

Mill Levy Ballots Due by Tuesday

by Patrice Brazie

Lincoln County residents who have yet to cast a vote in the mill levy election have until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday to return their ballots to the Lincoln County Clerk's office in Carrizozo. The mail-in ballot system used for this election is a first in Lincoln County, and the response has generated a voter participation rate of more than 40 percent.

At issue is whether or not the county will be able to

continue to support its health care systems as it has done in the past, or whether some programs will be eliminated and services reduced.

Lincoln County owns and maintains two health care clinics, one in Carrizozo and one in Corona, as well as the Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso and the ambulance services of the Lincoln County Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The county is also required to provide funding for the

Sole Community Provider program which supports small hospitals in many rural areas across the country with a three to one match of federal monies for each dollar contributed by the county.

If the mill levy fails to meet the approval of the voters, the county will likely have to discontinue its indigent health care program, which benefits working adults facing catastrophic illness and medical bills beyond their financial capabilities.

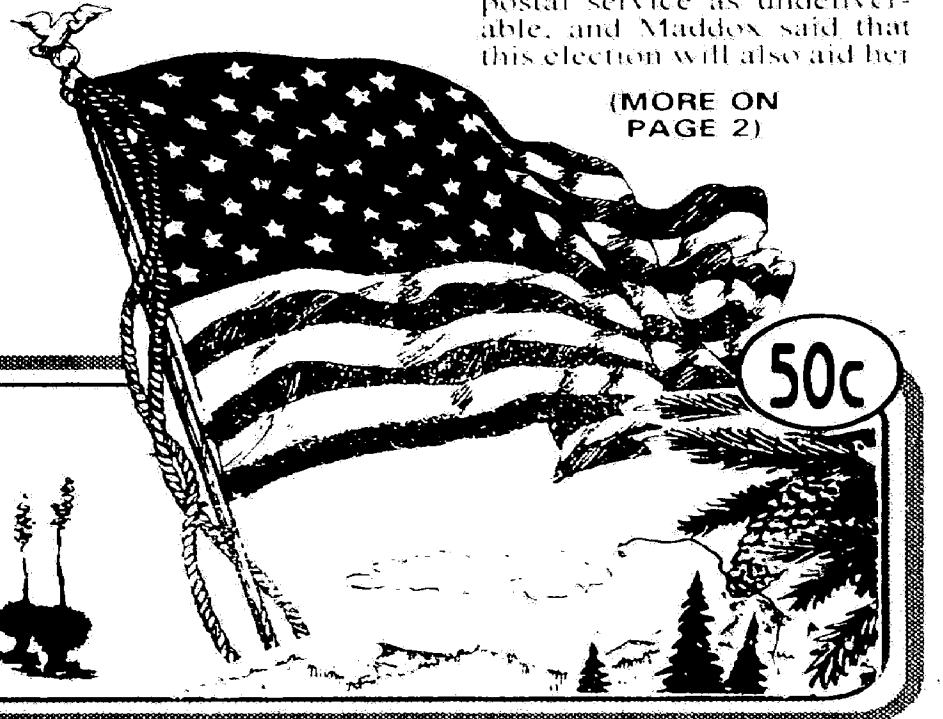
Also in jeopardy are the health clinics, which would face reduced hours of operation and, under the worst circumstances, possible closure.

If the voters choose to approve the continuation of the 3.0 mill levy that has been in place for eight years and will expire on June 31, Presbyterian Healthcare Services (PHS) will continue to operate the Rose Medical Clinic in Capitan, and the county may take control of the medical clinic in Hondo.

County clerk Tammy Maddox reported on Tuesday that 5,251 of the county's 12,900 registered voters have re-

turned their ballots. "That's 40 percent returned," she said. About 2,300 ballots have been returned by the postal service as undeliverable, and Maddox said that this election will also aid her

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STRONG WINDS BLEW THICK, black smoke from the scene of a structure fire near Highway 380 east of Carrizozo Friday last. Extremely dry conditions have prompted Lincoln County and U.S. Forest Service officials to place restrictions on outdoor burning. The National Weather Service has issued repeated high danger warnings for the area as well.

Capitan Municipal Election Contested

by Patrice Brazie

Capitan resident Glynis Racine has asked for a review and reconsideration of the absentee ballot count and procedures of the recently held municipal election in Capitan. Racine, who was a candidate for a seat on the town council, reported in a statement released on Tuesday that she is contesting the election results as a matter of principle.

In a complaint filed in District Court in Carrizozo on Monday, Racine cites a failure by Village Hall to obtain signatures from absentee voters, from any absentee voters, as is required by state statute.

"Voting is a fundamental right and it starts at the local level," Racine said. "If we can't be assured of proper procedure, what does that say about our rights?"

Capitan Village Clerk Kay Strickland, Capitan Mayor Sam Hammons and Deputy Clerk Shirley Pavlovic are named individually in the complaint, along with the Village of Capitan.

In support of the complaint, Racine called attention to the fact that both Strickland and Pavlovic have received the two and one-half days of training

provided by the New Mexico Municipal League for election officials and that, in the process of canvassing the votes, Magistrate Judge Martha Proctor stated that a failure to obtain the absentee applications could be grounds to contest the election. Proctor told *The News* in March that, in all of the elections she has canvassed, no one has ever challenged or questioned the absentee ballot applications.

"There seems to be a flaw in the system regarding absentee voting at the municipal level," Racine said on Monday. "There is oversight and when the rules are broken, it is for an individual to find a way to spend a lot of money on attorney's fees."

