

CSI Will Continue To Manage Jail Until July

by Doris Cherry

Correctional Systems, Inc. will continue to manage the Lincoln County Detention Center until June 30, 1999.

During their regular meeting on December 8, Lincoln County Commissioners on a 3-2 vote renewed the jail management contract for another half year for \$37,924. The contract with Correctional Systems, Inc. (CSI) expired December 31.

County commissioners Monroy Montes and Wilton

Howell voted against the renewal. During discussion on extending the contract, Howell said that at some point they should consider hiring an individual as jail administrator. "We're paying a premium (for CSI) and we're not relieving ourselves of any liability," Howell said. "In essence we're paying \$78,000 a year for a jail manager."

County commission chairman Ray Nunley said while that was true, CSI's management allowed the county to

still have the jail open. "And they've (CSI) earned the trust of the state fire marshal," Nunley added.

Montes said the commission had "lost sight of what they were doing" when they hired CSI during an emergency to clean up the mess in the jail. "I think spending \$78,000 is twice what we could be paying an administrator," Montes added.

Howell said he thought the decision was to let CSI run the county jail privately and

also assume the liability. But county attorney Alan Morel said the county has no option but to continue with the current status. Because of the emergency situation with the jail, no insurance company will cover CSI's jail operations.

Until the county completes its new jail, Nunley said, there is no option but keep CSI managing the detention center. "I think the state fire marshal would say he wants someone as honest and

straight forward (as CSI) in our jail," Nunley said. "He (state fire marshal) doesn't want someone to call him about closing the jail."

County manager Tom Stewart said in March he will post an announcement for the jail administrator job to begin July 1.

CSI was the loser on a request for proposal for electronic monitoring of prisoners. At commissioners' request, an rfp was issued to proposals on the electronic "bracelet" program

that allows inmates to serve their time in a house arrest situation, thus freeing space in the jail. The only responder was Sentencing Concepts, Inc. a full subsidiary of CSI. Commissioners rejected the proposal which was for more money than the current \$6 a day charge for inmates. Stewart said he was concerned inmates would be unable to afford the higher cost, thus

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OUTGOING COUNTY COMMISSIONER Monroy Montes shows a plaque presented to him in honor of his years of service given to the county. Montes, first elected in 1990, held the office of District 5 Lincoln County Commissioner until this year. Montes served as chairman of the commission for seven of the eight years. Commissioner Wilton Howell presented the plaque to Montes during the December 8 regular county commission meeting in Carrizozo.

Warning Lights Will Be Installed On Gavilan Road

by Doris Cherry

Next year's little league baseball season may be a little safer for kids playing at the Gavilan Canyon ball field thanks to the Lincoln County Commissioners.

During their regular December 8 meeting in the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, commissioners approved the installation of two flashing lights on Gavilan Canyon Road at the baseball field near Ruidoso. Although the ball field is owned by the village of Ruidoso, the road belongs to the county. County commissioner Wilton Howell, who requested the light, said he thought it is a good cause because children often run out into the street to retrieve stray balls. Gavilan Canyon Road has always been heavily used, but has more traffic now that construction is underway on Highway 48.

Ruidoso will be responsible

for paying electricity for the light. Commissioners discussed who will be responsible for turning on the light when the field is in use. County manager Tom Stewart said he talked with a little league person who recommended a switch be installed in the concession stand that will be built with funds provided by the county. Whenever the

field is used the adults in charge will be responsible for turning on the light. Commissioners also recommended a timer, that could be programmed to come on at certain times of day, week, or month. This would relieve any liability if the teams using the field forgot to turn on the

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County Special Meeting Today In Ruidoso Downs

by Doris Cherry

Before the Lincoln County News hits the newsstands today, the Lincoln County Commissioners will be conducting a special meeting at Ruidoso Downs Senior Center.

The meeting began at 9 a.m. to consider several items. On the agenda provided by

the county manager's office, commissioners were to consider a proposal from Preferred Building Systems, Inc. of Albuquerque to lease the county a 600 square foot prefabricated temporary building that would serve as a minimum security dormitory for Lincoln County Detention Center trustees and inmates involved in the work release program.

After that item, commissioners will again consider what they will charge government entities that hire work release inmates from the county jail. At their December 8 meeting, commissioners approved the work release programs, but could not agree on a charge for inmates who

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Capitan Villagers Do Not Want Assessment

by Doris Cherry

Capitan residents crowded village hall Monday night to voice their opposition to a proposed assessment fee to pay for a state loan to finance village projects.

Following the failure of the bond issue election that would have financed water improvements, purchase of road equipment and road improvements, and added to village hall, village officials began looking for money to do these projects without raising property taxes. Since the village now has no revenue from property taxes, officials decided to go to the state legislature to request funds from capital outlay or from severance tax bonds. However in the past, whenever the village sought state money from the legislature it was sent away empty handed because it had not pursued all available avenues for funding, including

a loan from the state Finance Authority.

The New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) was established by the state legislature in 1992 to provide low interest loans to governmental entities for various governmental projects. However, borrowing entities must show they have a method to pay back the loans.

Last month trustees voted to file an application for a NMFA loan before they went to the legislature, to show the house appropriation committee the village had pursued all avenues for funding before seeking state grants. But in order to file for the NMFA loan, the village had to establish a payback method. Since imposing a gross receipt tax (of 1/8 percent) requires a referendum, trustees voted to hold public hearings on a proposed ordinance that would establish an assess-

ment fee added to water bills.

Monday night, during the public hearing on the proposed ordinance citizens claimed the village was "blind-sighting" residents by passing the fee without their knowledge, and the fee was illegal without a referendum. Citizens didn't want the village to apply for the NMFA loan if it meant imposing the assessment.

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LCSWA Schedule For Christmas Week

The Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority (LCSWA) announced dates for picking up trash have been changed next week because of Christmas.

Christmas week schedule:
Monday, Dec. 21 Ruidoso Downs.
Tuesday, Dec. 22 Carrizozo.
Wednesday, Dec. 23 Capitan.



NEW MEXICO HIGHWAY CREWS man the roadblock on Highway 380 at the Nogal turnoff Wednesday to divert traffic away from an accident involving a propane tanker truck. Police and highway crews manned roadblocks on Highway 380 from Tuesday morning until late Wednesday while 9,000 gallons of propane were burned off.

Propane Tanker Accident Shuts Down Highway 380

by Doris Cherry

Motorists along Highway 380 between Capitan and Carrizozo were detoured for two days this week after a tanker transport truck loaded with 9,000 gallons of propane crashed off the highway on Indian Divide very early Tuesday morning.

According to Lincoln County Sheriff's office, a citizen called

in the report of the tanker accident on Highway 380 at 4:47 a.m. Tuesday, December 15. Carrizozo Fire Department and ambulance responded to the accident at mile marker 77, which is about 12 miles east of Carrizozo. According to reports, a valve on the tank ruptured and began leaking when it landed at the bottom of the ravine south of the

roadway. State police were called to the accident to investigate and to close the highway to keep traffic away from the tanker which was leaking propane.

Carrizozo fire fighters who responded said they could smell propane before they arrived at the accident scene.

(SEE PAGE 3)

The Carrizozo Fire Department wishes to invite community volunteers to assist in the distribution and lighting of the luminarias on Christmas Eve beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Fire Hall.

We would also like to wish everyone a
Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

CSI Will Continue To Manage

(Continued from Page 1)

reducing the number partici- population even higher.
 patating and making the jail Commissioners approved

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several other options to reducing inmate population during their December 8 meeting. They approved two work release programs that allow eligible inmates to participate in either a supervisor or employer work release programs. The supervisor program was drafted primarily to provide inmates to work for Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority. With this program, eligible inmates can work to reduce their jail time, and will not be paid, or if the inmate is not eligible for good time, the entity using the inmate labor will pay a nominal fee. Commissioners added a \$10 per day administrative fee to be charged to the entity using the inmate program.

Employer work release allows an inmate who had a job before being sentenced to jail to keep that job and also allows eligible inmates to be hired to work during the day outside the jail. With a unanimous vote of commissioners, the county will take 25 percent of the inmate's paycheck to cover the costs of incarcerating the inmate. Employer's must pay at least minimum wage and must cover the inmate with workers compensation. All inmates paychecks are sent directly to the detention center and held until the inmate is released.

With both programs, employers must pick up the inmate in the morning and return the inmate in the afternoon.

County commissioner Rex Wilson wanted to see how the program is working and asked for a future report.

Commissioner's highly favored proposal offered by Mike Borrego, jail administrator, to establish an alternative inmate housing program that

will keep the jail population to 35, while providing an alternative space for minimum security inmates. In a memo from Borrego to Stewart, Borrego wrote he anticipated an increase in the number of inmates participating in the electronic monitoring, work release and trustee program. However, the way the current jail is laid out, the detention center has only space for 10 inmates in the trustee and work release programs. Trustees and work release inmates cannot be housed with the general jail population because of security concerns.

In the memo Borrego provided a good reason for the halfway house proposal by showing the cost to keep inmates out of county (\$23,776.20 in October alone) versus the cost of renovating the county owned house or purchasing a pre-manufactured unit, (\$18 to \$22,000) plus hiring an additional detention officer to man it (\$18,000 a year). Also by taking the minimum security trustees out of the jail, it would free up space to bring back the inmates who are currently housed at CCA in Torrance County or at the Otero County Detention Center.

Stewart told commissioners he would issue an rfp for a prefabricated unit to be installed by the voting machine storage building across from the current jail.

Wilson said he talked with a person from San Juan County where an alternative housing program is going on and was a proponent of such a program. However, he did not support renovating the old county-owned house now used for storage.

Howell proposed renting existing space in Carrizozo. Stewart said the idea of renovating the county owned house was because it was close to the detention center which would provide food, laundry and other service.

Commissioners instructed Stewart to look at temporary housing in Carrizozo for the program. Howell suggested they have a special meeting to take action on the program, because of the cost to keep inmates out of the county. "We're paying \$500 to \$1,000 a day to house inmates out of the county," Howell said.

In other jail business, commissioners:

Reviewed the draft request for proposals for the new Lincoln County Detention Center. The rfp calls for proposals to design, finance, construct and potentially operate a 100 bed adult detention facility within the city limits of Carrizozo. The rfp is modeled after one issued by McKinley county. A copy of the draft rfp has been sent to the New Mexico Association of Counties technical advisor and to CSI director Charlie Turnbo for comment. Stewart said the final rfp will be ready for review, approval and issue at the January 12 commission meeting.

Unanimously approved an agreement with Chaves County for housing juvenile detainees at the Chaves County Juvenile Detention Center for \$105 a day. Commissioners approved the agreement as an "escape valve" because most juveniles are sent either to Otero or Quay County.

27 Candidates File For School Board Positions

Twenty seven Lincoln County residents filed with the Lincoln County Clerk for 17 positions on the five school districts' boards of education. School board elections will be held on February 2, 1999.

Candidates for positions in the districts are as follows:

Capitan: (all four year terms) Position 1—John T. McGrath, Grant W. Dean; Position 4—Ervin T. Aldaz, Gary R. Tregembo, Joel M. Crossno; Position 5—James R. Hobbs.

Carrizozo: (all four year terms) Position 1—Paul F. Baca, Steve P. Harkey; Position 2—Lisa Shivers; Position 3—LeeRoy Zamora.

Corona: (all four year

terms) Position 1—Sherry E. Luera, Catherine Muniz, N. Denise Byrd, Rosetta Lynn Gilmore, William G. Bryan; Position 2—Richard L. Gage; Position 3—Ernest Luera.

Hondo: Position 1 (two years remaining on four year term)—Lucinda Lovelace; Position 2 (two years remaining on four year term)—Jimmy R. Aragon; Position 3 (four year term)—Braulio Alvarado Sr.; Position 4 (four year term)—Curtis P. McTeigue; Position 5 (four year term)—Jimmy McTeigue.

Ruidoso: (all four year terms) Position 1—Ron Lewis, Susan M. Lutterman; Position 2—Frank Sayner, Robert (Mike) Lynch; Position 3—Ronnie Hemphill.

Hondo School Honor Roll

First Grade: Superintendent's - Esther Gonzalez, Ralph Miranda, Tito Montoya; B Average - Cristy Coleman, Jerry Lee Gutierrez, Mariana Lopez, Maria Rodriguez, Anthony Valdes, Alicia Willetto.

Second Grade: Superintendent's - Letitia Vasquez; A Average - Toney Montoya; B Average - James Colvin, Angela Prudencia, D'edra Romero, Camille Sandoval, Dorotea Salcido.

