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WHAT'S HAPPENING

December 16, 17
Winter Shorts

by Lincoln County Community Theater

Enjoy six acts from comedy to drama, a delightful Christmas play, plus jazz and vocals from Georgio and Sawyer Ward in the cozy and warm Sacred Ground Coffee & Tea House. 2825 Sudderth, 6:30 p.m. \$8 at the door. (575) 808-0051.

December 17

Canned & Non-Perishable Food Drive at Sierra Cinema

Come see the feature movies while supporting local food banks courtesy of the Rotary Club. 721 Mechem Drive. 9:30 a.m. Price: 1 food item per child, 2 food items per adult.

Dummy Gelunde

Come watch crazy and wild hand-made contraptions 'dummies' strapped to a pair of skis or snowboards, launched off a giant snow jump. Dummies are judged on distance, air, creativity, takeoff, landing and crowd roars. 1 - 5 p.m. on Easy Street on Ski Apache (no skis required, chairs allowed). www.ski-apache.com. Free to watch.

The Nutcracker

Ruidoso Dance Ensemble's original adaptation of Tchaikovsky's Christmas classic featuring gorgeous sets & costumes and outstanding student & professional dancers is always a delightful trip into a magical world of dancing nutcrackers, soldiers, sugar plum fairies, candy canes, mice and little girls and boys! 2 and 7 p.m. www.spencertheater.com, (888) 818-7872, \$28.

Torch Light Parade at Ski Apache

A native drum begins at 5 p.m. followed by a parade of veteran skiers and their lighted torches descending down the mountain at 6 p.m. Fireworks show. Refreshments available. Base of Ski Apache. www.skiapache.com.

December 18
Glen Campbell

Hear this legendary singer perform his country classics from bars and roadhouses to radio to television at Inn of the Mountain Gods. 8 p.m. (575) 464-7777. www.innofthemountainofthegods.com. \$25.



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Ruidoso webcam ranks in nation's top 100

By Eugene Heathman

Editor
eugene@ruidosofreepress.com

The Ruidoso webcam had 153,040 visits through 361 sources and mediums from Jan. 4 to Nov. 8, ranking it in the top 100 small town webcams in the United States.

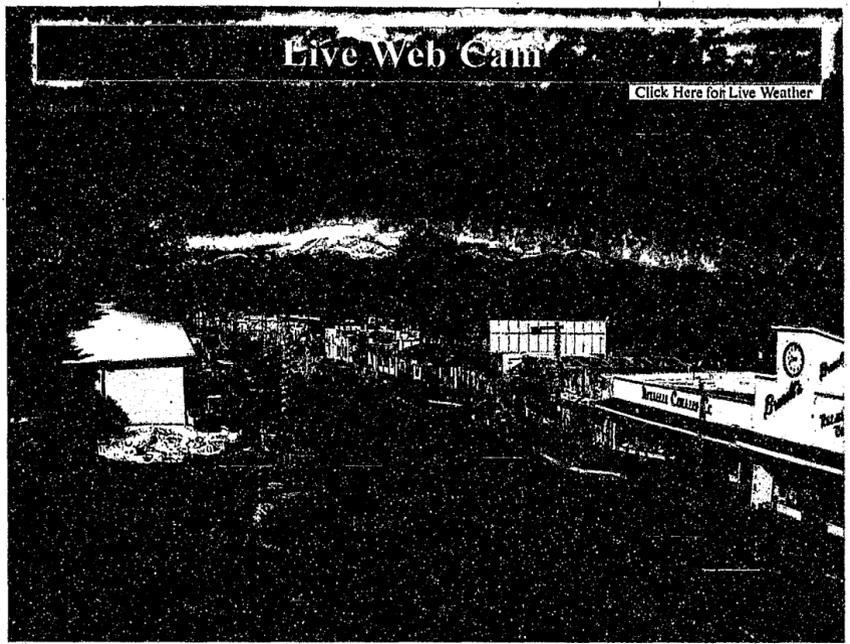
"It's just fascinating to see the huge traffic from all over the world that visit the Ruidoso webcam," said Cynthia West, one of many who maintain the webcam, "It is a worthwhile labor of love."

West said she's been corresponding with people all over the world who even stop by the Ruidoso.net office when they do finally visit Ruidoso. Jesse Lerma, who is stationed in Afghanistan, wrote: "I have this page opened every minute, every day here in Afghanistan. It's something I like to look at when stressed and just missing the heck out of home. It's so sad when the camera goes out every now and then. I can't wait to see one in Ruidoso Downs!"

Keeping the camera in operation has its challenges, said West.

"We once had the equipment removed by some workers who thought it was theirs," she said. "Steve Tally had to track them down and get it back."

