

Capitan Sewer Rates to Rise \$4 A Month Starting In March

by Doris Cherry

Learning that the village is on the verge of being out of compliance with its wastewater facility unless improvements are made, Capitan Village Trustees unanimously approved an ordinance that on March 1 increases sewer fees \$4 a month to pay for those upgrades.

"Of all times to have to ask for a rate increase, but it is necessary," mayor Sammy Hammons said during the public hearing and meeting Tuesday, Feb. 15.

The rate increase is needed

to finance a \$203,000 loan from the Rural Infrastructure Program (RIP) of the New Mexico Environment Department that will pay for construction of another holding lagoon.

The village received half of the cost of the project from a capital outlay grant, Hammons said - the request was for \$400,000 - necessitating the need for the RIP loan.

Village clerk Kay Strickland advised trustees of the need for the rate increase early in February after receiving notice from RIP that the loan was favorable, if the village would raise rates to pay for the loan

payments.

"This loan is the type where you use what monies you need and the loan is based on what you use," Strickland said. "If we borrow the full amount, the payment would be approximately \$13,779.23 per year at three percent interest for 20 years. There is no penalty for early payment of the loan."

During the public hearing, members of the public asked about the improvements.

Hammons said a new lagoon to rectify a mistake of six years ago - a system that heated the sewer

water. The wastewater facility does not operate if the waste water falls below a certain temperature and the intent was to warm the water before sending it through the lagoon trenches. However, the heater never worked and current energy prices would make it expensive to operate, Hammons added.

The new lagoon will allow the village to store wastewater until temperatures rise and the wastewater can be sent through the trenches.

A resident asked whether the wastewater facility at this time has a

(Continued on Page 8)

'Since 1905'

Lincoln County News

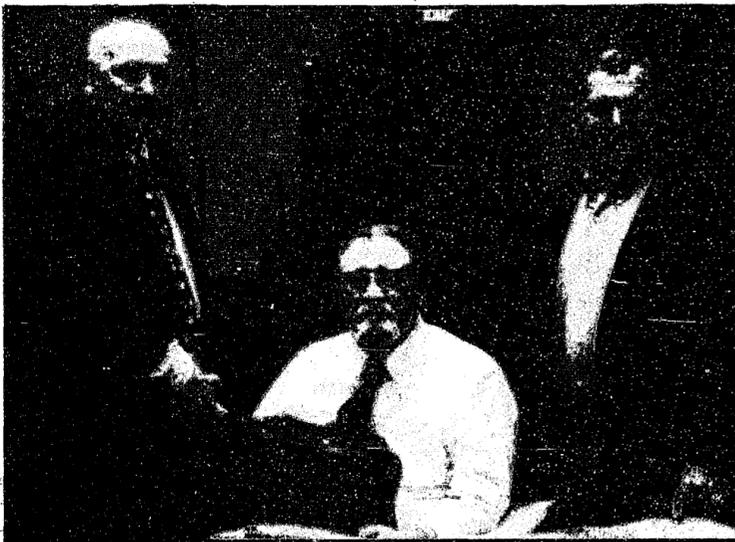
50c

Published Weekly from Beautiful Downtown Carrizozo, New Mexico

VOLUME #107 -- NUMBER 7

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011

CARRIZOZO, NM 88301



DuBois Receives King Memorial Award

Frank DuBois, Las Cruces, received the Bruce and Alice King Memorial Service Award, presented by the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association (NMCGA) during the recent Joint Stockmen's Convention held in Albuquerque.

"Frank has gone above and beyond on behalf of our state's agriculture industry over the years, and this honor is well-deserved," said Bert Ancell, NMCGA President, Las Vegas. "We appreciate his friendship, his dedication, and his years of service."

DuBois is the second recipient of the Bruce and Alice King Memorial Service Award, established by the NMCGA in 2009 recognize those both within and outside of the agricultural industry who exhibit the qualities, like leadership, generosity and community service, that the Kings were known for. "For decades, the Kings had a tremendous impact on our state.

We honor their memory with this annual award," Ancell said.

DuBois started his career in agriculture as an egg inspector, then went to Washington, D.C., as a staffer for Senator Pete Domenici before serving as New Mexico's Secretary of Agriculture and leading the New

Mexico Department of Agriculture to a position of prominence, Ancell said.

DuBois is currently very involved with People for Protecting Our Western Heritage, a group formed in opposition to ongoing efforts to designate a large wilderness area in Dona Ana County that would not only harm the range livestock industry in New Mexico but would compromise national security due to its proximity to the international border with Mexico.

In his "retirement" DuBois also publishes a daily blog summarizing the news and issues important to the range livestock industry, Ancell continued.

"His efforts influence the public, the media and mostly importantly congressional staffers in the most positive way for all of us every day."

The NMCGA has represented the beef industry in New Mexico and the West since 1914 and has members in all 33 of the state's counties as well as some 14 other states. The Association participates in venues necessary to protect beef producers and private property rights including litigation, state and federal legislation and regulatory affairs.

Capitan Says, Keep Film Industry Credits for Now

by Doris Cherry

Capitan Trustees at their meeting Feb. 15, approved a resolution urging the New Mexico Legislature to maintain the existing film tax credit incentive until a thorough economic impact study can be done.

"Corona has already approved the resolution," said trustee Ricky LaMay. "And Carrizozo and Ruidoso are also considering the resolution."

Capitan resident

Virginia Jones asked if the senate bill would cost the village any money.

There is a proposal in the legislature to require municipalities that invite the film production in their communities to pay for part of the film credit.

Mayor Sam Hammons said the resolution would not cost the village anything.

The resolution also supports Senate Bill 44 and opposes House Bill 19 sponsored by Capitan's state

representative Dennis Kintigh of Roswell. HB 19 proposes to abolish the credit entirely.

Governor Susanna Martinez has asked for a decrease of the current 25 percent credit to the original 15 percent.

According to the fiscal impact report for SB 44, sponsored by Senator Timothy Keller of Albuquerque, the bill formalizes reporting and tracking requirements, allowing for greater transparency and the collection of accurate data that can be used in assessing the effectiveness of the Film Production Tax Credit. The bill also has a provision requiring a physical "brick-and-mortar" presence of film production companies, and supports legitimate New Mexico vendors.

Industry experts have indicated that decreasing or eliminating the credit would virtually destroy the entire fledgling industry in the state. While this would save the General Fund approximately \$65 million in credit costs, it would simultaneously eliminate the taxes and other economic impact of more than \$350 million in expenditures on film production.

SB 44 has been passed from the Senate Corporation and Transportation Committee and is currently with the Senate

(Con't. on P. 6)



Pat Garrett presents Capitan Library annual report

Carrizozo Enhancement Project for Central Avenue on (DOT) List

by Ruth Hammond

It will be at least a couple of years but Carrizozo is on a list with the New Mexico Department of Transportation (DOT) to enhance Main Street, which in Carrizozo is Central Ave.

The Carrizozo Town Council approved a resolution during the February 14 town council meeting for the enhancement project.

Mayor Mike Petty explained that it is to help bring Central Ave. into compliance with ADA. Town clerk Leann Wehbrecht said there will be new sidewalks, street lighting and possibly benches and planters.

The enhancement project is on the town's 2013 ICIP list no. 4.

Wehbrecht said the project could not be started until at least 2012 and probably not until 2013.

According to the resolution, if the town does not have the necessary matching funds at the time of acceptance, the town may opt out of the funding.

DOT may take the lead during the feasibility portion.

In other business the town council heard the following reports:

--The January police report listed 12 calls, four cases with one being an accident, one information and two felony, one animal picked up and one animal released.

--Activity at the Carrizozo Airport - 57 gallons of fuel was sold for

a cost of \$299.25 and the inventory on January 31 was 783 total gallons, with 390 gallons in the truck and 393 gallons in the tank.

--Judicial activity for the municipal court for January listed one trial held and one citation received/docketed. Total money collected for December - \$614.00 with \$440.00 from fines and \$174.00 in court costs. Disbursements to the town - \$440.00 to the general fund, \$120.00 to correction fee, \$36.00 to court automation fee, \$18.00 to judicial education fee, for the total \$614.00

--Town maintenance report was that street cracks on E Ave. were being filled, there were a few sewer backups and numerous water leaks.

Boebinger Named To Dean's List

Valerie Y. Boebinger, a resident of San Patricio, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester at Alfred University. She is a junior in the School of Art and Design.

Boebinger is an Art and Design major at Alfred University, which is ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the top regional universities in the North.