Third Grade: Superintendent's - Brian Aragon; A Average - Janis Gonzalez; B Average - Alycia Chavez, Brenda Lucero, Patricio Sanchez.

Fourth Grade: B Average - Justine Candelaria, Angelito Garcia.

Fifth Grade: B Average - Angelica Chavez.

Sixth Grade: A Average - Humberto Lermo; B Average - Jamie Garcia, Arika Perez, E.J. Sanchez.

Secondary and High School Superintendent's 3.7 and above, Honor Roll 3.0 to 3.69.

Seventh Grade: Superintendent's - Samantha Gomez, Harmony Haur; Honor Roll - Josephine Gutierrez, Derek McTeigue, David Miranda, Joseph Ontiveros, Lauren Richardson.

Eighth Grade: Superintendent's -

Jessica Candelaria; Honor Roll - Margarita Baca, Jackie Chavez, Randi Gomez, Patricia Montoya, Dominic Ortega, Sara Romero.

Ninth Grade: Superintendent's - Stefanie Archuleta, Pamela Fietak, Carlos Miranda, Christina Sanchez, Sarah Sanchez.

Tenth Grade: Superintendent's - Dave Perez; Honor Roll - Adan Lerma, Sadi Romero.

Eleventh Grade: Superintendent's - Tashina Herrera, Narciso Montoya, Martin Richardson, Jessica Ann Sanchez; Honor Roll - Mia Kincaid, Ismael Miranda, Kristen Romero, Philbert Salas.

Twelfth Grade: Superintendent's - Christina Chavez, Karla Martinez, Sandra Medina, Adam Romero, Bethany Sanchez; Honor Roll - Joshua Candelaria, Yadira Lerma, Melinda McTeigue, Patricia Sanchez.

Carrizozo Police Assist State Police

Carrizozo Police assisted Socorro state police who were searching for the driver of a red Chevy Camaro who allegedly brandished a firearm at another vehicle on Highway 380.

According to Carrizozo Police Chief Angelo Vega, on December 13 Carrizozo police officer James Steck stopped the red Camaro at the intersection of Highway 380 and 54 in Carrizozo in response to a call that originated from state police out of Socorro.

Steck detained the driver, Tim Crawford and his juvenile passenger, then Steck and Lincoln County sheriff's deputies searched the vehicle. They found an unknown amount of marijuana and several drug paraphernalia items on both persons.

The case was handed over to New Mexico State Police out of Socorro where it originated.

Santa Rita Catholic Community Schedule For Christmas Eve

Posadas will be celebrated Saturday, December 19 following the Santa Rita 6:30 p.m. Mass at the Santa Rita Parish Rectory in Carrizozo, followed by the Christmas party for parish volunteers. Bring a potluck dish and your favorite beverage.

Christmas Mass Schedule for Christmas Eve, December 24:

St. Theresa, Corona, 5:30 p.m.
 Sacred Heart Capitan Posadas 7:45 p.m. Mass at 8 p.m.
 San Juan, Lincoln 10 p.m.
 Santa Rita, Carrizozo, Mid-night Mass.

Schedule for Christmas Day, December 25:

Sacred Heart, Capitan 9 a.m.
 Santa Rita, Carrizozo 10:30 a.m.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FIRST & THIRD TUESDAYS

—Craig Hipple of the District II Office of the State Engineer is at Ruidoso-Village Hall from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

TUESDAYS

—Alcoholic Anonymous 9 p.m. Carrizozo Senior Citizens Center. Call 648-1145 for information.

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

—Ruidoso Public Library story time, 2-3 p.m. Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m. Thursdays, for children 3-6.

THURSDAYS

—Preschool Story Hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Carrizozo School Library, for children 3-6.

—Lincoln County Adult Singles Group 6:30 p.m. Call 354-2635 or 258-3201 for information and location. Or e-mail at www.nogal.com/leasg.

—Alcoholics Anonymous 8 p.m. Carrizozo Senior Center. Call 648-1145 for information.

FRIDAYS

—Alcoholics Anonymous big book open discussion 7-8 p.m. Capitan Senior Center 354-4032 for information.

—Metaphysical discussion group in Carrizozo, 6:30 p.m. call 648-5434 for information.

TODAY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

—Lincoln County Commission special meeting, 9 a.m. Ruidoso Downs Senior Citizens Center.

—Ruidoso-Lincoln County Extraterritorial Zoning Authority special meeting 10:30 a.m. Ruidoso Downs Senior Citizens Center.

—Ruidoso Ad Hoc Economic Development Committee 4 p.m. village hall.

—Capitan Board of Education rescheduled meeting 6 p.m. administration building.

—ENMU Community Orchestra Concert 7 p.m. First Christian Church, Hull Road, Ruidoso. Rescheduled from last week.

—Capitan Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest continues through December 20.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

—Blood Drive, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Gateway Church of Christ, 415 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso.

—Santa visits Capitan Elementary, preschool children at 8:30 a.m. Magic Show at 10:30 a.m. in Carmine's Gym.

—Early dismissal for Capitan and Carrizozo schools for Christmas holiday.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

—Santa Claus visits Carrizozo, 2 p.m. Spencer Park.

—Posada following 6:30 p.m. mass at Santa Rita Church parish rectory, followed by Christmas party for parish volunteers.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

—Microwave Christmas Candy workshop, 6-8 p.m. Ruidoso Senior Center, free. Reserve space by calling 648-2311.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

—Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest. Judging starts at 7 p.m. Call Eileen at 648-2975 to make sure your house is judged.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

—Volunteers needed to distribute and light luminarias in Carrizozo. Come to the fire hall at 9 a.m.

DECEMBER 30

—Lincoln County Lodgers Tax Committee 10 a.m. Ruidoso Convention Center.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

—Christmas Mass 5:30 p.m. St. Theresa Church, Corona.

—Posadas 7:45 p.m. followed by Mass at 8 p.m. Sacred Heart Church, Capitan.

—Mass 10 p.m. San Juan Church, Lincoln.

—Midnight Mass, Santa Rita Church, Carrizozo.

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

—Mass at 9 a.m. Sacred Heart, Capitan.

—10:30 a.m. Santa Rita Church, Carrizozo.

Luminarias In Carrizozo A New Mexico Tradition

The people of Carrizozo invite volunteers to help light 10,000 luminarias on Christmas Eve, starting at 4 p.m.

To the weary traveler on the last leg of the journey home for Christmas; the trucker working late; or the residents of Lincoln County and surrounding areas, the little town of Carrizozo is transformed into a magic place on Christmas Eve with 10,000 luminarias lining the main streets. The town becomes a hushed, whispering

faeryland where the glow of the little lanterns can be seen from across the desert and surrounding hills.

At 9 a.m. on the day before Christmas volunteers will begin the process that will give Carrizozo a nighttime glitter. Trailers filled with luminarias will be parked along Highways 380 and 54, across the overpass, around churches, homes, businesses, pathways and parks while volunteers place the luminarias on curbs and

streets. By dusk Christmas Eve, the 10,000 luminarias will glisten with flickering lights. People, locals and visitors from other places, will drive through town admiring the sight.

The public is invited to enjoy the serene luminaria display Christmas Eve.

Help Distribute Luminaria Bags Next Thursday

The Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department invites volunteers to assist in the distribution and lighting of the luminarias December 24. Distribution will begin at 9 a.m. at the Fire Hall on 8th Street. Lighting the luminarias will begin at 4 p.m. Christmas Eve.

Propane Tanker Accident

(Continued from Page 1)

Carrizozo ambulance transported the tanker truck driver Benson Harrison, 74, of Roswell, to Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso where he was treated for minor injuries and released at about 8:30 a.m. the same day.

Harrison was driving for Little Transportation out of Roswell with the 9,000 gallon load of propane owned by National Propane Company,

also out of Roswell. Propane company officials were called to the scene and decided to burn off the propane that was leaking from a broken valve on the tanker.

Lincoln County Sheriff Sgt. Ken Jones assisted with traffic control all day Tuesday. Tuesday night and all day Wednesday state highway department crews manned the roadblocks at the intersection of Highway 380 and state road 37 on the west side of the accident, and at the top of Indian Divide on Highway 380 on the east side of the accident, to keep traffic from traveling past the scene while the propane was burned off.

Capitan Fire Department went to the accident Tuesday night with additional water for fire control.

By late Wednesday, most of the propane had been burned off and state police re-opened the 12 mile stretch of Highway 380.

According to reports, police were unsure what caused the accident.

County Special Meeting

(Con't. from P. 1)

work for governmental entities.

Reorganization of the manager's office was the next item on the agenda. No support documentation was provided with the agenda packet.

Commissioners then were to consider a 10 percent employee raise and pay increases for sheriff's deputies, and mutual aid agreements with fire departments.

Following an executive session for personnel, threatened and/or pending litigation, acquisition and/or disposal of real property commissioners were to again consider elected officials' pay. They spent more than an hour debating what to do with elected officials' salaries at their December 8 meeting and decided to rescind a 10 percent pay raise given in 1997, split their vote to give back that 10 percent raise to only those elected officials coming into office on January 1.

Because commissioners rescinded the salary increase they gave elected officials in 1997, this also affects the salaries of the chief deputies of those elected officials. County assessor Patsy Serna sent a letter to the county commissioners about her concerns for chief deputies who are also getting a pay cut.

At 10:30 a.m. today, commissioners will adjourn their special meeting. Then commissioners Monroy Montes and Wilton Howell will open a meeting of the Extraterritorial Zoning Authority board to discuss Ruidoso's proposed changes to the extraterritorial zoning ordinance.

Free Admission Days At Natural History Museum

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

The museum is open every day except Christmas and non-holiday Mondays in January and September, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Also the Museum has designated five days during the year when everyone is admitted free: the first Monday of February, the first Monday of March, the second Tuesday of the New Mexico State Fair in September, Veteran's Day November 11, and December 24 which is Christmas Eve day.

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Carrizozo offers the best green chile cheeseburgers in New Mexico. Visit Carrizozo Hardware and Roy's Old Fashioned Soda Fountain and Gift Gallery, both buildings dating from the early part of the century.

See our new caboose and visitors center and the many old homes and buildings.

Visit the Valley of Fires just west of Carrizozo.

For information, call the Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce 505-648-2732. Leave your number and we will respond with places to say and things to see. Or write the Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 567, Carrizozo, NM 88301.

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THOUGHTS

From the Editor's Desk

Holiday Ahead

By Ruth Hammond

Here it is the week before Christmas and most of us are looking forward to the luminaria display in Carrizozo on Christmas Eve. If you want to see a truly restful sight Christmas Eve you need to drive around Carrizozo and view the luminarias. Many people have volunteered their time to fill the paper bags and many more people will begin work early December 24 to place the luminarias around town. Later that afternoon volunteers will light the candles. It takes a few hours to light 10,000 candles, even with several volunteers.

Officials will stop traffic at the edges of town and ask drivers to turn off their lights or use only park lights while driving through town. We have heard that during the past five years tourists and truck drivers from other places were amazed and had never seen luminarias. We are glad their first glimpse of a true New Mexico tradition was in Carrizozo in Lincoln County. If you haven't driven through Carrizozo on Christmas Eve to see the luminarias please consider making it a "must do" this year. We hope you will enjoy it. Luminarias this year will be striking because it will be fairly dark on Christmas Eve. Several homes and businesses will also have luminarias to add to the display. It will be a quiet time, one that we need before we begin the hectic pace of the new year. The new year will begin with a flurry of meetings. There will be a bevy of county commission meetings, supposedly only one a month, but we'll bet they continue with several special meetings each month.

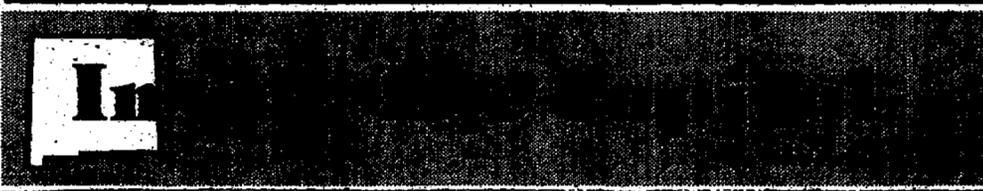
Inquiries we received this week included one asking why the county commission meetings last all day. One person wanted to know if the commissioners were aware of what was on the agenda before they went to the meetings. Each commissioner receives a packet with the complete agenda and documents a few days before the meeting. The commissioners have plenty of time to review the packet and contact the county manager for additional information well in advance of the meeting. There is no excuse for any of the commissioners to not be prepared before the meeting. There is no excuse for some of the lengthy discussions at the meetings because the commissioners should get their questions answered before the meeting. There is no excuse for any of the commissioners to ask what the agenda item pertains to because they should have read the supporting documents in their packets. There is no excuse for the long meetings because most of the lengthy discussions are useless.

