

Independent Since 1905

Lincoln County News

50c

Published Weekly from Beautiful Downtown Carrizozo, New Mexico

VOLUME # 106 , NUMBER 4 THURSDAY, January 28, 2010 CARRIZOZO, NM 88301



LINCOLN COUNTY RESIDENT Karen Owens sent us this picture of her driveway, taken on January 23rd. Snowstorms continue to bell, or plague, Lincoln County, depending on your point of view.

County and Shelter Clash

by Patrice Brazie

Back in June of 2009, county manager Tom Stewart received a letter from the State of New Mexico's Transportation Services Division stating that a report had been placed through the state's Vehicle Fraud, Waste and Abuse reporting system, a toll-free hotline often used to report dangerous or unsafe drivers.

An unidentified caller used the hotline to report that a van owned by the County of Lincoln was seen on Interstate 25 between Belen and Los Lunas traveling at a speed of around 90 to 95 miles per hour.

On January 4th of this year, Stewart received a similar report from the state, describing a county-owned van reportedly traveling between San Antonio and Carrizozo at approximately 85 to 90 miles per hour with small children on board.

In both cases, the vans reported to be speeding were those owned by the county but allocated for use by the non-profit organization H.E.A.L. (Help End Abuse for Life), for which the county has served as fiscal agent for the management of capital outlay funding from the state. Some of that funding was used to purchase the vans, along with other appropriations awarded for construction of the county's only domestic violence shelter, The Nest, located in Ruidoso Downs and leased and operated by H.E.A.L.

In response to the first letter from the state, Stewart wrote to Colleen Widell, executive director of H.E.A.L., issuing a reprimand for the alleged speeding and asking for the name of the offending party.

After receiving the second report of alleged speeding by someone driving a van allocated to the organization, Stewart again wrote to Widell and, in a letter dated January 4th, requested the names of both parties reportedly driving at excessive speeds. Stewart further asked to be made aware of any corrective actions taken by H.E.A.L., and notified Widell that he intended to remove the

county-owned vehicles from access by H.E.A.L.

"With these two notices, which to the best I can recall are the only ones I have ever received as county manager in 11-plus years, some appropriate action must be taken," Stewart told the Board of Lincoln County Commissioners during its January 12th meeting.

He noted that he has no control over who drives the two H.E.A.L. vehicles or how they are used, and that H.E.A.L. drivers are not subject to the county's random drug testing or defensive driving training requirements that are mandated for county employees driving county-owned vehicles.

"Unlike county employees whose licenses are constantly monitored, I have no way of knowing their citation history," Stewart said.

Widell appeared to present an appeal of Stewart's decision to county commissioners, and said that the action by Stewart to recall the vans has severe implications for victims of domestic violence in Lincoln County.

"We approached Senator Rod Adair for Capital Outlay funding to purchase these vehicles long before we even opened the Nest Domestic Violence Shelter. It was clear that the residents of the Nest would have varying transportation needs as they work through their empowerment plans to rebuild a life, free of violence. These women and children most often appear at the shelter with little more than the clothes on their backs, and rarely bring their vehicle, mostly for safety reasons," Widell said.

She described the importance of providing transportation for residents of the shelter, to get them to the hospital for treatment of injuries, to court proceedings and meetings with attorneys as well as to secure housing, continue their education and to obtain and meet the requirements of jobs.

"In order to be authorized to drive the shelter vans and transport residents, HEAL staff is required to pass a very rigorous, national criminal background check performed by New Mexico

Department of Public Safety and Children, Youth and Families Department. They are also required to have a valid New Mexico driver's license and submit a current, clean driving record. A large part of our in-house staff training, as well as our monthly in-service training, addresses additional safety issues related to our residents," Widell said.

"In the 34 months that HEAL has had possession of the vans in question, 45 staff members have driven more than 84,000 miles without a single citation," she said. "During that time, there have been two alleged incidents of speeding that were called into the state's hotline. They were anonymous calls. There was no law enforcement contact or citation for speeding or any other violation of the law."

Regarding one of the reports of speeding, Widell explained, "This van was returning from a court hearing in the greater Albuquerque area with a resident and her children, a court hearing that was exceedingly contentious and that resulted in the abuser being entirely banned from contact with his wife and children after a substantial violent outburst before the judge in the courtroom. Prior to leaving the judicial facilities, court security was summoned to intervene to protect our staff and this woman and her kids from the abuser in the parking lot, where he became verbally abusive and physically confrontive," she said.

"It is distinctly possible that this abuser, who is a very system-savvy man and a state employee in a highly respected position, may have called in the complaint as an attempt to negatively influence the program that was assisting his family in achieving safety from him," Widell continued.

She said that the employee involved in the incident admitted that, while she had no explicit memory of speeding, it was possible that she had indeed exceeded the posted speed limit, given the emotional intensity of the court activities that day and their fear of the abuser.

Widell told the county officials that there is no law or contract provision requiring HEAL to release confidential employee identification.

"Much to the contrary, we cannot disclose employee identification or information—doing so could be a violation of confidentiality laws because HEAL is the employer, not the county," she explained.

"HEAL has always fulfilled all contractual obligations to the county, both for the lease of the Nest property, for which we provide valuable services to the citizens of Lincoln County, as well as

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County Anticipates State Road Fund Cuts

by Patrice Brazie

State cuts in the Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) could force county manager Tom Stewart to dig a little deeper into the county's general funds in order to continue with some planned road work.

Stewart reported to the county's board of commissioners during its regular meeting of January 12th that the New Mexico Department of Transportation (DOT) anticipates funding cuts of about 25 percent for projects included in the DOT's School Bus Route Agreements, County Arterial Programs (CAP) and County Cooperative Agreements.

Lincoln County's School Bus Route Project is for the improvement of just less than one-half of a mile of roadways in the Palo Verde subdivision east of Ruidoso. The estimated cost of completing the project is just under \$72,000. Lincoln County was going to get \$53,780 from the state to help cover the cost but, with cuts at the state level, that amount will most likely be reduced to about \$41,600, a loss of more than \$12,000 in funding.

Through the County Cooperative Agreement program of the DOT, Lincoln County was expected to receive \$54,775 from the state to help with financing improvements to one-and-a-half miles of

roads in the Alto Lakes subdivision, but that figure will now be reduced by \$11,500. The total cost of the project is about \$72,000.

The county's third project to be affected by state funding cuts is part of the DOT's County Arterial Projects program and is for the improvement of an additional one-and-a-half miles of roads in the Alto Lakes area. The cost of the arterial project is nearly \$184,000, for which Stewart said he had originally expected to receive \$137,973 from the state. That amount will instead be something closer to \$107,445.

Added all together, the cut in funding for the three projects is slightly more than \$54,000. Stewart said that he expects the state funding to return to normalcy in the next year or so, and therefore recommended that the county go forward with the projects as planned and absorb the costs of the funding cuts with an end of year or midyear budget adjustment.

"I feel like we can do it without significant harm to our balances," Stewart told the county commissioners. "I'll come back next month with whatever the state highway commission decision is and we can further discuss it, but right now I think we can suck in our belt and accomplish it," he added.

PVT to Upgrade Phone Service

USDA Rural Development state director, Terry Brunner will award funds to Penasco Valley Telecommunications (PVT) at noon on Friday, January 29th at the PVT headquarters in Artesia.

PVT presently owns and operates the telephone exchanges of Cottonwood, Hondo, Hope, Lakewood, Loco Hills and Mayhill in Chaves, Eddy, Lincoln and Otero counties. The service area covers approximately 4,700 square miles.

PVT applied for, and received, a \$28.9 million dollar loan from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS). RUS provides low interest loans to rural telephone companies. These funds will allow PVT to replace old cable pairs and plant and to increase internet speeds which will

improve service and quality for its members. PVT is upgrading to the ADSL2+ standard to provide internet access. This upgrade will ultimately allow an increase of internet speeds by more than 10 times.

Over time, PVT will be able to offer many of its subscribers internet access speeds of 10 megabits per second. Each household may have a different maximum speed based on their distance from the central office.

Additionally, the loan funds will give PVT the ability to provide redundancy for long distance traffic. Meaning that if there is a problem with the primary path, customers calls will still be completed using the new alternate route. This has always been a major goal and PVT is pleased to have the added reliability. New construction of 295

miles of fiber has been included. This consists of the Carlsbad to Hobbs route, plus new fiber to form a ring from Lakewood back to Artesia.

Additional electronics and upgrades are planned for Cottonwood, Hondo and Hope exchanges.



MORE SNOW -- Late afternoon sunshine peaked through the heavy clouds just long enough to highlight Carrizo and Vera Cruz mountains for a short time before darkness fell after a snow shower covered much of Lincoln County last week. A much larger storm, with potentially heavy snowfall amounts, is predicted to move into the area on Thursday. (Photo by Patrice Brazie)

**Voter Registration
for Municipal Elections
Deadline is Tuesday**

City Bank
NEW MEXICO
Carrizozo Branch • 1203 E. Avenue • 575-648-4298

**LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

MONDAYS and WEDNESDAYS
--Free GED classes 6 to 8 p.m.
Carrizozo School Library.

TUESDAYS
--Capitan Public Library preschool story hour 4:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS
--Corona Public Library story hour 4:00 p.m.

