

County Budget May Include Drastic Cuts

by Doris Cherry

The ultimate goal of the Lincoln County Commission is to have a \$1.5 million reserve for the county's general fund for the next fiscal year.

But budget figures provided during an all-day workshop held Monday at the courthouse in Carrizozo showed the general fund having only an estimated \$890,000 cash reserve to begin the new fiscal

year on July 1.

A major reason for the decreased ending balance was the over-estimation of county property taxes for last year. Last year's budget was based on the county collecting 100 percent of the higher re-appraised property taxes, and it did not take into account the state mandated "yield control." Yield control holds property tax increases to five percent to not burden the tax payers within the first year

after re-appraisal. This year the yield control was taken into account, showing a lower revenue than last year.

The General Fund estimated revenue is \$3,393,016 which is derived mostly from property taxes. General fund requests proposed for the new fiscal year were \$2,902,600 with transfers of \$406,645 to Zia Seniors, Detention and "special programs." That left only \$83,771 to be added to the estimated ending general

fund cash reserve. By state law the county is required to have an end balance equal to at least three-twelfths of the general fund revenue which is \$848,254. Previously, the state required counties to have at least a five-twelfths of the general fund revenue, which would be equal to \$1.4 million.

But commissioners are determined to have the \$1.5 million ending balance in the general fund. So armed with

the desire to cut at least \$600,000 out of the proposed expenditures, commissioners began tossing out and paring down requests for "special programs" and took a hard look at the Glencoe Rural Events Center.

"The County of Lincoln is very aggressive in certain programs," said manager Frank Potter. "If we're going to be aggressive, we've got to have money to cover those programs."

One of the programs is Zia Senior Citizens which will cost the general fund a proposed \$66,000 in the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. That is up from the \$38,000 of county money put toward the program last year. Zia's

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THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1996

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Early Absentee Voting Begins Today April 25

Persons who are unable to go to the polls on June 4 to cast ballots in the primary election can choose to vote absentee.

Starting today, registered voters can obtain from the county clerk an Application for Absentee Voters Ballot which is good for either absentee or early absentee voting. The difference is absentee voting is done entirely by mail, early absentee voting is done on a machine at the Lincoln County Clerk's office in the courthouse in Carrizozo, or at the satellite early absentee voting office in the Ruidoso Convention Center beginning May 15.

The early absentee voting office in Ruidoso will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, from May 15 until June 4.

To obtain an absentee ballot, or to do early absentee voting, the registered voter must request an application by either calling the Lincoln County Clerk's Office at 648-2394, or by writing Lincoln County Clerk/Absentee Voting, POB 338, Carrizozo, NM 88301.

Voter registration for the primary election will continue until 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 8.

As of April 23 there were a total of 9,540 registered voters in Lincoln County. Of those 3,478 are registered Democrat; 4,950 Republican; 10 Green; 172 Minor party and 930 were declined to state a party. Those who decline to state a party may not vote in the primary election June 4.

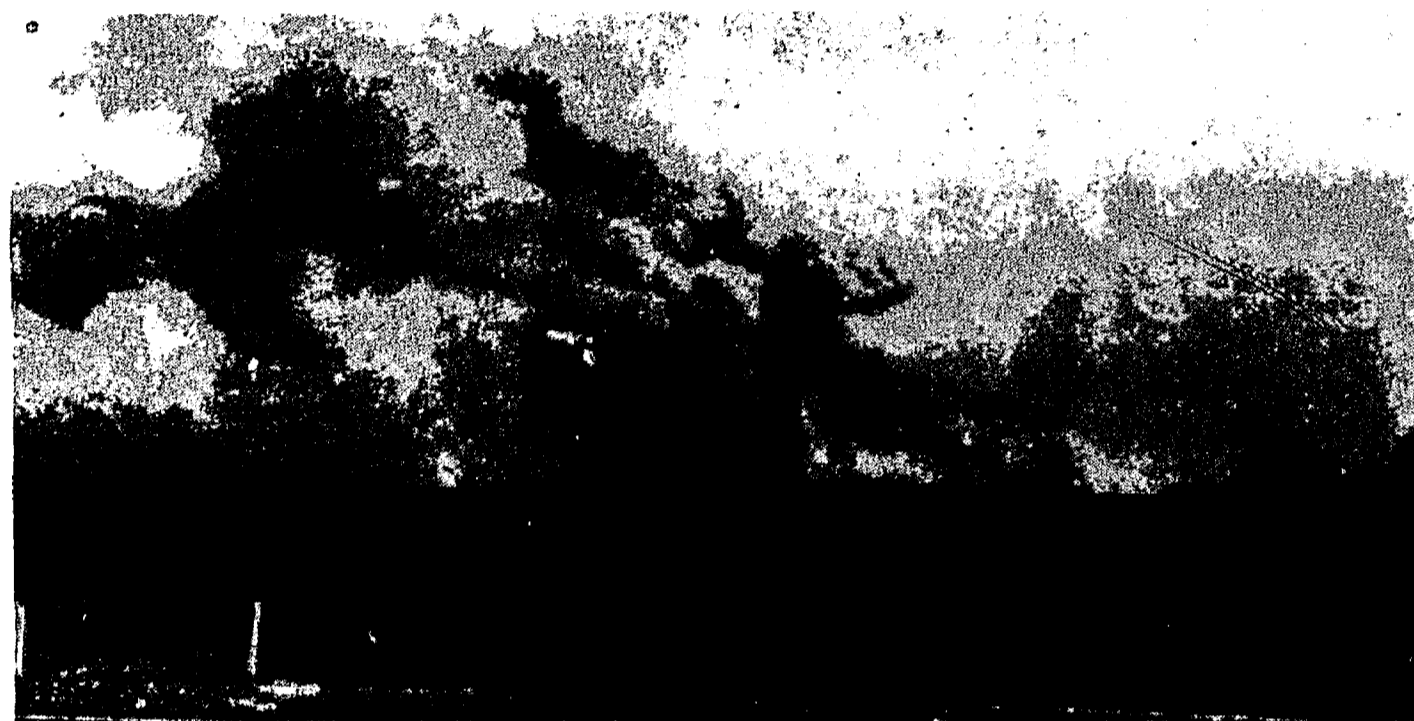
Little League Registration This Tuesday

Carrizozo Little League games are scheduled to begin in mid-May and will continue through June. All games are free to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

Boys and girls ages 8 to 12 are encouraged to attend the registration for Little League on Tuesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Carrizozo.

There will be a \$5 registration fee that must be paid at the time of registration. Teams will be selected at that time.

Sponsors for the three teams will be Leslie's Fina, Sturges Venture Market, and Lincoln County Abstract and Title Company.



SMOKE CLOUDS DARKEN the southern horizon as seen from Ruidoso's Links golf course Saturday. The blaze, started by kids playing with fire, spread rapidly through match-dry timber on the Mescalero Apache Reservation. By Wednesday, the fire was considered 40 percent contained, and had consumed 7,100 acres.

State Board Of Education Meets In Ruidoso 25 & 26

The New Mexico State Board of Education will meet in Ruidoso on April 25 and 26.

Today, April 25, the meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. and tomorrow, Friday, April 26 the meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. All meetings will be held at the Ruidoso Municipal Schools Superintendent Board Room on Horton Circle in Ruidoso (by the mid-school).

Before the regular meeting this afternoon, the board will participate in a work study session on Accountability from 9 to 11 a.m. at Ruidoso High School. Also today, a reception will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Museum of the Horse

in Ruidoso Downs.

Ruidoso Mayor Jerry Shaw, Ruidoso Board of Education president James Paxton and Ruidoso schools superintendent Mike Gladden will welcome the state board.

The public is allowed to make comments not involving litigation during an Open Forum, which is scheduled early on the agenda for the two-day meeting. Presenters will be allowed five minutes each. Following the open forum is the Partners in Education forum at which time comments and observations regarding educational issues will be heard from the gover-

nor or his staff, legislators, legislative entities and other state agencies.

Also scheduled is a report on the Strategic Planning for New Mexico Public Schools. State Rep. Barbara Perea Casey (D-Roswell) and the governor's education advisory Vonnell Huitt are scheduled to speak about this issue with Pauline Rindoni and Albert Zamora.

Late in the agenda is a report on referenda from the New Mexico Activities Association to be given by Catherine M. Smith, Dan Salzwedel

(SEE PAGE 2)

More Than 7,000 Acres Burned On Reservation

by Doris Cherry

Blamed on children playing with matches, a fire has consumed more than 7,100 acres of timber and threatened numerous homes on the Mescalero Apache Reservation.

The fire began about 1 p.m. Saturday, April 20 behind a residential area in Mud Canyon, off State Road 244 which leads from Mescalero to Cloudcroft. Winds, with gusts of more than 50 miles per hour, quickly fanned the flames into a major conflagration. Two sheds in the housing area were burned, but no homes.

Jamie Kingsbury, a spokesperson for the incident management team, said the defensible spaces around the residences, where brush and trees in a 30-foot area are removed, contributed to saving the homes.

More than 700 fire fighters were battling the blaze Saturday, and were joined by more than 400 through Sunday. By Monday weather conditions had shifted from extreme high dry winds, to calmer breezes by Tuesday morning when fire officials were calling the fire 20 percent contained. By Tuesday evening, fire officials said the fire was 40 percent contained.