Discussing county business with the public is important, as long as it pertains to county business, but some of the commissioners insist on talking about subjects that can only be handled by the State Legislature. If the county commissioners want to approve a resolution to send to the state it should be done quickly, not after a one to three hour debate. If the county commissioners want to set their priorities for state assistance, they should list the pros and cons and make a decision, not argue about things unconnected.

Arguing about trivial matters is not good county business, it is time consuming and useless. Some of the more lengthy discussions at county commission meetings had nothing to do with conducting county business. County business should be conducted in a civil manner, with respect for the other commissioners and the public.

Yes, we realize that some county issues are time consuming and commissioners should research thoroughly before deciding the action to take. The action we suggest at this time is for everyone to enjoy the holiday. A drive through Carrizozo Christmas Eve might be the perfect way for each of us to better understand each other.

Christmas Eve in Carrizozo



SANTA FE - House Republicans will be stronger in the 1999 Legislature than they have been in thirty years.

The number of years we're talking about depends on your definition of House, as the president might say. It's either 14, 46 or 78 years.

Republicans will boast 30 House members next year. That's the most they've had since 1929, when they held a 37-12 advantage over Democrats. GOP fortunes reversed the following year, however and their numbers fell as low as two during the 1930s before rebounding in 1952 with the election of Dwight Eisenhower as president and Ed Mechem as governor. In the 1953 Legislature Republicans held a 28-27 edge before losing all but four seats in another momentous reversal the following year.

In 1979, New Mexico political history again was made when 11 conservative Democrats joined 26 Republicans to form what became known as the Cowboy Coalition, which ruled the House for six of the next eight years. The House speaker during those years was Rep. Gene Samberson, a Democrat from Lea County, down in the southeast New Mexico oil patch, but Republicans held half the committee chairmanships and controlled more than half the power during that period.

A study of the 1979 New Mexico House by two New Mexico State University students, using advanced statistical techniques, confirmed the expected result of the coup. The 26 Republicans in the coalition experienced more legislative success than their 11 Democrat colleagues and far more than the 30 Democrats who ended up in the minority. The three Republicans who joined with the "dirty thirty" Democrats fared especially poorly.

So with more House members than the last time they formed a coalition, will Republicans again be looking for conservative Democrats who might help them take control of the body? GOP leaders making public statements thus far say they won't. House Republican Whip Ted Hobbs of Albuquerque concedes House Speaker Raymond Sanchez has a 40-30 majority; but says on certain issues Democrats should be more willing to negotiate.

Does that mean Republicans of the '90s are more conciliatory than their counterparts in the '80s? Not on your life. Not with John Dendahl as the state GOP chairman. New Mexico politics has changed in the past two decades.

When Republicans formed their first coalition, there were more

conservative Democrats. Since that time the GOP has been able to convert many of them. That was true even by the time of the last coalition in the 1885-86 Legislature. Most of the Democrats in that coalition were not conservative but simply shopping for a better deal. Free agents, we might call them today.

Speaker Sanchez still has to contend with free agency. Early in the decade, his majority leader attempted a hostile takeover, but Sanchez's candidates prevailed in the 1990 Democrat primary. Most of the rebels who weren't beaten, gradually dropped out of the Legislature, allowing Sanchez to consolidate his power.

But there's an even better reason House Republicans are willing to bide their time. Even if they could put together a coalition, which wouldn't be impossible, the Senate composition has not changed be-

cause its members' four-year terms all expire in 2000.

And that's the target - the 2000 elections, when all 112 legislative seats are up for grabs. It will be much more effective for Republican candidates to run against a Legislature controlled by Senate President Pro Tem Manny Aragon and House Speaker Raymond Sanchez than against Aragon and a Republican-led House coalition.

Expect the GOP to maneuver in every way possible between now and then to accomplish that takeover. In his election night victory speech, Gov. Gary Johnson served notice he would not be kinder and gentler to the Legislature.

That message portends even more confirmation designed to convince voters how much better things will be if they get rid of Manny and Ray and give Gov. Johnson a Republican Legislature in 2000.

Warning Lights On

(Continued from Page 1)

night.

Gavilan Canyon Road is in dire need of repair and the county would like the state to take it over, or provide the money to fix it. Commissioners discussed an estimate provided by road supervisor Albert Hernandez that showed at least \$661,423 is needed to resurface five miles of the road. Stewart said Howell brought up the need for a long term strategy for Gavilan Canyon Road during the meeting with Senator Pete Campos and Rep. Dub Williams on December 4.

County commissioner Rex Wilson said he would like the Gavilan Canyon Road repairs become part of the legislative request for the county. Howell agreed because the road will need more than \$600,000 in repairs. "At first the road was a narrow cow trail then it was paved," Howell said. Now it is used by traffic avoiding Highway 48 and high school kids "who don't know how to drive". "I'd like to see this as our legislative priority, to reconstruct Gavilan Canyon road as a bypass for Highway 48," Howell added. He said he asked the village of Ruidoso to

get figures on the traffic count on the road and he would also like to see the road become a joint effort with Ruidoso to get the state to take the road over.

County commission chairman Ray Nunley asked if the project would include redesigning the Gavilan Canyon Road exit from Highway 70. But Howell said the county would have to acquire rights of way because it only has prescriptive rights to certain areas. "We need money to widen the road and to make passing lanes," Howell said.

Wilson said he supports the concept but recommended the county follow protocol with the state highway commission to get the road into the state highway department system.

County commissioner Bill Schwettmann recommended the county get on the agenda of the next state highway commission meeting. But Howell said the problem with the state highway commission is eight commissioners have only so much money and most highway department projects are in the five year plan. "I'd like to see legislative money," Howell said.

Nunley said the highway commission would be offended if the county went outside the state highway department.

County commissioner Monroy Montes said this area highway commissioner Strebeck would appreciate legislative money outside the department. Then Howell asked the county manager to get a county delegation on the next highway commission meeting and Montes added that the county ask for \$6 million for Gavilan Canyon

Road. Howell suggested the manager write letters to Campos and Williams asking for support of this type of legislation and send copies to Strebeck.

In other road business, commissioners:

-Approved a contract with Amelia Ruiz to provide janitorial services to the Lincoln County Road Department at three hours every two weeks for \$780 a year (includes gross receipt taxes).

-Accepted street names submitted by E911 Addressing Committee for Eagle Creek Canyon Road (formerly Shangri-La and Pine Meadows); Wolf Spring Circle (one loop from North Loop); Tomahawk Place, Papoose Place and Squaw Place in Fawn Ridge; Wildwood Circle, Haley road and Alleen Road in Aschoff Subdivision; continuation of South Road in B.L. Luck subdivision; Jarratt Drive, Loudat Lane and Sonora Drive in West Cedar subdivision; Hungate Alley and Fire Road in Sun Valley; Bonito Canyon Road (continuation) in Rio Bonito subdivision; La Junta Drive, Neill Road, Woodward Lane, Mulholland Lane in La Junta subdivision; North Gladys Street, South Gladys Street, Doris Street in Peobles subdivision; Turkey Track, Turkey Trail, Gobbler Gulch, Wattle Way, Wattle Lane, Wattle Court in Turkey Park Ranchettes; Deadhorse Lane, Ridley Street, Conor Court and Joshua Street in Mesa Verde; easements with no name outside subdivisions, Hall Court east of RR Smith, Aspen Court easement off Aspen St. outside Sun Valley; Country Lane easement off Sierra Blanca Airport Road north of Little Creek RV park; La Cuesta easement off Highway 380 between mile marker 96 and 97; Spotted Owl Road easement off forest road west of Raven Ridge Cedar Creek; Russell Ridge easement off West Cedar in Cedar Creek.

Santa Claus To Visit Carrizozo Saturday, Dec. 19

Santa Claus will make his annual pre-Christmas visit to Carrizozo Saturday, Dec. 19. He will arrive at Spencer Park at 2 p.m., riding on a Carrizozo Fire Truck. The Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department sponsors Santa's before Christmas visit to Carrizozo each year and provide transportation.

Santa will pass out bags of candy, nuts and fruit while at Spencer Park. He will also visit shut-ins, senior citizens, and New Horizons Developmental Center while in Carrizozo.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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Lincoln County News
P.O. Drawer 499
Carrizozo, NM 88301



LETTER TO EDITOR:

Copy of letter to Congressman Skeen

Hon. Joe Skeen
United States Congress
Room 2302, Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Skeen:

As our duly elected congressional representative, you will soon be asked to vote on the impeachment of our duly elected president. I urge you to vote against impeachment.

By adhering to our Constitution, we have sustained the most secure democracy in history, and have resisted the temptation to use the Constitution in support of transitory political purposes. We now face that risk, and thereby threaten our democracy.

President Clinton has behaved poorly, and he has paid an enormous personal price for that behavior. Who among us would wish to endure the public humiliation and personal turmoil he has endured for sexual indiscretion? But who among us is without sin? The President has not committed acts that reach the constitutional standard necessary for overturning the will of the people. That standard is reserved, properly, for threats to the security of the nation. Indeed, our security is more seriously threatened by establishing a precedent for a congressional coup, an activity commonly associated with lesser democracies.

The Constitution calls for the election of the President by electors, themselves chosen by the people, yet none of whom may be congressmen or senators. It would be a devastating insult to the framers of the Constitution and to the American people to set a precedent whereby their votes can be subverted by powerful political interests. President Clinton has twice been elected by the American people, and has twice been elected by the people of New Mexico. These people deserve to have their votes honored.

President Clinton has been guilty of human frailty, as have we all. He has also served this nation well, as shown by our current prosperity and security, and by both domestic and foreign approval. His behavior deserves censure, but we, the people, are entitled to have our choice of President honored. I urge you, as our elected representative, to honor the Constitution and the vote of the people, and to vote against impeachment of the President.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES HENNICK, Chair
Lincoln County Democratic Party

(SEE PAGE 7)

Lincoln County News
USPS 313460

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Ruth Hammond, Editor
John Dendahl, Publisher



CAPITAN NOTES

By MAUREEN SULLIVAN



SMOKEY'S SANTA listens as three year old Melissa Rossiter tells what she really wants for Christmas. Santa was part of Christmas at Smokey Bear Park in Capitán on Saturday. Later in the evening, Smokey Bear visited with Santa and children who gathered at the park for the party that was sponsored by Friends of Smokey Capitán, Inc. Organizers were pleased with the turnout at the Arts and Crafts Show and the Capitán Merchants Open House also on Saturday.

give Santa their Christmas list and Smokey Bear provided goodies as well as fire safety tips for the holidays. Many parents took advantage of the opportunity to photograph their youngsters with Santa and Smokey. As they say, a great time was had by all. Larry, Eddie and David did a great job, assisted by Friends of Smokey.

At 3 Bar D Hardware the \$20.00 gift certificate was won by the Williams family and the floppy friend stuffed animal by Donna Keller.

And Larry said a special thanks should be given to Santa Claus for taking time out to make a special trip to Capitán, especially during his busiest time of the year. And imitating Santa as he drove out of sight, "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night."

And to my faithful readers, hope to have my typewriter in working order soon so Ruth will not have to wade through my hieroglyphics.

And God bless all who read my efforts and even those who cannot be bothered.

OBITUARY

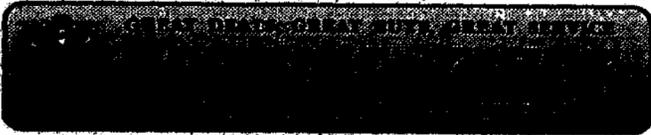
MARION GALSTER PROVINCE

Marion Galster Province, 74, of Las Cruces, died Dec. 10. She was born June 15, 1924.

She married John E. (Eddie) Province in 1954.

She is survived by her husband Eddie, daughters Cathy Province, Ann and husband Bruce Marks, Margaret and husband John Byrd of Las Cruces; son Mike and wife Karen Province of Albuquerque; five grandchildren; brother Arthur and wife Rose Galster of Colstrip, MT; three sisters-in-law, Jane Coleman of Las Vegas, NM, Evelyn Province of Las Cruces, and Angelina Province of Capitán, and one brother-in-law Charlie Farmer of Laurens, SC.

A memorial service was held Dec. 15 following cremation.