THURSDAYS
--Gambler's Anonymous open meeting 7:15 p.m. at Mescalero Reformed Church, 336 Wardlaw Drive in Mescalero. For information call Mike at 575-682-6200.

FIRST & THIRD THURSDAYS
--Representative from State Engineer's office is at Ruidoso Village Hall from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

THIRD SATURDAY of EACH MONTH
--American Legion Post #11 Wells Fargo Bank in Carrizozo 9 a.m.

EACH FRIDAY
--Al Anon family group for families and friends of alcoholics, noon at Methodist Church in Carrizozo. Bring lunch.

TODAY THURSDAY, JANUARY 28
--Free consumer debt/bankruptcy workshop at new location in Las Cruces 5:30 p.m. at law office of Kenneth Egan, 1111 E. Lohman Ave.

For details call 1-800-876-6227.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30
--Village of Corona has acquired its first piece of fine art which is on display at village hall. See the art and meet the artist at 2:00 p.m.

--Lincoln County Land and Natural Resources Advisory Committee (LANRAC) will not meet due to a lack of agenda items.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2
--Last day to register to vote in the municipal elections that will be held March 2 in Capitan, Carrizozo, Corona, Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs.

--Groundhog day, will he see his shadow?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3
--Ruidoso Day in Santa Fe. Important events scheduled.

--Justice for Alol Day at the Rotunda in Santa Fe. Booths will be in the lobby of the Rotunda to distribute educational materials. Groups will talk with state legislators about the activities, needs and availability of legal services for the poor

--Lincoln County Planning Commission, meets in Ruidoso at Sub Office at 1:00 p.m. Agenda includes wastewater presentation by Jack King, NMED, ETZ information, water discussion LPC meeting supplemental rules and recommendations to county commissioners on comprehensive plan.

Voter Registration for Municipal Elections Deadline is Tuesday

by Patrice Brazie

Municipal elections in each of Lincoln County's five municipalities will be held on March 2. The deadline for being registered to vote in the elections in Carrizozo, Capitan, Corona, Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs is next Tuesday, February 2nd.

Those wishing to register to vote must do so at the office of the Lincoln County Clerk at the courthouse complex in Carrizozo. Anyone with questions about registering to vote can call the clerk's office at 648-2394, extension 6.

New Mexico Food and More . . .

KELLY'S RESTAURANT
is OPEN

Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 11:00 to 7:00

1108 E Avenue -- Carrizozo
Phone 648-3277

LEGAL NOTICE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
No. PB-2010-01
Judge Karen L. Parsons

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
HAZLE F. RAMSEY, a.k.a. "HAZEL F. RANSEY", Deceased.

AMENDED NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that George Michael Ramsey has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two (2) months after the date of the first publication of any published notice to creditors or the date of mailing or other delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the law offices of Gibson & Leonard, P.C., at the address listed below, or filed with the District Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico, located at the following address: P.O. Box 725, Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301.

Dated: January 26, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted by:

GIBSON & LEONARD, P.C.

JulieAnne Leonard
505 Mechem Dr.
Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345
575.257.1010

Published in the Lincoln County News on January 28 and February 4, 2010.

County and Shelter . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

for the lease of the vans for HEAL's use. For extra protection, we have also provided an additional \$1 million insurance policy for coverage of our staff as drivers of those vans," Widell said. "The county manager's demand for surrender of the vans is overreaching and excessive. It is punitive to the very people the legislative appropriation was intended to serve...Lincoln County victims of domestic violence living at the Nest. HEAL and the NEST should be held in esteem for what it has accomplished in the community and should not be faced with punitive actions and sanctions because "someone" saw a van "somewhere" driving too fast."

After making her appeal to the county commissioners, Widell was asked by commissioner Don Williams to explain the cancellation of an insurance policy that covered the vans.

"We cancelled that insurance policy in the year of our contract with the county," Widell said. "The county is required to provide insurance for the vehicles; that is part of our lease with the county. We provided the additional policy to insure our staff as drivers of the vans."

Catherine Walker, chief operations director for H.E.A.L., reported that the organization purchased a separate insurance policy for the county-owned vehicles after reviewing the county's policy.

"It was obvious that the vans were covered, in a physical damage perspective, in the county's insurance and by the contract agreement that we have with the county," Walker said. "I was concerned that our drivers, our employees, might not fall under the county's liability policy for drivers, so we picked up an additional policy just to make sure that our drivers were covered."

Walker verified that all employees of H.E.A.L. that might be

driving a county-owned vehicle are covered under the additional insurance policy purchased by the organization independently of the county.

County commissioner Dave Parks said that the problem is that liability follows ownership of the vehicle.

"Our contract does provide, at this point in time, that the county will provide both physical

damage, which is comprehensive and collision, and bodily injury to property, which is liability," Parks said. "I think Tom's concern, and our concern, is that there's really no difference between the liability when a H.E.A.L. employee is driving the van. Our insurance is on it just like it is when (the county manager) is driving his car to check on something, the county

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VOTE' POR

LEE GROSS

Candidato Para
Carrizozo Town Trustee
"La Voz de Cambio"

Paid for by Candidate

**Paul's
New Mexican
Take-Out**

6505 Hwy. 380, Carrizozo, NM
575-648-2885

Monday - Saturday
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday Evenings
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Great New Mexican Food

"Judy Fitz"patrick
Trustee Position #1

As an active member of the Carrizozo community,

I will listen to you!

Paid for by candidate

Carrizozo Grizzly Basketball Schedule

Varsity Boys & Girls JV Boys / Mid High Boys & Girls

Date	Time	Opponent/Site	Teams
Nov. 20	4:00 pm	Hondo/Away	Mid B/G
Nov. 21	10:00 am	Mescalero/Home	Mid B/G
Nov. 30	4:00 pm	Capitan/Home	Mid B/G
Dec. 1	4:00 pm	Cloudcroft/Home	JV/V B/G
Dec. 3	TBA	Magdalena Tournament	
Dec. 3	4:00 pm	Magdalena/Home	V/B/G
Dec. 7	4:00 pm	Cloudcroft/Home	Mid B/G
Dec. 8	4:00 pm	Capitan/Home	JV/V B/G
Dec. 11	4:00 pm	Magdalena/Home	JV/V B
Dec. 12	10:00 am	Hondo/Home	Mid B/G
Dec. 17	TBA	Mescalero Tournament	V/B/G
Dec. 30	2:00 pm	Cliff/Away	V/B/G
Jan. 5, 10	4:00 pm	Mountainair/Home	Mid B/G
Jan. 7-9	TBA	Capitan Tournament	V/B/G
Jan. 11	4:00 pm	Cloudcroft/Away	Mid B/G
Jan. 12	4:00 pm	Ruidoso/Away	Mid B/G
Jan. 14	4:00 pm	Capitan/Away	JV/V B/G
Jan. 16	4:00 pm	Mescalero/Home	JV/V B/G
Jan. 19	4:00 pm	Ruidoso/Home	JV/V G
Jan. 19	4:00 pm	Magdalena/Away	JV/V B
Jan. 22	4:00 pm	Ruidoso/Home	Mid B/G
Jan. 22	3:00 pm	Magdalena/Away	Mid B/G
Jan. 23	1:00 pm	Cloudcroft/Away	JV/V B/G
Jan. 26	5:00 pm	*Corona/Home	V B/G
Jan. 28	4:00 pm	*Vaughn/Home	Mid/V B/G
Feb. 1	4:00 pm	Mountainair/Away	Mid B/G
Feb. 2	4:00 pm	Capitan/Away	Mid B/G
Feb. 6	4:00 pm	*Hondo/Away	JV/V B/G
Feb. 9	4:00 pm	*Mountainair/Homt	JV/V B/G
Feb. 11	4:00 pm	*Vaughn/Away	JV/V B/G
Feb. 16	4:00 pm	*Corona/Away	JV/V B/G
Feb. 18	4:00 pm	*Hondo/Home	JV/VB/G
Feb. 22-27	TBA	*Mountainair/Away	JV/V B/G
Mar. 1-6	TBA	District Tourney Week 1st. Round	V B/G
Mar. 9-13	TBA	State Tournament	V B/G
		State Tournament	V B/G

*District Games

Looking Back

'Through Our Old NEWS files'

As the *LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS* goes into its 106th year of being in existence (1905-2009), we will again be randomly publishing articles from old NEWS files. The following articles appeared in the *Lincoln County News* on . . .

Friday, February 10, 1956

Ramblin' Around Lincoln County

Tape Recorded Interviews with People who Helped Build Lincoln County

MRS. ANNA BRAZEL

My name is Anna Jane Wiggins Brazel. I was born in Corinth, Miss., in the year 1875. I moved with my parents to Nashville, Tenn., in 1878 and lived there with my parents until I was ten years of age. My parents immigrated from Nashville to Dallas, Texas (Grapevine Prairie). I lived there with my parents until 1881 when they moved to Eagle Creek in New Mexico. We reached Little Creek, (which is Alto now) in May, 1891.

My father homesteaded 160 acres of land on Juniper mesa, between Alto and Angus, between Eagle Creek and the Bonita, a beautiful juniper covered mesa. We stayed there and proved up on the homestead and in 1895 my parents moved back to Bowie, Texas.