West contends the camera system has endured every problem you can imagine. Extreme cold has cracked the casing the wires are in and then split the power line. There



Courtesy photo

have been snowballs thrown at the camera, and most recently electricity was lost when the retail store Outlaw Leather moved.

"Godzilla even damaged it when he went through Midtown," said West. "Basically, if it can go wrong it does. It's one of the hardest projects to manage. It takes a team to keep it working. But people love

that cam and we do what it takes to keep it working.

Several people and entities are involved in funding and maintaining the Ruidoso webcam. According to West, Tally, Dave Shultz, Billy the Kid Byways and the tourism department are just a few who help out with the webcam.



Third at Cloudfcroft

Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Capitan center Kersti Davis, gets around Dexter's Natasha Banda underneath the basket during the Lady Tigers' victory Saturday during the Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudfcroft. Both the boys and girls teams finished third in the tournament.

See full story, see the sports section.

Winter water woes plague village

By Kerry Gladden

For the Village of Ruidoso

With memories of the great February freeze still fresh in their minds, Ruidoso officials have warned the village may experience a higher than normal water demand in the wake of the recent storms which have hit the area. The Village of Ruidoso issued a water conservation alert Friday. According to village officials; due to the recent cold temperatures, the Village is once again facing a water crisis as pipes in second homes that have broken and are putting a tremendous strain on the already over-taxed water system.

Village management is asking all hotels, restaurants and residents to actively conserve water in the coming days as crews work to stem the flow of water in broken lines. "We are asking everyone to work with us and help us get through this," said Mayor Ray Albom. "We are expecting to have busy weekends with a lot of visitors coming in to enjoy the recent snow. It is crucial that everyone

See WATER WOES, pg. 5

Coughlin: Boys and Girls Club fundraising chugging along

By Todd Fuqua

Reporter
todd@ruidosofreepress.com

Things may not be moving along on the schedule he wanted, but Tim Coughlin, director of the Community Youth Warehouse, says things are progressing steadily toward opening the first Boys and Girls Club in Ruidoso.

"We're about 80 percent there for donations," Coughlin said. "We were hoping to get in front of the Village Council this month, but that - and a presentation before the Ruidoso Downs City Council - will have to wait until January."

Because of those delays, the goal of having the Boys and Girls Club of Sierra Blanca up and running by Jan. 1 won't be met.

But that doesn't mean Coughlin is getting discouraged. If anything, he's more



Courtesy photo

Georgia Underwood, President of the Ruidoso Rotary Club, presents Tim Coughlin, director of the Community Youth Warehouse, a check for \$500 towards the opening of the Boys and Girls Club of Sierra Blanca. The donation is one of many the club has received from various businesses and organizations in town in advance of its proposed opening date in March.

energized by all the support and donations the club has received - and will receive.

The latest step in the club's formation is approval from the Ruidoso Board of Education to lease the Horton Complex - site

of the former Ruidoso Middle School, located on Horton Drive.

Coughlin believes that approval will be made official at tonight's school board meeting.

"Pretty much every service organization in the town has

given us money or pledges," Coughlin said. "The new lease won't be ready until about March, but that gives us more time to get the facility ready and raise more money and support."

See FUNDRAISING, pg. 5

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Getting technical

Let's get technical at the Ruidoso Public Library, every Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the conference room.
On Dec. 21, learn about e-audio. Need a last-minute gift idea? Try out the technology zoo of devices and software that allow you to download audiobooks for your next hike or car trip. Learn the library's online self service Dec. 28. Learn how to access your library account online, reserve or renew a book, check your fines and update your address.
The library is located at 107 Kansas City Road, and hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Helping Santa

Santa's Helpers is in need of volunteers at the workshop, open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. from now until delivery on Dec. 20. For more information or to volunteer, call Stacy Miller at 258-4446.

Democratic party

Instead of its regular monthly meeting, the Democratic Party of Lincoln County will join with the Democratic Women of the Sacramento Mountain Area for a holiday party, Dec. 15, at Hotel Ruidoso on 110 Chase St.
The party will begin at 5:30 p.m. There will be no business, just a potluck party. Bring finger food and your beverage of choice.
There will also be money trees for donations to the Lincoln County Food Bank and the Center of Protective Environment. Checks can be made out to either organization. Non-perishable food can also be brought for the food bank. For more information, call Dick Mastin at 336-2170.

Search and Rescue event

White Mountain Search and Rescue will hold its annual recognition event and party this Friday at 6 p.m. at the Innsbrook Club House, located at 103 Innsbrook Dr. in Ruidoso. The event is a potluck, with those attending urged to bring a side dish.
For more information, call Tony Davis at 336-4501 or Mark Younger 809-2982.

