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 Making the difference

Ruidoso to fight on

By Eddie Farrell

Editor

Ruidoso Village Manager Debi Lee is vowing to fight on to protect the village's water rights and ability to operate a series of wells on the North Fork of Eagle Creek.

The Lincoln County Commission March 21, in a 4-1 decision, forwarded a letter to the U.S. Forest Service urging the village be restricted to approximately one-fifth of its current water draw from the pumps, be required to adhere to a number of mitigations, and not be allowed to self-report its water usage.

The vote came despite a plea by village officials, including Mayor Ray Alborn, to delay action to allow for a "joint statement" to be issued in the name of both the county and the village that would be more favorable than the condemning document penned by Commissioner Jackie Powell.

"As previously reported, the village of Ruidoso will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the delivery of water to our residents," Lee said following the vote.

Alborn took a more personal tone, saying the county vote, which featured only Commissioner Tom Battin favoring the village's position, left him "disappointed but not surprised."

In February, Alborn led a movement on the village council to reject Powell's nomination to

the Joint Use Board, which oversees operation of the wastewater treatment plant. Since that decision, Powell has wasted little opportunity to castigate the village for its lack of cooperation and snubbing of the county.

Perhaps in an effort to sound more cooperative, both Alborn and retired Judge Alvin Jones evoked the potential impacts to all of Lincoln County should the village lose its ability to draw water from Eagle Creek.

The village estimates as much as 70 percent of its municipal supply comes from surface flows and the wells on Eagle Creek.

Battin urged his colleagues to delay action on the letter, noting it was possible that an extension in the public comment phase of the Forest Service's Environmental

See RUIDOSO, pg. 4



Eddie Farrell/Ruidoso Free Press

Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn made an impassioned plea for "cooperation" with Lincoln County commissioners March 21, trying to stop the panel from sending a letter condemning the village's use of wells on the North Fork of Eagle Creek.

The next generation



Photo courtesy of Beth Porter

The newest arrival to the wild horse herd that makes frequent appearances at the Alto Golf and Country Club has been dubbed "Stud" and was born March 25 on or about the 15th fairway. According to Beth Porter of the Ruidoso Greeters, both mother and colt doing fine.

Long-awaited river trail becomes a reality

By Eugene Heathman

Reporter

For more than 30 years, the dream of a river trail system through Ruidoso has been just that, a dream. During a public meeting on Monday, March 21 called by the Village Parks and Recreation Board, the Ruidoso River Trail project is now a reality.

The Ruidoso River Trail project will be incorporated as part of the Billy the Kid Scenic By-Way and will be scheduled into three phases. The river trail and other public green space concepts are no stranger to nearly every community in the rocky mountain region. Places like Durango, Steamboat Springs, Loveland and metropolitan areas of Colorado incor-



Eugene Heathman/Ruidoso Free Press

Two Rivers Park will soon be getting a facelift as preparations are underway to develop the Ruidoso River Trail. Phase one will begin at Two Rivers Park and conclude behind the River Crossing Complex on Sudderth Drive.

incorporate green space trail systems source of convenient outdoor to lessen the impact of density recreation opportunities. and preserve wildlife habitats while offering the public a See RIVER TRAIL, pg. 4

Golf course owners refute operator's claims

By Eugene Heathman

Reporter

Valle del Sol Golf Course owners claim the company contracted to operate and manage the facility abandoned daily operations of the golf course, failed to maintain equipment and left town with unpaid bills.

New Mexico Ranch Sales representative Leon Ivie contends contracting with Quality Golf Management was a big mistake.

"Last week, New Mexico Ranch Sales, accompanied by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, changed the locks and took over business operations," Ivie said.

New Mexico Ranch Sales own the Valle del Sol subdivision across the high-

way from the golf course and previously operated the facility and constructed a clubhouse prior to the acquisition by Quality Golf Management in April, 2010. According to Lincoln County property records, The Village of Carrizozo owns the real estate occupied by Valle del Sol Golf Course.

Ivie proclaims the list of defaults in the operations agreement by Quality Golf Management owner Dan Garner is long and costly.

"Garner didn't pay the electric bill and we had to pay several thousand dollars to have power restored. He owes the town of Carrizozo for water which was shut off to the course for non-payment of an outstanding water bill of \$2,361.92. A court judgment was against Dan Garner

and Alina Acebo on Feb. 28, for \$8,430.24 for non-payment of fertilizer delivered to the golf course by Golf Enviro Systems, Inc.," Ivie said.

Unpaid bills are not the only problems New Mexico Ranch Sales faced when repossessing golf course business operations. The owners discovered expensive well equipment and golf course irrigation systems in need of repair.

"Since regaining control of operations, we have since filled the pond and started watering portions of the course. We are having the damaged equipment repaired and look to be operational by mid-April," Ivie said.

During a telephone interview with The Ruidoso Free Press on March 20, Garner accuses New Mexico Ranch Sales'

of failing to provide agreed upon lot sale premiums which accounted for a devastating budget shortfall in the amount of \$25,000.00, money that would have covered the utility, water and fertilizer bills.

"Everyone knew we would return in early April to open the golf course, after a normal winter season closing of the facility. We intend to return in two-weeks, reclaim our business and open the course," Garner said.

The owners of New Mexico Ranch sales don't think Garner will make good on his pledge to return and operate the Valle del Sol Golf Course. "He owes everybody money, I would be surprised if he ever showed his face in Lincoln County again. Heck, the guy even wrote a hot check to the locksmith," Ivie said.

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Heart returns to the Inn of the Mountain Gods, pg. 9



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Library time

Snuggle down to hear bedtime stories during Preschool story time Wednesday, March 30 at 10:30 a.m. You need to wear your jammies and bring your blankie, pillow or sleeping bag to stretch out and hear these wonderful stories. And bring your stuffed animal, too. It's very important to bring your stuffed animal. The stuffed animals are going to go exploring the library while you listen to stories.

Come back April 6 for preschool story time so you can get a photo of what fun and exciting things your stuffed animal did while you were at the pajama party.

The Ruidoso Public Library is located at 107 Kansas City Rd. Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Donkey basketball

Come and cheer your friends and neighbors as they take part in the Dairyland donkey basketball show in the Ruidoso High School gym March 30 at 7 p.m.

It's basketball played on real, live donkeys. Come and see if local dignitaries can stay in the saddle while playing basketball.

The show is sponsored by Ruidoso/Lincoln County Crimestoppers, and advanced tickets can be purchased at Ruidoso Flower Shop or Farm Bureau. For more information, call 258-1431.

Wilderness pacers

The Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department is challenging Ruidoso residents to walk, run or jog for health.

Participants are asked to predict how long it will take them to cover a short or long course without wearing a watch in a competition against yourself. The participant closest to their predicted time receives a T-shirt. Staff from parks and recreation will time all individuals.

Races are run at the Links Sierra Blanca Trail every Wednesday evening starting at 5:15 and 6:15 p.m. The event is open to all ages. For more information, call 257-5030.

Sanitation meeting

The Alpine Village Water and Sanitation District's next monthly meeting will be Monday, April 4 at 4 p.m., in the district building at 114 Alpine Meadows Trail. This month's agenda may contain discussion regarding committees to address conservation and a drought contingency plan, capacity assessment and revising bylaws and regulations. Agendas are available 24 hours prior to meeting time.

Peter Pan coming

By special arrangement with Samuel French, Ruidoso High School's Red Feather Theatre Company will present Peter Pan at the school's Performing Arts Complex at 7 p.m. April 8-9 and 15-16. Tickets are \$12 at the door and \$10 in advance at High Country Lodge and the Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are available

for advance purchase beginning April 4.

Dress and technical rehearsals will also be open for \$5 April 7 and 14. Curtain time is 7 p.m.

Great American Cleanup

The Ruidoso Downs annual Great American Cleanup will be April 9, concentrating on Highway 70 and adjacent neighborhoods. The morning registration and safety tips begin at 8 a.m. at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Center.

T-Shirts, safety vests and gloves are provided to all volunteers. Meet up later at the center for lunch and prizes. Greentree Solid Waste will be open until noon that day to take large household items for proper disposal. Call 378-4697 for further information.

Altrusa fashion show

Altrusa Club of Ruidoso will hold its seventh annual fashion show and tea April 9 at 2 p.m. at Alto Lakes Golf & Country Club. Club members will model spring styles available at local clothing stores.

Doors open at 1 p.m. for the silent auction, and all proceeds from the event will support Altrusa's many community service projects. For information or to purchase tickets, call Terri Trotter at 258-4614.

Ruidoso Fiesta

Organizers of the Ruidoso School Fiesta, to be held May 6, are looking for middle and high school students to join. Practices are held in the Horton Cafeteria at Ruidoso High School at 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

There is no charge to perform, but dancers must provide their own dress or charro outfit, dance shoes or boots. Parents are also encouraged to volunteer decorating the gym and concession stand at Ruidoso High School.

The Ruidoso School Fiesta is a scholarship program, and seniors who have participated since their freshman year will receive a college scholarship. Those interested in dancing should contact Debbie Jo Almager (505) 660-6652 or Naomi Brady at (303) 905-9354.

Feral hog control

Feral hogs are a growing problem in New Mexico, according to the USDA Wildlife Services.

During the past three months, interagency partners have provided educational forums about the impacts of expanding feral hog populations within the state, and the Wildlife Service has sought to increase the ability of landowners and staff to address the spreading feral hog problem.

Landowners who are aware they have a feral hog problem are encouraged to contact USDA WS for assistance at (505) 346-2640.

Humane Society cookbook

You can help your Lincoln County Humane Society by sending your favorite recipes of any category. The society is compiling a cookbook of your favorites for a fundraiser. Include your name and a story to go with the recipe, if it has one. Submit recipes to Lindabl65@gmail.com.

Search and rescue

The White Mountain Search and Rescue team, located in Ruidoso, is looking for new members. The team, in cooperation with police and sheriff's departments statewide, helps to search or rescue people who are sick, injured or just plain lost in the mountains, deserts or even underground. Searches are conducted on foot, horseback, aircraft, skis or snowshoes.

Anyone interested in joining can call 336-4501.

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Village water woes persist

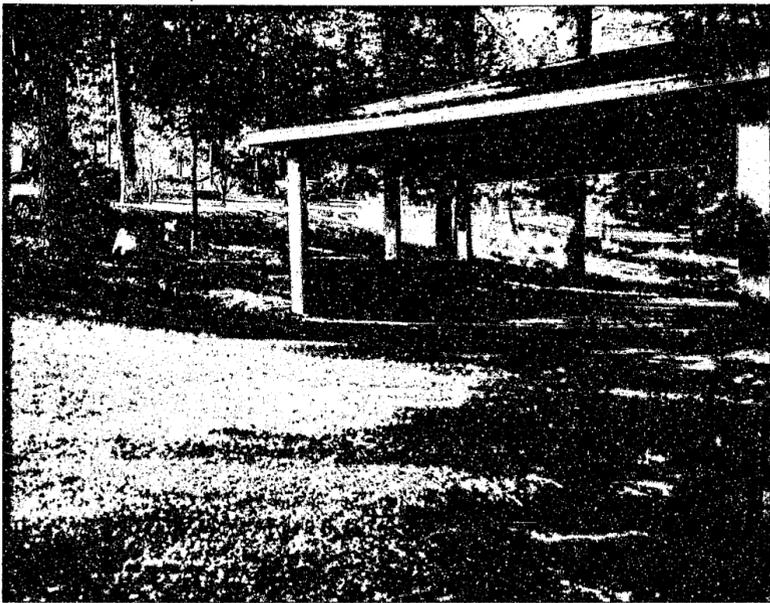
By Eugene Heathman
Reporter

Pinecliff residents once again awoke Monday morning to no water due to another water main break at the intersection of Glade and Monjeau in the Pinecliff subdivision. The area has been plagued over the past year with several water main breaks.

This time the water flowed freely from above, into a newer home, which was vacant at the time. Water flowed from the street directly into the home and garage which is listed for sale. The extent of damage to the home is not known at this time. A Zia Gas employee was on-site marking gas lines so village crews could attack the problem.

Pat Waggoner, a Pinecliff resident, expressed frustration with the ongoing water woes in the neighborhood. "I was unable to shower this morning and had to cancel my commute to Alamogordo for work. During the past year, these water main breaks have become more frequent and we have been without water several times. I am getting very tired of it and so are my neighbors. You never know when water is going to be on or off."

The Village of Ruidoso has been plagued with water problems during the past several months. In addition to the crippling water crisis during last February's sub-zero cold snap and an embattled feud over Eagle Creek water rights, water mains continue to intermittently break throughout the area.



Eugene Heathman/Ruidoso Free Press

A water main break at the intersection of Gale and Monjeau in the Pinecliff subdivision floods directly into a home, causing an undetermined amount of damage.

Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino 2011 Charity Triathlon

Local businesses compete on behalf of their favorite charity in a trio of fun events, including a slot tournament, Wii Bowling Tournament, and a Kentucky Derby "Pick the Winner" contest. Winning team will receive a \$500 donation in their name to their selected charity, and \$500 in advertising credit on MTD Media. Winning team members get a "Day at the Races" for the 2011 Racing Season. Everyone who participates gets fun logo items and other prizes

April 19, 2011: Slot Tournament
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RUIDOSO

From page 1

Ruidoso: facts on Eagle Creek

The Village presents the following comments and supplemental information regarding the North Fork Eagle Creek Wells Special Use Authorization Project:

- Approximately 75% of water delivered to Ruidoso customers, including some located outside the Village in the County, comes from the Eagle Creek drainage and Eagle Creek drainage credits.
- The Forest Service does not have jurisdiction over water rights. Jurisdiction over water rights in New Mexico is the purview of the Office of the State Engineer. Therefore, the Forest Service has no authority to regulate the Village's operation of the wells, other than through the special use permitting process.
- The Village of Ruidoso originally obtained water rights from the railroad in 1954 and currently owns or leases 99% of all groundwater and surface water rights in the Eagle Creek Basin west of the Alto Dam and Reservoir.
- In 1984, the Village drilled exploratory wells in the Eagle Creek watershed on Forest Service land (North Fork Well Field). The wells were located outside the then declared boundaries of the Hondo Underground Water Basin.
- The Village receives approximately 50% return flow credit from Eagle Creek drainage which is applied to the diversion of Rio Ruidoso water and Rio Ruidoso drainage wells.
- The Village has attempted to transfer water rights out of the North Fork area and has been protested by the same group that filed suit against the Forest Service in 2005, which resulted in this EIS process.

The Village is currently spending approximately \$1,200,000 to deepen an existing well in the Eagle Creek Basin near the Alto Reservoir.

Eagle Creek crosses the Ruidoso Fault Zone approximately 2 miles east (downstream) of Alto Reservoir. The Village recently did a controlled release of water from Alto Reservoir. This established that all flow up to 5 cfs is lost to the subsurface across the fault zone and recharges the deeper aquifer system. In other words, a flow greater than 5 cfs is required to have surface flow past the fault zone.