I remained in Lincoln County, New Mexico and married Will Brazel, son of a pioneer family of New Mexico. He was Captain W.W. Brazel's only son.

In our early homestead days in New Mexico there were no railroads, no telephones, or means of transportation other than buckboards and horseback. The roads were very rough. The country was dotted with beautiful little farms on the tributaries of the Ruidoso and the mountain streams. Bonita was a veritable paradise. There were happy homes from the head of Bonita to where it unites with the Ruidoso at Hondo. Ruidoso was the same way.

There was a cattle company on the east side of the mountain mesa, the VV Ranch, owned by James Cree and his mother and Captain Kirby. Those mesas were dotted with peaceful homes and lands along the mountain brooks and little streams were inhabited with happy homesteaders, prosperous farmers, dryland farmers, and of course, stockmen and mining men.

I was living on Eagle Creek at the time the railroad engineers came through, surveying for the railroad. Col. Eddy was the head of the El Paso & Southwestern engineering group that came through Lincoln County. They stopped at White Oaks, undertaking to purchase rights-of-way around White Oaks, but failed to make a purchase. They then decided to bring the railroad on the west side of the mountain, instead of taking it by White Oaks and Capitan and on to where Alamogordo is now.

From that survey by the engineers the railroad company bought up the land and the water rights on these creeks. It took all of the people off these streams and they have gone back practically to where they were before these people came in and settled.

There are numerous beautiful stories I could tell of the happy homes and the picnics and the manner in which people lived at that time. They raised their own food on these little irrigated farms. The business there at that time was mining and then truck farming but principally stock raising, cattle and horses, and some goats and sheep.

There were not very many schools at that time that could be reached by the citizens except White Oaks, Lincoln and Nogal. The government post at Fort Stanton had good schools but they only taught the children whose fathers were employed there. There was a good school on the Bonita and Eagle Creek and one nice little neighborhood school at the Indian agency. But most of the children at that time went to school at Lincoln, Roswell or Las Cruces and they would have to move to those towns for the winter term of school.

I went to my first free school at the Eagle Creek schoolhouse in 1892. Having come to New Mexico from the south I had never been to a public school. I reached the eighth grade in the Eagle Creek school.

I have lived on ranches from Lincoln County to Grant County, on the Membres River and lived on the Nan Ranch. Mr. Brazel was employed by the Holsens. I had five children when I moved to White Oaks, having noticed the people there were so much to my liking personally. I stopped there and started my children to school in White Oaks.

There was a good school system there and a fine settlement of very capable and refined persons. There were two good churches. I started my children to school in White Oaks and having taught them on the ranches, the two oldest girls were already started in school. They stayed in White Oaks and went to school as long as there was any school.

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County and Shelter . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

road superintendent's pickup or a police car, whatever. There's no difference," Parks said. "The county, for all other owned vehicles, the county does have a very prescribed program of requirements for the drivers, including defensive driving (training) and things of this nature. The county's on the hook for any other vehicles that it owns."

Parks said that the county commissioners as well as the county manager agree that H.E.A.L. employees should be held to the same standards and requirements that are expected of anyone driving a county-owned vehicle. He suggested that, in order to comply with the state's Tort Liability Act, H.E.A.L. should provide the primary insurance coverage for the vehicles it uses and name the county as an additional insurer.

Parks acknowledged that there might have been a conspiracy involved in at least the second report of speeding, but also admitted that the county's liability could be huge, especially when a mother and small children are involved.

Widell told the county commissioners that she was not opposed to renegotiating H.E.A.L.'s lease agreement with the county in order to resolve the issue.

County commissioner Jackie Powell commended H.E.A.L. for the good work the organization does, and said she strives to remain empathetic, but after two years of successful operation she said she thinks it's time for H.E.A.L. to function as a stand-alone enterprise.

"I think there's a way for H.E.A.L. to have vehicles through other avenues," Powell said. "I feel like it's up to H.E.A.L. and H.E.A.L. supporters."

County commissioner Don Williams said that the county has received two warnings and should take strong action before somebody gets hurt and the county is in real trouble.

"The first warning might have been a unique circumstance, but we've had two warnings now," Williams said. "We're at real risk if we don't take action to correct the problem."

It was suggested that the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) might buy the vans from Lincoln County and then turn them over to H.E.A.L., and county attorney Alan Morel explained how that might or might not work.

"The reason CYFD wasn't given the vans initially was because it would violate the anti-donation clause to give them directly to them. That's why they were given to the county and we have to lease them to H.E.A.L. to make it legal," Morel said. "If we were to give the vehicles to CYFD, they would have to enter into a similar situation, a lease or something that make it legal for (H.E.A.L.), as a nonprofit, to be taking state funded assets."

Widell said that, to her knowledge, CYFD does not participate in that type of contractual agreements and other shelters generally work with local municipalities or governments in their area.

"Other shelters either own their vehicles outright or they are (financed) with capital outlay through their local jurisdictions just as we are with the county," Widell said.

Stewart said that,

although he truly regretted it, he strongly recommended removal of the vehicles from use by H.E.A.L.

"Had the vehicle operator been given a state ticket by a state policeman, I would never know," Stewart said. "I don't know if these are the only two violations because I don't get informed as I do with the county operators. If they get a ticket in their privately-owned vehicle, I know about it, and if it happens in a county vehicle, I can tell you, severe action would be taken and they probably wouldn't be working for the county very much longer. I strongly recommend that we recover the vehicles and then try to work something else out, and I would give them a reasonable amount of time, perhaps two weeks, to work out a solution without the two vehicles. They may want to contact Lincoln Transit and see what can be worked out to help there," Stewart said. "The nightmare that I have is something happening and the county being sued, or getting involved to the point that we just have to close our doors. I truly have received a wake-up call and I think I need to talk to the Association of Counties and other county managers about the situation because it's a nightmare."

Stewart suggested that the vans be given back to the state and the state could then make the decision about what to do with them.

County commissioner Tom Battin said that he didn't quite understand the issue of liability.

"I understand the fear of liability from a catastrophic accident, but I understand from Mr. Parks that we're protected, and that whoever brings action against the county is limited to one million dollars and we have a million dollars in coverage. It seems to me that would provide protection," Battin said. "What really troubles me is I have a problem taking punitive action, which this would in effect be, based on unsubstantiated charges. The citizens who made these reports may have done it in absolutely good faith and concern about public safety. On the other hand, they may have been this person seeking to do damage to the domestic violence program," he said. "That puts me in a dilemma as to how severe to be based on

unsubstantiated reports. I would like to give H.E.A.L. time to work out a solution whether it's providing protection that could make the county comfortable, whether it's finding donations for their own vehicles, or just what it may be. It troubles me a bit that you continue to use these vehicles when there is some exposure because you have not done the steps the county has done to educate, to drug test, to monitor your drivers."

Walker said that H.E.A.L. requires a minimum of five or six drivers just to handle the day-to-day needs of families staying at The Nest, getting mothers to work and appointments and kids to school and back.

Widell said that the H.E.A.L. board of directors is scheduled to meet on January 21st, at which time they will discuss whether or not it is feasible for the organization to purchase vehicles of its own.

Morel said that H.E.A.L. employees who drive the vans should provide drivers license information and agree to subject those employees to the same random drug testing that county employees face.

"We have a contract right now that needs to either be terminated or amended," Morel said. "The maximum interim

protection we could get would be for H.E.A.L. to obtain a primary policy naming the county as an additional named insured, for a minimum of a million dollars. That would provide the interim protection, and then you could decide how you want to go from there," he suggested.

Widell told the county commissioners that H.E.A.L. would discontinue use of the vans until a solution can be reached. She and the board of county commissioners agreed that the ideal solution would be for H.E.A.L. to find a way to purchase vehicles of its own.

Parks made a motion requesting that the vans be parked until H.E.A.L. obtains an insurance policy providing \$1,000,000 in coverage, the maximum for which the county can be held liable, naming Lincoln County as an additional insured party, and that H.E.A.L., as expeditiously as possible, provide the county manager with a list of the names of no more than eight drivers, complete with drivers license and social security numbers. H.E.A.L. must limit the driving of the vans to the eight persons named, and all parties will work toward establishing ownership of vehicles by the organization instead of the county. The motion passed unanimously.

Have A GREAT Weekend!!

Help Us Help Carrizozo
Vote . . .
MIKE PETTY
The Right Man - The Right Time
for **MAYOR**
(575) 648-2283 MPetty@tularosa.net
Paid for by Candidate

George Tippin
MAYOR
Village of Capitan
Phone: 354-7021
Web: mspace.com/george.tippin
Email: george.tippin@mspace.com

Ad Paid For By George Tippin

The Republican Party of LINCOLN COUNTY ANNOUNCES
Precinct Caucuses and Pre-Primary County Convention
To be held on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.
CREE MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB
301 Country Club Drive
Ruidoso, New Mexico
Additional Information will be available at



Editorials/Opinion & Other Stuff

THOUGHTS

From the Editor's Desk

Broadcast Media Attacks Print Media

By Ruth Hammond

Print media, such as this weekly newspaper and all newspapers across the state, are being faced with incorrect information and inaccuracies being circulated by broadcast media. The most recent attack is in Senate Memorial 19 that has incorrect negative information about newspapers in New Mexico and incorrect positive information about broadcasters.