Common Ground fundraiser

Common Ground is behind in rent and needs your help to break even, or they must move out of Sierra Mall. There will be a sale from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily from Dec. 16-20 to raise the funds. For more information, call 973-7817.

Rifle raffle

American Legion Post 79 in Ruidoso is raising funds with its annual rifle raffle and membership drive. Tickets are being sold for the chance to win a Weatherby 30.06 Vanguard package or a 42-inch high definition television.
Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25, and the drawing will be Dec. 23. For tickets or information, call Vic Currier at (575) 802-5293.
Ruidoso Post's next meeting is Dec. 17 at 11 a.m. The Legion hall is located at the corner of Highway 70 and Spring Road in Ruidoso Downs.

Free gift wrapping

First Baptist Church of Ruidoso is hosting free gift wrapping at 4 Season's Mall, Dec. 17 and 24, from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. each day. There will also be free hot cocoa and coffee compliments of Beads to Beauty.

Call for artists

The Hubbard Museum of the American West is calling for entries to its 2012 Biennale Grande art show, scheduled to open at the museum April 4. The juried fine arts competition seeks to recognize and honor excellence in visual arts of the American West.
The competition is open to all artists of any age, both amateur and professional, living in New Mexico, Arizona and Texas. Eligible media include drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, fiber art and mixed media. Entry fee is \$25 for the first entry and \$20 for each additional entry. Deadline to enter is Jan. 31.
For more information on requirements and awards, call David Mandel at 378-4142, ext. 229.

Sacramento Mountain Village is a network of older adults in Ruidoso and surrounding communities who support independent living by offering services and activities that keep seniors healthy and happy in their own homes. Benefits

of membership include art and yoga classes, weekly walking and discussion groups, social functions and monthly member breakfasts at Cree Meadows Country Club, on the fourth Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Membership is open to any Lincoln County resident 49 years or older. For more information, call 258-2120 or visit www.sacmntvillage.org.

The Arid Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 1216 Mechem at 7:30 a.m., noon and 5:15 p.m. daily; Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m. There is also a Monday 6:30 p.m. women's open meeting and beginners and young-peoples' big book study Fridays at 7 p.m.

The Sunny Spirit Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Monday and Thursday at noon and Friday at 5:30 p.m., while the women's group meets Wednesdays at noon in the parish hall of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount at 121 Mescalero Trail.

Al Anon of Ruidoso - for family members of alcoholics - meet at 1216 Mechem Dr. Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call 258-8885.

Altrusa Club of Ruidoso meets at 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Road. Altrusa International of Ruidoso was established in 1970 and it's long running Annual Low Cost Mammogram Program was established in 1988. Some of the organizations Altrusa supports are the local food bank, women's shelter, humane society and others. One of Altrusa's focus is on literacy, in that they provide scholarships to men and women returning to college, books three times a year to the children in the local Head Start programs and donations to the Literacy Council. If you think an organization like Altrusa may be a good fit for your volunteer efforts, contact membership chair Judy Griffin at 937-5437.

The Carrizozo Roadrunners Chapter of the Lincoln County Extension Association meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 1 p.m. at the Otero County Electric Cooperative community room on 12th Street in Carrizozo. Chapter meetings are open to anyone interested. For more information, call Barbara VanGorder at 575-648-9805 or Doris Cherry at 354-2673.

The Democratic Women of the Sacramento Mountain Area meet the third Saturday of each month at 11:30 a.m. For more information, visit www.dwsma.org.

The Federated Republican Women of Lincoln County meet the fourth Monday of each month at Cree Meadows Country Club at 11:30 a.m. For more information, call 257-4160 or visit www.frw.rplcnm.org

The Federated Woman's Club of Ruidoso, supporting community service organizations and providing scholarships, meets Mondays at 11 a.m. at 116 S. Evergreen Dr. A pot luck lunch at noon is followed by bridge and other card games.
A special program is also presented most months. The group and hosts Yoga Wednesdays. For times or further information, call 257-2309.

Firefighters for Christ meet monthly at the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack Chapel at 7 p.m. This service is open to firefighters and their families. For more information, call 258-4682.

The Kiwanis Club of Ruidoso meets every Tuesday at noon at K-Bobs.

The Lincoln County Garden Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Otero County Electric co-op, on Highway 48 in Alto, at 9:45 a.m. Visitors are welcome. The Garden Club's purpose is to encourage community beautification and conservation, and to educate members in the arts and sciences of horticulture. For more information, call 973-2890.

The Lincoln County fibromyalgia and chronic pain support group meets on the third Thursday of each month from noon-1 p.m. in the parlor at First Baptist Church, 270 Country Club Dr. For information, contact Mary Barnett at 257-9810.