A graduate of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Boebinger is the daughter of Stephen and Haesoon Boebinger of San Patricio, NM.



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 pre-school story hour 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS
--Preschool Story time 10:30am at the Village of Ruidoso Public Library.
--Carrizozo First Baptist Church takes orders for Angel Food Ministries 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY
--Village of Corona Public Library 3 to 4 p.m. pre-school story hour, stories, activities, crafts, snacks. Call Betty Ann at 849-3277 for info.

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
--Representative from State Engineer's office is at Ruidoso Village Hall from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
--Roadrunner Food Bank in Carrizozo at Assembly of God Church for general public 1-3 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
--Food pantry for those age 55 and older at Assembly of God Church in Carrizozo 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
--American Legion Post #11, Wells Fargo Bank in Carrizozo 9:00 a.m.

FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
--Food pantry for age 54 and

younger at Assembly of God Church in Carrizozo 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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

TODAY, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17
--Lincoln Historic Preservation Board 7:00 p.m. at Community Church in Lincoln.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18
--Tire recycling at Schoolhouse Park in Ruidoso 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Passenger vehicle, SUV and light truck tires will be accepted at no charge.

--A symposium on feral hogs will be held at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds in Capitan from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call the Lincoln County Extension Office at 575 648 2311 for information.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19
--Tire recycling at Schoolhouse Park in Ruidoso. 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Passenger vehicle, SUV and light truck tires will be accepted at no charge.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21
--President's Day, federal holiday.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
--Lincoln County Lodger's Tax committee meeting cancelled.

--The New Mexico Crop Production Clinic 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Moriarty Civic Center in Moriarty. For more information or to register, contact Gene Winn, Torrance County Extension agent at 505-246-4743 or 505-705-0857. If planning to attend, please register by Monday, Feb. 21.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District Board 9:00 a.m.

Obituary Johnie Loyce Johnson, Sr.

On January 23, 2011, Johnie Loyce Johnson, born on May 1, 1942, in Gran Quivera, NM, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Johnie was a resident of Carrizozo, NM for the past 23 years, pastoring the Carrizozo Assembly of God for 18 1/2 years and preaching at the White Oaks Community Church for the past few years. He was also employed at the Lincoln County Sheriff's Dispatch Office for 15 1/2 years.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Judith R. Johnson, two sons, Johnie L. Johnson, Jr., and Christopher P. Johnson, one daughter, Samantha Johnson Parsons, six grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, four brothers, Wally R. Johnson, Jimmy D. Johnson, Benny M. Johnson, and Joel R. Johnson, and two sisters, Peggy Johnson Deen and Shriley Johnson Chavez.

Johnie was preceded in death by his parents, Johnie L. Johnson and Mildred Freeman Johnson.

A celebration of his life and ministry was held on Saturday, February 12, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. at the Angus Church of the Nazarene at the Bonita Campground at the

intersection of Hwy. 37 and 48 at Angus, NM Rev. Wally Johnson officiated at the service.

A private interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower St., Phoenix, AZ, 85014.5656.



Johnie Loyce Johnson



La Grone
Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso

Cremations or Traditional Service

We are here to serve all of Lincoln County. You can find us at our local, full-service funeral home, or we will come to your home by appointment.

341 Sudderth Drive • Ruidoso • 575-257-7303
www.lagroneuidoso.com

Grizzly Calendar

Thursday, February 17
--JV/V Boys/Girls Basketball vs. Quemado Here at 4:00 PM

Friday, February 18
Ski Day-Last ski day for students

Monday, February 21
NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day Holiday

Stay Warm!

PAUL'S

New Mexican Take-Out

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

1-Dozen TAMALES \$15.00
"Great New Mexican Food"



Obituary

KATIE KLEIN
Rosary for Katie Klein, 82, of Ruidoso was February 14 in St. Eleanor's Catholic Church in Ruidoso where the funeral mass was February 15. Burial followed at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Ruidoso.

Mrs. Klein died February 11. She was born July 10, 1928 at San Patricio to Andy and Virginia Randolph, who both precede her in death. She had lived in Lincoln County all of her life. She was President of the American Legion Auxiliary and had been a member for over 50 years. She was a member of the D.A.V. Auxiliary and the V.F.W. Auxiliary.

She attended St. Eleanor's Catholic Church in Ruidoso. She married Romeo F. Klein on

December 29, 1945 in Carrizozo.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Romeo Klein; one son, Romeo Klein Jr.; five daughters, Carol Rue and her husband Barney, Virginia Armstrong and her husband Tom, Juliet Dean and her husband Danny, Anita Ordorica and her husband Miguel and Patsy Klein and her husband Jason Kinnick; three sisters, Nora Corona, Rayna Martinez, and Mildred Gonzalez; 22 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons, Donnie Klein, who died in the Vietnam War and Andy Michael Klein, three sisters and two brothers.

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

Kelly's Restaurant

'Serving Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner'

Specials Every Day... \$5.00

All Mexican Dishes now come w/Sopapillas
Open Monday to Friday 8:00am to 7:00pm

Also come check out Kelly's NEW MENU!
Including Fajitas, Chicken Fried Steak and Much More!

Dine-In or Carry Out / 648-3277
Try our Take & Bake Pizza!



High Country Agency, Inc.

1216 E. AVENUE SUITE 1
CARRIZOZO, NEW MEXICO 88301

Now Open
For All Your Insurance Needs

CARRIZOZO GRIZZLY BASKETBALL 2010 - '11

Date	Time	Opponent	Site	Team
Feb. 17	4:00pm	*Quemado	Here	JV/V B/G
Feb. 26	2:00pm	*Reserve	Here	JV/V B/G
Feb. 22-27	TBA	District Tournament	TBA	V B/G
Mar. 1-6	TBA	First Rd. State	TBA	V B/G
Mar. 9-13	TBA	State Tournament	TBA	V B/G

*District Games

This Schedule sponsored by ...

WELL FARGO

Carrizozo Branch
Ph. 575-648-2377

Looking Back

'Through Our Old Files'

As the LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS goes into its 108th year of being in existence, we will be randomly publishing articles from old NEWS files. The following article appeared in the LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS on...

Friday, September 14, 1956

Ramblin' Around Lincoln County

Interviews with people who helped build Lincoln County

ELBERT BROWN

My name is Elbert Brown. I was born at Nogal July 2, 1890. We moved to the Bonita when I was five years old. I just barely remember moving in the wagon over there. We lived in a rented place on the Bonita, known as the old Long place. I grew up in that vicinity and below Angus until I was about 17 when I started getting odd jobs around different parts of the county.

I might tell you why and how the Bonita watershed was acquired. The El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Company obtained water for its locomotives at Carrizozo, but the water in the wells there was so hard that it scaled the engine boilers so bad they couldn't operate efficiently.

I think it was 1907 or 1908 that the railroad officials contacted a Dr. Cobb who was commanding officer at Fort Stanton which was at that time a Marine hospital. The railroad company got him to buy up the homesteaders' water rights. In order to move the water from one watershed to another they had to obtain the water rights and to do this they found they had to buy the land outright.

Dr. Cobb started out from Fort Stanton one morning with a briefcase full of money and contracts. He drove all the way up Bonita creek that one day and contacted every man who was at home. He pretended that he intended to buy a place of his own for a summer home or a little ranch -- made excuses for each one. They signed contracts and he paid them in cash.

That one day he bought practically two-thirds of the homesteads along the creek before the settlers in the valley knew what he was up to. That is how the railroad got the Bonita water in the first place. I think the places at that time ran in the neighborhood of three to eight thousand dollars each, with the exception of a few that had better places.

At that time between Fort Stanton and the head of the Bonita there were better than 25 families and they all made a living on their little places. They ran a few cattle, farmed a little, had their gardens, and raised their own meat. Some homesteads were of 40 acres, some 80 acres and some 160. After selling, some of the people rented the places and lived on them some time afterwards but they weren't allowed to use the water. They had to farm it dry land.

While I am at it, I will tell about a little incident that happened when we lived at the Long place when I was about 16 years old. There was a young man who came from Texas up into this country. His name was Gideon Thorp and he was working for my father at the time. His sister lived at Angus about three miles below us. One Saturday evening he wanted to go home to his sister's. We let him take an old one-eyed horse that we called Auger Eye. He left the house and I went upstairs to go to bed. In ten or fifteen minutes I heard the horse come running back at a gallop. I went to the window and looked out. The boy had run up to the yard fence. I asked him what was the matter. He said a lion was chasing him. Well, I didn't hardly believe it, but I went out to look around. It was in the spring of the year and there was dust on the road. The moon was shining and I could see this animal's tracks where it was following him in the road.