Rolling with the punches is not an option because battle lines have been drawn and it is the duty of newspapers to provide the facts for the public. Uppermost in the incorrect accusations concerns legal notices which have traditionally been published in local newspapers as the most effective means of disseminating that information. The public has a right to "due process" regarding actions and projects being undertaken by government. Printing of those public notices dates back to our nation's founding.

Verifying that legal notices have been printed in newspapers is confirmed by publisher's affidavits. It has not been determined how broadcasters can verify if legal notices were broadcast. Many people don't have access to Internet and broadcasts are not usually received in rural areas. However, those rural patrons can at their leisure read the legal notices that are printed in the newspaper. Some people cut them out and put them on their refrigerator as a reminder of when specific hearings will be held and at what time.

Excluding the inaccuracies in the proposed Senate Memorial 19, the issue is one-sided. It asks for an interim committee to study dissemination of legal notices and to invite input from broadcasters but there is no mention of print media input allowed. This Memorial appears to be one-sided and does not allow for complete information to be received, as should be.

Newspapers provide local information to their readers. Surveys indicate that 62 percent of newspaper consumers read the public notices and 81 percent believe government should be required to publish legal notices in newspapers. And a newspaper reach is measurable through postal statements. It would be impossible to determine broadcast reach.

Using the theory that if you take my problem and work it my way you will arrive at my answer is what these broadcast attacks against print media are. It is a shame that there has to be a battle because the end result should be providing correct information to the public. It is our goal at The News to provide the most true and correct information possible for all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Lincoln County News welcomes letters to the editor and acknowledges that any letters printed herein represent the personal opinion of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the editorial opinion of the Lincoln County News.

To be considered for publication, all letters must be original. No copies or form letters will be used. While preference is given to letters received in digital format, typed or hand-written letters, if legible, are also considered. Letters sent by email as an attached Microsoft Word document are most preferred.

Letters must be signed by the writer with the author's full name, address and telephone number. Only the writer's name and city of residence will be published.

"Thank You Letters" are considered as advertising and will not be accepted as Letters to the Editor.

Consideration will be given to letters of any length, but those of 300 words or less are preferred. All letters are subject to editing for length, grammar, spelling and reader interest.

Electronic submissions should be sent to news@tularosa.net. Letters can be hand-delivered to our office in Carrizozo or mailed to:

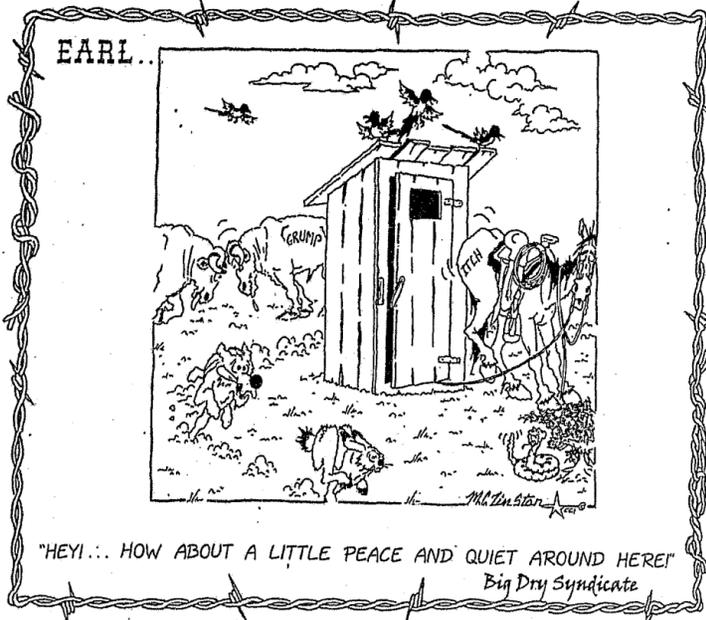
LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS
309 Central Avenue
P.O. Drawer 459
Carrizozo, NM 88301
Ph. 575.648.2333

Lincoln County News
USPS 313460

THE LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS
is published on Thursdays at
309 Central Ave., Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
Lincoln County News, P.O. Drawer 459, Carrizozo, NM 88301
Ruth Hammond and Peter Aguilar co-publishers

Subscription Rates:
IN COUNTY: 1 Year \$30.00, 2 Years \$55.00
IN STATE: 1 Year \$33.00, 2 Years \$61.00
OUTSIDE NM: 1 Year \$37.00, 2 Years \$69.00



Inside the Capitol

By Jay Miller, Syndicated Columnist

SANTA FE -- What will the next 20 days bring? Republican leaders say all \$650 million of the deficit should be covered by cuts in government.

Gov. Bill Richardson has ruled out increasing any of the taxes he has cut during the first seven years of his administration.

Some Democrats say all of the deficit must be covered by additional taxes. Their reasoning is that since taxes were cut by a billion dollars during the good years of the Richardson administration, they should be reinstated now that the economy has turned bad.

And some conservative Democrats say it should be a mix of governmental cuts and tax increases. But first, they contend, there has to be some agreement that everything is on the table for budget cuts and for tax increases.

As this is being written, no agreements on anything have been reached. As the stalemate increases, one bright spot on the horizon may be the report of a committee on governmental efficiency Gov. Richardson appointed in December.

The committee, chaired by former Republican Gov. Garrey Carruthers, was asked to take a quick look at the structure of state government and make recommendations about streamlining state government and saving taxpayers some money.

With only a month to do its work, the committee was asked to make recommendations for changes that could be made relatively easily. The governor called it "low-hanging fruit."

The result was a report that identified \$129 million in potential savings. Included were mergers and consolidation of many state government departments and the elimination of 18 boards and commissions that have outlived their purpose. The recommendations also included changes in Medicaid benefits and public school funding.

Richardson says the recommendations make sense and he is ready to pursue many of the recommendations immediately during this legislative session.

Carruthers also appeared before the Legislative Finance Committee shortly before the session started. Senate Finance Committee Chairman John Arthur Smith said he was pleased with the recommendations

because the Legislature has a tremendous opportunity to redefine state government.

That is a point in which Republicans also can agree. State government has expanded tremendously over the decades. During the first six years of the Richardson administration the state budget grew by 50 percent.

The efficiency committee's recommendations may not be particularly easy to get through the Legislature. But nothing is going to be easy now that one-time sources of revenue for plugging the budget gap have been just about exhausted.

Elimination of 18 unneeded boards and commissions may be the easiest to pass. Many would like to see more of them go. Consolidating departments of state government will be tougher.

Since 1978, the state has doubled the number of cabinet-level departments. With some independent agencies added in, the governor's cabinet is now at 30.

The efficiency committee's recommendations essentially take the

departments back down to their 1978 levels by returning the new departments that have been created since then back to their previous division status within other departments.

All of the new departments were created with much effort to pass them through the Legislature. The interest groups that pushed their creation will be back to fight their elimination.

An effort also will be made to consolidate some school districts. Back in the 1950s, school districts were pared down from over 600 to 89.

Since then, unsuccessful efforts have been made to trim that even further. It is a tremendous blow to a community to lose its school district and you can bet they will fight hard to prevent any future efforts.

Actually the process already has begun. Sen. Smith has introduced legislation reducing the financial distribution to small and rural schools. So get ready for that discussion. Small districts already are organizing.

EDITOR'S NOTE -- Last time we published this was March 16, 2006, so thought it might help brighten someone's cold shivering day at bit, with all the white stuff and cold days and nights we have been enduring the last couple of months.

"SNOW"

Jan. 10, 5:00 p.m. -- The first of the season and the first one we've seen in years. The wife and I took our hot buttered rums and sat by the picture window, watching the soft flakes drift down, clinging to the trees and covering the ground. It was beautiful!

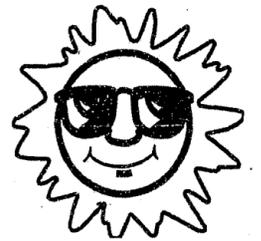
Jan. 11 -- We awoke to a lovely blanket of crystal white snow covering the landscape. What a fantastic sight. Every tree and shrub covered with a beautiful white mantle. I shoveled snow for the first time in years and loved it. I did both our driveway and our sidewalk. Later a city snowplow came along and accidentally covered our driveway with compacted snow from the street. The driver smiled and waved. I waved back and shoveled it again.

Jan. 12 -- I snowed an additional 5 inches last night and the temperature has dropped to about 11 degrees. Several limbs on the trees and shrubs snapped due to the weight of the snow. I shoveled our driveway again. Shortly afterwards, the snowplow came by and did his trick again. Much of the snow is now brownish-gray.

Jan. 13 -- Still cold. Sold the wife's car and bought a 4x4 in order to get to work. Slid into a guardrail anyway and did considerable amount of damage to the right quarterpanel. Had another 8 inches of the "beautiful" snow last night. Both vehicles covered in salt and crud. More shoveling in store for me today. The stupid snowplow came by twice today.