The Lincoln County Regulators, members of the Single Action Shooters Society, hold match-

es the second Saturday of every month at the Ruidoso Gun Range located on Hale Lake Road. Registration is at 9 a.m., matches start at 10 a.m. The public is welcome to participate or watch the action. During the shooting matches, all other shooting is suspended. For more information, call Avery (AKA Rowdy Lane) at 937-9297.

Optimist Club meets at noon every Wednesday at K-Bobs in Ruidoso.

The Photographic Society of Lincoln County - dedicated to the advancement of digital photography - meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Region IX offices at 237 Service Road. Annual dues are \$15 per family which includes lectures and field trips. Contact Leland Deford at 257-8662 or Herb Brunnell at 258-4003.

Rotary Club of Ruidoso meets at Cree Meadows Country Club noon every Tuesday.

Ruidoso Evening Lions Club meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at 106 S. Overlook.

A grief and bereavement group, offered by the Ruidoso Home Care and Hospice Foundation, begins meeting today and will meet every Tuesday from 6-7 p.m. at the organization's headquarters at 592 Gavilan Canyon Road. The focus of the group is on education about managing grief and developing a network of support with

others who have experienced loss. For more information, call Lyn Shuler at 258-0028.

The Ruidoso Noon Lions meet at 11:30 a.m. each Tuesday at Cree Meadows Country Club.

SAA meets every Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at the Holy Mountain at 321 Mescalero Trail Road. For more information, call 575-201-4203.

Women Helping Women, a support group for domestic violence victims and survivors, meets Wednesday's from 2-3 p.m. at Sweet Charity, 26156 Highway 70. The group offers support, resource referral and information about children's issues and problems. There is no cost and bilingual services are available.
If you have questions, please call the nest at 378-6378.

White Mountain Search and Rescue Team is open for membership to volunteers interested in various disciplines. Positions open include operations, communications, ATV, ground patrol, horse and K9 teams. Training and support is available for all positions in preparation for field certification. The organization meets every third Monday at 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Road. For more information, visit www.whitemountainsar.org or call Tony Davis at 336-4501.

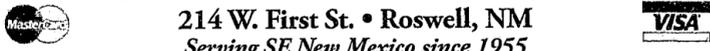
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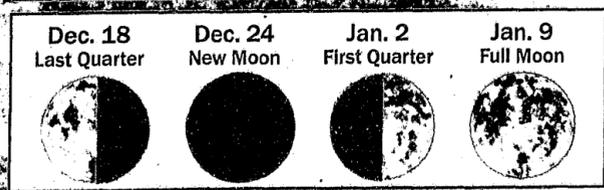
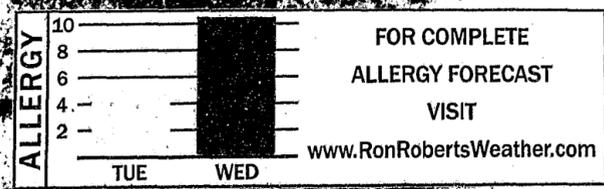
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	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Sunrise	6:58AM	6:58AM	6:59AM	7:00AM	7:00AM	7:01AM	7:01AM
Sunset	4:56PM	4:56PM	4:57PM	4:57PM	4:57PM	4:58PM	4:58PM
Avg High	49°	49°	49°	49°	49°	48°	48°
Avg Low	22°	22°	22°	22°	22°	21°	21°
Avg Precip	0.01"	0.01"	0.01"	0.01"	0.01"	0.01"	0.01"

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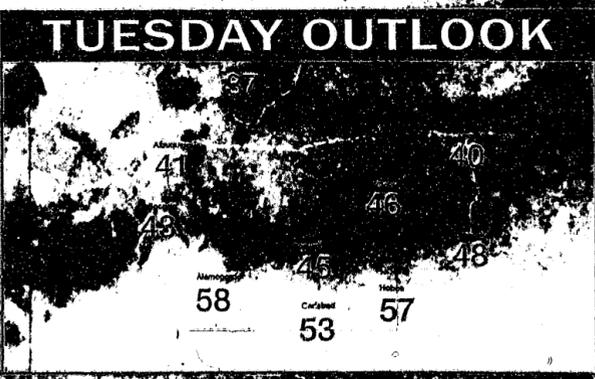
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

By Eugene Heathman

Editor
eugene@ruidosofreepress.com

Water issues dominate Village Council agenda :

The Ruidoso Village Council will take on several water related agenda and action items during today's regular meeting, scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. at Village Hall.

