

# All Area Agencies Put On Full Alert

by DORIS CHERRY

Flags were at half mast everywhere Wednesday, on public buildings, at homes and private business, in honor of those who died in the terrorist attack that occurred early Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

One flag lowered in grief and respect was at the Lincoln

County Courthouse in Carrizozo. County manager Tom Stewart lowered the flag Tuesday morning as the "most appropriate gesture" of his grief for his many friends and associates who worked in the Pentagon offices that were hit by a hijacked commercial airline on Tuesday.

Stewart told *THE NEWS* on

Wednesday he learned about the attack on the World Trade Center from the radio in his vehicle while on route to his office in the courthouse Tuesday morning. He said, when he arrived at his office he and county procurement officer Jane Williams were looking at his picture of the Pentagon which hangs on his office wall.

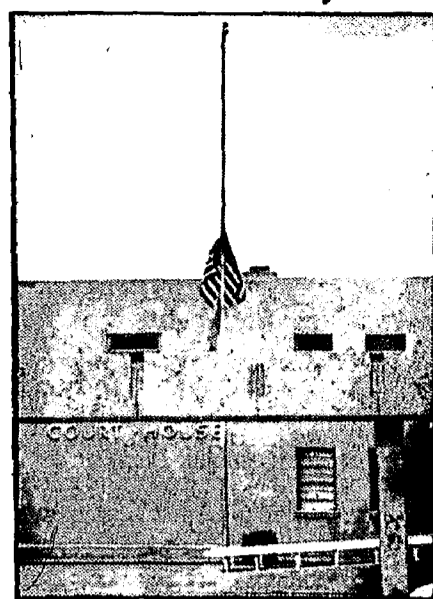
Stewart retired from the National Military Command Center where he was Chief of Operations for the Western Hemisphere for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

While he and Williams were looking at the picture of the building, Stewart said he commented that terrorists could hit the Pentagon and other symbols

of America. At that moment, county attorney Alan Morel called and said the Pentagon had been hit.

"I hope not all died in vain," Stewart said. "I think this is a watershed event, not only for the U.S. but for the world as a whole."

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VOLUME # 96, NUMBER 37

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2001

CARRIZOZO, NM 88301



## Carrizozo Airport Among Closures

by Jeff Hammond

The terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York on Tuesday was directly responsible for the Carrizozo Airport to be closed. All airports in the continental United States were closed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), including the Carrizozo airport.

During the Carrizozo Town Council meeting Sept. 11 municipal judge C.O. Rominger, the Carrizozo Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), announced that the Carrizozo airport had been closed. Rominger stated that the FAA called the Carrizozo airport speaking to Bill Hayes, telling Hayes to close the airport to all departing flights.

Rominger who has a scanner tuned to the airport frequency overheard the conversation and he stepped into his role as EMC.

Rominger then called the State Police and spoke to Lieutenant Bower who informed Rominger to "Close the airport."

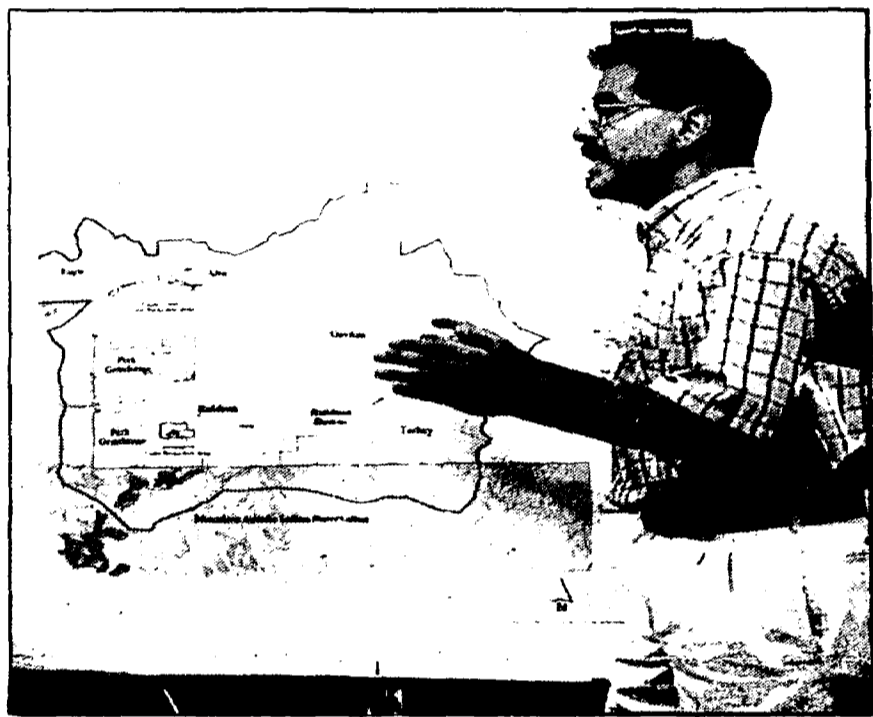
Rominger said that closing the airport was simple, a large white X was placed on the runway indicating it was out of service, no flights in, and airport manager Bill

Hayes was instructed to let no planes take off.

Rominger has been the emergency management coordinator for Carrizozo for approximately four years, working with the Lincoln County Emergency Management Coordinator when the need arises.

Rominger told this reporter the difference between civilian and military airports. Basically this is with the revolving beacon. The beacon which is turned on at dusk has one light going around in circles, whereas a military airport has two lights.

Rominger attends emergency management mock disaster trainings along with Lincoln County Emergency Management Coordinator Rosemary Luchini Gonzalez coordinating with local, county, state and federal officials in dealing with such disasters as toxic waste spills, railroad derailment, emergency evacuation of citizens in harms way from any disasters such as fire, toxic fumes from a spill, and many other possible disasters.



**CIRCLE OF DEATH.** Village of Ruidoso Urban Forester Rick Delaco shows to the Lincoln County Commission at a special meeting on Friday, September 7, an area around and including Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs and Alto that is referred to as the "Circle of Death" because the poor condition of forested private and public properties that have high potential for catastrophic wildfire. County commissioners agreed to apply for a grant that will provide funding to help private land owners reduce fire hazards on their forested lots within the zone.

## Cable Company Offers Services For Carrizozo

by Jeff Hammond

Rick Volquardson, owner of Mountain Communications cable service located in Ruidoso, addressed the Carrizozo Town Council at their meeting September 11, making a tentative offer to supply Carrizozo residents comparable cable service. During the discussion audience members Janet Lynn and Mr. and Mrs. McKibben stated that they have hooked up to the satellite service offered by Mountain Com-

munications, and that they were very pleased with their service.

Volquardson offered to supply approximately 68 channels, including a Bulletin Board expressly for the town and town people's use. No action was taken at this time, and town clerk Leann Weibrecht was directed to investigate options.

Trustees approved purchasing a brush truck for the fire department from Independent Fire com-

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## County Applies For Forest Project Grant

by DORIS CHERRY

Lincoln County Commissioners, with help from the New Mexico State Forestry office, has applied for a \$600,000 grant that will help private land owners in the Ruidoso area do forest fire hazard reduction projects.

At a special meeting Friday, September 7 in their chambers in the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, county commissioners authorized an application for a \$600,000 grant under the 2002 Western States Wildland Urban Interface Grant federal program through the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division. Under the grant program, land owners whose applications are accepted will provide a 30 percent match to the 70 percent provided by the grant program. The county will not be obligated to provide any matching funds.

Priority for this grant phase is residential developed lots in Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs and Alto and areas to the south and west of these communities. This area has been described as a "circle of death" because of its high level of potential for devastating wildfire.