A total of 1,107 fire personnel were battling the blaze by Wednesday morning. Personnel came from Forest Service and other federal forestry

agencies in New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado and Oklahoma, said Kingsbury. Kingsbury said the management team is an interagency group which has capability of calling in fire personnel whenever needed.

Other fire fighters were from the Mescalero Hot Shots fire team, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Forest Service Smokey Bear Hot Shots, Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs fire departments, New Mexico State Forestry, and volunteers from Bonito, Capitan, White Oaks and Lincoln fire departments also responded.

Smoke from the fire could be clearly seen in Ruidoso Saturday.

Fire Restrictions are in place in the Lincoln National Forestry and on Sunday, April 20, the New Mexico State Forestry Division also placed fire restrictions for state lands, and private lands. Under the restrictions, camp-

fires are only allowed in improved campgrounds and picnic sites which have receptacles and fire rings. Gas or propane stoves and lanterns may be used, but charcoal grills, candles and torches are prohibited.

Forest rangers and sheriff's officers will be issuing citations to persons who violate the fire restrictions by having a campfire or using any open flame in an unimproved area of the forest.



CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT SHAPE THIS IS? asks Carrizozo Instructional assistant Lorene Baroz of five-year-old Chrishanda Zamora, while another Laune Zamora looks on during the Carrizozo Schools Pre-school screening and Kindergarten registration held April 18. Chrishanda will be going to kindergarten this fall.

Capitan Teacher Placed On Administrative Leave

Capitan middle school teacher Hazel Poissot has been placed on administrative leave with pay pending the outcome of a personnel hearing.

Poissot was served with intent to discharge on Monday, April 15 by Capitan Schools superintendent Diana Billingsley. According to Billingsley a hearing will be set for Poissot after the district consults with its attorney Frank Albeyta, from the firm of Simon, Cuddy and Freeman in Santa Fe. No hearing date has been set at this time, but a hearing must be set within 20 days of the action taken on Poissot.

Billingsley said she could not comment about the incident.

Poissot has retained attorney Gary Mitchell to represent her at the hearing.

Mitchell was out of town and unavailable for comment at press time.

The Capitan Board of Education had just approved Poissot's teaching contract for the 1996-97 year at their April 11 board meeting.

Poissot's math classes are now being filled with a teacher's substitute and by teachers from the high school and middle school.

The school board will hold a special budget hearing at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 1, in the board conference room.

Only YOU
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Forest Fires!

County Budget May Include Drastic Cuts . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Estimated revenue, from state and federal sources, is \$48,542, but its proposed expenditures are \$416,424.

Part of Zia's cost this year will be the implementation of meals programs at the Corona and Ruidoso Downs senior centers.

Potter said the Zia program is one where the county

should be very cautious in the future, because of possible changes in federal and state funding. "Be prepared, if the funding is cut, to take the whole program on," Potter said.

But commissioner L. Ray Nunley, who has championed the senior program since his election to the commission

seat, said, "We've made a commitment to the senior, I don't see how we can turn around."

Commissioner Wilton Howell proposed having the municipalities take over the centers in those locations, which would provide more local control. But Nunley said the centers could become "country clubs" rather than serve the needy. "People should be served by the government," he added.

Other programs totally subsidized by the general fund were also questioned. The Glencoe Rural Events Center request for next year is \$56,871. But currently there are two proposals for the center—one to the Village of Ruidoso as the Billy the Kid loop interpretive center, and the other solicited by the county, from the Museum of the Horse to assume the management of the facility. As no decision has been made on either proposal, commissioner

Bill Schwetzmann recommended putting the center budget on hold until a decision is made.

But Howell took it a step further. Although Howell was one of the commissioners who consistently voted yes to acquire the former Ruidoso Super Sales Barn, he asked that on the next meeting agenda be an item to sell the facility, and "send the money back to the state." The county acquired the facility with funds appropriated by the state legislature, despite protests from numerous citizens. Last year the county spent more than \$20,000 in upgrading various parts of the facility.

Commissioner Stirling Spencer suggested a management contract to run the facility be done with a group, like is being done with the fair grounds in Capitan.

Potter said the Glencoe center is a great facility, with few like it in the southwest,

but he acknowledged that the county could not fund the facility for a year for just one viable activity—the Cowboy Symposium. Potter offered to help promote the center if both proposals fail.

Special programs are also fully subsidized by the general fund. Commissioners deleted some programs funded last year, mainly because the groups made no requests for money this year, other programs were cut back to the level provided last year. One drastic recommended cut was to eliminate the \$2,500 subsidy to the Village of Corona, and the \$2,500 requested for the Carrizozo swimming pool. A fund started last year for "Public Lands" under special programs was moved to the County Planning department budget. Commissioners in debate about their focus on the public land issue, agreed to require payment of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan to come from the Ag/PLUAC budget. Spencer however disagreed, and thought additional funds should be provided for the PLUAC and Ag committees.

One major cost for the planning department next year is rural addressing and actual installation of street and residence signs. The project is estimated to cost about \$25,000.

The budget also reorganized the maintenance department to list all maintenance costs for all county facilities. Hoping to cut some costs at the Ruidoso sub-office, commissioners requested Potter look into contracting cleaning services for that facility.

The biggest overall expense on the county budget is for salaries. "We have made a commitment (to provide a raise) to the employees," said commission chairman Monroy Montes.

One of the charges given Potter when he was hired was to revamp the county employee "matrix." Currently the county personnel ordinance only allows an across the board raise once a year and steps up in grade depending on years of service for all employees except sheriff's. There is no cost of living or other factored increases.

Potter proposed a classification plan that would address the trouble some compensation time and raises for county employees. The plan will provide job descriptions also. Potter recommended that all county employees try to take their "comp" time now, before any changes are made.

But in law enforcement and detention where a 24-hour shift is required on a daily basis, avoiding comp time is difficult without hiring additional employees.

Commissioners were also concerned how upcoming hearings with the sheriff's deputies association will effect the budget for law enforcement. But Spencer said all they could do is set a budget, and pay what they could. "If we budget so much money for salaries, then the union demands excessive salaries or working conditions, then all we can do is eliminate positions," Spencer said.

Commissioners listened to requests and considered cuts in various places within the budget. Armed with that information, Potter and county finance officers will work the budget numbers and present another proposed budget at the Tuesday, May 7 county commission meeting. A special meeting will be called after that date to finalize the preliminary budget.

State Board Of Education . . .

(Con't. from P. 1)

(executive director of NMAA) and William Blair (NMAA executive committee chairman).

State Board of Education members are: president Eleanor Ortiz (Santa Fe), vice-president Van Witt (Roswell), secretary Emmalou Rodriguez (Albuquerque), members Rudy Castellano (Las Vegas), Wallace Davis (Shiprock), Roger Lenard (Edgewood), Marlis Mann (Corrales), Lynn Medlin (Tatum), Darl Miller (Las Cruces), Beverlie O'Dell (Los Alamos), Millie Pogna (Albuquerque), Steven Schmidt (Santa Fe), Catherine Smith (Mimbres), Virginia Trujillo (Albuquerque) and the southwest position is vacant.



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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 in Ruidoso 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, APRIL 25

—Special meeting of Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority at 7 p.m. at Ruidoso Convention Center.

MONDAY, APRIL 29

—No classes at Capitan Schools to allow for teacher in-service day.
 —Senior Olympics Table Tennis competition at 10 a.m. at Ruidoso Senior Center.
 —Public hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan at 6:30 p.m. at Corona Schools Recreation Room.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

—Carrizozo Board of Education budget workshop at 2 p.m. at the board conference room.
 —Ruidoso Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. in village hall.
 —Carrizozo Little League signups at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church.
 —Carrizozo Schools music department spring concert in old gym at 7 p.m. No charge. Public invited. Art exhibit at 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

—Senior Olympics talent competition at 1 p.m. at Capitan Senior Center.
 —Capitan Board of Education special budget hearing at 6:30 p.m. in the board conference room.
 —Half day of classes for Carrizozo Schools to allow for teacher in-service.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

—Cinco de Mayo celebration at 2:30 p.m. in the old gym at Carrizozo Schools.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

—Senior Olympics horsehoes competition at 10 a.m. at Carrizozo Country Club.

MONDAY, MAY 6

—Public hearing for Comprehensive Land Use Plan at 6:30 p.m. at Hondo Schools Cafeteria.

May 6-11

—Annual Book Sale at Ruidoso Library.



CARRIZOZO SENIOR SARAH FUNK checks to see how tall five-year-old Elizabeth Bingeman is during the pre-school screening and kindergarten registration at Carrizozo schools April 18. Senior Jim Brown also helped out during the event.

Sarah Funk Named Valedictorian

Carrizozo High School Senior Sarah Funk was named as 1996 Valedictorian during the regular meeting of the Carrizozo Board of Education on April 16.

The board also approved the recommendation to name Jim Brown as Salutatorian. Ken Butts, former Carrizozo High School football coach, was approved as graduation speaker. Graduation is set for Saturday, May 24.

Seniors this year will not take the traditional senior trip. Instead the class have a one-day field trip to Alamogordo.