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Capitan Wants Price Quotes For Repairing Water Storage Tanks

by Doris Cherry

Capitan Village Trustees took the following action at their December 14 regular meeting.

They approved the 1999 official holiday calendar with Martin Luther King day on December 23, 1999, Lincoln's Birthday November 28, 1999, Washington's birthday February 15, Good Friday half day April 2, Memorial Day May 31, Independence Day July 5, Labor Day September 6, Columbus Day October 11, Veteran's Day November 11, Thanksgiving November 25, Christmas December 24, New Year's December 31. Village hall will be closed on these holidays.

Trustees also approved a resolution on Open Meetings that establish that trustees meet the second Monday of each month for a regular meeting, and they will post notice of special meetings three days prior and emergency meetings 24 hours prior. Agendas for meetings are to be available 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Resolution 98-30 was approved allowing the village to apply for a \$25,000 state highway department hardship grant to purchase surplus highway equipment, from the state highway department.

Trustees approved Resolution 98-31 to apply for \$64,000 in the state highway department cooperative project for graveling Aspen, Buck, East and West Cedar, Valley View and Polano subdivision roads. This is also a hardship request that will

waive the requirement the village provide a 40 percent match. During the public hearing prior to the regular business, mayor Norman Renfro said he plans to appoint a committee to decide what roads most need improvements.

Trustees requested village water department employee David Cox get additional price quotes on the cost of repairing the older village water storage tanks. Cox had gotten quotes for inspection of the tanks and one of the companies had provided estimates for repairs. Quotes for inspection ranged from \$5,980 to \$10,230. Repairs to the tanks could cost more than \$100,000. Because the village does not have the funds for repairs on all the water storage tanks, trustees suggested getting one repaired this year, then apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) next year to complete the repairs on the remaining tanks.

Trustees authorized trustee Leroy Montes and police chief Carrol Durbin to hire a police officer. Montes said he and the chief interviewed three uncertified officers and had received an application from one certified officer. However, the certified officer was unable to come for interview because he was sick and could not be reached. Two of the uncertified officers were promising, but Montes said they preferred to hire a certified officer because uncertified officers can work only one year before they have to at-

didn't make it to the senior center, you missed a great show.

Some of the comments from the merchants Open House included, "It was great." "I had many visitors, mostly Capitán." "It was the best day I had this year." "I didn't know you were here." The bottom line, it was a success. Winner of the four foot gold angel drawing at the Angel Tree was Becky Washburn. Winners of the fruit baskets given away by Farmers Country Market were Frances Saiz and Tom McCarty.

Later in the evening, Santa Claus and Smokey Bear were kept very busy at Smokey Bear Historical Park by the many children who visited to

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5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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MONDAY	Fried Chicken \$6.95
TUESDAY	Chicken Fried Steak \$6.75
WEDNESDAY	Two Enchilada Dinners \$8.50
THURSDAY	All You Can Eat Pop Shrimp \$7.95
FRIDAY	All You Can Eat Catfish \$8.50
SATURDAY	8-OZ. Rib-Eye Steak \$8.75

(SEE PAGE 7)



We'll close the door on the 1998 high school football and volleyball season by paying special recognition to all of the young student athletes and everyone else that participated in the season.

Starting with the young people who take time to participate and endure the long hours of practice and then put it all on the line each and every week, and come back for more the following Monday... win or lose. Secondly the

coaches, who put up with all kinds of attitudes and personalities, and that doesn't include the parents, and try to mold all these young individuals into a team. No easy task, believe me. And thirdly the fans/parents who make the trips, sponsor the fund raisers, and try to keep their son's or daughter's spirits up after a disappointing loss.

And rest assured, no matter how disappointing or how hard the past season was... everyone will be ready to do it all again next year!

The teams taking top honors in the 1998 FB season were: In 6-Man the top team

was Roy with Malrose 2nd; in Class A Ft. Sumner won it all, with Texico 2nd; in Class AA Santa Rosa came in 1st and Clayton 2nd; in Class AAA Artesia won it all, and Ruidoso came in 2nd; and in Class AAAA Mayfield came in 1st and Goddard was 2nd.

Tops in Volleyball were: Class A, Des Moines 1st, Hagerman 2nd, and Magdalena 3rd; Class AA, Dexter 1st, Anima 2nd and Navajo Prep 3rd; Class AAA, Albuquerque Academy 1st, St. Pius X 2nd and Silver 3rd; Class AAAA, Las Cruces 1st, Onate 2nd, and Clovis 3rd.

Carrizozo Varsity BB team will host Mesalero today (Thursday) at 7:00 p.m. and follow that up by participating in the Ruidoso Invitational on Dec. 28; the Lady Grizzlies will get things started against Mesalero at 5:30 p.m.

The Lady Hondo Eagles won their own tournament over the weekend by defeating Corona's Cardinals 64-50 in the championship game. Kalyn Gomez led Hondo with 20 points, Christina Sanchez had 15 and Chriselda Acosta 12. For Corona Delia Gonzalez had 16 points and Sarah Stewart 15. Mesalero captured 3rd place by beating Vaughn 41 to 39.

Denver lost their first game of the season and kept us from having consecutive 11-4 weeks, but had to settle for a 10-5 record for the week thanks to the Giants upset of the Broncos. Oops! Check that I picked Miami over Jets and Jets won... so make that 9-6 for the week. Disappointing losers last week were Patriots to St. Louis, Carolina to

Redskins, and Dallas to Chiefs. Meanwhile Raiders, Steelers and Cowboys can't seem to buy a win and all three in danger of not making playoffs, with Raiders and Steelers needing lots of help even if they win their final two games. Dallas is in with one more win. We stand at 135-75 for the season with two more weeks to go in the regular season. My picks for the week are:

THIS WEEK'S PICKS
(In Bold Type)
SATURDAY

* NY Jets at Buffalo. Should go with Jets but like Bills defense a little bit more than Jets offense. This should be close and could go either way. Good game.

* Tampa Bay at Washington. Redskins finally playing good football but so are Buccs. We'll go with better team on this one and bet against home team.

SUNDAY

* Baltimore at Chicago. Really like the 'no names' on this one, but promised to bet against them two weeks back, so I will. We'll stick with home team. Bears finally get a break and have chance to win one at home.

* Cincinnati at Pittsburgh. Steelers having one tough season and things got pretty ugly between QB and coach last week. Playing at home this week should help Steelers win this one. Didn't think Bengals were all that bad then I noticed they've only won two games.

* Kansas City at NY Giants. Giants upset of the Broncos will soon be forgotten. Gannon playing good ball for the Chiefs, should be enough to pull off road win.

* St. Louis at Carolina. Both teams going nowhere, and Rams upset Pats last week. Fluke. Panthers will win at home. Vermeil still looking for a way out. Lose two more, get fired.

* San Francisco at New England. Bledsoe still ailing for Pats. Young and Hearst hot for 49'ers. Bet against home team on this one, even in cold weather.

* Tennessee at Green Bay. Going against home team once more. Just like the way Oilers are playing right now, beat Jacksonville on road last week and have good shot against Packers too.

* Indianapolis at Seattle. Like the way young Colts are playing. Manning and Faulk both have to have good games to win this one on the road.

* Oakland at San Diego. Raiders have good shot at winning this one but will blow any chance of making the playoffs by losing to lowly Chargers. Go with home team.

* New Orleans at Arizona. Similar teams, with Cards in hot pursuit of Cowboys. Need this one to stay close. Saints have a shot, but we'll stick with home team in the desert.

* Atlanta at Detroit. Bet against Falcons last week. Learned my lesson. But also have to bet against Lions, so Go Falcons Goll!

* Philadelphia at Dallas. Cowboys needs this one to make it into playoffs and clinch division. Irvin out, but maybe Sanders will play some this week. Need a win bad. Playing at home should make difference for the 'Boys'.

* Jacksonville at Minnesota. This would have been a good game but Jaguars are down to third string QB starting first game as pro. Vikes should prevail at home in easy win.

MONDAY NIGHT

* Denver at Miami. Just going with better team. Broncos have too much speed for Dolphins, where they play makes no difference.

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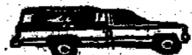
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Church Directory

Tinnie Baptist Church

BILL JONES, pastor
Sunday School.....10:00 am
Church Services.....11:00 am

Spirit of Life Apostolic Pentecostal Tabernacle

ALLAN M. MILLER, pastor
209 Lincoln Ave, Capitan, NM
354-2925
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.....10:35 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. & Thurston, 648-2188
Children's Church.....10:30 am
Worship Service.....10:30 am
Thursday Bible Study.....7:00 pm

Santa Rita Catholic Community

FR. DAVE BERGS, pastor
213 Birch, Carrizozo, NM, 648-2853
SATURDAY:
Capitan Sacred Heart.....5:00 pm
C'ozoza Santa Rita.....6:30 pm
SUNDAY:
Capitan Sacred Heart.....9:00 am
C'ozoza Santa Rita.....10:30 am
Corona St. Theresa.....4:30 pm

Church of Christ

PERRY ZUMWALT, minister
Ave. C at 12th, Carrizozo, NM
Sunday School.....10:00 am
Worship Service.....11:00 am
Evening Worship (Winter).....1:15 pm
Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 pm

St. Matthias Episcopal Church

FR. A. TRIPP, priest
Corner of E Ave. & 8th, Carrizozo, NM
1-258-4144
Holy Eucharist.....9:30 am Sunday

United Methodist Churches

BOB BOYD, pastor / Trinity - Carrizozo
1000 D. Ave. 648-2829/648-2948
Sunday School (All Ages).....10:00 am
Worship Service.....11:10 am
Choir Practice (Wednesday).....6:30 pm
United Methodist Women Every
3rd Wednesday.....1:30 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.
Ancho Community Presbyterian Church:
Worship School.....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 8:00 p.m.

Christ Community Fellowship

ED VINSON, pastor (inter-denominational)
514 Smokey Bear Blvd/Capitan
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Capitan Church of Christ

LESLIE EARWOOD, minister
5th & Lincoln / 336-4627
Sunday Bible Study.....10:00 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Trinity Southern Baptist Church

REX BERESFORD, pastor
Capitan (South on Highway 48) 354-3110
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
AWANA Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.

Capitan Wants Price Quotes

(Continued from Page 5)

tend the police academy and become certified.

Mayor Renfro also discussed roads and alleys saying whatever funds are left from the current co-op project to gravel Highland will be applied to the next projects.

Resident Angie Provine said Capitan alleys look worse than in Mexico, mostly because of trash and debris. She suggested citizen or youth civic groups clean up the alleys, and she also asked that a large roll off container be brought every month like promised. Municipal Judge Jack Johnson said citizens can file complaints about trash in yard, then Montes asked if citizens can file a complaint against the village for not keeping its alley's clean. Johnson said the village should keep the alleys clean.

Trustee Debra Ingle, who is a member of the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority (LCSWA), said that hopefully after the first of the year, LCSWA will bring the roll off on a routine basis. Ingle suggested utilizing the county's work release program for county inmates to clean up alleys.

A proposal to have a monthly village newsletter to keep citizens up to date on issues, village schedules and other happenings was rejected because of the cost. Although trustees took no formal action on the newsletter, a resident asked how the village could afford the \$500 a month to produce and mail the newsletter with every water bill if it cannot afford to buy gravel for subdivision roads. Renfro said it was just an idea to think about. Someone else suggested the village sell subscriptions to a newsletter. Although not related to a newsletter, a

resident asked why the village is going up in price to install a new water meter. After January 1, a new water meter charge is \$1,250 and a new sewer connection is also \$1,250. During the public hearing prior to the business meeting, Renfro said the reason for the increase was a recommendation by the village auditor who said the village needed additional

revenue for its water fund. Currently the village charges \$650 to install a new water meter. Renfro suggested anyone wanting a new water meter should come in and pay a deposit before December 31, to get the meter installed at the current price.

Trustees also met in closed session to discuss pending litigation. They took no action following the session.

Letters to

(Continued from Page 4)

EDITOR: The U.S. Forest Service is holding meetings nationwide to seek public comments on revision of its nationwide strategic plan.

The three goals of the current strategic plans are: ensure sustainable ecosystems, provide multiple benefits for people within the capabilities of ecosystems, and to ensure organizational effectiveness.

A representative of the Forest Service recently attended a meeting of the Sierra County Commissioner's Court and incorrectly stated that the developed water rights in the National Forests belong to the United States and not to the individual permittee; therefore, he is concerned as to how this strategic plan will affect water rights, and how cattle can get to the water that is covered in these water rights.