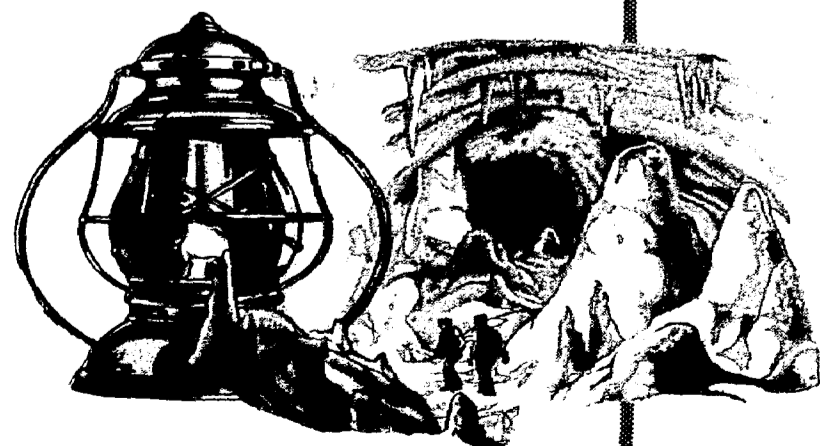
The grant is the second phase of forestry funding for private individuals. Last fiscal year, the South Central Mountain RC&D Council was the fiscal agent and administrating

organization, in cooperation with the New Mexico State Forestry (NMSF) Department on the first phase of the forestry grants to private individuals. Bill Duemling, from the NMSF office in Capitan who attended the Friday meeting, said the current program, being administered by the NMSF, has processed and provided management plans for 30 properties. But the staff is backlogged with 57 applications from private land owners looking for help. So far \$190,000 of a \$250,000 grant has been spent on private property projects in the Ruidoso area, Duemling said. "Our priority was treating developed, single lot, residential properties. And our intent was to get as much money on the ground as possible without hiring consultants," he added.

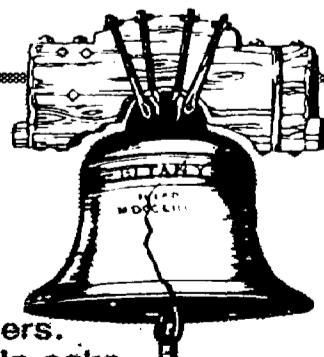
NMSF has provided technical support for the land owners whose applications are accepted for grant funds. Once accepted, NMSF personnel map the property with a Global Positioning System (GPS), then calculate the acreage to identify how much forest needs to be treated. A management plan is then written for each property. Duemling explained, "That is why we're treating mostly around houses," he said.

In discussing the grant, county manager Tom Stewart said the county

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## PSALM 23. A Psalm of David.



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
3 He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 *Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

# All Area Agencies

(Continued from Page 1)



"I think the National Military Strategy, which the president is responsible for establishing, is undergoing an evolution. I mean there is no country in the world that can beat us conventionally, but unconventionally, in other words terrorism, there are plenty of rogue nations and organizations that can cause our democracy lots of problems," Stewart continued.

"It is time the United States took the gloves off in dealing with terrorist activities. The U.S. needs to make sure that whoever perpetrated this gets swift and total retribution."

"As we do that we have to align with as many countries in the world as possible to support our initiative," he continued. "As for being a watershed I hope our enemies, North Korea, Cuba, could align with us to say this type of activities cannot be tolerated in the civilized world."

"I hope the U.S. takes advantage of its membership in the United Nations to use that as a form to say this type of activity will no longer be tolerated in our world."

As for the damage to the Pentagon, Stewart said the National Military Command center which is connected to the offices of the Secretary of Defense and the joint chiefs of staff where he worked, is on the opposite side of the building complex from where the jet airliner hit. "It upset me to hear the news about the Pentagon," Stewart said, his eyes reddening, his voice wavering with emotion. "Terrorism of this type goes back years, and only came to light in the 1960s with hijackings. This is a cowardly way of doing business."

When asked if he had heard about the welfare of his friends and associates still in the Pentagon, Stewart said, "I am afraid to ask who was lost. I have a lot of friends in the Pentagon. I am not looking forward to seeing the casualty list."

With a masters degree in national security strategy, Stewart said he had been mulling the events over in his mind. "I feel this type of thing was inevitable. I believe the U.S. should make a thorough investigation, collaborate with all countries that will align with us to validate the retribution, then follow through. I think we need to declare war! I think it is warranted. Terrorists should be placed on notice."

Stewart said everyone should beware of generalized retribution. "I am sure the National Security Council of whom the secretary of state and secretary of defense are members, will sift through all information before they made a recommendation. It will take all the best minds in Washington."

County offices remained open on Tuesday. Stewart said there was no need to close the offices.

**County Emergency Coordinator Notified**  
County emergency coordinator Rosemary Luchini Gonzalez said the state emergency management operations center called her Tuesday morning to make sure everything was okay, and to let her know the state emergency center was now in operation and that Sierra Blanca Regional Airport was closed.

## Federal Offices Closed Including Forest Service

The only offices closed in the county were the federal U.S. Forest Service, Lincoln National Forest Smokey Bear Ranger District offices in Ruidoso and Capitan. The offices were closed Tuesday and Wednesday as a security and safety precaution, said district ranger Jerry Hawks. The Ranger station offices were to be open again with regular hours today, Thursday, Hawks told THE NEWS.

Hawks said because of potential for fire danger in the forest, he, district fire manager Matt Reidy and his assistant and one fire engine and its crew were on duty throughout the closure. Hawks said the closure only involved the offices, and did not involve actually closing the forests to public use. He did say that the planned prescribed burns in the northern part of Lincoln County have been postponed, to make sure fire crews are available if needed on a national level. Also fire conditions are drying and are less favorable to controlled burns, he added.

## Sierra Blanca Regional Airport Closed

Sierra Blanca Regional Airport (SBRA) and Carrizozo Municipal Airport both were closed to all air traffic Tuesday and Wednesday. Tim Morris, SBRA manager, said he got the information to close the airport at 8 a.m. Tuesday when he called the Albuquerque Flight Service for the daily weather briefing. Albuquerque Flight Service is an organization that provides, on behalf of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), weather and other travel related information to airports and pilots, Morris said. The Service is the notifying agency for FAA.

Once receiving the notice to close, Morris said SBRA staff closed all security gates to stop any ingress or egress from the airport area. He said he also notified local pilots who routinely fly in the mornings and other pilots who were planning to fly out of SBRA that day. "We controlled the access, and with security cameras everywhere we watched for any movement at the airport," Morris said.

In addition, Ruidoso Police Department sent officers to SBRA as standby to enforce the closure.

Morris said all airport employees remained on the grounds, to monitor the situation and to provide ground support in case a commercial plane was forced to land. SBRA has capability to land 737s up to 757s if necessary, Morris added. Also SBRA staff monitored the J65 jetway, a major air route for commercial jets above 20,000 altitude over Lincoln County.

Under the shut down, Morris said he was instructed there would be no flights, including emergency medical flights.

Early Wednesday Morris did not know when the no flight order would be lifted and said he was monitoring the situation with the flight service throughout the day. He said several pilots had called wanting to know when they could fly.

Morris said he was in communication with Ruidoso police chief Lanny Maddox and Tomas Chavez, Village of Ruidoso Emergency Coordinator throughout the day.

**Ruidoso Police Officers Assist**  
Maddox told THE NEWS he assigned three officers to do rotation duty at the airport throughout the closure. "I sent the officers to enforce the aircraft grounding," Maddox said.

SEE MORE ON PAGE 4



Donald J. and Dorothy B. Queen  
January 1, 1928

## Dorothy Queen To Celebrate 90th Birthday On Sept. 19

Dorothy Bricker Queen was born in Los Angeles, California in September 19, 1911. Her family were Utah Mormons who had moved to California to improve their economic lot in life and because of her father's doctrinal differences with the church. Dorothy herself was never a member of the church. The family was of English origin.

In addition to her mother, Minnie Beck and father John, she had three sisters and a brother. Her brother died when she was 11 and her mother when she was 13. She was taken in by an older married sister. In addition to attending school, she enjoyed visiting the ocean and amusement parks nearby.

While attending a Valentine's Day party at a Methodist Church, she was approached by a tall, dark and handsome young man who introduced himself as Donald J. Queen, a native of White Oaks, NM. Thus began a love affair that would last for almost half-a-century. They went together for almost a year, enjoying the beauty of the California of that time, the ocean, the desert around Palm Springs and the mountains and forests around Big Bear Lake.

The were married in San Bernardino on January 1, 1928. The man from White Oaks had just turned 19, his California girl was 16.

The family prospered in the relative prosperity of the California of the 1920s. But later in 1928, Ed Queen decided it was time to get out of the city and return to his first love, mining. Ed and May Queen's children were all married by then and they chose to go with them. In addition to Don and Dorothy, there were Lawrence and Vera Queen and Eilyn and Leonard Whitwell.