The complaint also has reference to a memo

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Shooting Suspect Sohrbeck Killed in Otero County

by Patrice Brazie

The man suspected of the attempted murder of Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Shepherd was killed last week in an altercation with a Sergeant of the Otero County Sheriff's Department near Clouderoff.

According to Otero County Sheriff John Blansett, a state road department employee spotted a person matching the description of fugitive Kurt Sohrbeck riding a bicycle near Highway 244, east of Clouderoff on March 26th.

Sohrbeck had reportedly been eluding law enforcement agencies for much of his life, with warrants issued from eleven states for suspicion of several counts of identity theft crimes, assault and evading arrest. He had been apparently hiding out in Lincoln County since the Shepherd shooting on March 13th. Blansett said that several people in the Clouderoff area had reported seeing someone possibly matching Sohrbeck's description, but authorities had been unable to confirm the earlier reports.

Blansett reported that Otero County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Sean Jett was the first officer to en-

counter the suspect near Highway 244. Exactly what happened next is under investigation. According to Blansett, Sohrbeck was uncooperative and indicated to Jett that he was not going to be taken into custody. When other officers arrived on the scene, Sohrbeck was on the ground with at least one fatal gunshot wound.

Blansett would not release the number of shots fired, but acknowledged that Sohrbeck was armed with only a box-

cutter in his pocket.

Sohrbeck has been identified by Shepherd as the man who fired five rounds into his head, neck and arm on March 13th. Evidence and testimony from Shepherd indicate that Sohrbeck fired at Shepherd before he ever had a chance to get out of his vehicle.

Jett has been assigned to administrative duties pending completion of the New Mexico State Police investigation

of the shooting and the procedure following an officer involved shooting.



PEACH BLOSSOMS Peach, apricot and other fruit trees are in full bloom in part of the county. The colorful blossoms and the return of hummingbirds to the area are annual signs that spring has arrived. The hummers are arriving now, but haven't managed to catch one with the camera yet.

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Burson Declares for 12th Judicial District Attorney

Imda S. Burson, currently an attorney with the 12th Judicial District Attorney's office, declared her candidacy for District Attorney on March 18. Burson is the only Democratic candidate in the race. She will oppose the winner of the Republican June primary between David Ceballos and Diana Martwick.

Burson is the first Democratic candidate to run for the office of District Attorney in the 12th Judicial District since 1996. She brings to the po-

sition a wealth of experience working with the public. She worked in the insurance industry for 13 years, taught middle school and high school English for six years, and owned numerous businesses in between those careers and sometimes at the same time as those careers. She has also worked in various other fields dealing with the public.

Her father was career Navy

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Sheriff Sgt. Robert Shepherd Coming Home

By *Patrice Brazier*

Sergeant Robert Shepherd of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department is about to come home. Recovering at a rate that many have called nothing short of miraculous, Shepherd was being processed for release from a rehabilitation facility on Wednesday afternoon.

Just three weeks ago the 44-year-old Sergeant was critically wounded by a fugitive suspect in Ruidoso Downs, suffering multiple gun-shot wounds to his head, and body. Shortly after the shooting, as Shepherd underwent emergency surgery to save his life, authorities expressed

grave concerns about the outcome of his injuries.

Within about 48 hours of the shooting, Shepherd was able to communicate with

Zamora, Wheeler Wedding Saturday

Benny Zamora and Monica Wheeler will exchange wedding vows this Saturday, April 5 at the Santa Rita Catholic Church in Carrizozo.

Wedding mass will be at 1:00 p.m. with reception and dance to follow at the Carrizozo Country Club.

investigators, offering details of his attack and a description of the assailant. He was sitting up in bed and able to stand and walk for brief periods.

As the people of Lincoln County breathed an unbelievable sigh of relief at the prospect of Shepherd surviving the shooting, residents remained on edge and tension mounted as the man wanted for the attack was thought to be hiding out in the area.

Video footage of an interview with Shepherd aired on a local television newscast less than two weeks after his brush with death, and the word "miraculous" was again muttered across the county. Shepherd was shown not only walking, but kicking a

soccer ball and exercising his arm.

In regard to the news that his attacker had been fatally wounded in a confrontation with an officer of the Otero County Sheriff's Department, Shepherd expressed his condolences to the family of the suspect and admitted that he would be able to finally get a good night's sleep.

In a story that continues to amaze the public, Shepherd is expected to be home before the week's end, to continue his physical therapy as an outpatient. Friends and family are planning a welcome home reception for Shepherd this weekend.

Mill Levy

(Con't. from P. 1)

office in determining whether or not the names associated with the undeliverable ballots should be purged from the voter rolls.

Any ballots that have been returned as undeliverable but with a forwarding address provided by the post office can be verified quickly as to whether or not the addressee is still eligible to vote in Lincoln County. Those returned by the postal service without forwarding addresses must remain on the county's eligible voters list through two election cycles before they can be removed from the rolls, Maddox said. "These are very valuable to us in that they can help us clean up the rolls," Maddox said of the undelivered ballots. "It just takes a little time to do it."

Ballots will be counted Tuesday night, after 7:00 p.m., and the count will be certified during a special meeting of the Lincoln County Commissioners on Friday, April 11th.

Any citizens who have yet to return their ballots should probably return them personally to the county clerk's office in Carrizozo to guarantee that they arrive on time to be counted.