There has been no diminution of riparian vegetation in the Eagle Creek Basin over the past 50 years. In fact, forest growth has dramatically increased and is the primary cause of any decline in stream flow. Restoration of forest density to what it was 50 years ago will dramatically increase stream flow, even in drought years. This will also reduce the danger of catastrophic wildfire which will destroy stream flow for use as a water source. If a wild fire occurs, water supply will have to rely completely on ground water.

Lincoln County over the last several years has approved numerous subdivisions with hundreds of lots. Instead of mandating water systems for these subdivisions, the County approved utilizing individual private domestic wells that were allowed 3 acre feet per year each. Many of these lots are located in the Eagle Creek Basin. These wells take water from the basin thus diminishing the water available to senior water rights holders such as the Village.

Impact Statement scoping period would be granted.

New Smokey the Bear District Ranger David Warnack told the Commission that he had received word the USFS was going to issue the extension, and that there would be "plenty of time" for additional public comments to be filed.

Commission Chair Eileen Sedillo, however, said she was not reassured by promises of an extension, but rather would heed the March 21 deadline published in the Federal Register.

Lee was not the only village official who promised not to give up on the water issue on Eagle Creek.

Jones, during his presentation on Monday, not only denied claims that the village's pump use was affecting stream flows and other private wells in the area, but asserted that "when surface water is available, the village will take it."

Jones also said that the village's wells had, in no way, impacted surface flows in Eagle Creek, despite a \$500,000 village-funded report published by the U.S. Geological Survey which concluded the pumps

are responsible for hundreds of no-flow days.

In her statement, Lee also challenged assertions that the village's water use was impacting riparian vegetation.

"There has been no diminution of riparian vegetation in the Eagle Creek Basin over the past 50 years," Lee said. "In fact, forest growth has dramatically increased and is the primary cause of any decline in stream flow."

Lee also argued the county should share the blame for declining flows on the creek.

"Lincoln County, over the last several years, has approved numerous subdivisions with hundreds of lots. Instead of mandating water systems for these subdivisions, the county approved them utilizing private domestic wells that were allowed three acre feet per year (of water). Many of these lots are located in the Eagle Creek Basin. These wells take water from the basin thus diminishing the water available to the senior water right holders such as the village."

See related story, page 16

RIVER TRAIL

Laura Doth led the presentation with three key announcements. "Phase one of the village river trail project will be constructed completely on land owned by the Village of Ruidoso. The \$250,000 federally funded grant will cover 80 percent of the cost and the Village of Ruidoso will supply the remaining 20 percent in the form of construction and labor costs. The village is committed to this and phase one is funded, we have the money" Doth said.

The first phase of the project will begin with Two-Rivers Park and end at a location behind McGary's Art studio. The Parks and Recreation board have enlisted Loris and Associates from Lafayette, Colorado with designing the trail network.

Scott Belonger of Loris and Associates presented a platform for the scope of work and managed suggestions from participants in the forum. Loris and Associates was hired for their history of experience with developing public green space and trail systems throughout the region.

"The trails will be constructed with gravel, asphalt or concrete sections which will not only have to be considered under the budget but we develop for durability. The construction of the project will emphasize a low environmental impact, accentuation of the natural features and interpretative signage," Belonger said.

Planning the project could take up to six months but several participants in the forum voiced their support to get construction moving as soon as possible, especially since phase one is funded and

on village property, essentially deeming the project shovel-ready.

One key component of phase one will be the construction of an interactive sculpture garden near Two Rivers Park. Artwork for the garden will be sold to help provide supplemental funding for trail system enhancements. The River Trail will also provide abundant opportunities for community partnerships.

Conservation groups such as Trout Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wild Turkey Federation, Lincoln County Humane Society and the Boy Scouts can raise funds for habitat improvement, park benches and picnic areas along the trail.

"Community partnerships will help enhance the basic platform of the trail system and provide an opportunity for everyone to get involved with the sus-

tained beautification of the trail system," Doth said.

The river trail is touted as a long overdue asset which will enhance our scenic by-way, promote healthy lifestyles, showcase the local environment and stimulate the economy as yet another interactive attraction for locals and tourists alike. Village Councilor Jim Stoddard highly recommended ADA Handicap access in addition to pedestrian and vehicle separation for the mixed use trail that will accommodate a combination of walkers, bicyclists and "four-legged" friends.

Re-establishing fishing habitat and providing historical aspects of the area in addition to flora and fauna educational tools along the trail topped off the evening forum which created an air of excitement and opportunity for the community.

BUSINESS

Carrizozo town council snubs support for film industry credit

By Eugene Heathman
Reporter

Carrizozo town officials thumbed their noses at passing a resolution supporting film industry credits during last week's meeting. Although several business owners made presentations to council members about the economic benefits received, particularly from the recent filming of Denzel Washington's, *The Book of Eli*, the vote was to decline the resolution. Film Lincoln County New Mexico Executive Director Dirk Norris said he was surprised when he learned that the town council of Carrizozo decided NOT to pass the reso-

lution that the other towns in Lincoln County passed, showing support of the film industry. "I was astounded, in particular, when it was reported that a trustee said the town did not benefit from the filming of *The Book of Eli*. Apparently the opinion was that since the legislative session was already over, it did not make sense to pass this resolution," Norris said. Norris said he disagreed and believes the resolution would be a valuable statement of support and recognition of the benefits of filming in Lincoln County. Linda Rodriguez, film liaison for Carrizozo, talked about the benefits to Carrizozo as a small town with

a reputation of being film friendly. "Carrizozo is still talked about in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Hollywood too," Rodriguez said. Norris said he does not understand the reasoning behind the decision to not pass the resolution which Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs and Capitan supported. "Do the Carrizozo Town Council and the mayor really think all the people who were paid in town, the motels and restaurants did not benefit? It seemed the council had their minds made up and no matter how many people testified, were still committed to not passing this resolution. It is short sightedness on their part."

Chamber seeks board nominees

By Sandi Aguilar
Executive Director



Sandi Aguilar



The Chamber of Commerce is an organization with a goal to build relationships for the benefit of our business community. We do business with those we know, and getting to know each other is a process. Whether socializing at a business function or working through traumatic events, we stick together for the good of our community. With over 500 members, not all minds will think alike, but with a common goal of growth and prosperity for our economy, we can push forward in the same direction. The benefit of membership and this incredible organization is that we are full of people with various ideas. There isn't always the right answer, but perhaps a better one will prevail.

Idea, knowledge and insight are the power and we ask you to be a part of this process. The Chamber Board of Directors recently held a mid-year retreat and reviewed our goals and efforts. Several themes resulted and projects such as customer service, renewable energy, and expansion of the art festival came out. These projects while each have their own goal, also fulfill the mission of bringing our business professionals together to build our economy. The Chamber Board of Directors also recently signed resolutions supporting the film industry and the Ruidoso Osos to show support for these emerging industries. The Chamber invites our members, and our community, to help each other by participating in these projects. It is also that time of year again, when the Chamber is seeking 4 new board of directors to fulfill a three year term. Professional, Attractions, Restaurant and Retail positions are open. The board rotates four positions each year. Each is filled according to different industries ensuring all businesses have a voice in the Chamber directives. I invite you to become more involved, bring in your new ideas, and see what can happen, together.

Rodriguez joins Ruidoso Free Press

By Patrick Jason Rodriguez
Reporter



Rodriguez

Patrick Jason Rodriguez has joined the staff of the *Ruidoso Free Press* as a general assignment reporter. Rodriguez, a native of Southern California, comes to the *Free Press* following a stint with the *Mountain Mail* newspaper of Socorro. He has lived in New Mexico for the past two years. "We are pleased to have Patrick with us on staff," said Eddie Farrell, editor of the *Free Press*. "Patrick brings a wealth of experience to Ruidoso, and we feel certain Patrick's background in journalism will be a benefit to not only the *Free Press* but to our readers as well." In a career that has spanned 10 years, Rodriguez has worked as a reporter, copy editor and editor for publications in Massachusetts, California, Arizona and New Mexico; among these were the *Ventura County (Calif.) Star*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *East Valley Tribune* of Mesa, Ariz.

He has reported on a wide range of subjects, from municipal meetings to features on small business owners to game stories on high school sports. He was also the editor of *USC Report*, a Huntington Beach, Calif.-based sports magazine devoted to the coverage of the University of Southern California athletic program. He also worked as an entertainment publicist for Latin music artists, helping them gain attention in the English-language media. Some of his former clients have included Grammy Award-winning artists Los Tigres del Norte and Pepe Aguilar. A former sales manager for Express, a national clothing retailer geared toward young men and women, Rodriguez is a graduate Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in management. At Wentworth he was the editor of the *Wentworth Spectrum*, the student campus publication. Rodriguez is enthusiastic about providing the people of Ruidoso and the other communities of Lincoln County with news, and would greatly appreciate any feedback regarding story ideas and ideas on how to improve coverage.

Pearce visits Cloudcroft

By Eddie Farrell
Editor

CLOUDCROFT — Money might not grow on trees, but according to Rep. Steve Pearce, the trees of Lincoln National Forest could be the start of the economic motor to revitalize the U.S. economy. Pearce toured several areas, both privately and federally owned, to point out the difference in forestry practices to support a proposed bill, H.R. 1202, which would designate sanctuaries for the endangered Mexican Spotted Owl, but also allow for millions of acres of federal forestland to be harvested. Addressing a large number of constituents at Cloudcroft Village Hall spoke briefly about his bill — a two page document that would require the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to establish a preservation program for the Mexican Spotted Owl, preferably in sanctuaries of

approximately 3,000 acres, fires, and has actually proven to be disruptive to the Spotted Owl. Pearce toured two areas — one on federal land and one privately owned — to examine examples of proper and mismanaged timber practices. Otero County Commission Chair Ronny Rardin, who accompanied Pearce on the tour, noted that it was common to find as many as 2,500 trees to the acre Lincoln National Forest. "We shouldn't have more than 125 trees to the acre here," Rardin said. The result of the overgrowth, Rardin said, was that the Mexican Spotted Owl had relocated to the Mescalero Apache Reservation, where the properly forested land allowed for the endangered bird to thrive. "They can't fly in there," Rardin said, pointing at the impenetrable canopy of Ponderosa pine and fir trees. Pearce prefaced his presentation by outlining the massive U.S. debt and his belief that the only way to cut into the federal deficit was to create new jobs. H.R. 1202, he said, would go far to replacing an estimated 20,000 logging industry jobs lost in New Mexico. Under Pearce's plan, portions of U.S. Forest Service land would be contracted out in 5,000-acre allotments for logging purposes. Because Lincoln National Forest is considered habitat for the Mexican Spotted Owl, virtually all timber cutting, except for trees less than 24 inches, has been banned. The result has been disastrous, Pearce said, with overgrowth, an abundance of fuel to contribute to wild-

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VETERAN PROFILE: Eugene Kurtz Kurtz a globetrotter in his time

By Todd Fuqua
Reporter

Everyone's life has some ups and downs. Eugene Kurtz can use that statement to literally describe his time on Earth.

The U.S. Navy veteran has been all across the globe as a destroyer sailor in the North and South Atlantic, and served in China following World War II.

But after he was discharged, he got the first of several jobs that would take him to even more points on the globe.

He's worked as an elevator mechanic, electrician, and superintendent for various construction companies in the Middle East and the Philippines, and helped build airports in Turkey.

It's a long, winding road that eventually found Kurtz enjoying his retirement in Ruidoso.

"I've probably spent more time out of the country as in it," Kurtz said.

Military service

Kurtz's military career began when he was 17, when he enlisted out of high school from Milton, Penn., and did a civilian cruise until he turned 21, "when I didn't need my parents' permission," Kurtz said.

During World War II, Kurtz served as a ship's gunner on a destroyer, going after submarines in the South Atlantic.

"We attacked a few subs, one we were certain of sinking," Kurtz said. "I was in charge of the torpedoes and depth charges."

One of his jobs as gunner was to shoot down floating mines which threatened shipping lanes.

"I was ordered to fire my 20mm and asked to hit those things," Kurtz said. "We



sunk a bunch of mines and kept a bunch of freighters from sinking."

Kurtz also had one tour of duty in the North Atlantic, but it's not one he remembers fondly.

"It was rough - rough seas and ice on everything," Kurtz said. "We were using baseball bats to beat the ice off. I don't know why sea water thinks it can freeze so fast to steel like that."

Following the war, Kurtz was stationed in Shanghai, China, where he served as a courier for the U.S. embassy. He was trained for a shore battalion, during which he and his fellow sailors were accosted by the local populace.

"Mao Tse Tung wanted the Americans out, and they had hoes, reapers, pitchforks, anything they had to use for weapons," Kurtz said. "We had been given machine guns, but no bullets and instructions not to use them. But I go a hold of a magazine and fired one round at the stone paving, which immediately became shrapnel."

That one shot ended the would-be



riot, but didn't please the American Consulate.

"I came close to a court martial, but when it was explained what we were facing, I just got chewed out and went back to Oakland."

It was not the first time Kurtz had run afoul of the powers-that-be. He began his naval career in the electronics school, but was also in charge of getting the naval contingent of 40 sailors to lunch, breakfast and class, meaning he didn't have much of a chance to study.

"I got caught studying after lights out and was written up," Kurtz said. "I was told to either study or do my job, and I said 'like hell.'"

He was on a train within two hours. "It was the fastest transfer you've ever seen."

When he tried to re-enlist after returning to Oakland, he was told it wasn't necessary, due to his "lack of discipline."

He was discharged with a certificate of separation, but the only reason he doesn't have an honorable discharge is

because they weren't given out by the military until after he left the service.

"I had to explain that a lot of younger veterans," he said.

More travel

Following his discharge, Kurtz used the GI Bill to go into business school, but found he could make more money as a mechanic for an elevator company and spent the next 20 years doing that job.

He volunteered to work overseas for Westinghouse and was sent to Turkey to oversee various construction sites in Saudi Arabia, UAE (United Arab Emirates), Singapore and the Philippines.

While in Singapore, one of the more unusual things he did was to buy himself a junk and try to "sail that piece of wood. Don't ask me why."

He later returned to the states and worked on offshore drilling rigs in the Gulf of Mexico before returning to the elevator business.

He eventually had to retire when the company he worked for ceased to exist and then got interested in the American Legion, moving to Ruidoso in 1991.

He was named Commander of Post 79. He held that position until January of this year.

"I hit my 85th birthday and said that was it for me. Now I just watch to make sure the new officers don't screw up," Kurtz joked.

In his time as post commander, Kurtz helped to remodel the Post's building in Ruidoso Downs, as well as remodeling his own house. Now that he's no longer in charge of the local Legion, Kurtz has found other things to take his time.

"I've been working to get Fort Stanton back open for veterans' burials. That's something I'm passionate about," Kurtz said.

