gerri Rice, Herman and Tom Otero, Andy and Kay Parcella, Robin and Mac Crouse, Gene Evans, Ina Tillman, Gladys Neill, Ed Blinn and Lann White.



MERRY CHRISTMAS. Students of the Butaud School of Dance present their portion of the 1995 Dancing Christmas Jubilee held last week at Capitan School. Students doing the 'Merry Christmas' routine included Mary Beth Shivers, Whitney Whittaker, Jerilyn Lovelace, Sofia Ramirez, Tawney Lindsay, Kaitlyn Vega, Nicole Nava, Erin Hightower, Whitney Earwood and Opal Greer (all from Carrizozo).

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Joe And Mary Skeen Celebrate Their 50th

Joe and Mary Skeen of Picacho celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last month.

They were married November 17, 1945 in Tijuana, Mexico. Joe was stationed at the Naval Training Center in San Diego, CA and Mary was attending Mills College in Oakland, CA. The couple has lived in Lincoln County since

1951.

The anniversary celebration was held at Tinnie. Close family members were invited by their children, Mike Skeen and Lisa Livingston, to join in the celebration. A highlight for Joe and Mary was the playing of the bagpipe by John Ford of Roswell in recognition of their Scottish heritage.

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank everybody for the gracious outpouring of money, flowers, food, and cards for the families of Kellie K. McDougall. We greatly appreciate the thoughtfulness and expressions of sympathy.

Kellie died November 29, 1995 but she will live forever in our hearts.

Sincerely,
Michael G. McDougall and families

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THOUGHTS

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Weather Is Changing

By Ruth Hammond

The weather outside New Mexico may be frightful but here at home many of us are wondering when, and if, the first snow of winter will arrive. Ski areas around the state are losing money because the ski bunnies are heading north to where the snow is falling and falling and falling. The unusual weather conditions are blamed on global warming, holes in the ozone layer, and a variety of other reasons, none of which make much sense.

Predicting the weather can be an art or coincidence. Older people say they know when it will rain because their joints ache (at which time they are told to stay out of those joints) and the younger population relies on national weather forecasts.

Will Rogers is famous for saying, "If you don't like the weather stick around a few minutes and it will change." He was right because the weather continues to change, from minute to minute, hour to hour, day to day, week to week, month to month, year to year, and decades to decades. The main thing to realize is there have been records of weather only a short time in comparison with the length of time the earth has been spinning around.

A few million years ago, during the ice age, it probably was normal to not have blistering hot summers. Weather records don't go back that far which means we can only speculate.

My theory for the changing weather is totally different than any yet explained by the so-called experts. While you may or may not agree, it will give you something to think about.

The earth has supposedly been in perfect balance for a few million years. Natural vegetation produced oxygen while using carbon dioxide. There was a balance. Animals produced carbon dioxide while using oxygen. There was a balance. Water and heat caused changes in vegetation and minerals but through it all there remained a balance because only the structure of things were changed instead of things being eliminated.

This balance in nature has been the basis for many beliefs. We know that water will become steam when heated and will return to liquid when cooled, once again maintaining a balance. Living things, vegetable as well as animal, die, decompose, and through time can be used to provide necessary elements of other living things, which continues the balance of life as we know it.

The balance that had continued for millions of years here on earth has been changed in this century with the coming of the space age. Travel through space, orbits around the earth, and man's first landing on the moon were historic. These events have given us knowledge that may help us learn more about our universe and worlds that are beyond anything we ever imagined.

This quest for space has also caused things here on earth to get out of balance. The first few spacecrafts that made orbits around the earth later returned with only a minimum amount of materials left out in space. As space travel advanced there were changes made. Portions of rockets and spacecrafts and untold amounts of rocket fuel were left in space as the vehicles made their orbits and re-entered the earth's atmosphere.

The thousands of pounds of materials left on the moon and the millions and millions of pounds of debris and fuel that are now floating around in space had at one time been an important part of the delicate balance needed here on earth.

The earth will adjust to the loss but with that adjustment will come many changes in our lives over a period of time, one of which could be our most recent change in weather patterns.

While my theory may be all wet, it will give you something to think about. It is apparent the earth's balance has been changed and we can only speculate as to what caused the balance to change. We can only speculate as to whether it was space travel or just a repeat of weather patterns from a million years ago.

Has the earth become unbalanced?



Inside The Capitol

by Jay Miller

SANTA FE—Hooray for Robin Otten.

Just days after the state Supreme Court's ruling that no electronic gambling device is legal under New Mexico law, the superintendent of Regulations and Licensing told the 280 "charities" her department regulates to cease using their machines immediately.

Otten's letter advised veterans and fraternal clubs to unplug the machines, remove them from areas accessible to the public, and to dispose of them. She allowed no grace period on unplugging the machines but she did give clubs until Dec. 30 to advise her where the machines are going and what will become of them.

Otten's fast action surprised many in both government and in the gambling business. Attorney General Tom Udall and Bernalillo County District Attorney Bob Schwartz both said they weren't sure the court decision made the machines illegal.

But Otten says she can't imagine a clearer court opinion. That's why she notified the clubs that failure to comply may mean fines, criminal charges or loss of liquor and bingo licenses.

The grace period on notifying her of the disposal of each machine is so that the

machines don't just disappear. Liquor and bingo licensees won't be able simply to put the machines in storage to wait for possible changes in state law that would make them legal.

The department is recommending that leased machines be returned to the distributor. That takes care of most of them. The machines that are owned by clubs pose a bigger problem because it is illegal to sell them. Otten is considering a procedure that would allow the devices to be sold back to the manufacturer.

That little problem brings up the question of how the clubs ever bought the machines, since they are illegal. It's a sad story of heads being turned for decades. The failure of enforcement has been even worse in recent years.

Not all gaming machine manufacturers and distributors have been guilty of proliferating our state with thousands of the illegal devices. Some have been patiently waiting for the day when sale or lease of the machines becomes legal.

Otten's bold decision to rid the clubs and organizations under her control of all machines evens the score for the law-abiding companies. If gaming machines are ever legalized in the state, it would mean that everyone would start from the same point.

Or Otten could go one step further. Evidently this isn't the first state in which illegal machines have mysteriously appeared over the years.

Some states, reportedly, have rewarded law-abiding businesses by keeping out companies that have been involved in the "gray machine" market.

Of course Otten's action only applies to licensees under her control. The burgeoning Indian gaming industry in the state is unaffected. And it's unlikely anyone will be brave enough to challenge the tribes.

But Otten has set a courageous example with her action. Both she and her boss, Gov. Gary Johnson, favor the machines and will propose legislation to legalize them in the clubs regulated by the Alcohol and Gaming Division of Otten's department.

The legislation will include provisions for a system under which machines would be linked to a central state computer that could monitor money gambled, payouts, and taxes owed.

Meanwhile, the law's the law and it will be obeyed if Otten has anything to say about it.

Otten may not get the enforcement she's seeking because district attorneys have their plates piled high with bigger fish. Schwartz already has said he'd hate to bump a burglary prosecution in order to go after some crippled veteran who's given his all for our country.

From early indications most clubs seem to be complying with Otten's directive without inviting confrontation. That will come when the '86 Legislature convenes on January 16.

LETTERS to the editor

TO ALL INTERESTED: I am a 9th grade student at Dougherty Comprehensive High School in Albany, Georgia. My teacher has asked me to do a report on New Mexico. I would like to get all the information I can about your state. I would really like some pictures, brochures, or souvenirs from your state. I will greatly appreciate anything you can send me before January or sooner.

LACORRA WOOLBRIGHT
1008 E. Residence Ave.
Albany, Georgia 31705

EDITOR: All Lincoln County residents should know that the Village of Ruidoso Trustees will soon face one of the most important decisions that can be made to protect the health, safety and continuing welfare of our wonderful community. Such questions as to where our young people will skateboard, or what constitutes legitimate artistic expression "wax pale" in comparison with steps necessary to avoid and reduce the threat of a catastrophic forest fire which could ruin it all.

The November 4th Public Awareness Day - CONFERENCE ON FOREST HEALTH CONDITIONS AND WILDFIRE HAZARD IN LINCOLN COUNTY was excellent, the message was loud and clear... Ruidoso and Lincoln County are poised to experience a plume dominated forest fire which would destroy the beauty of our mountain retreat, our homes, businesses and livelihoods. For those of us living in the forested areas, our lives are at great risk. This was the displeasing message delivered to us by experts from the New Mexico State Forestry Division, the U.S. Forest Service, the University of Arizona, NM State University - Cooperative Extension, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Ruidoso Fire Department and the New Mexico Fire Academy. Other Lincoln County Fire Departments were present for the meeting. The lack of management of our forest has led to an imbalance of trees and grasslands. Our watershed is being adversely affected and the increasing wildland fuel levels pose an explosive situation. Without immediate attention and necessary forest management, we face the likelihood of an unstoppable and enormously costly fire.

The ultimate question is not whether there will be a fire but when. The penultimate question is whether we will have done enough to save our wonderful forest. The final question is can Lincoln County survive if it were to become a "moonscape"? This is the decision our elected officials must make and in Ruidoso they have taken the first step to do so.

The Village is currently operating under a regressive municipal law entitled the Ruidoso Forest Protection Code. This law must be amended as it has helped cause the problem we face. It is not a question of which trees MAY be cut,

SEE PAGE 11

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Lincoln County News welcomes letters to the editor. Letters will be the writer's personal opinion and will not necessarily reflect the editorial opinion of the Lincoln County News.

All letters must be original, no copies or form letters will be used. Preference is given to typewritten letters. Hand-written letters must be legible.

Letters must be signed by the writer with the author's full name, address, and telephone number. Only the writer's name and city of residence will be published. Thank you letters will not be accepted as letters to the editor.

Letters of any length will be considered for publication with priority given to letters of no more than 300 words. All letters are subject to editing for length, grammar, spelling, and reader interest.