Jan. 15 -- 2 degrees outside. More friggin' snow. Not a tree or shrub on our property that hasn't been damaged. Power was off most of the night. Tried to keep from freezing to death with candles and a kerosene heater, which tipped over and nearly burned the house down. I managed to put the flames out but suffered 2nd degree burns on my hands and lost all my eyelashes and eyebrows. Car slid on the ice on the way to the emergency room and was totaled.

(Continued on Page 6)



Weather Report

by Jeff Hammond

Lincoln County will start out the forecast week with snow at all elevations. Saturday will bring mostly sunny daytime skies, and partly cloudy skies.

Ski Apache is currently operating 8 of 11 ski lifts, 55 of 55 trails are open for skiing and snowboarding. Currently there is approximately 41 inches of packed powder at the lower elevations and 47 inches of packed powder at the higher elevations.

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

Thursday, January 28

Snow. High near 37, east winds between 10 and 15 mph, night: An extremely good chance of snow showers, mainly before 11 p.m., mostly cloudy, with a low around 19, east winds between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday, January 29

A slight chance of snow showers, partly cloudy, with a high near 39, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19. Saturday, January 30

Mostly sunny, with a high near 49, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 22.

Sunday, January 31

Mostly sunny, with a high near 51, night: A fair chance of showers,, mostly cloudy, with a low around 26.

Monday, February 1

A slight chance of showers, mostly cloudy, with a high near 50, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25.

Tuesday, February 2

Mostly sunny, with a high near 52, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25.

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

Thursday, January 28

Snow. High near 33, calm wind becoming north around 5 mph, night: Snow likely, mainly before 11 p.m.; mostly cloudy, with a low around 15, northeast winds between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday, January 29

Mostly sunny, with a high near 38, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 14.

Saturday, January 30

Mostly sunny, with a high near 47, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19.

Sunday, January 31

Partly sunny, with a high near 48, night: A slight chance of snow showers, mostly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Monday, February 1

A slight chance of showers, mostly cloudy, with a high near 45, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20.

Tuesday, February 2

Mostly sunny, with a high near 48, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 22.

The above information was taken from the National Weather Service Website. For up to date

(Con't. from P. 7)

Sheriff's Report

The following information was taken from dispatch records in the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, located in the Lincoln County outhouse in Carrizozo.

January 8

12:00 a.m. CYFD referral from location in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.
 12:00 a.m. Warrant service at LCSO located in the LCC on Central Avenue in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.
 8:01 a.m. Medical call at residence on Marla Drive in Capitan, Capitan emergency units and ambulance dispatched.
 8:25 a.m. Warrant service at LCDC on Air Port Road in Carrizozo,

deputy dispatched.
 1:25 p.m. Fire in dumpster reported at 4:37 p.m. Motorist assistance requested at mile marker 117 on Hwy 54 south of Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.
 5:38 p.m. Suspicious activity reported at location southwest of Carrizozo airport on BLM land, deputy dispatched.
 5:59 p.m. Dog reported running loose on Hwy 48 in Ruidoso, deputy dispatched.
 11:11 p.m. Medical call at residence on Mira Monte in Alto, ALS ambulance and deputy dispatched.

January 9

2:03 a.m. Medical call at location on Hwy 70 in Glencoe, ALS ambulance dispatched.
 6:40 a.m. Alarm reported at location on Alto Drive in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 8:57 a.m. 911 Hang-up from location on Lakeshore Drive in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 10:41 a.m. Medical call at residence on Coyote Ridge in Capitan, ambulance dispatched.
 11:00 a.m. Medical call at location on Ski Run Road in Alto, ALS ambulance dispatched.
 11:16 a.m. Medical call at residence on Aspen in Carrizozo, ambulance dispatched.
 12:49 p.m. Civil dispute reported at Ski Apache, deputy dispatched.
 1:58 p.m. Medical call at location on Ski Run Road in Alto, ALS ambulance dispatched.
 5:40 p.m. Welfare check requested for person sitting in car on Hwy 54 in Oscuro, deputy dispatched.
 6:27 p.m. Medical call at residence on Deer

Park Drive in Alto, ALS ambulance and deputy dispatched.
 9:17 p.m. Burglary reported at Capitan High School in Capitan, police dispatched.
 9:38 p.m. 911 Hang-up from location on Lakeshore Drive in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 10:31 p.m. Disturbance/loud party reported at residence on FR 120 in Ruidoso, deputy dispatched.
 10:32 p.m. Fire reported in Corona, fire units dispatched.

January 10

4:02 a.m. Accident reported at mile marker 296 on Hwy 70 in Hondo, Hondo emergency units and ambulance dispatched.
 5:03 a.m. Alarm reported at business on Ski Run Road in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 10:58 a.m. Civil dispute reported at location on Sims Road in Capitan, police dispatched.
 1:29 p.m. Shots fired reported at location on Hale Lake Road in Glencoe, deputy dispatched.
 1:58 p.m. Dog reported running loose on West Fourth Street in Capitan, police dispatched.
 4:48 p.m. Shots fired reported at location on Monjeau in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 5:28 p.m. Dog reported running loose on Hwy 48 in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 5:39 p.m. Larceny/theft reported at location on Air Port Road in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.

January 11

7:50 a.m. Burglary reported at location on Hwy 380 in Capitan, deputy dispatched.
 8:15 a.m. Registered Sex Offender check at Lincoln County Sheriff Office (LCSO) located in the Lincoln County Courthouse (LCC) on Central Avenue in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.
 10:15 a.m. Medical call at Carrizozo Health Clinic on E Avenue in Carrizozo, ambulance dispatched.
 10:27 a.m. Medical call at location on Camp Lane in Carrizozo, ambulance dispatched.
 11:04 a.m. 911 Hang-up from res-

idence on Moon Dance Road in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 12:54 p.m. Assault reported at location on Biscuit Hill Road in Glencoe, deputy dispatched.
 4:19 p.m. Dog reported running loose in Ruidoso Downs, police dispatched.
 4:33 p.m. Medical call at Lincoln County Detention Center (LCDC) located on Air Port Road in Carrizozo, ambulance and deputy dispatched.
 8:20 p.m. Disturbance/family dispute reported at location on Woodbrier in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 10:55 p.m. Medical call at residence on Wyatt Earp Circle in Rancho Ruidoso Valley Estates, Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance dispatched.

January 12

6:06 a.m. Warrant service at LCDC on Air Port Road in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.
 7:44 a.m. Medical call at residence on Ironwood in Carrizozo, ambulance dispatched.
 8:24 a.m. Accident reported on Hwy 70 in Glencoe, Glencoe/Palo Verde emergency units, ALS ambulance and deputy dispatched.
 8:25 a.m. Police presence requested at residence on Woodbrier in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 2:11 p.m. Dog reported running loose on Cedar Creek hiking trail in Ruidoso, deputy dispatched.
 4:15 p.m. Welfare check requested at mile marker 82 on Hwy 380 in Capitan, deputy dispatched.

January 13

1:18 a.m. Fire alarm reported at LCC on Central Avenue in Carrizozo, fire units and deputy dispatched.
 8:38 a.m. Code enforcement requested at location on Hwy 380 in Lincoln Historical District, deputy dispatched.
 8:43 a.m. Welfare check requested for person sitting in car on Hwy 48 in Alto, deputy dispatched.
 1:54 p.m. Medical call at residence on E Avenue in Carrizozo, ambulance and police dispatched.
 3:15 p.m. Suspicious activity by person(s) in vehicle reported at location in Carrizozo, police dispatched.

DISTRICT COURT CALENDAR

The Calendar for District Judge Karen Parsons

Monday, January 18
Court Closed

Tuesday, January 19

8:00 a.m. Tierra Realty Trust v. Village of Ruidoso; CV-2009-316 (Mtn to Amend Complaint/Mtn for Partial Dismiss/mtn to dismiss plf claim of for monetary damages) Wihl/Bryant/Evans
 11:00 a.m. Alexia Licon v. Robert Morris; DM-2009-123 (Mtn/Judgment of the Pleadings) Beauvais/Pro Se
 1:30 p.m. Robin Blankenship v. Bart Blankenship; CV-2009-249 (Merits) Leonard/Pro Se Darrell Brantley
 10:00 a.m. DV-2007-78 (Mtn/Alleging violation)
 10:30 a.m. DV-10-03
 1:15 p.m. DV-10-04

Wednesday, January 20

8:30 a.m. Judge Ritter - Jury Trial Judge Parsons
 8:15 a.m. Telephonic - Wells Fargo v. Ann Butler; CV-2009-322 (Mtn/Mediation) Schoen/McSwane
 8:30 a.m. In the Matter of the Guardianship of PQ-2009-14 (Apt. of Guardian) Turner
 9:00 a.m. Gary Gibson v. Jim Pervis & Builder Surplus; CV-2009-24 (Mtn/Judgment on the pleadings/Mtn/ Dismiss/Mtn to Dismiss Uncumbered Count violation) Pro Se/Beauvais
 10:30 a.m. In the Matter of the Adoption of ; SA-2009-11 (FD of Adoption) Gibson/ProSe
 1:15 p.m. CSEB & Wilson v. Temple; DM-2009-52
 CSEB & Cosgray v. Temple; DM-2009-94
 Temple v. Temple; DM-2005-178 (Child Support/Mtn to Establish Custody & Visitation) Aultman/Martin/Gibson