Lincoln County Extension Cultural Arts Show April 4

It's Spring, Bloom where you are! is the theme of the 2008 Lincoln County Extension Association Cultural Arts Show, on Friday, April 4, at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds in Capitan.

Any paid extension association member is eligible to enter items for judging in the Cultural Arts Show. Entries will be taken in the fairgrounds exhibit hall from 9 to 10 a.m. after which the hall will be closed to the public for judging. The Cultural Arts Show will be opened for public viewing beginning at 1 p.m.

At the noon Cultural Arts luncheon, extension members and their guests will hear from speaker Caroline Fields who will make a presentation on Diabetes.

Anyone interested in learning more about Extension or becoming a member is invited to attend the luncheon and the Cultural Arts Show.

IS THERE GOLD IN YOUR CELLAR?

Yes, and in Your Attic Too! Turn Those Things You Don't Want Into Money with a Want Ad

Obituary

ROCKY TRAPP

Rocky Trapp, 64, of Nogal, died March 30. He was born May 15, 1943 in Portales. He and his family moved to Carlsbad where he graduated from high school in 1961. His family relocated to Ruidoso in 1981 and later settled in Nogal.

Rocky is survived by his father, V. L. Trapp and step-mother, Opal Trapp of Carlsbad; son, Kenneth Trapp and his wife, Danielle, and their children, Dillon, Torri, and Dalton of Capitan; daughters, Kim Connor and Stacey Trapp of Ruidoso; son Michael Trapp of Syracuse, NY; sons Kevin and Kelly Trapp of Ruidoso; sister Letha Barnes and husband, Tom of Santa Teresa, NM; step-sister, Barbra Dalton and step-brothers, Bill and Jimmy Gillock, all of Carlsbad and numerous other grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the Trinity Baptist Church in Capitan on Friday, April 4 at 10:30 a.m.



VOTE



As the LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS goes into its 103rd year of being in existence (1905-2008), we will again be randomly publishing articles from old NEWS files. The following article appeared in the 'Carrizozo News'.

Friday, June 30, 1916

Extracts from Governor Glynn's Key-note Speech

NEUTRALITY

We assert that the policy of neutrality is as American as the American flag. For 200 years neutrality was a theory; America made it a fact. The first president of the United States was the first man to pronounce neutrality a rule of international conduct.

For enforcing this policy of neutrality George Washington was hooted by a howling mob of 10,000 war fanatics who threatened to pull him from the presidential chair and start a revolution. But half a century later Charles Sumner said that "Washington unholding the peaceful neutrality of this country, while he met unmoved the clamor of the people wickedly crying for war, is a greater man than Washington crossing the Delaware or taking Cornwallis' sword at Yorktown."

For supporting this policy of neutrality in a speech in the city of New York Alexander Hamilton was stoned almost to death. John Jay burned in effigy. Jefferson called a spineless poltroon and Lincoln pictured as a craven. Today, however, the nation goes to all these men for its every conception of all that is best in American citizenship.

For vainglory or for selfish purpose, others may cry up a policy of blood and iron, but the president of the United States has acted on the belief that the leader of a nation who plunges his people into an unnecessary war, like Pontius Pilate vainly washes his hands of innocent blood while the earth quakes and the heavens are darkened and thousands give up the ghost.

Neutrality is the policy which has kept us at peace while Europe has been driving nails of war through the hands and feet of a crucified humanity.

Neutrality is not a hair-triggered policy that explodes in violence at the first assault. It is a policy that has proved successful because it has always been asserted through negotiation rather than force, through diplomacy rather than by an appeal to arms.

This policy may not satisfy those who revel in destruction and find pleasure in despair, it may not satisfy the fire-eater or the swashbuckler. But it does satisfy the mothers of the land, at whose hearth and fireside no jingoistic war has placed an empty chair. It does satisfy the daughters of this land from whom bluster and brag have sent no loving brother to the dissolution of the grave. It does satisfy the fathers of this land and the sons of this land who will fight for our flag and die for our flag when reason primes the rifle; when honor draws the sword, and when justice breathes a blessing on the standard they uphold.

War Averted for Present

The surrender by the Mexican authorities of the twenty-three troopers captured in Carrizal last week has averted war for a time, at least. The Washington government has demanded the release of these prisoners by a certain time and failure to do so meant war. Few believed that hard-headed old Carranza would accede to this demand, and it was the general feeling that war was inevitable. However, it would appear that someone possessing more good sense, perhaps, than the aged de facto chief, succeeded in securing an order for the release of the troopers and they are now in El Paso.

While the release of the prisoners was the most pressing item in the American demands, it was not the sole matter at stake, and a failure to reach an understanding on these matters may yet provoke war. One of the principal demands, for which Washington is awaiting for an affirmative answer, is the guaranty of the de facto government to permit the American troops the right to go to any part of the country in the pursuit of bandits and that no obstruction must be placed in their way. The de facto chief will also be required to satisfactorily explain the wanton attack on American soldiers at Carrizal and make due reparation therefor.