They outfitted themselves for a mining expedition that would take them first to northern California on a placer mining operation, thence to Manhattan, Nevada and in 1933 the Queen family returned to White Oaks after a 15 year absence (for Dorothy, Vera and Leonard it would be the first time).

The family managed to survive the Great Depression by mining at White Oaks and in Arizona. In addition to mining they hunted, grew some small crops and raised a few cows and chickens. The women cooked meals over wood stoves, pumped water from cisterns, washed over wash boards, as was the rural way of that era. For entertainment they attended dances, played musical instruments, etc.

In 1935, Don and Dorothy's only child, Donald M. Queen, was born in Carrizozo, at the Ray and

(SEE PAGE 9)



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**TODAY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**  
 -Billy the Kid Scenic Byways Committee, 12:30 p.m. Museum of the American West, Ruidoso Downs.  
 -Ruidoso Arts Commission 4 p.m. Ruidoso Village Hall.  
 -Capitan Board of Education 6 p.m. school administration building.  
 -Corona Village Trustees, 6:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**  
 -Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District convention, 11:30 a.m. at the Manzano Mountain Camp, 16 miles north of Mountainair on Highway 55, to elect one supervisor. All owners of land within the district are eligible to vote by requesting an absentee ballot in person at the district office in Mountainair.  
 -Capitan Public Library annual yard sale, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**  
 -Lincoln County-Ruidoso ETZ Commission 6:30 p.m. Ruidoso Village Hall.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
 -Carrizozo Action Team 9 a.m. NRCS office on Central Ave.  
 -Staff members of Senator Pete Domenici will be on hand at 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Lincoln County Commission room in the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo.  
 -Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority, 2 p.m. LCSWA offices in Ruidoso Downs.  
 -Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commission 2 p.m.  
 -Carrizozo Board of Education 7 p.m. school administration office. Agenda posted 24 hours prior to meeting.  
 -Lincoln County Historic Preservation Board regular meeting, 7 p.m. Community Church in Lincoln.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**  
 -Commodities distribution at Carrizozo Rec Center 12 noon to 5:30 p.m. for senior citizens age 60 and older and for children not covered by WIC.  
 -Start of Golden Aspen Motorcycle Rally with five days of motorcycle events. Headquarters at Ruidoso Convention Center. Call 1-800-452-8045 for information or view on the web at www.motorcyclerrally.com.  
 -Ruidoso Business Regulation Task force, 12 noon, Ruidoso Village Hall.  
 -Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas board meets 6 p.m. CCNG office in Capitan. Open to the public.  
 -Junior Varsity AWANAs for 7th and 8th graders meet at 6 p.m. Trinity Methodist Church in Carrizozo. For information call 648-2107.  
 -Ruidoso Parks and Rec Committee 6:30 p.m. village hall.  
 -Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce 7 p.m. Carrizozo Rec Center.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**  
 -Commodities distribution 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for senior citizens age 60 and older and for children not covered by WIC.

**SEPTEMBER 29**  
 -Democratic Party of Lincoln County annual McTeigue BBQ and fall Fiesta, 1:30 p.m. Alfred McTeigue home in Hondo. Call 354-2673 for directions and information.

**TUESDAYS**  
 -Alcoholics Anonymous 7 p.m. Carrizozo Senior Center. Call 648-1145 for information.

**WEDNESDAYS**  
 -AWANA club meeting 6-8 p.m. First Baptist Church of Carrizozo for children three years old through sixth grade.  
 -Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 7 p.m. Capitan Senior Citizens Center.

# County Applies for Grant

(Continued from Page 1)

attorney had concerns about the liability from property owners whose applications are rejected. "The attorney has an issue on how we will prioritize, and say no," Stewart said.

Duemling said that much of the footwork on establishing priorities has been done in the first phase of grants underway now. He also said the NMSF office started filling out the application form on behalf of the county. Duemling said NMSF will continue to provide technical help for the county if it receives the 2002 grant.

Stewart also questioned if the county will have to pay out funds to the private land owners, prior to reimbursement from the federal program. Howard Shanks, coordinator for the South Central RC&D council, said they had to make the property owners understand they would be reimbursed when the council was paid from the state. "And that can be up to a month wait," Shanks added.

Shanks said RC&D plans to complete at least 30 grant applications from private land owners. He also said that RC&D charged only five percent of the grant total to administer the grant. Duemling said the intent on the first wave of grants was to get as much money "on the ground" as possible.

In the grant application, the resource protection group listed is the Ruidoso Wildland/Urban Interface Working Group. This group is made up of representatives from NMSF, U.S. Forest Service regional office in Alamogordo and the local Lincoln National Forest Smokey Bear Ranger District, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Mescalero Agency, Lincoln County, BLM, Ruidoso Downs, State Land Office, South Central RC&D, National Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS), Village of Ruidoso, NMSU cooperative extension service, Sierra Contracting/Composting; Sherry Barrow Strategies; Brown Cutting and MFG.; SNMEDD; NM Environment Department, Unity Center, Village of Cloudcroft; Ecological Restoration Institute; Senator Bingaman; State Representative Dub Williams, and Mescalero Forest Products.

At an August 28 meeting of this group, it was decided there was a need to shift program administration to an existing governmental agency. "Since the area involves multi-jurisdictions," Stewart said to

### Wells Fargo Bank Opens Account For World Trade Center Tragedy Victims

Wells Fargo Bank has opened a donation account for the victims of the tragedies on Tuesday in New York and Washington, D.C. Contributions to the account will be sent to the relief efforts by the American Red Cross and the United Blood Services.

The American Red Cross has asked donors to the account to leave their names and addresses so their contributions can be acknowledged.

The name of the donation account is "Victims of World Trade Center", account #1352543159.

county commissioners at their special Friday meeting. "The county was the logical choice for administration." He also said NMSF had requested this shift.

The application lists hazardous areas as interface, intermix, occluded interface, rural interface. Threat descriptions checked are homes, businesses, 32,000 acres of watershed, infrastructure and economic viability. The project type is actual implementation and treatment.

Treatments will include defensible space creation via tree removal, thinning, pruning, litter removal, around structures according to Firewise standards, thinning and slash treatment in forest areas that are adjacent to communities and homes. Four priority areas have been identified, including the southwest quadrants of Ruidoso, Alto/Sun Valley, Cedar Creek and Ruidoso Downs. This funding would allow treatment in areas adjacent to previously-funded mitigation projects.

The county and Village of Ruidoso will provide \$10,000 each on in-kind match and Village of Ruidoso Downs to provide \$2,000 in kind match.

Duemling said it costs about \$1,190 an acre to effectively treat hazardous forested properties. He said property owners can provide "in-kind" soft matches of their own labor, which will be valued at \$15.90 an hour. Or land owners can use the cost of hiring a contractor to remove trees as their share of the cost.

Duemling said the priority of the current program is to deal with smaller land owners. "We feel that developers (of large tracts) should treat their properties before they sell lots, then pass on the cost to potential buyers," Duemling added.

As for turning down applicants, Duemling said currently NMSF does management plans for each property that is approved for the program. "We've had no problem with any liability (on rejecting applications)," he said. "Eventually, we will have to say no to many more (applying land owners)."

When discussing the cost of administration, county commissioner Leo Martinez asked if the county would use 10 percent of the grant for this administration. "I'm concerned the administrative costs for this \$1 million project will eat up the money and no clearing will happen," Martinez said.

Shanks said RC&D had hired a competent person to help administer the project and he would be available to the county.

Martinez then complained about funding provided to Barrow Strategies, which "has not shown anything." He then referred to an individual in Ruidoso who, on his own, is clearing private land owned by Bill McCarty near Ruidoso High School in exchange for the lumber being taken from the property. "I want to see clearing by private owners," Martinez said. "We need to limit the amount that goes to administration of the grant."

Duemling said no money is provided to the land owners, who have been

accepted under the grant program, until their forest project is completed and approved by NMSF staff.

Duemling also explained that funds for the Barrow Strategies, to create a manufacturing business, that will utilize small diameter wood, is from a different grant program.

Shanks said the grant for the Barrow project came from the Four Corners

Small Business Development Center with the USFS Rural Community Assistance program and from the Senator Jeff Bingaman "Happy Forest" bill that provides funds for public lands and development of industries to utilize forest resources.