He said he saw something in the road that looked like a chunk of wood that had fallen off a wagon. The old horse began to stomp and snort and when he got to within about 20 feet of the object, the horse wheeled around and started back up the road. The boy said he looked around and that chunk of wood was chasing him.

After he came up and got me we went down to Perry's about a mile and a half below where we lived. They had two good hunting dogs and we got a couple of the boys but one of the dogs wasn't home. We took the other dog and he got on the trail of the lion, but he was afraid and would get only a certain distance ahead of us. If we'd had the other dog I'm sure we would have caught that lion.

About three years later Gid married Millie Copeland. One Sunday they were up on the Bonita at what is known as Handy Canyon. He had bought a new 30.30 rifle and they were sitting in the shade of a tree at the bottom of

(Continued on Page 6)

Ruidoso Downs Hosts Lincoln County Regulators Shooting Match

"Western Romance" was the theme for the Cowboy Action Shooting match of the Lincoln County Regulators for February. Cowgirls, cowboys, and buckaroos armed with six guns, lever guns, and scatter guns gathered at the Cowboy Action Shooting Range and Old West Town of Justice at the Ruidoso Gun Club range on Hale Lake Road in Ruidoso Downs on Saturday morning, February 12, the weekend to celebrate Valentine's Day.

A posse full of competitors, waddies, family members and spectators dressed western, brought a sweet heart and had lots of Old West fun.

Judge William Cutandshoot came all the way from El Paso, Texas! Cowboy Action Shooting is the fastest growing family shooting sport in the world!

"Western Romance" began with Call to Colors on the cavalry bugle by Kiowa Mike of Alto and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ruidoso's Sgt. Shuster, followed by a mandatory safety briefing by Dead Last of Ruidoso. Alto's Rowdy Lane was both Match Director and Scorekeeper. Special Valentine's Day prizes were awarded.

After a few adjustments for snow on the range, competitors shot four stages based on The Big Trail, Stagecoach, She Wore a Yellow Ribbon and Rio Grande, all western romances starring John Wayne. Stages were designed by Rowdy Lane with scenarios based on the movies and written by Sgt. Shuster.

Waddies included Bronco Bustin' Brandon who helped with set-up, Spotted Elk and Running Deer who picked brass, and Ol' Reliable Butch who was reliable in spotting shooters.

On the first stage, Breck Coleman (Wayne), a young adventurer seeking to avenge the death of an old friend, joins a wagon of settlers heading west on "The Big Trail." He finds love with young Ruth Cameron, whom he'd kissed accidentally, mistaking her for somebody else. They meet up with trouble and Coleman declares his love. Shooters began with the statement, "I love you, Ruthie!" Coming in first was Rowdy Lane with second place taken by Rusty Fillins of Ruidoso and third place secured by Capitan Regulator, a shooting championship winning sixth-grader from Capitan.

Stage two started in the town of Tonto, Arizona Territory in 1880, when a motley group of strangers boards the east-bound "Stagecoach" to Lordsburg, New Mexico Territory. The Ringo Kid (Wayne) is picked up along the way. Not knowing her history, he falls in love with Dallas, a Soiled Dove being driven out of town.

The stage is chased by marauders but Ringo gets to propose. Competitors

began with the line, "Dallas, marry me." Rowdy Lane took first place on stage two, followed by Dead Last in second and Gunsmoke Cowboy of Capitan coming in less than three-tenths of a second later for third place.

Shooting stopped for the dinner bell and all enjoyed home made enchiladas and posole, thanks to Scarlett Lane and Stacie T

The average donation for vittles was five Yankee dollars!

Captain Nathan Brittles (Wayne), on the eve of retirement, takes out a last patrol to stop an impending, massive attack on stage three, "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon." Encumbered by women who must be evacuated, Brittles finds his mission imperiled following the defeat of George Armstrong Custer. His task is complicated by being forced at the same time to deliver his commanding officer's wife and niece to an east-bound stage, and by the need to avoid a new war. His troop officers meanwhile vie for the affections of the niece. Cowboys and cowgirls joined the Captain by telling his lieutenants, "Leave that girl alone!" Stage three was won by Gunsmoke Cowboy with Rowdy Lane less than two seconds behind for second place. Capitan Regulator came in third.

In the fourth and final stage, Lt. Col. Kirby Yorke (Wayne) is posted on the Texas frontier by the "Rio Grande" to defend settlers and is under considerable stress between warriors using Mexico as a sanctuary from pursuit and by a serious shortage of troops of his

command. His son, flunked out of West Point, arrives followed by his estranged wife, Yorke not only extinguishes the battlefield threat, he rekindles the romance the couple once felt for each other. Contenders started with, "You know you still love me, Kathleen." That stage was won by Gunsmoke Cowboy, trailed by Rowdy Lane and Dead Last.

Top Gun for the day was Rowdy Lane,

followed by Gunsmoke Cowboy and Capitan Regulator. Age based categories were topped by Buckaroo Capitan Regulator, Cowboy Gunsmoke Cowboy, Wrangler Rusty Fillins, Silver Senior Rowdy Lane and Elder Statesman Doc Lecter of Ruidoso. Dead Last filled the Old West Town of Justice with black powder smoke and was tops in the Frontier Cartridge category.

(Continued on Page 6)

Old Lincoln News

by Rosalie Dunlap

A beautiful day for Valentines Day. You were surrounded by all kinds of flowers, teddy bears, candy and gifts in the stores as one went shopping.

As you drive around town you see so many shrubs, plants and trees that were either killed or winter damaged. It will be a few months before everyone knows how many plants, shrubs and trees were killed or damaged. Our beautiful tree in the front yard was damaged but it seems to be okay. The cacti have been killed and are just big black globs. So many have had frozen pipes and damage from the rolling blackouts.

Some Valentine mylar balloons got stuck on the electric lines in El Paso and caused an outage Monday.

John Chappell has returned home after having a bad bout with pneumonia.

When Ralph was in the hospital last week they gave him anti-biotics through his IV to prevent him from getting the pneumonia.

Life is getting back to normal in our household with no diagnosis of Ralph's problem.

We won't be in Lincoln this weekend as he is not quite up to it. I will miss the Memory Creatives retreat at Ft. Lone Tree because we both also have doctor's appointments.

I envy Mandy Arrowsmith. She is in New Zealand visiting her uncle, aunt and cousins.

Friends took me back and forth from the hospital the three days during Ralph's stay. What would we do without friends??

THIS TIME I WANT SOMETHING RELIABLE

Carrying case and extra chainsaw

\$299⁹⁵

with purchase of any chainsaw

MS 180 CHAIN SAW with 14" bar

\$199⁹⁵ One of our most popular chain saws for home use, this fully featured unit comes with extra power and fast cutting performance.

MS 250 CHAIN SAW with 18" bar

\$299⁹⁵ The MS 250 is light enough for smaller tasks but powerful enough to cut through small limbs and trees.

MS 290 CHAIN SAW with 20" bar

\$389⁹⁵ Our number one selling chain saw; enough said. Designed for rugged homeowner or landscape and farm use, the legendary STIHL FARM BOSS® is a true work saw.

SAVE \$40

rocky mountain SUPPLY CO.

2515 N. White Sands Blvd. Alamogordo, NM 88310
437-8276 • 1-800-675-8276
Mon - Fri: 8-5:30, Sat: 8-4
rockymountaininsupply.com

2-HOUR CHAIN SHARPENING

STIHLusa.com

EDITORIALS and OTHER STUFF

THOUGHTS

From the Editor's Desk

Observe President's Day Monday

by Ruth Hammond

Maybe you remember back when schools observed Abraham Lincoln's birthday on Feb 12 and there would be silhouettes of Lincoln cut out of black construction paper adorning the walls. School was not dismissed, it was a regular school day but students were taught to respect Lincoln.

And 10 days later on Feb. 22 a similar procedure followed at schools because it was George Washington's birthday. Students learned much by remaining in the classroom, unlike today when school is dismissed frequently and for little or no apparent reason. Is it any wonder that students of today are not learning like they should?

Not attending school regularly is more standard now than it was decades ago. Excuses such as "home schooling" or "field trips" are given when anyone asks why a student is out of school. Field trips may be educational, but several times a month? And what happened to weekend jaunts instead of removing students from classrooms?

