

District Attorney Completes Investigation

Into Alleged County Violation Of Open Meetings Act

By Ruth Hammond

District Attorney Scot Key has completed an investigation into the alleged violation of the Open Meetings Act by three Lincoln County Commissioners, a Certified Public Accountant performing an audit of Lincoln County and the county manager.

Key stated in his letter January 15: For ease of understanding I have broken down this letter of enforcement into three areas: first, findings of fact; second, the law and how it applies to this case; and third, conclusions and enforcement action.

The findings of fact stated that on November 12, 1997 commissioners Nunley, Schwettmann and Wilson, along with county manager Frank Potter attended an "exit audit conference" with Terry Jones, the C.P.A. who was hired to conduct an audit

of Lincoln County. Traditionally these exit conferences have been attended by one commissioner and the county manager. This year an invitation was extended to all commissioners and three attended. The stated purpose of an exit conference is to allow the audited body to state objections to the audit prior to the audit becoming public. Public policy dictates that these types of conferences sometimes correct misunderstandings and errors attributable to the auditor and not to the governing body.

Key stated: I find that commissioner Wilson inquired of the C.P.A. whether this review of the audit was legal under the Open Meetings Act and the commissioners were assured by Terry Jones, C.P.A. that an audit conference was an "exception" to the Act.

Key also stated: I further find that the county manager did not voice any objection and at no time was the county attorney consulted for his opinion. I find that this "exit audit conference" was not advertised and therefore no

reasonable notice was given to the public. I find that when a question as to the legality of the "conference" was voiced by a Lincoln County citizen, commissioner Nunley, county manager Potter and county attorney Morel contacted District Attorney Scot D. Key to report their actions and the possible violation of the Act.

Key quotes the law, "In recognition of the fact that a representative government is dependent upon an informed electorate, it is declared to be public policy of this state that all persons are entitled to the

greatest possible information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those officers and employees who represent them.

Another section of the law

(SEE PAGE 2)



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VOLUME 93, NUMBER 5

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1998

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CAPITAN HIGH SCHOOL CIVICS CLASS watch an aerospace presentation at the Capitol Building. Students are David Chaplin, Ryan Baade, Stephanie Midgley, Eric Ferguson, Wesley Armenta, Jake Gray, A.J. Richardson, Scotty Tillman, Natasha Cowan, J.R. Garcia, and Parter Waltner. The students were also introduced by Rep. Dub Williams during the House floor session. Students were also able to attend a committee hearing.

Ruidoso Will Pursue Annexation Petition

by Ruth Hammond

Ruidoso is considering the annexation of properties that are surrounded by the Village of Ruidoso. A resolution was adopted during the January 27 village council meeting pursuing a petition for annexation of certain territory into the village limits.

The resolution states that a portion or all of the areas to be annexed are presently served by police which responds to emergencies based on mutual aid arrangement with Lincoln County; the village fire department which responds to emergencies based on mutual aid arrangement with Lincoln County; and village water and sewer services are available to all of the areas to be annexed and currently serve or can serve residents in said areas.

The Annexation Ad Hoc Committee voted on January 13 to recommend that village council act to proceed with annexation of properties of five pocket areas. Property owners were notified of the village's intent to consider annexation of the subject areas. Two of the five areas have favorable responses above 51 percent and can be annexed under owner petition procedures. The remaining three areas are below 51 percent and will require consideration by the Boundary Commission. The Ad Hoc Committee had reviewed six areas and recommended annexing five of those areas.

Council Bob Sterchi asked what effect annexation would have on the wastewater treatment. Planning administrator Cleatus Richards said these areas don't pose any immediate strain on the system.

When the motion was made to approve the resolution to pursue a petition for annexation of certain territory, one man in the audience wanted to ask a question. Mayor pro tem Leon Eggleston said this is not a public hearing. He said if the resolution is approved public hearings will be scheduled. Several people left the meeting soon after the resolution was approved.

Mayor Jerry Shaw presided over the remainder of the meeting. She had been in Santa Fe all day concerning legislative money requests submitted by the village.

In other business the village council awarded the re-bid of water line replacement phase II to low bidder Carl Kelley Construction. Bid packets were sent to 14 vendors, some being sub contractors, with

three contractors returned bids. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$273,158.50. The low bid submitted by Carl Kelley Construction was in the amount of \$276,912.00.

--U.S. Mail Carrier Pamela L. Rodely spoke to the council about the issue of access to mailboxes during snow. She said customers are responsible for removing snow around their mail boxes.

--Ronnie Hemphill, P.C. presented the village's 1996-97 fiscal year audit report. The audit was accepted.

--Ronnie Hemphill, P.C. presented the lodging vendor's annual audit report for the 1996-97 fiscal year. He said 14 of the 73 total tax collectors were selected for audit. Total receipts from lodger's tax for the year ended June 30, 1997 were \$372,534.

Of the 14 selected for audit, nine lodgers audited resulted in no exceptions or no significant findings. One lodging establishment did not have sufficient and/or adequate records to support the lodger's tax paid, and had violated the village ordinance requiring lodging records to be maintained within the village.

The remaining four lodgers audited resulted in the following findings: one lodger under reported lodging revenues and under reported lodger's tax and related penalty and interest; revenue subject to gross receipts tax was under reported by one lodger; one lodger filed lodger's tax reports late without paying the appropriate penalty and interest on

these late reports; and one lodger's clerical errors on two months lodger's tax reports resulted in under stated lodging revenue. Three of the lodgers agreed with the findings. The other lodger is researching the auditor's findings to determine if they agree.

--Preliminary and final plats for Lot 4, block 2, Young Heights Subdivision was approved.

--A public hearing will be scheduled for Feb. 24 for the ordinance regarding the salary and hours for the municipal judge. During the budget workshops in the spring of 1997 municipal judge Mike Line made a presentation regarding the salary for the judge position. He requested the salary be increased from \$18,000 per year to \$30,000 annual salary. Judge Line

(SEE PAGE 2)

Commissioners Will Meet Tues., Feb. 10

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will meet at the Lincoln County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 10.

Three public hearings will be held during this regular meeting. The first hearing will be at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Lincoln County Subdivision Ordinance. Commissioner Wilton Howell is listed, after the subdivision hearing, presenting subdivision road discussion.

The other two public hearings will be in the afternoon. At 1:00 p.m., the hearing to consider the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan Ordinance will be held. The third public hearing to consider the proposed Lincoln County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Ordinance (repealing ordinance No. 1990-4 entirely) will be held at 3:00 p.m.

Items also listed on the tentative agenda include:

--The Lincoln County Recreational Program. The commissioners are to consider the disbursement of the balance left in recreational fund equally to Capitan, Carrizozo, Corona, and Ruidoso Downs.

--Rampar Development Corporation will make a presentation to the commissioners on the detention center.

--The annual evaluation of county manager Frank Potter will be held.

--Potter will give a legislative report.

--The conclusions and en-

forcement action by the District Attorney's office on an investigation of violation of the Open Meetings Act is to be made a part of the minutes.

--Joint Resolution/Joint Powers Agreement - Village of Ruidoso's withdrawal as a collection member of the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority.

--Dr. Arlene Brown will present Health & Wellness Advisory Board/Maternal & Child Health Planning Council updates.

--School districts and Region IX are considering the establishment of an area vocational school to be located possibly in Ruidoso. Results of the feasibility study by Dr. Jim Miller will be presented.

--The 1998-1999 Cooperative Agreement Programs to establish road priorities - New Mexico State Highway Department is on the agenda. The programs are: Cooperative Agreement Program, School Bus Route Agreement Program, and County Arterial Agreement Program.

--Ad Hoc Water committee/Water Study is listed. Under Bonito Lake Research is a report by A.J. Olsen of Hennighausen, Olsen & Stevens.

Other items listed: Mid-year budget adjustments for two funding requests, one request by the Humane Society of Lincoln County and one request by Linda Fox of the Capitan Public Library; a

resolution to authorize Lincoln County to submit an application to DFA to Participate in the local DWI Grant and Distribution Program; presentation by Commissioner Rex Wilson on the Cooperative Extension Service/4-H Program; a request by Jim Wimberly for approval of report of Alto Alps Condomini-

(SEE PAGE 2)

Air Force FONSI And EA Are Ready For Public Review

The Air Force at Holloman Air Force Base is seeking public review and command for a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for continuation of supersonic flight over the US Army's White Sands Missile Range.

A 30 day public comment period opens today, February 5 and closes March 6.

The Air Force proposes to continue supersonic flight operations below 30,000 feet above sea level within the high altitude supersonic area and the low altitude supersonic test corridor located over White Sands Missile Range.

Copies of the draft EA and draft FONSI may be reviewed at the Lincoln County Courthouse and at Carrizozo City Hall.

Domenici Staff To Be In Carrizozo Tuesday, Feb. 17

Staff members of the U.S. Senator Pete Domenici will be in Carrizozo February 17 at the Lincoln County Courthouse between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon. Anyone who is experiencing difficulty with a federal agency who would like Sen. Domenici's assistance is welcome to visit with the Senator's staff. Anyone who would like to convey an opinion to the Senator is welcome to do so.



NEW MEXICO STATE 4-H OFFICERS: Mollie Hightower (left) was named New Mexico State 4-H Ambassador and Mary Beth Bond was named New Mexico State 4-H Diplomat. Both girls attend Carrizozo High School. See story on page 3.