Martinez said he wanted to see the funds funneled

**See More On Page 10**

**To be a good teacher one must first be a good human being.**

-Benjamin Desraeli

Sponsored by the People's Coalition of Lincoln County. The People's Coalition of Lincoln County is a non-profit organization comprised of children, students, parents, professional educators, business people, and concerned citizens who support Mr. John B. Gosek and believe he should be immediately reinstated at his job for the sake of the students.



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**THE MUSKETEER (PG 13)**

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Cattleman's Livestock will hold four sales for all classes of livestock this fall at its Lemitar facility. Sale time 11 a.m.

September 17                      October 15  
 November 11                      December 10

**THOUGHTS**

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

*Surviving the Tragedy*

By Ruth Hammond

September 11, 2001 will remain in the minds of many people forever as the day that once again the people of the United States of America and people all across the world were brought together by an act of treachery. It is sad that such inhuman acts ended the lives of thousands of innocent people. It is sad that any person or persons could rationalize their actions for any reason. It is sad, but it did happen, and once again the people of the United States of America must gather strength to continue in the pursuit of ending terrorism everywhere around the world.

Attacks such as those that happened Tuesday are the lowest form of degradation and are symbolic of what the terrorists actually are, cowards. And these cowards should receive the punishment they deserve, not a pat on the hand or a mild admonishment that they did something wrong. Some of the terrorists were killed in the attacks but there are others equally or even more responsible who helped plan and execute the entire onslaught of tragedy.

Disagreeing with the American way of life is one thing, but terrorism will resolve no differences. Terrorism will not change the way Americans do things, but it will bring them together in their mourning and their determination to do all in their power to achieve a better life for everyone. Maybe one of these days all people will be able to agree to be civil and to find other solutions to differences than terrorism.

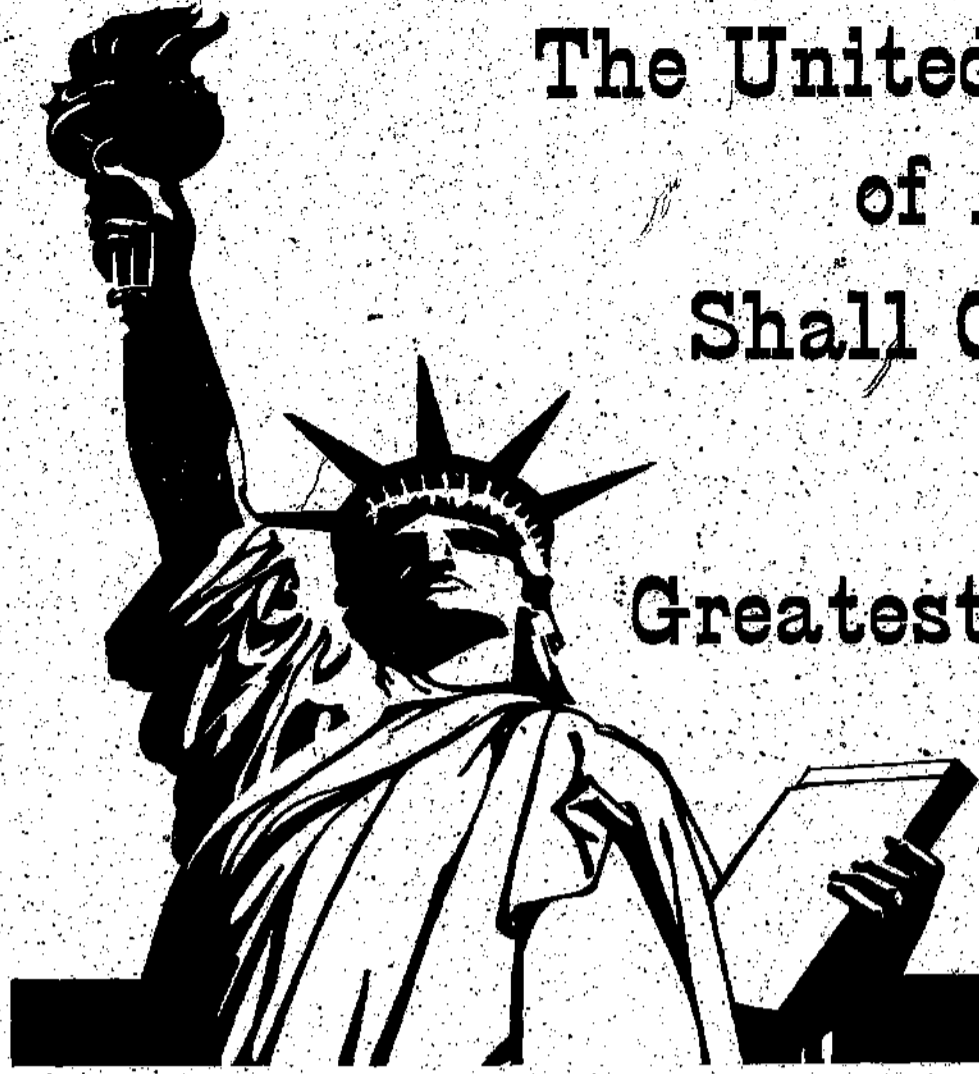
Denouncing terrorism, not glorifying it, is the end result of the attacks Tuesday. More people around the world have expressed their sympathy to Americans and these people from other places in the world are also denouncing terrorist attacks. Compassion and empathy are what the American people are receiving from everyone everywhere.

Nations have been brought together in the past when acts such as this happened. The terrorist attacks Tuesday have been compared to the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was that attack that thrust the United States into World War II. It was that attack that impelled the American people to do everything in their power to end the war victoriously. It was that attack that made people realize how vulnerable we are and how quickly our nation can be brought to its knees. It was also that attack that helped prove to the world that America was a great nation in the world and could win.

Evil actions were defeated in World War II and evil actions will be defeated again. The main thing is that what happened be not forgotten. During the past few years we have heard younger people complain about the way our nation treated the Japanese after their surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Do you suppose future generations will also complain about the way our nation will treat the terrorists? Senseless acts, whenever they happen, whether it is this year or decades ago, should never be condoned and should never, ever be glorified by any future generations.

September 11, 2001, a sad day in American history. May it never be forgotten and may future generations never become complacent about terrorist acts such as what happened. Now the nation must begin the healing.

*A sad day in America*



The United States  
of America  
Shall Continue  
as the  
Greatest Nation  
in the  
World!!

**PSYCHIC  
PREDICTIONS  
FOR THE NEW  
MILLENNIUM**



JUDITH L. CHRISTOPHER

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**Virgo:** (Aug 23 - Sept 22) Your gentle ways will heal others, not by just what you say, but also how you say it! This is not a good time to be alone! Be with Friends & Loved Ones!

**Libra:** (Sept 23 - Oct 22) Life goes on, but the old you will never be the same again, something has died inside, don't ask questions, seek out love to heal yourself and others.

**Scorpio:** (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Do NOT be afraid of Change at this time! You have got to get up & get out of the situation you are in! It's time for you to take LIFE by the neck!

**Sagittarius:** (Nov 22 - Dec 21) LOVE yourself, as you LOVE others too! Just give lots of love where there's hurt! Go out and talk! Don't be alone, and get into a Rut.

**Capricorn:** (Dec 22 - Jan 19) You'll be busy! Don't think that others can't see your hurt, they can and will help you when you ask! Reach out & touch someone too!

**Aries:** (Mar 21 - April 19) You'll have to watch how you Feel, and what you're Thinking! You could Help or Hurt you and the friends & loved ones around you!

**Taurus:** (Apr 20 - May 20) The New Life you are about to start will come easy to you, once you let go of the PAST! Stop looking in the Rear View Mirror! Look Forward!

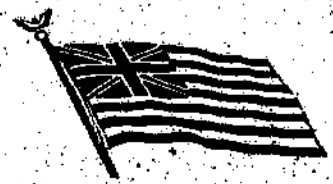
**Gemini:** (May 21 - June 20) Your tender heart and ways will help heal you and many around you. Cry if you must, hold on to the faith that everything will work out!

**Cancer:** (June 21-July 22) When you feel like "I don't know the Answer" that's OK...when you're ready for the answer...the Teacher (Life) will be there to give it to you!

**Leo:** (July 23 - Aug 22) This is not about Numbers, Right or Wrong! It's about our life! How do you want your life to turn out! Don't leave it in someone else's hand!

**Aquarius:** (Jan 20 - Feb 18) Watch your temper! Your health doesn't need one more then to send it over the edge! Whisper...Think about the ways you can heal yourself.