Under the state mandate of the number of days school must be in session, some schools are varying that by claiming that a field trip to White Sands is considered a day in school. After all, the teacher and students are there. No matter that the gist of the trip is for students to play instead of being taught anything. They could play on the playground, but school officials deem it a day of whatever it is and the losers are the students.

Right now there are probably many days being set aside to play, whether it be up in the mountains or watching birds or digging in the sand and each of those days will be listed on state rosters as classroom days. Never mind that the only thing students learn is how to apply sun tan lotion or sleep on a long bus ride or dart behind a tree and play hide and seek. It is a field trip, though there is no logical reason for students being out of the classroom on this particular day of the month.

Evidently not everyone agrees because the number of field trip days increases regularly. And it may be unfair for older people to remember back when they were expected to attend school and to learn when in the classroom. When it is announced that an untrained person is teaching a student to read instead of that student learning in the classroom, something is whacky. Teach them at school, let them learn respect for presidents.

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 e-mail 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 submission should be sent to news@hularosa.net. Letters can be delivered to our office in Carrizozo or mailed to:

LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS

309 Central Avenue
P.O. Drawer 459
Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301
575.648.2333

LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS USPS 313460

THE LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS is published on Thursday at 309 Central Ave., Carrizozo, New Mexico 88301
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Lincoln County News, P.O. Drawer 459, Carrizozo, NM 88301

Subscription Rates:
IN COUNTY -- 1 Year \$30; 2 Years \$55
IN STATE -- 1 Year \$33; 2 Years \$61
OUTSIDE -- 1 Year \$37; 2 Years \$69



* Inside the Capitol

by Jay Miller, Syndicated Columnist

SANTA FE - Not many landlocked states get to see a Navy exhibit but New Mexico is one of them as the state's history museum in Santa Fe honors the World War I and II battleship USS New Mexico as well as its newly commissioned namesake, a nuclear submarine that is the most powerful warship ever built.

New Mexico can be very proud of its two warships. The battleship New Mexico was ready just in time for our entry into World War I. It is a tradition to name battleships after states and New Mexico and Arizona had both just become states as our nation saw itself slowly being dragged into World War I.

The first USS New Mexico was the first of its class of battleship to be built so subsequent battleships were called New Mexico-class. After World War I, the USSNM became the flagship for the Pacific Fleet during the 1920s. The designation turned out to be appropriate since New Mexicans distinguished themselves in the Pacific as defenders of Bataan and as Navajo code talkers throughout the Pacific.

The USS New Mexico made a quick appearance in the Atlantic in 1941 when German ships threatened shipping from our Eastern seaboard and that is how the New Mexico missed being at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

The USS New Mexico soon was back in the Pacific, fighting in the Gilberts, the Marshalls, the Solomons and the Marianas. It finished the war as one of our nation's most battered battleships, having taken hits from kamikazes, bombs and suicide boats. But after repairs, it kept on fighting.

It was on its way for the invasion of Japan when the war ended. In recognition of its valor, the USS New Mexico was among the ships invited to Tokyo Bay to witness Japan's surrender. A touching picture of our battleship, with Mount Fujiyama in the background is on display at

the New Mexico History Museum through May 9.

Also on display will be a 56-piece silver service commissioned from Tiffany by New Mexico's 3rd Legislature for \$10,000. The set includes a cigar humidifier in the shape of Taos Pueblo, along with 24 silver plates engraved with scenes ranging from Coronado to the territorial period.

Also on display are many relics of our battleship, along with a television documentary telling the old ship's dramatic story.

It is tradition in the Navy to name warships after previous ships that have served with honor and that the new ships carry items from their ancestral ship. Thus some of the silver collection and other items will be donated to the New Mexico nuclear submarine.

The new USS New Mexico will join the U.S. Navy's operational fleet in January 2012. Its homeport will be Gorton, Conn. It is likely to be stationed somewhere near the Middle East.

It isn't easy to get a second major ship named after a state. It took years of work by New Mexico's congressional delegation along with outstanding efforts by New Mexicans headed by Dick Brown of Albuquerque.

The captain of the USS New Mexico will be George Perez. During construction of the nuclear sub, New Mexico native Commander Robert Darin was in charge of the ship. Dain was born in Shiprock, where his father was a doctor. Later Dain lived in Tijeras and Cedar Crest. He graduated from Albuquerque St. Pius High School in 1982.

It isn't common for many of the crew to be from the state for which a ship is named. Dain was a happy exception. The crest of the ship also was designed by a New Mexico high school student.

New Mexico can be proud of the work done by New Mexicans to get our name on this new ship. Don't miss your chance to learn more about it at

the New Mexico Museum of History, 113 Lincoln Ave., in Santa Fe.

**GET
MORE
FOR
YOUR
\$\$\$**

**Call
575.648.2333**

State Bar Essay Contest Offers Cash Prizes

The State Bar of New Mexico is accepting entries from high school juniors and seniors from around the state for its annual essay contest.

This year's assignment is entitled Symbolism and Freedom of Religion, which deals with personal freedoms in the school environment. Thoughtful essays expressing personal points of view will be accepted until March 11.

Essays must contain 1000-1500 words and will be judged by a panel of judges, lawyers, State Bar staff and educators.

The law firm of Modrall, Sperling, Roehl, Harris & Sisk PA sponsors cash awards of \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second place and \$500 for third place. In addition, the first place winner's

(Continued on Page 6)

When You Have the Means

I want to make use of this space this week to apologize for the typos and errors on Johnnie Johnson's obituary last week.

First off I extend my sincere condolences to the family of Johnnie Johnson and secondly would like to apologize for the errors on said obituary to his family and/or friends. An omission was made in the proof-reading of the article and I accept all and any responsibility for the omission. Hopefully Johnnie will understand also.

The obituary will be re-run in this issue and hopefully will be what it was supposed to be last week. My bad!

Attended a Carrizozo school board meeting last night and will have an article on the meeting in next week's issue of the NEWS.

Again, this week we are running behind schedule due to tech difficulties, but are almost to the point where we can get back on our regular schedule next week.

Hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful Lincoln County weather the last few days. Stay warm.

peter aguilar

Weather Report

by Jeff Hammond

Expect to see warmer daytime temperatures for the upcoming forecast week. Temperatures will be from the low 50s to mid 60s at all elevations. Nighttime temperatures will be from the high 20s to the high 30s.

There will be continued winds out of the south with winds gusts that could be as high as 30-35 miles an hour.

Warmer weather conditions will continue for at least another week.

Snow conditions at Ski Apache, the current conditions for skiing are; 50 of 55 trails are open with 8 of 11 lifts operating. 33 inches of machine groomed snow at lower elevations and 30 inches of variable machine groomed at the middle and upper elevations. The most recent snowfall was on February 8.

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

Today, Thursday, February 17

Mostly sunny, with a high near 64, windy, with a southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph, winds could gust as high as 40 mph, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31, south wind

(Con't. on P. 5)

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
CV-2010-391
Div. III

THE RANCHES OF SONTERRA
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.,
a domestic nonprofit corporation,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHN FRANK AVELAR,

Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that under and by virtue of the Default Judgment, Decree of Foreclosure and Appointment of Special Master entered by the District Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico, on January 26, 2011 in civil cause number CV-2010-391, the object of which was to foreclose the Plaintiff's Notice of Assessment Lien, the under-signed will offer for public sale to the highest bidder for cash at the north entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 300 Central Ave., Carrizozo, New Mexico on the 10th day of March, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., all rights of the Defendant John Frank Avelar to the following described real property located in Lincoln County, New Mexico;

Tract 210, THE RANCHES OF SONTERRA, UNIT 2, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-Officio Recorder of Lincoln County, New Mexico, October 5, 1995, in Cabinet F, Slide No. 295.

(hereinafter referred to as "the Property").

Notice is further given that the court directed foreclosure of the claims of lien on the Property and that the amounts to be realized at said sale from the Property, with interest calculated to date of sale, are as follows:

Amount of Plaintiff's Judgment Including Interest Through date of sale . . . \$1,354.54
Special Master's Fee \$ 214.38
Attorney's Fees and Costs \$1,450.66
Total \$3,019.58

In addition thereto there will be costs of publication of this Notice.

The terms of this sale are that the purchaser must pay cash at the time the Property is struck off to him, except that the Plaintiff may bid all or any part of their judgment, plus interest without paying cash.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the real property concerned with herein will be sold subject to any and all patent reservations, easements, all recorded and unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein, and all recorded or unrecorded special assessments and taxes that may be due. Plaintiff and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for, and the purchaser at the sale takes the property subject to, the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as real or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any, environmental contamination on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the purchaser at such sale shall take title to the above described property subject to right of redemption, as set forth in the Judgment herein.