Letters to the editor should be hand delivered or mailed to:

Letters to the Editor,
Lincoln County News
P.O. Drawer 459
Carlsbad, NM 88501

Free Admission During December For Lincoln County Residents At Natural History Museum

Lincoln County residents will receive free admission to the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science in Albuquerque during December. Otero County and Dona Ana County residents will also get in free.

The free admission policy is part of the museum's county recognition month to welcome and honor New Mexico residents from around the state for supporting the museum and its numerous statewide educational programs. Admission to *Beavers* in the giant-screen Dynamax theater is by the regular charge. The museum is open every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except non-holiday Mondays in January and September.

The museum has also designated five days during the year when everyone is admitted free: the first Monday of February and the first Monday of March, the second Tuesday of the New Mexico State Fair in September, Veteran's Day on Nov. 11, and Christmas Eve Day, Dec. 24.

IRS Conducting Lifestyle Audits; Ask About Cars, Christmas, Etc.

by JACK FARIS

Put away the family china and hide your designer jeans. The Internal Revenue Service is taking inventory and not even your Christmas list is safe!

The IRS has announced it is stepping up "lifestyle" audits of taxpayers. Also called "economic reality" audits, these tax probes are intended to reveal unreported income, overstated expenses or personal expenses deducted as business expenses.

But what they really do is give federal auditors authority to come in to your home or place of business and ask intrusive questions about the way you run your life and spend your money.

In some cases, for example, a revenue agent might review the personal income tax return of a small-business owner and then request a tour of his business if, in the mind of the agent, the return information does not appear to jibe with the taxpayer's economic circumstances or lifestyle.

In instances where taxpayers refuse to cooperate with revenue agents or where agents believe the taxpayer is not being truthful, the IRS can summons bank records and other financial documents. The tax-collecting agency also can gather information from third parties, including a taxpayer's customers or suppliers.

Utah small-business owner Craig Willett, who runs his own accounting firm, has firsthand experience with these so-called "Calvin Klein" audits. Willett recently represented a small-business owner who went through one.

The IRS agent asked intrusive questions such as: What did you buy your kids for Christmas last year? How much money do you spend in a week on groceries? Does your wife pay to get her hair and nails done and, if so, how much does it cost?

After questions about Christmas, canned goods and other tax cuisine, the agent estimated that Willett's client had spent less than his reported gross adjusted income. The audit turned out to be a colossal waste of time.

Stories like this are perhaps a primary reason why the IRS has developed such an adversarial relationship with small-business owners. The idea that a tax auditor can barge into your home or place of business with a laundry list of personal questions strikes fear in many taxpayers' hearts.

To no one's surprise, the 600,000 member-strong National Federation of Independent Business reports that the IRS is one of the top three federal agencies that small employers think "work against them." All too often, small employers are bullied by the IRS. Many small-business owners spend most of their time worrying about

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Ruth Hammond and Peter Aguilar
CO-PUBLISHERS

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Letters to

(Continued from Page 4)

but rather which trees SHOULD be cut. It is not a question of how much money can be generated by imposing a \$5.00 per tree assessment for residents who should be creating fire defense zones around their homes, but rather what the Village can do to help. It is not a question of how much the Village will charge residents to remove pine needles and slash, but what the Village will do to help reduce ground fuels on homeowners' property. It is truly a question of conservation, not tree preservation. Restrictive covenants must be removed if there is any chance of thinning our forest which will be an expensive undertaking.

Villages and municipalities are not immune from liability. Cities like Oakland, California are being held liable for their failure to take adequate steps to protect their residents from the ravages of destructive forest fires. Ignorance is no excuse, and for this reason, Ruidoso must take steps to reduce the explosive wildland fuel levels in the community. According to experts, Ruidoso may be the second most fire threatened community in the nation. A Forest Management Policy is needed. The amendments under consideration for changing existing Ruidoso law are a necessary and laudable first step. Copies of the proposal are available from the Village Manager's Office and public comment is welcome until the end of December. Readers of this letter are encouraged to get a copy and offer suggestions.

We all love trees, but where 3 or 4 are trying to survive in the space needed for 1, you have trees open to disease which can't grow properly. If forest thinning practices are not encouraged by the Village and the County, it is a sure bet that nothing will be accomplished. Incentives are needed, not restrictions. Our elected officials must be open to suggestions such as investing in hand pruning tools and chipping equipment which residents may borrow to use to reduce fuel levels on their property and create defensible space around their homes. Also, liquid fuel monies (we pay in gasoline taxes) could be a source of money to be used to remove undergrowth and trees from dedicated roads in the Village and County where fire danger exists. In the Upper Canyon there is but one escape route, and this clearing might save many lives in the event of a catastrophic fire.

On November 15, we spent the better part of the day with two representatives of the New Mexico Forestry Division. Bill Duemling is the Timber Management Officer and Bill Rogge is the Fire Management Officer. The purpose of the meeting was to assess what needs to be done on land we own in the Upper Canyon. Hundreds of trees need to be cut to thin for forest health, to remove diseased trees and hundreds more to establish a better balance between trees and grassland. To create a safe zone around our home will require the removal of at least 25 trees, some large in size. This will be an enormously time consuming and expensive task. Unless there is some guarantee that others will be taking remedial action to reclaim the health of our forest, we are reluctant to see our efforts "go up in smoke."

This is not a problem for individuals alone, but rather for our local, state and federal governments. Educating the public as to the need to thin our forest is a first step. The creation of a workable interface plan by Village, County, State and U.S. Forest Service representatives is essential. A partnership of all concerned parties, including homeowners, must be forged if we are to succeed.

The question as to which tree may be cut will become academic if Ruidoso and a large segment of Lincoln County were to be reduced to ashes. What is needed is a Forest Management Policy and an ostrich's "head in the sand" approach will simply not work. On November 4th we heard what needs to be done... now it is up to us to address the task. In the same way that the endangered Spotted Owl needs old growth forest to survive, Ruidoso and Lincoln County need a thinned and managed forest if we hope to continue to grow and prosper.

ERNEST R. POWELL and ANITA L. POWELL
Ruidoso, NM

EDITOR: From the looks of the letters to the editor several weeks ago, I must have stepped on some toes, figuratively speaking of course.

Are these crybabies the same people who yahoo their heads off whenever one of their leading messiahs, Rush Limbo (rhymes with bimbo) savages environmentalists, liberals, women, minorities, etc.?

But so much for pleasantries. Since there were too many criticisms to answer in a single letter, I would like to address several of the points brought up.

Anyone who denies that there is a violent element associated with the public lands movement is either ignorant of the facts or they choose to deceive themselves or others.

The name of Alexander Hamilton was invoked to justify states rights arguments. This indicates a woeful lack of knowledge of United States history. Hamilton, a brilliant intellectual, was one of Washington's leading advisors. Although he was from a humble background, he possessed an artistic nature and was one of those who wanted to see Washington crowned as King of America. Washington had the good sense to decline and settled instead for the honor of being the first President of the United States of America.

Hamilton referred to the people as a great beast and considered Julius Caesar (Roman Emperor) as the greatest man who had ever lived.

Throughout his two terms, Washington continued to rely heavily on Hamilton's advice in establishing a strong federal government and a federal banking system. He also persuaded Washington to brutally put down the so-called Whiskey Rebellion.

Thomas Jefferson, the other mental giant in Washington's cabinet was appalled at this violation of civil rights and complained that while Washington would listen to him he would almost always take Hamilton's advice.

Jefferson and John C. Calhoun, another Southern statesman, are the ones you should look to for states rights and local control arguments.

The question of states rights, including public lands, was settled during our Civil War, when the Southern land and slaveholding aristocracy was beaten into the ground and forced to surrender at Appomattox in 1865.

This tragic war, the greatest bloodbath in American


(SEE PAGE 10)

Happy Holidays!

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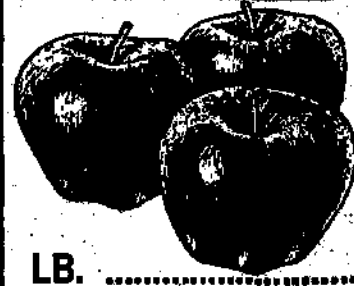
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CAPITAN NOTES

Greetings from the Sullivan-Anderson home in Omaha...again.

Let's just start right off with tales from *Trailing Around with Traylor* by H. L. Traylor. (My son-in-law who is typing this for me said who is H. L., and I told him everyone knows him just keep on typing.)

Chapter 2: Boys of Summer Play at Old Fort Stanton. Baseball was started at Fort Stanton soon after it was converted into a Merchant Marine Hospital in 1898, according to excerpts from several newspapers published in the area at the time. Many representatives of old families in the area played on the hospital teams and gained local reputations. By the time the Coalora Coal Mines were operating, the workers at the hospital had organized a team and were playing a few of the surrounding towns. By the time New Mexico became a state in 1912, the hospital's Fourth of July celebration was an established event and part of the big day were the rodeo and baseball game.

But not until the early 1920s did baseball actually begin to be played regularly at the Fort. Each team was sponsored by a hospital committee. By the middle 1920s the competition had become intense. Foreman of the various departments seemed to have revamped some job descriptions on the hospital staff and hired a few workers who were outstanding baseball players. Some of them had played baseball in town leagues before being employed at Fort Stanton. Just what jobs they performed at the hospital is open to speculation.

It was assumed by the authorities that the patients would be more reconciled to the isolated environment of the area and the hospital if there was ample amusement for the passing of their unoccupied time. The hospital also offered a recreational center where the patients had access to all types of games, pool tables and a workshop for arts and crafts. It should be remembered that patients brought to the hospital were pronounced with an onset of tuberculosis; consequently, they were incapacitated as far as physical abilities were concerned.

The patients idolized the ball players and would bet their last dollar on the team winning, if they could find someone to bet against them. In one incident I recall, three patients pooled their money to bet against a worker's monthly pay check. The owner of the local store was given a sworn affidavit from the worker stating the affidavit was the equivalent to the patients' money for the wager. The patients' faith in the hospital team was well founded and the Stanton ball team won.