Jim Catron, legal advisor for the Commissioner's Court, corrected the Forest Service representative, saying that New Mexico law states that the Federal Government owns no water rights in New Mexico, and furthermore, the State Engineer says that, the Governor says that, and most of the ranchers and county governments say that.

When a Federal Agency is trying to take control of our lands and our waters, it tends to make up its own definitions and laws. I wonder how the Forest Service defines "sustainable ecosystem?"

Does "organizational effectiveness" mean "how many more locked gates can we put on forest roads to keep the American people out of the National Forest?" Surely that must mean a bigger budget for the National Forest, which will include more new pickups to ride up and down the highways "to check on those poor unenlightened folks who have the mistaken belief that the National Forest is the property of the American people."

ANNIE C. McMANUS
Caballo, New Mexico

Hondo Valley School District Accreditation

The Hondo Valley Public School District went through its accreditation review in mid September and has received the accreditation team's final report. Every school district in the state is required to have an accreditation review every three years to ensure that school districts are in compliance with federal and state statutes and are following State Department of Education regulations.

The State Department of Education (SDE) personnel made an on-site visit of the school, reviewed school budget, pupil transportation, monitored classes, examined records, reviewed program offerings, checked class sizes and teacher loads, verified teacher certification, and interviewed parents, students, school personnel, and community members. In addition, the SDE team evaluated the district's educational plan for student success (EPSS) and five year plan for facilities improvement.

The SDE found no areas of non-compliance in bilingual-multicultural education, federal programs of Titles I, II, IV and VI, instructional support services programs, manage-

ment, school budget, special education and transportation. The district had one area of non-compliance in that it did not have a written curriculum guide for a new life skills course which will be added next semester. School superintendent Barbara Casey stated that this new class will be an additional component of the vocational program already offered to students and curriculum will be written in December. After the curriculum is written and submitted to the SDE for review, the district will have no areas of non-compliance.

Areas of strength noted in the accreditation review are that teachers and staff use computer based assessment of data to monitor student progress; there is a district wide focus on standards based instruction; the district recognizes the importance of a multicultural multilingual approach in the curriculum; the district provides appropriate professional development for its staff through the use of technology; the district provides both the tone and climate that is conducive to learning. In special education, the district was commended

for demonstrating a high commitment to appropriate special education service and for integrating special education students fully into the life of the school.

The district was commended for its curriculum revision and alignment process which demonstrated complete staff involvement and ongoing communication across grades. The district also received commendation for its emphasis on the integration of early childhood programs such as Headstart and full day kindergarten in the school building, and for student transition.

The Hondo Valley Public School District Board of Education, the administration and

(SEE PAGE 11)



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS were installed in Carrizozo and Capitan by Otero County Electric Cooperative, Inc. crews just after Thanksgiving. The decorations will brighten both communities until after Christmas when the Otero County Electric Cooperative crews will take them down to be stored until next year.

Capitan Villagers Do Not

(Continued from Page 1)

Mayor Norman Renfro said filing for the NMFA loan didn't mean the village was obligating itself to the financing. Instead, the village was applying for the NMFA loan to improve its chances at obtaining funds from the state legislature.

Renfro later outlined five options the village has to obtain funding for needed projects. Two options were resolutions the trustees voted on during the regular business portion of the meeting. First was pursuing legislative funding by applying for a NMFA loan. Second was a resolution to declare the village a hardship so it could apply for state highway department funds to purchase gravel for subdivision roads. Third was another hardship resolution so the village could receive \$25,000 from the state highway department which it would use to purchase surplus and used equipment from the highway department. Fourth was the village's intent to seek state severance tax bond funds from the state legislature, fifth was the intent of the village to obtain surplus Army equipment. Renfro said the problem with surplus equipment is it is old and used and requires mechanical work.

Citizens also were concerned the village spent \$42,000 to buy land for a new building, when it could have built on land next to city hall. Some citizens thought the new public safety building was to include a new city hall. Renfro explained the village had applied for a \$400,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), (federal funding from Housing and Urban Development HUD agency) to construct a new public safety building for the police and fire departments and the county ambulance. Renfro said he anticipated the village might get \$370,000.

Some residents suggested the village remodel the fire department, instead of building a new one, then the village could have used the \$42,000 to buy gravel to improve subdivision roads. One citizen suggested the village move city hall into the fire station and sell the existing city hall building and use that money to remodel the fire station. Another demanded the village not use the money from the Eagle Creek settlement to buy land for a new city hall.

Others suggested the village apply for a CDBG to improve city hall. But village clerk Deborah Cummins said a village hall is not eligible for CDBG. Road improvement projects just for the subdivisions also are not eligible for CDBG because the incomes of property owners in the subdivision exceed the CDBG guidelines. CDBG is intended

for projects in areas where the population has low to moderate incomes.

Cummins said the village held 14 public hearings for comments on CDBG projects and only a few citizens attended. "You didn't care then," Cummins said. "Now we have false innuendos and see announcements on the post office wall."

Renfro said he thought most residents had "misconstrued" what the village plans to do with the assessment fee. "It is something we can go to the legislature with," Renfro said. He said Capitan's legislative requests, in order of top priority, are \$330,000 for water improvements, \$250,000 for road equipment and \$200,000 for an addition to city hall. But later in the hearing Renfro said the city hall addition was on the "back burner."

Resident Lonnie Lippmann said he researched the assessment fee and came to the conclusion it was not legal without a referendum. But village attorney Dave Thompson said in his opinion an assessment was not subject to a referendum as long as it was imposed by ordinance with public hearings.

Residents then began to voice complaints about the condition of subdivision roads, and how the village was wasting its money on gravel that ended up in the ditch. Residents wanted to know if the village has a plan for road improvements, before it gets any money.

"Tonight we want to hear how we aren't going to get blind-sighted with an assessment, unless we know about it first," said Kathleen Phillips who said she didn't know about the hearing until she read a notice in the post office.

Renfro said there would be no assessment without at least two more public hearings. He also said he resented the comments and the posted notices about the village trustees "blind-sighting" the residents. "If you want to know something, come to city hall," Renfro said.

Lippmann summarized most concerns when he said that most were there because they had voted down the bond election, and now the trustees brought up an assessment. "A tax by any name is a tax," Lippmann said. "We don't want to get blind-sighted with water bills that go up \$15 a month or garbage fees that double. That's what got us all worried," Lippmann said.

"If you people say you don't want an assessment on your water bills, we won't," Renfro said. "But you can't ask for any improvements, because we don't have the money. But our goal is to get money to improve all 30 miles of roads." Finally trustee Leroy Montes asked the group if anyone

knew anything about roads, if so could he or she explain how to improve the village roads. One person said a former street employee maintained roads better. But that employee quit, Renfro said. Renfro also said that all former street supervisors got complaints about the roads.

Lippmann said one problem with the roads is that former administration accepted developments with substandard roads. Finally a person spoke about how roads were done around mines where he had worked for years. But all the work he suggested would require funding.

Trustee Debra Ingle said the village won't know what to do for another two or three meetings, or until after the legislative session is over. (Editor's note: Before any money is appropriated, the governor must sign all legislative requests approved by the legislature.)

Renfro finally said that an assessment to raise revenue for projects would be the "very last resort" and all would have their say on such a proposal. Citizens asked that trustees post notice of future meetings in the paper to make sure citizens know.

Cummins said she always posts notice of meetings in the post office and at village hall.

"I want all of you to know that the trustees and myself work for all of you," Renfro said. "This may come as a surprise to some and astound others."

Then Renfro adjourned the public hearing. Discussion and possible action on the proposed ordinance to establish assessment fees was not included on the regular business meeting agenda. Trustees could not take action on the item because it was not listed on the agenda.

Library Is Closed For The Holiday

The Ruidoso Public Library will be closed "December 24-27 for the Christmas holiday and January 1 and 2 for the New Year holiday.



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OBITUARIES

ANDREW M. RICHARDSON

Funeral Mass for Andrew M. Richardson, 78, of Capitan was December 5, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Capitan with Fr. David Bergs officiating. Burial followed at the Capitan Cemetery.

Mr. Richardson died December 2 at his home in Capitan. He was born April 30, 1920 in Arabella. He had lived in Lincoln County all of his life and was a member of the Catholic Church. He served in the Army during the Korean Conflict. He married Macrina Sanchez on August 8, 1949 in Carrizozo.

He is survived by his wife Macrina Richardson of Ruidoso Downs; three sons, Grandville Richardson and his wife Mona of Golden, CO, Clifford Richardson of Los Lunas and George Richardson of Capitan; two daughters, Carmen Robinson and her husband Rock of Valley View, TX, and Janette Richardson and her husband Juan Ortega of Ruidoso; a step-daughter, Delma Romero of Ruidoso Downs; five brothers, Albert Richardson of Ruidoso Downs, Robert Richardson of Socorro, Filbert Richardson of Ruidoso, Billy Richardson of Roswell, and Johnny Richardson of Plano, TX; two sisters, Rebecca Richardson of Virginia and Olivia Richardson of Santa Fe, also 11 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Edward and Alfred Richardson and two sisters, Prestenia Jimenez and Lucera Montes.

Arrangements were under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

BERNICE ANN MAMMARELLA

No services are planned at this time for Bernice Ann Mammarella, 73, of Ruidoso. She died December 1 at Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso. She was born August 21, 1925 in Ester Hazy, Saskatchewan.

She married Nicholas Mammarella on November 21, 1959 in Las Vegas, NV and he preceded her in death in June of 1986.

Survivors include a daughter, Nancy White of Tucson, AZ; a brother, Reginald Sellner of Kitchener, Ontario; and two sisters, Clara Haid of Cambridge, Ontario and Jenny Doherty of Ruidoso. She also had numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by four brothers.

Arrangements were under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

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THE CAPITAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS REPORT CARD FOR 1997-98

CAPITAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS

The Capitan Municipal Schools Board of Education has 4 goals in its Strategic Plan. The Board annually reviews the progress on each goal.

Goal 1: All students will receive a challenging and relevant curriculum.
Evaluation: To meet this goal, there has been many accomplishments: at least two computers in each classroom to promote technology literacy; Accelerated Reader program begun in the elementary which enhanced students desire to read; and additional math courses offered at high school level. The staff reviews the curriculum using the Content Standards and Benchmarks required by the State Department of Education. Additional emphasis was placed on "School-to-Careers" with additional tests available to students as well as progress begun on the inclusion of additional career studies with Eastern New Mexico University's area vocational program to begin Fall 2000.

Goal 2: The Capitan Municipal Schools will retain quality teachers and support staff and improve staff capabilities.
Evaluation: All staff received an average of a 4% salary increase which moved the District forward in "Retaining Salaries" from 75th to 65th out of 89 school districts. The District was able to retain 85% of its 1996-97 staff, which required the hiring of 7 new teachers for 1997-98. An annual staff service awards program was held in May to reward continued years of service to students.

Goal 3: All students will receive quality education in a safe, healthy environment that has the necessary physical resources to support learning.
Evaluation: The Board held several community meetings to discuss the improvements needed in the facilities of the school district. From these meetings it was recommended that the District hire an architectural firm to develop a site plan for the next 5-10 years which would assess all facilities for adequacy of student enrollment, safety issues, and needs for renovation/renovating. Fire alarm systems were replaced in the elementary and Capitan gym to begin the process. Each school level also revised its student discipline handbooks for consistency. Character Counts was instituted in all schools.

Goal 4: The Capitan Municipal Schools will develop and maintain community support and involvement.
Evaluation: The Elementary parent advisory committee (ACT) became a monthly Board agenda item. ACT reports their activities to the Board and carries the information learned from the Board meetings back to parents. The Board also has an item "Public Comment" on each agenda to allow the public a chance to address the Board. Each school site also published a newsletter written by students to be sent home to parents.

The Board of Education encourages the community to visit and talk to each school throughout the school year.

DROP-OUT REPORT

The Capitan Municipal Schools did not have any student "drop-outs" for the 1997-98 school year.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Average Daily Attendance (ADA) is defined as the aggregate days of attendance divided by the number of days school was actually in session. The Capitan Schools is in session for 188 days annually. During the 1997-98 school year, the average student attending the Capitan Municipal Schools was present 93.7% of the time. The average High School student was present 91.4% of the time; the average Middle School student was present 97.2% of the time; and the average Elementary student was present 93.8% of the time.

PARENT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Board Goal # 4 indicated the Board of Education's commitment to increasing parent/community involvement in our schools. As indicated in the Quality of Education Survey, Questions 4 and 8, 88% of our students parents believed that they were involved in their child's education. Student generated newsletters from the Middle School and the High School, and teacher generated newsletters from the Elementary School kept parents informed of school activities. The High School newsletter was distributed weekly; the Middle School and the Elementary newsletters were distributed monthly.