District Attorney Completes

(Continued from Page 1)

quoted by Key: "Any meetings at which the discussion or adoption of any proposed resolution, rule, regulation or formal action occurs and at which a majority or quorum of the body is in attendance, and any closed meetings, shall be held only after reasonable notice to the public."

Key stated, "Clearly, the exit conference with three commissioners being present in a closed meeting that was not reasonably advertised is a violation of the Open Meet-

ings Act. The undisputable facts, however, indicate that the violation was unintentional. No decision or action came out of the conference and the violation was immediately reported to the County Attorney and the District Attorney. These actions tend to evidence an unintentional violation and certainly mitigate the possible seriousness of the violation."

Key's conclusions and enforcement action as stated in the letter: "The District Attor-

ney's policy is to ensure the citizens of Lincoln and Otero County that the Open Meetings Act is being complied with by all boards, commissions, and other policy-making groups of state agencies, counties, municipalities, districts, and other political subdivisions. It is my policy to render all actions and decisions invalid when there is a substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act, regardless of whether the violation is intentional or not. The decision to prosecute violators of the Open Meetings Act is left to my prosecutorial discretion. My decision is based upon whether the violation is intentional, whether the violation is knowing, whether it is flagrant and/or whether there have been repeated violations."

Key continues, "I find none of those factors being present

in this case and therefore I decline to prosecute. It is clear that the violation was unintentional, yet it concerns me that individuals who are directed to be familiar with Open Meetings questions, were not. It also concerns me that since the question of legality was raised, perhaps a phone call to the county attorney might have been the prudent thing to do before proceeding. Although Mr. Jones has accepted responsibility for the violation, I am not prepared to levy full responsibility to him. Nevertheless, all parties concerned have been forthright, honest and cooperative in my investigation and certainly that should mean a great deal to the citizens of Lincoln County."

Key reminded all the commissioners and the county manager that under state statutes individuals responsible for violations of the Act may be held personally responsible if it is shown that they acted willfully and knowingly outside the scope of their official duties, or intentionally in violation of the Act.

Commissioners Will Meet . . .

(Cont. from P. 1)

ums; a request by Otero County for Lincoln County to support a study on the declining conditions of the forest lands and help share in the cost; authorization to conduct a lodgers tax random audit; make appointments to the Public Land Use Advisory Council (PLUAC) and to the Planning and Zoning Commission; authorization to donate two vehicles to the Carrizozo Police Department; and radio maintenance contract.

At the end of the meeting the commissioners are scheduled to go into executive session to discuss personnel, threatened and/or pending litigation, and acquisition of real property.

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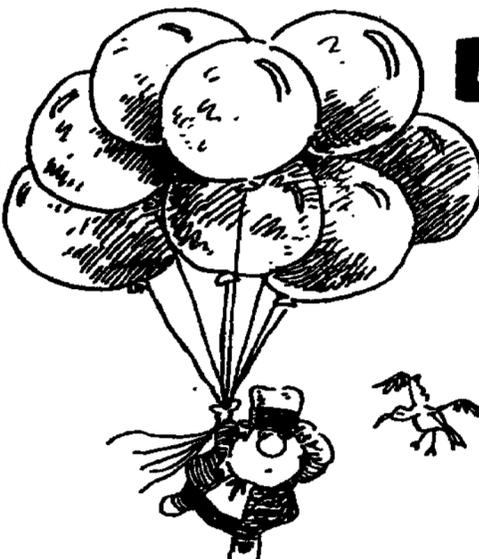
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OBITUARY

MABEL RENTFROW

Funeral services for Mabel Rentfrow, 101, of Carrizozo were February 2, at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Carrizozo with the Rev. Bobby G. Boyd officiating. Burial was at the Evergreen Cemetery in Carrizozo.

Mrs. Rentfrow died January 29, at her home. She was born December 1, 1896 in Warrington, Missouri. She was a school teacher in Albuquerque until she married Doyle Rentfrow and moved to Carrizozo in 1922 when she became involved in ranching. She also became a very active member of the CowBelles. Mr. Rentfrow preceded her in death in 1949. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church.

She is survived by five nieces: Carolyn Stevens of Las Cruces, Rosemary Neel of Albuquerque, Evelyn Bandy of Amarillo, Dorothy Thompson of Mitchellville, MD, and June Crader of Agoura, CA; nephew Fred Henrich of Bernalillo, and special friends Warren and Irene Weidinger.

Ruidoso Will Pursue . . .

(Cont. from P. 1)

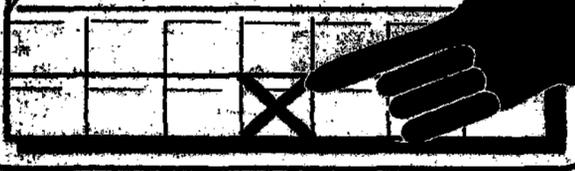
provided information concerning the increase of workload and hours that are demanded of the municipal judge over the past four years.

The village received two proposals for the yard waste collection and disposal contract. The two proposers may be asked to make a presentation for the council.

The resolution for the grant application for Keep Ruidoso Beautiful was approved.

The council approved the amendment to the New Mexico Aviation Division Grant for the non-directional beacon upgrade and coal tar sealant projects at Sierra Blanca Regional Airport.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



THURSDAYS

—Alcoholic Anonymous 8 p.m. Carrizozo Senior Citizens Center. Call 648-2313 for information.
—Carrizozo School Library preschool story time 9 to 9:45 a.m. Call Rosemary Shafer at 648-2346 for information.

TUESDAYS

—Lincoln County Adult Singles 6:30 p.m. K-Bob's Ruidoso.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

—Capitan School Board special meeting 5:30 p.m. Closed session for limited personnel matters, principal evaluation.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

—Carrizozo School Board special meeting 1 p.m. to accept the certificate of canvas for the special school bond tax election.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

—Mal Pais Colts 4-H club of Carrizozo 2 p.m. at Otero County Electric Cooperative building. Anyone between the ages of 9 and 19 may join 4-H. Adults interested in helping are invited to attend. For more information contact Martha Bond at 648-2912.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

—Corona Action Team 10 a.m. at Byron Yancey's house.
—Capitan Village Council 6:30 p.m., public hearing to discuss ordinance establishing and governing traffic safety enforcement fees of an additional \$5.
—Carrizozo PFK 3:30 in Carrizozo School Library.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

—Lincoln County Commission 9 a.m. in Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo. Public hearing at 10 a.m. to discuss county subdivision ordinance and subdivision roads, public hearing at 1 p.m. to consider proposed comprehensive land use plan ordinance, and public hearing at 3 p.m. to consider the proposed county personnel policies and procedures manual ordinance.
—Carrizozo Town Council 6 p.m. city hall, public hearing to discuss amending ordinance relating to costs and fees of the opening and closing of graves and the sale of cemetery lots.
—Ruidoso Village Council 6:30 p.m. village hall.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

—Carrizozo Lodge #41 A.F.&A.M. 7:30 p.m. Masonic Lodge.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

—Capitan School Board 6 p.m.
—Libertarian Party of Lincoln County 7 p.m. Texas-NM Power building in Ruidoso.

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We would like to thank all of our friends and relatives who called, offered prayers, sent cards, flowers and wishes for a speedy recovery during my recent stay in the hospital. Your kindness and concern is greatly appreciated. **Joe & Isabel Vega**

Thank You Card

The family of Mabel Rentfrow wish to thank all the ladies of the Trinity United Methodist Church and friends in the community for the lovely meal provided at the church. We deeply appreciate all the kindness extended to our family at this time.

Hightower And Bond Are 4-H State Officers

by Ruth Hammond

Two Lincoln County 4-H members are now New Mexico State 4-H officers. Mollie Hightower is New Mexico State 4-H Ambassador and Mary Beth Bond is New Mexico State 4-H Diplomat. This is the first time Lincoln County 4-H members have been named ambassador and diplomat.

All state 4-H officers, ambassadors and diplomats are members of the leadership team. They work together to plan the state 4-H conference and they attend the New Mexico State Fair. During the week at the State Fair members of the leadership team will conduct tours for the Albuquerque 3rd graders, explain about livestock, ranching, 4-H, FFA, and answer any questions the youngsters may ask.

As state 4-H Ambassador, Hightower is one of a team of four ambassadors. The ambassador team will work with donors both at the state youth foundation and the National 4-H foundations. The team will go to the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C. in late March.

Hightower has been a 4-H member for eight years. She is a sophomore at Carrizozo High School. Her parents are Gary and Beth Hightower.

As a state 4-H Diplomat, Bond is one of a team of four diplomats. The diplomat team plans recreation and fun things such as program openers for the group. They also plan the leadership retreat and will go to a recreation lab in Idaho or Montana this year.

Bond has been in 4-H for seven years. She is a freshman at Carrizozo High School. Her parents are Lerry and Martha Bond.

When asked why they wanted to be state 4-H officers, both girls said it looked like fun. Last year Lincoln County Home Economist Betty McCreight was advisor for the ambassador team. The scrapbook with photos of the leadership team activities was on display this summer and the girls were impressed with what they saw.

Each girl submitted an application in November, along with a resume of their 4-H experiences, references, and an essay of what 4-H has done for them personally. This information was used for half their scores. The Friday before leadership retreat they were interviewed by a panel of four judges and gave a speech. Each applicant was allotted 15 minutes. Time not used for the speech was used to answer questions asked by the judges.