At the date and time stated above, the Special Master may postpone the sale to such later date and time as the Special Master may specify.

Peter A. Baca
Special Master

Gibson & Leonard, P.C.
505 Mechem Dr.
Ruidoso, NM 88345
575.257.1010

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 11, February 17, February 24; and March 3, 2011.

LEGAL NOTICE

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
No. CV-10-379
Div. III

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF RUIDOSO,
a federal banking corporation,

Plaintiff,

JOSEPH R. TRAHAN, a/k/s JOSEPH RANDOLPH TRAHAN, and JACKIE L. TRAHAN, a/k/a JACKIE TRAHAN,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN that on March 16, 2011, at 10:00 A.M., at the front entrance to the Village of Ruidoso Municipal Building located at 313 Cree Meadows Drive in Ruidoso, New Mexico, the under-signed Special Master will offer and sell at public sale the following described real property to the highest bidder for cash:

A tract of land in the SE/4 NW/4 NE/4 of Section 14, Township 11 South, Range 14 East, N.M.P.M., Lincoln County, New Mexico, being more particularly described as follows:

A tract of land lying in the SE corner of the Earl T. Pior and Martha L. Pior Tract; said tract being a part of the land acquired from Earl Allison and Laine Allison and recorded the 21st day of May, 1956, at 9:25 a.m., Book 38, page 416 of the Records of Deeds in the County of Lincoln; said tract more particularly shown on Sheet #40 of the Hondo Hydrographic Survey of 1908 as being a part of "very old cultivation" 0.86 acres; further this deed conveys 0.16 acres of irrigated rights out of this 0.86 acres shown and the balance of 0.46 acres are nonirrigable; the tract being conveyed is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the old fence corner marking the SE corner of the Earl T. Pior and Martha L. Pior Tract from which point the N 1/4 corner of said Section 14 bears North 44 degrees 29 minutes 48 seconds West a

LEGALS

distance of 1794.23 feet; thence North 89 degrees 40 minutes 53 seconds West a distance of 110.0 feet; thence North 04 degrees 36 minutes 00 seconds West a distance of 160.48 feet; thence North 55 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 148.82 feet; thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds East a distance of 246.00 feet to the said place of beginning, as shown by survey recorded March 21, 1995, in Cabinet F, Slide 172.

The street address of the real property is 114 Seeping Springs Drive, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico.

The Special Master's sale will be conducted pursuant to the Amended Default Judgment, Decree, Order of Sale and Appointment of Special Master entered by this Court on February 7, 2011, in an action for collection of a Promissory Note and foreclosure of a Mortgage securing the Note.

Plaintiff's Judgment directed foreclosure of the real property and improvements to satisfy the following Judgment liens:

Principal, interest and late charges through 3/16/11	\$92,448.58
Costs of suit	433.38
Special Master's fee	325.31
Attorney fees	1,978.00
	\$95,185.27

In addition to the Judgment liens referred to above, there will be accruing costs, including costs of publication of this notice.

The Special Master may continue the date of sale by appearing on the date and time designated in this notice and announcing the postponement to another specific date.

/s/ Sarah Prothro
Sarah Prothro, Special Master

LEE GRIFFIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

By: /s/ Lee Griffin
Lee Griffin
1044 Mechem Drive
Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345
(505) 258-9404
Attorney for Plaintiff

Published in the Lincoln County News on February 17, 24; March 3 and 10, 2011.

Corona Approves Film Resolution

The Village of Corona Council has approved a resolution urging the New Mexico State Legislature to maintain existing film tax credit incentives, in support of Senate Bill 2011-44.

For more information, please visit the New Mexico State Film Office online at www.nmfilm.com. Or visit the Lincoln County Film Commission website at www.filmcnm.org

State Bar Essay . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

classroom receives \$500. Winners are recognized at the annual Law Day Luncheon in May in Albuquerque.

Last year's winners were first place Jordan Pruitt of Onate High School in Las Cruces; second place Ellen Rabin, Los Alamos High School in Los Alamos; and third place James Billingham, Valley High School in Albuquerque.

Now in its 22nd year, the contest is sponsored by the State Bar to promote higher education and to encourage an appreciation of the law.

High school language arts and social studies teachers throughout the state in both public and private schools have received contest materials. Extensive materials are also provided on the State Bar website at <http://www.nmbar.org/Public/HSEssay.html>.

Contest information and entry form, a tutorial on writing a legal essay, the scoring rubric, standards and benchmarks for teachers, and essays from previous contests are available to assist students and teachers.

The State Bar of New Mexico was organized in 1886 and is composed of more than 8500 members. Its purposes are to aid the courts in administering justice and preserving the rule of law, and to foster a high standard of integrity and competence within the legal profession.

Weather Report . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

15 to 20 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday, February 18
Mostly sunny, with a high near 63, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36.

Saturday, February 19
Partly sunny, with a high near 64, night: A slight chance of showers, mostly cloudy, with a low around 39.

Sunday, February 20
A 20 percent chance of showers, partly sunny and breezy, with a high near 62, night: A slight chance of showers, mostly cloudy, with a low around 32.

President's Day, Monday, February 21
Mostly sunny, with a high near 55, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31.

Tuesday, February 22
Mostly sunny, with a high near 57, night: Partly

cloudy, with a low around 32.
Forecast for Ruidoso, Capitan and Corona and most of the Hondo Valley:

Thursday, February 17
Mostly sunny, with a high near 59, windy, with a west wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph; winds could gust as high as 40 mph, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33, breezy, with a west wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph, winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Friday, February 18
Mostly sunny, with a high near 55, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Saturday, February 19
Partly sunny, with a high near 60, night: A slight chance of showers, mostly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Sunday, February 20
A slight chance of rain

showers, partly sunny and breezy, with a high near 52, night: A slight chance of snow showers, partly cloudy and breezy, with a low around 28.

Monday, February 21
Mostly sunny, with a high near 47, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29.

Tuesday, February 22
Mostly sunny, with a high near 45, night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29.
The above information was taken from the National Weather Service Website. For up to date weather reports, go to www.srh.noaa.gov/abq/ on the internet.

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

State Land Commissioner Imposes Moratorium on Land Exchanges

Ray Powell, New Mexico State Land Commissioner, has imposed a moratorium on Land Exchanges. This moratorium will take effect immediately and is part of an overall review of internal policies and procedures at the State Land Office.

Powell said, "I want to make sure that we have as much transparency and accountability as possible. Also, I want to make sure that the communities and counties that will be affected by these exchanges will have opportunities to comment on the merits of the proposed trades".

Land Exchanges that are currently in the application process or are not completed will be suspended until there is a comprehensive review of the public processes with those local communities that would be affected by the proposed exchange. One exception to the Moratorium is a land exchange with the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management. This exchange will continue. The three pro-

posed Land Exchanges in the Whites Peak area of Mora and Colfax counties will not occur.

Applicants who have Land Exchange applications out to bid or are under negotiation have been notified that the bid process will be suspended until further notice.

Appropriate land exchanges that benefit the public schools, universities, hospitals, and local communities will continue during Powell's tenure after the review is completed.

Note: The Commissioner of Public Lands is an elected state official responsible for administering the state's land grant trust. Thirteen million acres of land were granted to New Mexico in 1898 and 1910. Each tract is held in trust for the public schools, universities, as well as special schools and hospitals that serve children with physical, visual, and auditory disabilities. In fiscal year 2010, the trust lands and permanent funds produced more than \$420 million in income for the beneficiaries.

Ruidoso Downs Hosts

(Continued from Page 3)

The "Western Romance" Cowboy Action Shooting match was followed by a black powder workshop and pistol match lead by Dead Last and a single stage Wild Bunch Action match, a combination of SASS Cowboy Action Shooting and Action Shooting with 1911 Pistols, Lever Action Rifles, and 1897 Pump Shotguns. The morning started with a speed rifle and speed pistol competition.

Cowboy Action Shooting is a multifaceted amateur shooting sport in which contestants compete with firearms typical of those used in the taming of the Old West: single action revolvers; lever action rifles; and side by side double barreled, pre-1899 pump, or lever action shotguns. The shooting competition is staged in a unique, characterized, Old West style.

Contestants shoot in several one-to-four gun stages in which they engage steel targets. Scoring is based on accuracy and speed.

The truly unique aspect of Cowboy Action Shooting is the requirement placed on authentic period or western screen dress. Each participant is required to adopt a shooting alias appropriate to a character or profession of the late 19th century, or a Hollywood western star, and develop a costume accordingly.