Notwithstanding the absence of an immedi-

(MORE ON PAGE 6)

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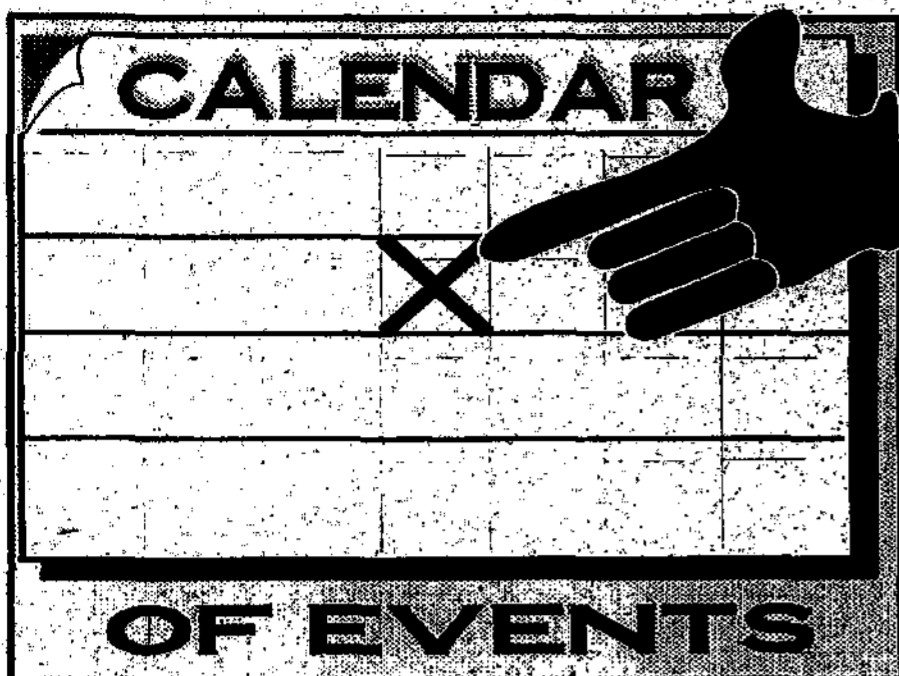
Come and enjoy a great brunch, meet the candidates, meet new friends, and win special door prizes.

WHERE: The Ellis Store Country Inn in Lincoln, NM
 WHEN: Saturday, April 5th
 TIME: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
 SPEAKER: Cynthia Pearce (wife of our US Congressman Steve Pearce)

"The New Role of Women in Leadership in the Republican Party"

R.S.V.P. - Dolores Stevens -- 653-4379
 Connie Nelson -- 258-2628 or
 Lavonne Adams -- 257-9351

Look for the flags -- MM 98, Hwy 380



Capitan Municipal Election

(Continued from Page 1)

Mayor's Letter that is included with the bills sent to every customer of the village water system. Racine alleges that in the Mayor's letter of March 1st, Hammons "extolled the virtues of the current trustees and, in particular, Wood, who was running for election."

In a portion of the Mayor's letter, Hammons said he was responding to a letter published in the Ruidoso News in which Capitan Trustee Lilly Wood was criticized. The Mayor wrote as follows: "For the vicious attack on Trustee Wood, they need not tell the many senior citizens, foster children, and other citizens of this community that she has good heartedly helped. I say look at the character of the people from who these articles come. They don't measure up to Trustee Wood."

Racine's complaint also brings attention to Capitan's large percentage of absentee ballots in comparison to other local municipalities. She states that Ruidoso's absentee ballots made up 10 percent of the votes cast there, Ruidoso Downs had 16 percent absentee ballots and Carrizozo had 17 percent. In Capitan the absentee ballots equaled 28 percent of all votes cast, according to the complaint, and Capitan incumbents carried 79 percent of absentee votes compared to the 53.6 percent they won on election day.

Racine and Wood tied for votes on election day but, in

absentee voting, Wood received four votes for every one cast for Racine.

In an earlier interview with *The News*, Proctor speculated that the initial response to Racine's complaint would likely be the issuance of subpoenas to all

who cast absentee ballots in the Capitan election. Proctor said she thought that individuals would be asked to verify their votes so that an accurate count could be determined and election results established.

Racine said she plans to

present her case in court pro se, acting without an attorney because of financial reasons. She has asked to be awarded costs incurred in preparing and presenting the case, and that the court otherwise resolve the issue as it deems just and proper.

Fire Claims Home

(Continued from Page 1)

trucks. The added resources of water brought in from the surrounding jurisdictions probably prevented any escalation of the damages.

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners enacted restrictions on outdoor burning and fireworks last month, and the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced similar restrictions effective on public lands as of Monday. Smoking is banned on state and federal lands unless inside of a vehicle or structure. Campfires are restricted to designated areas only. The Forest Service and BLM have also banned the use of chainsaws and welding equipment.

County manager Tom Stewart has asked that all residents of and visitors to Lincoln County be especially careful in the extremely dry conditions, particularly in the disposal of ashes from fire-

places and wood burning stoves. People should avoid driving or parking over vege-

tated areas as the heat generated by motorized vehicles can ignite dry grass.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4
 -Economic Development Summit at Ruidoso Convention Center, starts 8:30 a.m., hosted by ENMU-Ruidoso.
 -Lincoln County Extension Assn. Cultural Arts Show at Lincoln County Fairgrounds in Capitan, 1:00 p.m.
 -NM Municipal League district meeting in Tularosa.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5
 -Trinity Site open to the public, Stallion gate, 54 miles west of Carrizozo, open from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Guided tour caravan meets at Tularosa High School athletic field parking lot. Departure 8 a.m.
 -NM Municipal League newly elected officials seminar in Las Cruces.