The winners were announced after the interviews. The new leadership team then went through a group planning session with hypothetical situations, etc.

Not only are Hightower and Bond the first Lincoln County 4-H members who have been named ambassador and diplomat, they are also one of the youngest teams. Usually the leadership team consists of high school seniors and juniors.

When asked if their new offices would be a lot of work, both girls said yes, but they are looking forward to it.

Hightower has one thing to say to others, "Don't ever give up on what you want to be and always have faith."

Bond said, "Every accomplishment, great or small, starts with the words, 'I'll try.'"

4-H is a youth program that helps young people ages 9 to 19 learn how to do new and interesting things through learn-by-doing projects. There is no membership fee but each member is usually responsible for financing his or her own projects. 4-H is the youth phase of the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service.

Popular 4-H projects include food and nutrition, gardening,

health, veterinary and animal science, photography, entomology, public speaking, environmental protection, conservation, archery, riflery, woodworking, bicycle safety, forestry, rocketry, arts and crafts, and more.

4-H members also take part in county, state and regional fairs, community service projects, county and state leadership retreats, competitive events from the county to the state level, and take trips to interesting places such as Washington, D.C.

4-H involves the family in fun and work. Projects are selected with family approval and support.

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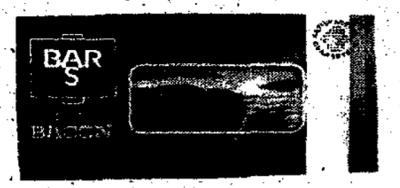


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CARRIZOZO CHIT CHAT

UNM Graduates
Two Carrizozo High School graduates received degrees from the University of New Mexico in December. Ruben Gallegos earned his bachelor degree in pharmacy. Cory Collins earned his bachelor degree in architecture.

The Lincoln County News invites people to submit items of interest for the Carrizozo Chit Chat column; including new residents, visitors, hospitalizations, vacations, birth announcements, news of former school students away at college, engagement announcements, wedding announcements, and general news. There is no charge.
Please call Ruth at 648-2333 with your news items.

THOUGHTS

From the Mouth of a Donkey

Candidate profile

By Ruth Hammond

The governor has started his campaign big time. Last week he cut nearly \$1.4 million from the feed bill sent to him by the state legislature. The feed bill pays for operations of the legislature. We heard the Democrats were mad about the governor's line item votes but a few Republicans weren't too happy either. The main thing is that it sounds as if the governor is really trying to save the state money. He says he wants the legislature to use fiscal restraint.

It makes us wonder what the governor will do when he gets the BIG money bill with all the appropriations for municipalities and counties. The state has lots of money left from last year when the big money bill was stalled by the filibuster the last day of the session. Not all the requests for state money this year will be funded but those that are funded will reduce the surplus that the state has had all year. The governor probably would prefer there be another filibuster at the end of this legislative session before more money can be spent. If the state has money left at the end of this year the governor can say it is because HE used fiscal restraint.

Campaigning effectively doesn't just happen. Specialists make plans in advance. Their strategy is to give the impression all the good things that have happened were because a certain candidate used "fiscal restraint" or put "people before politics" or whatever the campaign slogan is this time. When the governor slashed the feed bill it wasn't an accident. His intent was to use the situation as a ploy to convince the voters he is really saving the state money.

Knowing how to explain a devious tactic is a major factor when a person is campaigning. Those explanations aren't impromptu remarks, they were rehearsed in advance with coaching by experts. Another important thing about campaign speeches is using words that will convince the listener the candidate cares about the people.

If the speeches weren't rehearsed in advance governor Johnson could and would answer some of the questions he is asked. Last week he said he didn't know how many former state jobs are being funded through private sector contracts. The governor may have 1,750 fewer state employees now that when he took office three years ago but that doesn't mean it is saving the state any money if the state is paying someone else to do the same job. What it does mean is that the private sector is not required to comply with the freedom of information act and can withhold vital information.

Not allowing the public to know exactly what is happening and why it is happening may make sense to a politician but it leaves the majority of the public asking who will benefit. It makes the public wonder if there is an unannounced reason for all the doubletalk.

Gaining the confidence of the voters by giving the impression their actions are for the "good of the people" is a ploy used by many candidates but we prefer they be open and honest. We prefer candidates answer our questions, not respond with generic answers.

Some candidates are willing to answer our questions and appear to have nothing to hide. Others have memorized the things they say and only change key words to fit the particular situation. These are the candidates we need to watch closely. Their dedication is not to the people, their dedication is only to being elected to office.

Our governor was dedicated to being elected and his promise to be a one term governor helped him win. Now that he is seeking another term, we wonder if that was his intention four years ago when he gave everyone the impression he wanted to do great things during one term. Do you suppose we will ever know the truth?

Generic answers or truth?

ROUNDHOUSE RUMBLES

by Doris Cherry

Hello again from the Roundhouse.

This 30 day session is now half over. Wednesday was the last day for legislators to introduce bills. As expected a large number of bills were hurried past legislators for signing and were presented to the chief clerks for introduction.

Also on Wednesday, the House passed on a vote of 50-20, the General Appropriations Act which includes funding for public and higher education, corrections, courts, highways, state police, Human services and Children Youth and Families. The \$6.8 billion total budget is \$23 million higher than the budget recommended by the governor, with most of that for education both public schools and higher education.

Education funding will increase 7.28 percent from this current year level with a seven percent pay increase for all public school employees and 4.5 percent increase for college and university staffs. The public education budget for grades K-12 represents 48.4 percent of the state's total General Fund budget. This means \$100 million new dollars will go to public schools and \$30 million to colleges and universities.

On Wednesday, this reporter ran into Carrizozo Schools Superintendent Paula Papponi and teacher Alice Day who were at the Round House to receive news that Carrizozo Schools had won a prestigious Quality New Mexico award for educational excellence. Carrizozo Schools were one of 79 organizations

representing business, education, government, and health care to win the awards that was established by the governor. The actual awards will be presented on March 6.

Quality New Mexico's award process helps guide organizations in making continuous improvements. The first level is the Pinon Award, which Carrizozo Schools received. It recognizes organizations that made serious commitments to use quality concepts and principles. Applicants had to submit a 7-14 page description of how their organization is approaching the development of a quality system and any results achieved.

Back to the budget. Highway Department could get \$535.5 million total with \$334.7 million of that coming from the state's General Fund and \$200.8 million in Federal funds. The money will go to fund highway projects throughout the state, including the four-lane reconstruction of Highway 70 from Alamogordo to the Texas line at Texico; four lane construction of Highway 54 from the Texas state line to Alamogordo, and a relief route around Alamogordo. There was no mention of improvements to Highway 54 in Lincoln County, however.

The budget also includes funding to maintain the privately operated juvenile program at Camp Sierra Blanca, and funding to continue operation of the Women's Prison facility at Fort Stanton.

As made on Corrections, governor Johnson finally agreed to submit Rob Perry's



Inside The Capitol

by Jay Miller

SANTA FE: Our governor and Legislature have some explaining to do.

Gov. Gary Johnson raised pertinent questions when he vetoed portions of the "feed bill" that funds legislative operations, both during the session and during the interim. He stayed away from cutting session appropriations because they were needed immediately to pay lawmakers and legislative employees, many of whom were depending on their first paycheck, which came a day late as it was.

name as Secretary of Corrections. However, he has at least 30 days to submit the name and has said he will not submit it during the session. To date THE NEWS has yet to receive a copy of the Independent investigation at Fort Stanton, but that's another issue to be saved for another day.

The funding bill has now gone to the Senate Finance Committee where it will undergo many hours of scrutiny and most likely, change. Any changes made by the senate must go back to the House for concurrence. Once concurred, the budget bills go to the governor for final approval. We can expect Johnson to wield his veto pen heavily again this year.

Rep. Dub Williams presented his Voucher bill in the House Education Committee Wednesday. The bill was tabled 8-5. In discussion about the bill, several problems were pointed out, including a possible conflict with the state Constitution which prohibits using any state land proceeds for private or secular schools, and which prohibits the use of state funds for any private organization for private gain. Williams supported the bill, which was endorsed by the governor, because it would give parents more choice. However, in most rural areas there is little or no choice. But several other measures, which most likely will not make it out of committee, are proposing to make it easier to establish neighborhood schools and charter schools. Most education associations were against the voucher program, because they fear it could take needed money away from the public education fund. It is estimated that if the voucher program was started today, the state would pay out \$75 million in vouchers for the

prisons will save us any money. We hear that current costs of \$76 a day would be lowered to \$46 a day in new private prisons. But Johnson's first Corrections secretary, Karl Sannicks, told a legislative committee he could operate new state prisons just as cheaply. The governor's answer: Fire Sannicks.

Gov. Johnson promised to cut state employees during his four-year term by 2,500. He has given us a running total throughout his administration and now is up to 1,750. Many of those have involved not filling vacancies as they arise — a humane method of cutting. But when asked how many of those jobs have been privatized and are still being funded through contracts with the private sector, Johnson admits it's a good question to which he doesn't have an answer. Legislative leaders say budget increase requests for departments throughout the executive branch don't reflect savings from the cuts.