Councilors will take action on rejection of all bids for IFB 2012-005B for well replacement project; adoption of Resolution 2011-38; a resolution supporting the preparations and filing of an application to the New Mexico Water Trust Board for funding assistance for Fiscal Year 2012-13 for the Grindstone Reservoir Dam; adoption of Resolution 2011-39; a resolution supporting the preparations and filing of an application to the New Mexico Water Trust Board for funding assistance for Fiscal Year 2012-13 for the Alto Dam; discussion and possible action on award of IFB 2012-004B HydroGeologic Services Inc. for well deepening projects of wells H-1979-S-14 (Apple Orchard Well), H-1979-S-5 (Alto 3 Well) and H-272-S-3 (Plant 2 Well) in the Amount of \$241,401.68, which includes gross receipts tax; discussion and possible action on award of RFP 2012-006P to URS to begin negotia-

tions for Alto Dam Project; discussion and possible action on award of RFP 2012-007P hydrogeologic services for professional services for on-call water well pump and motor maintenance and well maintenance services; discussion and possible action on engineering services agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for professional engineer report for modifications and upgrades to Alto Water Treatment Plant and Alto Lake Pump Station, in the Amount of \$465,585, not including gross receipts tax; and discussion and possible action on professional services agreement 261 with Stream Dynamics Inc. for the Bog Springs Drainage Restoration Project, not to exceed \$100,000.

The meeting is open to the public and will be at 313 Cree Meadows Drive.

Lodgers Tax committee to request event funding

The Village Council will discuss and possibly take action on the following Lodgers Tax Committee's funding requests for Fiscal Year 2012 at 3 p.m. today. The committee is seeking special event funding for the Billy the Kid Chute Out bull riding event, in the amount of \$4,000. The committee is also seeking special event funding for the Spencer Theater's summer Texas Marketing Initiative, in the amount of \$5,000.

November births at Lincoln County Medical Center

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 11/1 Aurora Mackenna McChord, F, 8 lbs 6.3 oz, 21 in. Sonia & Mark McChord, Holloman AFB | 11/15 Kolton Layne Stagner, M, 6 lbs 15.8 oz, 20 in. Cynthia & Brian Stagner, Alamogordo | 11/18 Landon Riley Fike, M, 7 lbs 10.0 oz, 19 1/2 in. Leslie & Douglas Fike, Holloman AFB |
| 11/7 Zeik Griffeth Weaver, M, 9 lbs 0.6 oz, 21 in. Kobi Ann Weaver, Alamogordo | 11/16 Mya Suri Guzman, F, 6 lbs 9.9 oz, 19in. Maria & Abel Guzman, Alto | 11/23 Maleity Volene Coney, F, 8 lbs 3.5 oz, 19 in. Trisha & Archie Coney, Tularosa |
| 11/9 Izek Xavier Tave, M, 6 lbs 9.2 oz, 19 in. Karissa & Roberto Tave, Alamogordo | 11/16 Mia-rose Bella Robles, F, 6 lbs 1.2 oz, 18 in. Kayla-Rose Hunt-Loving, Ruidoso Downs | 11/25 Gene Thomas Banister, M, 8 lbs 1.8 oz, 20 in. Lisa & Bryan Banister, La Luz, N.M. |
| 11/10 Ayden Lee Obholz, M, 6 lbs 15.9 oz, 19in. Rochelle Obholz, Ruidoso | 11/17 Geraldine Vianey Gonzalez, F, 7 lbs 2.3 oz, 18 in. Zulema & Ceelilo Gonzalez, Ruidoso Downs | 11/29 Rhyenne Juremii Cajé, F, 5 lbs 5.4 oz, 17 1/2 in. Anjuana Enjady & Ryan Cajé, Mescalero |
| 11/10 Josiah Ira Rupp, M, 5 lbs 10.1 oz, 18 in. Kyla Dawn Rupp-Smith, Alamogordo | 11/17 Zyierra Kyleigh Trujillo, F, 6 lbs 14 oz, 20 in. Rebertha Trujillo | 11/30 Iezeakel Dayna Dolan, M, 8 lbs 14.3 oz, 19 1/2 in. Quinzella Railroad & Dudley Dolan, Mescalero |
| 11/11 Lucas Aiden Robert Mor- | | |

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Free benefits result from reform of health care

No matter where you stand on health-care reform, people eligible for Medicare have seen new benefits in health care this past year because of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, signed into law March 2010.

This year more than 300,000 New Mexicans with Medicare were eligible for an annual and preventive exams and immunizations with no expense, says Terry Schleder, of the New Mexico Alliance of Retired Americans. "Studies show that even a small co-payment is a barrier and can delay care," Schleder adds.

Getting preventive exams, like mammograms, can mean the difference between "a small lump and full-blown breast cancer" she says.

The Medicare enrollment period has changed to Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, for plans

effective in 2012. Previously people had until year's end.