-Federated Republican Women of Lincoln County annual membership brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ellis Store in Lincoln. No charge but RSVP necessary for food count 653-4379 or 257-9351. Guest speaker Cynthia Pearce.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
 -Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce noon Four Winds Rest.
 -Last day to return ballots mill levy
 -Ruidoso Village Council 4:30 p.m.
 -Corona Village Council 5:30 p.m.
 -Carrizozo Town Council 6 p.m.
 -Capitan Village Council 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
 -Corona School Board 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 -High school bicycle riders from Seattle to be in Carrizozo 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and Capitan 11 a.m. to noon for lunch. Riding cross country for environmental awareness.
 -Capitan School Board 5 p.m.
 -Carrizozo Woman's Club 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
 -Special meeting Lincoln County Commissioners 8:30 a.m. to canvas mill levy votes, consider proposal for detention center, discuss RS 2477 roads, etc.
 -Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District (SNMEDD) board meeting 10:00 a.m. at ENMU-Roswell

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 9	
Corona Post Office	12:30 - 2:00
Carrizozo/Otero Electric	3:30 - 6:00
Wednesday, April 10	
Carrizozo/Otero Electric	7:30 - 8:30
Nogal Post Office	9:00 - 9:45
Capitan Smokey Bear Cafe	10:15 - 11:15
Fort Stanton RTC	12:15 - 1:45
Camp Sierra Blanca	1:55 - 2:55
Lincoln Post Office	3:15 - 4:00
San Patricio Post Office	4:20 - 5:00
Hondo Store	5:10 - 5:34

Burson Declares for District Attorney

(Continued from Page 1)

and retired in Oklahoma where she completed high school and college. Burson earned a bachelor's degree in English Education from the University of Central Oklahoma, a Master's Degree in English from the Breadloaf School of English, Middlebury College, Vt. and a law degree from the University of New Mexico.

In 1990 she moved to New Mexico and lived in Magdalena until 1999. While in Magdalena she taught English on the Alamo Navajo Reservation and in the Quemado Schools while owning and operating two motels. She was the Municipal Judge for one year before having to resign after being offered a position with the 12th Judicial District Attorney's office following law school graduation in 1999. Currently, in addition to working as a prosecutor, she teaches an English 111 class

two nights a week at NMSU-A.

Her legal experience has primarily been in criminal law, both as a prosecutor and a defense attorney. She began her legal career with the 12th Judicial District Attorney's office in 1999, leaving in 2000 to work for the New Mexico Public Defender's Office. Before returning to the District Attorney's office in 2007 she was the District Public Defender tasked with representing indigent criminal clients while managing the office and staff.

"Because of my life experiences and my ability to view criminal law from both sides, I consider myself to be the People's prosecutor, balanced and fair to everyone - victims, defendants, and society. I believe that without balanced and fair prosecution inequities occur that effect all of society."

Obituary

BOB FLUHART

Graveside services for Bob Fluhart, 67, of Nogal were March 31 in the Angus Cemetery.

Mr. Fluhart died March 27 in Ruidoso. He was born April 20, 1940 at Maywood, California. He had served in the Air Force and moved to New Mexico in 1990. He married Sally on May 20, 2005 at Nogal.

He is survived by his wife, Sally; of Nogal; daughter, Janet Marie Scogin-Bender of Anaheim, California and his son, John Fluhart and his wife Pauline of Redding, California; step-children, Deb Meredith and her husband Jim, Bobby Brown and his wife, Shawn and Jim Brown and nine grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Joyce Fluhart-Kelsey.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.lagroneruidoso.com.



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Card of Thanks

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, food, donations, flowers and time from busy schedules given during the loss of our loved one.

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Editorials / Opinions & Other Stuff



UNTIL THEY COME HOME

THOUGHTS

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Meetings Next Week

By Ruth Hammond

The slate of meetings this next week in Lincoln County is quite lengthy. There was no explanation as to whether it was because in spring and people are tired of being cooped inside a house and choose to be cooped up in a meeting or whether legitimate business needs to be considered at an official meeting or gathering of people.

Another group of gatherings are for board meetings, not to be confused with bored, though many who attend those meetings probably are bored. Yet some of the board meetings offer genuine information that should be given out to the general public. The Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District (SNMEDD) Council of Governments board of directors quarterly meeting April 11 will include a legislative review. More people should be aware of what is happening in the state legislature.

Legislators are responsible for more than people think. One thing they do is determine our voting rules and regulations, some rules are supposedly for the good of the people but we disagree with the way they are enforced. It is ridiculous for a voting precinct worker to require his or her own parent to show identification. The same is true for people they have known for years and years. But state legislators said for precinct workers to do it that way.

It would be a better use of time during a legislative session to take care of important issues before tackling mediocre things. Important issues should be what people are concerned about, not what legislators want. Years ago a Congressman voted in opposition to the general public and said, "I voted what I believe, not what people want."

Suppose that Congressmen had voted the way people asked instead of appeasing personal choices? Necessary laws might well have been enacted, not forgotten for now. And the voting public would have been happier knowing their opinions mattered to powers in Washington, D.C.

Meetings here at the state level are a bit different. The legislators are only in session for two months in the year following a general election and one month in the off year. There are certain things they must do, but much of the time is spent being wined and dined by lobbyists and who knows if this lobbying sways the way they vote?

As for local politics, municipal meetings are held at least once a month, sometimes more often, as needed or as designated. County meetings are held regularly, some are on a monthly schedule, others will meet more often.

Needless to say, the majority of these meetings are of importance. Policy must be set, bills must be paid, and the endless arguments arise when an unhappy constituent voices displeasure. But through it all, there will be more meetings, and maybe you should consider which are of concern to you and which you should attend. The best way to keep officials on their toes is to attend and watch.