Capitan School News

The Capitan High School Rodeo Club is sponsoring a Community Christmas Program at 7 p.m. tonight, (Thursday), December 14, in the Capitan School multipurpose building. Local talents will perform. Admission will be charged.

Santa Claus will visit Capitan Elementary School from 8:15 to 10 a.m. Friday, December 15.

Capitan Schools let out for the Christmas break at 3:05 p.m. Friday, December 15. Classes resume at the regular time on Wednesday, Jan. 3.

When the warrants to the workers were distributed at the end of the month, the worker signed the check to the storekeeper and he, in turn, gave the patients their share of the money. During the summer weekends, more games were played at home on the hospital baseball field than away. It is my thinking the Recreation Committee arranged for the team to play most every week at Stanton during baseball season. I was in high school then and I can recall a few names and positions of players many people may recognize. Henry Hale performed as an outfielder, Red Cavanaugh was stationed at third base, Jim Huckelby as shortstop, Lupe Flores as pitcher and Sam Cox played first base. A fellow by the name of Pitts was catcher. Gerald Tully played occasionally when the pitcher was incapacitated. Percy Parker joined the team after graduating from high school and Buster Luck umpired for many years.

Although Stanton's team gained a solid reputation around the state, it was the basketball team from Capitan that beat one of the "Globe Trotters" professional teams, but that's another story.

Next week another chapter of Herbert Lee Traylor's book will be submitted.

Another installment of Mae Payne's autobiography:

The kids were too young to understand what was going on and soon went to bed. I guess my subconscious mind was at work as I went about doing things, not even knowing why I was doing them. I washed out some clothes, started packing a suitcase, getting the kids clothes together, so they could stay with somebody if I did leave. About midnight I lay down, even though I knew I wouldn't sleep, but I could think and wonder.

There, 32 miles from Capitan and after midnight I heard a car, and just felt it was somebody bringing more news. It was Pat Coor and Welton Willingham. Pat lived over near the Block Ranch, where there was a phone.

The telegraph office had called the message to the Block Ranch, and a ranch hand had taken it to Pat. Skinny's body was coming home and folks expected me to come. Pat and Welton were so kind and understanding; even helped me get my senses together, and Pat even loaned

me the money I needed for the trip. They said they'd be glad to keep the kids while I was gone.

They offered to take me to town to catch the train, but I knew Bud was going to see his girlfriend Dorothy Leslie. I guess it was 3 or 4 o'clock when Pat and Welton left. I don't know whether I even slept at all, and I didn't want to bother Pa and Ma Payne, although we had a little phone line between our two places by then. In the morn I called to ask if Bud would come by for me. They seemed surprised that I was going, and wondered where I'd get the money to go on and what I planned to do with the kids.

Told them Pat and Welton offered to keep them, but Ma Payne said to leave them with her. Bud came by pretty early and we got to Carrizozo by 9 or 10 a.m. The train wouldn't leave till 2 or 3 p.m., so Bud left me at the station.

I was so lonely and heart-sick I didn't think I could stand those hours of waiting. I had a cousin who ran a stage line between Carrizozo and Roswell, spent every other day in Carrizozo. I called and he was there so came and got me. Sid Goldston insisted on taking me to lunch, he had to leave for Roswell right after lunch, but told me to stay at his apartment till train time.

There was a beer joint across the street. To add to my misery, they kept playing the song, "Born to Lose," over and over. It was a new popular song, which I keenly remembered Aub and Skinny sang when they were together for the last time. At last the train arrived, I was on my way.

There were boys in uniform everywhere. one looked. I could not help wondering if they, too, were going home, or had been home for the last time.

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Capitan Music Student Is Named To all State Band



Capitan High School senior Nathan Longbotham has been named to the New Mexico All State Symphonic Band, based on his performance on the bassoon during recent all-state auditions.

Longbotham, son of Jerry and LeeAnn Longbotham of Angus, has studied bassoon for eight years. This was his third audition for all state band, having tried as a freshman and sophomore. It was the first time he was accepted. At the all state auditions, Longbotham was judged on his ability to play a technical piece and with his musician-ship.

Longbotham plans to attend college and major in physics. He also plans to continue his music in college for pleasure, not as a career.

Music students state-wide audition for positions in four categories of musical groups: orchestra, symphonic orchestra, symphonic band and band. Longbotham was selected to the symphonic band.

Longbotham will participate in the all state symphonic band concert to be held at 10:30 a.m. January 6, at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

IN THE SERVICE

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Shane M. Points, son of Michael D. Points of Capitan, recently reported for duty at Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego, CA.

The 1989 graduate of Capitan High School joined the Navy in December 1989.

Holiday Wishes

Spirits soar and joy abounds!
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to raise your voice in merry measure,
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Sheriff's Report

Incidents of domestic violence are on the rise. According to police, such reports are more common at holiday times.

The following information was taken from dispatch records in the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office in the courthouse in Carrizozo:

December 4:

8:54 a.m. Capitan police advised of a report of criminal damage at the Seven Cabins area on Highway 246. A deputy responded.

9:25 a.m. background information was requested for an individual for the Brady Bill. The individual had no background files.

3:57 p.m. Capitan School requested an ambulance at a roll-over accident at Main and Center. Deputies, Capitan police and Capitan ambulance responded and transported the injured to Lincoln County Medical Center (LCMC) in Ruidoso.

4:45 p.m. a highway department employee requested an ambulance for an individual who had a seizure and had no medicine. Carrizozo ambulance responded and transported the patient to Gerald Champion Memorial Hospital in Alamogordo.

5:16 p.m. High Country Lodge reported embezzlement. The caller had a suspect. A deputy responded.

A deputy requested background information on a subject.

8:33 p.m. Ruidoso Downs police requested assistance with transport of people about 3.6 miles east of Ruidoso Downs on Highway 70. A deputy responded.

December 5:

5:48 a.m. Ruidoso Police advised of a dead deer in the middle of Gavilan Canyon Road.

5:41 p.m. a caller requested an officer for peace keeping.

11:30 p.m. a 911 caller requested an ambulance at a residence on 2nd St. in Capitan for a 65 year old woman with chest pains. Capitan ambulance transported the patient to LCMC.

December 6:

9:15 a.m. background information was requested of a subject.

11:19 a.m. Carrizozo Health Clinic requested an ambulance to transport a patient to Roswell. Carrizozo ambulance responded.

The sheriff requested background information.

5:23 p.m. a 911 caller advised of a domestic violence in progress at a residence in the Enchanted Forest area. The caller advised there was an 8 year old girl at the residence where a fight was going on between the child's mother and her boyfriend. Two deputies responded and arrested a subject.

8:31 p.m. a 911 caller requested a welfare check of his neighbor's house because the dogs were barking. The responding deputy made no contact with the dogs' owner.

9:14 p.m. a 911 caller reported an accident with injuries, a cattle truck had rolled over, at the intersection of Highways 54 and 247 in Corona. State police and Corona Fire Department responded. Corona ambulance transported the injured to LCMC.

December 7:

5:46 a.m. a 911 caller reported the theft of gas at a location off Highway 70. Someone was stealing gas from a private vehicle. A deputy responded, then requested a wrecker.

12:54 p.m. an officer reported an accident on Highway 54 south of Carrizozo. A deputy and state police responded. The deputy later requested a wrecker to impound the vehicle.

3:08 p.m. Carrizozo Health Clinic requested an ambulance to transport a patient to Gerald Champion Memorial Hospital in Alamogordo. Carrizozo ambulance responded.

December 8:

3:34 a.m. a 911 caller requested a deputy to check out a vehicle which had driven over her property three times. A deputy stopped a vehicle which matched the description given by the caller.

5:32 p.m. an alarm company out of Roswell advised of an audible alarm sounding at a location in the Hondo Valley. The responding deputy advised it was a false alarm.

7:15 p.m. Ruidoso Downs police advised of a suspicious person on Highway 70. A deputy responded.

8:39 p.m. a caller in Capitan advised of the theft of a TV cable. Capitan police were notified.

11:19 p.m. a 911 caller in San Patricio reported a truck on fire on Highway 70. A deputy and Glencoe Fire Department responded.

11:56 p.m. a person walked into the sheriff's office and reported he had found a U.S. flag in front of the high school foyer. The flag was turned over to Carrizozo Police Department.

December 9:

8:05 a.m. a caller reported a burglary at a residence in Alto. A deputy responded.

10:03 a.m. an individual requested a deputy for peace keeping so he could get his belongings from a residence where a woman said she would cut them up and burn them. The responding deputy advised he would help the individual file a complaint.

12:26 p.m. state police requested a wrecker for a semi with a flat tire on Highway 54

north of Carrizozo. Ruidoso Police was contacted to dispatch a Class D wrecker for the semi which was out of service. But the Ruidoso Class D wrecker was out of service, so one was dispatched by state police out of Alamogordo.

12:49 p.m. a caller reported an accident on Highway 70 at Picacho Hill. The vehicle was on its top in the middle of the roadway. Hondo ambulance and two deputies responded. The deputies advised the vehicle had been in tow and no one was around.

2:13 p.m. a deputy requested a wrecker at a location on Highway 70 for a vehicle, driven by a subject who didn't own the vehicle.

4:02 p.m. Ruidoso Downs police advised of a blue semi truck with smoking breaks was all over Highway 70. The undersheriff stopped the vehicle at Biscuit Hill and another deputy assisted.

5:24 p.m. a male subject walked into the sheriff's office and advised of a possible drunken pedestrian on E Ave. in Carrizozo. A deputy responded and arrested a subject.

5:31 p.m. a woman caller reported an accident a half mile west of Tinnie Bridge off Highway 70. The woman advised there was a head-on accident involving a little red truck and a little silver car. No one was hurt. A deputy and state police responded.

6:48 p.m. a caller reported an accident with no injuries south of Corona on Highway 54. The woman caller advised she had hit a deer and her vehicle was still at the location. State police was advised.