Another benefit, part of a long-ranging plan to close the "doughnut hole," for drug coverage, reduced the cost of brand-name prescription drugs by 50 percent for people who have enrolled in Medicare Part D and fall into the coverage gap.

Those are people who have exhausted their initial drug benefits of about \$2,800, but are not yet eligible for the catastrophic benefit that kicks in when they spend more than \$5,200 in the calendar year, says Mike Donnelly, advocacy director for New Mexico AARP. He says the drug coverage gap will be reduced each year as part of the health-care law.

The law also requires states to permit people with pre-existing conditions to get insurance through a state-administered high-risk pool if they've been denied coverage, he says.

Other provisions of the health-care

law that are in effect include no more lifetime limits on care, protection from insurance cancellation as a result of health issues and coverage for adult children age 26 and younger, Donnelly says.

Another Medicare change is how senior managed care providers are reimbursed. The law reduced the reimbursement for Medicare Advantage programs but offered bonuses if plans hit quality markers on a five-star plan. That system was implemented to improve efficiency and reduce waste, Donnelly and Schleder say.

In New Mexico about 81,000 seniors belong to a Medicare Advantage program, according to state statistics compiled by the Kaiser Family Foundation, at state-healthfacts.org

According to Donnelly, Medicare pays the insurer a set amount for each Medicare-eligible client covered.

Jim Decker, director of sales for the Medicare Advantage programs for Presbyterian Health Plan, says 32,000 people are enrolled in one of two Presbyterian programs, Presbyterian Senior Care, which covers a five-county area, and Presbyte-

rian Medicare PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) which is statewide.

Decker says Presbyterian Senior Care's four-star rating from the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services means more benefits for its members.

Presbyterian offers three levels of coverage, some that include drug benefits. Some have no premiums, while a plan with more benefits costs \$59 a month, Decker says.

Along with the benefits all Medicare recipients will receive, members of Presbyterian Senior Care, beginning Jan. 1 will find their co-payments to their primary care provider lowered from \$10 to \$5. Visits to specialists also decreased by \$5, Decker says.

A routine annual vision exam had no co-pay, he says. Silver Sneakers, a gym membership benefit, and a dental discount plan will continue to be included in Presbyterian Senior Care.

This is a reminder that the deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 7, and that there are some advantages to health care reform!

Barbara Mader, RN
Alto

Shop local, shop often

By Eugene Heathman

Editor
eugene@ruidosofreepress.com

The more Lincoln County small business owners I meet in my daily duties, the more I am compelled to shop local and support their dedicated hard work. The perils of seasonal and tourist related business in a rural community are exceptionally challenging and I want to give the gift of the fine arts, crafts and other retail items to my friends and family this years that are undeniably, Lincoln County.

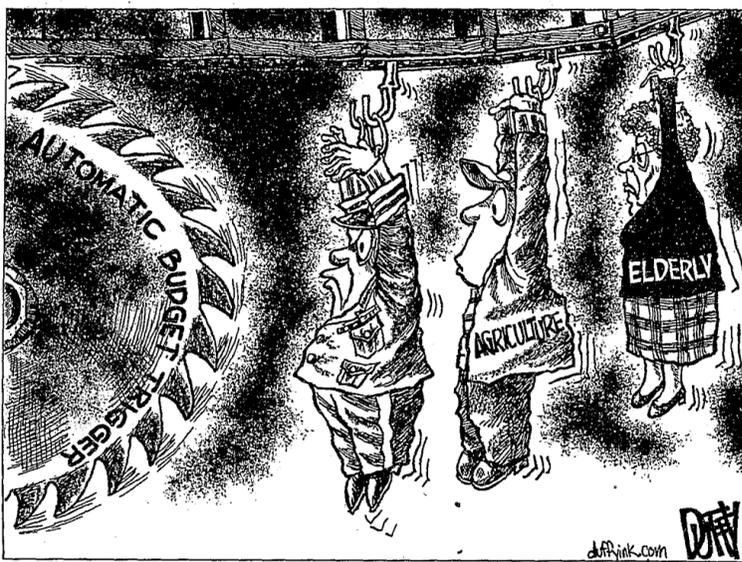
I am the first to admit that I have enjoyed the ease of online "big box" shopping. However, the more I think about it, the more I ask: why should I default my support of the tax base and the job force of a company in another city or state when there are wonderfully crafted gifts I can purchase right here? It doesn't make sense to build parks and roads in another city when we need them just as bad right here.

Shopping locally for the holidays was at first a challenge but once a person gets to know the hundreds of different businesses and what they have to offer, the easier it became. Lincoln County small business owners have a history of resilience to a variety of market conditions but it shouldn't have to be as a result of neighbors taking their shopping preferences elsewhere. There is an abundant supply of local authors, artists, craftsmen,

importers and service provider in our own community. I have also found how delighted people can be when they receive a gift from our own slice of paradise.