The board accepted resignations from Suzanne Saucedo as library instructional assistant, Sid Wright as coach/teacher and Cherie O'Dell as teacher. Parent Joe Thornton told the board he was disappointed with Coach Wright's resignation and was concerned because there have been so many turnovers in the coaching position.

After the resignations, the board accepted the superintendent's recommendation to re-employ certified staff Sharon Baker, Martha Bond, Patricia Coale, Phoebe Cogdill, Rick Cogdill, Alice Day, Dolores Earwood, Karen Earwood, Kellie Gallacher, Cherri Goad, Bob Hemphill, Kimberly Gremillion, Glenn Hawk, Doug Jarrard, Martha Payne, Randall Robbins and Bryan Wetzel.

Gabe Papponi was re-hired as teacher/special education director for the 1996-97 school year.

Ben Bradley will join the staff as custodian.

Martha Payne was named Staff Member of the Month for April.

The staff will find two changes to the school policies concerning bereavement leave and funeral leave. Staff who have a death in the immediate family will get up to three paid days leave, with two additional days if out of town travel is involved. Under funeral leave, employees will be excused, without loss of pay, for up to four hours to attend funeral services for friends or other family, if prior approval is given. The policy also allows for the closure of school or a building so staff and students may attend services.

Works continues on the Quality of Education Survey. Superintendent Paula Papponi asked board members

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THOUGHTS

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Windmills need wind

By Ruth Hammond

March may be supposed to come in like a lamb and go out like a lion but nothing has been said about the weather in April and the wind that continues to blow and blow. The one thing we hear most lately is how everyone is tired of the wind, and the majority of the people are TIRED OF THE WIND.

Then there is the one rancher's daughter with a different story. She said, "Anytime I griped about the wind blowing my folks would tell me it was the wind that kept the windmills going and that is what pumped the water from the wells."

We certainly don't want to disagree with anyone needing the wind to blow to pump water from wells but it seems there could be a happy medium somewhere. The gusts up to and above 50 miles per hour are not what the normal person would call wind.

Actually the wind that is blowing here in New Mexico is mild compared to a typhoon, hurricane, cyclone, twister, or a tornado that causes destruction in different parts of the world. Most of you know the story of Dorothy from Kansas being caught in the tornado and being whisked away to the land of Oz but you also know that it is only a story and doesn't happen in real life.

What does happen in real life is that the wind seems to take something out of everyone. Just listening to the wind can be tiresome and can cause all sorts of anxieties, not to mention aches and pains that may or may not be real or imagined. Let's face it, anytime the major topic for weather forecasters is when the wind will stop, it is more than a mild, quiet, gentle breeze.

On the other hand, the people living in tornado alley would welcome our winds compared to the funnel clouds that cause them to rush to storm cellars when they hear the sirens. And the damage caused by a tornado is often unbelievable. The tornado that ripped through northeastern Oklahoma several years ago blew a tree down and it landed between the camper on a pickup truck and the cab of the pickup. Surprisingly, there was little damage to either the camper or the cab of the pickup but they needed a chain saw to cut the tree apart to get it out. That same tornado lifted a house off the foundation and dropped it back down a few inches away. No windows were broken, all wiring and plumbing was intact, but the house was off the foundation.

Another tornado in Pryor, Oklahoma took the corner off a building but left a portion of the second floor room untouched. There were china dishes on a corner shelf that did not move when the outer wall was blown away. The stories are endless of the strange things that happen when a tornado hits.

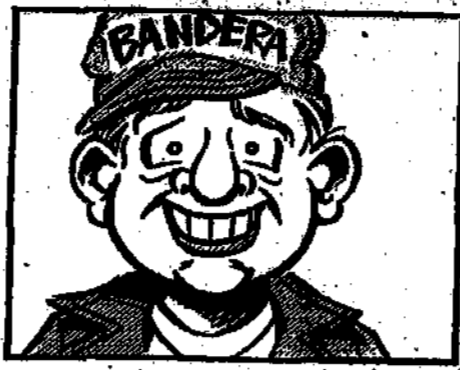
While there have been a few funnel clouds spotted here in New Mexico, actual tornado damage is rare, thank goodness. The wind we are griping about is annoying but it is far better than it could be. The worst part about it is that as it gets warmer the wind will stop completely and we won't have even the gentle breezes that help make our hot summer days bearable.

Maybe the wind we are having now is an example of a gentle breeze that has gone mad. What we need to do is find out why the gentle breeze is mad. Is it mad because there is so much hot air coming from the governmental officials? Is it mad because the governmental entities are making drastic budget cuts that will affect each and everyone of us? Is it mad because of broken promises that were made by elected government officials?

We may never know because the wind doesn't stick around long enough to tell us anything. We may never know because the wind is an abstract thing that can be explained but cannot be seen. We may never know because the wind blows through, upsets things, and goes away with no explanation. Seems the wind and governor Johnson have something in common. Both are annoying, both are elusive, and neither will explain.

Do you think the wind will blow?

IF YOU WON A BILLION \$\$ IN THE LOTTERY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT?



"RED" ANGUS
I'd build a house big enuff
for all th'wife's relations,



IMA SOFT TOUCH
I'd donate to the charities
that call me.



KENT WYNN
I'd pay my back taxes.



J.R. DOODLES
I'd disappear FAST!

J.R. Doodles

NMAA Changes Policy On Summer Football Camps

by Doris Cherry

The New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA), which monitors public school interscholastic activities in New Mexico, has modified its stance on summer camps.

At the March 1996 NMAA executive committee meeting, members acted to modify the interpretation of the handbook section which relates to the use of football pads out of season. "Based on this information, the NMAA will no longer regulate this area, as long as there is no school involvement," reads a letter dated March 25 from NMAA assistant director John Daniel to Clouderoft High School Principal Eddy Coleman.

The letter officially advised Coleman that the sanction against Clouderoft student Josh Turnage had been lifted by the executive committee action. The news was more than just the lifting of the sanction, rather a victory for the campaign for parental rights waged by a father on behalf of his son who was penalized by the NMAA for attending a summer football camp which allows helmets and pads.

"I don't see this as any kind of personal victory," said Jim Turnage, Josh's father. "But

rather a victory for family values in New Mexico."

"There is a delicate balance between public school authority and parental rights," Turnage continued. "When one infringes upon the other, the balance is upset and making school rules that extend beyond school time is an infringement that we had to address."

Turnage said the biggest winners in the decision are the serious student athletes in New Mexico, because they now can attend top-rated camps where they can improve skills and gain recognition that will enhance their chances for scholarships from more colleges and universities.

Josh will be a junior this fall at Clouderoft High School, where he plays fullback and linebacker for the Bears football team. When it comes time to begin two-a-day practices, Josh will be right there with the rest of his team mates. But until a few weeks ago, Josh was uncertain whether he would be able to begin practice on time, or if he would have to sit on the bench for two weeks, because he had attended a summer football camp in 1995. Some 21 other New Mexico boys also attended that same camp and were subject to sanctions pending the outcome of the NMAA decision about Turnage.

"We've all been sweating this decision," Josh said. "But now we can all go back to camp without having to worry about sanctions."

Josh decided years ago he wanted to be a professional football player. His father has done all he could to foster his son's dream, including sending him to the Jay Novacek Camp in Dallas in the summer of 1995. Josh excelled there.

In fall of 1995 Josh came out for high school football, and told of his summer experience at camp where they

wore helmets and pads. Word of that camp experience reached the principal, who informed NMAA of Josh's camp attendance. NMAA informed Coleman that Josh would be sanctioned for attending the camp which allowed helmets and pads, because it was against the rules for high school student-athletes to participate in "contact" camps. Josh would not be allowed to dress out in protective equipment for two weeks at the beginning of the 1996 football season, which would have prevented him from playing in some of the scheduled games.

Josh's parents were outraged at the sanction. They thought the action violated their parental rights to allow their son to attend a summer football camp, separate from the school. They claimed the public education system through its subsidiary NMAA had no authority to regulate what parents and their children do during non-school time. They contended the sanction was also a violation of their son's civil rights.

The Turnages demanded an appeal to the sanction, and a telephone conference was held with the NMAA executive committee. But the resulting written confirmation of that conference advised that the sanction was temporarily suspended until further review. The suspension was not acceptable to the Turnages because the sanction could be reimposed. Having retained an attorney, they set a deadline of March 25 for NMAA to lift sanctions or be named in a lawsuit. Jim wrote the State Board of Education president about the matter.

The NMAA executive committee took action on the matter at its March meeting, and voted to have NMAA no longer regulate such summer camp attendance, as long as the school is not involved. Parents now can send their children to any camp they desire during their children's off-school time without fear of being sanctioned.

As before, NMAA still prohibits schools or school coaches from having direct involvement or from sending students to such sports camps.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan Hearings Set

Citizens will continue to have opportunity to make comment on a proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Lincoln County.

From 7-9 p.m. Monday, April 29, at Corona Schools Recreation Room, the Lincoln County Ag and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee will take comment from citizens about the plan. The committee will present a summary of the 1,758 responses to the Lincoln County Land Use Questionnaire and survey sent to 8,000 citizens last year.

On Monday, May 6, from 7-9 p.m. the committee will hold a hearing at the Hondo School Cafeteria. On Monday, May 13, from 7-9 p.m. a public hearing will be held at the Capitan Fair Building, and on Monday, May 20, from 7-9 p.m. the final public hearing will be held at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Citizens Building.