Thursday, January 21

3:00 p.m. B & B Ready Mix, L.L.C v. Garcia et al; CV-2009-106 (Merits) McSwane/ Pro Se Darrell Brantley
 1:30 p.m. Melanie Dean v. Grant Dean; DM-2009-156 (Mtn/Interim Relief) Gibson/McSwane

Friday, January 22

8:15 a.m. Docket Call
 8:30 a.m. Plea/Meets
 9:00 a.m. Criminal Doc.
 FA/ Initial
 Travis Rodriguez CR-09-178
 Ibrahim Taskin CR-09-179
 Guy Bell; CR-09-176
 Travis Horst; CR-09-175
 Orlando Williams CR-09-174
 Michelle Barela; CR-09-168
 Donald Swanner CR-09-149
 Billy Allen; CR-09-167
 Joseph Uptergrove CR-04-197
 Brian Painter; CR-04-146
 Jaybert Mexicano CR-09-04
 Torrie White; CR-08-144
 Tranette Apachito CR-07-119
 Change of Plea
 Beau Hirsch; CR-09-54
 Pete Contreras; CR-09-119
 Martin Castro; CR-09-103
 Joseph Montoya; CR-09-99
 Constance Archuleta CR-09-125
 Jason Christensen CR-09-106
 Clifford Neville; CR-08-283
 ADJ
 Ross Sanders; CR-08-233
 Jon Torrez; CR-08-232
 Jeff Salcido; CR-07-210
 Dusty Baker; CR-05-123
 Michael Begay; CR-08-153
 Rudy Torres; CR-08-237
 Motions
 Michael Forte; CR-09-71
 Julie Schoenhofer CR-09-138
 Justin Slaughter CR-09-154
 Judicial Inq/Other
 Johnny Culley; CR-09-81
 Sergio Tellez; CR-05-171
 Cody McMurray; CR-08-141
 David Gut; CR-09-170
 Julia Gonzales; CV-09-263
 Sentencing
 Adam Samora; 07-13/40/34.
 Billie Russell; CR-08-259
 Elijah Romero; CR-07-190
 Christopher Miller CR-09-89
 Michael Keaton; CR-04-213
 1:15 p.m. Richard Ramsdale; OCR-09-111
 (Sent)
 2:00 p.m. Javier Dominguez CR-09-70 (Sent) Trailing - Abelardo Lerma; CR-05-43 (FA)

PUBLIC NOTICE

If it's not in the newspaper, how will the public notice?

Zoning changes. Tax increases. Legislative proposals. These are just a few topics where government actions can affect your life and community. Imagine if government no longer had the legal obligation to publish this information in your newspaper. How would public notices get noticed? In our democratic society your newspaper fulfills an essential role in serving your right to know. It should not be your responsibility to know how to look, where to look, when to look or even to know what you're looking for to be informed. It is government's responsibility to publish and deliver public notice information as it becomes available. So take notice. Your right to know is being served... right here in your newspaper.



Public Notices in Newspapers.
Your Right to Know, Delivered Right to Your Door.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
 No. D-1226-CV-2009-406
 Karen L. Parsons

NEW MEXICO RANCH SALES, LLC,
 a New Mexico limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CLAIRE L. OLSON and DAVID JOE MARTINEZ,
 Defendants.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MASTER'S SALE

ON JANUARY 4, 2010, the District Court of Socorro County, New Mexico, entered a Judgment Decree of Foreclosure, Order of Sale, and Appointment of Special Master in the above styled and numbered cause. Said Judgment foreclosed the Mortgage of Plaintiff, New Mexico Ranch Sales, LLC, Carrizozo, New Mexico, upon the following described property and any improvements thereon, located in County of Lincoln, State of New Mexico, and more particularly described as follows to-wit:

PARCEL 91 OF VALLE DEL SOL SUBDIVISION PHASE ONE LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWN OF CARRIZOZO AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT RECORDED ON JUNE 15TH, 2007 AT 2:39 PM IN CABINET I AND SLIDE 739 AS RECEPTION #200705291, AND AMENDED ON OCTOBER 17, 2007 AT 9:01 AM IN CABINET J AND SLIDE 7 AS RECEPTION #200709454, BOTH OF THE RECORDS OF THE COUNTY CLERK OF LINCOLN, NEW MEXICO.

and directed that the Special Master, Christina Soto, be ordered to sell the above described property at public auction to satisfy the Mortgage Lien of Plaintiff New Mexico Ranch Sales, LLC. The total amount of the Judgment, including interest accrued through January 4, 2010, attorney fees, court costs and costs of collection is \$30,448.17. Said sum does not include interest which continues to accrue at the rate of 9.25% from and after January 4, 2010, advances made by Plaintiff for hazard insurance premiums, ad valorem property taxes, assessments, costs of the sale, or other advances made by Plaintiff prior to or in preparation for the judicial sale.



LEGALS

THE PROCEEDS of the sale will be applied as follows:

FIRST: To the costs and expenses of sale, including but not limited to the fee of the Special Master, costs of publication, and reasonable expenses of retaking, holding, preparing for sale and selling said property;

SECOND: To the judgment of Plaintiff in the amounts set forth above;

THIRD: Any proceeds of sale received by the Special Master in excess of the above amounts shall be deposited into the Registry of the Court pending further Order of the Court.

THE SALE will be made to the highest and best bidder for cash or cashier's check. Plaintiff may bid in all or a portion of its judgment in this action in lieu of cash.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, on the front steps of the Lincoln County Courthouse, in Carrizozo, Lincoln County, New Mexico, at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 19th day of February, 2010, such sale shall be subject to the approval of the District Court of Lincoln County, and subject to the period of redemption allowed by the Court of One (1) month as provided in the mortgage for Defendants.

DATED: this 7th day of January, 2010.

Christina Soto, Special Master

PLEASE DIRECT INQUIRES TO:

Jerry A. Armijo, P.A.
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 P.O. Box 773
 Socorro, NM 87801
 (575) 835-1400

Published in the Lincoln County News on January 14, 21, 28; and February 4, 2010.

LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Village of Capitan, Lincoln County, New Mexico, calls for sealed bids for an Annual Contract for Spec Base Course, Class II.

Interested bidders may request a copy of the specifications from the Village Clerk at the Village of Capitan at 114 Lincoln Avenue, Capitan, New Mexico or by phoning 575-354-2247. The specifications are also available by email from the Village Clerk.

Sealed bids will be received by the Village Clerk at 114 Lincoln Avenue, Capitan, NM until February 8, 2010 at 2:00 PM local time. The Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Village Hall at 114 Lincoln Avenue, Capitan, NM at 2:15 PM. Any bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened.

The Village of Capitan reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive all informalities as allowed by the State of New Mexico Procurement Code.

Kay Strickland
 Village Clerk

Published in the Lincoln County News on January 28 and February 4, 2010.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
 No. D-1226-CV-2009-429
 Judge Karen L. Parsons

NEW MEXICO RANCH SALES, LLC,
 a New Mexico limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

vs.

KENNETH W. DAVIS,
 Defendant.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MASTER'S SALE

ON JANUARY 5, 2010, the District Court of Socorro County, New Mexico, entered a Judgment Decree of Foreclosure, Order of Sale, and Appointment of Special Master in the above styled and numbered cause. Said Judgment foreclosed the Mortgage of Plaintiff, New Mexico Ranch Sales, LLC, Carrizozo, New Mexico, upon the following described property and any improvements thereon, located in County of Lincoln, State of New Mexico, and more particularly described as follows to-wit:

PARCEL 51 OF VALLE DEL SOL SUBDIVISION PHASE ONE LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWN OF CARRIZOZO AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT RECORDED ON JUNE 15TH, 2007 AT 2:39 PM IN CABINET I AND SLIDE 739 AS RECEPTION #200705291, AND AMENDED ON OCTOBER 17, 2007 AT 9:01 AM IN CABINET J AND SLIDE 7 AS RECEPTION #200709454, BOTH OF THE RECORDS OF THE COUNTY CLERK OF LINCOLN, NEW MEXICO.

and directed that the Special Master, Christina Soto, be ordered to sell the above described property at public auction to satisfy the Mortgage Lien of Plaintiff New Mexico Ranch Sales, LLC. The total amount of the Judgment, including interest accrued through January 5, 2010, attorney fees, court costs and costs of collection is \$23,990.18. Said sum does not include interest which continues to accrue at the rate of 10.25% from and after January 5, 2010, advances made by Plaintiff for hazard insurance premiums, ad valorem property taxes, assessments, costs of the sale, or other advances made by Plaintiff prior to or in preparation for the judicial sale.

THE PROCEEDS of the sale will be applied as follows:

FIRST: To the costs and expenses of sale, including but not limited to the fee of the Special Master, costs of publication, and reasonable expenses of retaking, holding, preparing for sale and selling said property;

SECOND: To the judgment of Plaintiff in the amounts set forth above;

THIRD: Any proceeds of sale received by the Special Master in excess of the above amounts shall be deposited into the Registry of the Court pending further Order of the Court.