**Pisces:** (Feb 19 - March 20) Don't take on more than you can at any given time! Your Power of Positive Thinking, will let you through doors quicker than you can think!



**All Area Agencies**

(Continued from Page 2)

**Village of Ruidoso Placed On Level 1 Alert**  
Chavez told THE NEWS the village was placed on a Level 1 alert as directed from the state emergency management operations center in Santa Fe at about 10 a.m. on Tuesday. The Level 1 was still activated on Wednesday.

Chavez said locally he called area utilities and various Village of Ruidoso departments to advise them of the situation and to be prepared for potential emergencies. Chavez said no village employees were sent home. "We wanted to assure the continuity of government," Chavez said.

Ruidoso Village Council held its meeting Tuesday night as planned, and all Village offices were open as usual. He said the mood in the village administration center was of concern and sorrow as staff watched the day's events on a television. "Locally our firefighters were grieving for their lost brothers and officers who are presumably dead," Chavez said.

Chavez, who also keeps in contact with the village EMS ambulance service director Jim Stover, said fortunately there was no call for an emergency medical flight during the airport shut down.

**Rumor About Gas Price Increase Was Unfounded**  
The only problem that occurred Tuesday was the rumor about rising gasoline prices. About 3:30 p.m. just after school was out, Maddox said he had to send officers to get backed up traffic out of the roadway.

After he heard that one gasoline retailer went to \$2.60 a gallon, Maddox said he called all the retailers to find out what was happening. "The retailer with the \$2.60 a gallon said he did that because he was upset about the long lines," Maddox added.

Assured the gas increase was a rumor, Maddox called the radio stations to stop the rumor. "I called the radio stations twice and advised them that gas price increase was a rumor. I told them terrorists manipulate the public with rumors," Maddox said.

"There were cars in traffic lanes all over town," Maddox said. "It irritates me Americans are so gullible that these cowards had so much influence right here in Ruidoso, New Mexico," Maddox added.

**Ruidoso Police Monitor Situation**  
Maddox assured he is keeping updated with the Office of Se-

curity Information (OSI) at Holloman Air Force Base on security issues and intelligence reports to keep aware of any possible domestic terrorism.

**Police Officers Saddened**  
As for the mood at the police department on Tuesday, Maddox said he was very saddened at the loss of his friend Al Marchand, who was a flight attendant on the second commercial airliner that was crashed into the World Trade Center Tower on Tuesday. Marchand, a retired Alamogordo Police Officer, was a personal friend who had been to Maddox's home several times.

**Concern For America**  
"There was a lot of concern for America," Maddox said of his officers on Tuesday. "There is a lot of pride and allegiance to country among the police officers. To a point we are vulnerable to attack is not a good feeling with law enforcement." Maddox said he did not believe reports that the commercial airplanes were hijacked by subjects with knives. He said because most airport security personnel are contract labor paid low wages, often security measures are lax. He said he experienced this first hand at El Paso International Airport when he forgot to remove a Glock automatic pistol. The handgun, which has a plastic body with metal barrel and bullets, was not detected when he went through the metal detector. "There are many places our airports are not secure," he added.

**Capitan And Carrizozo Affected By Situation**  
Rumors of escalating gasoline prices also hit Capitan. From the time school dismissed until about 9 p.m. cars lined up at the gasoline retailer and the bulk station.

Kathryn Griffin, Capitan village clerk, said the village has no emergency coordinator or plan, although it has been discussed and is needed. No special precautions were taken, village hall was open all day and the village trustees meeting was held that evening as usual, which had a good attendance of residents.

In Carrizozo, lines at the gas stations in the late afternoon were also long. Prices at one station rose 20 cents a gallon by Wednesday, but the other stations kept their prices steady through Wednesday.

Carrizozo Municipal Airport was also closed to air traffic Tuesday. County emergency coordinator Gonzalez said she

got a call from Carrizozo Municipal Judge C.O. Rominger who is the town emergency coordinator, wanting to know if he should close the airport. Gonzalez said she was unable to make that decision and directed Rominger to call the town mayor, whom she learned approved the closure.

**Students And Teachers React To Events**  
At schools throughout the county, students, teachers and staff watched the events on television, and listened on radios.

**Special Masses Held**  
At 7 p.m. Tuesday night, Fr. Dave Bergs held a mass at Santa Rita Catholic Church in Carrizozo to lead prayers for those lost in the terrorism. Fr. Bergs said mass was held at 7 p.m. in catholic churches all over the Las Cruces diocese which includes the southern third of the state.

**Tragedy Affects Everyone**  
Everywhere in Lincoln County on Tuesday, people were in somber moods, many of them with red rimmed eyes. Many prayers were said, and many tears shed as Americans absorbed the enormity of the tragedy.

**Sen. Domenici Staff In Carrizozo Sept. 17**

Staff members of U.S. Senator Pete Domenici will meet in Carrizozo at the Lincoln County Commission chambers in the Lincoln County Courthouse from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Monday, September 17.

Anyone experiencing difficulty with a federal agency who would like assistance from Senator Domenici is welcome to visit with his staff.

**Weatherization Applications Being Accepted**

Community Action Agency of Southern New Mexico is currently accepting applications for the annual weatherization program in this area.

The program is for low income, elderly and disabled residents.

Anyone interested can get an application by writing to Weatherization Assistance Program, PO Drawer 2227, Roswell, NM 88202-2227 or calling toll free to 1-888-624-1660.

**Letters to the Editor**

**EDITOR:** Many of your subscribers regularly travel US Hwy. 70 in Lincoln County for business and recreation and have an interest in the improvement of the highway where it passes through the Hondo Valley. Most of these people are totally unaware of what the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department (NMSHTD) proposes for the improvement of the highway.

Knowing that most people don't know what NMSHTD proposes, I have put together a paper in an attempt to more fully explain what constitutes a safe highway in contrast to what NMSHTD proposes for the safe four-lane improvement that they are attempting to force on the traveling public and the people of the Hondo Valley.

For those readers who would like to know more about the situation, a copy of the paper is free upon request from:

**ROBERT B. BLAKESTAD**  
P.O. Box 175  
Hondo, NM 88336  
Ph. 505-653-4971 / Fax: 505-653-4478  
E-mail: hondobab@pvtnetworks.net

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# Transportation Plan Is More Flexible In Ruidoso

## Short Notes From Corona

Ruidoso Village Council gave itself more flexibility to change the village Transportation Master Plan.

At the council meeting August 14, councilors adopted Ordinance 2001-08, that repeals Ordinance 88-8, passed in 1988, and approved Resolution 2001-16 adopting the Ruidoso Transportation Master Plan.

Mayor Robert Donaldson said the reason to repeal the 1988 ordinance was to allow the village to adopt a transportation master plan by resolution, giving the village more flexibility to change and update the transportation master plan as a "living document". Changes made to a resolution can be done with a simple vote of the council, without the public hearing and publication process required of changes to an ordinance.

To show how ordinances are inflexible, Donaldson said the transportation master plan, as set by the ordinance, provides six transportation scenarios for the midtown area. These sce-

narios, adopted by ordinance, must then follow the solutions outlined in the ordinance. Donaldson said for example the Master Transportation Plan under the 1988 ordinance lists Grindstone Drive as a major thoroughfare that needs to be widened. In reality, the street is too steep for the proposed design. Donaldson said the adoption of the Master Transportation plan by resolution was needed to allow changes and amendments as philosophies and ideas change.

Comments from the public included Glen Barrow, chair of the village planning commission, who was concerned that the proposed ordinance to repeal the Master Transportation Plan was not brought before the planning commission first, thus would be approved without due process. He also asked if the transportation plan was part of the village Comprehensive Plan.

Donaldson said the transportation plan was adopted at the same time as the Comprehensive Plan, but the transportation plan was

separate. He said the ordinance to repeal the master transportation plan ordinance would not amend or change the Comprehensive Plan.

Village attorney John Underwood said the council was following proper procedures to repeal a portion of an ordinance.

After more discussion about the due process of the ordinance, councilor Leon Eggleston made the motion to adopt the ordinance that repeals the ordinance that created the Transportation Master Plan, and to adopt Resolution 2001-16 that adopts the transportation plan by resolution. Councilor Bob Stierchi seconded the motion and all councilors, on a roll call, voted yes.