8:37 p.m. Carrizozo police advised of an arrest of a subject who was wanted on a warrant out of Otero County. A deputy transported the subject to be picked up by Tularosa Police at the county line.

December 10:

An individual reported threats at his residence in the Bonito Lake area. The man advised he was being harassed by a subject. A deputy was assigned.

7:42 p.m. a caller reported threats at a residence in Carrizo Canyon. The caller advised that a subject, probably drunk, had been beating on the door for 30 minutes.

9:09 p.m. Carrizozo police advised of an accident on Highway 54 south of Carrizozo, a pickup had overturned. The officer responded to the accident, and later state police arrived.

December 11:

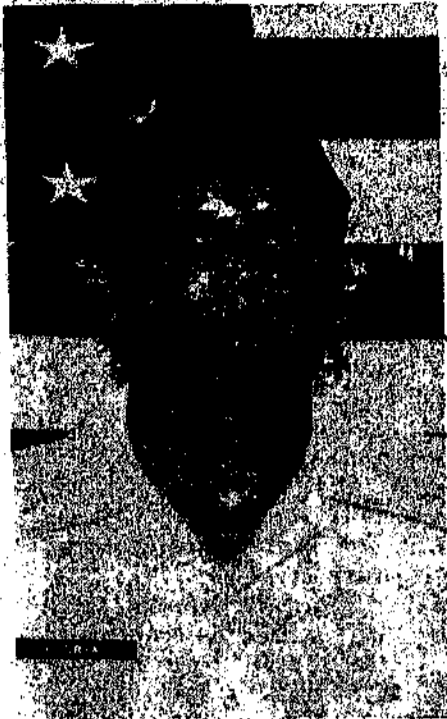
8:27 a.m. a caller advised someone shot up his house over the weekend in the Hondo valley area. A deputy responded.

11:16 a.m. a caller requested a vehicle identification number check. A deputy responded.

12:45 p.m. juvenile caller at a residence in the Hondo area advised he wanted to give himself up. The district attorney advised the deputy to transport the juvenile to the Otero County Juvenile Detention Center.

7:19 p.m. a 911 caller reported domestic violence on a child at a residence on Carrizo Canyon Road. The caller requested a deputy because a 12 year old boy came running to the caller's house and advised that a man had beat him up and was running after him. Dispatch found it was in Ruidoso police jurisdiction, and notified that department, which advised it would handle the situation with assistance from deputies. Ruidoso police requested an ambulance, which transported the boy to EOC.

IN THE SERVICE



AIRMAN BASIC ISAAC M. HUERTA, a 1995 graduate of Carrizozo High School, has graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX. He is now in technical training at Sheppard AFB, Wichita Falls, TX. His parents are Becky and Eiren Huerta of Carrizozo and his grandparents are Luciano and Juanita Gallegos of Carrizozo.

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Church Directory

First Baptist Church
HAYDEN SMITH, pastor
314 10th Ave, Carrizozo, NM
648-2968 (church) or 648-2107

Sunday School..... 9:45 am
Worship Service..... 10:55 am
Sun. Evening..... Training at 8:15 pm
Evening Worship..... 7:15 pm
Wednesday Bible Study..... 7:00 pm

Carrizozo Community Church (A/G)
JOHNNIE L. JOHNSON, pastor
Corner of C Ave. & Thirteenth, 648-2186

Sunday School..... 10:00 am
Worship Service..... 11:00 am
Thursday Bible Study..... 7:00 pm

Santa Rita Catholic Community
FR. DAVE BERGS, pastor
213 Birch, Carrizozo, NM, 648-2853

SATURDAY:
Capitan Sacred Heart..... 5:00 pm
C'zoza Santa Rita..... 6:30 pm

SUNDAY:
Capitan Sacred Heart..... 9:00 am
C'zoza Santa Rita..... 11:00 am
Corona St. Theresa..... 4:00 pm

Church of Christ
PAUL WETZEL, minister
Ave. C at 12th, Carrizozo, NM, 648-2996

Sunday School..... 10:00 am
Worship Service..... 11:00 am
Evening Worship..... 6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study..... 7:00 pm

St. Matthias Episcopal Church
REV. ROBERT BATTON
Corner of E Ave. & Sixth, Carrizozo, NM
1-258-4144

Holy Eucharist..... 9:30 am Sunday

United Methodist Churches
WARREN K. SCHOENECKER, pastor
Trinity - Carrizozo
1000 D. Ave., 648-2893 / 257-5814

Sunday School (All Ages)..... 10:00 am
Worship Service..... 11:10 am
Choir Practice (Wednesday)..... 6:30 pm
United Methodist Men Breakfast
2nd Sunday..... 8:30 am
United Methodist Women Every
3rd Wednesday..... 2:00 pm
Fellowship Dinner Last Sunday of Month
..... 12:30 pm

CAPITAN

Adult Sunday School..... 8:30 am
Worship Service..... 9:15 am
Children's Sunday School..... 9:30 am
Fellowship Time..... 10:15 am
Adult Sunday School..... 11:00 am
Choir Practice (Tuesday)..... 7:00 pm
Fellowship Dinner Every Third Sunday
Handmaidens (Ecumenical Women's Group)
1st and 3rd Tuesday..... 9:30 a.m.

Evangelistic Assembly

REV. DR. C.L. FULTON, Pastor
REV. DR. WILLIE MAE FULTON, Missions Dir.
ELDER JIM MILLER
711 E. Ave., Carrizozo, NM, 648-2339

Sunday..... 2:30 pm
Bible Study..... 9:00 am

**Mountain Ministry Parish,
Sierra Blanca Presbyterian**

DON & MARJORIE DANIELS, co-pastors
648-2650

Nogal Presbyterian Church:
Sunday School..... 10:00 a.m.
Worship..... 11:00 a.m.

Ancho Community Presbyterian Church:
Worship..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School..... 10:00 a.m.

Corona Presbyterian Church:
Sunday School..... 10:00 a.m.
Worship..... 11:00 a.m.
Adult Bible Study & Youth
Fellowship..... Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

Christ Community Fellowship

ED VINSON, pastor
514 Smokey Bear Blvd./Capitan
Inter-denominational

Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.

Capitan Church of Christ

LESLIE EARWOOD, minister
5th & Lincoln / 338-4627

Sunday Bible Study..... 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service..... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study..... 7:00 p.m.

**Spirit of Life Apostolic
Pentecostal Tabernacle**

ALLAN M. MILLER, pastor
209 Lincoln Ave, Capitan, NM
354-2025

Tuesday Bible Study..... 7:00 pm
Sunday School..... 10:00 am
Sunday Evening..... 8:00 pm

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Lincoln County News

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CORONA NEWS

The Corona Presbyterian congregation will join congregations from Ancho and Nogal for the morning service, Sunday, Dec. 17 at the Claunch Presbyterian Church. They will then adjourn and go down the street to the community building for a covered dish luncheon.

Primrose Temple Pythian Sisters invited sisters to a Christmas luncheon, Wednesday, Dec. 6 at the Rip Griffin restaurant in Moriarty. Fifteen sisters and one sister

Knight attended from Miracle Temple, Belen. Lady Damon, Roswell and Cedar, Corona. Favours were miniature wreaths and small sacks of candy. The gift exchange was fun, the steaks very good and the conversation, shall we say "enlightening"?

Mrs. Jean Moseley, Amarillo, was a guest of the Sharps last week.

Mrs. Curtis Duke and Mrs. Jerry Rasak attended the state CowBelle convention Saturday. Owassa Heilmann, Clayton's Lariat Local, is the new state president. Tuesday Mrs. Duke and Mrs. Rasak returned to Albuquerque to take DAR, Sierra Blanca chapter's gifts for the veteran hospital.

Mrs. Clint Sultemeier took her grandmother, Mrs. Myra Richards, to Sterling City, TX for the wedding of Mrs. Richards' great granddaughter, and Lee's niece, Michele Lou Latham became the bride of Randy Frank Guetersloh in a double ring ceremony at the Presbyterian Church Saturday, Dec. 9. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Latham. She

(SEE PAGE 11)

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NOTICE OF EXPLANATION

Date of Publication: December 14, 1995

The Town of Carrizozo intends to undertake reconstruction of the following street sections: Dogwood from 3rd St. to 4th St.; Third Ave. from 10th St. to 11th St.; B Ave. from 8th St. to Hwy 380; Second Ave. from Birch to Aspen; Drexel Ave. from B Ave. to E Ave.; H Ave. from 5th St. to 6th St.; Seventh St. from D Ave. to E Ave., and 12th St. from B Ave. to D Ave.

Practicable alternatives and mitigating measures which were considered included relocating the project outside the flood plain. The No Project alternative was also considered but would result in a continued deterioration of existing streets. The proposed activity, as described above, conforms to applicable state flood plain protection standards, and will not affect natural or beneficial values of the flood plain.

Funding for the project is provided by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The project is administered by the state of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration Local Government Division.

Written comments on the proposed project and the decision to proceed with work in the flood plain as justified above will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Friday, December 29, 1995. Please send comments to Mayor Cecilia G. Kuhnel, Town of Carrizozo, P.O. Box 247, Carrizozo, NM 88301. A more detailed description of the project, including justification for locating in the flood plain and EIRM are available for review at the offices of the Town of Carrizozo located 100 Fourth Ave., Carrizozo, NM.

Michael L. McCar
Certifying Environmental Official

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

Natural Gas For Capitan

(Continued from Page 1)

ing with DFA to bring the funds into Phase 2.

During the public hearing on the 1996 CDBG application held prior to the regular meeting, Santillanes said the reason why some of the north-south streets were not repaved was because of the high cost of the drainage work associated with 4th Street. He said plans are to complete those streets in Phases 2 and 3.

Trustees agreed to apply for a 1996 CDBG for Phase 3, which will curb and repave 2nd Street, and the remaining north-south street.

Mayor Norman Renfro said after 2nd street is repaved, the village will pursue a Phase 4, to build sidewalks.