The questionnaire summary showed the predominate livelihood for the respondents is retirement, followed by services, livestock, school and government. The top customary land use was residences, followed by agriculture, business, food, lease/permit and timber.

Some 776 responders wrote they did not want planned changes while 249 wanted planned changes.

The Ag committee will be on hand to discuss the questionnaire summary, copies of which will be available during the public hearings. Ten people attended the first hearing in Carrizozo on April 22. Their comments ranged from "it's about time, to we don't need any planning," said county planning officer Patay Sanchez who works directly with the Ag and Rural Affairs Committee.

Public comments from the hearings will be incorporated into information provided in the questionnaires and compiled into the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan which will be presented for public review at a later date.

LETTERS

to the editor

EDITOR: I am a kid in the sixth grade. I think that the people of Carrizozo should come and participate in a clean-up around the town of Carrizozo. If we get comments, then we will know that we have improved. This would be good so that trash doesn't pile up more and more along the highways and streets.

If someone from a different town saw what cleaning-up does, then they may spread a word or tell other people how we have improved the town of Carrizozo by cleaning up litter. This would be good because a clean environment is very rare. A clean environment would be a better place to live because litter isn't always biodegradable and there is so much of it.

BRANDON LANGLEY
Carrizozo, NM

Mountainair Ranger District

by Frank R. Martinez
District Ranger

The history of the Mountainair Ranger District and methods of land management have seen many changes over time. These changes have brought about a better collaboration with agencies, public participation, and the scientific communities. Never before has the Forest Service seen such extensive interest and support. We encourage these efforts to help us bring forward a vision of land resource needs and uses. From this vision we can better care for the land and serve people.

The following is a brief description of projects that are currently being implemented on the district.

Recreation: The season is still early and recreation sites are staffed minimally. Please take trash out with you and put fires dead out. All facilities are open at this time. Fourth of July campground will be closed for renovation mid-May. Capilla Peak has been scheduled for total recon-

struction 1997.

Ox Canyon Trailhead is currently being developed and portions of Comanche Trail, Trigo Trail, and Red Canyon Trail will be reconstructed this fiscal year.

Fuelwood: We are working on defining green fuelwood areas for this summer. District demands for dead and down permits have exceeded availability. We will be moving away from issuing this type of permit. Plan early and get your supply of green wood allowing it to dry by winter.

Fire: Visitors are being asked to be extra careful with the use of fire this season. Conditions are much dryer than normal and unless we get substantial moisture fire restrictions will be implemented towards the end of April. There are specific things that one can do to safeguard your home from fire in the urban interface (where the forest meets private land owners). For your safety call and request a packet of information on *Urban Interface and Your*

Home.

Forest Plan Revision: One of our priorities for the next two years will be the Forest Plan Revision. This plan will guide management on direction and implementation of projects for the next ten years. We need your interest and involvement in this process. We will be holding public meetings tentatively May 1 at the Torreon Community Center at 6:30 p.m. and May 2 at the Belen Recreation Center

(SEE PAGE 11)

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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.

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Bonito Volunteer Fire Chief Pucket Retires

When Bonito Volunteer Fire Department Chief Howard Pucket retired from his post this year, he left a department vastly different from the one he joined 15 years ago.

According to a release, members of the department honored Pucket and his wife Lillian at a recent retirement party in Alto. Lillian had served as the department's fund-raising chairman for more than a decade.

A few of the Bonito Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) members who remained from the "old days" reminisced. When Pucket joined BVFD in 1980, the county had no 911 emergency telephone system so volunteers were summoned by telephone, a time-consuming and inefficient process. Few volunteers had formal training or bunker (protective fire fighting) gear. The old fire trucks had only CB radios.

When Pucket became chief in 1982, he set about modernizing the department. He issued radio papers to fire fighters and two-way radios to line officers, which cut down on response times because they were now summoned through the county's emergency response channel. Pucket also began a long-range plan to regularly replace old trucks, and equip new trucks with state of the art gear. He instituted regular in-house training for members and required them to attend the New Mexico Fire Academy in Socorro.

He and Lillian involved the volunteer's families by scheduling picnics, dinners and open houses.

A long time member summarized that under Pucket's leadership, members' efficiency, capabilities and esprit de

corps rose making Bonito Fire Department a respected part of the fire suppression community.

Newly-elected Chief Chris Denne and Deputy Chief Mark Stambaugh acknowledged the Pucket's contributions to the Department and pledged to continue their work. Denne presented them gifts of pottery made by BVFD member Tim Wierwille.

The Pucketts plan to enjoy their retirement by traveling in their fifth wheel RV.

Bonito Volunteer Fire Department serves the communities of Alto, Angus and Bonito just north of Ruidoso.

Carrizozo School Music Program Next Tuesday

The Carrizozo Schools music department spring concert will be held Tuesday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the old gym. The public is invited. There is no charge.

The high school band will play and the choir will present a variety show. The drama class will perform skits between acts.

Dolores Earwood is the music director. The stage manager is Miguel Garcia and the drama class will serve as stage crew.

An art exhibit will be held at 6 p.m. prior to the music concert. The art display will include art by students of all ages. A variety of media will be featured. The art exhibit will include the Best of State Fair '95 and the ribbons. Polly Chavez is the art consultant.

Sarah Funk Named . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

to add questions to the survey before April 25, so those can be added to the survey before it is presented to the students and their parents.

Russell Griswold addressed the board concerning a letter he wrote to them about Lots 7 and 8 in Block 7 in White Oaks. Griswold said the school owns half interest in the lots, and he wanted to purchase them. The board directed Papponi to check into the matter.

During the public input portion of the meeting, parent Tom Nelson expressed his concern about several safety-related incidents involving his kindergarten-aged child at school. Before the board went into closed session to discuss limited personnel matters later in the meeting, board president Gary Hightower

spoke to Nelson about following the chain of command in dealing with problems. Nelson said he had requested to come before the board during the closed session. But Hightower said he had faith in the administration to deal with the situation. With the chain of command, parents first talk with the teacher, if finding no satisfaction, then parents are asked to talk to the principal, then to the superintendent, who will bring the matter to the board in the form of a recommendation.

The board also approved a correspondence course for an unnamed student.

All Carrizozo school buses passed the April 11 inspection conducted by Max Watson.

The board will conduct a budget work session at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 25.

Alice Pearl Aguayo Bell Services

Alice Pearl Aguayo Bell, age 90, passed away Feb. 1, 1996 in Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada. Alice was born in White Oaks, New Mexico on May 31, 1905 and was a resident of New Mexico most of her life.

She is survived by her children Zelma Miller of Sanger, Texas, Lois Norton of B.C. Canada, B.R. Bell of New Mexico; five brothers, Ernest, Jack, Elmo, Herbert and Donis Aguayo and one sister Lorraine Brimberry. She leaves six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Her family is honoring her request for graveside services and burial in Carrizozo on May 11 at Evergreen Cemetery. Rev. Don Daniels is officiating at 11:00 a.m.

Many old timers in Lincoln County are good friends of the Aguayo family. It is expected that all of the family who remain will be present in Carrizozo on May 11.

Following the graveside services there will be a lunch for the family at Carrizozo Country Club — friends are invited to visit and get reacquainted.

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CAPITAN NOTES



RITA AND RONNIE CRAWFORD are the new owners and operators of 3-Bar-D Ace Hardware and Mercantile in Capitan. Rita was born in Portales and raised in Maxwell, NM where her father was school superintendent. Ronnie was a contractor in northern California for many year. He now holds a New Mexico contractor's license.

Greetings from my old house by the side of the road to your house.

Met Esther Otero Flannigan in the post office the other day and she informed she was, as of that moment and time, taking me to the restaurant for a cuppa...coffee that is... and to have a little chat with Patty who was busy, at Esther's instructions, to completely clean the ashes from the little stove.

Pretty Patty looked like the legendary Cinderella cleaning, down on her hands and knees cleaning out the ashes. But then Patty would look pretty whatever she was doing.

Well back to the cuppa. There was a Kachina Doll salesman in there when we arrived and he took a deep breath and soon we were knee-deep in Kachina dolls. They were beautiful and certainly an addition to any room, but the only little girls that I knew would make fast work of all those feathers and Katie, my nine-year-old granddaughter has so much stuff, and reiterate Stuff, in her room, that one look and it would join its lonely companions on one of her many shelves. I gave it some thought but soon convinced myself of my first decision. No way Jose!

The final installment of Ma Mae Payne's autobiography:

Ma Payne got leave from the rest home and went to California to stay with June. That didn't work out well for June worked and was gone all day. Not being able to get around, and living in an apartment where most everyone worked, she found herself more alone than she had been here. Soon she was begging to come "home." She wanted to try living in her apartment next door to us again, and it did work out fine for a while.

About this time Don, Naomi and kids came home from Germany. We were all so happy to have them home, all seemed in order again.

Soon after the folks were home from Germany Norman came for a reunion and we went back to our old ranch place in New Mexico. We stopped by the place on the

Pine Lodge road where Norman was born. Nothing remained of the old Purcell house but some shrubs, but I was even more moved by the marvelous view of the Capitan Mountains at the place than ever before.