The Lincoln County Regulators dress western, shoot western and never use their real names. It's the closest you can get to the Old West short of a time machine!

The March match on Saturday, March 12, will honor the 150th Anniversary of Kansas with four Cowboy Action Shooting stages based on the wild and woolly cowboy era in Kansas.

For information about the Lincoln County Regulators and Cowboy Action Shooting in Lincoln County, call or email Regulator Special Constable John Steele at 937-3023 or JohnSteeleLCR@live.com

Capitan Says . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Finance Committee but at this time has not been scheduled.

Trustees also approved an increase of \$3,200 for the Capitan Senior Center project that would provide for foundation work for future expansion that would ultimately save the village money.

Trustee Jim Davis asked if there were estimates for the future savings, and when told no, he said that materials purchased now will save the village money as costs rise.

The village is seeking capital outlay funds to construct the expansion to the center, and the foundation work now will make it ready for the future

project. Trustee Lilly Wood Bradley abstained from voting. (Bradley is director of the Capitan Senior Center.)

Village finance officer Shirley Pavlovic said there is enough money in the project fund to accommodate the charge without a budget adjustment.

In other business, trustees:

—Authorized the village attorney to begin foreclosure procedures on a property at 688 Mt. Capitan Road, to pay for cleaning and removing a hazardous abandoned mobile home and other debris. The village spent an estimated \$7,000 in the cleanup that was prompted by

complaints from neighbors.

A member of the public was upset the village did not try hard enough to contact the owners of the property, because she was able to find them.

Mayor Hammons said the village tried for three years to get the owners to clean the property, with no response, chief of police Randy Spears said the village exhausted all resources in trying to contact the owners.

Trustee Bradley said she even asked a relative of the owners to help contact them and the village never got a response.

The mayor said it was an inheritance sit-

uation and taxes have not been paid on the property for three years and the foreclosure will make sure the village is reimbursed before the property goes to the state tax sale.

The village has an ordinance prohibiting accumulation of junk and abandoned/hazardous buildings.

"We should be including all of Capitan about this," Trustee LaMay said.

—Approved the evaluations of street department employee, Russell Leslie, and clerical department employee Sherrie Holmes and authorized a 50 cent per hour salary increase for both.

—Accepted the resignation of Troy Herd from the village water department. Mayor Hammons said Herd got a good job in Idalee, Texas.

—Accepted the resignation of Romy Hall from the Smokey Bear Museum.

—Approved advertising for part time clerk for the Smokey Bear Museum at \$7.50 an hour.

—Awarded base course gravel contract to low bidder F & F New Mexico of Ruidoso for \$12.75 a ton up 25 cents a ton from last year. Bonnel Sand & Gravel submitted the other bid at \$15.25 a ton.

—Authorized Pavlovic to renew the \$300,000 water department certificate of deposit and \$500,000 general fund certificate of deposition with Washington Federal Bank for an additional 18 months. The CDs provided \$7,541 into the water department fund, and \$12,569 into the general fund.

—Received the written 2010 annual report from the Capitan Public Library from library board member Pat Garrett, on behalf of former library board president Dr. Jim Miller who has sold his house and is moving.

The report showed that more than 10,000 volunteer hours were provided in the library and thrift shop.

"It is one of the best assets Capitan has," Mayor Hammons commented.

—Heard a word of thanks from resident Rayne Greer for village water crews who shut off her water meter during the very cold weather because she has an immense water leak on her property.

"Our guys were real prompt," said Mayor Hammons. "We've not heard any complaints."

Ramblin' Around

(Continued from Page 3)

ELBERT BROWN

the canyon. He happened to look up on a bluff two or three hundred feet over them and he thought he could see someone's head hanging over the bluff. He called it to his wife's attention and they both took a look at it and he finally decided he would take a shot at it. He hit it in the bottom part of the neck and a lion rolled right down to their feet. It was possibly the same one that had chased him three years before. The lion was known to have followed several people on horseback several times, up and down the creek. Sometimes they saw it and once in a while they would hear its mournful cry. I think it lived on wild game. I don't think it ever took livestock.

I went to school at Angus and Capitan. My last year of school was at Capitan in 1909. That was what little education I had. The year 1910 was very dry and a bunch of us started west to find work. There was myself and two brothers, Rufus and Sephus, my brother-in-law Tom Wilder, Jesse May and Ollie and Calvin Emerson, also a fellow by the name of Sam Burr.

We went from here to Cutler where there was a mine opening up in Palomas Gap. It was a vanadium mine and mill. My brother-in-law Tom Wilder had a team and I had a team. He got a job in the mine as timberman. My brother Rufus also worked in the mine. Sephus went over to Elephant Butte and got a job as blacksmith, principally shoeing mules. All the other boys got work in the mine except Jesse May. He had a four-horse outfit and I took my two horses and Tom Wilder took two horses and we started hauling ore from the mine up to the mill. We worked there, I guess, until along in November when they shut the mill down.

We left there with our teams and went to Santa Rita where we got jobs hauling copper ore in dump wagons. At that time they were high-grading and they didn't save anything but high-grade, which they were stock piling down by the railroad. There it was picked up and taken to the mill at Santa Rita. We worked at this job until spring, when they cut us off.

A fellow got me a job down at Hurley and I and Jesse May took our teams down there where we hauled sand and gravel for the foundation of the third unit of the mill at Santa Rita. That was in the spring of 1911. When we got cut off from that job we went over to Silver City, thinking we could get on a big job in the Mogollons, but they had lots of teams so we headed back.

We got back to Rincon on the Rio Grande river and I rented a little place and farmed until along the middle of the summer when I got discouraged and sold out. I went back up to Palomas Gap and went to work in the vanadium mine. There was lots of good grass and I kept my teams hobbled and staked out around there. I worked there until fall when my team took out. They were almost to Tularosa when I overtook them, so I came on home. I went back later and got my camp outfit and stuff. That was the fall of 1912. In the spring of 1912 my father and I put in a crop. I worked there that year and the next year. In the fall of 1913 I went to Reserve. But my brother-in-law had left this mining outfit and gone to Reserve, NM, to take a homestead. I worked around there, doing odd jobs, mostly helping a fellow with well drilling. I hauled wood to fire a steam boiler outfit used for power to run the churn drill. In the spring of 1914 I hired out to the forest service as a lookout man up on what they called Sign Camp Canyon.

At this camp I'd ride out every morning to a peak where I could watch the country for forest fires. One time I ran out of groceries and had to go to Reserve. While in town a fellow showed me a closer way back to camp, so I started out that way. It was pretty late when I left and it got dark. What I mean is, it was very dark. It was big timber country and I got lost.

(Continued on Page 7)

TACK & SADDLE AUCTION

After 25 years in business, state of the economy forces liquidation!!

Murphy Auctioneers has been asked to sell at public auction a complete inventory of western saddles and horse equipment from:

A Giant Wholesale Saddle Distributor!!

This business is liquidating a very nice collection of high end top quality saddlery, including:

- Over 80 new top quality saddles including: Roping, Wade, Full Silver Show Saddles, Pleasure Saddles, Youth and Pony, Barrel, Endurance, Australian, plus Many Custom Made Saddles (seal sizes from 12-17)
- Over 100: Wolf Creek wool saddle blankets, EquiSport memory core saddle pads, winter blankets: Canvas and Storm Buster
- Leather goods of all kinds; over 100 bridles by Billy Cook, McPherson, Billy Martin, Silver Royal, and others.
- Nylon and leather halters, lots of nice roping breast collars, Cowboy Up bridle and breast collar show sets, and lots of silver bits and spurs.

To be sold to the highest bidder, piece by piece!

Terms of sale: cash, all major credit cards, ATM & debit. Sorry no checks

Tuesday March 1st • 7pm • Preview Starts at 6pm

Alamogordo Civic Center • 800 East First St., Alamogordo, NM 88310

Auctioneer Mike Murphy • Call 541.592.6660 for More Info

THE MAYORS CORNER

Looks like the weather is going to be nice for awhile but as we know only fools and tourists predict the weather in New Mexico.

The town crew will start using the new crack seal machine again. They are working their way south on E Ave. The plan is to fill all the cracks on the better roads. This is just a "band aid" but hopefully we will get a couple more years out of some of the better existing roads.

The crew is in the process of lowering some waterlines. During the freeze some were found that were barely beneath the surface. Joey was told that the town did not have a backhoe for about ten years and the lines were dug by hand.