SCHOOL SAFETY

The Quality of Education Survey questions 1, 3 and 11 indicate that 96% of the parents believe that their children are safe at school; 76% of the parents believe that the current school buildings are in good repair and 83% realizing the need for additional classrooms. There were no incidents of vandalism or violence reported to the police during the 1997-98 school year.

Performance Level	Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
	% of Students Capitan/State			
4 Advanced	4% 9%	4% 5%	11% 13%	16% 16%
3 Proficient	29% 25%	16% 16%	31% 23%	49% 35%
2 Emerging Proficiency	48% 42%	33% 27%	31% 28%	18% 27%
1 Beginning Step	22% 24%	47% 53%	27% 30%	16% 23%

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tom Trust President
James Hobbs Vice President
Freda McSwane Secretary
Jack King Member
Ervin Aldaz Member

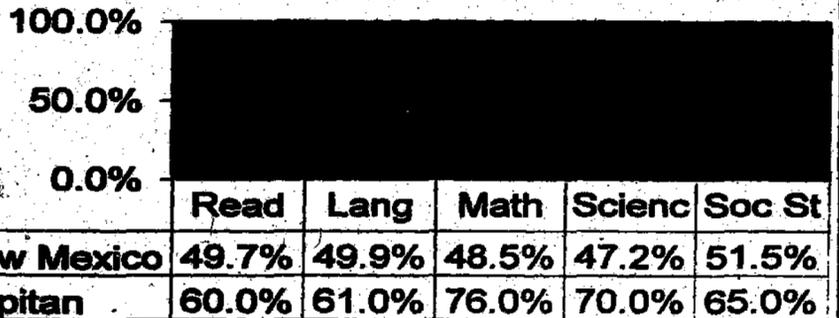
ADMINISTRATION

Diana Billingsley Superintendent 354-2239
Darrel Stierwalt High School Principal 354-2567
Bill Mac Veigh Middle School Principal 354-2896
Dick Clevenger Elementary Principal 354-2238

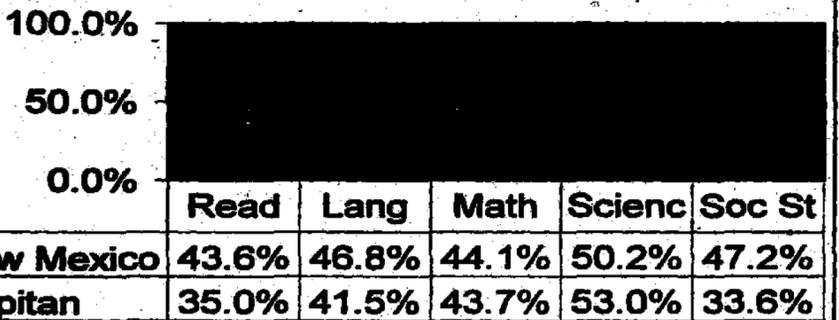
CAPITAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS 1997-98 QUALITY OF EDUCATION SURVEY

Question	Response	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Do Not Know
1. My child is safe at school today	97%	97%	3%	1%	2%
2. My child's school building is in good repair and has sufficient space for additional classrooms	83%	84%	13%	8%	8%
3. My child's school building is in good repair and has sufficient space for additional classrooms	83%	85%	13%	8%	8%
4. Additional classroom space is needed to support my child's education today	10%	8%	11%	1%	80%
5. The school district adequately attempts to update state curriculum and instructional plans	39%	39%	14%	8%	18%
6. School staff provides meaningful discipline which is consistent with the district's discipline plan	32%	60%	11%	4%	2%
7. My child has the opportunity to receive individualized instruction	17%	85%	17%	3%	2%
8. My child's teacher provides meaningful and appropriate instruction	37%	81%	7%	3%	8%
9. The school district adequately attempts to update state curriculum and instructional plans	32%	84%	8%	1%	4%
10. My child takes responsibility for learning (self)	26%	88%	8%	2%	5%
11. I am aware of the need for additional classrooms at the elementary and high school (BOE)	45%	41%	0%	0%	17%
12. I support the program of a bond issue for the construction of a new high school (BOE)	48%	52%	7%	1%	15%
13. Additional vocational programs should be offered (BOE)	32%	49%	4%	8%	15%
14. The existing school grounds are maintained to your satisfaction (BOE)	14%	89%	18%	4%	1%
15. I am aware of the mission and goals of the Capitan Municipal Schools (BOE)	17%	84%	8%	8%	11%

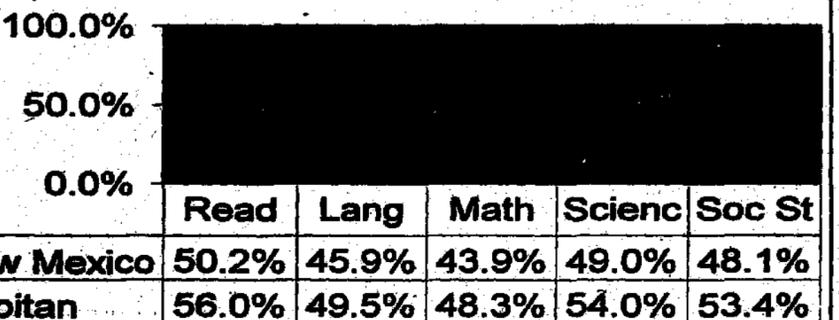
1997-98 Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills Grade 4: Rank = 13 of 89 Districts



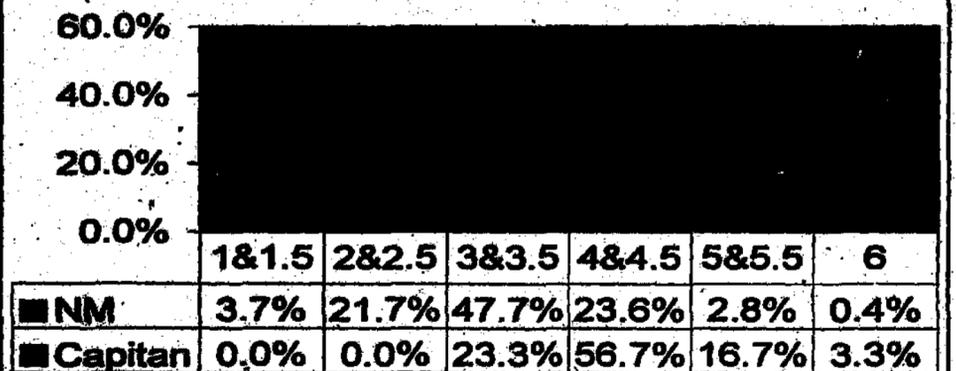
1997-98 Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills Grade 6: Rank = 44 of 89 Districts



1997-98 Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills Grade 8: Rank = 24 of 89 Districts

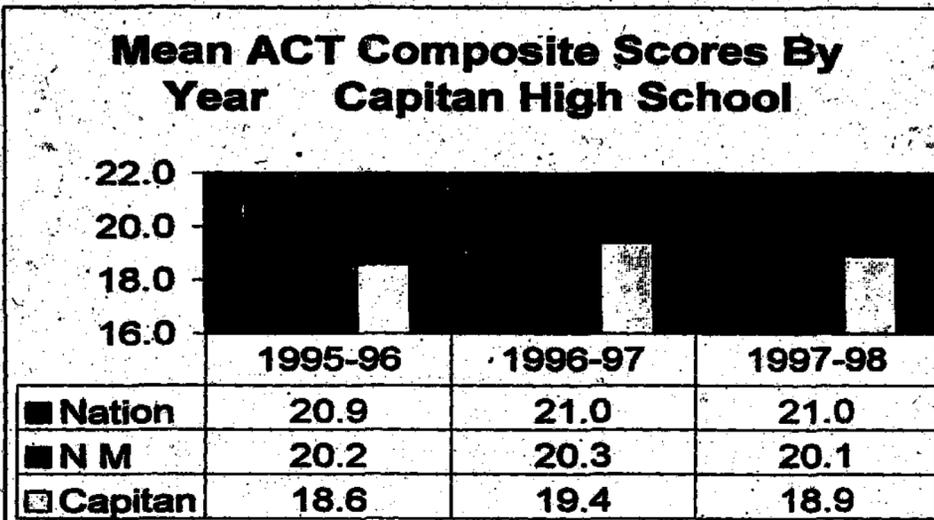
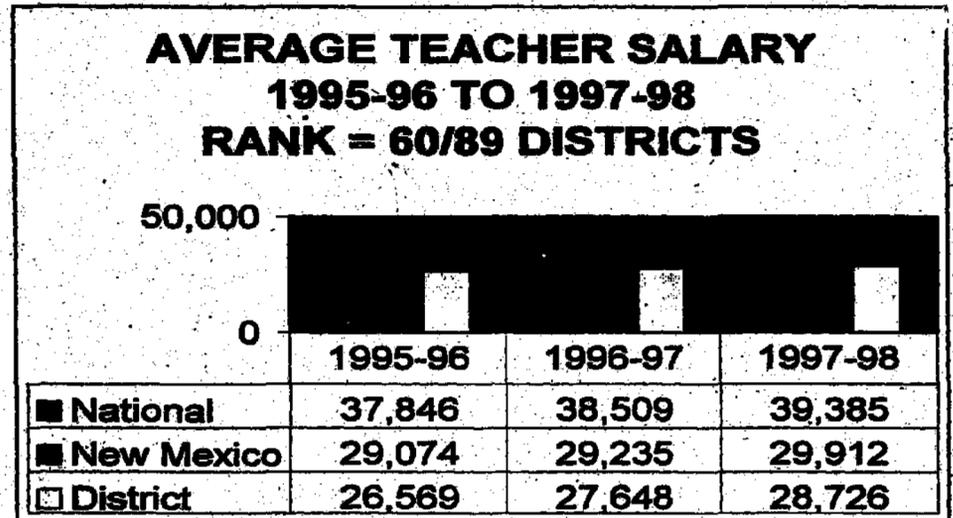
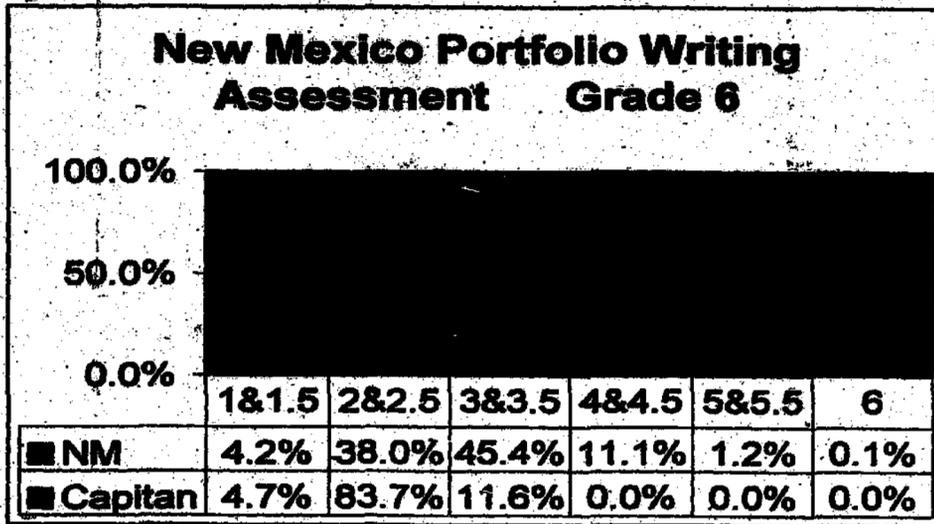


New Mexico Portfolio Writing Assessment Grade 4



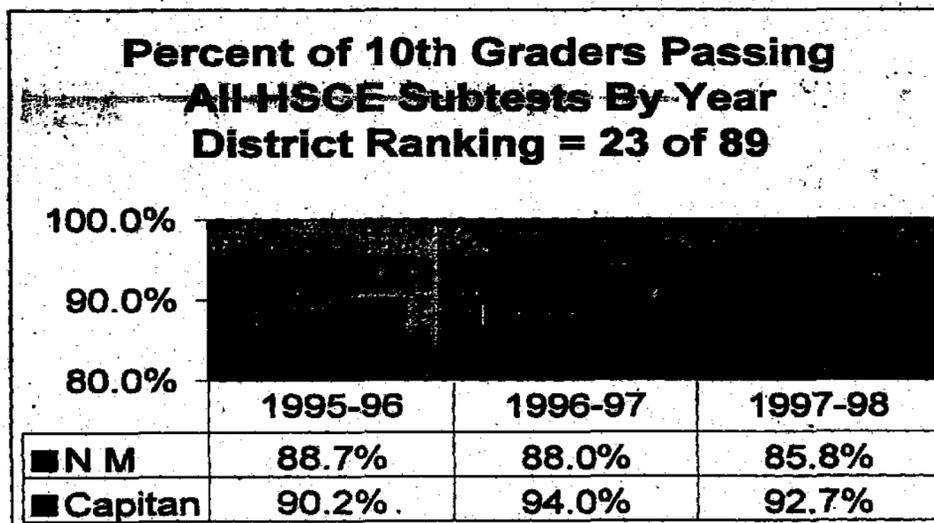
The Capitan Municipal Schools Report Card for 1997-98

(Continued from Page 8)



CAPITAN ACHIEVEMENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Performance level scores provide a measure of what students know and can do in terms of the New Mexico Content Standards as assessed by the New Mexico Achievement Assessment Program, the customized CTBS5/Terra Nova test. The district expectation is to work toward achieving a Level 3 (Proficient) or Level 4 (Advanced). The percentage of students at a performance level indicates that this percentage of students can perform the majority of what is described for that level and all of what is described for the levels below. The competencies in the next higher level are the ones that a student needs to attain in order to demonstrate academic growth. Data for the 1997-98 school year is considered baseline data for these assessment results. When determining growth, look for a gain in the percentage of students in Level 3 and Level 4 with a decrease in the percentage of students at Levels 1 and 2 from fourth grade in 1997-98 to sixth grade in 1999-2000, and from sixth grade in 1997-98 to eighth grade in 1999-2000.