US Navy volunteers clean up at Fort Stanton

Fort Stanton State Monument was honored to host troops from Navy Headquarters NSWC PHD DET WS based at White Sands Missile Range during the weekend of March 11. Volunteers dedicated their weekend to cleaning and repainting the Nurses' Quarters, a building on the fort's quad that dates to the early 1940s. Once cleaning and repairs to the Nurses' Quarters have been completed, the facility will be used to host volunteers to the site.

Representatives from the Navy have been organizing their volunteer efforts to assist the fort since last fall, their initiatives being temporarily postponed by the winter season. The Navy has been collaborating with Ranger Bill Rogge (Lincoln State Monument) and members of Fort Stanton, Inc. to create a list of tasks that they can work on at the Fort. The volunteers took advantage of warming temperatures to finally begin their work.

The Navy volunteers were so pleased with their experience at Fort Stanton that they have committed themselves to continue working on other projects at the site. Their hard work was rewarded by a Friday supper and Saturday lunch sponsored by Fort Stanton, Inc., the official friends group to the Monument.

Many volunteers have dedicated much time and effort to supporting the preservation of the fort. It is through relationships and networks, such as the one created with the Navy, that will help ensure that the fort will be a great place to visit and enjoy.

If you or local organizations are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities at Fort Stanton State

Monument, please contact Bennie Long, 575-653-4468, bennie.long@state.nm.us. To learn more about becoming a member of Fort Stanton, Inc. or becoming a financial supporter to the site, please contact Clinton Smith, 575-258-5702, pscsm58@windstream.net. Learn more about Fort Stanton State Monument at www.fortstanton.com.

Fort Stanton information:

Admission to Fort Stanton State Monument Museum is free, donations accepted. To schedule guided tours, please call 575-354-0341.

Located in Lincoln County 7 miles SE of Capitan near U.S. 380.

April 1 - November 30, open 7 days a week, 11 am - 5 pm.

December 1 - March 31, open weekends only, 10 am - 4 pm.



Photo courtesy of Joe Arcure

Troop members from Navy Headquarters did volunteer work at Fort Stanton State Monument. Volunteers included (left to right) GM1 Jason Sloan; FC2 Todd Payton; GM1 Martin Castro; FC2 Richard Rohrer; FC2 Jacquelyn Gregory; Lt. Shawn Mitchell; FC1 Rogelio Ramirez; FC2 Dominique Sanchez; FC1 Omar Gonzalez; and GM2 Matthew Lozowy.

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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Veterans burial at Fort Stanton cemetery

Please do not let this important matter be passed over and forgotten. Write letters, talk with county commissioners, friends and neighbors. We can't let our veterans down. Their families need peace at a time of grief. As a widow of a service member, my plan has been to be buried by my husband. Now I am told no, that will not happen. I had permission, in writing, (that) just doesn't count now? Please help us, we can change this.

Barbra A Jones Ruidoso Downs

Dear Editor,

Parents and grandparents, were you a voice for your children or grandchildren during our state's 2011 legislative session?

The following are excerpts from one of the letters that I wrote to Gov. Susana Martinez:

New Mexico is pathetically ranked as our nation's fifth-worst state in which to raise kids;

There are no issues more important than children issues. I see through your inactions that you disagree. "Actions (and inactions) speak louder than words;"

I am an unaffiliated voter who voted for you. Like my state senator, Tim Jennings (D) and my state representative, Nora Espinoza (R), you have definitely let me and more importantly our state's children down;

I understand that you spent some of your unused campaign money on radio ads, in which you requested that we New

Mexicans contact our state legislators and voice our opposition to the issuing of drivers' licenses to illegal aliens. Why didn't you also buy radio ads asking us to contact our legislators on the following:

Our state is seventh, per capita, in violent crime — many of the victims have been minors;

Some mothers are giving birth to drug addicted babies who will be mentally disabled for life;

Cruel, independent adults can torture and take the lives of dependent, innocent babies without the fear of losing their own lives;

More of our state's children will suffer from cancer, respiratory ailments, etc., due to second-hand, medical marijuana smoke;

Our state is ranked, per capita, fourth in children living in poverty, due significantly to the frivolous civil lawsuits against businesses and the fact that New Mexico isn't a right-to-work state.

Unlike you, I truly believe that the health and lives of our children are far more important than an education for our youth and the issuing of drivers' licenses to illegal aliens.

Franklin L. Boren

Letters to the editor policy:

Letters should be 300 words or less and signed with a name and phone number. Letters are accepted via email, regular postage or in person at our office, eddie@ruidosofreepress.com; 1086 Mechem Drive at MTD Media

Pearce forms Veterans Advisory Council

Congressman Steve Pearce announced his newly assembled Veterans Advisory Council.

The purpose of the council is to give veterans a voice on pressing issues. Through the council, Pearce will actively seek feedback and ideas on how to best serve local veterans. The Congressman's formation of the council has received widespread and enthusiastic support from New Mexican veterans' groups.

"This is a tremendous plan to help New Mexico's veterans" said Robert Cano, commander of a Las Cruces chapter of Disabled American Veterans. "In doing this, Congressman Pearce will get the general consensus from veterans across the state, from all different backgrounds. Our voices will be heard in Washington."

Local American Legion commander Clint Dozier called the council "a great idea." Dozier explained that "people like the Congressman need to have a pulse on local veterans' issues, and this is a great way to do that."

The announcement was at Veterans' Park in Las Cruces, as part of a weekend of ceremonies to honor New Mexico's veterans, including a welcome-home ceremony for Vietnam veterans held at the park. Pearce is cosponsoring a bill to designate March 30 as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

Pearce expressed eagerness to continue his work for veterans through this new program. "I am pleased to announce this Veterans Advisory Council," said Pearce. "As a Vietnam veteran, I understand the complexity and importance of veterans' issues. As a legislator, I understand the need to reach out to those who will be affected by legislation and those who know the issues at hand. This group brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to aid in the formulation of strong policy."

Kevin Dasing, who will serve as chair of the council, said, "I applaud the Congressman for his insight in putting this council together. This is the first council of its kind in New Mexico, and it will be a pleasure working with Mr. Pearce to address veterans' issues."

Las Cruces Vietnam veteran Bruce Forrest said "this will definitely help out" with the needs of veterans, "especially with all the vets out there who don't know who to talk to or where to go to get the help they need. With members of the council from across southern New Mexico, the Congressman will be able to help all these forgotten heroes."

"We must be heard as veterans," said Cano, "and Mr. Pearce has always made sure that our voices are heard. The Congressman has always sat down to listen to us as veterans; he listens to us. And on top of that, his people are always easy to reach. I am very grateful for Mr. Pearce's work for veterans."

The council will meet regularly by telephone to discuss issues and problems. On a quarterly basis, they will meet with Congressman Pearce, to present him with priorities to carry to Washington and facilitate change.

Pearce, himself a decorated veteran, has made service to America's veterans a priority throughout his over six years in Congress. Pearce logged over 518 hours of combat flight in Vietnam, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He separated honorably with the rank of Captain.

The initial members of the board are as follows:

Eliseo "Eli" Arrellano — Arrellano, a Vietnam veteran, served as a Marine for three years. He lives in Anthony, where he is a member of several veterans' organizations.

Larry Candelaria — Candelaria, a



Courtesy photo
Congressman Steve Pearce with members of his advisory council in Las Cruces

Vietnam veteran, served in the Army for over 20 years. He lives in Las Cruces, where he is a VA Veterans Advocate.

Charlie Daniels — Daniels, a Vietnam veteran, served in the Army for three years. He lives in Carlsbad, where he is active with the local chapter of the VVA, the American Legion, and Vietnam Veterans.

Kevin Dasing — Dasing, a veteran of Desert Storm, served in the Army for 20 years. Dasing lives in Las Cruces, where he is active with a variety of veterans organizations. Dasing will serve as chair of the Veterans Advisory Council.

James Dickman — Dickman, a Vietnam veteran, served in the Air Force for four years. He lives in Carlsbad, where he is active with the local chapter of the VVA, the American Legion, and Vietnam Veterans.

Frank Donohue — Donohue, a Vietnam veteran, served in the Marines for five years. He lives in Silver City, where he is active with the Marine Corps League, the American Legion, and the VFW.

Lori M. English — English, a Vietnam veteran, served as a Marine for two years. She lives in Las Cruces, where she is involved with the Women's Marine Association.

Robert Gonzales — Gonzales served in the Marines, Army, and National Guard for a nine years. He lives in Socorro, where he is active with the Disabled American Veterans.

John Holguin — Holguin, a Vietnam veteran, served in the Marines for three years. He lives in Anthony, where he is a member of the New Mexico Veterans Museum Board.

Don Hunter — Hunter, a veteran of Desert Storm, served in the Marines for 26 years, and currently lives in Roswell. He is actively involved in local veterans groups, including the Marine Corps League.

Jim Martinez — Martinez, a Vietnam veteran, served as a Marine for 30 years. He lives in Los Lunas, where he is active with the 3rd Marine Division and other organizations.

Harry McGraw — McGraw, a Vietnam veteran, served in the Air Force for four years. He currently lives in Roswell, where he is active with numerous veterans organizations.

Ron McKay — McKay, a Vietnam veteran, retired with the rank of Colonel, after serving in the Marines for 27 years. He currently lives in Roswell, where he serves with a variety of veteran's organizations.

Leonard Ramirez — Ramirez, a Viet-



nam veteran, served in the Marines for three years. He lives in Anthony, where he is a member of several veterans' organizations.

Charles Revie — Revie, a Vietnam vet-

eran, served in the Army for over 20 years. He lives in Las Cruces, where he is the national legislative director for the Uniformed Services Disabled Retirees.

Peter Romero — Romero, a Vietnam veteran, served as a Marine for eight years. He lives in Socorro, where he is active with the Disabled American Veterans and the Vietnam Veterans.

Douglas Shaw — Shaw, a veteran of Desert Storm and Desert Shield, served as a Marine for 17 years. He currently lives in Roswell, where he is active with the Marine Corps League and other veterans' organizations.

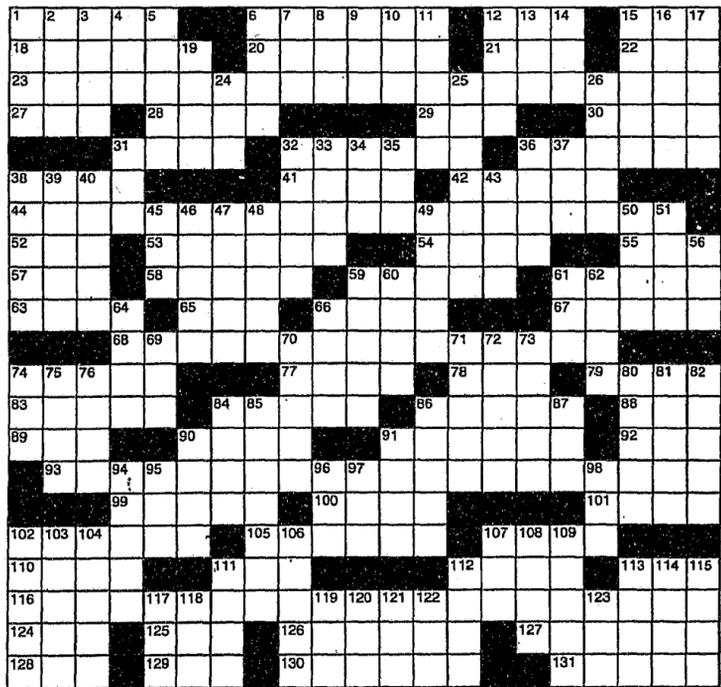
Paul Clinton Smith — Smith, a veteran of Vietnam, served in the Air Force for 25 years, and currently lives in Ruidoso. He currently serves as the president of the Ft. Stanton Volunteers.

John Taylor — Taylor, a Vietnam veteran, served in the army for five years. He currently lives in Roswell, where he is active with the Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, and the Marine Corps League.

Jim Zawacki — Zawacki, a Vietnam veteran, served in the Air Force for 8 years. He lives in Silver City, where he is active with a variety of veterans' organizations.

Super Crossword IN LINE

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| ACROSS | Khan | green | head- | 60 Vacation | Babilonia |
| 1 School tool | 63 Naldi or | 113 Year, in | quarters? | sensation | 97 Amis' |
| 6 Sahara | Talbot | Yucatan | 15 Anatole | 61 Numbers | "Lucky —" |
| 12 Crestfallen | 66 Mardi — | 116 BLOOD | France | man? | 98 Sound of |
| 15 Pigskin prop | 67 Went white | LINE | novel | 62 Kansas city | disapproval |
| 18 "Carmen" | 68 HAIR LINE | 124 Actor Chaney | 16 Combs of | 64 Soon | 102 Under the |
| and "The | 74 Breakfast | 125 Past | baseball | 66 Show one's | — (secretly) |
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EDUCATION



Meeting Mamie

Courtesy photos

Vivacious and popular First Lady Mamie Eisenhower came to the Village of Ruidoso Public Library last Monday in a Chautauqua portrayed by Kay Sebring-Roberts Kuhlmann. At the request of the librarians, Seth Temple brought his diorama about President Dwight D. Eisenhower made for Mrs. Ensor's 3rd grade class. After the Chautauqua, the attendees enjoyed studying the diorama with all the information on the life and career of President Eisenhower. Seth got the opportunity to meet "Mrs. Ike." Ruidoso Public Library is located at 107 Kansas City Road, Ruidoso. Library hours are: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



By special arrangement with Samuel French -

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will be presented in The Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Complex (RSPAC) at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday evenings April 8, 9, 15 and 16

Tickets at the door are \$12 and \$10 in advance at the following locations: High Country Lodge and The Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce.

Advance purchase tickets available beginning Monday, April 4. Preview the dress and technical rehearsals for \$5 at the door on Thursdays April 7 and 14. Curtain 7 p.m.

Contact phone: Ruidoso High School 575-258-4910
Inksa@ruidososchools.org

Rabies found in Eddy County

The New Mexico Department of Health reported on Wednesday, March 23 that a skunk from the Artesia area of Eddy County tested positive for rabies. No human, livestock or pet exposures are known, but local animal control will be checking in the neighborhood to see if anyone noticed the rabid skunk having contact with any children, pets or livestock.

"A skunk positive for rabies means that there are other skunks and potentially other wildlife in the area that also have rabies," said Dr. Paul Ettestad, the Department of Health's public health veterinarian. "Horse and pet owners need to protect their animals by having them up-to-date on their rabies vaccines. This will also help to protect their children and other family members from rabies if their horse, dog or cat tangles with a rabid animal," adds Dr. Ettestad.

Ettestad also states that even if pets only go outside occasionally they can be attacked by a rabid animal. Animals that are not vaccinated and are bitten by a rabid animal can

be dangerous and expose people to rabies before they die. Rabies is a fatal disease if it is not treated before symptoms develop.

The risk of being exposed to rabies can be greatly decreased by taking the following precautions:

- Do not handle wild animals. Feed your pets indoors and do not toss table scraps into your yard.
- Teach your children to stay away from wild animals or animals they do not know.
- If skunks or other wild animals are lurking around your yard and acting sick or abnormal, contact your local animal control department.
- Supervise your pets to prevent exposure. Obey leash laws and keep your pets restrained.
- If your pet is bitten by a wild animal or a stray domestic animal, contact your local animal control department and take your pet to your veterinarian, even if the wound is superficial.