Vernon was ready to retire soon after Pa died. He has bought a couple acres out near Sanco Cemetery and he spends a lot of time out there, calls it Little House on the Prairie and that's what it is. We love to go out there for cookouts, picnics, etc. Birds, quail, turkey and deer all about, a really quiet, restful spot.

For years I had operated a little pet shop on the side, was always interested in pets. I sold birds, tropical fish and their needs. It was a lot of help when Naomi came for she was good at doing some of the chores, also she helped with Ma Payne, who was soon back in Baptist Memorial, getting weaker all the time. We tried to visit her often and bring her home for a few hours when she was able to come.

In 1979 our lil Susie graduated from high school and got married a week after, that June. Ma Payne was able to attend the wedding of her great granddaughter and enjoyed in immensely. Susie's husband was Mickey Abbot, a really swell guy.

Aubrey seemed to take after his uncle Aub, has been most interested in music. He had a nice band together and even went on the road with them for a while. In 1981 he married a sweet girl, Carlene Johnson.

Ma Payne was like many old people, got to thinking she had lived long enough and ought to go. In 1981 Vernon and I celebrated our 50th anniversary. Ma Payne looked forward to that but it was one of the last events she took much interest in.

Ma Payne lingered almost two more years, but we felt she considered her life miserable so when she died Nov. 27, 1983 we were prepared to give her up. If she had lived a month and a day longer it would have been her 95th birthday. We miss her too much for words but hope we

can have as full a life as she did. She was buried by Pa Payne at Abilene, TX, 27 years after he died.

Now we're into 1988 and its hard to realize so much time has gone by since we came here 33 years ago. Still there hasn't been much change in our way of living.

We try to keep abreast of what goes on even if it isn't quite as exciting as it used to be. On March 19 we went to see the Texas Sesquicentennial wagon train leave town, really a sight worth seeing. It brought back memories I

forgot had ever been experienced. Remembering as a little girl traveling in the covered wagons, cooking our meals out in the open with cow chips for fuel, for much of our travel was on the plains where cow chips were about the only fuel to be found.

Sometimes there were woods, streams or rivers. I never tired of exploring new camp sites, hunting wildflowers and sometimes fruit, watching the wildlife of different kinds, hearing nightbirds sing in clear, clean air where no other sounds were heard.

I guess young folks enjoy hearing about the old days. Our kids like to hear about things that happened before they were born or were old enough to remember. If it was something about the ranch in New Mexico, then its even better.

About 30 years after we had left Sawtooth Ranch some of us went back to the old place which is now called The Abandoned Place by the few neighbors still living in Township 6-South, Range 15 East. We went over the grounds where bits and pieces of memory came crowding like sheep after cottonseed cake.

It was such a profoundly moving experience I tried to get it into a poem. Have you, the reader of my story ever felt this way?

The Gate
...still swings on its hinges...the elm trees stand silent and still...a hawk glides silently overhead...as shadows creep over the hill.

The house stands open and waiting...on the porch runs the old creeping vine...is it now...or then...or years in between...or suspended somewhere in time?

(SEE PAGE 9)

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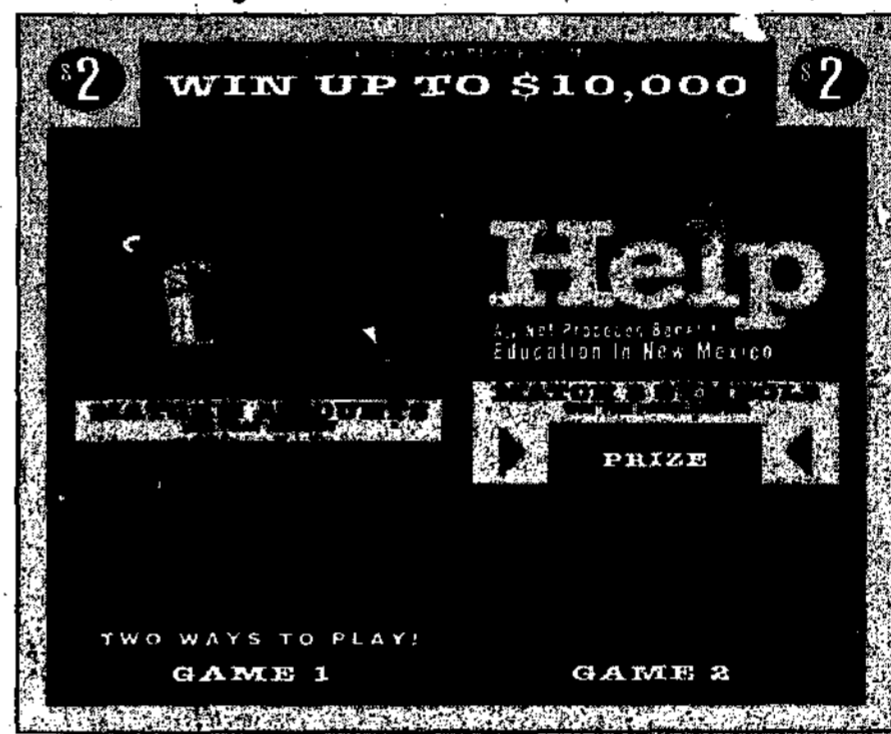
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FORT STANTON

FACTS & FICTION

BY BETTY LOU JOINER

Smoke from the large fire in Mescalero looms all over the sky around our county. As of Monday more than 900 fire fighters were struggling to get the fire under control. Dry land everywhere makes you wonder if we will have a repeat of last year's fires.

Seems there is no rain in the forecast.

LCRC HOLDS FIRST CLINIC

Lots of little ones, big ones, and oldies were at the fairgrounds in Capitan last Sunday trying to ride in the

wind. Two little puppies laying under the bleachers and several future cowboys were making sure they didn't get lonesome. Looks like another record year for the riding club. Always enjoy seeing the group again. Watched a little of the goat hair pull and the barrels, before the wind got the best of me. Shane Parker, Dick Swenor, the 1985 queen and Rick Simpson were a few working the arena. Walt Jones was announcing for the group and a concession stand was very busy in the building. Sure Connie or Trish will have the results. Another exceptional bunch of parents heading the 1986 LCR Club.

LINCOLN COUNTY EXPO SUCCESS

Wish everyone in the county could have seen the booths at the Lincoln County Expo in Glencoe last Wednesday and Thursday. Many came in about noon on Wednesday to place their exhibits. Linda Wallace works herself to death at every one of these events. She is pushing a broom, getting supplies, hanging parachutes, answering questions or just having fun.

I am sure chairman Virgi-

nia Jones was proud of the group of people she got together to produce such a showing of what Lincoln County has to offer. A few of the booths were the Museum of the Horse, local artists, the Ruidoso Library; Lincoln County Artisans Co-op, an exhibit of pictures of towns of our county, llamas, Zia Natural Gas, Lincoln County Sheriff Posse, stamps and quilts, many others, and Bubba the Bull and Rambo the ram, along with grandpa, mama and dad from NM State University, music groups from all over, and food that was delicious. I think over 600 fifth, sixth and seventh graders were there from 9:00 to noon. Many a hamburger was cooked on the grill.

The only comments I heard were several were wishing the petting zoo would return next year as so many students don't get to see many animals. The wind was a big factor in not having much outside. Several times it sounded as if the building would blow down.

I would like to thank all the Lincoln County postmasters for donating a hundred 32-cent stamps for the cancellation. The Smokey cancellation was given to many of the teachers and business people. Would like to have had one for each of the students but gave them the coloring books and stamp cards.

The Billy the Kid water booth was very popular with the bottles of Billy the Kid water a hot item. A plane owned by Mr. Franklin will be flying many places promoting Billy the Kid was an interesting attraction too. David Stephens, looking at the 3rd grade quilt, was surprised to find I was the stamp lady, who his daughter, Delana, helped me with lots of errands at school. Another worker from the Fort was looking at the Fort Stanton quilt and couldn't believe that his signature was on one of the blocks. He didn't recognize me out of my little building, but was thrilled when he put two and two together. Teaching the clients music was one of his greatest rewards in his career. He said he sure does miss them. Ron Turner was this person. Doctor Kuykendall came by and visited over 30 minutes. He looked good and said he doesn't get out much. Was happy to talk with him too. Gladys Nosker a customer from Ruidoso that comes to the post office to buy stamps she can't find at other post offices was lots of fun. We discussed all kinds of stamps, ones we have collected, ways to preserve them, mounts and how many hours we spend looking at them.

Another comment was everyone wished that the public could have toured the Glencoe Rural Events Center on Thursday to see what all the people brought to the little Glencoe community.

MINER'S DAY COMING SOON

Ruth Birdsong is really getting many things finished up for the Miner's Day celebration on May 4 at White Oaks. Arts, crafts, food, fun, games and a special letter with commemorative miners stamp will be offered.

The 1986 Artists tour on April 20 and 21 had many people visiting the ghost town of White Oaks. The Fire Department was selling burritos at the school house. Bessie Leslie was at the door greeting everyone, and the other artists had a variety of art work for the visitors.

Bob Leslie was in the old school house greeting people and telling stories of all the history about the items you can look at. An old box rent book from the U.S. Postal Service caught my eye with many, many names being written in this old book of 1908 and 1909.