Democrat legislative leaders say the governor's proposal for financing State Road 44 from Bernalillo to Bloomfield doesn't make sense because it involves payments to a contractor over a 20-year period that total much more than if the road were publicly financed. They also note that

EDITOR: I would like to offer "A GREAT BIG THANK YOU" to all of the State and Country road crews along with all the Law Enforcement Personnel, for the good job they all did during our recent snow storms. To the few of you that might think they did not do enough, please don't complain until you have walked that proverbial mile in their shoes.

JACK E. JOHNSON (NMSF retired), Capitán, NM



EDITOR: I would like to offer "A GREAT BIG THANK YOU" to all of the State and Country road crews along with all the Law Enforcement Personnel, for the good job they all did during our recent snow storms. To the few of you that might think they did not do enough, please don't complain until you have walked that proverbial mile in their shoes.

Lincoln County News
USPS #313460

The Lincoln County News is published Thursdays at 309 Central Ave., Carrizozo, New Mexico 88001. Second class postage paid at Carrizozo, New Mexico. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Lincoln County News, P.O. Box 100, Carrizozo, NM 88001.

no road holds up for 20 years. Senate leader Manny Aragon says the Legislature had received no answers to its questions of Johnson.

And finally, why did the Senate cut the Legislative Education Study Committee out of the Legislature's "feed bill"? Sen. Manny Aragon said it was so the \$500,000 could be distributed to schools. The money was restored by the House but longtime House Education Committee Chairman Sam Vigil of Las Vegas was removed from his post. Vigil said it was to give himself more time to represent his district.

Another answer was that there is an eight-year limit on holding a committee chairmanship. But might it have had to do with budget battle last year that got Legislative Finance Committee director Anna Lamberson fired from her job? Aragon was open about his feeling that Lamberson aligned herself too closely with House Appropriations and Finance Committee Chairman Max Coll, instead of giving equal weight to Senate requests. Did Aragon feel the LESC played favorites with Rep. Vigil?

Could Coll, who has been chairman of his committee longer than eight years, be the next committee chairman to lose his post?

Sen. Pete Campos Reports From Santa Fe

SANTA FE — Senator Pete Campos announced he is sponsoring several requests for important infrastructure projects in Senate District 8. Among the projects requested by Campos are:

FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS IN SENATE DIST. 8 IN LINCOLN COUNTY

To the local government division of the department of finance and administration:

- A. \$250,000 for improvements to the Lincoln county fairgrounds.
- B. \$350,000 to plan, design or construct a new facility at the Lincoln county fairgrounds.
- C. \$250,000 for improvements to the Glencoe rural events center in Lincoln county.
- D. \$160,000 for Lincoln county recreation improvements;
- E. \$400,000 to construct or renovate the public safety facility in Capitan.
- F. \$200,000 to relocate the Tom Jones fire station in the Village of Ruidoso.
- G. \$613,000 to renovate or construct the municipal building in the Town of Carrizozo.
- H. \$114,300 to renovate or construct a swimming pool in the Town of Carrizozo.
- I. \$250,000 to renovate or construct a community meeting room in the Village of Capitan.
- J. \$300,000 to renovate or construct a public safety facility in the Village of Capitan.
- K. \$150,000 to upgrade and expand the Smokey Bear museum in the Village of Capitan.
- L. \$20,000 to renovate an existing building, including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, at the Carrizozo municipal airport.
- M. \$125,000 to purchase heavy equipment for Carrizozo.
- N. \$100,000 to renovate the Corona Village Hall.

To the state highway and transportation department:

(SEE PAGE 3)

Sen. Pete Campos Reports

(Continued from Page 4)

A. \$250,000 to improve the pedestrian area of Main Street in the Village of Ruidoso.

B. \$197,000 for street improvements in the Town of Carrizozo.

C. \$250,000 for street repairs in the Village of Corona.

D. \$10,000 for right of way acquisitions in the Village of Corona.

To the department of environment:

\$695,000 for municipal water system improvements in the Village of Ruidoso.

B. \$171,000 for water line extensions in the Village of Ruidoso Downs.

C. \$214,950 to replace main water valves in the Village of Ruidoso Downs.

D. \$250,000 for domestic water system improvements in the Village of Corona.

To the state department of public education:

A. \$100,000 to renovate or construct a primary health care facility at Hondo Valley public schools.

B. \$75,000 for community clinic equipment at Hondo Valley public schools.

C. \$30,000 to remodel playgrounds at Hondo Valley public schools.

D. \$55,000 to upgrade educational technology at Hondo Valley public schools.

E. \$374,250 to remodel the physical education facility at Corona public schools.

F. \$87,100 to upgrade the technology building and equipment at Corona public schools.

G. \$5,000 to purchase and install bleachers at the football field at Corona public schools.

H. \$100,000 to plan, design or construct an adolescent day treatment center at Ruidoso Municipal schools.

I. \$150,000 to purchase and install field lighting for the recreational complex at Ruidoso municipal schools.

J. \$200,000 for educational technology at the Capitan municipal schools.

K. \$103,000 to plan, design or construct a library and multipurpose room at Carrizozo municipal schools.

L. \$10,000 to create an outdoor classroom consisting of gardens to develop cultural and historical learning opportunities for students at Carrizozo municipal school.

Under a new capital outlay procedure this year, which is supported by Campos, requests for projects are not immediately put in form of legislation but are considered requests. As the various committees consider the requests, the projects are put into a single piece of legislation.

"I have been working towards the streamlining of the capital outlay process since my arrival in 1991 to the New Mexico State Senate," Campos said. "The beauty of this system is that it makes the process more efficient without changing the way in which the merits of the projects are evaluated or impacting their chances for being funded."

Roundhouse Rumbles

(Con't. from P. 4)

students now enrolled in private schools.

Williams' capital outlay requests have yet to be heard in committee. When his bills do come to committee this reporter expects a large crowd from Lincoln County, and from the Tularosa area. Tularosa is asking for \$60,000 for a recreation program.

Because of an unusually busy day, this reporter has only a little bit to send to you folks back home. So until next week, hasta la vista!

Campos said that residents who look at the capital outlay requests will notice that they don't look like legislation, but he gave assurances that the differences is really just one of style over substance.

"Nothing has really changed in terms of how we as legislators treat these requests," he said.

Sen. Campos is urging residents, now that the general operations budget for state government, the New Mexico Works Act, and the education package are quickly advancing through this legislative session, to think broadly about three more areas: the quality of life for senior citizens, the safety of the public and the responsibility we have to our communities.

"It is important to periodically refocus our attention on our longer-term goals," Campos said. "There are three important areas which we often take for granted, yet I believe we need to concentrate on. First, we really need to study how we're going to ensure that senior citizens, our parents and grandparents, enjoy their later years as much as they did their early years. Second, we must continue to work on making our schools, streets and communities as safe as possible. And third, we must recommit ourselves to getting involved in our communities by volunteering in libraries, by working with children, and by supporting civic organizations."

Campos made his comments as the 1998 session reached the halfway point. He is increasingly concerned that in today's society, it takes two incomes for our young families just to make ends meet. It is becoming more difficult for our working class to provide the companionship to our parents and grandparents. In many cases, where our parents are beginning to require care for themselves, they are lovingly and unselfishly still providing care for their parents.

"People are living longer and we must study ways to provide a quality of life for them. We must look at what can be done to ensure that senior citizens have adequate housing, an active social life and easy and affordable access to health care. We must take steps now to help make sure that young adults are able to care both or their children and their parents," Campos said.

On the topic of public safety, Campos said that in addition to the traditional crime-fighting proposals, an emphasis must be placed on after-school programs for children.

"If we can get involved with our libraries, community centers, and civic organizations, if we can reconnect our businesses, churches and clubs with our children again, we can greatly improve our quality of life," Campos concluded.

Campos also announced his strong support for the New Mexico state police and for legislation that would increase their salaries and their numbers.

"We must return our state police officers to the elite status they once held. As New Mexico's leading public safety agency, we must give them the resources they need and the respect they deserve," Campos said.

Campos pointed to two pieces of legislation, both sponsored by Senator R.L. Stockard of Bloomfield, that would go a long way toward supporting state police officers. Under the first bill, 170 officers would be hired over the next four years, boosting the state police manpower

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(MORE ON PAGE 10)

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CAPTAN NOTES

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

Cannot believe it has been a week since I last sat down to this abominable typewriter. It is fast becoming the bugaboo of my existence. But nuff said. It is Tuesday and soon it will be time to submit this epistle whether or not I have anything to submit.

Thank goodness for the new folks in town who have had interesting lives before settling down in our fair city. When I meet any of them, my first reaction is, "Why?" I guess I think everyone has been shanghaied like I was. But like I have said many times, Capitan has a way of growing on you and I hope that all of you new people feel the same way.

And speaking of new people, here is the final installment of Pearl and George Tippin's reason for deciding on Capitan.

George's last posting was back to the United States, to Astoria, Oregon at the mouth of the mighty Columbia River with its extremely dangerous bar which earned it the nickname of "The Graveyard of the Pacific." Here he served aboard a buoy tender maintaining the river's navigational signals and buoys from Portland to the sea and down to northern California and up to Gray's Harbor, Washington State.

The Pacific northwest climate is very similar to England's. It rains most of the time so Pearl felt comfortable with the climate, but not happy. Gray skies most of the year are incredibly depressing to her. This was George's last tour of duty. He had been promoted to chief whilst in Italy and after 20 years service was free to retire from the military whenever he chose to, which he did in 1996 after a 21 year career. The question now was, where to go from there?