By shopping local, dollars spent help build a local tax revenue base to offset the fluctuations of the seasonal economy. Dollars spent locally also support civil services and projects such as sidewalks, street lamps, walking trails, utility infrastructure, police and fire services. Consider shopping local as an investment in the community. Although the era of online shopping or metropolitan big box store shopping has its advantages; one significant disadvantage is the shopper does not know the people they are doing business with. The person to person business relationship that is established by actually meeting the merchant is somewhat a dying art. Doing business locally is an excellent way to develop and strengthen relationships within a community.

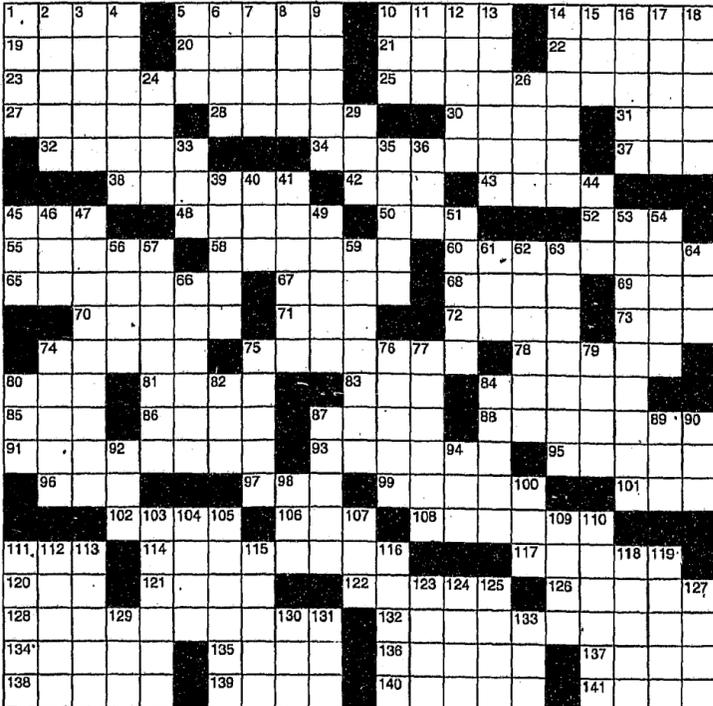
Recently, I reflected back upon stores I have been driving by for years yet never stopped in to see what they have. I am astounded at what local merchants provide and what they are willing to do to earn local business. With that being said, stop in a couple places you have never been or have not recently patronized and give that merchant an opportunity to earn your local dollars.