A picture of the Jicarilla Post Office was another I hadn't seen. A really enjoy-

able day. Thanks White Oaks residents!

POSTMASTERS GO TO ALBUQUERQUE

Mike Curran, Shirlene Roberts, Judy Fletcher, Mary Gouley and myself will be in Albuquerque for training for three days. Do not really look forward to going to the big city, just can't get around in all that traffic. But do need to keep up on the new ways and things offered from the U.S. Postal Service.

ROPING IN ARTESIA

Lots of ropings going on with the spring weather. Audrey, Eddie, and Kersti plus many more were in Artesia over the weekend attending the team roping there. The ranch rodeo will be held in Roswell this coming weekend.

3RD GRADE STAMPS

Pennsylvania, Texas, and New York have so far had the most requests with nearly every other state in the U.S. sending for a Smokey cancellation. I took the stamps to Mr. Johnson today for her to share with the two classes. What a variety you get when this many people send letters! Postmarks and names are fun to study too! Another "addition" from a school related project.

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

- 1.) Never ask a relative for a favor or a friend for a loan.
- 2.) When you're young you watch people. When you mature you watch out for people.
- 3.) Our government shut down because it has no budget and no money. Funny, that never stopped any of us.

A Lincoln County Man for A Lincoln County JOB!

JUNE 4 / VOTE
Orlando Montes
Lincoln County Sheriff
3 on Ballot

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SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1996

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Registration.....11:30 a.m./1:00 p.m.
Meal.....12:00 p.m.
Business Meeting.....1:00 p.m.

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Sheriff's Report

Fire Danger is Extreme in Lincoln County. Sheriff's officers are authorized to issue citations for open campfires not in Forest Service camp or picnic grounds.

At 3:24 p.m. Saturday a caller from Mud Canyon on the Mescalero Reservation reported a forest fire off Highway 244. The fire, reportedly started by kids playing with matches, eventually burned more than 7,100 acres of timber, and threatened homes.

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

April 15:
5:13 p.m. a caller from a business in Capitan requested

a courtesy ride to Lincoln County Medical Center (LCMC) in Ruidoso because she was in labor. Capitan police responded and transported the woman to LCMC.

11:40 p.m. Ruidoso Downs police advised of confidential information.

April 16:
12:33 a.m. a Capitan police officer advised of confidential information.

2:06 p.m. a caller requested an ambulance at a gallery in the Hondo Valley. Ruidoso Advanced Life Support (RALS) medical unit transported the patient to LCMC.

3:18 p.m. a caller reported criminal damage to property behind Nogal post office. The caller's locks had been replaced by an unknown party. A deputy responded.

6:09 p.m. a caller requested an officer for peace keeping at a location in Capitan. Her son's father was on route. Capitan police responded.

9:24 p.m. a 911 caller reported harassing phone calls at a residence in Capitan. Capitan police took a report.

9:50 p.m. two deputies advised there were on route to assist Ruidoso Downs police with an aggravated assault subject who fled on a motorcycle.

11:21 p.m. a caller advised that someone at a trailer in a park east of Ruidoso Downs might be doing drugs. A deputy responded.

April 17:
1:08 a.m. a caller reported a loud, beeping noise at the Capitan senior citizens or county road maintenance yard. A deputy responded.

12:05 p.m. Ruidoso Downs police advised of stolen property on Hale Lake Road. A deputy responded.

12:18 p.m. Ruidoso Downs police advised of a possible runaway girl. The girl was at the police department with a deputy, and they were to check at a trailer park.

1:50 p.m. a caller reported the theft of a cellular phone from a residence in the Ruidoso area. A deputy responded.

3:28 p.m. a caller reported a traffic offense at the corner of C and 10th in Carrizozo. A subject was driving recklessly. Carrizozo police responded.

9:03 p.m. a caller reported a theft, and requested a deputy contact him about his daughter taking some items without his permission. A deputy responded.

11:39 p.m. a deputy advised of a traffic stop and DWI arrest on Highway 380 west of Carrizozo. A wrecker responded.

2:52 a.m. a 911 caller requested an ambulance at a residence in Carrizozo for a male subject with severe stomach pain. Carrizozo ambulance transported the patient to LCMC and Carrizozo police responded.

April 18:
1:14 p.m. a caller requested animal control for a dead calf in a dumpster on Highway 48 south of Capitan. Dispatch was to call the brand inspector.

April 19:
8:40 a.m. a caller requested to talk with a deputy about the dumping of dead animals on Basin Valley Road four miles east of Carrizozo off Highway 380. A deputy responded.

8:56 a.m. a caller requested animal control for a dead cat that needed disposed. Carrizozo police responded.

9:06 a.m. a paving company reported a larceny. A deputy responded.

9:11 a.m. a caller reported two dead cows and the receipt of an anonymous letter. A deputy was assigned.

April 20:
12:40 a.m. a caller reported a fight was about to break out at a residence in Carrizozo. Two Carrizozo officers and a state police officer responded.

2:51 a.m. Neighborhood Watch in Alto advised of a suspicious vehicle on Lake Shore Drive in Alto. The big truck with wooden sides was loudly going up and down the road. The responding deputy made no contact with the truck.

3:24 p.m. a caller from Mescalero reported a Forest Fire in Mud Canyon off Highway 244 on the reservation. Bent Fire Department was paged.

4:23 p.m. State Forestry requested Bonito Fire Department be paged to bring its water tanker to Mescalero. Bonito Fire Department responded.

8:38 p.m. a 911 caller reported four head of cattle on Highway 37 at mile marker 11. The cattle had a brand unknown to the caller. A deputy responded.

9:08 p.m. a caller from Texas requested a deputy make a welfare check of his parents who were staying at a location in Lincoln. Dispatch called in a half hour, and was advised the parents showed up at home.

10:53 p.m. a 911 caller reported a grass fire about half mile west of Tinnie on Highway 70. State forestry was notified and it notified U.S. Forest Service. Hondo Fire Department responded.

10:53 p.m. four head of cattle were reported on Highway 37 at mile marker 11. The responding deputy tried to contact the owner but made no contact, so he put the cattle away on a property nearby.

11:31 p.m. a caller reported an accident in the Alto area. State police were notified.

April 21:
7:32 p.m. a caller requested a deputy to do a report for a business in Hondo. The caller didn't get a check approved, and needed a report. A deputy responded and checked the license number and found the subject's license was suspended. A be on the look out was issued for the subject's vehicle.

10:40 p.m. a caller reported loud music playing at a trailer in a park east of Ruidoso Downs. The responding deputy talked to two subjects.

Scott Key Is Candidate For District Attorney



SCOTT D. KEY

Scot D. Key, an attorney practicing law in Otero and Lincoln Counties has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for the Twelfth Judicial District Attorney.

Key is no stranger to Lincoln County. His father Jack grew up in Carrizozo and Scott's grandmother Janie taught school in Carrizozo for several years. Scott's grandfather Ernest Key served in various capacities for the county.

Scot Key accepted a position as assistant district attorney in Alamogordo in 1986. Key took over the Lincoln County office of the Twelfth Judicial District Attorney's office in 1987 and held that position for two years.

Key has been active in various law enforcement association including lecturing for various law enforcement entities. He has also served with the American Cancer Society, the Otero County Bar Association, the Otero County Committee for a Drug Free Youth, D.A.R.E. day in the Park, the Governor's Red Ribbon Campaign, FOP, Sierra Blanca

Tino Lopez Receives Achievement Award

Former Carrizozo High School graduate and New Mexico State University graduate Tino Lopez, Jr. recently received a Los Alamos Achievement Award at the Los Alamos National Laboratory which carried a monetary presentation.

An excerpt from the award: He has received numerous kudos from world-renowned scientists.

Tino is employed with the technical and safety division's simulation applications section. He lives in La Mesilla. He is one of five recipients within the division. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Tino Lopez Sr. of Carrizozo.

Capitan News

(Con't. from P. 6)

You stand at the threshold as years fade away...the joys of the past to unfold...familiar pathways beckon you there... where lilacs once bloomed in the snow.

You linger there in a fantasy world...where cares of today are behind...you know it won't last but it's yours for awhile...as you're drifting somewhere in time.

Dark rain clouds hang over the mountains...as cattle still graze on the hill... Phoebe and mockingbird mingle their songs...to waken the heart with a thrill.

Did it happen today...or long... long ago...today's and tomorrows entwine...you seek for answers...but somewhere you know...they are waiting...somewhere in time.

By Ila May Payne, July 1983.

Thank you Ila May for allowing us to share your autobiography.

And for another week, God bless you one and all and may the Good Lord take a likin' to you.

Lodge and other community organizations. He was the 1992 recipient of the New Mexico Bar Association, Prosecutor's Section, Service to the Community award. Key is married to the former Liz Torres and has three children. Liz is a lifetime resident of Alamogordo and is an R.N. at Gerald Champion Memorial Hospital and Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces.