After long deliberations, New Mexico was chosen. George had relatives in Albuquerque and so had an idea that Pearl would enjoy the climate better than the rain soaked northwest. Various forays were made to all points of mountainous New Mexico as he did not wish to frazzle in the desert summer heat. The area around Ruidoso was chosen because it was a green place on the map, a map with a latitude far enough south to escape icy, arctic blasts, with which he was very familiar since he hails from Nebraska, but an altitude high enough to escape the desert heat. Capitan was chosen because it is a small village that they both decided they like better than the touristic trappings and crowds of Ruidoso.

Pearl is a trustee of the Capitan Public Library's board and George would like to become involved in the community.

And so now let us all join together and make their dream come true as we welcome both Pearl and George to Capitan, New Mexico, U.S.A.

And now let me add a very personal note to you both, George and Pearl. Let me introduce you both to Nancy Barone, and I quote from the very lovely letter that I received last week from Nancy: "Pearl Tippin sounds so interesting on travel and I would love to speak to her concerning a trip we plan this summer to Israel. My question is, does she work at the

Capitan Library?"

So Pearl I am taking the liberty of giving your telephone number to Nancy, 354-7031 and Pearl here is Nancy's phone number (505) 853-4042. I hope this is all right with you girls as I did not have any luck when I tried to get you together.

Last week I promised to have a mailing address for Phil Keller and his daughter Erin. Am sure you remember that they were seriously burned last week and are in the hospital in Albuquerque. And Donna is staying in Albuquerque to be near them. I just talked to Daylene Huey at their shop, *The Angel Tree*, and she informed me that she did not have the mailing address, but send any cards to *The Angel Tree* and someone will personally deliver them to the hospital in Albuquerque. And I hope a lot of you nice folks will remember to send them a card. Cards are so important. Cards have a way of saying what our hearts feel but we sometimes do not have the capacity to express ourselves properly and sincerely.

Just cannot seem to make a dent in the pile of correspondence staring me in the face every time I go into my kitchen and try to sit down to the table. The reason there is an overflow in the kitchen is that there is scarcely walking space in my so-called office. And frankly folks, much as I dislike to say this, I really am getting a bit tired of getting this epistle submitted on a certain date at a certain time. Regimentation never was my cup of tea even when I was young and fancy free. And with old man "Arthur Ritis" bungling up my fingers every time I attempt to hurry a bit, my frustration builds by the moment and I am tempted to chuck the whole doggoned kit and kaboodle, including the typewriter that is most non-cooperative most of the time. Then there are other stumbling blocks. I detest clocks. I thought when I finally got my family raised I could forget the time of day, the time of the year, and just live like the little rock upon the hill just a doin' nothing all day long but just a settin' still. But after 16 years in this old casa, which by the way I loved dearly until a few years ago, my feelings are at low ebb, shall we say, and with a desire for a change of scenery at least, the luggage that I thought I had permanently closeted until my demise, is looking a little bit attractive. I am not making any statement right now, but am tossing a few leaves in the wind and if you take a glance at my yard, you will agree I have plenty of leaves to toss.

And with the president, that I happen to like very much in spite of his so called problems, will soon be returning from Los Alamos. I want to be able to sit and not miss one iota of his speech. I know there are a lot of you people out there in somewhere land that are looking down your noses as you read this, but let me tell you loud and clear, I have lived through a lot of presidents and our economy has never been this good, never ever. And if this investigation continues the president will probably have to be charged even while using the bathroom. Think what kind of surveillance this could eventually lead to for all of us. I say the "Independent Council" has become TOO INDEPENDENT!

So adios and sayonara and may the Good Lord take a likin' to ya!



Disaster Grant Approved
Lincoln County is one of nine New Mexico counties included in a presidential federal disaster declaration. U.S. Senator Pete Domenici was informed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that the president granted the disaster declaration request which makes the nine counties eligible for assistance through the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for reimbursement of some costs associated with the December snowstorms that dumped 16 to 18 inches of snow. FEMA and the state estimate that at least \$4.1 million was spent on non-agriculture disaster activities such as snow removal. Costs eligible for reimbursement include those incurred for response and recovery operations during the storm. The assistance is available to incorporated municipalities, counties, the state, and some non profit organizations that serve a vital role in public safety, such as electric cooperatives.

UNM Graduate
Corona High School graduate

Katrina Archuleta earned her Bachelor Degree in marketing management from the University of New Mexico in December.

ENMU Honor Roll
Angela Romero, a 1991 graduate of Capitan High School, was named on the Eastern New Mexico University fall semester Dean's Honor Roll. Romero is a senior social studies major and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta and the history guild. She is the wife of Julian Romero and has three children.

Anyone interested in participating in EMT classes in Ruidoso Valley please contact Bill Jones at 653-4135.

ENMU-Roswell Dean's List
Three students from Lincoln County were named to the fall 1997 ENMU-Roswell Dean's List: Glendon Wheelock of Corona, Andrew Sena of Tinnie, and Teresa Talbot of Tinnie.

KOC Basketball Tournament
The Ruidoso Knights of Columbus are sponsoring their annual eighth grade invitational basketball tournament to be held at the Ruidoso Middle School. Participating schools are Capitan, Carrizozo, Ruidoso and Tularosa.

Girls action begins today, Feb. 5, with Capitan vs Tularosa at 4:30 p.m. and Carrizozo vs Ruidoso at 6:30 p.m. Girls finals will be Feb. 7 at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Boys action will be Feb. 12 with Capitan vs Tularosa at 4:30 p.m.

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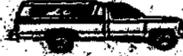
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CATCH UP TIME

How long has it been since I wrote my last column? Can't even remember, so will try to catch up on a few things I have wanted to write about.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Neal Chapman, our favorite mail driver to Alto, had his 79th birthday on January 24. Robin made Neal his favorite cobbler.

Joel Bonnell had his on January 19 and Miss Kersti had hers on January 30. Mom and dad and Jece surprised Kersti with a party at Peter Piper Pizza in Roswell on Saturday.

There were people everywhere in town. Someone said that income tax refunds were already coming in and that was why so many were shopping. Jay Eldridge family, the Wendell Brown family, the Tobin Tate family, Beatie Jones, Ruth and Ed Lawrence, the Dink Bowdens and Pat and myself were on hand to see her blow out her big "4" candles. A pair of chaps, boots, clothes, roller skates, pizza, and ice cream made for a very full evening.

On Sunday dad went to a friends and brought her a new horse named Brushy so you all know what the news will be about in the future. Jece is doing well having had tubes put in his ears just after Thanksgiving. He now isn't so sick and finally has an appetite and has started talking and dancing and loves dogs. Happy birthday to all others I missed.

SHIRLENE & MARY GIVE WEDDING SHOWER

Last Thursday night Shirlene and Mary hosted a wedding shower for Della Joiner. Della will be marrying Chris Mydock on February 14 at the First Christian Church. Friends attending the shower were Rosalee Patterson and friend, Faye Womack, Janice Herd, Diane Southerland and daughter Joyce Cox, Stacey Reynolds, Audrey Davis and two children, Claudia Rodriguez, Janelle Dean, Verla Caster, Ruth Birdsong, Beatie Jones, Shirley Mydock, Debbie Moore, Shirley and Ashley (Shirlene's niece and daughter), myself and a surprise guest.

The group wrote different words of advice for the bride and were drawn by Kersti to be read by Della. Lingerie, towels, a rope bowl, dishes, a mixer, quilt, glass bowls, a windmill print, picture frames and albums, candles and many more items made for a fun shower.

JANELLE AND CHRIS MARRY

On January 9, Judge Junior Dean married Janelle Dean and Chris Rutten at the courthouse in Carrizozo at 3:00 p.m. Their families and Della, Doc Pat, and I were happy to see this special couple recite their vows. Margo and Barbie had a wedding cake for all just after the ceremony. Later a dinner was held in Capitan where Janelle's friends from work sent another cake.

On Saturday, January 10, over a hundred people attended the wedding reception held at Cheryl and Virgile. Another cake brought by Chris's mom, good food and music by Guita and Marc Payne made for a very good beginning. The couple liked by everyone. Janelle is one of the pharmacists at Wal-Mart and Chris is employed by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. May you both have many,

many happy years together.

BONNELLS TO ALBUQUERQUE

Arriving at Evelyn's to get my hair permed, I was glad to catch up on all the news with Della Bonnell. She and David went to Albuquerque to check up on the two little granddaughters.

Della will be celebrating her birthday on February 20. Post office discussion, family and friends made for a great afternoon. She is back working full time after she fell and broke her wrist some time back.

PHIL AND ERIN DOING BETTER

Reports on Phil Keller and Erin are they are doing a little better each day. So glad to hear these reports and was so sorry to hear of these two being hurt.

Daylene Huey and Juanita are keeping things going at the shop while Donna spends every minute in Albuquerque. Our prayers are with them all. A big thanks to Donna Willoughby for her help in that accident.

James Smith, the new minister at First Christian Church was installed on January 25. Know he will offer as much as Ken Cole and Bill Kennedy to the large congregation. Each one has their own special way of conducting services and we all gain from each one.

The best part of each Sunday service is the beautiful music sung by the choir and the children's moments when a box containing an item one of the little ones brings is used to decide on a topic for a short sermon for the children. The last three items have been a little toy truck, two white horses, and a little Bambi book. Last Sunday the box was missing so another topic was substituted. Music and little ones, two very special gifts from God.