GRADE 4 PERFORMANCE ON NM CONTENT STANDARDS

Performance Level	Language Arts		Mathematics		Science		Social Studies	
	% of Students Capitan/State							
4 Advanced	39%	22%	26%	11%	10%	3%	42%	27%
3 Proficient	29%	34%	29%	19%	39%	24%	45%	37%
2 Nearing Proficiency	32%	34%	39%	49%	42%	40%	13%	26%
1 Beginning Step	0%	10%	6%	21%	10%	33%	0%	11%

GRADE 6 PERFORMANCE ON NM CONTENT STANDARDS

Performance Level	Language Arts		Mathematics		Science		Social Studies	
	% of Students Capitan/State							
4 Advanced	9%	11%	2%	8%	5%	4%	14%	25%
3 Proficient	23%	26%	9%	13%	18%	23%	34%	33%
2 Nearing Proficiency	40%	44%	43%	33%	48%	40%	23%	14%
1 Beginning Step	28%	19%	45%	46%	30%	32%	30%	28%

Extraterritorial Zoning Authority Meets Today

Students Present Research At National DOE Conference

by Doris Cherry

Ruidoso wants to control the kind of growth that happens just outside its corporate limits.

Since 1984, Ruidoso and Lincoln County have operated under an Extraterritorial Zoning (ETZ) ordinance that established a commission and authority. Today, Thursday, December 17, the Extraterritorial Zoning Authority (ETZA) is holding a special meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Ruidoso Downs Senior Citizens Center to discuss proposed changes to the ETZ ordinance. Those involved agree the ETZ ordinance is ineffective and outdated.

At the regular December 8 Lincoln County Commission meeting, commissioners discussed a letter sent from Ruidoso Mayor Robert Donaldson about the proposed changes. County attorney Alan Morel was concerned about one of the five changes proposed by Ruidoso, allowing Ruidoso municipal court to handle ETZ citations. Morel said municipal court has no jurisdiction outside the munic-

ipality, and all citations would be handled by magistrate court. County commission chairman Ray Nunley said in talking with Donaldson, who was not at the meeting, Donaldson had no problem in sending citations to magistrate court for enforcement.

Other changes proposed by Ruidoso include modeling the ETZ closely after Ruidoso's Planning & Zoning ordinance; Ruidoso planning office would take over operations and enforcement of the new code; approval/denial process of the ET Commission/Authority be the same as in Ruidoso's code; develop a business permitting process at the county level.

County commissioner Wilton Howell said the only way he would support any changes proposed by Ruidoso was if the ETZA had the final say. The ETZA is made up of two county commissioners and one village representative. Howell said since the county has no zoning it was "real tough" to mirror Ruidoso's zoning laws in the ETZ, a one mile area in the county directly adjoining Ruidoso municipal limits.

County commissioner Rex Wilson said he favored holding public hearings about changes to the ETZ ordinance because they needed to hear from the people in the zone. Wilson said the county needs to be very careful on how the ETZ will affect property rights and how it might affect public lands.

Oscura resident Jerry Carroll suggested commissioners read the Ruidoso zoning ordinance, since the village is proposing the changes to the ETZ ordinance to reflect Ruidoso's zoning ordinance.

Howell suggested the county publicize the next ETZA meeting.

County commissioner Monroy Montes suggested the Public Lands Use Advisory Council (PLUAC) and other affected boards be contacted about an ETZA public hearing, then hold the meeting in the Ruidoso area. Nunley suggested more than one hearing.

Ruidoso resident and former ETZ commission member Al Junge said he had problems with Ruidoso taking over the

ETZ. He said there are too many problems with Ruidoso's planning and zoning commission and the village planning department. "If you give the (ETZ enforcement) to Ruidoso, you subject the county people to the same problems as Ruidoso has," Junge said. "Many people have problems with the hold Ruidoso's P&Z has over the political scene. And Ruidoso's planning office doesn't know anything about customer service."

Junge suggested the county take a great interest in the ETZ.

GED Test Dates At ENMU Ruidoso

The Ruidoso Instruction Center of Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) will offer the GED test on the third Friday of each month beginning at 8 a.m. The testing date has been recently changed from the second to the third Friday. Call 1-800-934-3668 for more information.

In the fall of 1997 students from Corona, Tatum and Ft. Sumner High Schools, making up the Eastern New Mexico team, began working on an environmental cleanup problem of removing and relocating mine tailings. None of them knew that their first place win at the 1998 High School Environmental Design Contest, sponsored by the Waste-management Education & Research Consortium, would lead to cash prizes, a trip to Chicago to present their research, and an outstanding emotional experience.

At the 1998 contest, Eastern New Mexico competed against teams from Las Cruces and El Paso with the Eastern team winning first place overall, best oral presentation, and were awarded \$11,250 for their efforts. At the design contest awards banquet the team was invited to present their winning research at a national Department of Energy (DOE) conference.

On October 26-29, the students traveled to the DOE

Office of Environmental Restoration's Tenth National Technology Information Exchange Workshop in Willowbrook, IL where they presented their winning research. Participants included Tatum seniors Rana Jones and Tyler Denning, and Tatum graduates Daniel Lamb, Zach Jones and Obi Gillespie, who are now freshmen at NMSU; Ft. Sumner students Brandon Foster and Royce Mussman, and former Corona students Charlie Tully now attending Estancia, and Dustin Gay. Teachers included Rhonda Tully, a former Corona teacher, Rondal Nauert of Tatum, and Patti Scott of Ft. Sumner.

The 1999 High School Environmental contest is scheduled for April 12-15 at NMSU, and will be held in conjunction with the University contest. For more information contact Bryan Swain at 1-800-523-5996.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

**TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

CV98-44

**MATRIX FINANCIAL SERVICES,
a federal savings bank,**

Plaintiff,

**MELVIN E. NELSON and
CARLA JO NELSON,
husband and wife, MICHAEL WILLIAMS,
and REBECCA MONCRIEF,
Defendants.**

NOTICE OF SALE ON FORECLOSURE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above-entitled Court, having appointed me of my designee Special Master in this matter with the power to sell, has ordered me to sell the real property situated in Lincoln County, New Mexico, commonly known as 702 Harris, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 6 Block 5 of VALLEY VIEW SUBDIVISION, Ruidoso Downs, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-officio Recorder of Lincoln County, August 1, 1949.

The sale is to begin at 11:30 a.m. on December 21, 1998, at the front entrance of the Lincoln County Court House, City of Carrizozo, County of Lincoln, State of New Mexico, at which time I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in lawful currency of the United States of America, the Property to pay expenses of sale, and to satisfy the Judgment in favor of Plaintiff Matrix Financial Services.

Matrix Financial Services was awarded a Judgment on October 22, 1998, in the principal sum of \$15,600.50, plus interest thereon through October 22, 1998, in the sum of \$1,775.16, and accruing thereafter at the rate of 10.13% per annum (\$4.33 per diem) until paid; plus late charges through October 1998 in the sum of \$137.90, plus escrow credit in the amount of \$794.73 plus inspection fees in the amount of \$1,094.67, plus reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred by Plaintiff in the sum of \$2,001.33, with interest thereon from date of Judgment until paid at the rate of 10.13% per annum; plus costs incurred by Plaintiff from October 22, 1998, until the date of sale, including the Special Master's Fee of \$158.62, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance or keeping the property in good repair; plus reasonable attorney fees and costs as they shall accrue from date of judgment to date of sale, as awarded by the Court.

The sale is subject to a one (1) month right of redemption in favor of the Defendants Melvin E. Nelson, Carla Jo Nelson, Michael Williams, and Rebecca Moncrief as specified in the Judgment filed herein.

**DIANE DOYLE
Special Master c/o
Leverick and Musselman
5120 San Francisco Rd., NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
(505) 859-2303**

Published in the Lincoln County News on November 25 and December 3, 10 and 17, 1998.

**NOTICE OF INVITATION
FOR BIDS**

NOTICE is hereby given that competitive sealed bids will be received by the Lincoln County Purchasing Agent at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711 (300 Central Avenue), Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 2:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 6, 1999, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Any bids received after the above date and time will be retained unopened.

**BID NO. 98-99-015:
Pickups (2) (RE-BID)**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will review and make their final determination during their regular commission meeting scheduled for 9:00 A.M., on Tuesday, January 12, 1999.

Specifications are available at the Office of the Purchasing Agent, Lincoln County Courthouse, Carrizozo, or by calling Martha Guevara at 805/448-2385.

All bids must be clearly marked on the outside of the sealed envelope with the bid number(s) shown above.

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

**MARTHA GUEVARA
Assistant County Manager**

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, December 17, 1998.

**NOTICE OF REQUEST
FOR PROPOSALS**

NOTICE is hereby given that competitive sealed proposals will be received by the Lincoln County Purchasing Agent at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711 (300 Central Avenue), Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 2:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 6, 1999. Any proposals received after the above date and time will be retained unopened.

RFP NO. 98-99-016:

**CONSTRUCTION OF NEW
WHITE OAKS FIRE STATION
(RE-BID)**

RFP NO. 98-99-017:

**INTERSTATE/INTRASTATE/CALLING
CARDS/TOLL FREE SERVICES
(RE-BID)**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will review and make their final determination during their regular commission meeting scheduled for 9:00 A.M., on Tuesday, January 12, 1999.

Specifications are available at the Office of the Purchasing Agent, Lincoln County Courthouse, Carrizozo, or by calling Martha Guevara at 805/448-2385.

All proposals must be clearly marked on the outside of the sealed envelope with the proposal number(s) shown above.

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

**MARTHA GUEVARA
Assistant County Manager**

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, December 17, 1998.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners are hereby accepting nominations to the Lincoln Historic Preservation Board for three (3) members to serve on the Board. Nominee(s) shall be property owners in the Lincoln Historic District; must be domiciled and registered to vote within Lincoln County.

Nominations shall be made in writing to the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners for appointment to the Lincoln Historic Preservation Board. In making the appointment to the Board, the Commission shall give consideration to maintaining the balance of interests and skills of the Board, and to the individual qualifications of the candidates, including their interest, experience and knowledge in community and cultural traditions.

Nominations will be accepted by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711, Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 10:00 a.m., January 5, 1999.

**MARTHA GUEVARA
Assistant
County Manager**

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, December 17, 1998.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners are hereby accepting nominations to the Lincoln County Senior Citizens Olympic Committee for three (3) members to serve on the Board. Nominee(s) must be domiciled and registered to vote within Lincoln County.

Nominations shall be made in writing to the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners for appointment to the Lincoln County Senior Citizens Olympic Committee. Nominations will be accepted by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711, Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 10:00 a.m., January 5, 1999.

**MARTHA GUEVARA
Assistant
County Manager**

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, December 17, 1998.