Also at the August 14 meeting, councilors adopted an ordinance that amends the village traffic codes to conform to state traffic legislation passed in this year's legislative session. During discussion of the proposed ordinance Ruidoso police chief Larry Maddox said the changes would allow village police officers to cite violations of these state laws into municipal court, instead of into magistrate court. Amendments in the traffic codes included changes to the motorcycle handlebar height; open container exception (to allow open container in the back of a pickup not occupied by humans); child passenger restraints that all passengers be seat belted; and disabled parking that allows police to cite violators on private property.

Donaldson pointed out an error in the wording that

read that open containers of alcohol were allowed in a pickup bed occupied by passengers. Donaldson said the wording should have stated when not occupied by passengers.

Village Clerk Tammy Maddox said the model ordinance came from the New Mexico Municipal League with the error.

After a short discussion, Eggleston made the motion to adopt the ordinance with the section on open containers to be changed to read that open containers will be allowed in the bed of a pickup not occupied by passengers. In a roll call vote all councilors approved of the ordinance.

Councilors also approved an agreement with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) for hazardous fuels reduction. The agreement allows the USFS to spend \$150,000 on village owned property to reduce hazardous fuels by thinning and clearing in the Grindstone Lake area.

Village manager Alan Briley said the USFS would do the work, or contract to private companies. Funds were available immediately and the project was scheduled to be completed before fire season in 2002.

An update on the Main-Street Phase 2 construction was given to councilors at their August 14 meeting. Ray Lopez, from ICA Consultants, said that \$171,000 had been billed on the project so far with construction on sidewalks and gutters at 1st and 5th Streets at that time. Once construction of the sidewalks and gutters was done, landscaping would begin. Lopez said the project would be suspended

during the Labor Day weekend.

With a scheduled completion in September, Lopez said he thought it would be more like October before the project was done. In answering questions about gaps and other workmanship issues, Lopez agreed the workmanship could be done better, as well as clean up. Lopez said the work so far has met specifications and he was overseeing the project closely.

Councilors also took action to set public hearings at their September 11 meeting to consider two proposed ordinances. The first ordinance would change the village laws concerning the improper handling of fire. The proposed ordinance would give the municipal judge discretion to fine or incarcerate anyone caught improperly discarding a lighted cigarette or other lighted item. Although legal counsel suggested eliminating the mandatory \$500 fine, the council wanted some type of mandatory penalty for negligently starting a fire by smoking.

Clerk Maddox said the village attorney added a provision in the proposed ordinance which retains the fine and/or community service.

Another public hearing will be held at the September 11 meeting on a proposed ordinance that will increase the municipal judge salary to \$36,000 annually. Currently, the judge receives \$30,000 a year. During this year's budget process, Ruidoso Municipal Judge Mike Line requested the salary for municipal judge be increased. Village manager Alan Briley said the increase would become effective after the election of municipal judge in March 2002.

The public will have opportunity to comment on the proposed ordinances. Copies of the proposed ordinances can be viewed or obtained from the office of the village clerk in the village administration center on Cree Meadows Drive.

At their September 25 meeting, councilors will hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to allow re-zoning of a portion of Lot 17A, Block 6, White Mountain Estates, Unit 5; R.D. Hubbard applicant. At their meeting August 28, councilors authorized the public hearing on the proposed ordinance to re-zone the lot from the current R-4 high density residential, to R-1, single family residential. Lot 17, originally R-1, was re-platted to create Lot 17A that took in some land that was zoned R-4. Village ordinance does not allow two zoning districts on one lot.

The requested zoning change was taken to the village Planning Commission, which at its August 21 meeting found that the zoning change would not adversely impact neighbors. As such the planning commission recommended approval of the ordinance as presented. There were no objections from neighboring property owners who were notified of the requested zoning change.

At their August 28 meeting, councilors approved the consent agenda which consisted of:

-Approval of the special dispensers license for the New Mexico State Open Chili Cook-off, October 6, with the license holder Win, Place and Show, plus approval of the crowd control banners inside the grounds of the RV park at 1800 Sud-derth Drive where the chili

Wanda Duke and Lanita Rasak went to Albuquerque on Tuesday to attend a Daughters of the American Colonist meeting. They reported Moriarty had all their American flags out on the main street. Albuquerque was quiet with Cottonwood and Coronado Malls closed. Winrock Mall remained open.

Wanda Duke called her cousin Wilma Wisdom in Dallas to check on her daughter Dana who works in the World Trade Center in New York. Dana, a stock broker was lucky and was able to get out of the building.

Lanita Rasak heard from friend Jan McKenzie who lives in Virginia but works in D.C. for the U.S. Army. She reported that they heard the crash of the airplane into the Pentagon and a man came into their building where they were watching the television in the General office, and said he saw the plane disappear behind a hill and then the sound of a crash. They were all allowed to go home. She works near the Pentagon, but not in the Pentagon.

Another friend Mary-ann Bedway of Georgetown told Lanita that her daughter works across the street from the World Trade Center and was evacuated, but told not to return to her apartment because it was located across from the U.N. building which might be a target. She stayed with friends.

Michael Cordova from Albuquerque is visiting the Rasaks for several days, he is earning his room and board by building them a waterfall and pond. It is good to have generous and talented friends.

The Presbyterian Church will meet at Ancho on Sunday the 16th, where they will be joined by Nogal and Ancho for worship. Following the service will be lunch and a presentation by Shannon Webster.

## Water Essay Contest For HS Students

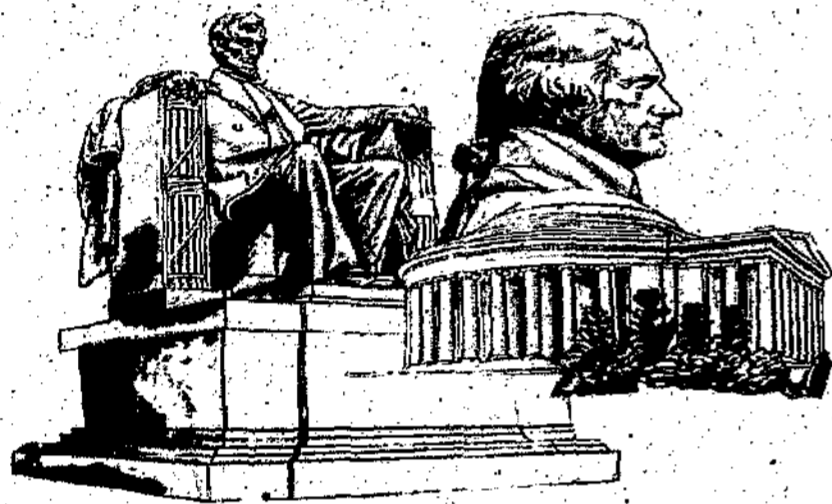
The New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute is sponsoring a water essay contest for New Mexico high school students in grades 9-12. Deadline for submitting an essay is October 5.

Awards will be given in two categories; 9 and 10th grades, and 11 and 12th grades. First place in each category wins \$300, second place in each category wins \$200.

Essays are limited to 1,500 words and must be submitted via the Internet. Interested students should go to the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute home page at <http://wrrri.nmsu.edu>, click on "High School Essay Contest 2001" and follow instructions.

Five honorable mention certificates will be awarded in each category also.

(SEE PAGE 10)



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# Fort Stanton Facts & Fiction

by Betty Lou Joiner



Three gals started on a trip Saturday before last that would be very unique in more than one way!

Heading north to Albuquerque I sure didn't know what was in store for me on the following Saturday. Leaving the wonderful town of downtown Capitan on Saturday at 5:00 a.m. for the great town of New Orleans we arrived at the first stop which was the Albuquerque airport. The luggage was very heavy with us packing for a week. We managed to get it to the check in point, found our gate and with no problems we were on our way to the town of Houston. No turbulence and we landed a short 45 minutes later.

With only a half hour lay over we got to our plane and three people had my same ticket number for seat A-25. Lucky we had a couple of extra ones that were not taken so we were doing good once more.

Landing in New Orleans we got to the luggage place and found it with no problem. A little further and several of the Louisiana post masters were there to greet us with beads to welcome us to their state. We would be coming home with more beads than we had ever seen.