SHERIFF'S POSSE MEETS IN JANUARY, & FEBRUARY

The new year has begun for the many members of the Sheriff's posse and it has begun with a bang. In January the group met and the new officers took their places to begin dealing with good times and trying times.

Clarence Leslie, president; A.D. Powers, vice president; Cindy Williams, secretary; Tom Wolf, treasurer; and Jerry Bertremsen, parliamentarian, were ready to get their committees going. Parade chairmen are, Suzanne O'Malley and Bob Woodard; Jr. Posse, Cindy Williams; LC Pony Express, A.D. and Bob Woodard; Social has Verla at the top with many others as her co-chairmen. Mr. Gibson will be head of search and rescue, with Leon and others again on the financial. Roland Caster and two helpers are doing a fine job on the newsletter. A big job of selling all the posse items is once again being done by the Woodard family.

On Sunday, Feb. 1, the posse met for the second meeting. Two boxes of valentine candy were raffled off, lots of good cakes were served, chaps were given out to the parade members, and much discussion was had over the pony express ride. All want to continue the ride but the ground crew works so hard, they wonder if it's worth it. After a written vote, it was an unbelievable count of 55 members in favor to continue, 11 against and two abstaining from voting. The posse hopes to try one more year at having it open to

took a turn at playing the fiddle and then several of the little cheerleaders did cheer for us when we studied about the football coaches. Stamps have so much to offer everyone.

My friends for 1997-98 year are listed below and are a very special bunch:

Ben Boese, Ronnie Eldridge, Kristie Garcia, Adam Gonzales, Kallie Griffin, Tonya Hair, Cole Hall, Paedon Herrera, Paige Jones, Kevin Kelsay, Steven L'Ecyer, Charlene McCallister, Chris Mosley, Holly Perkins, Tanner Daniel, Katie Polley, Logan Russell, Nikki Stevens, Brandon Talbot, Jimmy Thomas, Drew Wilson, Ashley Ward, John Womack, Betsey Layne.

Mashelle Arellano, Timothy Atkinson, Megan Bloodworth, James Boese, Kerra Carver, Ashley Cole, Daniel Crawford, David Darrah, Lauren Eshom, Tillman Freeman, Chelsey Jensen, J.J. Johns, Brittney LaMay, Veronica Lucero, Matthew Neal, J.B. Peralta, Justin Smith, Shaddon Tercero, Cassandra Trujillo, Derek West, Austin Williams, James Womack, Clint Grahn.

Mozie Sparks has helped me a lot too and is doing a great job as the school secretary. Appreciate the help, Mozie. During Christmas she made a large Christmas card for her door. They asked me to come judge the doors decorated by all the teachers. A very tough job but so much fun. Mozie, Sonie Silva's room and Joanne Washburn's classes were the ones I picked, but made many trips around to decide on three.

Penguins are being read in Mrs. Peralta's room and very interesting pieces of art are being made in Mrs. Johnson's. Once again a big thanks to all these teachers who do more than we ever know to educate our little ones.

Time to head out to work. Will be going to White Mountain for a girl scout stamp presentation.

So til next week, May God be with you and check out the 1998 stamps!

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LEGAL

NOTICE is hereby given that on January 20, 1998, Carol Schlarb, State Engineer, 1900 W. Second Street, Roswell, New Mexico 88201, has issued a permit to change point of diversion and place of use from surface to groundwater of 3.64 acre-foot per annum of surface water of the Rio Grande by causing its diversion via the Avenue Ditch, which has its point of diversion located in the NE1/4 SW1/4 NE1/4 of Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 14 East, N.M.P.M. Applicant proposes to cease the irrigation of 2.7 acres of land located in part of the SW1/4 SW1/4 of Section 14, and part of the NE1/4 SW1/4 of Section 15, both in Township 11 South, Range 14 East, N.M.P.M. Applicant proposes to drill a shallow well 8 inches in diameter and approximately 100 feet in depth at a point in the NE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 29, Township 10 South, Range 14 East, N.M.P.M., for the diversion of up to 3.64 acre-foot per annum of groundwater for the irrigation of 2.7 acres of land located in part of the NE1/4 of Section 29, and part of the SE1/4 of Section 20, both in Township 10 South, Range 14 East, N.M.P.M.

Any person, firm or corporation or other entity objecting that the granting of the application will be detrimental to the objector's water right shall have standing to file objections or protests. Any person, firm or corporation or other entity objecting that the granting of the application will be contrary to the conservation of water within the state or detrimental to the public welfare of the state and showing that the objector will be substantially and specifically affected by the granting of the application shall have standing to file objections or protests. Provided, however, that the State of New Mexico or any of its branches, agencies, departments, boards, instrumentalities or institutions, and all political subdivisions of the state and their agencies, instrumentalities and institutions shall have standing to file objections or protests. The objections or protest shall be in writing and shall set forth specific reasons why the application should not be approved and must be filed, in triplicate, with Thomas C. Turney, State Engineer, 1900 W. Second Street, Roswell, New Mexico 88201, not later than ten (10) days after the date of the last publication of this Notice. If no valid objection or protest is filed, the state engineer will evaluate the application for impairment to existing water rights, public welfare of the state, and conservation of water within the state.

cc: Santa Fe
C/SER No. 2 263 293 261

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 5, 12 and 19, 1998.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE, DESIGNATION OF POLLING PLACES, AND PRECINCT BOARD MEMBERS

The Town of Carrizozo in connection with the regular municipal election to be held on March 3, 1998 and pursuant to 3-8-30 NMSA 1978:

A. Notice is hereby given that the following qualified electors are candidates for public office of the Town of Carrizozo.

The candidates' names are listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot as determined by the drawing of lots.

1.) For the office of Mayor for a four year term: Manuel R. Hernandez Cecilia G. Kuhnel

2.) For the office of Trustees for a four year term: Cynthia Morales Forest Hansell Christina M. Full James W. Silva Ruth Armstrong

B. Notice is hereby given that the following polling place shall be used for the conduct of the regular municipal election to be held March 3, 1998.

1.) Voters in Consolidated Precincts 2A and 13 within the municipal boundaries shall vote at Carrizozo City Hall Conference Room, 100 4th Street, Carrizozo, New Mexico.

2.) Voters in the absent voter precinct will vote at the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

The following Precinct Board members have been appointed:

1.) For Judge in Consolidated Precincts 2A and 13 Don Means

2.) For Clerks in Consolidated Precincts 2A and 13 Lucia Vega Anna B. Burrow

3.) For Alternate Clerk in Consolidated Precincts 2A and 13 Robert Vallejos

4.) For Judge in Absent Voter Precinct 2A and 13 Don Means

5.) For Clerks in Absent Voter Precinct 2A and 13 Lucia Vega Anna B. Burrow

D. Notice is hereby given that a Precinct Board Election School will be held on the 25th day of February, 1998 at the Lincoln County Commissioners Room in Carrizozo, New Mexico. The school will begin at 10:00 a.m. The school is open to the public.

Dated this 27th day of January, 1998.

CAROL SCHLARB
Municipal Clerk

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 5, and February 12, 1998.

LEGAL

AVISO DE NOMBRES DE CANDIDATOS PARA CARGO PUBLICO, DESIGNACION DE LOCALES PARA VOTAR Y MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA DIRECTIVA DE PRECINTO

El Pueblo de Carrizozo, Nuevo Mexico con respecto a la eleccion municipal regular que se llevara a cabo el dia 3 de marzo de 1998 y de acuerdo con 3-8-30 NMSA 1978:

A. Por medio de la presente se da noticia que los siguientes electores calificados son candidatos por puesto publico del Pueblo de Carrizozo, Nuevo Mexico.

Los nombres de los candidatos aparecen en la orden que figuraran en la balota segun determinado por sorteo:

1.) Para el puesto de Alcalde por un termino de cuatro anos: Manuel R. Hernandez Cecilia G. Kuhnel

2.) Para el puesto de Fiduciario por un termino de cuatro anos: Cynthia Morales Forest Hansell Christina M. Full James W. Silva Ruth Armstrong

Por medio de la presente se da noticia que los siguientes electores calificados son candidatos por puesto publico municipal regular que se llevara a cabo el dia 3 de marzo de 1998:

1.) Votantes en los Precintos 2A y 13 dentro del lindero municipal votaran en Pueblo de Carrizozo, Cuarto de Fiduciario, 100 4th Street, Carrizozo, Nuevo Mexico.

2.) Votantes en el precinto de votantes ausentes votaran en la oficina de la Escribana Municipal.

C. Los siguientes miembros del Cuerpo Directivo del Precinto han sido nombrados:

1.) Para el juez en los Precintos Consolidados 2A y 13 Don Means Para escribana en los Precintos Consolidados 2A y 13 Lucia Vega Anna B. Burrow

2.) Para el alternativo escribano en los Precintos Consolidados 2A y 13 Robert Vallejos

3.) Para el juez en los Precintos 2A y 13 del votante ausentista Don Means Para las escribanas en los Precintos 2A y 13 del votante ausentista Lucia Vega Anna B. Burrow

D. Por medio de la presente se da noticia que se llevara a cabo una "Escuela" sobre la Eleccion del Cuerpo Directivo del Precinto el dia 25th de Febrero, 1998 en el Cuarto de los Comisionados, 300 Central Avenue, Carrizozo, Nuevo Mexico. La "Escuela" empezara a las 10:00 a.m. La "Escuela" esta abierta al publico.