Tommy and his crew have put insulation in every meter can within the town. Hopefully this will prevent additional frozen meters.

The drainage on Water Canyon Road is going to be changed and the roadway will be wider.

Joey's summation of the arctic blast and bad weather was that it really kicked us in the backside.

We have had several people come to City Hall and express their thanks to all of the employees. The service the citizens received was due to the prompt response of the office staff relaying and coordinating the requests. The people in the field worked continuously until the problem was rectified. Thanks were given to the employees by all of the city council at Monday night's council meeting.

We are seeking grants for several projects. A couple deal with trying to obtain monies for damages incurred during the inclement weather. They include repairs to existing waterlines, the pump houses on our wells and fencing. We are also applying for a grant to put the ADA compliant sidewalks along Central Ave. We have also asked for new street lights along the route.

We have received 40 letters of interest in the vacancies within the Police Department. Four applicants that returned the application packet have been interviewed and background investigations are being conducted. There are five application packets returned that will begin being processed today. The rest have not returned their application packet which was mailed to them upon receiving their letter of interest. We hope to have those vacancies filled soon. Officer Lindsey is still working part time.

I want to again thank the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Rick Virden for their assistance in handling calls during this time.

There were several Business Registrations approved at the Council Meeting Monday night. It was mentioned to remind everyone with a Business Registration that they need to insure that their gross receipts were going to the town. The tax form that is sent to the state needs to include the tax code number 26-307 which insures the disbursement of those tax's goes to the town. Approximately 60 to 70 percent of the towns budget comes from gross receipts that are reported.

Once again the hours of operation for the Department of Motor Vehicles is Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 12 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

City Hall will be closed Monday February 21st in observance of President's Day.

*Have a fun and Safe weekend
PS pray for wind.*

★
**For
All
Your
Classified
Ad
Needs
Just
Call
us
at
648-2333.**

Torrance County Extension Hosts Crop Production Clinic

The New Mexico Crop Production Clinic will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, at the Moriarty Civic Center in Moriarty. The clinic is sponsored by the New Mexico State University Torrance County Cooperative Extension Service and Thomas Chemical and Fertilizers.

Presentations will be made by extension specialists from New Mexico State University and representatives from Pioneer and DuPont Corporation.

Topics will include corn seed selection and genetics; Round-Up Ready alfalfa; alfalfa weed management; pesticide licensure updates and requirements; drought-tolerant technology and new developments in bio-technology; seed planter calibration; blister beetle in alfalfa; energy costs and irrigation pumping; and weed control in corn silage and alfalfa crops.

Participants may earn six continuing education units. Lunch will be provided.

For more information or to register, contact Gene Winn, Torrance County Extension agent at 505-246-4743 or 505-705-0857. If planning to attend, please register by Monday, Feb. 21.

Ramblin' Around

(Continued from Page 6)

ELBERT BROWN

I staked my horses in a little valley and rolled up in my blanket. The next morning when I woke up I found that I was only a mile from camp.

I stayed at the lookout station until the rains started and then I hired out to a cowboy outfit owned by an old man named Kehne. He had two boys Ollie and Oogie. His brand was the Square and Compass and his headquarters ranch was at the head of Nigrette Canyon, that emptied into the Frisco River about eight miles below Reserve.

The headquarters ranch in Nigrette Canyon was in a box canyon seven or eight miles in length. Then above the box it opened out into a big valley -- about the most beautiful valley I've ever seen. There was no road in and you couldn't get into the box canyon with any kind of a vehicle. The ranch house was a big double log house. The finishings for the house, doors, windows and all that stuff had been packed in on mules; also the furniture, cook stove and even a piano. A mowing machine and rake had been packed in to cut the grass up in this valley. The ranch had some of the best grass I had ever seen anywhere.

I worked for them that summer and came home in the fall. All of New Mexico that I saw look good in 1914. In the Carrizozo valley there were stacks of grama hay on both sides of the road from Carrizozo to Nogal. It was sure pretty country.

In the spring of 1915, and through 1916 and 1917 I worked for the forest service as lookout man on Lone Grande. I did some farming in the meantime on Nogal Mesa. We had a place rented where the Mesa Ranger Station is now, and I took up a homestead about a mile and a half east of Nogal Lake, but I didn't do anything with it until I came home from the Army.

On March 26 of 1917, I was drafted into the Service and left here for Camp Funston, Kansas, for my training, which was very little. Practically all we got there was our inoculations and just a little military training. However the 89th division which I was in was a well-trained division and was ready to sail overseas. There had been a few transferred out and went on over with other units. I was a replacement to fill in the division. I was in Company I of the 356th infantry.

There were two neighbor boys up here, the Keller boys, John and Bob. They were in Company K and in our engagements overseas both of these boys got wounded. Bob got a hip shattered all to pieces with a hand grenade that went off in his rain coat pocket and John got hit by a stray shell in the leg about half way between the knee and the hip joint. It didn't hurt him much. They are both dead now.

We sailed overseas in the early part of May, 1918. We landed at Liverpool and from there we went to Southampton and crossed the English Channel to Le Havre, France. From there we went on into France to a little place called Lefal le Grande. We got our training there. That is most of it. We stayed there from June till I think it was the 10th of August when we went up to the front line sector.

Our first engagement for the 89th Division was on September 12th. That was on the St. Mihiel sector and was partly in the old Hindenburg Line. They had been fighting backwards and forward for that quite a while. However, this was a successful salient and we cracked the Hindenburg Line at that time. On this day, September 12, we must have gained at least 15 or 20 miles when we stopped that night.

We were on the side of a mountain that was completely undermined and concreted up inside. It was a supply headquarters. They had all kinds of guns and ammunition, clothing, food and they even had pianos and dance halls in there. They had it fixed up elaborate.

During the day myself and another fellow were detailed to help flank a machine gun nest. There were two other fellows on one side and we were on the other. When they were shooting over their way we'd run forward and when the Germans switched the fire to us we'd fall. Once we fell into a bombshell hole and we could hear those shells whipping overhead just like a buggy whip. We carried our emergency rations in a mess kit on our back and our gas mask on our chest. When we went to eat dinner that day he found a bullet hole through his gas mask and another one through his mess kit.

That night we were awful tired and thought we were going to get to stay where this supply depot was, but we got called out a little after dark. We went on into what was called Benny Woods. That was our objective. We deployed in a little foxhole and we were very comfortable. We stayed there two or three days. While we were there, myself and a fellow by the name of Paul Roberts covered our foxhole with brush and leaves and stuff to keep the rain out of our faces. One afternoon about two or three o'clock when we hadn't heard a shot, artillery or anything else all day, a big shell came over and hit about eight feet from our foxhole and completely covered us up. We had quite a time scratching out.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Ruidoso Water Emergency Ends As Water is Restored

Water service has been restored to users in Ruidoso.

Approximately 125 members of the New Mexico National Guard reported at the EOC Fire Station 1 Tuesday morning to continue working with village crews and volunteers to complete turning water on in affected areas.

At noon Tuesday, the National Guard had completed their mission and demobilized. Their efforts were greatly appreciated as it allowed the village to

accelerate the recovery of water service to citizens.

Village crews are continuing to respond to calls to turn water on to properties that are occupied.

Please call the Village Utility Office at 575-257-2386. For those properties that are experiencing leaks and have contracted with a licensed plumber to make repairs, please have the plumber contact the Village Building Official at 575-258-4343 X 1065 to notify that the

leak has been repaired and the water has been turned on.

The Village will be sending a notice in the next utility bill that informs everyone of the status of the water system and procedures to get water back on.

The village expresses sincere appreciation to everyone that participated in response to this challenge.

If you have questions, please call the Incident Commander (Chief Vincent) at 575-257-4116 or 575-937-1474.

Sheriff's Report

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

December 5
1:35 p.m. Unknown trouble call from residence on West Deer Trail in Capitan, police dispatched.

6:35 p.m. Welfare check requested at business location on West Fourth Street in Capitan, police dispatched.

December 6
1:46 a.m. Alarm reported at business located on Ski Run Road in Alto, deputy dispatched.

1:18 p.m. Civil dispute reported at location on Florencio Lane in San Patricio, deputy dispatched.

1:45 p.m. Medical call at intersection of Hwy 48 and Hwy 220 in Alto, Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance dispatched.

5:16 p.m. Trespassing reported at location on Sunset Mesa in Nogal, deputy dispatched.

6:14 p.m. Registered Sex Offender checks at Lincoln County Sheriff Office (LCSO) located in the Lincoln County Courthouse (LCC) complex on Central Avenue in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.