A citizen asked that special attention be given to the corner of Highway 380 and Nogal, which floods.

Tony Elias, executive director of Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District (SNMEDD), outlined the CDBG process and said that \$400,000 is the maximum available for each grant. However, he had never seen a project receive the maximum. "Capitan was very fortunate to get \$309,000 last year, one of the highest grants in the state," Elias said.

Elias attributed part of the village's success in obtaining the grants to the applications prepared by village clerk Deborah Cummins. "She does a tremendous job for the community," he said.

Elias also complimented the community for the turnout (27 people) to the CDBG hearing. He said he would later go to Roswell where maybe nine people would come to a similar hearing.

For now, natural gas service in Capitan will come from its village owned gas company. During the regular portion of the meeting, trustees tabled a request from Zia Natural Gas Company to allow an additional franchise, so the company can extend natural gas service into the subdivision areas of the village. Zia's manager Dana Stevenson said the request, in a letter addressed to the mayor, was based on demands from residents and responses to a survey sent to residents asking if they would like to convert to natural gas. The manager said the company would offer discount rates for hookups and discounts on conversions of appliances from propane to natural gas.

Capitan trustees and the mayor defended their village owned Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas Association (C-CNGA), which until recently had been in litigation with Zia Natural Gas. Trustee L.C. Cozzens, a member of the C-CNGA Board said C-CNGA was making extensive expansions in the subdivisions and at the last meeting members agreed to get an estimate on the cost to run major transmission lines in Big Country, Mesa Verde and Hideaway Hills subdivisions. Cozzens also said the association board is seeking ways to finance the hook-up charges so customers don't pay so much "up front."

"Since the gas company is 50 percent owned by the city of Capitan," Cozzens said, "it is not to our advantage to exercise an additional franchise."

Before Zia Gas Company can extend its services into the village, it must be approved by the state public service commission. Stevenson said Zia's only intent is to provide gas to areas without gas lines currently.

C-CNGA was established in 1988. It has a six member board with three members from Capitan and three from Carrizozo. When Zia first came to the area, it attempted to buy out C-CNGA, but the association board declined the

offer. Zia has since bought out C-CNGA transmission lines to Ruidoso. Zia has also involved C-CNGA in litigation.

A citizen asked what will happen to Carrizozo, if C-CNGA goes out of business in Capitan. No one could answer his question.

Trustees shortened discussion on the subject because the village attorney, Robert Beauvais, also attorney for C-CNGA, arrived at the meeting after the discussion.

In other business, trustees: Accepted the resignation of Paul Sedillo as patrol officer, and approved the hiring of Linda Affuso as patrol officer with recommendations from the village police chief and trustee Connie Hopper. Affuso was formerly employed by Ruidoso Downs Police Department.

Adopted the 1996 holiday calendar, with a change from last year to place the day off for Martin Luther King's birthday from January to Monday, December 23 to give employees an additional day off at Christmas.

Approved a resolution for the Open Meetings Act which requires the village to give five days notice for regular meetings and 72 hours notice for special and emergency meetings.

Okayed a resolution to allow the sale or trade of the 1991 Dodge Ram.

Accepted the Planning and Zoning Commission bylaws.

Opened four bid proposals for a sewer clean-out machine. Village maintenance supervisor Terry Cox was to evaluate the proposals and make a recommendation to the board for action at the January meeting.

Heard P&Z chair Van Shamblin ask the village to adopt the state manufactured home regulations to monitor mobile homes.

Ruidoso Mayor Shaw Proclaims Friday As Lights On For Life Day

Residents and visitors in Ruidoso are asked to turn on their car lights all day Friday, December 15 to remind everyone of the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Ruidoso Mayor Jerry Shaw proclaimed December as Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month during which time she asked that everyone work to prevent impaired driving accidents that could be avoided by being a responsible party host, by not allowing friends to drink and drive and to not drive after alcohol or drugs.

She urged all citizens to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and observances.

For the Love of Gregory

by Joann Rice

"The First Thanksgiving"

"Well, how did you enjoy Thanksgiving, Gregory? Wasn't it wonderful having all the family here, sitting around the big table enjoying a feast?"

"Well, it was tolerable. But not great. It wasn't at all what I expected from you Queen Mother."

"Whatever do you mean, Gregory?"

"You didn't invite the honored guests."

"You got me there, everyone was here."

"Not everyone. How about the Indians? You're supposed to have Indians at Thanksgiving. All the books say so. So all in all, I'd say it was a bust."

"Well, I kinda enjoyed myself, Gregory."

"You should be ashamed. Where was Hiawatha with the still, deep, running water, and Pocahontas and 'speak for yourself John', and Chief Sitting Bull? I don't blame you for not inviting General Custer. That could have been a disaster. But where was Geronimo, chief of the mighty Apache before the white eyes robbed them of their land, pride and heritage? Humph! Some Thanksgiving! No wonder there was no maize on the table. There wasn't an Indian within a thousand miles. Some pilgrim you are, Queen Mother!"

"I'm ashamed, Gregory. But I don't know any Indians. Do you?"

"No. And I'm ashamed, too. But why is that? Why haven't I ever seen an Indian? I'm six years old, for pits sake."

"Maybe that will come with time, Gregory."

"I guess I have a lot of time left. In school, we read about the first Thanksgiving. And the Pilgrims were afraid of the Indians. And the Indians were afraid too. But they all made friends. And we read about the Indians, how they were free, and hunted and fished with bows and arrows and spears they made themselves. And wore clothes made from animals. And now... where did the Indians come from, Queen Mother, and where did the white people come from?"

"Well, Gregory, the Indians probably came across the Bering Strait, which was then a land bridge, from the Mongolian Tribes. They came to Alaska, then to Canada then down to the United States. Only all those places weren't those places then. They were a wild wilderness. And the Indians spread all across the continent. Many years later, the pilgrims came over on ships from England. And they spread across the continent. The Indians wanted to keep the land. And the white peo-

ple wanted to take it. It's a good question as to which was civilized. Anyway there was a great war and the white people conquered the Indians. Than means they won the war."

"And they put them on reservations?"

"Yes."

"Do you think that's right, Queen Mother?"

"There are a lot of things in the world that aren't right, Gregory. War is one of them. And it is never pleasant. And someone always gets hurt in the end."

"I wish it could have been different Queen Mother."

"But it wasn't, Gregory. And that is something you have to accept. The things you cannot change."

"What if I can change it?"

"Do you have the wisdom to know the difference, Gregory? I truly hope so."

Clarification:

In the December 7 issue of THE NEWS it was stated that Kathy Williams is a nurse. Williams is not a nurse. She is a medical assistant and certified pharmacy technician. Williams also is an EMT-I-Instructor/coordinator.

Also in the article about the Lincoln County EMS it was stated Dr. Spencer Hall was medical director for the state. Dr. Hall was EMS director for Region III which is the eastern third of the state. Dr. Hall was never medical director for the state.

Law Enforcement Assoc. Christmas Party Dec. 21

The 12th Judicial District Law Enforcement Association will hold the annual Christmas party Dec. 21 at 6 p.m. at the Holloman Air Force Base NCO club.

Those planning to attend should contact Mary Gilsdorf at 505-257-7385 or 505-439-4325, extension 38.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 / 9:00 A.M.

The first 100 customers at main entrance will receive gift bags with coupons from your favorite stores, and \$5-\$25 in Mall Bucks!

Get Your Pictures With Santa!

SANTA'S HOURS

PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Dec. 15 - 12pm-5pm	Dec. 20 - 12pm-5pm
Dec. 16 - 10am-7pm	Dec. 21 - 12pm-5pm
Dec. 17 - 12pm-7pm	Dec. 22 - 12pm-5pm
Dec. 18 - 12pm-5pm	Dec. 23 - 12pm-5pm
Dec. 19 - 12pm-5pm	Dec. 24 - 10am-4pm

Remember... the Mall will be closed Christmas Day! Cinema 5 will be open!

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SANTA NEEDS A NEW LOOK say Santa's elves during the first act of "The North Pole Goes Rock and Roll" presented by the Capitan 3rd and 4th grade classes. Santa, played by Javier Trost, is surrounded by elves Adam Thompson, Samantha Yetley, Justin Griffin, Katrina Jones, Anthony Cassanova and Angie Nowell. The elves convince Santa to become "The Claus". But in the end Santa goes back to his old familiar self. Mrs. Claus was played by Delaina Stevens, other performers were Alyx Sheehy, Dalana West, Katrina Phillips, Jayla Buff, Rachelle Waugh, April Mirelez and Jonnie Gonzales. Other students served as the chorus in the musical play performed December 7 under the direction of music instructor Wayne Ellison.

Turnover Of Carrizozo School . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

on file had not been signed by the students and their parents.

Part of the team visit was to verify the district self-study which identified the top two needs as technology update and a program of respect and responsibility. "There clearly is a need in the district for both," Blair said. "You found it, and clearly we heard those are the issues. So congruency is there."

Blair suggested the district analyze its current computer systems to determine the need for additional equipment and programs. Then the district should provide training for staff.

On the respect issue Blair said the district needs a second track to the Character Counts program that will focus on academic achievement with higher expectations of students and additional ways to reward good behavior. Blair said the district needs to provide exciting classes that are related to life skills.

The team also listed other areas of non-compliance. Blair said he found licensure discrepancies in his sampling of personnel files. "But this citation will be fixed before the report is made," Blair said.

On campus facilities, Blair cited safety and other problems with the doors at the high school, the restrooms in Clegg Hall and the elementary playground. He also noted stained ceiling tiles indicating

continued roof leaks. On the grounds, Blair pointed out dying trees and neglected grass and the football field which needs attention. He was concerned about the neglect of the elementary classroom outdoor areas.

Blair noted the strengths he found in management. He complimented the district for the updates and remodels on the physical campus, the well maintained personnel records and board minutes which meet state standards and appear to comply with the Open Meetings Act. He commended the district for small class loads, the community use of facilities, and the use of the school library as a public library.