Fechado este dia 27 de Enero de 1998.

CAROL SCHLARB
Escribana Municipal

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 5, and February 12, 1998.

LEGAL NOTICE

The following individuals have been certified, by the Village Clerk, as eligible candidates and will appear on the ballot in the following order for the upcoming municipal election:

For the position of Mayor: #1. Ernest Luoras

For position #1 Councilmembers: #1. Lee Roy Mulkey #2. Mitchell K. Adamson

For position #2 Councilmembers: #1. Robert L. Burroughs #2. Margret Holleyman #3. Gilbert Stewart Jr.

The following people will serve as election officials at the Municipal election on March 3, 1998:

Election Judge: Johnnie Erramouspe
Election Clerk: Cathy Yancey
Election Clerk: Theresa Barajas
& Interpreter: Theresa Barajas
Alternate Election Clerks: Renee Kessler
Tessie Montana

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 5 and 12, 1998.

LEGAL NOTICE
There will be an election school for election workers and alternates on February 18, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village Hall, Corona, NM for the upcoming municipal election.

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, February 5, 1998.

LEGAL
Lincoln County Medical Center Community Board of Trustees will meet on Thursday, February 19, 1998, at 8:00 p.m., in the Hospital Conference Room. The Agenda will be available at the Administrator's Office, on Monday, February 16, 1998.

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 5 and 12, 1998.

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF LINCOLN STATE OF NEW MEXICO

No. CV-98-02
Division III

IN THE MATTER OF)
THE PETITION OF)
DELIA NELSON FOR)
THE CHANGE OF)
NAME OF NICHOLE)
MARIE YBARRA.)

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND NOTICE OF HEARING

COMES NOW the Petitioner, by and through her attorney Pamela Beckman Dobbs, and hereby gives notice that a Petition for Change of Name was filed in Carrizozo, Lincoln County, New Mexico, the 12th day of January, 1998, requesting that Nichole Marie Ybarra's name be changed to Nichole Marie Nelson.

Furthermore, Petitioner hereby gives notice of a hearing on the Petitioner's Petition for Change of Name, which shall be held before the Honorable Karen L. Parsons, at 8:30 a.m. on the 18th day of February, 1998, at the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, New Mexico, whereby the Court will sign the final Order changing Nichole Marie Ybarra's name to Nichole Marie Nelson.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aids or services to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Carol Schlarb or Margarete LeBlanc at 648-2571, City Hall, Carrizozo, New Mexico at

ATTEST: Freda McGowan, Secretary

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 5 and 12, 1998.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Body of the Town of Carrizozo will hold their Regular Scheduled Meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 1998 at 8:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room, Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301.

AGENDA WILL BE POSTED in accordance with Resolution 97-15, Twenty-Four hours prior to meeting date and made available to the public.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aids or services to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Carol Schlarb or Margarete LeBlanc at 648-2571, City Hall, Carrizozo, New Mexico at

Next one week prior to the meeting of the Board at 8:00 p.m.

DARRE SCHLARB, CHIEFMAN, Town Clerk, Town of Carrizozo, Carrizozo, NM. Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, February 5, 1998.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lincoln County Planning Commission will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, February 19, 1998. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, N.M.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ROLL CALL/
INTRODUCTIONS
III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 15, 1998

V. Request for Replat of Tract 11, Block 6, Unit 2, Captain North Subdivision. Mr. Lavin Chavez.

VI. ADJOURN

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, February 5, 1998.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Captain-Carrizozo Natural Gas is accepting sealed bids for a 1998 Chevrolet One Ton 4x4 Truck. The truck may be seen at the business office at 217 Lincoln in Capitan, NM between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A minimum bid of \$2,500 will be required.

Reference "1998 Chevrolet Truck" on the outside of the sealed envelope and deliver it to the business office or mail it to Kay Strickland, Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas, P.O.

LINCOLN HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

REGULAR MEETING February 17, 1998 7:00 p.m.

NOTICE OF MEETING Notice is hereby given that the Lincoln Historic

Preservation Board will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, February 17, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall Building, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincoln County, New Mexico.

Agenda of the meeting for the February 17, 1998 meeting will be available at the office of the County Manager prior to said meeting.

Auxiliary signs are available upon request. Contact Martha Guevara at 648-2566 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

MARTHA GUEVARA, Assistant County Manager

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, February 5, 1998.

Corona News

The sun shines daily, but the snow banks and fray ice linger, all from our Christmas week storm.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Holman of Tucuman spent the weekend with the Virgil Owen family.

Our 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th coed basketball teams play in Estancia each Saturday. Corona's varsity boys and girls won their last game in the BVC tournament Saturday.

John Wayne has a snake story for you. He was doing some plumbing at the Nolan Vickrey residence one day last week when he tossed a piece of pipe into a nest of rattlesnakes. It disturbed their hibernation in a niche under the floor. He collected fourteen rattlers. Two died, and he gave a big one to some people interested in a rattlesnake dinner. He probably would sell eleven at a bargain.

Mrs. Virgil Owen and daughter, Leanna drove to Cuba Friday to meet another daughter, Laurie Petros and her children, Karissa and Dillon, and niece Lisa Oliver. Lisa is from Farmington, the Petroses from Cortez, CO. The grandchildren will stay here this week while their mother and Petros grandparents go to Quartzsite, AZ to search for and purchase gem stones for their work in silversmithing.

Watch for a new columnist next week.



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

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) JOHNIE L. JOHNSON, pastor Corner of C Ave. & Thirteenth, 648-2188
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: Captain Sacred Heart 6:00 pm
C'ozzo Santa Rita 6:30 pm
SUNDAY: Captain Sacred Heart 9:00 am
C'ozzo 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 FR. A. TRIPP, priest Corner of E Ave. & 6th, Carrizozo, NM 1-258-4124
Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Sunday

United Methodist Churches BOB BOVD, pastor Trinity - Carrizozo 1000 D. Ave., 648-2893/648-2846
Sunday School (All Ages) 10:00 am

Worship Service 11:10 am
Choir Practice (Wednesday) 6:30 pm
United Methodist Women Evary 3rd Wednesday 1:00 pm
Fellowship Dinner 4th 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.

Mountain Ministry Parish, Sierra Blanca Presbytery DON & MARJORIE DANIELS, co-pastors 648-2850
Nogal Presbyterian Church: Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.

Anecho 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 / 338-4827
Sunday Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Southern Baptist Church FLOYD GOODLOE, pastor Capitan (South on Highway 48) 354-3119
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
AWANA Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

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Hondo Valley Public Schools Honor Roll



2nd New Weeks
Elementary
Second Grade:
 Superintendent's (straight A's): Brian Aragon; B Honor Roll: Alycia Chavez, Amanda Gomez, Janis Gonzales, Brenda Lucero, Dolores Medina, Patricia Sanchez, Trisha Yocum.
Third Grade:
 Superintendent's (straight A's): Morgan Thomas; A Honor Roll: Justine Candelaria, Theo Evans, Pancho Ontiveros; B Honor Roll: Patrick Chavez, Angelle Garcia, Viviana Marquez,

Maegan Parmlay.
Fourth Grade:
 Honor Roll: Angelica Chavez; B Honor Roll: Daniel Chavez, Fidel Hernandez, Toba Salcido.
Fifth Grade:
 A Honor Roll: Jamie Garcia, Humberto Lerma; B Honor Roll: E.J. Sanchez, Airka Perez, J.C. Yocum.
Sixth Grade:
 Superintendent's (straight A's): Audrey Thomas; A Honor Roll: Samantha Gomez, Harmony Haun; B Honor Roll: Saul Acosta, Robbie Burchett, Elijah Chavez, Santanna

Gonzales, Josephine Gutierrez, Derek McTeigue, David Miranda, Melanie Miranda, Jenny Nowell, Joseph Ontiveros, Lauren Richardson, Mark Silva.
Secondary
 Superintendent's-3.7 and above, Honor Roll-3.0-3.69.
Seventh Grade:
 Superintendent's: Jessica Candelaria; Honor Roll: Jackie Chavez, Randi Gomez, Dominic Ortega, Sara Romero.
Eighth Grade:
 Superintendent's: Carlos Miranda; Honor Roll: Stefanie Archuleta, Christina Sanchez,

Fabian Sanchez, Sarah Sanchez, Tyler Sisneros.
Ninth Grade:
 Superintendent's: Kizzy Haun; Honor Roll: Chriselda Acosta, Adan Lerma, Katherine Montoya, Jose Luis Ontiveros, Dava Perez.
Tenth Grade:
 Superintendent's: Chassidy Gonzales, Tashina Herrera, Narcisca Montoya, Martin Richardson, Kristen Romero, Jessica Ann Sanchez; Honor Roll: Mia Kincaid, Ismael Miranda, Philbert Salas, Jessica Renee Sanchez.
Eleventh Grade:
 Superintendent's: Joshua Candelaria, Yadira Lerma, Sandra Medina, Adam Romero, Bethany Sanchez; Honor Roll: Christina Chavez, Karla Martinez, Kevin Slocum.
Twelfth Grade:
 Superintendent's: Bismark Aguilera, Maria Alvarado, Jason Candelaria, Adam Herrera, Alejandro Lerma, Jackie Sanchez, Glen White; Honor Roll: Felipe Sanchez, Jeffrey Sanchez, Fred Schlageter.