If you are bitten or scratched by a wild animal or a pet, The New Mexico Department of Health recommends the following guidelines:

- Wash all wounds and contact areas thoroughly with soap and water.
- Contact your physician immediately for evaluation. The Department of Health is available to physicians for consultation about rabies at (505) 827-0006.
- Call the local animal control department to report the incident; provide them with an accurate description of the animal.
- Try to keep the animal confined, but don't risk further injury if the animal is dangerous.
- Keep children away from all animals involved in the incident

For more information about rabies, visit the New Mexico Department of Health website at <http://nmhealth.org/ERD/HealthData/rabies.shtml>.

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Looking for a Summer Job?
The Public Swimming Pool will be hiring soon. Take advantage of this class. Class is open to ages 15-23.

The class will be conducted at the Ruidoso Athletic Club starting April 2

Sat., April 2:
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Mon., April 4:
7:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wed., April 6:
7:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Sat., April 9:
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Jim Capper, Coach and Water Safety Instructor, 575.257.8738 or Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department 575.257.5030

*Note: Students under 18 must have a parent release form signed before class begins. Forms available at the Ruidoso Athletic Club.

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On the Town

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Heart prepares to rock IMG

By Eddie Farrell
Editor

Nancy Wilson isn't shy about her age, or where Heart, the band she and sister Ann have fronted since the 1970s, stands in the history of rock and roll.

But if you start talking to her about how gifted a guitar player she is, one can almost see her blush across the airwaves.

Heart will be appearing at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 31 at Inn of the Mountain Gods and in preparation, the now 57-year-old – “and proud of every wrinkle that brought me here” – rock legend took a few moments to talk with the *Ruidoso Free Press*.

Wilson promised concert goers will receive a show bristling with old favorites and a sprinkling of newer songs perhaps the average Heart fan hasn't heard.

“It's going to be a full band, retrospective kind of show,” Wilson said. “We have pretty much of the familiar songs that people really want to hear and that we still love to play. I mean, it wouldn't be much of a summer night without “Crazy on You” and “Barracuda,” and some of the 80's hits.”

“We do play some of the newer songs, and I think it's working out really well with the way we've placed them (in the set).”

The newer songs will come from Heart's 2010 album, *Red Velvet Car*,

the group's 13th release as a band.

According to Wilson, *Red Velvet Car* brings Heart's career full circle, with cuts running the gamut of styles the band has always been known for: hard driving rock, sultry blues and tender acoustics.

Wilson said much of the acoustic guitar work featured on the album was the result of working with Ben Mink, the album's producer, who also produced Ann Wilson's 2006 solo album, *Hope and Glory*.

“He plays electric guitar and fiddle, he also wrote some with us and he is one of my favorite acoustic players,” Wilson said. “When he was doing Ann's solo album we found such a groove with each other as players.”

While other guitarists have had major roles in the various Heart compilations, a guitar-slinging Nancy and power vocalist Ann have always been the centerpiece attractions.

“I started playing acoustic, even electric, guitars when I was really little, probably about 9, and I found such a passion for it,” Wilson said. “Ann was always kind of the singer, and I was the player. I



sing too, but I come by way of the guitar. It's the door through which I walk.”

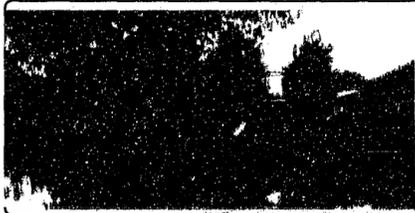
Over the years, the sisters have played in every type of venue imaginable, but Wilson said there's something very special about playing venues such as Inn of the Mountain Gods.

“You know, it's very cool to play the big places sometimes, but a lot of times the smaller places are great because you can just get a sense for the people in

the audience. It's intimate and it's fun. There's a real dialogue between the band and the people in the audience, and it's really a beautiful thing.”

Tickets for Heart's performance start at \$40 and can be purchased at the Inn of the Mountain Gods box office, online at www.innofthemountaingods.com or by calling 575-464-7508.

For more on Heart, go to www.heart-music.com.



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Dierks Bentley at Inn of the Mountain Gods April 7

Celebrating its 20th year on the road, the Jagermeister Country Tour featuring platinum-selling Dierks Bentley stops at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Thurs., April 7 at 8 p.m. With tickets starting at just \$25 available now at www.InnOfTheMountainGods.com, don't miss an evening packed with country action and top hits from the Tour's headliner, Grammy-nominee Dierks Bentley. Joining the stage is singer-songwriter Josh Thompson alongside the up-and-coming country duo Miss Willie Brown.

Headlining the 2011 Jagermeister Country Tour, Dierks Bentley gets the crowds energized with popular hits and crowd favorites. Diving into the music scene in 2003, Dierks released a self-titled debut album yielding the smash hit “What Was I Thinkin'” followed by the gold-certified album *Long Trip Alone* in 2006. Greatest Hits: *Every Mile a Memory* hit shelves in 2008 featuring No. One hits such as “Come a Little Closer” and “Every Mile a Memory” prior to the 2009 release of *Feel That Fire*. Bentley's most recent work includes 2010's *Up on the Ridge* and, in addition, the past Grammy-nominee has toured alongside Brad Paisley and Darius Rucker.



Singer-songwriter Josh Thompson joins the Jagermeister Country Tour performing songs off the 2010 debut album *Way Out Here*. Packed with high energy, the album showcases Thompson's real-life experiences including the patriotic track “You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet” and the story of a small town reputation in “Name in This Town.”

Releasing the first single “Freeland” last fall, up-and-coming country duo Miss Willie Brown are also slated to hit the stage. The duo, featuring Texas native Kasey Buckley and West Virginia native Amanda Watkins, have been featured on Jimmy Kimmel Live and have also performed with Randy Travis at the House of Blues in Anaheim, Calif.

To purchase tickets to the Jagermeister Country Tour, visit www.InnOfTheMountainGods.com

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On the Town

Ditch the bottled pasta sauce!



Pasta Bolognese is a great and easy meal to make that your family will be sure to love. It also holds very well in the freezer, so you can double or even triple this recipe and freeze what you don't eat and use it the next time you need a quick meal.

Bolognese sauce comes from a town in northern Italy Bologna. Yes, it is the same place that the round steak we all made sandwiches out of when we were kids was invented, but most native Bolognas would not recognize Oscar's version of bologna. But, that's another story. This week we are talking about the pasta sauce that comes from Bologna.

In Bologna it's not called Bolognese sauce, but rather it's called Ragu alla Bolognese that means meat sauce. It is never served with spaghetti but larger pasta, like pappardelle, tagliatelle, fettuccine, or other ribbon pasta you can use penne pasta too, it's a thick sauce so you want good size pasta so it will stick to it. It's too heavy of a sauce for angel hair pasta.

After making this sauce, the last thing you want to do is not cook the pasta perfect, so here are my top ten tips to remember when cooking Pasta:

1. You need a big pot. For one pound of pasta you will need 6 quarts of water.
2. Don't add pasta or salt until the water comes to a rolling boil. Once the water comes to a boil, add enough salt to make the water taste like the ocean. Then, add the pasta.
3. Once you add the pasta, stir it for about 30 seconds and



don't put a lid on it. You will need to stir it often.

4. Never, ever add oil. Pasta, if properly cooked, shouldn't stick. The oil will actually coat the noodles and prevent the sauce from sticking.

5. Don't listen to the old saying "If it's done, it will stick to the wall." The only way to know if it's done is to taste it. It should be al dente "to the tooth." cooked completely, but not soft and overdone. The more you cook pasta, the gummier it gets. So, if it sticks to the wall most likely it's over cooked. And if you're going to use the pasta in a baked dish, you will need to

under cook it and finish it off in the oven.

6. Never rinse pasta after cooking it. This will just make it cold and rinse off the starch that helps bind the sauce to it.

7. Never break the pasta into little pieces before cooking it. This will make it hard to twirl onto your fork, which is very un-Italian. Once you add the pasta, just stir it for a few minutes until it's all under the boiling water.

8. You want a colander ready. You have to get it out of the water as soon as possible. The water will thin the sauce and not allow it to stick to the pasta, and it will keep cooking it.



Brendan Gochenour

9. Serve the pasta as soon as possible. Remember last week we talked about residual heat? This will keep cooking the pasta.

10. Serve it in a large warm shallow bowl. A flat plate will allow the pasta to cool quickly.

Bolognese Sauce

Make about 6 cups

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound ground beef
- ½ pound bulk Italian sausage
- 1 cup onion finely chopped
- ½ cup carrot finely chopped
- ½ cup celery finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- ½ cup half and half
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1 28 oz. can diced tomatoes
- 1/3 cup tomato paste
- ½ tablespoon dried oregano
- ½ teaspoon crushed red chili seed
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¼ cup parsley finely chopped

½ cup parmigiano reggiano grated

Directions

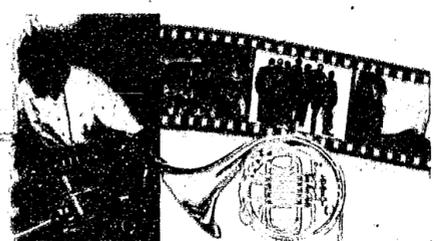
In a large skillet over medium heat, add olive oil. Once oil is heated, add finely chopped onions, carrots and celery and sauté for 2 minutes. If you can't get them chopped finely, you can always use a food processor. You do not want any big chunks of vegetables because this is a very smooth sauce, but don't let them brown. Next, add ground beef and ground sausage and stir until they are both broken up into very small pieces. Continue to cook for ten minutes or until the meat is cooked well. Next add wine, diced tomatoes, tomato paste, and red peppers seeds and continue to cook, but turn the heat to medium low and let it simmer for 30 minutes. Next, add half and half, garlic, basil, oregano, and kosher salt and pepper, simmer for another ten minutes and then add fresh finely chopped parsley. The sauce should be very smooth and rich in flavor. To serve, place 4 oz. of cooked pasta in a bowl and add 1 cup of sauce over the pasta and top with grated parmigiano reggiano. With some garlic bread and a nice bottle of Chianti, you can't go wrong.

I hope you enjoy this recipe, and remember, life is too short to use processed food... or maybe that is why life is too short... so step away from the pasta sauce in a can and give this one a try! You will surely taste the differences.

Happy cooking and have a great week!

On the Town

entertainment calendar



Super Crossword

Answers

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TUESDAY MARCH 29
Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30

Preschool Story time every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Village of Ruidoso Public Library. Bedtime stories—bring your blankets, pillows, stuffed animals & wear your pajamas!

Be sure you bring your stuffed animal—don't forget! Story time usually ends around 11:15 a.m. Ruidoso Public Library is located at 107 Kansas City Road, Ruidoso. Library hours are: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. www.yousemore.com/ruidoso/pl

Crimestoppers Fundraiser Ruidoso High School Gym, 7 p.m. "Donkey" Basketball tournament. Advance tickets \$6 and at door \$8. Pre-school is free. 4 teams will be participating: Government team, School Team, Public safety officials, and business. McGruff will also be there. Advance tickets can be purchased at Farm Bureau at 1207 Mechem Dr or Ruidoso Flower Shop at 353 Sudderth Dr. More Info: Rutalee Todd 575-258-1431

Farmer's Market at SBS Wood Shavings in Glencoe from 9 to 11 a.m.

Karaoke with DJ Pete at Lucy's Mexicali Restaurant in Midtown from 9:30 p.m. to close.

The Sterilizers perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 6 to 9 p.m.

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

THURSDAY MARCH 31

Heart Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino, 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$40. The group rose to fame in the 1970s with their music being influenced by hard rock as well as folk music. The band enjoyed a comeback in 1985, experiencing further successes with their power ballads and pop hits into the 90s. Heart made a return to their hard rock/acoustic roots of the late 70s. To date, they have sold over 35 mil-



lion albums worldwide. More Info: 575-464-7777 Web: www.ticketmaster.com

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

FRIDAY APRIL 1

Sheng Zhen Qi Gong at the High Mesa Healing Center will be held each Friday and Monday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. during the month of April. Facilitated by Barbara Humble. Everyone is invited to attend. Donations are welcome.

Bonito Lake opens for fishing. More Info: 575-439-4240 or 575-336-4157

Cantina Night at Laughing Sheep Farm, 1 mile west of Lincoln, Hwy 380, mm 96, from 5 to 9 p.m. Live music with guitar and fiddle playing Western Swing.

Mike Sanjku performs in Wendell's Restaurant at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 to 10 p.m.

Doug Fuqua performs in Wendell's Lounge at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Things to do every day

Ruidoso River Museum open at 101 Mechem Drive in the building which previously housed Rush Ski Shop. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday. Admission is \$5 for Adults and \$2 for Children.

Smokey Bear Park is open in Capitán. The Smokey Bear Historical Park is located on highway 380 (bet-

Tomas Vigil performs at Landlocked Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 6 to 9 p.m.

Michael Beyer performs older songs and jazz at Kokopeli Country Club in Alto from 7 to 10 p.m.

Karaoke at The Elks Lodge on Highway 70, next to the Ruidoso Emporium, at 7 p.m. with All For Fun Karaoke.

Kyle Reed & James Prado perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant and Cantina on Mechem Drive from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Sam I Am performs at Club 49, inside Casino Apache at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino starting at 8 p.m.

Aaron R. Lacombe and Company perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 9 to 10 p.m.

Music & Video w/ DJ Mike at Lucy's Mexicali Restaurant in Midtown Ruidoso from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

SATURDAY APRIL 2

Trinity Site Tour Trinity Site, NM. Only possible twice a year (First Saturday of April and October). Free admission, no reservations necessary. Caravan will depart from Tularosa HS on the west side of the athletic field at 8 a.m. Line-up will begin at 7:15, return arrival at 2 pm. More Info: 575-437-6120 E-mail: pmd@aamogordo.com

Joan of Arc themes by Joanie Malkerson 16 Malkerson Mod-

ern Art Gallery on historic 12th Street. Art exhibition goes til April 16th. More Info: 575-648-2598

Mark Kashmar, acoustic guitars and vocals performs at Zocca Coffee from 2 - 4 p.m.

Doug Fuqua performs in Wendell's Lounge at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 to 11 p.m.

Mike Sanjku performs in Wendell's Restaurant at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 to 10 p.m.

Tomas Vigil performs at Landlocked Restaurant & Bar on Mechem from 6 to 9 p.m.

The House Band performs at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 7 to 9 p.m.

Sam I Am performs at Club 49, inside Casino Apache at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino starting at 8 p.m.

Aaron LaCombe Band performs at Casa Blanca Restaurant and Cantina on Mechem Drive from 9 to 10 p.m.

Michael Beyer performs older songs and jazz at Kokopeli Country Club in Alto from 7 to 10 p.m.