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Lincoln County News

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900 Hwy. 70 West ALAMOGORDO 437-2444

FOR SALE: Three all steel arch style buildings. 40x30 was \$6,100 now \$2,990; 40x68 was \$10,900 now \$6,900; 50x120 was \$18,000 now \$12,900. Endwalls are available. 1-900-320-2340. 2tp/Apr. 25 & May 2

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KITTENS, Manx or Siamese cross. 848-2832 or 648-2323. 1tp/Apr. 25 & May 2 & 9

FOR SALE: 5-year old Palomino mare. Stands 14.7 hands high. Adult rider only. \$1,500 O.B.O. Call 648-2973. tfn/mc

SALE: Sat., Apr. 27 - 9:00 to 4:00. Baby clothes, books, vintage, and misc. Under Masonic Hall on E Ave Carrizozo. 1tp/April 25

FOR SALE: '83 Ford Escort, 4-cyl, air, radio-auto, dependable ride. \$800.00 Cash.
(1) Refrigerator \$75.00
(1) Electric Water Heater \$25.00
(1) Used Electric Stove \$25.00
(1) Mobile Home space \$150.00 plus utilities.
648-2950 - leave message. 1tc/April 25

MECHANIC ALL TYPES OF MECHANIC WORK: Souda, auto, Auto, Trucks and Farm Machinery
REBUILDING MOTORS As Low As \$800.00
CALL JIM 648-9943

FOR SALE: Console/Spinnet Piano. Take on small payments. See locally. 1-800-343-8494. 1tp/April 25

NOTICE OF EMPLOYMENT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Body of the Town of Carrizozo is now accepting applications for a Cashier for the Jane Turner Memorial Pool. Job descriptions and applications may be obtained at City Hall. Deadline for applications is May 9, 1996 at 3:00 p.m. The Town of Carrizozo is E.O.E. in Compliance with ADA Title II-A.
CAROL SCHLARB, CMC/AEE Town Clerk Town of Carrizozo 7tc/3-28, 5-9

FOR SALE: One used Kenmore gas cook stove \$150.00. Call 648-2922. 2tp/Apr. 25 & May 2

3 Steel arch buildings, new 40x30 was \$6,150 now \$2,990. 40x56 was \$10,250 now \$5,990. 50x96 was \$17,850 now \$9,990. Endwalls available. 1-800-745-2685. 1tp/April 25

TAKING ORDERS for vegetable plants, bedding plants (annuals or perennials) and house plants. Call Karen Hobbs 849-1073. 4tp/Apr. 4, 11, 18 & 25

FOR SALE: 1967 Ford LTD, \$2500. Call 648-2971. tfn/April 18

WANTED: Mountain States Constructors, Inc. is seeking truck drivers for N.M.S.H. & T.D. Project No. TPA-TPE-380-1 (20) near Carrizozo, New Mexico on Hwy. 380. Must have current Class A CDL, current health card, clear driving record. Pre-employment drug testing is required. Call Mike at (505) 648-2175 for directions to field office. We are an EEO Employer. M/T 4tc/Apr. 25 & May 2, 9 & 16

FOR RENT: Large one-bedroom apartment in Capitan. \$265.00 a month, water, sewer and garbage paid. (505) 354-2006. tfn/April 18

FOR SALE: 1988 Pontiac LeMans \$2600, OBO, will negotiate. Must sell. 648-9943. 1tp/April 25

THANK YOU, St. Jude for favors granted. B.C. 1tp/April 25

WILL DO excavation, demolition or clean-up work. Have loader, motor grader, back-hoe and winch truck. Call 588-8047. 4tp/Apr. 4, 11, 18 & 25

YARD SALE: Plus homemade tamales, burritos and baked goods. Sat., Apr. 27 - 8:00 to 2:00, behind Roy's Gift Gallery, 911 12th St. 1tp/April 25

HELP WANTED: Cooks and bartenders. Outpost Bar and Grill in Carrizozo. 648-8994. tfn/April 11

Mountainair Ranger . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

at 6:30 p.m. For more information contact the Mountainair Ranger District at 505-847-2990 or the Cibola National Forest office at 505-761-4650.

will keep you updated on projects and special events happening on the district. It would help us to have your opinion concerning our ongoing projects. If there are answers we can answer for you, contact the Mountainair Ranger District at 505-847-2990.

Volunteer Recruitment: We are currently looking for people who would like to volunteer their efforts as back country rangers, trail maintenance crew, and interpreters for educational outreach. It is an exciting opportunity to become involved in the district and learn about the national forest. Volunteer orientation will be May 18. Call for registration and information.

Information Needed From Senior Citizens For Retirement Book

Wildlife: Several projects using money collected from the New Mexico Habitat Stamp will be conducted this summer. The fund is paying for two water developments in the Pinatosa area, maintenance of existing projects and additional law enforcement. Many partners join our efforts to improve habitat for wildlife. Our forest land is a land of many uses. Our function as land managers is to maintain the health of our forests, balance the uses and needs of our communities, with the laws that Congress mandates. Throughout the season we

The authors of a retirement and relocation guide to New Mexico want advice from retirees on why they selected their specific New Mexico community as a retirement destination. The information to be used in the book which will be published later this year will be based heavily on response to a survey sent to senior citizens throughout New Mexico. Those participating in the survey will get a free copy of the book.

Those interested in participating in the survey and receiving a free copy of the book should contact Kate Wightman or Andrew Webb at 505-294-4212.

Lincoln County DETENTION CENTER REPORT

The following people were booked into, or released from, the Lincoln County Detention Center (county jail) in the courthouse in Carrizozo:

April 8:
Marcella Sandoval, 25, Carrizozo: contempt of court, conditions of release revoked; \$40,000 cash bond set by Butts; released April 11 on orders from Butts.
Lilly Knuckles, 40, Cheyenne, Wyo.: issuance of worthless checks; \$5,000 cash bond set by Magistrate Judge Gerald Dean Jr.

April 9:
Dean Johnson, 28, Albuquerque: court commitment of seven days for failure to appear ordered by Dean.

Marc Prewitt, 18, Ruidoso: probation violation, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; \$3,500 cash bond set by Dean.

April 10:
Arthur Jimenez, 37, Roswell: contempt of court, failure to comply with conditions of probation; no bond set by Magistrate Judge Bill Butts.

Gabriel Barela, 21, Dona Ana: held for judgement and sentence from District Judge Richard Parsons; no bond.

April 11:
Roy Payton, 39, Capitan: failure to pay fines; \$664 cash bond set by Dean; released April 13 after paying fines; arrested by Capitan police.

April 12:
Betty Herrera, 34, Ruidoso: court commitment of seven days for DWI and driving on revoked license ordered by Butts; released April 19, time served.

Patrick McLeod, 19, Ruidoso: possession of alcoholic beverage by a minor, commitment; Butts set bond at \$181 and Ruidoso judge Mike Line set bond at \$276; released same day on orders from the judges.

Buck Tomlinson, 33, Ruidoso: held for Judge Parsons court.

Victor Cocchiola, 20, Las Cruces: served two more days on court commitment for aggravated assault; released April 14.

Kelly Fraley, 38, Ruidoso: aggravated assault and battery, battery on a household member; \$20,000 cash bond set by Butts.

April 15:
Gabriel Hanson, 23, Santa Fe: held for Judge Parsons court.

Manuel Blackmon, 20, Ruidoso: probation violation, no bond set by probation officer.

Matt Sarinopoulos, 19, Ruidoso: receiving stolen property, failure to pay fines; no bond set by Butts.

Jason Ethridge, 19, Ruidoso: held for Moriarty, possession of drug paraphernalia and contributing to the delinquency of a minor; \$1,000 cash bond set by Dean; arrested by Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO).

Gerardo Cedillo, 26, Aurora, CO: court commitment of seven days by Dean for driving on revoked license; released April 22, time served.

Guadalupe Gallegos, 71, Tularosa: held for Tularosa; DWI aggravated, careless driving; court commitment of 72 hours by Otero Magistrate Judge Jerry Hardison; released April 18, time served; arrested by Tularosa Police.

Aaron Ramos, 18, Ruidoso: criminal trespass, violation of conditions of release; no bond set by Butts.

Richard Gideon, 43, Brownsboro, TX: DWI 1st aggravated, open container, no drivers license, so seat belt, indecent exposure; \$1,500 cash bond set by Butts posted next day and released.

Valerie Safian, 31, Ruidoso Downs: held for Hawaii on \$5,000 cash bond posted April 18 and released.

April 16:
Manuel Sanchez, 43, Ruidoso: forgery, aggravated assault on household member, held for Otero County; \$100,000 cash bond set by Butts and \$1437 bond from Otero County.

Nicanoro Rodriguez, 38, Ruidoso: court commitment of 30 days by Butts for DWI 1st aggravated, reckless driving, no insurance, no drivers license, open container.

Jose Marquez, 23, Ruidoso: probation violation; no bond set by probation officer; released April 22 on orders from probation officer.

April 17:
David Dotson, 33, White Oaks: violation of domestic order; no bond set by Parsons; released same day on orders from Parsons.

Kimberly HayCox, 52, Roswell: failure to appear, held for Midland Co. TX and Otero County; \$1,000 cash bond set by Dean and no bond set by Midland County.

April 18:
Patrick Samora, 24, Carrizozo: DWI 3rd, speeding, no insurance; \$1,200 cash bond set by Dean posted and released same day; arrested by LCSO.

Felix Gonzales, 36, Ruidoso Downs: failure to pay fines; \$2,864 cash bond set by Dean.