Ontiveros and Mark Silva, 4th grade, and Patricia Montoya and Antonio Sanchez, 5th grade.

Firefighter's Pack Test
 As of January 1, the Forestry Division of the State of New Mexico has adopted the Pack Test as the standard for physical fitness. This test along with the firefighter's all qualifications will be completed by firefighters as required by the Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) and New Mexico State Forestry. For persons wanting to fight wildland fires for the Forestry Division. The test consists of a three mile hike on level ground with a 45 pound pack, in 45 minutes or less. The test will become available in locations around the Capitan District, in mid March to early April. Interested persons are encouraged to start preparing now for the test. For information contact Bill Rouse at 505-354-2231 or Robby Hall at 505-257-4116.

(Continued from Page 6)

and Carizozo vs Ruidoso at 6:30 p.m. Boys finals will be Feb. 14 at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Hondo Geography Bee

The National Geography Bee was held recently at Hondo Public School. The 10 finalists were composed of the top two scorers from each of the 4th through 8th grades. Tyler Sisneros, 8th grade, won at the school level and has taken a written test to try to be eligible to compete at the state level which will be the top 100 scorers on the written test. The state competition will be in Albuquerque April 3. State champions can participate in the national competition May 19 and 20 in Washington, D.C. The National Geographic Society will provide an all expense paid trip for state winners. Second place at the school level went to Shannon McNatt, 8th grade, and third place went to E.J. Sanchez in the 5th grade. Other finalists were Joseph Brady and Fidel Hernandez, 4th grade, Jamie Garcia, 5th grade, Joseph

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

The rural bookmobile will be in the county next week. The following is a schedule of stops:
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
 Corona Post Office..... 12:30-2:30 p.m.
 Carizozo Otero Electric..... 4-6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
 Carizozo Otero Electric..... 7:30-8:30 a.m.
 Nagal Store..... 9-10 a.m.
 Capitan Smokey Bear Cafe..... 10:30-12:00 p.m.
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 Lincoln Post Office..... 2:45-3:30 p.m.
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 2tc/feb. 5 & 12

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WANTED: Outpost Bar and Grill hiring bartender, and cleaning/prep person. Call 648-3194 or 648-9984.
 ttn/Jan. 29

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
 The U.S. Postal Service will be issuing Solicitation No. 072976-98-A-0058, on or about January 16, 1998, for the following project.
NEW CONSTRUCTION LEASED FACILITY MAIN POST OFFICE RUIDOSO DOWNS, NM 88348-9998
 The project is to construct a USPS facility of approximately 6,774 gross square feet on an uncontrolled site between 55,000 to 75,000 net usable square feet. The preferred area boundary is:
 North: Adjacent to Highway 70
 South: Adjacent to Highway 70
 East: Parker Road
 West: Ruidoso Downs Racetrack Entrance
 Plans and specifications will be made available on or about January 16, 1998, at a NON-REFUNDABLE CHARGE OF \$25.00 per set. Please make check payable to "A&D DRAFT AID, (one check per solicitation).
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 ADDRESS TO OBTAIN SOLICITATIONS: ATTN. DIANA ESQUERRA, A&D DRAFT AID INC., P.O. BOX 40877, DENVER, CO 80204-0877, (303) 573-5757, FAX (303) 573-8714
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 REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST: GARY MYERS, (602) 223-3614, Voice Mail (602) 362-7529
 ARCHITECT/ENGINEER: JERRY SOUKUP (303) 220-6563

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
 The U.S. Postal Service will be issuing Solicitation No. 072976-98-A-0058, on or about January 16, 1998, for the following project.
NEW CONSTRUCTION LEASED FACILITY MAIN POST OFFICE ALTO, NM 88312-9998
 The project is to construct a USPS facility of approximately 6,774 gross square feet on an uncontrolled site between 55,000 to 75,000 square feet in Alto, New Mexico. The preferred area boundary is:
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SPORTS

Grizzly Basketball Results

BOYS VARSITY

January 17

Grizzlies opened district play by traveling to Corona and ran into a strong Cardinal team, losing by the score of 48-67.

Carrizozo ran into the same problem of starting off slow and were down by eight points after the first period and trailed by 16 points at halftime. Grizzlies managed to make a game of it by outscoring Corona 25-15 in third period, but could get no closer than five points.

Simon Beltran had his best game of the season for the Grizzlies scoring a team high 18 points, Josh Vega was right behind with 17 points (including five 3-pointers), and Ryan Roper added 13. For Corona Marshall scored a game high 25 points.

January 23

Vaughn Eagles came to the Grizzly Den on the 23rd and edged out the host Grizzlies 54 to 51. "We had a shot at winning this one", said Grizzly coach Rick Beserra,

"but a bad third period did us in."

Grizzlies were hurt by converting only 7 out of 16 free throw attempts, which has been a problem throughout the season, with Carrizozo converting only 48 percent of their charity tosses as a team.

J.P. Ortiz led Carrizozo scoring with 12 points, Vega added 11.

January 24

Another slow start in their match against Mountainair on Feb. 24 did the Grizzly team in... final score Mountainair 64, Carrizozo 51.

Grizzlies fell behind by 11 at the end of first period, and trailed by 17 by halftime. Carrizozo rallied strong in the third period and managed to get within 6 points before running out of gas. Vega scored 15 points for Carrizozo, Beltran was also in double figures with 10 points.

January 29

Trip to Hagerman was next and the Bobcats roughed up the Grizzlies by the score of

75 to 47 in a no contest game. Carrizozo trailed by 20 points at halftime, and Hagerman cruised in the second half.

Ortiz had a nice game for the Grizzlies with 16 points, Roper chipped in with 13.

January 31

Carrizozo still shell-shocked from the Hagerman game, was unable to get things going at Fort Sumner and fell big time to the Foxes 74-38. Roper scored 15 for the Grizzlies, Vega added 10.

GIRLS VARSITY

January 17

Carrizozo and Corona girls put on a good show that finally saw the Lady Cardinals prevailing by the score of 51-42. Foul trouble for the Grizzlies in the final period gave the Cardinals the advantage as they outscored Carrizozo 16-8 in the quarter.

Carrizozo was led in scoring by Renee Rael with 14 points and Amber Vallejos with 13, both girls fouled out early in the 4th quarter, Stella Brewer added nine points for the Grizzlies.

January 23

Carrizozo back on the winning track after defeating an undermanned team from Vaughn by the score of 64-57. Rael had a good night with 36 points, Vallejos scored 11, and Melanie Whittaker added 8.

January 24

"We were in this one all

the way", remarked coach Beserra, as his Lady Grizzly team lost a close one to Mountainair by the score of 52-48.

Carrizozo had had night at the charity line missing 13 out of 25 free ones. "We didn't play a good game", said Beserra, "but still had a chance to win this one." Rael scored 25 for Carrizozo, Vallejos added 12.

January 29

Grizzlies were no match for a good Hagerman team and fell to the Bobcats by the score of 67-29.

January 31

Trip to Fort Sumner proved disastrous for the young Grizzly team, as the Vixens ran away with this one by the score of 69-19.

"Intimidation made the difference in this game", said coach Beserra, "we (both boys and girls) have to overcome attitude that they can't compete against certain teams, like Hagerman and Fort Sumner... because they can!"

Next up for both the boys and girls will be a rematch against Mountainair (today) Thursday, in Carrizozo - girls tipoff set for 8:00 p.m. boys game to follow. Friday, Feb. 6 both boys and girls will travel to Vaughn and battle the Eagles with tipoff also at 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 10 Grizzlies will host Corona with girls game beginning at 8:00 p.m., boys to follow.

Friday, Feb. 13 will find Fort Sumner visiting Carrizozo with girls getting things started at 8:00 p.m. Activities will include an enchilada supper at school cafeteria beginning at 4:00 p.m., with proceeds to be used to send basketball players to summer camps.

Sen. Pete Campos Reports

(Continued from Page 5)

from about 400 to 570, a 42 percent increase. The second bill would require new state police officers to have completed two years of college at the time of their appointment and would appropriate more than \$4 million to raise salaries for state police officers.

"The men and women of the state police are the people we rely on when our cars break down on the highway, when bad weather hits our communities or when criminals threaten our safety," Campos said. "We need to do everything possible to recruit and retain good, dedicated police officers. We cannot afford to lose them to other departments, especially to out-of-state police departments."

Campos pointed to a compensation study conducted by the state police that found that the salaries paid to patrol officers, sergeants and lieutenants were all below market levels. The salaries for captains and majors were above average at the minimum salary level and below the market average at the upper end of the range.

The compensation study recommended that the salaries for patrol officers and sergeants be established at five percent above the market average, or an average of about \$31,860 and \$41,520 respectively, and that the salaries for lieutenant through major be established at the market average. The study, conducted by David M. Griffith and Associates of Dallas in November 1997, found that the current salaries for captains and majors are at the market average and recommended increases in the sala-

ries for patrol officers, sergeants and lieutenants.

"The men and women who put their lives on the line for the rest of us need to be compensated fairly. There is no good reason to underpay our state police officers," Campos said.

Campos also pointed to a manpower study conducted by the department of public safety especially for use during the 1998 legislative session. The study found that to increase the number of officers on the street at any one time from 44 to 81, an additional 178 officers are needed. "The plain truth is we need more men and women in those uniforms and in those squad cars out on our roads."

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