During his report Blair suggested part of the high turnover was due to the lack of housing in the Carrizozo community. He said it could be an opportunity for the community and the district to work together to solve the problems. He suggested working with the community to find housing, or to develop a "teacherage."

Team member Tom Russell looked at the district nutrition services and found no non-compliance. He said the program is "excellent" with its strength coming from the dedication of the food service staff, and excellent accountability from Linda Brown. He recommended the district begin a breakfast program, maybe next

school year. He also recommended a remodeling of the food service area to make it more inviting.

Upon request from the Carrizozo administration, Russell said the state will offer assistance in preparing enhanced menus that will compete with the town convenience stores.

Cathie North listed a minor non-compliance in the area of special education. She said the wording on the paperwork for the special education students and their parents needed updated, which is relatively minor and easy to fix. The other area noted, lack of training for special education staff, will be addressed with state training sessions set for January.

North listed many strengths. She commended the students polite and well behaved, interested in what the team was doing. She found the records easy to follow and complete and she commended the district for its participation in the Region 9 Cooperative.

Carmen Endlich reported on the district's vocational education programs. She too found the programs lacking complete and up to date curriculum. She found several safety/health issues with safety facilities such as the eye wash station, the lack of an outside exit from the Home Ec. classroom, and the inadequate vent system at the Ag building.

Her list of strengths exceeded her issues. "I have two pages," she said. She found an excellent animal science class, and the school-to-work program. She found a strong FFA which teaches leadership skills and provides competition.

She high commended the community service project which is a collaboration between the VocAg classes and the Fish and Game Department and U.S. Forest Service to upgrade the riparian area along Cedar Creek. "I compliment you on the meaningful education," Endlich said.

She also supported the district's hiring of a technical person to move the district forward in technology. Other strengths were the Choices Career Explore Program with the school counselor, the participation in the Super Computing Challenge and the correction of a citation made at the last accreditation visit—the replacement of the dust collection system in the wood shop.

In Title 1, David Baca said the district had some areas of non-compliance. The school needs a format for the school-parent compact, it needs to keep better attendance records of Title 1 employees for payment, and supervisor signatures were lacking. Baca said areas of concern included the two Title 1 assistants in

the 8th grade class to help six Title 1 kids. He suggested forming another, outside class for the students.

Baca too found many strengths, including the 70 percent successful outcome rate for Title 1 students. He said it was exceptional, and he credited the success to the assistants. "They work well with the teachers," Baca said. "One even volunteers tutoring services after school."

Baca said the assistants, who have been with the district for a while, have provided the stability the students need.

Baca also commended Title 1 program director Sharon Baker.

Blair closed the team's reports by urging the school board to keep the current administration (superintendent/principal) for a while. "They have accomplished a significant number of things since they have been here," Blair said. "It does take continued leadership."

In response, Carrizozo Schools superintendent Paula Papponi said the district is looking forward to the challenge of addressing the areas of non-compliance. She said the four year student plans at the high school are the first ever developed for the school, and the counselor is to be commended for getting them together although they lacked the signatures of students and their parents.

As for curriculum, Papponi said she and staff are working on its development. "We want to make education child centered, exciting and relevant while addressing all learning styles and multi-intelligences," Papponi said.

Papponi said the district is working to improve the grounds with a proposed project for more trees and upgraded play area. She also proposed allowing the elementary classes to take ownership of the outdoor areas, and with help, beautify them.

Papponi thanked all the faculty and staff of the district. "They really care about the children of the community." And she thanked the school board for its support.

Endlich commended the district for being "up front and honest" which made her know there were no "snow jobs."

Blair closed the meeting by saying this was the beginning of a closer partnership between Carrizozo Schools and the State Department of Education.

Tags Needed For All Cut Christmas Trees Offered For Sale In New Mexico

Every cut Christmas tree offered for sale in New Mexico must have a lime-green tag attached to it. This includes cut trees that are shipped in by out of state commercial growers, trees cut by commercial permit on federal lands, and those sold by private woodland owners.

The tags are issued by the New Mexico Forestry and Resources Conservation Division (New Mexico State Forestry). Christmas tree vendors can purchase them for 10 cents per tree.

Living Christmas trees do not need a State Forestry tag. Balled and burlap, potted, and other containerized stock are regulated by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA).

This agency monitors transplanted material to prevent the spread of contagious insect and disease pests. Living trees that grew in the wild can only be collected and resold by a licensed nursery dealer and each live tree must have an NMDA tag. Controlled environment nurseries that grow living trees are also subject to NMDA regulation and licensing. If you have doubts, check with NMDA to ensure you are dealing with a reputable nursery. The phone number for NMDA is 1-800-482-5310.

Lincoln County Manager . . .

(Cont. from P. 1)

tems and workers compensation laws. As county manager Cooney found operating county government was totally different than operating private business. "It was interesting working under a different kind of budget," she added. "But it wasn't as easy as a comptroller in private industry."

Cooney said she is trying to wrap up and bring closure to some projects. She is committed to preparing and presenting the mid-year budget re-

view at the January 8 Board of Finance work session. She also is preparing a narrative on the facilities improvements that will rank the various projects needed to be done around the courthouse and other county properties.

As of Tuesday, Cooney said the county commissioners had yet to call a special meeting to accept her resignation, neither had they authorized advertising the vacancy.

Montes was unavailable for comment.

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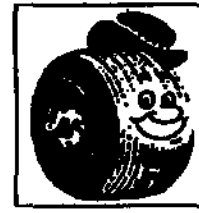
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LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LINCOLN COUNTY STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEIRSHIP OF GENEVA MURIEL THOMSON, Deceased AND ARCHIE CHANCEY THOMSON, Deceased

FB # 1883 NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF NEW MEXICO TO: Wanda J. Carnell, Ward, E. Thomson, all unknown heirs of Geneva Muriel Thomson, Deceased, and Archie Chancey Thomson, deceased, and all unknown persons claiming any lien upon, or right, title or interest in or to their estates.

Wanda J. Carnell and Ward E. Thomson, have filed for Determination of Heirship, and on January 3, 1996 at Carrizozo, at the Probate Court in Lincoln County, New Mexico, the Court will determine the heirship of the said Geneva Muriel Thomson, deceased and Archie Chancey Thomson, deceased, the interest of each respective claimant in or to the following described real estate and the person or persons entitled to the distribution thereof, to wit:

Their entire undivided interest in a piece of land located in the northeast quarter of Section Eight, Twp. one South of Range thirteen East, N.M.P.M., New Mexico which lies between the Southern Pacific Right of Way and Highway 54 Right of Way, and more definitely, described as commencing at the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of Section 8, Twp. 1S, Range 13E, thence east along the south line of said NE 1/4 Sec. 8, for a distance of 23.60 chains, to the west line of the Southern Pacific Right of Way, thence in a northeasterly direction along the west line of the Southern Pacific Right of Way, a distance of 22.5 chains to intersection of the Southern Pacific Right of Way and Highway 54 Right of Way, thence in a south-westerly direction, along the east line of Highway 54 Right of Way for a distance of

34.63 chains to the west line of the NE 1/4 Sec. 8, 1S, 13E, thence south along said west line, a distance of six chains to the point of beginning containing 31.85 acres, more or less. This deed is given subject to exceptions and reservations of oil and mineral rights and right of way easements made by the United States Government and by predecessors in title hereto.

Wanda J. Carnell, Rt. 1, Box 135A, Fort Sumner, New Mexico 88119 and Ward E. Thomson, Box 56, Fort Sumner, New Mexico 88119 appear in their own behalf as the Petitioners. WITNESS my hand and official seal this 16th day of November, 1995.

MARTHA M. PROCTOR Clerk of the Probate Court

Published in the Lincoln County News November 22, 30 and December 7 and 14, 1995.

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF LINCOLN STATE OF NEW MEXICO

R.R. PYLE and MARGARET PYLE, his wife, Plaintiffs, vs. GROUP I RUIDOSO STATE BANK, BILL SEELBACK, BILL SEELBACK'S SPORTSMAN'S REALTY, INC., R.A. KNAPP, WESTERN BANK, BONITO PIAS INC., PROPERTY TAX DIVISION OF THE TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, GROUP II The unknown heirs, successors or assigns of any persons or entity set out in Group I, if any such person is deceased. GROUP III Any unknown person who may claim any lien, interest or title adverse to the Plaintiffs herein Defendants.

CV-95-238 NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF SUIT To the above-named Defendants: You are hereby notified that the above-named Plaintiffs have filed a Civil action against you in the

Twelfth Judicial District Court, County of Lincoln State of New Mexico, the general object thereof being to obtain a judgment of full title and interest to the following described property: Lots 13 and 17, Block 1, Sweetwater Hills as shown by the Amended Plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-Officio Recorder of Lincoln County, New Mexico, August 4, 1970 in tube No. 375.

That unless you enter your appearance in said cause on or before the 30th day of January 1996, judgment by default will be entered against you. Name and address of Plaintiff's R.R. Pyle and Margaret Pyle, 221 Clark Road SW Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105.

WITNESS the Honorable Richard A. Parsons, District Judge of the Twelfth Judicial District of the State of New Mexico, and the Seal of the District Court of Lincoln County, this 21st day of November 1995.

By: John R. Hakanson Attorney for Plaintiff 307 E. Eleventh Street Alamogordo, NM 88310 505/437-2874

Published in the Lincoln County News on November 30 and December 7, 14 and 21, 1995.

RESOLUTION NO. 95-13

WHEREAS, the Governing Body in and for the County of Lincoln, State of New Mexico, meeting in regular session on December 5, 1995, has approved and adopted the Official Holiday Calendar for Lincoln County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the following as the Official Holiday Calendar for Lincoln County.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday, will be observed on Monday, January 15, 1996.

Lincoln's Birthday, will be observed on Friday, November 29, 1996.

Washington's Birthday, will be observed on Tuesday, December 24, 1996.

Good Friday, will be observed on Friday, April 5, 1996.