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

SUNDAY APRIL 3

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

MONDAY APRIL 4

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Simulcast Horse Racing at Billy the Kid's Race Book at Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino. Simulcast races are shown live from across the country and betting windows are open to place your wager. Billy's Race Book also serves delicious food and has a full bar. If you love horse racing, it is the place to go every day.

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SPORTS

RESULTS

March 24

Baseball

NMMI Sertoma tournament at Roswell

Capitan 12, Lordsburg 7

Softball

Lindsey Callaway softball tournament at Dexter

Loving 15, Capitan 0
Dexter 21, Ruidoso 11

March 25

Baseball

Lubbock Christian 23, Ruidoso 11

NMMI Sertoma tournament at Roswell

NMMI 5, Capitan 4

Softball

Lindsey Callaway softball tournament at Dexter

Carlsbad C 11, Capitan 7
Hope Christian 14, Ruidoso 11

March 26

Baseball

Ruidoso 9, Lubbock Christian 8
Lubbock Christian 20, Ruidoso 0

NMMI Sertoma tournament at Roswell

Third place

Dexter 15, Capitan 5

Softball

Lindsey Callaway softball tournament at Dexter

Seventh place

Ruidoso 24, Capitan 11

SPORTS UPCOMING

March 28

Baseball

Capitan at Dora

Softball

Capitan at Alamogordo Freshmen (2)

Golf

Ruidoso in Carl and Georgia Seery Invite at Socorro, 9 a.m.

March 29

Softball

Capitan at Estancia, 3 p.m.

Tennis

Ruidoso at Alamogordo, 3 p.m.

Golf

Ruidoso in Carl and Georgia Seery Invite at Socorro, 9 a.m.

March 31

Softball

Mesilla Valley at Ruidoso, 3 p.m.

Tennis

NMMI at Ruidoso, 3 p.m.

Golf

Ruidoso in Great Eight Invite at The Links at Sierra Blanca, 9 a.m.

April 1

Softball

Dexter at Capitan (2), 3 p.m.

Track

Capitan, Mescalero, Carrizozo in Slade Relays at Tularosa, 3 p.m.

Tennis

Ruidoso at Artesia Tournament, 8 a.m.

Skiing

Ruidoso youth skiing in Smartwool Garner Games at Telluride, Colo.

April 2

Baseball

Portales at Ruidoso (2), 1 p.m.
Valley Christian at Capitan (2), 1 p.m.

Softball

West Las Vegas at Ruidoso (2), 11 a.m.

Track

Lordsburg at Mescalero (2), Noon

Track

Ruidoso in Ron Singleton at Carlsbad

Tennis

Ruidoso at Artesia Tournament, 8 a.m.

Skiing

Ruidoso youth skiing in Smartwool Garner Games at Telluride, Colo.

April 3

Skiing

Ruidoso youth skiing in Smartwool Garner Games at Telluride, Colo.

April 4

Golf

Capitan at Artesia Tournament, 8 a.m.

April 5

Baseball

Tularosa at Ruidoso (2), 3 p.m.
Gateway Christian at Capitan, 3 p.m.

Softball

Capitan at Estancia, 3 p.m.

Track

Carrizozo in Menaul Panther Invite at Albuquerque, 2 p.m.

Ruidoso has rough weekend series

By Todd Fuqua
Sports Editor

It was a mixed weekend for the Ruidoso Warriors in their three-game homestand with Lubbock Christian. In the end, the Warriors' lack of pitching and mental mistakes led to a 1-2 record for the series.

Ruidoso battled howling winds Friday, falling 23-11. They rebounded the following day with a walk-off grand slam by catcher Ryan Yacksich to win 9-8, but then dropped the final game 20-0.

The opener Saturday was initially a pitching clinic put on by Warrior starter Brendan Flack, who held the Eagles to just four hits and three runs through six innings before being lifted in the final frame.

"He wanted to finish it, we gave him a chance to finish if he could have got a quick out," said Ruidoso coach Gilbert Alvarado. "He still put in a great performance."

That great performance became a no decision when reliever Jared Lewis gave up four runs on four hits. A passed ball and a throwing error didn't help matters.

That inning gave Lubbock Christian an 8-5 lead going into the bottom of the final inning, and the Warriors responded.

Garrett Thompson got on first with a single, followed by a double by David Kacena that moved Thompson to third base.

That prompted an Eagle pitching change, and on came Chris Pacheco, who walked Forrest Sanchez to load the bases. Following a Jesse Scarafioti strikeout, Yacksich came to the



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press
Ruidoso catcher Ryan Yacksich is all smiles as he arrives at home plate after he hit a walk off grand slam Saturday in the first game of a double header with Lubbock Christian at White Mountain Athletic Complex.

plate. Yacksich hadn't had a stellar day hitting, having struck out twice, but he did walk earlier in the game, and courtesy runner Zech Elsey was able to score.

It turned out no courtesy runners were needed, as Yacksich took an 0-2 pitch over the right center fence for the grand slam to end the game.

"I had been swinging at pitches I shouldn't have been," Yacksich said of his prior struggles. "I knew it was time for a hit, and it was do or die. I had to get a hit."

The hit overshadowed a two home run, 3-RBI performance by Kayle Frierson, who was back in the lineup after a week of

recovering from a twisted ankle.

He was still hobbling, playing second base in the field, but it obviously didn't affect his performance at the plate. In fact, he was a little miffed Yacksich got the grand slam, as he was next at bat.

"I just wanted to hit another one," Frierson said. "I'm not at 100 percent yet, but it hasn't affected my hitting."

Hitting is something the Warriors did not have in game two, nor was there much pitching. Pacheco got the complete game victory for the Eagles, allowing just three hits and striking out 11 in the shutout.

Blustery game

The winds were howling

Friday at White Mountain Athletic Complex, but the 60 mph gusts were the least of the Ruidoso Warriors' worries.

What really plagued the Warriors were mental errors in their 23-11 loss to Lubbock Christian.

The Warriors spotted Lubbock Christian a 10-run lead through the first two innings before exploding for 10 runs of their own in the bottom of the second to tie things up.

The runs came on just two hits, as a majority of Warriors got on via walks against Eagle starter Ricky Contreras, although Jared Lewis capped the inning with an inside-the-park grand slam home run.

See WEEKEND, pg. 13



Photo by Karen Boehler
Carrizozo's Mark Vigil, left, hands the baton to Cole Hubbard on the last leg of the 4x400 relay Saturday during the Alfalfa Relays at Hagerman.

Carrizozo boys fifth at Hagerman

By Todd Fuqua
Sports Editor

They may have been short handed, but the Carrizozo boys and girls track teams turned in a respectable performance at this year's Alfalfa Relays in Hagerman over the weekend.

The boys finished fifth overall, while the girls—a small contingent—were seventh overall, tied with Melrose.

The meet was the first for several Lady Grizzlies, many of whom had been on the basketball team that made the trip to the Class B state tournament two weeks before.

Andrea Vigil was among them and finished third in the 400 meter dash, while Jenna Schartz finished second in both the 1600 and 3200-meter runs. She missed qualifying for state in the 3200-meter by just three seconds.

Additionally, Analicia Beltran won the discus throw, missing a qualifying mark by less than a foot

See TRACK, pg. 13

Tigers finish fourth at Sertoma

Karen Boehler and
Todd Fuqua

For the Ruidoso Free Press

It's a safe bet that losing a game by the 10-run rule in the fourth place game isn't how Capitan baseball coach James Weems wanted to end the Sertoma Classic in Roswell over the weekend.

After opening the tournament with a 12-7 victory over Lordsburg Thursday, the Tigers fell to NMMI, 5-4, then dropped a 15-5 decision to Dexter Saturday.

Capitan (2-3) spotted the Demons an eight-run lead through the first two innings before it was finally able to get on the board. Tiger shortstop Rudy Chavez singled up the middle to score Raul Villegas, and Chavez later scored on a triple by Logan Eshom.

But Dexter answered right back in the bottom of the third with four more runs, and the Tigers were scrambling to keep the game from ending early.

The Tigers put up three more runs in the fifth and sixth innings, but the Demons scored three in the bottom of the sixth to end the game early.

Mikey Hamm was the leading hitter for Capitan, going 3-for-3 at the plate. Chavez had three RBI, adding a sacrifice fly in the fifth and was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in the sixth to drive in a run.

NMMI gets revenge

Capitan already had a pair of wins over tournament host New Mexico Military Institute, so no one was expecting much when the two teams met in a championship semifinal game Friday.

But NMMI shocked the Tigers, taking a 5-4 seventh-inning victory in a game that saw two pitchers for each team put in solid performances Friday.

Both teams had identical line scores after one inning: two runs on two hits, one error and one runner left on base. NMMI's runs came on a walk to freshman pitcher Steele Blue, an error that moved pinch runner Bryce Villaneuve to second, and RBI single by Caleb Taylor and a solid single up the middle by junior Chance Cavin to score Taylor.

Capitan went up in the fourth on a

See TIGERS, pg. 13



Photo by Karen Boehler
Capitan's Josh Bellin-Gallagher connects during his team's semifinal game against New Mexico Military Institute in the Sertoma Classic, Friday, at Roswell.

Lincoln County teams falter at Lindsey Callaway

By Todd Fuqua and Karen Boehler

For the Ruidoso Free Press

The nightcap of the Lindsay Callaway Softball Tournament between host Dexter and Ruidoso started out as a pitchers duel, but quickly evolved into a hitter's - or at least a runner's - paradise in a 21-11 victory for Dexter.

Capitan didn't fare much better on day one, falling 15-0 to Loving.

The weekend was rough all around for both teams, as Ruidoso dropped a 14-11 decision to Hope Christian and Capitan lost to the Carlsbad C team, 11-7 on Friday.

Ruidoso's only win came in the seventh-place game, when they defeated Capitan 24-11.

In Thursday's opener, Demon pitcher Jenna Garcia and Warrior hurler Destri Vincent each faced only four batters in the opening inning, then, after giving up back-to-back singles that scored one Ru-

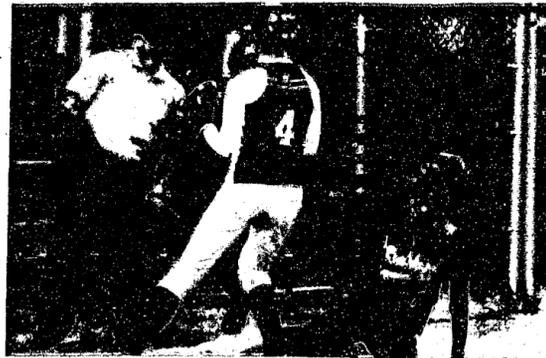


Photo by Karen Boehler

Ruidoso's Brandi Guevara (1) comes in to score on a wild pitch while Dexter's Jenna Garcia covers the plate Thursday at Dexter.

idoso run on a passed ball, Garcia struck out the side to make it 1-0 after 1 1/2 innings.

But Dexter came back strong in the bottom of the second, scoring six runs on

only one hit, but two walks, two hit batters, a wild pitch, a passed ball, a stolen base and an error.

Ruidoso didn't waste any time, matching those runs and adding one in the top of the third.

The Warriors started off with a home run by Shelby Walker that Ruidoso coach Salvador Beltran didn't think would make it.

"I thought it wasn't going to go over because it was so flat," he said. "It was just hit really hard."

If that would have been the only run, things would have been fine, but the Warriors scored five more runs on four sin-

gles, a triple and a crucial error that put Ruidoso up 7-6.

"We kind of dug ourselves a hole and we let them catch back up and gain the lead," said Demon coach Chandra Crandall. "I had to go out and talk to them and I told them, 'Straighten up. We can do this. Get that focus back and be moving quicker on the left side of the field.' And they did that. They made the correction."

Dexter retook the lead in the bottom of the stanza when Tamara Salas and Alyssa Sanchez walked and came home on a pair of wild pitches, a stolen base and a passed ball.

The Demons came alive in the fourth. Although they only had four hits - singles by Anissa Ybarra and Veronica Duran and doubles by Garcia and Sanchez - they sent 14 batters to the plate, scoring 10 runs on walks, hit batters, wild pitches, passed balls and four errors.

Dexter wrapped things up in the fifth by taking advantage of two Warrior errors along with a bunt single by Chavez.

Fitness champion



Courtesy

Jayla Miller McDermatt, a Ruidoso High School graduate and current resident of Trophy Club, Texas, finished fourth in her division at the International Arnold Amateur Fitness Championships March 5 in Columbus, Ohio. McDermatt defeated all other women in her division from the United States. McDermatt was supported by her daughter and mother - Judy Miller of Ruidoso Downs - during the competition.

Warrior golf sets sights on state

By Todd Fuqua
Sports Editor

The number of players are down for the Ruidoso boys and girls golf teams this season, but coaches Eric Eggleston for the boys and Melissa Misquez for the girls are hoping to get to state and compete well.

Their season got underway Monday at the Carl and Georgia Seery Invitational at Socorro, a tournament that concludes today. The home folks will get a chance to see the Warriors in action this Thursday during the Great 8 Invite at the Links at Sierra Blanca.

The season opener comes after spring break, although Eggleston isn't concerned that the kids have had a week off.

"Some are practicing!" on their own, but the lack of drive has been our problem in the past," Eggleston said. "It's a seasonal sport, but to be good at it, you have to play it year-round."

Jared Davis is the only senior out for the boys, but that doesn't mean the Warriors are young. Six juniors are vying for four remaining spots on the team, and three sophomores and a freshman will round out the JV squad.

The team Eggleston took to Socorro was Davis, juniors Jared Taylor, Tyler Coleman and Brandon Lewis, and sophomore Keenan Kane.

The girls are in a different situation, as only four girls have come out this year - all sophomores.

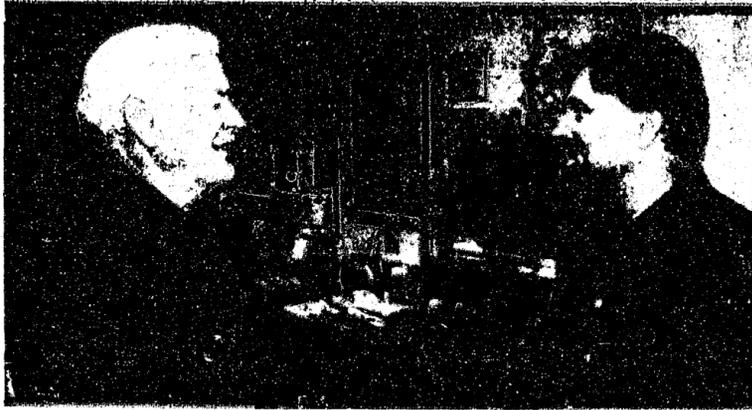
Hannah Denny, Allie Thompson and Melissa

Mota are all returners, while Julianne Lamb is out for the first time.

"They'll be good, they just don't have the experience," Misquez said. "Plus, everyone will have to have a good day on the course with only four players. We're kind of focusing on next year with this bunch."