Loaded into the shuttle we made it to our beautiful motel where there were 2,500 postmasters gathered for the week. Mary and Debbie tipped everyone along the way and we went to sleep from 5 p.m. til 10:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Just getting things ready, driving, trying to leave the offices where we were comfortable, and all the minor things had us all three tired. The rest was great and Sunday found us out looking for food. We found a little place next to the Mississippi River and had some fries, cokes and tea. On to a casino and the riverwalk where there was a shopping center -- we shopped til we dropped.

Hats, beads, t-shirts, fancy dresses, and a jillion other items had us bringing home a few items. Back to the room and we decided to order pizza room service. This is what spoils us on these trips. No cooking, no paper work, just meetings.

Monday morning was our first big day with us all expecting to meet our new big boss -- Jack Potter. As usual we were waiting to see if he would say our jobs were on the line, but something came up and he couldn't be there til the next day. So Louisiana had to rearrange their speakers and make other arrangements for Monday.

We checked out the rooms where all of the training would be and visited with our other New Mexico postmasters attending. Shirlene Roberts of Ruidoso Downs was the only other one attending from our area. Five retirees and nine postmasters from New Mexico attended.

Trading pins with different postmasters from

all the states is a big item for us all. With our president not ordering we didn't have any. So with my big ideas as usual, I called Willie and asked her if she would go by the Smokey Bear Museum and see if they would send us some pins by Express mail. Not even thinking about the variety of pins, I was very surprised to receive a big box of 1,500 pins. The only problem was the box was so big, the motel had to put it in a store room and the package was not traced down til Thursday morning. The mail had come thru overnight, the address was right and etc. but the motel staff had no clue as to where the package was.

Hurrying to distribute as many as we could we gave many away in such short notice and I took a bag full to the stamp camp for open house, but we had several left. The motel person in charge said the extra would be taken to the schools and distributed.

So one more very interesting note! One of the training signs said Stamp Camp for 2001. My ears perked up and I was ready to go. A new seminar had me very excited. A postmaster from Pennsylvania and two school teachers had shipped many boxes of goodies from their hometown to give a seminar on stamp collecting. I started taking notes and learned so much to come and share with Betsy and Mrs. Slaton. Only one boy attending with his parents, from all the postmasters attending came to the class, along with six others from the area.

They began with covering notebooks, learning about the different stamps, choosing a topic and finding stamps and envelopes with info about their chosen topic. Butterflies, women, Christmas, lighthouses, renaissance, and spiders were what they selected. From there they would work on their assignments at night. What a super job the instructor and teachers did. The final day was a play auction held with play money that the kids had earned for being quiet, doing work, etc. The auction items made every collector drool. Books for collecting stamps, bags of stamps, cachets, etc. were brought by the students. They each made the notebooks, an item made from stamps which was a train with presidents, the earth with stamps representing each country, a building, and an ark made from a paper sack with all the animals being the different stamps. Just so many ideas.

The other big things they did was to make a presentation to describe their topic. Four pages were required but each one had eight to 16. A cover page, index, inside and conclusion page made up this exhibit. So interesting to see what each one had done. With an open house and pictorial cancellations to finish the week off, I came

away with so much info.

The other seminars were retail items, which are the stationary items and all that we sell plus stamps. The man giving the class said these items are what are keeping the post office going. The stamps of 2002 seminar was very good with one stamp coming out in August of 2002 will be stamps for each 50 states with a greeting of Welcome to each state on it. A Happy Birthday stamp and four teddy bears are just a few we can look forward to seeing. Internet training, how to train your PMR clerk, true colors, and training for 15 and below were the others. However I stayed in the stamp camp.

Checking out the famous Bourbon street and the French Quarters was an adventure in itself. I was so amazed to see how dirty the streets were. The food and entertainment was the best we have ever had and the people were all very nice.

Finishing up with a banquet on Thursday night and some great Cajun music we had planned for Friday to sight see. Taking a ferry down the mighty Mississippi we toured the Audobon Zoo and the large aquarium. Getting back to the motel about six we went to eat at the Hard Rock Cafe. The next morning we were preparing for the flight home.

Mary had thought she had me give her my tickets on the Saturday before. As we were leaving the motel room we started looking to see if she had them.

No ticket for me. We had already turned in the room key so made a mad dash for the extra key, threw open her suitcase and started looking. No ticket. We got to the airport at 6:00 a.m. Our plane leaves at eight. There was a line about a block long. Some man had brought in about 20 coolers and they were having a time trying to get them checked in.

About 7:30 they started asking for 8:00 plane people and we were moved to the front of the line. When they found I didn't have a ticket, the race was on. Mary and Debbie checked our luggage and they sent me to another window. Judy started working and finding information needed. She finally told Mary and Debbie to take my carry-on and go as it was 10 til 8:00. I took off my belt buckle and my watch so they could carry it thru security. Just about five minutes later I am on the run to B-12. How I wished I would have had a B-12 shot!!

Going like a crazy woman I try to go thru security and the lady said you need to go that way, so off I go in the wrong direction. The only man I see is the shoe shine boy.

I said, Mister I am lost where do I go??? He said, lady right there the direction I had just come from. The lady this time looked at me and said oh, okay. Here I am running with

my belt half off, my hair blowing in all directions, and the look on my face one of pure fright.

Running as fast as I could for at least six blocks, I gave out and walked the rest of the way just knowing I was stuck in New Orleans with no purse, no money, nothing. Finding the B-12 ticket booth the man said lady Go. Now! Going around the turn they were loading the last person. Debbie said "Did your pants fall off?" I said, I don't care if I have any pants/on. I was so glad to be on that plane with them.

Once again someone had my seat number, but I didn't care if I had to sit in the aisle. We had a turbulent flight with rain all the way, and even that was not bad. Getting to Houston we boarded the final plane for home.

With new ticket I was in the back and the girls in the front.

Once again it was a lot of fun as I was seated with two men from Singapore that had come with a group of 30 to train for law enforcement at ENMU in Roswell. They wanted to know all about the UFO's and what there was to see in New Mexico. Busy talking and finding out about their country Albuquerque came into view in just a few minutes.

Down the escalators we were all ready to head for home when the three of us and the postmaster and husband from El Prado were told our luggage was not on the plane.

Another plane would be in in an hour and it could be on there but if not they didn't know when or where it would be. Lots of paper work and they gave us a voucher to go eat at a restaurant while we waited. Finding a Mexican food place we ate and paid with the voucher. The manager came and said this is no good, it is dated Nov.

2000. Mary just a little tired said we just were given that and it is good. You go talk to this guy with an earring in his ear. He went and came back and apologized for their error. Heading back to the luggage place we watched very closely for three big black bags and an unusual pink one. Sure enough they were there. We loaded them on a cart, found the car and home we went.

Each time it is so hectic, we vow never again, but Las Vegas, NV looms in the year 2002, depart from our comfortable homes and partake of another adventure into the unknown.

I cannot tell you what a good feeling it was to see those 10 little faces looking thru the fences when we pulled into my drive way. Mary Gourley and Debbie Moore were fascinated to see the performance of the seven border collies and the filly Flashy. Having been cooped up for the seven days, they did put on a show.

I found buried treasure in my garage.

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# County Applies for Grant

(Continued from Page 3)

through nonprofit organizations so not to use up the funds in administrative costs.

Shanks said for the process to work the private sector has to create economic use of the small diameter wood. "So we don't have a burden on government funds," Shanks said. "We cannot depend on the government money forever."

County commission chair Rex Wilson jokingly said the materials could make "a lot of little bitty bears" referring to the proliferation of chainsaw carved wooden bears popular in the Ruidoso area.

Martinez then said he would like to see the thinning and slash material chipped to save on transporting the heavy waste. "I hate to see government money squandered on hauling or burning," Martinez added.

In final discussion, Wilson asked Stewart how the county would employ an administrator for the grant. Stewart said when the county gets funded, it will hire a person. "When the grant money is gone, that employee will go away," Stewart said.

Shanks said he foresees the funding for forest hazard reduction will continue for several years, mostly because of the fires this summer in the western U.S.

Duemling said now that the first phase of the pro-

gram is in place it will be simpler to get money out on the ground where it is most needed. "And I want all to know that we will get back to everyone who had called about the program," Duemling said of the NMSF office.

As for determining which properties will get priority for funding, Duemling said NMSF will provide technical assistance and recommendations on which project should be funded. "We will not say what projects you can't do," Duemling added.

Duemling also said land owners who are considering applying for grant money should not start forest projects until they are funded. "I think the only liability will be if landowners do not do projects to our standards and we deny payment," Duemling said.