Memorial Day, will be observed on Monday, May 27, 1996.

Independence Day, will be observed on Thursday, July 4, 1996.

Labor Day, will be observed on Monday, September 2, 1996.

Columbus Day, will be observed on Monday, October 14, 1996.

Veteran's Day, will be observed on Monday, November 11, 1996.

Thanksgiving Day, will be observed on Thursday, November 28, 1996.

Christmas Day, will be observed on Wednesday, December 26, 1996.

New Year's Day, will be observed on Wednesday, January 1, 1997.

RESOLVED IN BOARD ACTION this 5th day of December, 1995.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO MONROY MONTES, Chairman WILLIAM H. SCHWETTMANN, Vice Chairman

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Plaintiff, First National Bank in Alamogordo, has filed an Amended Complaint for Debt and Money Due in the above-referenced cause wherein you are named as a Defendant.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the general object of this action is to collect money due the Plaintiff as more particularly set forth in the file of the above-captioned case.

Please take further notice that if you intend to

contest this action, you must respond to the Complaint within twenty days from the date of service. Failure to respond within that time shall be treated as a default and a Judgment will be submitted to the Court.

DUTTON, & HAKANSON, LTD. By: John R. Hakanson Attorney for Plaintiff 307 E. Eleventh Street Alamogordo, NM 88310 505/437-2874

Published in the Lincoln County News on November 30 and December 7, 14 and 21, 1995.

RESOLUTION NO. 95-12

WHEREAS, the Governing Body in and for the County of Lincoln, State of New Mexico, meeting in regular session on December 5, 1995, has set the meeting dates for the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners shall meet at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Lincoln County Courthouse, Carrizozo, New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the following regular meeting dates:

JANUARY 9, 1996 FEBRUARY 6, 1996 MARCH 5, 1996 APRIL 2, 1996 MAY 7, 1996 JUNE 7, 1996 JULY 2, 1996 AUGUST 6, 1996 SEPTEMBER 10, 1996 OCTOBER 1, 1996 NOVEMBER 8, 1996 DECEMBER 3, 1996

RESOLVED IN BOARD ACTION this 5th day of December, 1995.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO MONROY MONTES, Chairman WILLIAM H. SCHWETTMANN, Vice Chairman WILTON H. HOWELL, Member L. RAY NUNLEY, Member (absent) STIRLING T. SPENCER, Member ATTEST: Martha M. Proctor, Clerk

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LINCOLN COUNTY STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF T.B. SMOOT, DECEASED NO. 1884 NOTICE TO CREDITORS The undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of T.B. Smoot, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims (i) within two months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or (ii) within two months after the mailing or delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or be forever barred.

JEANETTE SMOOT H.C. 68, Box 270 Capitan, NM 88316

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14 and 21, 1995.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed Proposals will be received by the Lincoln County Manager at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711 (300 Central Avenue), Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 3:00 P.M., Thursday, January 4, 1996, at which time and place the proposals will be opened publicly and read aloud. Any proposals received after the above date and time will be retained unopened.

REF. NO. 1995-10 LINCOLN COUNTY AMBULANCE MEDICAL DIRECTOR Please submit a letter of interest and a copy of your current curriculum vitae.

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will review and make their final determination during their regular commission meeting scheduled for 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 9, 1996.

A copy of the proposed Medical Director's Contract

is available at the Office of the County Manager, Lincoln County Courthouse, or by calling Martha Guevara at 505/648-2385. CAROLIN A. COONEY, Lincoln County Manager

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners shall hold a Public Hearing beginning at 10:00 A.M., on Tuesday, January 9, 1996, at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Commissioners' Meeting Room, at Carrizozo, N.M., to consider the following proposed ordinance:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ORDINANCE NO. 1995-3

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Lincoln County Manager at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711 (300 Central Avenue), Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 3:00 P.M., Thursday, January 4, 1996, at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read. Any bids received after the above date and time will be

retained unopened. BID NO. 1995-11: VEHICLES (3)

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will review and make their final determination during their regular commission meeting scheduled for 9:00 A.M. Tuesday, January 9, 1996.

Invitations for Bids with Specifications are available at the Office of the County Manager, Lincoln County Courthouse, Carrizozo, by calling Martha Guevara at 505/648-2385.

Lincoln County reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of any bid, waive minor technicalities and award the bid to best serve the interest of Lincoln County.

CAROLIN A. COONEY, Lincoln County Manager

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

All parties and interested citizens will have the opportunity to be heard. Copies of the proposed ordinance may be obtained from the County Manager's Office at the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

MONROY A. MONTES, Chairman Lincoln County Commission

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

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CAROLIN A. COONEY, Lincoln County Manager

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 14, 1995.

More Letters

(Continued from Page 5)

history, pitted region against region, state against state and even brother against brother and father against son.

600,000 men perished in this war and over a million more were maimed, psychologically damaged and/or driven to alcoholism or drug addiction to try to forget the hideous slaughter and suffering.

Hundreds of thousands of women were left without husbands and children without fathers.

The better part of the generation was destroyed and the South was blasted into smoldering rubble; its women, children and elderly were reduced to poverty and even starvation.

By the verdict of history, the Federal Republic was supreme and slavery abolished. States rights and sovereignty issues were rendered moot.

Many in the public lands movement are the spiritual heirs of the old states rights movement and, I presume, would have us return to the 19th Century, where a landed elite lorded it over African slaves, women, poor whites, Indians and others.

No thanks, it's not going to happen as we prepare to enter the 21st Century.

Just as the Old South is history, so too is the Old West. The New West is here, so deal with it, because for better or worse it is the future.

Since the American people have proven themselves incapable of dealing with the cancerous growth of our population, caused by natural increase and a flood of legal and illegal immigrants, they will have to face the consequences. Among these are increasing crime, poverty, pollution and ever more people on the same amount of land. Growing numbers of people with different needs and different visions of America will have to be dealt with by ever stricter government control, or we will see our country disintegrate into another Bosnia.

Whatever the cause, it is doomed unless the population explosion is contained.

I would like to end on a positive note but with Slick Willy and the Newt (sounds like a mediocre rock group) running things in Washington, it seems unlikely that there will be good news anytime soon.

DONALD QUEEN Carrizozo, NM

EDITOR: Did you know that Bill of Rights Day was December 15? This was a new one on me, so I decided to celebrate the occasion by re-reading The Bill of Rights to the Constitution of the United States of America. The Preamble was a good start.

"The conventions of a number of the states... in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers... extending the ground of public confidence in the Government"

The Preamble is a powerful statement. It started me thinking of the government tyranny that the people of the West are fighting day and night. This war is not about the quality of the human environment - about wetlands, about habitats for the endangered species, historical corridors, ecosystems, nor any of the other crap that the federal government is using as an excuse to destroy our economy, to take away our property rights and our ability to engage in economic pursuits that sustained our forefathers, and that our nation still requires if it is to remain a powerful nation.

If you don't think that the war on the West continues to escalate, what about (1) President Clinton's decision to try to stop mining in Montana, (2) Secretary Babbitt's decision to bring the United Nations to Wyoming to decide our future, (3) the decision by a federal judge to stop all timber harvesting on federal lands in Arizona and New Mexico - and it goes on and on.

People who live and work off the land in the West are, by nature, excellent stewards and protectors of that land. They do a far better job than the make-work bureaucratic federal agencies who use an economic impact statement that basically contains little scientific proof of anything but is used as an instrument to harass hard working American people.

My Contract with America is the Constitution of the United States of America. It is asking too much of our liberal bureaucrats that they read it and abide by it.

ANNIE C. McMANUS Caballo, NM

The Lincoln County News

CARRIZOZO, NM 88301

Lincoln County News

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Lincoln County News

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CAPITAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS VACANCY NOTICE
 POSITIONS: (4 Hour Evening) Custodian for Capitan Middle School. (3 Hour Lunch) Cafeteria Computer Clerk. (3 Hour Lunch) Cafeteria Dishwasher. All positions to begin January 3, 1996.

QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma or GED; Current TB Test Results; Proven Interest in Capitan Students; Computer experience required for clerk position.

SALARY: \$6.00 per hour. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Thursday, December 21, 1995, 12:00 noon.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Applications can be picked up at the Capitan Superintendent's Office, 150 Forest St., Capitan, NM 88316, Ph. 505-354-2239.

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FOR SALE: Camper shell for small pickup. Fits Nissan, Toyota or Ford Ranger. \$100. Large mobile home lot in Carrizozo, fenced, all utilities available. \$5,000. '83 Ford Escort, auto., A/C, radio, good transportation, \$1,000. Call **648-4220 or 648-2950.**

Carrizozo Rotary Club CHILI SUPPER
 Fri., Dec. 15 at Carrizozo School Cafeteria, 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. Adults \$4.00, Children (12 and under) \$3.00. Proceeds used for scholarship fund.



Capitan News Notes (Continued from Page 6)

There was a young mother sat next to me with two small children. She'd already traveled four days, and was so worn out trying to hold both babies I offered to hold one. Soon the babies were both asleep and the mother had a chance to sleep some.

I couldn't help but recall a little story Skin told about his last trip home. He'd had a seat across the aisle from a young mother with a baby. She had traveled three days and was so worn out she was in tears. Skin asked her if he could hold the baby awhile so she could rest. She was reluctant at first, but soon gave the baby to him, and kept a close watch, for she couldn't think a young unmarried man to be capable of caring for a baby.

It didn't take long to see the baby was in good hands and in minutes she was sound asleep. After a while the baby tired of playing with the buttons on his uniform, his watch, and anything Skin could show it, and began to fret.

Skin very quietly got the diaper bag from her seat, went to the lounge, where he changed the baby. That kept her quiet a while longer, then he fixed her a bottle and went back to the coach, where little mother was sleeping soundly. Soon baby went to sleep. Skin made her a bed with his pull-over, all this to make sure baby didn't cry and wake it's Mama.