**SPECIAL MEETING
NOTICE**

Lincoln County Medical Center, Community Board of Trustees, Thursday, December 17, 1998, 8:00 p.m., Hospital Conference Room.

Closed Meeting, pursuant to Limited Personnel Matters Exception, Administrator Applicant Resume Reviews.

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 10 and 17, 1998.

**LEGAL NOTICE
LINCOLN COUNTY
LODGERS TAX
COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 30, 1998
10:00 A.M.**

**NOTICE OF
MEETING**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Lincoln County Lodgers Tax Committee will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, December 30, 1998, at 10:00 a.m., at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Copies of the agenda for the December 30, 1998, meeting will be available at the office of the County Manager prior to said meeting.

Auxiliary aides are available upon request; please contact Martha Guevara at (505) 448-2385 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, December 17, 1998.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners are hereby accepting nominations to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee for two (2) members to serve on the Board. Nominee(s) shall be involved in primary agriculture production or in secondary agricultural services; must be domiciled and registered to vote within the County of Lincoln.

Nominations shall be made in writing to the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners for appointment to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee.

Nominations will be accepted by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners at the Lincoln County Courthouse, P.O. Box 711, Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301, until 10:00 a.m., January 5, 1999.

**MARTHA GUEVARA
Assistant
County Manager**

Published in the Lincoln County News on Thursday, December 17, 1998.

LEGAL

NOTICE is hereby given that on November 23, 1998, District Advisory Board of the New Mexico District Church of the Nazarene, HC 71, Box 1159, Capitan, NM 88316, filed application No. H-700-S-4 with the STATE ENGINEER for permit to drill a supplemental well 5 inches in diameter and approximately 350 feet in depth, at a point in the SE¼ NW¼ of Section 15, Township 10 South, Range 13 East, N.M.P.M., for the purpose of supplementing the following existing shallow wells:

WELL NO.	SUBDIVISION	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE
H-700	NEM SE¼ NW¼	15	10S	13E
H-700-S	NEM SE¼ NW¼	15	10S	13E
H-700-S-2	SE¼ NW¼ NW¼	15	10S	13E
H-700-S-3	SE¼ NW¼ NW¼	15	10S	13E
H-754	NEM NW¼ NE¼	15	10S	13E
H-773	SW¼ NW¼ NE¼	15	10S	13E
H-754 & H-773-S	SE¼ NE¼	15	10S	13E

for the continued diversion of up to 66.0 acre-feet per annum of shallow groundwater for domestic, commercial, and institutional purposes.

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 St., 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/RRR No.: Z 263 898 673

Published in the Lincoln County News on December 10, 17 and 23, 1998.

**IT WEIGHS 68 TONS.
IT CAN CROSS A DESERT AT 40 MPH.
IT CAN HIT A TARGET FROM 2.5 MILES.
WITHOUT EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL GUARD
AND RESERVE, IT MIGHT NOT MOVE AN INCH.**

Ad Council

**ESGR EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF
THE GUARD AND RESERVE.**

**County Wants State Changes
To Road Frontage Tax Laws**

by Doris Cherry

Subdivision property owners who want more maintenance than the county now provides should have a legal way to self impose taxes to pay for that.

Lincoln County Commissioners plan to request their state legislators sponsor or support legislation to modify the state laws to allow subdivision property owners to self impose road frontage tax that will pay for maintenance in their subdivision only. Currently state laws do not pro-

vide for such a narrow imposition of road frontage tax.

During a public hearing on road frontage tax at the December 8 regular county commission meeting, commissioners again discussed how subdivision roads cost the county more to maintain than regular county roads. County Commissioner Wilton Howell, supporter of road frontage tax for subdivision roads, said that property owners in Ancho should not have to pay for subdivision roads in Alpine Village (near Ruidoso). However, it was only at the last public hearing on the road frontage tax that Howell began advocating allowing subdivision owners to self assess the tax, that would then go only for extra maintenance for their roads.

While most land owners and developers at the meeting agreed to self assessed road frontage tax for maintenance of their subdivisions, they did not agree to an overall tax as in the past. Previously commissioners taxed every foot of subdivision roads in the county, including on roads that were platted in subdivisions but were never built. A resulting lawsuit caused the county to refund taxes paid by property owners whose roads were never built or maintained by the county, and finally rescinding of the very unpopular tax.

Since they lifted the tax, the county road maintenance funds and maintenance services have declined.

One property owner at the meeting said he thought the county should pursue self assessment of road frontage taxes, instead of overall assessment on all subdivisions.

Although county attorney Alan Morel said there are state laws that allow subdivision property owners to vote in a special assessment to generate money, that is for special projects like paying, not for routine or more maintenance.

Howell said he wanted the county to work with the legislature to get the state laws changed so there can be a simpler process to allow property owners to self-assess for more maintenance. County commissioner Monroy Montes said it may be as simple as having the legislature define "ordinary and extraordinary" in current state laws.

County commission chairman Ray Nunley said he would be happy to work with the legislators on supporting or sponsoring changes to the state laws concerning road frontage tax.

Subdivision roads that were drawn out on paper, but were never built have been a problem for the county for some time. Staff requested commissioners to give them some direction on what to tell people who have property in subdivisions with no built roads. County planning officer Patsy Sanchez said she knows of 20 to 30 such platted but not built roads in the county.

Howell said it was not right for the rest of the taxpayers to pay for a road that was not built. He advocated the self assessed road frontage tax to take care of such situations, if the traffic is there to justify it. "The rest of the people shouldn't suffer for a developer who didn't do his job," Howell said.

County commissioner Rex

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS

SWEET FANCY CUT Shurfine Yams 15 OZ. CANS **2 FOR \$1**

REGULAR Gold Medal Flour 5 LBS. **89¢**

REG. \$1.39 DELI STYLE REG. \$1.49 CLASSIC LAYS Lays Potato Chips YOUR CHOICE **99¢**

CAN Granulated Sugar 4 LB. BAG **1 39**

APPLE OR REGULAR OR LITE CHERRY Shurfine Pie Filling 20-21 OZ. **99¢**

SHURFINE WHOLE OR ITALIAN CUT GREEN BEANS, SLICED PICKLED BEETS, WIK WHITE OR WIK CRISP & SWEET CORN, CORN TINY SWEET OR PETIT PEARL VEGETABLES 12-18 OZ. **59¢**

BEST VALUE \$7.99 PUMPKIN \$2.99 BEST VALUE \$1.99 Pecan Pie 22.5 OZ. **2 99**

SHURFINE WHOLE OR JELLED Cranberry Sauce 16 OZ. CANS **3 99**

MEATS

COOK-SHANK Half Ham	LB.	89¢
COOK-BUTT Half Ham	LB.	\$1.09
FRESH PORK Butt Roast	LB.	69¢
FRESH Pork Steak	LB.	89¢
FRESH COUNTRY STYLE Pork Ribs	LB.	89¢
HILLSHIRE FARM Little Smokies	LB.	\$1.99
BEEF BOTTOM Round Roast	LB.	\$1.89
BEEF BOTTOM Round Steak	LB.	\$1.99
FRESH Ground Chuck	LB.	\$1.49
SHURFINE PIMENTO Cheese Spread	7-OZ.	99¢
SHURFINE PIMENTO Cheese Spread	12-OZ.	\$1.89
HILLSHIRE (3 Kinds) Smoked Sausage	LB.	\$2.49
BALL PARK Beef Franks	LB.	\$2.59
BALL PARK All Meat Franks	LB.	\$2.29
SHURFINE Beef Bologna	12-OZ.	\$1.19
SHURFINE Bologna	1-LB.	\$1.09
OSCAR MAYER Chopped Ham	8-OZ.	\$1.59
SHURFINE Turkeys	LB.	59¢

(LIMITED TO SIZES ON HAND)

ASSORTED PREMIUM, NO SUGAR ADDED, NO SUGAR ADDED AT FREE OR FAT FREE ICE CREAMERY OR FAT FREE FROZEN YOGURT Blue Bunny HALF GALLON ROUND **3 49**

10 OZ. REG. OR 14.5 OZ. MINI Shurfine Marshmallows BAGS **2 FOR \$1 99¢**

WHITE FLAKE Shurfine Coconut 14 OZ. **99¢**

PEPSI PRODUCTS \$1.69

SHURFINE VEGETABLE OIL SPREAD 48 OZ. **88¢**

SHURFINE PINEAPPLE 14.5 OZ. **59¢**

WHITE FLAKE Shurfine Broth 14.5 OZ. CANS **3 FOR \$1 99¢**

HEAVY DUTY Shurfine Foil 37.5 SQUARE FT. **99¢**

REYNOLDS Turkey Oven Bags 2 CT. **1 19**

SHURFINE ULTRA WHIPPING CREAM HALF PINT **59¢**

SHURFINE QUICK OATS 48 OZ. **1 49**

SHURFINE REAL CHOCOLATE CHIPS 12 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE PLASTIC WRAP 100 SQUARE FT. **99¢**

POST TOASTIES 18 OZ. BOXES **2 FOR \$3**

GENERAL MILLS CORN FLICE OR WHEAT CHEX Cereal 12-18 OZ. BOXES **2 FOR \$5**

MORRISON'S MIXES 6 OZ. BOXES **3 FOR \$1**

PRICES EFFECTIVE:
December 17th thru December 30th, 1998

NEW HOURS:
Monday thru Saturday
Open 8:30 am
Close 6:30 pm
Sunday
Open 9:00 am
Close 3:00 pm

FROZEN & DAIRY

BLUE BUNNY VANILLA OR COMBO The Champ! Cones 6 CT. PKG. **2 99**

REGULAR OR BUTTERMILK Eggo Waffles 11 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE Cream Cheese 8 OZ. **99¢**

FLORIDA OR CALIFORNIA BLEND SUNNY DELIGHT Citrus Punch 128 OZ. **1 99**

SHURFINE REGULAR OR LITE Whipped Topping 8 OZ. **59¢**

SHURFINE DEEP DISH FROZEN Pie Shells 12 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE HOT'N FRESH Breadsticks 11 OZ. **1 19**

SHURFINE Corn Syrup 32 OZ. **1 19**

SHURFINE REGULAR OR CLEAR TALL Kitchen Bags 15 CT. **99¢**

ASSORTED E-Z FOIL DISPOSABLE Baking Pans 2-5 CT. **99¢**

Merry Christmas!

SHURFINE GRADE 'A' Large Eggs DOZEN **69¢**

BROWN OR POWDERED Shurfine Sugar 2 LB. BAG **79¢**

ASST. SUPERMOIST OR SWEET REWARDS Betty Crocker Cake Mixes 18-18.25 OZ. **79¢**

ASSORTED BETTY CROCKER RTS Frosting 12-16 OZ. **1 39**

Golden Ripe Bananas 4 LBS. **\$1 99**

CALIFORNIA Navel Oranges LB. **39¢**

DOLE CLASSIC ICEBERG Salad Mix 1 LB. PKG. **89¢**

GARDEN FRESH Broccoli LB. **59¢**

CRISP GREEN Onions 4 BUNCHES **\$1 00**

LARGE BELL Peppers 3 FOR **\$1 00**

MINI PEELED Carrots 1 LB. BAG **89¢**

SNO WHITE Cauliflower HEAD **99¢**

TEXAS Grapefruit 5 FOR **\$1 00**

TEXAS SWEET Potatoes LB. **59¢**

U.S. #1 RUSSET Potatoes 10 LB. BAG **1 39**

WASHINGTON EX-FANCY RED DELICIOUS Apples LB. **49¢**

LARGE STALK Crisp Celery FOR **3 99**

MARDI GRAS Napkins 120 CT. **99¢**

SHURFINE Sandwich Bags 60 CT. **59¢**

REGULAR, RED, FAT OR BUTTER FLAVOR GRAHAM CRACKER Keebler 9" Crusts 6 OZ. **99¢**

SHURFINE RECLOSABLE Sandwich Bags 50 CT. **99¢**

SHURFINE MANDARIN Oranges 2 11 OZ. CANS **\$1 00**

CAMPBELL'S REGULAR OR LOWFAT CELERY, MUSHROOM OR CHICKEN Cream Soups 10.7 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE CUT SPEARS Asparagus 15 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE PEACH OR BLUEBERRY Pie Filling 21 OZ. **1 99**

SHURFINE STUFFED SPANISH OR SMALL PITTED RIPE Olives 5.75-6 OZ. **99¢**

STURGES VENTURE

4th & Central Ave. / CARRIZOZO, NM / Ph. 648-2125



WE ACCEPT W.I.C. CHECKS

WE HONOR EBT CARDS for FOOD and CASH