"Land owners have the right to manage their property however they want," Duemling continued. He also said the current program applications have "hold harmless" clauses advising land owners RC&D is not responsible for payment to the property owners or contractors. He said property owners have to acknowledge the hold harmless and "sign off" on it.

County commissioner Bill Schwettmann said the county would just administer the fund, and would only pay out when it got

the grant funds.

Duemling said NMSF cannot hand out money to private individuals because of the state constitution anti-donation clause.

Village of Ruidoso Urban Forester Rick DeIaco who also attended the meeting, said the second wave of the grant program is part of an evolutionary process. He said a lot was accomplished in the first wave on how to assess needs and work with the land owners. "This will be done already in the second wave," DeIaco added. "But we will not tell landowners to fire up their chainsaws until the money is in the bank."

As for the liability of who decides which landowner applications are rejected, DeIaco said the Urban Interface Group, a bunch of forest professionals, will make "reasonable decisions."

DeIaco said he would be available to provide technical assistance to Ruidoso landowners whose applications are accepted.

Wilson said it is significant that the Urban Interface Group is a group of professionals.

As the meeting wound down, the discussion turned again to the cost of hauling away trimmings and other slash materials from forest thinning projects. Duemling said now they ask the land owners what they want to do with the slash, because the grants do not cover the

cost of hauling or disposing of the slash specifically. He said if the grant to the landowner covers the cost of forest treatment, and some money is left over, the landowner can choose to spend that on hauling materials away. However, he estimated the cost to haul away materials is more than \$1,100 and acre.

DeIaco said the grant program is to treat forested lands that are fire hazards. "This is not for pruning for aesthetics," DeIaco added.

"This is just for minimum fire protection."

DeIaco also said his office has identified 12 to 15 contractors with seven from the local area who are equipped to do forest work and who responded to a solicitation from the village for such contractors.

Matt Reidy, fire specialist with the USFS Smokey Bear Ranger District, said the overall concept of having the county administering the program is to provide a stronger proposal from one group, the coun-

ty, to administer all the smaller pieces of the puzzle. Reidy also said he likes the idea of providing seed money for private entrepreneurs to start industries. "I think it is exciting private entrepreneurs want small diameter wood. I think these small entrepreneurs should be increased," Reidy said.

"So we don't just burn the small diameter materials," Wilson added.

With that, Schwettmann made the motion to apply for the grant. His motion received unanimous support from county commissioners Wilson, Martinez and Rick Simpson. County commissioner Ray Nunley was absent.

"Now the 'mole hill' will be satisfied," said county manager Stewart in reference to county attorney Alan Morel and his concerns.

## CCNG Board To Consider Future At Sept. 19 Meeting

The Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas (CCNG) board of directors will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, September 19 in the CCNG office in Capitan.

According to CCNG attorney Robert Beauvais, the board is to receive information on the economic viability of the organization, and whether CCNG can continue to offer natural gas to its customers at a competitive rate. Beauvais said CCNG has not had a rate increase for 18 years, although it has had to pass on several costs for natural gas.

Several issues with CCNG are pending before the state Public Regulatory Commission (PRC), Beauvais said. These include whether CCNG must continue to pay the \$2.53 per cubic foot of gas tariff it currently pays to Zia Natural Gas, its bulk gas supplier, or if it can drop that to \$1.63 per cubic foot of

gas as CCNG has requested.

Beauvais said if the PRC upholds the higher tariff, (SEE PAGE 9)

## Transportation Plan

(Continued From Page 6)

cook-off will be held.

-Approval of lease agreement for Randy Bailey for hangar space at Sierra Blanca Regional Airport for eight cents per square foot per year, plus \$12.50 a month for water.

-Approval of cooperative agreement with the State Highway Department for improvements to Meander Drive, with the state providing \$50,000 for the project and the village providing an "in-kind" match worth \$16,866 in materials, time or equipment usage. The project will consist of milling and replacing the mills mixed with oil to provide a

new base for the road, and an overlay of hot mix.

-Accepted and approved the professional services agreement for legal services with H. John Underwood, Ltd. the only firm that submitted a proposal. Under the agreement the village will pay Underwood \$100 an hour for 900 hours of basic legal service. Special assignments will be paid at \$120 an hour.

Also at the August 28 meeting, the mayor presented a Keep Ruidoso Beautiful community beautification award to Frank Potter and Michele's shop in the midtown area.

# CIRCUS OF SAVINGS

<p>GENERAL MILLS 14 OZ CINN TOAST CRUNCH 14 OZ HNY BUT CHEERIOS OR 12 OZ TRIX</p> <p><b>Cereal</b> MIX OR MATCH</p> <p><b>2 \$4</b> FOR</p>	<p>BETTY CROCKER ASSTD. 5-9 OZ. MOIST <b>Cake Mix</b></p> <p><b>79¢</b></p> <p>Frosting <b>2 \$3</b></p>	<p>ASSORTED <b>Wesson Oil</b> 48 OZ. BTL.</p> <p><b>1 79</b></p>
<p>PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF <b>Arm Roast</b> LB. <b>1 69</b></p> <p><b>AT AFFILIATED FOODS INC.</b></p> <p>BONELESS SKINLESS <b>Chicken Breast</b> LB. <b>\$1 99</b></p> <p>PREF. TRIM BONE <b>Top Sirloin Steak</b> LB. <b>\$2 99</b></p> <p>PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF ARM <b>Charcoal Steak</b> LB. <b>\$1 79</b></p> <p>(APPX. 4-5 LB. BAG) RETAIL READY <b>Cubed Tripe</b> LB. <b>89¢</b></p> <p>COUNTRY CREEK <b>Pork Cracklins</b> 8 OZ. PKG. <b>\$1 99</b></p>	<p>ASSTD. LIQUID OR POWDER <b>Tide Ultra</b> 87-100 OZ.</p> <p><b>5 39</b></p>	<p>BETTY CROCKER ASSTD. <b>Hamburger Helper</b> 6.25-8.5 OZ.</p> <p><b>1 19</b></p>
<p>ASSORTED VARIETIES - REG. \$3.29 SIZE <b>Tostitos®</b> 2 FOR <b>\$5 00</b></p> <p>TOSTITOS® ASSTD. 15-16 OZ. <b>Salsa/Queso</b> 2 JARS <b>\$5 00</b></p> <p>BETTY CROCKER ASSORTED POP SECRET <b>Popcorn</b> 3 PACK <b>\$1 79</b></p> <p>9 OZ. AFTER THE RAIN SPRAY OR 7.5 OZ. ASSTD. ADJUSTABLE <b>Renuzit</b> EA. <b>99¢</b></p> <p>BETTY CROCKER ASSTD. FLAVORS SPECIALTY <b>Potatoes</b> 5-7.6 OZ. <b>\$1 19</b></p>	<p>PEDIGREE ASSTD. <b>Dog Food</b> 13.2 OZ. CAN</p> <p><b>59¢</b></p>	<p>FOLGERS ASSTD. GRINDS (DECAF EXCLUDED) <b>Coffee</b> 34.5-39 OZ. CAN</p> <p><b>4 59</b></p> <p>REGULAR OR LITE <b>Coffee-Mate</b> 16 OZ. <b>2 29</b></p>

# STURGES VENTURE

BETTY CROCKER ASSTD. 5-9 OZ. FRUIT ROLL-UPS OR  
**Fruit Snacks** SMART BUY 2 FOR **\$4 00**

MOTT'S BEEFAMATO OR REG./PICANTE  
**Clamato** SMART BUY 32 OZ. **\$1 99**

RED RIPE  
**Roma Tomatoes**  
**8 \$1** FOR

BARTLETT  
**Pears** LB. **69¢**

GALA, GRANNY SMITH, RED/GOLDEN DELICIOUS  
**Apples** 3 LB. BAG **\$1 99**

HAPPY CANDY OR  
**Caramel Apples** EA. **89¢**

TROPICAL  
**Coconuts** EA. **89¢**

FRESH  
**Green Cabbage** LB. **29¢**

TANGY  
**Lemons** 5 FOR **\$1 00**

CELLO WRAPPED WHOLE  
**Mushrooms** 8 OZ. **\$1 19**

**Grapes** LB. **\$1 19**

YELLOW OR ZUCCHINI  
**Squash** LB. **99¢**

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