His night travel ended with daylight and the train stopped for passengers to get on or off. The mother woke with a startled, frightened look, as the baby was not in her arms. But there across the aisle she saw the baby, content with their new-found friend. She could hardly believe she had slept so long; told Skin that she had another day to travel to join her husband, who would soon be sent overseas.

But Skin was coming into Los Angeles where he'd leave the train. He told her his story about coming home to see his folks before being shipped out. He got up to leave. She took his hand and kissed him on the cheek, said, "Now, you come through this O.K., for the world could ill afford to lose a wonderful boy like you!" Well, I'm glad she never had to know he didn't make it.

And somewhere out there in the night, as I endured another miserable train trip, somewhere far away, another train was bringing Skinny home for the last time.

After the funeral and things

had settled down, we were back home on the ranch, trying to adjust to changes taking place. Norman was becoming school age, always a big problem for people living so far from school. We started teaching him a little at home at times of year when it was not a busy time. Soon we decided it was a good time to go back to California to work a while.

Mom was delighted to keep the kids as she needed something to take her mind off her great loss. We even bought a little place in Hawaiian Gardens, California by time both kids started to school. In a few months, Pa and Ma Payne came out for a visit. They realized our big problem on the ranch was not having enough land and stock to make a living.

Pa Payne offered to sell us some more land, and let us have some sheep and cows to keep on the "halves" to get a quicker start. In a few months we were back home on the ranch again. There was still the schooling problem. About this time our good friends Jack and Marie Beller moved their trailer house from Mis-

souri. Marie agreed to teach the kids.

We built regular little desks, like old fashioned school desks, set aside regular school hours, and everything went along fine.

Jack helped on all kinds of jobs, and we spent many happy, peaceful days together in the next few years. Jack and Marie loved the ranch and wanted to help any way they could. They had some good friends in California and over in Silver City, would sometimes go there and spend a few months, then back to us.

More of Ma Mae's story next week.

Maureen has asked me to finish this week's column with something cute and as a proud father who's nine year old daughter is reading this as I type I submit Katherine Maureen "Katie" Anderson as the cutest thing I can think of. Maureen says *Merry Christmas* and see you next week. (Katie says don't put Katherine, my name is Katie. As she will learn as she continues to grow, I don't list well.)

Corona News (Continued from Page 8)

wore a gown beaded from shoulder to hem. The maid of honor and four bridesmaids wore ankle length gown of black velvet. A reception followed in the church fellowship hall. Mrs. Guetersloh will graduate next month with a degree in education from Angelo State U. and plans to continue there. The groom is an employed petroleum engineer.

Mrs. Archie Perkins, Sherrill and Rand, attended the Cattle Growers dinner at the Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque Saturday evening. It was a big occasion for this area. Pete Gnatkowski was recognized with the past president's award from the Wool Growers. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Maness had received the Golden Fleece award from the Wool Growers. Ronnie Merritt was named "Sheepman of the Year". Beverly and Ronnie were truly surprised because she thought she had branded the sheep pelt for the winner. Jackie Mason, Sandra and Ron Merritt were introduced with their parents.

Frank DuBois was named "Cattleman of the Year" and was truly surprised, so surprised that he could introduce his sister, cousin and niece by first names only. He was presented with a beautiful pelt from the woolgrowers and a Curtis Fort bronze from the Cattle Growers.

The sidewalk is finished and the railings painted. Beesie Gage, with some assistance from others, has decorated the railings with greenery and lights. It looks great.

Amateurs Are Invited To Participate In Free Gospel Music Program

The gospel music program with country/western and contemporary gospel songs will be held at the Evangelistic Assembly Church, 711 E Ave. in Carrizozo Saturday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.

Any person who likes to sing or play a musical instrument, or both, is invited to participate in the program which is for amateurs as well as professionals.

There is no charge. For more information call Rev. Dr. D. L. Faxon, pastor, at 648-2600.

Wilson in 1945, a brother William Ryan Keim, and a sister Emma Wagoner who died in 1972.

Survivors include three daughters, Clodell McCloud and husband David of Farmington, NM, Estelene Brady and husband Charlie of Clovis, NM, and Ethel Kyle and husband Joe of Fort Sumner. Seven grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and 11 great-great grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were held December 4. Chavez Funeral Home Chapel, Fort Sumner. Officiating were Mr. Jan D. Thomas and Mr. Jim Kelley. Pall bearers were great grandsons. Burial was at Garden of Memory Cemetery in Fort Sumner.

IRS Conducting Lifestyle Audits (Con't. from P. 4)

making payroll—they do not have the time or the resources to hire a tax attorney and take on the vast resources of the IRS.

NFIB is supporting a "Taxpayer Bill of Rights" which would shift the burden from the taxpayer, to the IRS, to show that the agency was justified in its enforcement action against the taxpayer. And taxpayers would be entitled to attorney's fees for unjustified IRS actions.

For the long term, America's IRS Code should be completely abolished, and replaced with a simple, fair tax system. In the meantime, the IRS needs a complete change in attitude—and a greater focus on education, simplification, and communication with small-business owners, not "Calvin Klein" audits.

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LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,
I love you and my mom too and my dad for christmas I want a bike and a super nintendo and a computer and a victor set of the air plane. My mom wants some slippers and a chiwowa dog.

Jared Bowsher
Alto first bump on the right

Dear Santa,
I want a doll, barbie, yo-yo, and slippers.

Aleisha Nelson
6 yrs old, Bingham, NM

Santa,
I want a helmet, sword, and a clean pair of shorts.

Tyler Nelson
5 yrs old, Bingham, NM

Dear Santa,
I love you. I've been a good boy.

Please bring me a mighty

Backhoe, a vacuum, New keys, atent, a John Smith doll, glasses and plates, new crayons.

I'll have cookies and milk waiting for you.
Please stay warm coming from the North Pole.

Love, Derrick Vinson

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I want a Jenny Gymnast that exercises and a rocking horse, and areal horse tl at will go. I also want a another jewlery stuff with thekey.

Good Bye Love
Tessa Hendricks, 4 yrs old

Dear Santa,
I've been a good little girl. Please bring me purple toys. Please bring me a vacuum, some lipstick, brush + comb witha mirror.

I love you Santa. I'll have

cookies and milk at the table.
Love, Jordan Leigh Vinson

Dear Santa
how ar you?

I want a go kart. And a pet puma. And a 22. And a 4-10 shotgun. And a remot control car. And lots ove Hotwheels. And tonka bull doser. Aan a 4 wheeler.

Love K.C.

Dear Santa,
I've been a good boy. Please bring me a game boy and a game for my super nintendo, and some movies.

Corey Lopez

Dear Santa,
I am a good boy. Please bring me a vcr for my room and a tape recorder and candy, and a game boy.

Kyle LaBelle

Dear Santa,
I've been a good girl. Santa could you please bring me a bike for Christmas. I would also like some new barbies. My Sissy wants a bike too. My tia wants a ring from you. Don't forget I live at the motel.

I Love you
Adrienne

Santa,
I would like a train, a motorcycle, a Batman and Robin, a remote control race car and shoes.

See You Soon,
Stefan Najjar

Dear Santa,
How are you? I am fine. Could you get me a Christmas Bear its brown and is at Coach House. My second grade class wrote you in 2nd grade I asked you for a huge bear and you sent it to me. I also asked for a little sister and you said in your letter ask Mom + Dad. Well I am not mad at you I have plenty of babys to babysit and a little 7 month baby named Ryan next store and lots baby cousins. I would also like a volley-ball a hoop baton and a pair ice skates size 9 1/2 please and a Slumber Party kit look american girls magazine and a ride in your sleigh. I been pretty good this year. I got in trouble sometimes I am not perfect. Could you please tell my friend Sara I miss her and I hope she has a good Christmas. When you go to Michigan tell my sister and My Mom I love them My sister Summer wants Roller Blades. Well I forgot one thing I hope you have a merry Christmas I will always beleive in you.

PS Please write Back
Love
Charlotte Marie Blake

Dear Santa,
I would like for Christmas Dr. Dreadful, Connect four, Harley Davidson motorcycle, Big Hot Shot basketball game, little watch, Batman forever, Free Willy II, Dumb + Dumber.
I have not been too bad this year. I will have cookies and milk for you at home.
How are the reindeer? Say hi to Mrs. Claus.
Love, Jeremy Zamora Carrizozo

Thank you
Love Nicole

County Democrats Make Donation To Santa Cops

Lincoln County Democrats gathered at the home of Victor and Cathy Garrison in Ruidoso December 9 for a holiday festivity and to conduct some business.

The Garrisons hosted more than 25 party members from Capitan, Ruidoso and surrounding areas at the event. Elected officials present included Ruidoso Mayor Jerry Shaw and councilors Frank Cummins and Robert Donaldson. County Commissioner L. Ray Nunley and his wife Mary Lee were unable to attend the holiday meeting as he is recovering from recent surgery to repair a ruptured disc.

State senator Pete Campos sent word that he had planned to attend the holiday meeting, but he was called away to a Democrat caucus in Santa Fe. Campos is the caucus chairman.

Chair Cece Griffin announced that county vice chairman Fred Hansen had resigned because of an illness in his family. She appointed Chay Rennick and Laura Schryer as co/vice-chairs to fill the vacancy.

The group has begun plans for the 1996 election year. Griffin also reported. The group also learned that President Bill Clinton is ahead in the polls.

Griffin gave each member a souvenir book from "An Evening of Thanksgiving" event honoring past Democrat governors Jack Campbell, Jerry Apodaca, Toney Anaya and Bruce King held in Albuquerque in November.

Guests raised more than \$100 for Santa Cops with a raffle and auction of a pine cone centerpiece made by Marian White. Members also donated food for the Lincoln County Food Bank.

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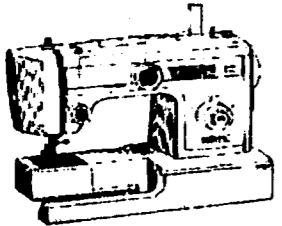
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