That doesn't mean the Lady Warriors won't compete this year. Misquez believes getting to state is an achievable goal, mostly because the girls she has are committed to the program. "We have the dedication, they just need to play a lot," Misquez said. "They're all involved in other sports and activities, but I really don't want to hinder them there."

"By the time this four-some are seniors, they'll be really good."



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn, left, met with Ruidoso Osos operations manager Tim Waters to discuss the upcoming Pecos League season and what it means for the Village of Ruidoso.

Alborn meets with Oso brass

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor

The Ruidoso Osos baseball season gets closer with each passing day, and no one knows that better than Tim Waters.

Waters is the operations manager for the new professional team in the Pecos League, and he had an opportunity to sit down and speak with Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn Tuesday.

Waters, an Ohio native, has lived in Las Cruces the past three years and has come to love New Mexico. He emphasized to Alborn his desire to make the Osos a successful part of the community.

"This is a business, but it's a fun business," Waters told Alborn. "And for this business to succeed, we have to have a winning team. That will be our focus."

The pair discussed the need for host families for players, the lack of lights and alcohol sales at White Mountain Athletic Complex, and the impact the team could have on the village of Ruidoso.

Waters said the first players should start arriving in Ruidoso in the first week of May, with still one more tryout camp to be conducted in Ruidoso right before the beginning of the season.

The biggest issue is where a number of these players will stay while in Ruidoso. Waters is looking for host families to put up at least 10 of them during the season, which begins May 10 and runs through August.

Alborn said he's certain some residents will ask about the integrity of the players - ages 23-27 - and question whether they might want them in their home.

"The sticking point could be their perception of professional athletes," Alborn said.

Waters replied that these aren't stars yet.

"We're trying to make them stars, but they have a dream of getting to the big leagues, and they know better than to throw that dream away by doing something crazy," Water said.

Waters also stated the lack of alcohol sales at a park owned by the Ruidoso Municipal School District and maintained by the village has not hurt as much as one might think.

"I've got a lot of compliments from the locals that say they like that we're creating a family-friendly atmosphere here," Waters said. "We'd also like to work with the schools and have a kids' night at the ball park."

"No alcohol may cost more in the pocket, but it will be good in the long run," Alborn concurred.

The Osos season begins May 10 with a game against the Roswell Invaders at White Mountain Athletic Complex. Tickets can be purchased on line at www.ruidosoosos.com. Families interested in hosting players for the summer can also visit the website to sign up.

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TIGERS

single by Tracker Bowen, who later scored on single by Raul Villegas.

That put Capitan up 3-2 and that's where the score sat until the bottom of the fifth, when the Colts took a 4-3 lead on runs following a pair of ground outs.

Capitan later singled off reliever Caleb Saiz, then took advantage of one of only two Colts errors to tie it up in the top of the seventh.

Blue led off the bottom of the stanza with a double down the right-field line. Taylor was intentionally walked to put the force out back in play. After a wild pitch moved both Blue and Taylor up a base, the Tigers elected to intentional-

ly walk Bonhoff, allowing a force out at home plate.

Cavin then stepped into the batter's box with instructions from his coach.

On the first pitch, he hit a deep fly ball down the right-field line that fell in for the single, scoring Blue for the game-winning run.

Capitan coach James Weems was clearly disappointed, taking his team down the right-field line and making them run wind sprints.

"We obviously didn't hit the ball like we did the last two times we played them and those errors mean a lot. Six or seven," Weems said. "Hopefully we settle down and hit the ball and forget about this

From page 11

one and move on. This team is better than that and we know it. This is just one of those bumps and we've got to get over it."

Win over Lordsburg

An eight-run fifth inning is all Capitan needed to defeat Lordsburg in the first round Thursday.

The Tigers took advantage of five Lordsburg errors and got three hits in their big inning, eventually winning 12-7 to move on in the championship bracket.

In all, the Mavericks had 10 miscues in the game. Combined with the 10 hits racked up by Capitan (3-0), the Tigers were able to turn the game around after a slow start.

WEEKEND

From page 11

However, that was the big hurrah for Ruidoso. The only other Warrior run came in the fourth, when David Kacena scored on a double play grounder after singling.

Lubbock Christian, meanwhile, racked up 15 hits and were led by John Martinez, who went 3-for-3 with two triples and three runs batted in.

As difficult as the weekend was for the Ruidoso pitching staff, Alvarado knows this has all be a warmup to their District 4-3A games, the first two of which come against Portales at home April 2.

"We've now have 10 games, and that's all that matters," Alvarado said.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press
Ruidoso right fielder stretches to make a catch Saturday at White Mountain Athletic Complex.

Training races set for Ruidoso Downs

By Ty Wyant

Ruidoso Downs Race Track

Training races for 2-year olds are being scheduled at Ruidoso Downs to support horsemen preparing prospects for the summer season at Ruidoso Downs that begins with trials to the \$500,000 Ruidoso Futurity May 27.

The 330-yard training races will be held Monday, May 9, and additional training races will be provided May 10 and 11, if needed. The May 9 training races will be 18 days before the Ruidoso Futurity trials. Each race will be limited to six horses.

The training races will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day. On training-race mornings, plans call for the track to open at 6 a.m. and then close at 8 a.m. for renovation.

The papers of horses participating in the training races must be in the racing office by May 2 and the training races will be drawn on May 5.

The training races follow a weekend with the full-card simulcast wagering on the Kentucky Oaks program from Churchill Downs May 6 and the simulcast of the Kentucky Derby card from Churchill Downs May 7.

TRACK

From page 11



Photo by Karen Boehler
Corona's Taylor Huey races to a win in the 400-meter dash during the Alfalfa Relays Saturday at Hagerman.

with a throw of 91 feet, 10 1/2 inches. Lacey Myers was second in shot put with a throw of 39 feet, 11 inches.

The boys mile relay team of Tavi Nash, Carl Barela, Mark Vigil and Cole Hubbard finished first, but their time of 3:51.18 was still not fast enough to qualify for state. The 4x100 relay team was third, but coach Pat Ventura said the team was running slow due to starter Marshall Ventura's hamstring injury.

Other grizzlies to do well were Hubbard and Nash in the 400-meter dash. The pair finished third and fourth, but both qualified for state. Hubbard was also third in long jump, while Zachary Zamora took second in discus with a throw of 110 feet, one inch.

"We didn't have many there, but they had a super attitude," said coach Ventura. "I couldn't be happier with the work they're putting in and no complaints."

Other finishers

Carrizozo wasn't the only area school competing. The Corona Lady Cardinals finished with 25 1/2 points, mostly thanks to the running of Taylor Huey. She won the 200 and 400-meter dash and was third in the 100-meter dash.

Huey's times in the 200 and 400 were good enough for state, and she was .13 seconds too slow for a qualifying time in the 100-meter dash. Huey was also sixth in the long jump with a leap of 13 feet, six inches.

Mescalero was also represented. Valerie Garcia threw the javelin 89 feet even, good enough for fifth place, while Godfrey Cordova took second in Javelin with a state qualifying mark of 140 feet, 1 inch. Cordova was also sixth in the 200-meter dash, while teammate Aaron Kaydahzinne was fifth in the 1600-meter run and 3rd in the 3200 meter contest. Both of Kaydahzinne's times were good enough for state.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Golf fundraiser

The Ruidoso Junior Golf Association and the Ruidoso High School golf teams will host the a scramble at The Links at Sierra Blanca, April 2, with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Another scramble will be the following day, April 3, also at The Links with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. To sign up, call Melissa Miskuez at Cree Meadows at 257-5815.

Wilderness pacers

The Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department is challenging Ruidoso residents to walk, run or jog for health.

Participants are asked to predict how long it will take them to cover a short or long course without wearing a watch in a competition against yourself. The participant closest to their predicted time receives a T-shirt. Staff from parks and recreation will time all individuals.

Races are run at the Links Sierra Blanca Trail every Wednesday evening starting at 5:15 and 6:15 p.m. The even is open to all ages. For more information, call 257-5030.

Donkey basketball

Come and cheer your friends and neighbors as they take part in the Dairyland donkey basketball show in the Ruidoso High School gym, March 30 at 7 p.m.

It's basketball played on real, live donkeys. Come and see if local dignitaries can stay in the saddle while playing basketball.

The show is sponsored by Ruidoso/Lincoln County Crimestoppers, and ad-

vanced tickets can be purchased at Ruidoso Flower Shop or Farm Bureau. For more information, call 258-1431.

Alumni football

Alumni from Capitan and Carrizozo high schools will return to the gridiron April 8 for the first annual Capitan vs. Carrizozo alumni football game at Laab Field in Carrizozo.

Tickets are \$10 each, and children 5 and under are free. Half of the proceeds from all tickets sold in advance go to the participating schools. Tickets can be purchased from students at either school, or from any alumni player.

The roster for Carrizozo's team, with class year, is - Nathan Beltran 2007, Greg Vigil 2008, Robert Dutchover 2007, John Green 2001, Johnny Beltran 2007, Joe Samora 2005, Eric Koriscil 2007, Jeremy Zamora 2009, Casey Barela 2008, Ryan Roper 2000, Chaz Zamora 2007, Anthony Archuleta 1993, Jake Narvez 1989, Jesse Samora 2005, Rafel Chavez 1992, Daniel Hernandez 2010, Sam Green 2005, Troy Koriscil 2009, Josh Vega 2000, Jack Green 2005, George Vega 1994, Michael Barela 1993, Abe Padilla 1990, Simon Beltran 2000, Kevin Sheehan 1991, Bryan Bartz 2002, Stephan Najar 2010, Damian Luna 1992, Pat Ventura 1980, LeRoy Zamora 1992, Carlos Samora 2010, Jesse Green 2006, Val Reyes 1992, James Verdugo 2000, Alfonso Lucero 1992, Matt Dutchover 2010, Jace Ventura 2007, Cody Ventura 2010, Lane Dixon 2002, Adam Samora 2000.

Bowling

RUIDOSO BOWLING CENTER

Tuesday Senior team standings, week 27 of 32

| Name | Won | Lost | Avg | Hdcp |
|-----------------|--------|--------|-----|------|
| Twisted Sisters | 27 1/2 | 16 1/2 | 653 | 167 |
| Larry Larry's | 27 | 17 | 669 | 152 |
| Old Timers | 27 | 17 | 549 | 260 |
| Serious Not | 21 1/2 | 22 1/2 | 602 | 218 |
| Misfit Bowlers | 21 | 23 | 613 | 202 |
| Sus Amigos | 21 | 23 | 634 | 184 |
| The Who? | 20 | 24 | 549 | 260 |

Tuesday Mixed team standings, week 27 of 32

| Name | Won | Lost | Avg | Hdcp |
|-------------------|-----|------|-----|------|
| Homies | 30 | 14 | 584 | 229 |
| Old Farts & A Kid | 29 | 15 | 738 | 93 |
| Rhino Rose | 27 | 17 | 629 | 189 |
| Pioneer Bank | 22 | 22 | 533 | 275 |
| Knight Riders | 22 | 22 | 538 | 270 |
| Living Energies | 21 | 23 | 574 | 237 |
| Energy 2 Spare | 15 | 29 | 593 | 220 |
| Wild Ride | 10 | 34 | 441 | 358 |

Season high scores
Handicap series - Misfit Bowlers 2718, Serious Not 2702, Sus Amigos 2672.
Handicap game - Larry Larry's 952, Twisted Sisters 948, The Who? 947.
Men's handicap series - Jim Clements 781, Tom Douglas 746, Richard Dixon 741.
Men's handicap game - Richard Dixon 299, Tom Bivens 291, Wayne Viltanen 284.
Women's handicap series - Pat Townsend 736, Rose Bivens 713, Lucy Servies 712.
Women's handicap game - Ursula Eckersley 295, Pat Townsend 290, Lucy Servies 274.

Handicap series - Old Farts & A Kid 2697, Rhino Rose 2681, Energy 2 Spare 2628.
Handicap game - Knight Riders 1008, Living Energies 997, Pioneer Bank 950.
Men's handicap series - Andrew Ramirez 756, Tom Douglas 749, Etienne Turner 730.
Men's handicap game - Max Cimaron 290, Gene Nitz 279, Ronnie Wright 275.
Women's handicap series - Millie Cimaron, Diane Willoughby, Lucy Servies 700.
Women's handicap game - Pam Bernard 284, Brianna Velasquez 274, Christina Wall 271.

Individual high averages
Men - Tom Douglas 216.95, Gene Nitz 204.55, Jim Clements 184.76, Women - Lucy Servies 160.04, Donna Viltanen 155.76, Pat Townsend 150.03.
Most improved average
Men - Jim Clements +23.76, Larry Hindes +20.17, Richard Dixon +19.17, Women - Rose Bivens +15.99, Jan Wilson +14.08, Donna Viltanen +13.76.

Individual high averages
Men - Tom Douglas 213.44, Gene Nitz 202.35, Ronnie Wright 189.97, Women - Pam Bernard 171.54, Lucy Servies 159.48, Millie Cimaron 135.96.
Most improved average
Men - Tom Douglas +19.44, Gabriel +10.97, Ronnie Wright +189.97, Women - Millie Cimaron +8.96, Diane Willoughby +6.79, Pam Bernard +3.54.

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Angus Church of the Nazarene to show "The Child"

For Virginia resident Grace Tate, 18, and her crew at Watchman Cinema (LLC), filming their first full-length documentary eliminated any preconceived notions about the glamour of filmmaking. Working in the rain, checking into hotels at one or two in the morning, and waking up at 5:30-6:00 a.m. became regular occurrences for the crew working on *The Child* this past year.

Grace's team—hailing from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina—brought together a group

of talented young people including her brother Daniel Tate (16) and friends Daniel Heffington (20), Elissa Kruse (18), Ray Ma (17), Alaina Wright (18), Justin Wright (17), Timothy Wright (15) and the guidance of Grace's parents, Larry and Gina Tate.

The documentary delves into the parental rights issue by examining its history in the United States, the direction of parental rights today, and how international threats, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, affect

current legal practice. The film's interviews feature numerous legal experts, congressmen, and families affected directly by the current ambiguous legal state of parental rights.

"After learning so much about the parental rights issue, our next big hurdle was explaining the issue to others," Grace explains. "We began to wonder why there wasn't a film about the situation surrounding parental rights, and questioning turned into serious thought."

Larry and Gina Tate first approached their eldest

daughter, Grace, with the idea of directing the documentary. Mr. Tate served as the producer and head consultant on the project, having the final word for all business, logistical, and content matters. Gina Tate was, as Grace Tate says, "the natural mother of the project," officially serving as the production coordinator.

"A lot of prayer went into deciding to finally make the film ourselves," Grace says. "We had the adventure of a lifetime, especially because it really stretched us."

ParentalRights.org, the 501(c)4 organization that inspired the documentary, is dedicated to passing a Parental Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and believe that *The Child* is the perfect tool for spreading the word about the plight of parental rights in America.