EARL



"WHEW! NOW THAT HE HAS THAT ORNERY BULL SHUT AWAY IN THE FRONT COMPARTMENT, WE CAN LOAD THE REST OF THE CATTLE"

Big Dry Syndicate

★ Inside the Capitol

by Jay Miller, Syndicated Columnist

SANTA FE -- Political campaigns and the Legislature have kept me from the subject of a nuclear New Mexico for the past eight months. That is much longer than it should have been.

First, I want to apologize for a remark I made 20 years ago when the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad was beginning to designate routes for transporting nuclear waste to the WIPP site.

One of those routes was from Los Alamos National Laboratory, down St. Francis Drive, through Santa Fe. There was great hysteria. I pointed out that the route passed just about a block from my home and office and I saw no reason to be afraid.

I noted that the transportation process had been studied and explained in a very public manner with the utmost safety in mind.

I also ventured that enriched plutonium had secretly been carted up the hill to Los Alamos for the past 45 years, apparently without WIPP's safety precautions and nothing bad enough happened for the public to ever give a thought to what was passing through town.

Those two claims I still believe to be correct. But then I said that, as far as I knew, the entire nuclear process, from mining uranium, through research, development, production, testing, transportation, storage and disposal had been conducted in New Mexico without anyone being harmed.

How wrong I was. I was working with the information I had at the time. Sounds like a senator we've been hearing about recently. Now we know of many deaths and unimaginable suffering among Navajo uranium miners.

We are slowly becoming aware of death and illness from the Trinity test fallout. And a five-year examination of records at the Los Alamos lab indicates the exposure of workers and the community was much higher than ever acknowledged by the lab.

All this makes the prospect of uranium mining in northwestern New Mexico and uranium enrichment and reprocessing facilities in southeastern New Mexico worth a very hard look.

Neutron Energy, Inc. is seeking approval from the state for an application to drill 44 uranium exploration holes 20 miles northeast of Grants. The state Mining and Mineral Division is seeking public comment on the exploration permit. It will hold a public hearing sometime this spring.

The new mine would

be located on private land just outside Navajo Reservation boundaries. In 2005, the Navajo Nation imposed a ban on further uranium mining and processing. It will lose out on millions of dollars in fees and royalties but tribal elders say the lives of their people are much more important.

Hundreds of gaping mine sites dot the country after mining companies walked away from cleanup responsibilities as the Cold War ended. Tribal elders say they want the mess cleaned up and their people cured before they consider allowing mining again.

From 1945 to 1962 our government conducted a series of above-ground nuclear tests, which disgorged radioactive fallout over New Mexico, Nevada and neighboring states. In 1990 U.S. senators from Nevada and Utah secured creation of a fund to compensate downwinders exposed to radiation.

New Mexicans were

not included. Experts on nuclear fallout say they should have been. In 2000, downwinders in some Arizona counties were added? Last year, legislation was introduced to add downwinders in Idaho and Montana.

What happened to New Mexicans, the original downwinders and also downwind from the Nevada tests? Have our members of Congress been asleep at the switch?

And then there is the five-year review of the Los Alamos National Lab files, now in its fourth year. The multi-million search and retrieval project is examining millions of records.

An interim report, released last August includes previously unreleased data on those exposed to the Trinity test, lab workers and those living in the community.

The final report is expected to produce a bounty of knowledge to guide us in our future decisions.



WEATHER REPORT

by Jeff Hammond

Parts of Lincoln County suffered wind gusts as high as 70 miles an hour last week. Expect more of the same in the upcoming week.

Winds will be out of the east today and tomorrow, Friday, slowing to noticeably calmer conditions Saturday and Sunday. Monday, the winds will return in full force out of the west. Average wind speeds will start out in the 20 to 25 mile an hour winds with occasional gusts to as high as 40 miles an hour.

Daytime temperatures will vary from the high 50s to the low 70s; nighttime temperatures will be mid 30s at all elevations. Nighttime temperatures will be universally cool at all elevations due to little to no cloud cover acting as a kind of blanket, keeping the heat from escaping from the warmed earth.

Ski Apache has closed for the season. Look for the Ski Apache snow report to return to the Lincoln County News next ski season.

Forecast for Carrizozo, the high plains of Lincoln County and the Hondo Valley:

Today, Thursday, April 3.

Sunny, with a high near 74, breezy, with a west wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37, northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Friday, April 4.

Sunny, with a high near 67, night: Mostly clear, with a low around 36.

Saturday, April 5.

Sunny, with a high near 76, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37.

Sunday, April 6.

Mostly sunny, with a high near 76, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39.

Monday, April 7.

Mostly sunny, with a high near 77, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39.

Tuesday, April 8.

Partly sunny, with a high near 72, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37.

Forecast for Ruidoso, Capitán and Corona and most of the Hondo Valley:

Today, Thursday, April 3.

Sunny, with a high near 64, windy, with a west wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 34, North wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Friday, April 4.

Sunny, with a high near 57, night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32.

Saturday, April 5.

Mostly sunny, with a high near 64, night: Mostly clear, with a low around 33.

Sunday, April 6.

Mostly sunny, with a high near 66, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35.

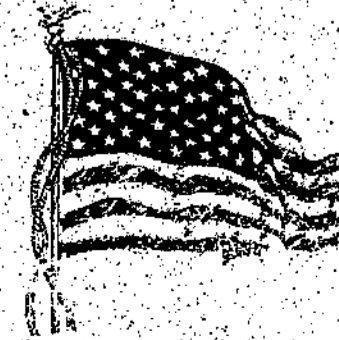
Monday, April 7.