THE SALE will be made to the highest and best bidder for cash or cashier's check. Plaintiff may bid in all or a portion of its judgment in this action in lieu of cash.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, on the front steps of the Lincoln County Courthouse, in Carrizozo, Lincoln County, New Mexico, at the hour of 11:15 a.m. on the 19th day of February, 2010, such sale shall be subject to the approval of the District Court of Lincoln County, and subject to the period of redemption allowed by the Court of One (1) month as provided in the mortgage for Defendants.

DATED: this 8th day of January, 2010.

Christina Soto, Special Master

PLEASE DIRECT INQUIRES TO:

Jerry A. Armijo, P.A.
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 P.O. Box 773
 Socorro, NM 87801
 (575) 835-1400

Published in the Lincoln County News on January 14, 21, 28; and February 4, 2010.

LEGAL NOTICE

Request for Proposal

Project Title: Management of Non-Native Phreatophyte Vegetation & Restoration of Native Non-Invasive Vegetation in Lincoln County, New Mexico

Upper Hondo Soil & Water Conservation District is requesting sealed proposals for removal of non-native vegetation and restoration of native vegetation. For instructions and a general scope of work that is to be completed on this project, prospective Offerors are invited to pick up the request for proposal from Upper Hondo Soil & Water Conservation District, 516 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Capitan, NM 88316; phone #575-354-2220. Completed and sealed proposals must be received at the above address no later than 4:00 pm, Mountain Standard Time, on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. Delivery is the sole responsibility of the Offeror. A mandatory offeror's walk-thru is set for Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 1:00 pm in Lincoln, NM at the Dolan House. Offerors MUST BE PRESENT at the walk-thru to be considered for selection, no exceptions. If additional information is required in relation to the Management of Non-Native Phreatophytes project's request for proposal, please contact the Program Director, Upper Hondo Soil & Water Conservation District, phone #575-354-2220.

Published in the Lincoln County News on January 28 and February 4, 2010.

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The Newspaper for All of Lincoln County



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Carrizozo, NM 88301

or Call:

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QUINCEANERA CELEBRANT Andrea Vigil (center), her court and family. (Courtesy Photo)

Quinceanera Celebrated

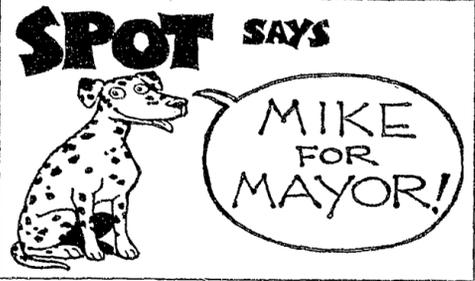
Hundreds of people filled the Santa Rita Catholic Church on Saturday January 16, 2010 as Andrea Vigil along with her Parents Brian Vigil, Lucy Vega, family, friends and even neighbors joined to celebrate her Angelic Quinceañera. The celebration carries religious significance for Spanish-speaking Roman Catholics. It begins with a religious ceremony in which the Quinceañera affirms her faith. It is customary for the Quinceañera to receive gifts that are religious in nature, such as a cross, a Bible, rosary, and or ring. The presentation of these gifts were given by her Uncle George Vega Jr and her family members, along with their blessing by the priest.

Andrea's aunt Judy Nash gave a presentation at the beginning of Mass in recollection of Andrea's past mystery sickness seven years to date which almost took the life of Andrea. Judy gave thanks to all who prayed and supported their family during this time of need and also passed on to the people that this celebration was not only for Andrea but also a way of giving thanks to everyone.

After the conclusion of the Catholic religious ceremony, a reception was held at the Old Nike Dance Hall. The Nike Dance Hall was amazingly decorated by Judy Nash, Lucy Vega, Mabel Vega and the help from J'lane Zamora and David

Maynez. The traditional ceremony continued as the Quinceañera Court started off the night with three traditional dances and one fun dance, which included the changing of the shoes. This is where the father changes her flat shoes for heels and then the father dances with his daughter. When the father daughter dance is over the mother escorts the father off of the dance floor and the Quince escort which was Marshall Ventura, is escorted on the dance floor for the rest of the dances. All of the people enjoyed this magical moment as the kids had worked so hard to get this together.

The Quinceañera Court included Kaitlin and Kelsie Guevera, Sydney Zamora, Melissa Barela, Lexi Greigo, Austin Vega, Katie Reynolds, Steven Archuleta, Betsy Solis, Stephan Najar, Tiffany Vega, Randy Reynolds, Jade Roper, Dalton Vega, Erica Vega, Nicholas Chavez, Dakota Lovelace, Kenneth Vega, Rylah Zamora, Zachary Zamora, Amanda Gallegos, Josh Vallegos, Ashley Ventura, Cole Hubbard, Shayna Zamora, Tavi Nash, Analicia Beltran, Sean Medina, Andrea Beltran, Carl Barela, Chelsea LaMay, Don Myers, Jordan Hill, Troy Neiderstadt, Victoria Ventura, Andreas Verdugo, and Andrea's escort Marshall Ventura.



"SNOW"

(Continued from Page 4)

Jan. 16 -- Friggin' stupid white "stuff" keeps coming down. Have to put all the clothers on we own just ot get to the stupid mailbox. If I ever catch that idiot that drives the snowplow, I'll chew open his chest and rip out his heart. I think he hides around the corner and waits to plow shut our driveway everyday. Power is still off. Toilet froze and part of the roof has started to cave in.

Jan 17 -- Six more stupid inches of stupid snow plus sleet and ice, and God know that other kind of white friggin' suff fell last night. I wounded the stupid snowplow driver with an ice axe, but he got away before I finished him off. Wife has left me and car won't start. I think I'm going snowblind. I can't move my toes. Hven't seen the sun in weeks, more snow is predicted this week, and I nver learned to ski. Wind chill is a whopping -22 degrees. If I survive this, I'm moving back to Floriday!!

P.S. -- Weather prediction for Lincoln County this week, more rain and/or snow! Have a good week.

Weather . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

weather reports, go to www.srh.noaa.gov/abq/ on the internet. This website is updated every four hours.

The New Mexico Highways Department has developed a new toll free number for up to the hour road constructions/ conditions information. Just dial 511, listen to the options and follow the directions.

You can also get up to the minute, in-depth, construction updates by logging in to www.nmroads.com for any area of the state.

Make A Difference,

REGISTER

AND

VOTE!!

Lincoln County CHURCH DIRECTORY

MOUNTAIN MINISTRY PARISH
SIERRA BLANCA PRESBYTERY
NOGAL PRESBYTERIANA CHURCH

E.W. "Bo" Lewis, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

RUIDOSO DOWNS
FIRST SOUTHERS BAPTIST CHRUCH

361 East Hwy #70
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346
575-378-4611
Dr. Randy Widener PhD Sr. Pastor
8:00 a.m. . . . Early Bird Service
9:00 a.m. . . . Breakfast
9:30 a.m. . . . Sunday School
11:00 a.m. . . . Traditional Services
6:00 p.m. . . . Preaching/Bible Study
Wed. Community Dinner . . . 6:30 p.m.
Kids Activities . . . Wed. 5:30 p.m.

ANCHO COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship . . . 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

CORONA UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

CARRIZO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Hayden Smith, Pastor

314 10th Avenue
648-2968 (Church) or 648-2107
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service . . . 10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening . . . 6:00 p.m.
AWANAS . . . 6:00 p.m. Wednesday
(September - April)

CARRIZO ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Corner of 13th and C Avenue
Barbara Bradley, Pastor
Children's Ministry and Nursery Available
Worship Service . . . 10:00 a.m.
Youth Service 6:00 p.m.

SANTA RITA
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Carrizozo / Capitan / Corona
Fr. Franklin, Pastor
213 Birch, Carrizozo, NM
648-2853

Daily Mass / Santa Rita . . . 8:30 a.m.

Saturday Services
Capitan Sacred Heart . . . 5:00 p.m.
Carrizozo Santa Rita . . . 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Services
Capitan Sacred Heart . . . 8:30 a.m.
Carrizozo Santa Rita . . . 10:30 a.m.
Corona St. Theresa . . . 1:30 p.m.

CARRIZO ST. MATTHIAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Corner of E Ave., and 6th
Rev. Canon Peter Sanderson,
Priest in Charge

Holy Eucharist . . . Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

WHITE OAKS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(Non-Denominational)

Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

ANGUS CHRUCH OF THE NAZARENE
Serving All of Lincoln County

Rick Hutchingson, Pastor
336-8032
SW Corner of Hwy 48 & Hwy 37 Junction
(Between Ruidoso and Capitan)

Sunday
Sunday School for All Ages . . . 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship &
Children's Church . . . 10:30 a.m.
Family Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Community Dinner . . . 6:00 p.m.

Adult Classes, Youth Games and Study,
Kids Klub . . . 7:30 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES
1000 D Avenue, Carrizozo

648-2893 or 648-2846
Johanna Anderson, Pastor

Sunday School All Ages . . . 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Choir Practice . . . Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.

United Methodist Women
Third Wednesday of Month 2:00 p.m.

Fellowship Dinner
Fourth Sunday of Month . . . 12:30 p.m.

CAPITAN
Adult Sunday School . . . 8:30 a.m.

Worship Service 9:15 a.m.

Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time . . . 10:15 p.m.

Adult Sunday School . . . 11:00 a.m.

Choir Practrice Tuesday . . . 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Dinner Third Sunday of Month

Handmaidens Ecumenical Woman's Group
1st and 3rd Tuesday . . . 9:30 a.m.

CAPITAN CHRIST COMMUNITY
FELLOWSHIP

Inter-denomonational
514 Smokey Bear Blvd.
Ed Vinson, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.

CAPITAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
5th and Lincoln

Leslie Earwood, Minister

Sunday Bible Study . . . 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service . . . 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHRUCH OF CORONA
Cal West, Pastor / 849-7975

Sunday School . . . 10:00a.m.

Worship Service . . . 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study . . . 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Dinner
(First Sunday of Month)

GRACE FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST
Corona, New Mexico

Terry Aiello, Pastor / 849-0105

Worship . . . 9:30 a.m.

CLAUNCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
Tony Scaecia, Minister 849-1402

Second Sunday of Each Month . . . 9:00 a.m.

Public Notice

Public Notices in Newspapers. Your Right to Know, Delivered Right to Your Door.



Looking Back

(Continued from Page 3)

We moved from White Oaks when the school system played out there, to Carrizozo, which is 12 miles west. White Oaks in the early days was an active mining camp. The coals mines, gold mines, and copper mines were in operation. It was a thriving mining town for a number of years, but began to decline. The members of the older company, growing old, leased to a wildcat company and from then White Oaks started down hill.

Mr. Brazel at that time was still raising cattle and working cattle which was termed at that time as a small rancher. We owned ranches all around White Oaks and Carrizozo and over on Eagle Creek and around Angus. He was a cattleman, he didn't know anything else. I came to Carrizozo when there was nothing but a boxcar for a depot. About 1906 they were building the depot. Mr. Brazel was still running horses and cattle. He had a ranch up in Water Canyon. I have lived in Carrizozo ever since.

We left Eagle Creek one year late in September to go to Tularosa for a hack load of fruit, fruit being scarce in our locality at that time. It took us four days to get to Tularosa. We loaded our hack with boxes of choice fruit and had our dinner at Guy Herbert's place. He was an old friend and neighbor, and we visited about two hours and started back to Alto with the fine fruit. Just below the Mescalero Indian Reservation on Tularosa Creek, it began raining. By the time we went through the Mescalero Agency, crossed the Divide and started down the water was running down Dark Canyon like a river.

The horses were well trained and kept to the road. About two miles down the canyon a panther started following us. Dark had overtaken us and we had a sumptuous lunch in a basket. I had my sister who was 13, and my oldest daughter, 2, my youngest daughter a baby in arms, and my orphan sister, 2, in the hack with the fruit.

I didn't want my sister to know what the noise was that was screaming right behind us about every 15 minutes for fear of frightening her into hysterics, so I threw the lunch out of the hack. There were some wild dogs along there, which I could not see as it was too dark. They immediately consumed the lunch and I suppose the panther too. The panther didn't follow us any farther and neither did the wild dogs.

As we traveled on and found the arroyo knee-deep in water to the horses, a campfire loomed ahead of us in the gray moist sky. It was six freight wagons returning to Lincoln from El Paso loaded with freight. I went to the left and the traders took care of my team. I stayed there until morning and one of the traders got in the hack with us, after having hitched his team to the hack. We proceeded on to Ruidoso Creek which was two and a half or three miles farther on. The little gullies had been washed out by the rain and the freighter would get out and fix the crossings.

When we reached the Ruidoso there was so much water in it we couldn't cross, so we had to wait a while for the Ruidoso to go down. We crossed over on the north side over into the mouth of Gavilan Canyon and the freighter stayed on the Ruidoso until his companion would come in a few hours later and pick him up.

I took the team on up Gavilan and five or ten miles farther to what is now Alto on Eagle Creek with a load of choice fruits and there was our home. The freighters came by the next day on their way to Lincoln with their load of freight.

CROSSED STATE THREE TIMES

I had crossed New Mexico three times in a covered wagon before I settled in Carrizozo. I didn't go any farther. I don't know why Mr. Brazel would move from one place to another, but he would buy a ranch, sell it, and go somewhere else, always hunting a better place.

I was pretty determined about the children getting some manner of education. Young people in this state at that time, especially Lincoln County, as I saw it, had very little education. I didn't want to raise my children like that. White Oaks was a very attractive place for me at that time. When the girls finished school in Carrizozo and got their eighth grade diplomas, then I went to Silver city with them and they got teacher certificates at the Silver City schools. The girls are Mrs. Beulah Hartley, Mrs. Clara Brazel Snow, and Lorene Brazel Ferguson. W.W. Brazel Jr. and Jack Brazel got an eighth grade education in the Carrizozo school. They attended church and Sunday School and were well versed in those beliefs as they grew up. Children were not raised up bad in this locality during that period.

After the first World War and the banking disaster this county and state went back a little bit.

Some of the people who were neighbors in our early homesteading days on Little Creek were, Bob Hopper, who was a farm boss at the VV Ranch, Elijah Peebles, Mrs. and Mrs. Adbridge, Mr. and Mrs. Leabridge, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Gilmore, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Mr. and Mrs. John Phillips, the McEuen children, C.H. Jeffcoach and family, Uncle Ben Robinson and family, Mrs. and Mrs. McCain, Mother Pfingsten, Johnny Skinner, Mr. Austin, Mrs. Cree and the Rickersons, Herberts, the Storms and Mr. and Mrs. Pete Burleson. He was range foreman of the VV ranch.

I didn't experience any of the Lincoln County War. That war was already over then my father came to Lincoln County. My parents wouldn't let us children listen to anything about the Lincoln County War because they thought that wasn't the right thing for children to hear.

Homesteaders on Eagle Creek said they had hardships at that time but I didn't see that it was hardships.

(Continued on next column)

FAST ACTION

Lincon County News

CLASSIFIED ADS

Call 575-648-2333

WANTED...

A Grocery Store in Carrizozo

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.

WANTED -- Caregiver for elderly woman in Carrizozo. Must have valid driver's licence, and must be over 21 years of age. Part-time and fill-in.
Call 307-259-5860
or
575-849-2500

2tp/1/21-28

★

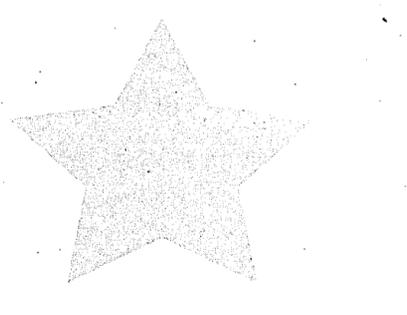
FOR SALE -- Alfalfa, small and large square bales, round bales. Various qualities.

The Hay Ranch in Roswell.
575-973-2200
4tc/8/13-9/3

ALL AMERICAN STORAGE

Now renting units in Carrizozo

575-937-1061
575-973-0237



CLASSIFIED AD FORM

YOUR NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

I WOULD LIKE MY AD TO RUN
(Check appropriate box for number of weeks.)

1 2 3 4 5 6

Here's What I Would Like to Say

\$6.00 per week for 20 words or less*

* Add 10 cents per word for each word over 20

Cost of Ad _____

Tax (.0625) _____

Total _____

Mail Or Bring To:
LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS
 P.O. Drawer 459
 309 Central Avenue
 Carrizozo, NM 88301
 Phone or FAX 575-648-2333

Since I have been in New Mexico, I call the winters here very agreeable. Of course we have winters and snowstorms and cold snaps but they are soon over. I think it is a very pleasant climate even in the mountains. They had pioneer hardships. They didn't have the modern conveniences the people have now. They had to draw water out of the well or go down to the creek to get it from a springhouse and carry it up in buckets. They had to cut their wood and build their fires and take the ashes out, but I don't call that hardships.

Nogal was a beautiful mining town in those days. I don't know what supported it other than the Helen Ray, American, and the Parsons mines and stock people going there to trade.

My daddy was a stationary engineer and a farmer. He kept employed all the time, but I didn't get in on the knowledge of the mining and the dryland farming. We didn't know how to do that, but we soon learned.

Dr. Paden was practicing at White Oaks, and Dr. Skipworth and Dr. Laws at Lincoln. There was a doctor at Fort Stanton but he was a government doctor. There was a preacher, Johnny Skinner (he was a Methodist), and a preacher named Scoggins. At times they would be asked to come and hold services. We citizens organized singing classes around in the neighborhood. There was a man up there by the name of Epps who used to make up little Sunday School talks and that's the way we had our services.

If some person died and you couldn't get there other ministers, just whoever was capable of reading the Bible and carrying on those services was all we had. Of course that sounded terrible to us but we had to put up with it like all the rest.

Winter was keeping a tight grip on Lincoln County this week and Thursday there was no immediate prospect of a change. Snow began falling in Carrizozo again Thursday morning accompanied by a stiff cold wind.

Sheriff's office received a call Thursday morning from Tom Foster at the Block Ranch stating the school bus from Pine Ridge was stalled. He asked that a grader be sent to clear the road. Deputy Sheriff Albert Vega left to contact the Maintenance crew.