"The facts are simple: parental rights have been under attack for years both internationally and domestically," says Michael Farris, president and founder of ParentalRights.org. "There are people who think that they know better

how to raise your children than you do, and they want the power to do so."

Grace first became involved in the parental rights issue as a member of Generation Joshua, a Christian teen civics organization. ParentalRights.org held a video commercial contest in the fall of 2009, which Grace's Generation Joshua club entered and won.

Before her work on *The Child*, Tate's previous filmmaking experience consisted of a wedding video and the ParentalRights.org short film. "I guess young people are generally prone to crazy ideas," Grace says. "We had the energy and passion and, most importantly, the time to make the film happen."

The Child will be shown at the Angus Church of the Nazarene, located on the grounds of Bonita Park Conference Center on April 3rd at 5:00 PM. There is no admission charge, an opportunity to support the effort to pass the Parental Rights Amendment will be offered.

For further information Call Rod Dakan at 258-9276 or the Church office at 336-8032.

Lenten services continue at Shepherd of the Hills

The Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 1120 Hull Rd., Ruidoso, and Pastor Thomas Schoech offers its continuing midweek Lenten services, with the theme "By His Stripes—Healing Wounded Relationships."

Christianity is about relationships. Our relationship with God and our relationships with others. During our midweek Lenten services, we will follow Christ through his Passion, taking note of how He has reclaimed us and all our relationships, thereby changing the way we ourselves are able to relate to God and one another.

A soup supper begins at 5:30 p.m. with services to follow at 6:30.

March 30: *The Destructive Pattern of Withdrawal* (Peter's denial of Jesus)

April 6: *Unrealistic Expectations* (Jesus' willing self-sacrifice)

April 13: *The Power of Forgiveness* (Jesus' opening of Paradise to a sinner)

Church News

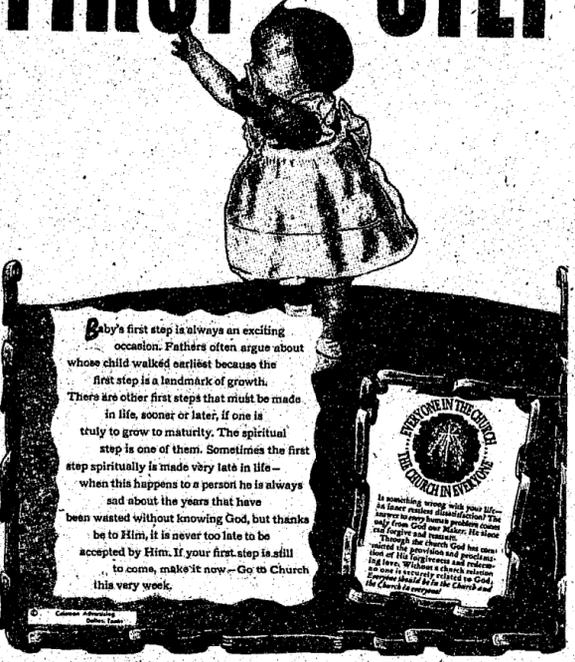
The Ruidoso Free Press will soon be adding a calendar of events for churches to this church page.

Pot luck lunches, special singing groups, upcoming baptisms, the Lord's Supper, guest preachers or an old fashioned revival—no matter what you have going on, the *Free Press* wants to help you tell about it.

If your church has a special event or any upcoming event you would like to notify the public about, please call our offices at 575-258-9922. You can also email your events to eddie@ruidosofreepress.com

Worship Services

FIRST STEP



Baby's first step is always an exciting occasion. Fathers often argue about whose child walked earliest because the first step is a landmark of growth. There are other first steps that must be made in life, sooner or later, if one is truly to grow to maturity. The spiritual step is one of them. Sometimes the first step spiritually is made very late in life—when this happens to a person he is always sad about the years that have been wasted without knowing God, but thanks be to Him, it is never too late to be accepted by Him. If your first step is still to come, make it now—Go to Church this very week.

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88345. (575) 257-2081; Dr. Allen
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Saint Joseph's Apache Mission
Mescalero. Father Paul Botenbagen, OFM

Our Lady of Guadalupe
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Sacred Heart Catholic Church
299 3rd St, Capitan, 354-9102

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Church
Junction Road, behind Wells Fargo
Bank. Todd Salzwedel, Pastor.

Capitan United Methodist Church
Pastor Jean Riley and the congregation of
Capitan United Methodist. White
Oaks and Third in Capitan. 575-648-
2846

Trinity United Methodist Church
1000 D. Ave. 648-2893/648-2846.
Carrizozo. Jean Riley, Pastor

ANGUS Church of the Nazarene
Angus, 12 miles north of Ruidoso on
Hwy. 48, 336-8032. Rick Hutchinson,
Pastor

QUAKER
Quaker Worship Group
Unprogrammed meeting at the
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Lincoln. For details of this and other
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at 575-653-4951

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Church of Ruidoso**
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Dunn, Youth Pastor, Nathaniel Dunn. Free
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PRESBYTERIAN
First Presbyterian Church
101 Sulton Drive (Nob Hill), Ruidoso,
257-2222. Tony Chambliss, Pastor
Ando Community Presbyterian
Church
Pastor Terry Aiello, CLP

Corona United Presbyterian Church
Pastor Terry Aiello, CLP

NOGAL PRESBYTERIAN
Church
Reverend Bill Sebring

REFORMED CHURCH
Mescalero Reformed
Mescalero. Bob Schur, Pastor

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Ruidoso Seventh Day Adventist
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Pastor John Marshall

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Lane, Pastors

Christ Community Fellowship
Capitan, Highway 380 West,
354-2458. Ed Vinson, Pastor

Church Out of Church
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1028 Hwy. 48, Alto. Pastors:
Tim & Julie Gilliland. Mailing
Address: 1009 Mechem #11

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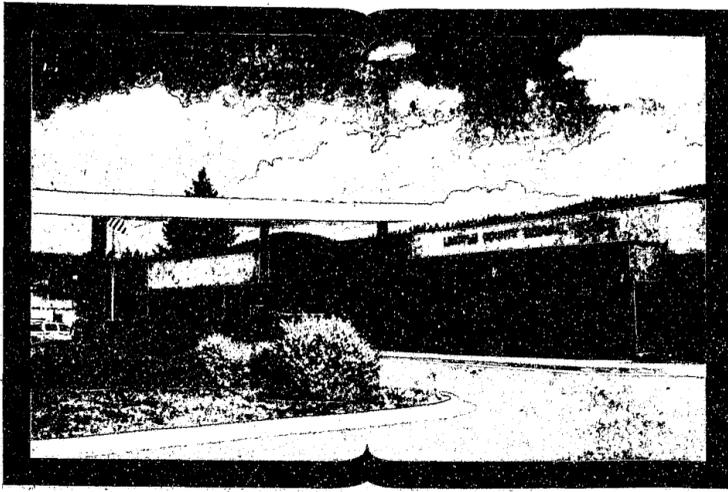
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Lincoln County Medical Center Report to the Community 2011

We're committed to improving your health

Everyone at Lincoln County Medical Center, including our employees, doctors, volunteers and board members, works hard every day to provide our community with compassionate and advanced healthcare. We are working to improve the health of the communities we serve in Lincoln County.

We serve our community every day. Here's how many people we served in 2010.

- 25 licensed acute care and intensive care beds
- 1,330 patients admitted to the hospital
- 50,768 outpatient days
- 335 babies delivered
- 12,808 patients treated in the Emergency Department
- 32,881 patients cared for by our Presbyterian Medical Group providers
- 2,713 critical patients transported by our Emergency Medical Services
- More than \$1.4 million in financial assistance to patients (unaudited)

Serving the community is one of our top priorities. Here's how we helped our community in 2010.

- Provide more than 250 jobs for local residents.
- More than \$18 million in employee salaries, wages and benefits.
- Raised more than \$5,000 for the Lincoln County Medical Center Foundation.
- Participated in Run for the BEACH (largest team for the second year in a row), Relay for Life, Smokey Bear Fun Run and Walk in the Woods Health Fair.
- Supported community events, including the Lincoln County Fair, Art Loop and Smokey Bear Days.
- Supported Altrusa's Low Cost Mammogram program.

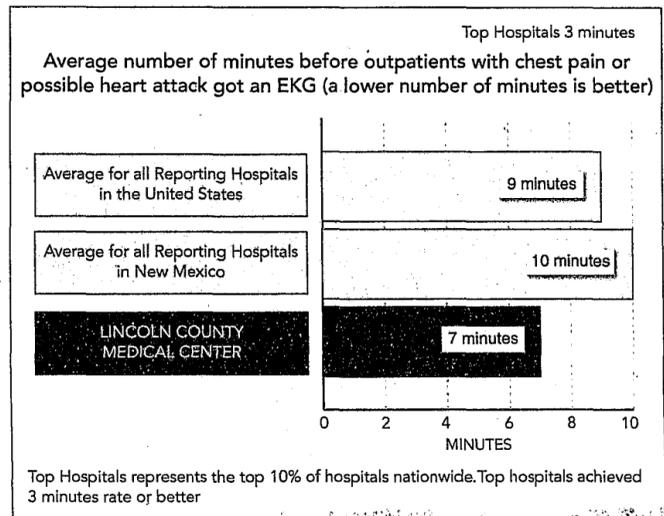
Our facility improvements – made possible in part by Mil Levy funds

- Purchased more than \$700,000 in medical equipment to improve patient care.
- Remounted one ambulance to 'like new' condition for Lincoln County Emergency Medical Services.
- Purchased and installed a digital mammography unit.
- Installed an Accudose medication safety system for the ICU department.
- Implemented computerized radiography.
- Purchased a specialized stretcher for Lincoln County Emergency Medical Services.
- Purchased a mobile radio communication system for Lincoln County Emergency Medical Services.

Our continued focus on quality standards and practices

- We are improving the care of patients admitted through the Emergency Department for a heart attack. We worked to improve the processes so that patients admitted with chest pain receive an EKG test within 10 minutes. Our most recent results show that patients at Lincoln County Medical Center received EKGs within 7 minutes of admission which is faster than results of reporting hospitals in New Mexico (10 minutes) and than the national average (9 minutes).

The rates displayed in this graph are from data reported for discharges October 2009 through September 2010.



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

- The use of the new Accudose machine in the Intensive Care Unit will help increase patient and employee safety.
- We are one of only two New Mexico hospitals to receive the New Mexico Medical Review Association (NMMRA) Brilliant Torch Award for consistently exceeding Medicare clinical (core) measurement targets. These targets demonstrate quality patient care.
- White Mountain Medical Clinic has met or exceeded a 90 percent childhood immunization rate for 6 consecutive years.

Our community comes together to create a better place for healing and prevention

In order to provide exceptional healthcare, it takes the commitment of many individuals who, year after year, provide valuable time, energy and support to make this hospital a better place for patients and the community. Thank you to our community partners.

The Board of Trustees: Gary Mitchell, Chairman; Roger Beechie, MD; Scott Shafer; Mack Bell; Alberto Robles; Dave Noltensmeyer; Greg Haussler; Margie Morales; Vickie Williams, DO; Patty Covington; Al Santos and W. Chris Robinson. Thank you for your valuable time, effort and knowledge in providing governance, leadership and direction for Lincoln County Medical Center.

Employees: More than 250 valuable, hardworking and dedicated employees worked to make sure that patients and visitors receive safe, high-quality customer care and service.

Lincoln County Medical Center Auxilians: Auxilians give us their valuable time and several thousands of dollars in fundraising efforts to benefit the hospital. Auxilians volunteered a total of 18,581 hours in 2010. We appreciate our 111 volunteers for all the comfort and service they provide to all who come through our doors. Extraordinary leadership is provided by Maxine Roberson and Patty Covington.

What's ahead in 2011?

- Moving forward, we are committed more than ever to:
- Building a new physician office building
 - Implementing a County Assistance Program to help lower costs and increase access to healthcare services
 - Expanding the Emergency Room "Fast Track" option to seven days a week
 - Purchasing a new MRI machine
 - Expanding key services to benefit Lincoln County, including orthopedics, vascular ultrasound and echocardiograms
 - Recruiting healthcare providers

Please accept our warmest thanks for your continued support as we reaffirm our commitment to serve the citizens of Lincoln County. The physicians and staff of Lincoln County Medical

Center are ready to provide you and your family with outstanding and compassionate care.

Sincerely,
Al Santos, MHA
Lincoln County Medical
Center Administrator



Gary Mitchell
Lincoln County Medical
Center Board of Trustees



County opts to send letter on Ruidoso

By Eddie Farrell
Editor

Despite a humble plea by Ruidoso Mayor Ray Albom to delay action and instead "work cooperatively with the village," the Lincoln County Commission agreed to forward a letter to the U.S. Forest Service encouraging dramatic reductions to the village's water draw on the North Fork of Eagle Creek.

Albom was joined by retired Judge Alvin Jones, a member of the village's "water team," in seeking a delay to the issuance of the letter before the federally-mandated deadline of 5 p.m. Monday in response to the closing of the public response period of the Forest Service's Environmental Impact Study scoping effort.

Newly-appointed Smokey Bear District Ranger David Warwick told the commission that the published deadline was in error and stated the Forest Service was drafting a response to several requests for an extension, including one by Congressman Steve Pearce, to allow for additional comment.

Warwick said the deadline, which was published in the Federal Register, was based on a misunderstanding of the EIS process, and that in actuality, the Forest Service would continue seeking opinion "for a long time to come."

The official end of the public comment period would only be triggered by the publication of the actual

draft EIS, Warwick said, which is not anticipated to occur until October 2011.

Commission Chair Eileen Sedillo, however, said she was "uncomfortable" with statements and assurances that an extension would be granted, offering that she had to "go with what's in black and white," the date posted in the Federal Register.

The 4-1 vote to forward the letter ended a week-long process in which the commission delayed action to allow for Ruidoso officials to make a presentation on the importance of allowing continued use of a series of municipal wells on Eagle Creek.

The item was actually on the commission's agenda for March 15, but Commissioner Tom Battin - who cast the only no vote Monday - succeeded in delaying the final vote until Monday after no one was present from the village for the original meeting time.

Nearly the entire Ruidoso Village Council, as well as a number of village employees and other interested parties, were on hand at 10 a.m. Monday to bolster the village's case.

While the actual letter, drafted by Commissioner Jackie Powell but issued in the name of Lincoln County, was never discussed in detail, the implications of the recommendations - an immediate reduction in water draw to 300 acre feet per year, independent monitoring of the village's water

use and other impacts cited by a U.S. Geological Survey report, and the installation of a "tamper-proof" kill switch that would be placed with Forest Service rangers to shut off the village's water if mandates weren't achieved - were cited as potentially crippling to the Ruidoso economy.

"The county's comments will affect everyone in Lincoln County," Albom said, noting that Eagle Creek "is a vital part of the village's water supply."

Noting that Ruidoso gets as much as 70 percent of its municipal water from Eagle Creek, Albom said the county recommendations, if adopted by the USFS, would have harsh impacts area-wide.