Mostly sunny, with a high near 70, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36.

Tuesday, April 8.

Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 34.

The above information was taken from the National Weather Service Website. For more up to date weather reports go to www.srh.noaa.gov/abq/ on the internet. This website is updated every four hours.



Trinity Site Will Be Open Sat., Apr. 5

Trinity Site, where the first atomic bomb was detonated on July 16, 1945, will be open to the public on Saturday, April 5. There is no charge for the tour and no reservations are necessary. The historic site is open only two days a year, the first Saturday in April and the first Saturday in October.

There are two entrances to Trinity Site.

The Stallion Gate entrance, located 5 1/2 miles west of Carrizozo on US Hwy 380 and 12 miles east of I-25 on US Hwy 380, will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Visitors are allowed to enter and exit unescorted any time between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. through the Stallion Gate.

The Alamogordo tour caravan will meet at the Tularosa High School athletic field parking lot for departure by 8 a.m. This escorted caravan will arrive at Trinity Site about 10 a.m. and depart Trinity Site at 12:30 p.m. Those who wish to stay longer may exit through the Stallion Gate. Photo ID will be required

of all visitors to Trinity Site. Cameras will be allowed only at Trinity Site and McDonald House. Cameras must not be used on either of the drives from gates to Trinity Site. Vehicles should have a full tank of fuel and a spare tire because no services are available between the entrance gates. Visitors are encouraged to bring a lunch.

Trinity Site, the 51,500 acre area which was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1975, includes ground zero where the atomic bomb was detonated, base camp, and McDonald ranch house where the plutonium core to the bomb was assembled.

Visitors to a Trinity Site Open House see ground zero, the Jumbo bomb casing, the McDonald House, one of the old instrumentation bunkers, historical photos, a Fatman bomb casing and part of the original crater left by the explosion revealing Tinitie, the greenish colored glassy substance formed by the heat and pressure of the explosion.

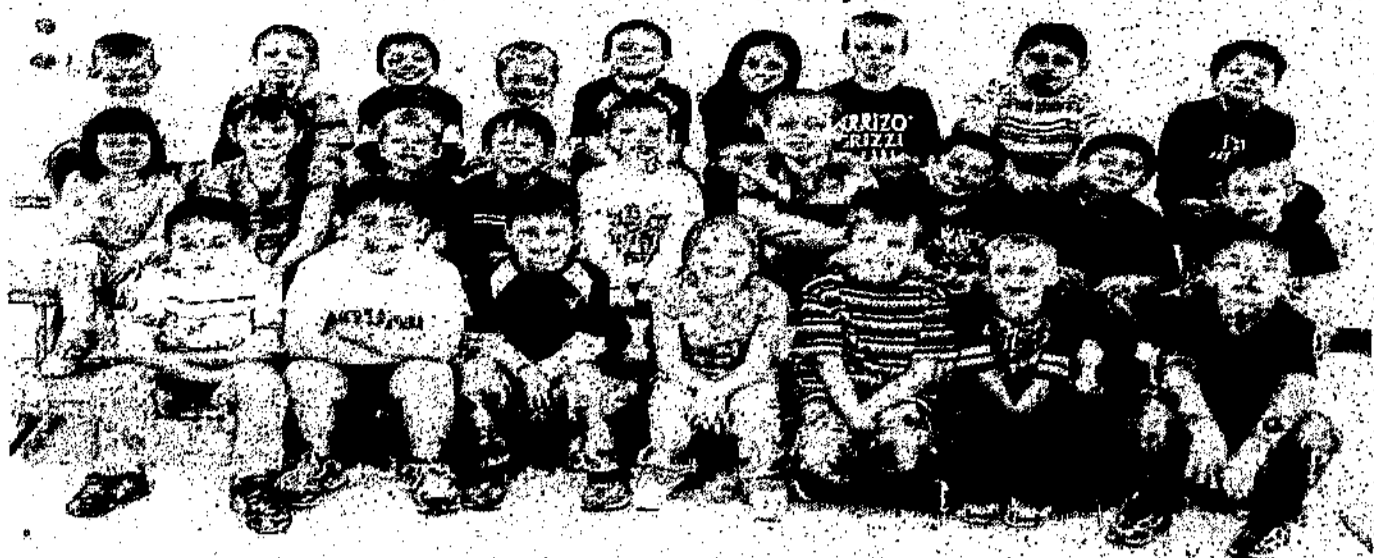
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 IN COUNTY 1 Year \$30.00 2 Years \$55.00
 IN STATE -NM 1 Year \$33.00 2 Years \$61.00
 OUTSIDE NM 1 Year \$37.00 2 Years \$69.00





CARRIZOZO SCHOOLS

BRAVO! Month of February - Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades

FRONT ROW: (left to right) Isaiah Ysasi, Dominic Barela, Tristen Barela, Aurora Vega, Patrick Hooten, Grant Keeler, and Austin Vega.

MIDDLE ROW: Ryslyn Lueras, D'anna Willingham, Daniel Daugherty, John Wyatt, Humphill, Orion Wyatt, Detrick Miller, Nathan Montes, Nickolas Archuleta, and Robert Gonzales.