December 7
2:26 a.m. Accident reported at mile marker 15 on Hwy 48 in Alto, ALS ambulance, Bonito emergency units and deputy dispatched.

8:37 a.m. Domestic battery reported

(Con't. On P. 8)

1st Open House

Carrizozo Home for Sale
1002 B Ave.

Remodeled, open, light, charming
New Studio/guest quarters w/full bath
Sunday, Feb. 20, 10:00 - 4:00
648-5203

Susan C.E. Carter

Arbitration & Mediation Advisor
Dispute Resolution -- Creative Problem Solving
3rd Party Independent Consultant

Sometimes, it just isn't worth the Battle

Settle - Sensibly

575-802-5931 scecarter@yahoo.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ANGUS CHURCH 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 and
Children's Church . . . 10:30 a.m.
Family Workshop . . . 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 p.m.
Worship Service . . . 9:15 p.m.
Children's Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time . . . 10:15 p.m.
Adult Sunday School . . . 11:00 a.m.
Choir Practice . . . Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Dinner . . . 3rd Sunday of Month

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

CAPITAN CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
420 Lincoln Avenue
Joshua Watkins, 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.

CAPITAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
420 Lincoln Avenue
Joshua Watkins, 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 CHURCH OF CORONA
Cal West, Pastor / 849-7975
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study . . . 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Dinner . . . 1st Sunday of Month

GRACE FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST
Corona, New Mexico
Terry Aiello, Pastor / 849-0105
Worship . . . 9:30 a.m.

CLAUNCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
Tony Saecela, Minister
849-1402

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

MOUNTAIN MINISTRY PARISH SIERRA BLANCA PRESBYTERY NOGAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
E.W. "Bo" Lewis, Pastor

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

RUIDOSO DOWNS FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH
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
Wednesday Community Dinner
6:30 p.m.

Kids Activities . . . 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.

CARRIZOZO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Hayden Smith, Pastor
314 10th Avenue
648-2968 Church or 648-207
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service . . . 10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening . . . 6:00 p.m.
AWANAS . . . Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
(September - April)

CARRIZOZO 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 88301
575-648-2853

Daily Mass / Santa Rita . . . 8:30 a.m.
Saturday Services
Capitan Sacred Heart . . . 5:00 p.m.
Carrizozo Santa Rita . . . 7:00.

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

CARRIZOZO ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Corner of E Avenue 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.

Internship Program Seeks Applicants

The HACU National Internship Program, the nation's largest Hispanic internship program, is accepting applications from college and university students for internships taking place this summer, June 3-Aug. 13, 2011.

Students accepted into the program participate in paid internships with federal and corporate offices in Washington, DC and across the nation. Deadline to apply is Feb. 25, 2011.

"Providing students with the opportunities to help them succeed beyond college and prepare them to enter the professional world after graduation is incredibly valuable," said HACU President and CEO Antonio R. Flores. "The HACU National Internship Program continues to fulfill its mission of opening doors of opportunity by providing students a chance to earn an income and also make professional connections for future corporate and federal employment."

The HACU National Internship Program places more than 600 students in paid internships annually. These internships provide talented Hispanic and other minority students with the opportunity to develop their career and professional skills and receive financial support to help motivate students through graduation. The HACU National Internship Program has placed more than 9,000 students in internships since its inception in 1992.

Capitan Sewer Rates . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

"buffer." Hammons said the facility is "tipping on the verge of noncompliance" with the NMED.

Hammons said the revenue from the old sewer rate was not even enough to keep up with unseen expenses, such as the circulating pumps at \$2,500 each, three of which need to be replaced.

"The \$11 a month is very low, and the village hasn't had an increase in sewer rates in years," Hammons said. "At least this is not a \$65 a month sewer rate either."

There were no negative comments from the public present at the meeting.

Trustees unanimously approved the village ordinance setting sewer service fees at \$15 a month for single-family dwellings and each occupied unit of duplexes and apartments; \$17 a month plus 10 percent of that entities monthly water charge for commercial establishments and schools and all users outside the village will be charged three times the amount for users within the village.

Sewer rates only apply to residences, schools and commercial entities in the "core" part of the village that utilize the wastewater facilities and not to accounts with septic systems.

New rates will be reflected on the March water/sewer bills.

Trustees also approved an ordinance that amends a 2010 ordinance concerning funding for the wastewater facility improvements, and gives approval for the village to apply for the NMED Construction Programs Bureau Rural Infrastructure Loan.

Sheriff's Report . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

at location on Hwy 70 in Glencoe, deputy dispatched.

2:25 p.m. Suspicious activity reported at location on 12th Street in Capitan, police dispatched

December 8

3:23 a.m. 911 Hang-Up from residence on West Second Street in Capitan, police dispatched.

7:47 a.m. Police presence/Stand-By requested at residence on Joshua in Capitan, deputy dispatched.

3:17 p.m. Welfare check requested at business located on Hwy 54 in Carrizozo, police dispatched.

7:15 p.m. Domestic battery reported at residence on Montes Road in Capitan, police and deputy dispatched.

8:29 p.m. Multiple Registered Sex Offender check(s) at LCSO located in the LCC on Central Avenue in Carrizozo, deputy dis-

patched.

December 9

8:43 a.m. Dog reported running loose near intersection of Oso Loop and Deer Park Drive in Alto, deputy dispatched.

8:53 a.m. Warrant service at Lincoln County Detention Center (LCDC) located on Airport Street in Carrizozo, deputy dispatched.

9:38 a.m. Larceny/theft reported at location on Powell Street in Ruidoso, deputy dispatched.

10:16 a.m. Littering or illegal dumping reported at location on Little Creek Road in Rancho Ruidoso Valley Estates, deputy dispatched.

4:16 p.m. Suspicious activity reported on Hwy 380 in Capitan, police dispatched.

6:59 p.m. Dog reported running loose on Gavilan Canyon Road in front of animal shelter, deputy dispatched.

Lincoln County News

CLASSIFIED

★ ADS ★

Call 575.648.2333

WILLIE'S PLACE All Mexican Food made from scratch, Original authentic recipes, Charbroiled Burgers, Homemade Enchiladas and Burritos, Sandwiches, Fresh Salads, Ice Cream, Shakes, Floats and Sodas. Carrizozo at Hwy 380/54, visit us soon. Ph. 648-4200.

FOR SALE

GOOD CLEAN SUDAN
No Mold
\$3.50 per Bale.
505-507-5153
or 575-835-8146
2tp/2/11-17

FOR SALE

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

THE HAY RANCH

In Lincoln and Roswell, NM
575-973-2200

tfn/2/18

LOCAL LICENSED PLUMBER
at your service.
30 years experience

575-317-4147

2tc/2/17 -24

**BUY IT,
SELL IT,
TRADE IT,
GIVE IT,
TELL IT,
IN A
CLASSIFIED
AD.**

**GET THE MOST
FOR YOUR
ADVERTISING
DOLLAR**

CALL

575.648.2333

**Check out our
LOWER
PRICES.**

BAD IDEA

DON'T LET NEW MEXICO OFFICIALS REMOVE YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW FROM THE NEWSPAPER

KEEP PUBLIC NOTICES IN YOUR NEWSPAPER!

Pending legislation may remove your right to read public notices in newspapers, moving them from the public domain to the internet. We're concerned. And you should be, too.

Public notices are an important tool in assuring an informed citizenry. They have helped develop America into a participatory democracy for hundreds of years and where it counts the most: how your tax dollars are spent, how policy is made and how our futures are charted.

They are located in easy-to-find sections of your newspaper. And they are fully accessible to everyone - unlike the internet, which is not accessible to everyone.

Less than 10% of the U.S. population views a local, state or federal government website daily, according to the May 2009 release of U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of Resident Population.

This means more than nine out of ten people may never see a given notice.

This compares dramatically to the fact that 83% of adults read a community newspaper every week, according to the National Newspaper Association.

Furthermore, a public notice printed in the newspaper produces a permanent record. The internet does not, nor does it assure timeliness. And a newspaper is archived for years; not subject to computer crashes and hackers.

Newspapers are easily verifiable, fully transparent and represent a secure third party who has nothing to gain from any notice. New Mexico's recent ethical lapses shed a glaring light on the full meaning of this problem. It's like putting the fox in charge of the hen house.

Every public notice, which runs in a New Mexico daily newspaper, is automatically uploaded to that newspaper's web site and www.PublicNoticeAds.com/NM.

Newspapers are your watchdogs. Don't let that role be changed now. Contact your local representative today and voice your opinion.