"I can only imagine what it would do to home sales if we have no water," Albom said.

Judge Jones told the commission that he had concerns about some of the conclusions included in of-

ficial reports, particularly references to a "stipulated agreement" in which the village allegedly promised that continued use of the North Fork pumps would "have no impact on the surface flow."

Jones said he was involved with the agreement and other Eagle Creek litigation and that such claims "are not true."

Jones also said that despite conclusions made in the USGS report, the village's use of the pumps had caused "no change in the flora and fauna" on Eagle Creek.

Jones also disputed published reports that the subsequent "cone of depression," or a lowering of the water table due to the village's wells, was responsible for hundreds of days of no-flow readings on Eagle Creek.

"The cone of depression does not affect stream flows," Jones said.

Of the three possible options under consideration by the USFS - allowing the

village to continue pumping under the terms of a special use permit that expired in 1995; a complete shutdown of the pumps altogether, or a "stream augmentation" program in which if stream flows fell below a certain level, the village would supplement the flow with water pumped from the aquifer - Jones said the village would prefer the augmentation, which would also preserve the village's claim to surface water rights.

Jones estimated it would cost the village \$15 million to \$18 million to acquire alternative water rights to replace those lost should the village be forced to reduce pumping on Eagle Creek, and that even a reduction of only 500 acre feet a year would render 1,500 Ruidoso homes without water.

"This is a serious matter for the village," Jones said, noting the village would act to preserve its water rights on Eagle Creek.

"Obviously when surface water is available, the village will take it," Jones said, "per our water rights which date back to the 1880's."

The commission itself offered little discussion on the matter except for Battin who urged the board to delay issuing the letter.

Battin called for the commission to set a special meeting "within the next two weeks," which would allow for Ruidoso to provide more information with the idea the village and Lincoln County could "issue a joint statement" regarding the wells.

In making her motion to send the letter, Powell said Ruidoso's presentation "had been heard," and that in her opinion, "We need to adjust our demand to the supply. I move to approve the letter as written."

Powell's motion, was seconded by Commissioner Kathryn Minter and the pair were joined by Sedillo and Commissioner Mark Doth.

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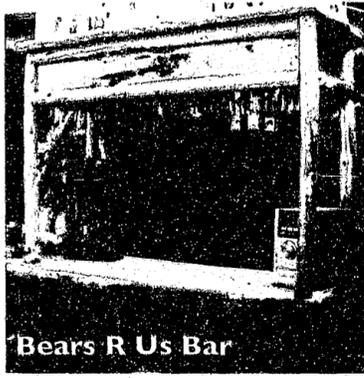
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- BAMM Fest In Cloudcroft:** (5) \$80 gift voucher for 4 tickets to the Music Festival at Ski Cloudcroft June 17, 18 & 19, 2011. For more information go to www.facebook.com/BAMMfestival
- Barbara Westbrook, Ruidoso:** Painting \$600
- Bare Essential Spa, Ruidoso:** (3) \$75 gift certificates; \$100 gift certificate
- Bears R Us, Ruidoso:** Bar \$1200; Bench \$210; (2) Bears \$85
- Best Western, Ruidoso:** Weekend for two at the Pine Springs Inn \$300
- Blue Gem, Ruidoso:** *Calling the Buffalo*, Bev Doolittle Framed Artwork \$345
- Body Bar, Ruidoso:** (3) \$50 gift certificates; \$75 gift certificate for Signature Facial; (3) \$75 gift certificates for Swedish Massage
- Boots and Jeans, Ruidoso:** (20) \$50 gift certificates
- Bronco Sue Custom Hats, Ruidoso:** \$350 8X Beaver black hat with dark gray ribbon edging on brim & matching ribbon hatband, size 7 1/8



Bronco Sue Custom Hat

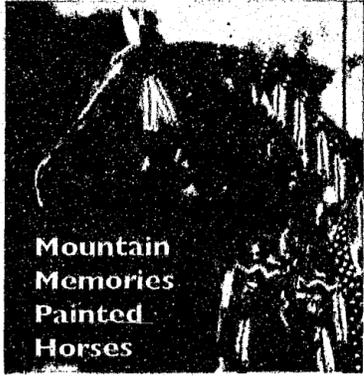
- Brown Eyed Girl, Ruidoso:** \$300
- Cane Car Wash, Carlsbad:** \$300
- Can't Stop Smokin', Ruidoso:** \$300 worth of certificates
- Carrizozo Market, Carrizozo:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
- Casa Décor, Ruidoso:** \$260 microwave cart with red Chiles carved on doors; \$150 nightstand, turquoise with red tin door



Casa Décor Microwave Cart

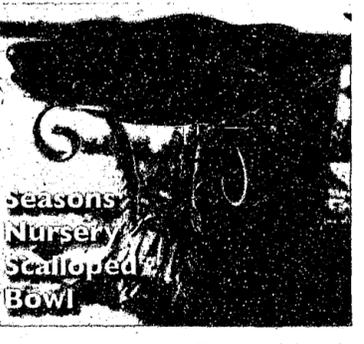
- Casa Feliz, Ruidoso:** (8) \$25; (2) \$50 gift cards and items
- Chuus, Ruidoso:** (7) \$50 gift certificates
- Cloud Nine, Ruidoso:** Queen 8" Cloud Nine brand mattress bed set \$1,199
- Computer Avenue, Carlsbad:** \$479
- Cone Jewelry, Carlsbad:** (10) \$50 gift certificates
- Cool Pines Detailing, Ruidoso:** (5) \$100 gift certificates

- Cornerstone Bakery, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
- Cree Meadows Country Club, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates for Restaurant & Bar; (6) \$50 gift certificate for golf course green fees
- Diana's Mexican Restaurant, Carlsbad:** (12) \$25 gift certificates
- Domino's Pizza, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
- Elite Detail, Carlsbad:** (10) \$50 gift certificates
- Family Vision, Ruidoso:** \$489 in gift certificates
- Foxcreek Furniture, Ruidoso:** (3) \$200 gift certificates
- Fusion Medical, Ruidoso:** Skin Resurfacing package spa treatment \$6,000
- Gift Jar, Carlsbad:** (12) \$25 gift certificates
- Got Ink Tattoos, Carlsbad:** (5) \$100 gift certificates
- Hacienda:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
- Hall Of Flame Burgers, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 certificates
- High Horse Interiors, Ruidoso:** (2) \$300 gift cards
- High Mesa Healing Center, Ruidoso:** (4) \$115 gift certificates for 1 & 1/2 - 2 Hour Healing Session
- Inn of the Mountain Gods, Mescalero:** Concert tickets \$300; (4) \$100 tickets to Dierks Bentley concert
- Josie's Framery, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates



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- Kawliga's/Mountain Memories, Ruidoso:** (5) \$100 painted horses; (2) \$50 painted horses; (2) \$75 tomahawks; \$108 Brass Tomahawk; \$150 Bronze & Silver Indian Tomahawk; \$75 Copper-Dipped Antler Candelabra; \$75 Bronze & Golden Peace Pipe
- K-Bobs, Ruidoso:** (12) \$25 gift certificates
- Living Energies, Ruidoso:** (3) \$120 gift cards
- Lucy's Mexicali Restaurant, Ruidoso or Carlsbad:** (12) \$25 gift certificates
- Mane Attraction, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates for any service
- McMinn Chiropractic, Ruidoso:** \$50 tanning certificate; (3) \$50 adjustment certificates
- Metal Masters - Auto Body & Detail Center, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificate for auto body or detail services
- Quick Cuts, Hobbs & Lovington:** (12) \$60 hair cut books
- RAC, Ruidoso:** (4) Six-month passes worth \$316 each
- Rebeka's, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
- Ruidoso AutoBody, Ruidoso:** (10) \$100 gift certificates
- Ruidoso Downs Race Track, Ruidoso Downs:** Season Table @ Turf Club for 4 \$2560
- Ruidoso Ford, Ruidoso:** (2) \$50 oil changes
- Ruidoso Photography, Ruidoso:** \$50 in-house sitting photo; \$100 onsite sitting shoot
- Simon Gomez Jeweler, Ruidoso:** Ring \$475; Ring \$210; (2) \$50 gift certificates
- Seasons Nursery, Ruidoso:** marble charger \$84, tray \$75, metal wall décor \$90; tripod-base scalloped bowl \$45; magnetic memo board \$13
- Seven Mares, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates



Seasons Nursery Scalloped Bowl

- Sierra Blanca Motors, Ruidoso:** (6) \$50 gift certificates toward vehicle services
- Sierra Grande Lodge, T or C:** "Transformation" \$570; "Girlfriend Getaway" \$615; "Romantic Escape" \$730
- Silver Nest, Ruidoso:** (4) \$100 gift cards for in-store nursery furniture
- Solar Solutions, Ruidoso:** A full house worth of solar paneling \$2,500
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- Sunset Saddles, Ruidoso:** (4) hand-crafted leather placemats worth \$160; hand-crafted leather napkin holders and coasters
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- Thundering Paws Pet Resort, Alto:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
- Tidwell Electric, Carlsbad:** \$300
- Two Deer Gift Shop, Ruidoso:** Gourd \$150; Necklace \$85; \$65 gift certificate
- Valerie Chavez Varela, in Tans & Hands, Carlsbad:** (5) \$35 acrylic nails sets; (5) \$50 acrylic 3D nails sets
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- Wal-Mart, Ruidoso Downs:** (6) \$50 gift certificates
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March 18
6:18 a.m., Capitan, 100 block Conor Court, fire
7:38 a.m., Carrizozo, 700 block E Avenue, alarm
8:27 a.m., Capitan, 100 block Horsemont, animal call
9:06 p.m., White Oakes, 300 block Patos, shots fired
10:15 p.m., 400 block Enchanted Forest loop, disturbance
11:29 p.m., Alto, La Junta Lodge, disturbance/loud party

March 19
12:02 p.m., Palo Verde, 100 block Rawhide, animal call
3:34 p.m., Ski Apache, Summit Sports Shop, threats via phone texts
5:07 p.m., Capitan, Highway 48 Mile Post 18, traffic offenses
9:27 p.m., Alto, 100 block Altamira, fire alarm
10:21 p.m., Carrizozo, 100 block Schlarb Road, disturbance/loud party

March 20
3:38 p.m., Alto, 100 block Elk Run Road, fire
5:27 p.m., Rancho Ruidoso, 100 block Butch Cassidy, animal call

8:40 p.m., Capitan, Highway 380 mile marker 89, agency assist

March 21
5:14 p.m., Alto, 1300 block High Mesa, welfare check
9:25 p.m., Carrizozo, Highway 380 mile marker 58, welfare check

March 22
6:25 a.m., Carrizozo, Highway 380 mile marker 127, welfare check
5:53 p.m., Carrizozo, 1100 block E Avenue, fire
9:27 p.m., Capitan, 400 block 5th Street, domestic battery

March 23
8:40 a.m. Capitan, 100 block Little Smokey, unknown trouble call
8:54 a.m., Carrizozo, Valley of Fires park, accident
1:28 p.m., Ruidoso, Highway 70, warrant service
2:22 p.m., Carrizozo, Highway 54, welfare check
2:30 p.m., Corona, 500 block Main Street, fraud/identity theft
4:07 p.m., Corona, North highway 54 mile post 167, traffic hazard
5:58 p.m., San Patricio, 27000 block Via La Capilla, embezzlement

7:33 p.m., Alto, 1200 block High Mesa Drive, burglar alarm

March 24
6:32 a.m., Capitan, 100 block Little Smokey, animal call
6:57 a.m., Capitan, Highway 380, welfare check
7:36 a.m., Capitan, Highway 48, welfare check
9:23 a.m., Alto, 100 block Crownridge Road, abandoned vehicle
11:49 a.m., Capitan, Highway 246 mile marker 8, animal call
1:12 p.m., Ruidoso, Cedar Creek trash bins, littering or dumping
2:06 p.m., Alto, 100 block Eagle Ridge Road, larceny
3:05 p.m., Gavilan, Harvest Church, fire
6:30 p.m., Bonito Lake, agency assist
9:35 p.m., Capitan, Bethel Court, animal call
9:45 p.m., Capitan, County fairground parking lot, welfare check
11:45 p.m., Carrizozo, four miles south of town, welfare check

March 25
7:45 a.m., Rancho Ruidoso, 200 block Wyatt Earp Court, agency assist

Fire damages log home

A log home at 173 Homestead Loop suffered extensive fire and smoke damage Saturday night, March 26, but it remained standing.

The owners were not at home at the time.

The Bonito Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched around 9:30 p.m. with smoke alarms going off. Thirteen firefighters, two engines, two water tenders and an attack truck responded to the scene. Lincoln County Sheriff's deputies,

medics from Lincoln County EMS and firefighters and equipment from the Village of Ruidoso also responded.

Sierra Blanca Disaster Relief Team provided rehab drinks for the firefighters.

One deputy was treated for smoke inhalation. There were no other injuries. All units were released just after midnight.

The State Fire Marshall will conduct an investigation on Sunday to determine the cause of the fire.

OBITUARY

Margarita "Maggie" C. Rankin

Visitation for Margarita "Maggie" C. Rankin, 94 of Ruidoso, was from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at LaGrone Funeral Chapel on Monday March 21. A Prayer Vigil followed by a Rosary was at 6 p.m. on Monday at St. Eleanor's Catholic Church, where a Funeral Mass was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday March 22. Burial followed at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Maggie was born on April 24, 1916 in Mesilla Park, NM and passed away on March 18, 2011 in Ruidoso. Maggie moved to Ruidoso in 1963 from Magdalena, NM. She was a longtime member of St. Eleanor's Catholic Church.

Maggie is survived by her sons, Edward Rankin, Jim Rankin, Bill Rankin, Robert Rankin, Jack Rankin, a daughter, Jodie McPherson and a sister, Andrea Orrantia. She is also survived by 21 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.lagroneruidoso.com

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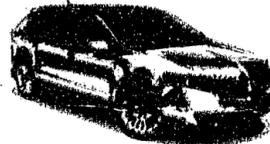
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Every Wednesday - 5:00 PM Meal provided by church
6:00 PM Worship - Informal - Come as you are!
Enjoy the band! Be excited by Pastor Todd's "format!"
7:00 PM Youth Group, Bible Studies, Choir
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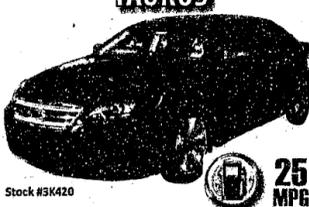
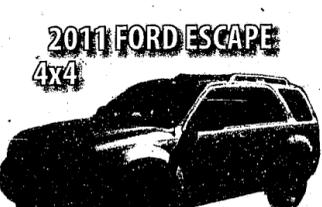
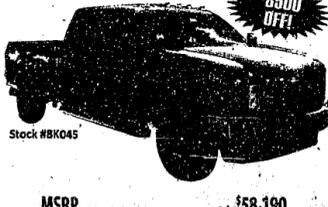
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