BACK ROW: Matthew Keeler, James Gonzales, Julian Garcia, Duncan Daugherty, Clayton Swift, Savannah Sanchez, Cody Carter, Steven Archuleta, and Victor Najera. (Not pictured - Mya Zamora, Sebastian Barela, Noah Duggar, Jared Guevara, and Xavier Zamora.)



CARRIZOZO SCHOOLS

BRAVO! Month of February - 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades

FRONT ROW: (left to right) Kristie Gallacher, Mikhail Barela, Adriana Samora, Kadee Sedillo, Janae Willingham, Lashae' Lueras, and Danny Roper.

BACK ROW: Cirsten Barela, Gracie Hooten, Hannah Ventura, Tiffany Vega, Fantasia Dennis, Garrison Ventura, and Josh Ventura.

Sheriff's Report

(Con't. from P. 5)

Carrizozo, deputy dispatched
 9:35 a.m. Sohrbeck manhunt tip at location on Hwy 70 in Ruidoso, deputy dispatched
 9:45 a.m. Larceny theft reported at location on Pomp Court in Capitan, deputy dispatched
 10:00 a.m. Sohrbeck manhunt tips from person in car at Alpine Village in Ruidoso, deputy dispatched
 11:15 a.m. Medical call at Ski Apache, ALS ambulance dispatched
 12:20 p.m. Sohrbeck manhunt tips at location on East Drive in Ruidoso Downs, deputy dispatched
 1:15 p.m. Medical call at residence on West Second

Street in Capitan, ambulance dispatched
 2:12 p.m. Shots fired reported from location on Juniper Springs in Nogal, deputy dispatched
 2:59 p.m. Dog reported running loose on Hwy 380 in Capitan, police dispatched
 4:17 p.m. Sohrbeck manhunt tip from person sitting in vehicle in parking lot of business on Hwy 70 in Ruidoso Downs, deputy dispatched
 6:27 p.m. Sohrbeck manhunt tip at location on Utah in Ruidoso Downs, deputy dispatched
 8:21 p.m. Welfare check requested for person in car sitting on Deer Park Drive in Alto, deputy dispatched.

9:19 p.m. Fire reported at mile marker 5 on Hwy 246 in Alto, Bonito fire units dispatched.
 9:42 p.m. Medical call at location on Alamo Canyon in Hondo, ambulance dispatched.
 March 21
 5:24 a.m. Fire reported on La Cresta Viento in Ranches of Sontero, Bonito fire units, ALS ambulance and deputy dispatched.
 7:43 a.m. Sohrbeck manhunt tip from Valley of Fires on Hwy 54 west of Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.
 8:27 a.m. Medical call at residence on Cedar Street in Carrizozo, ambulance dispatched.

THE TASK AHEAD OF YOU, IS NEVER AS GREAT AS THE POWER BEHIND YOU.

BE STRONG IN THE LORD, AND IN HIS MIGHTY POWER. EPHESIANS 6:10

FAST ACTION
Lincoln County News
CLASSIFIED ADS
 CALL: (505) 648-2333

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
CLERK/COMMUNITY OUTREACH - PART TIME -- Lincoln County Indigent Health Care Office in Ruidoso. The applicant must have proficient computer skills and be familiar with web-based search. The applicant should have knowledge of enrollment forms and preferable a background in medical insurance. Obtain application and job description from Billie-Jo Guevara at 505/648-2385 ext. 100. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., April 14, 2008. Lincoln County, Equal Opportunity Employer and in Compliance with ADA Requirements, Title II-A. **1tc/4/3**

POSITION AVAILABLE
Carrizozo Municipal Schools
K-12 Principal/AD
 -205 Total Students
 -NM Administrative License
 -3-5 Years of Experience in all areas of Instructional Leadership.
 -Come be Part of our Team. Great Students, Great Staff, Great School.
 Contact: Sergio Castanon, Superintendent
 castanons@emsgizzlies.org
 575-648-2346
 Late date of apply -- May 1, 2008. **2tc/4/3-10**

WANTED
 "Certified operator for small water system. Send resume to: Nogal MDWCA at PO Box 182, Nogal, NM 88341, and notify at (505) 354-8605 by April 11." **1tp/4/3**

SWING FOR DEPUTY SHERIFF SHEPPERD
Benefit for the Robert Shepperd Fund
 4-Person Scramble; Two Shotgun starts available -- 8:00 a.m. w/7:00 am check-in / 1:00 pm w/11:30 am check-in, Saturday, April 12, 2008.
 Please pay at golf course; no credit cards -- \$65.00 per person (Lunch, Green fee & cart-fee). Lunch served between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.
 Golf Prizes for: Longest Drive & Closest to the Pin.
 Please contact Valle del Sol @ (505) 648-2770 to register for event by Wednesday, April 9, 2008. Limited to first 24 teams to register. **1tp/4/3**

FOR RENT -- 2-bdrm, 1-bath, utility room, NO pets. 606 'D' Ave. \$275.00 mo + deposit. 648-2489 leave message **2tp/4/3-10**

ENJOY JEWELRY MAKING
 with Zoe de Negri
Reading Class
 The Studios on 12th Street
 Wednesday, April 9th
 10:00am to 3:00 pm
 \$35.00 **1tc/4/3**

ELSIE'S FLAME CHARBROILED BURGERS, HOMEMADE ENCHILADAS AND BURRITOS, HOT DOGS, SANDWICHES, FRESH SALADS, ICE CREAM, SHAKES, FLOATS AND SODAS. CARRIZOZO 380@54, VISIT US SOON. LOCAL BUSINESS DELIVERY 648/4200 **tfn**

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