April 19:
Pancho Portillo, 21, Ruidoso Downs: receiving stolen property, battery, resisting arrest and careless driving; \$50,000 cash bond set by Butts.

April 22:
Kenneth Bridge, 62, Fort Stanton: failure to appear; \$464 cash bond set by Dean posted same day and released.

Rogelio Lopez, 39, Ruidoso: court commitment of 90 days with good time allowed ordered by Butts for assault and battery (domestic violence) two counts.

Luciano Chavez, 37, Corona: probation violation; no bond.

Thomas Mirelez, 29,

Capitan: emergency hold for psychologist; released April 23, time served.

Virginia McCall, 59, Espanola: court commitment of 48 hours by Judge Line for DWI.

Jack Cattedra Jr., 34, Ruidoso: assault on household member, battery on household member; no bond set by Butts.

April 23:
Richard F. Howell, 42, State Penitentiary: held for court.

Betty Cottrell, 59, Ruidoso: court commitment of 72 hours by Butts for DWI.

Randel Rueb, 38, Ruidoso: court commitment of 30 days ordered by Parsons for contempt of court/violation of domestic order; no bond.

Wanda Dansereau, 55, Ruidoso Downs: 30 day court commitment by Parsons for contempt of court; no bond.

The following individuals were released from the Lincoln County Detention Center:


Mitchel O'Day, 21, Mesalero: released April 23

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Lincoln County Republican Party announces its
QUADRENNIAL COUNTY CONVENTION will be held on
Saturday, May 18, 1996 / 10:00 a.m.
Lincoln County Commissioners Room
Carrizozo, New Mexico
Purpose of this convention is to elect delegates to the 1996 State Quadrennial Convention

NOTICE TO LINCOLN COUNTY PROPERTY OWNERS
PROPERTY TAX DELINQUENT DATE

LINCOLN COUNTY TREASURER reminds Lincoln County property owners that they must pay their second half property taxes by Friday, May 10, 1996, to avoid penalties and interest.

ACCORDING TO N.M. STATE STATUTE 7-38-83. TIMELINESS -
B. ALL ACTS REQUIRED OR PERMITTED TO BE DONE BY MAIL ARE TIMELY IF POSTMARKED ON THE REQUIRED DATE.

The Lincoln County Treasurer's Office does honor the postmark, but your payments MUST be postmarked May 10, 1996.

INTEREST shall accrue at the rate of one percent (1%) per month or any portion of a month. (Statute 7-38-49 NMSA 1979)

PENALTY, on taxes that become delinquent, shall be imposed at one percent (1%) of the delinquent tax total, or a minimum of five dollars (\$5.00), for each month they remain unpaid. (Statute 7-38-50).

By NM State law, property taxes are the personal obligation of the property owner, whether or not the tax bill was received. Mail payment or contact us at the address and phone number listed below should you have questions regarding your property tax bills. Thank you.

Joan E. Park
Lincoln County Treasurer
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Corona News

Corona watched smoke from a fire in the Gallinas Mountains Saturday reportedly started by wind and a smoldering log from the prescribed fire started exactly six weeks ago this morning, Tuesday. A helicopter, slurry bomber and 150 men took care of this latest blaze.

Corona Senior Citizens went on a field trip Monday that took them through Ruidoso and Mescalero to the Space Museum in Alamogordo.

Cotton Yancey left Tuesday for his home in Bloomfield after a two week vacation spent hunting rattlesnakes and visiting with friends in the area. He sold his snakes

Saturday during the Rattlesnake Roundup in Alamogordo. He promises to be back next year and hopes the weather will be warmer.

Services for Pat Ingram, Socorro were pending Tuesday. Mr. Ingram died Monday morning after being in ill health for several months. His last visit here was for his class reunion last July.

Dorothy Nell Lightfoot remained hospitalized Tuesday after major surgery last week in Roswell. Several friends are helping out with her school bus route.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kessler and Julie attended a two day convention in Albu-

querque of New Mexico Christian Home Educators last week.

Amy and April Kessler spent a few days in T or C with their grandfather, Bill Kessler. Mrs. Kessler and Julie went to visit in T or C and picked up the girls, returning home Monday.

Judge Hamilton and Billie A. Morgan, both of T or C, were married there in the Methodist Church Saturday, April 20.

Dawn and Mozaum McKibben, Edgewood, are the parents of 8-lb., 11-oz. Price Carson, born April 14 in Albuquerque. The baby has a sister, Cheyenne.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug McPheters drove to Albuquerque Monday where Mr. McPheters was scheduled for open heart surgery Tuesday.

John Henry Laddy stopped off in Corona Tuesday. He was born here in 1928 and hopes that someone will remember his parents. His father farmed for two or three years before returning to Tennessee in the early thirties.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Burton made a business trip to Belen Saturday and reported that Ernest Dishman appears to be in good health.

Students Excel In Corona FFA

Even though the Corona FFA chapter has had five ag instructors in the last six years, the students excel in both leadership and judging activities. The Corona FFA chapter started to rebuild when Craig Painter was hired as the ag instructor in 1994. Under his leadership the chapter has won several awards and participation in FFA activities has grown.

In 1994-95 and 1995-96 the FFA had two participants in the creed contest. In 1994-95 and 1995-96 three members participated in the quiz contest. In the summer of 1994 two members went to camp. This year the chapter took five members.

"Camp was a good experience and gave us a great opportunity to meet other FFA members throughout the state," says chapter secretary Shayla Marshall.

The chapter officers attended COLT (Chapter Officer Leadership Training) for the past two years and learned the many responsibilities of being a FFA chapter officer. Two years ago seven members went to Made for Excellence (MFE), a leadership and motivational conference. In February the chapter took 13 members, which is half its chapter membership.

"I wasn't sure about being in FFA until I attended MFE," says first-year member Maryah Romans.

The Corona FFA sent six members to national convention in Kansas City, MO last year. This year the chapter officers attended. They heard

motivational speakers during the sessions, and the convention was filled with enthusiasm.

"When you sit and listen to the speakers during the sessions, you realize all the opportunities there are in the

FFA and you can see how FFA has helped others to achieve their goals. It inspires you to do your best not only in FFA but in all areas of your life," says chapter president Lindsey Bonds.

At the state FFA convention last year, seven members attended business sessions concerning the national and New Mexico FFA organization. Corona FFA excelled in leadership activities. During the convention Rick Bagley was elected District V president and received the silver presidents award. Seniors Bagley and Bonds received their state FFA degrees, the first to receive the degree since 1989-90 when Jamie Widner was the advisor at Corona. In addition the chapter received the BOAC award and the national chapter award. Brandi Alley also competed in the state quiz contest held during state convention.

This June when the state convention rolls around, Corona will have two candidates for the state FFA greenhand degree, John Gnatkowski and Logan Marshall. Shayla Marshall is a candidate for the state FFA degree.

During the FFA 1995 and 1996 judging seasons, there has been a new drive of competitiveness amongst the various team members with other teams across the state. This year the Corona FFA chapter has 13 new plaques on their wall from four judging teams: livestock, poultry, wildlife and wool. The teams did consistently well at all the invitational contests.

At the district judging contest, wool, wildlife and poultry placed third. Livestock placed fourth. This year at the state judging in Las Cruces, the wool team placed 4th out of approximately 50 teams, wild-

life was 8th out of approximately 60 teams, poultry was 11th out of approximately 30 teams, and livestock placed 21st out of 55 teams.

"Also, Mr. Painter has been an enormous help to me and other Corona FFA members during livestock shows throughout New Mexico. I couldn't have done it without him," says chapter vice-president John Gnatkowski.

By Lindsey Bonds
Corona FFA
Chapter President

Canyon CowBelles Will Meet In Nogal On May 1

Rene Burton and Jane Kretschman will host the May 1 meeting of the Canyon CowBelles at the Paz de Nogal in Nogal. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. with the meeting to follow.

The Canyon CowBelle scholarship committee will announce the scholarship recipients. Rene Burton is chair of the scholarship committee.

Lincoln County

DETENTION CENTER REPORT

(Continued from Page 11)

on orders from Dean; booked March 26 for disorderly conduct and criminal damage to property.

Michael Forte, 29, Mescalero: released April 15, time served; booked October 24, 1995 to serve 364 days for probation violation, assault, battery and domestic violence.

Carlos Soto, 36, Ruidoso: released April 9, time served from a 90 day commitment for DWI 3rd aggravated; booked November 6.

Juan Hernandez, 19, Ruidoso: released April 9 to be transported to New Mexico Corrections facility in Grants; booked January 3 for battery, domestic violence, unlawful carrying of deadly weapon, probation violation.

Danny Hicks, 37, Carrizozo: released April 17 on orders

from Dean; booked January 26 to serve court commitment of 182 days for failure to appear, failure to pay fines, failure to complete DWI school.

Anton Godac, 18, Ruidoso: released April 18 on orders from Dean and Parsons; booked January 29 for burglary.

Wayne Parnell, 40, Ruidoso Downs: released April 17 on orders from Parsons; booked March 11 for probation violation.

Frank Hinojos, 30, Camp Sierra Blanca: released to CSB April 10; booked March 27 for state hold.

Arlene Potts, 34, Ruidoso: released April 8 on orders from Butts; booked April 4 for DWI 2nd, three counts of child endangerment.

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