Super Crossword

COOL CHARACTERS
Solution on pg. 19

- ACROSS**
- 1 Composer
 - 5 Nom de crime?
 - 10 Theatrical Joseph
 - 14 Exclude
 - 19 Way off base?
 - 20 Mete out the mine-
 - 21 "God's Little" (58 film)
 - 22 Lose one's tail?
 - 23 English talk-show host
 - 25 "The Alamo" actor
 - 27 Kitchen utensil
 - 28 Arboreal animal
 - 30 Jal —
 - 31 Trombonist
 - 32 Took a shot at
 - 34 Salve
 - 37 Chirlese principle
 - 38 Fit for farming
 - 42 "Ligala" author
 - 43 Conductor Jeffrey
 - 45 Thurman of "Final Analysis"
 - 48 Southern staple
 - 50 PC key
 - 52 Make wine divine
 - 55 Drives and drives?
 - 58 '87 Warren Beatty film
 - 60 Word game
 - 65 O' Blue Eyes'
 - 67 Church birthplace
 - 68 Apple variety
 - 69 Mauna —
 - 70 Coeur d' —
 - 71 Skater Midori
 - 72 Actress Nell
 - 73 "The King and I"
 - 74 Subordinate
 - 75 "It Was a Good Day"
 - 78 Pithy
 - 80 Hazel's boss
 - 81 Add color
 - 83 Oulet — mouse
 - 84 Jeweler's weight
 - 85 Novelist Kobo
 - 86 "— homo"
 - 87 Neighbor of Neb.
 - 88 Author France
 - 91 Film site
 - 93 Forceful
 - 95 Neiman or Anderson
 - 96 — Dinh
 - 97 Broadway letters
 - 99 Director von Stroheim
 - 101 Curly poker?
 - 102 Singer Woolley
 - 106 TV's "My — Dads"
 - 108 Swift savages
 - 111 — Cob, CT
 - 114 Strauss opera
 - 117 Japanese porcelain
 - 120 Recite a refrain
 - 121 Pants measurement
 - 122 Addis —
 - 126 Mythical weeper
 - 128 "Poetry Man" singer
 - 132 "Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure" slar
 - 134 A Muse
 - 135 California resort
 - 136 Become boring
 - 137 Warty one
 - 138 Talk out of
 - 139 Fluff the flour
 - 140 Used a whetstone
 - 141 Humorist Bombeck
- DOWN**
- 1 The Four —
 - 2 Expect
 - 3 Sweetheart
 - 4 "Twelfth Night" role
 - 5 Landon or Kjellin
 - 6 Ulrich of Metallica
 - 7 Matinee —
 - 8 As well
 - 9 Brief brawl
 - 10 Part of PST
 - 11 Cologne cry
 - 12 Paris' pop base
 - 13 Small shot
 - 14 One of the Clintons
 - 15 Yalie
 - 16 Like some sweaters
 - 17 Dwight's competition
 - 18 Varnish ingredient
 - 24 Mailer's "The — Park"
 - 25 Natalie's sister
 - 29 With-it
 - 33 Mr. Hammar-skjold
 - 35 — Dame
 - 36 It's in the bag
 - 39 Feta marinade
 - 40 Flour-de —
 - 41 Ragal
 - 44 Jug part
 - 45 "Gross!"
 - 46 Bovine bellow
 - 47 "Wozzeck" composer
 - 49 Chihuahua or Tapasco
 - 51 Freighter
 - 53 "My Little Margie" star
 - 54 Ham up suffix
 - 56 Pleat
 - 57 Singer Davis
 - 59 Guacamole
 - 61 This instant pigment
 - 62 "The Kitchen God's Wife" author
 - 63 Common
 - 64 Cul-de —
 - 66 Physicist Fermi
 - 74 Metropolitan
 - 75 Stuff
 - 76 Grammarian's concern
 - 77 High-rise building?
 - 79 Be important
 - 80 Irate
 - 82 Member of the mil.
 - 84 Snag
 - 87 Crab's expression
 - 89 Card game
 - 90 Spud bud
 - 92 Fling stats
 - 94 Long or Peeples
 - 98 Hwy.
 - 100 — polloi
 - 104 New York county
 - 105 Met men
 - 107 Slangy suffix
 - 109 Word form for "all"
 - 110 Sault — Marie, MI
 - 111 Like Batman
 - 112 Paint pigment
 - 113 Summer errine
 - 115 Dog star
 - 116 Humiliate
 - 118 Turtling part
 - 119 Steel support
 - 123 Palo —, CA
 - 124 Comic Orson
 - 125 Ferris-wheel feature-
 - 127 The Valkyres' mom
 - 129 When Satie sweltered
 - 130 Klutz
 - 131 Humor
 - 133 Tie the knot



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We want your letters

Ruidoso Free Press welcomes your Letters to the Editor on topics of concern to you and the community.

Details:

Letters, which should be no longer than 300 words, must include the name, address and telephone number of the author for verification.

Deadline:

The deadline is 3 p.m. the Thursday before publication, but letters may be held until the following week upon the editor's discretion.

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Local faces in Nutcracker

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2 & 7 p.m.



Courtesy photos

This weekend's Nutcracker production will feature an abundance of local performers from all grade levels of area schools. At left, Aidan Haney starring as the Dew Drop Fairy; above right, Sabina Judah starring as Clara.

2010 an off year for New Mexico mortgages

Last year was a down year for mortgages that originated in New Mexico, according to data from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act.

New Mexico slipped two spots in the national rankings, from 36th to 38th, based on a volume of \$7.7 billion mortgages made in 2010. More than 60 percent of the state's 2010 mortgages (\$5 billion) were through refinancing, placing it 37th in the country in this category.

In 2009, \$9.7 billion in mortgages

were originated in the state, according to HMDA data. That makes the state's year-to-year falloff nearly 20 percent.

In comparison, the national total dropped from \$1.8 trillion in mortgages in 2009 to \$1.6 trillion in 2010. New Mexico's falloff was more than the decline overall nationally, which was about 11 percent.

Top in-state lenders for 2010 were Bank of Albuquerque, Suburban Mortgage of Albuquerque and Los Alamos National Bank

FUNDRAISING from pg. 1

The building is pretty much ready to move in, except for a state inspection of the kitchen and food service area. Coughlin said the biggest need is filling the building with – for lack of a better term – stuff.

"The building is empty right now. We need furniture, tables, pencils, office supplies, trash cans, pots and pans, utensils, everything," Coughlin said. "We've been on this one-lane road of fundraising to get the club started, and now it's split into two roads, to get supplies for the building."

Coughlin said the items in question don't have to be brand new, stating many businesses and homes may have

unused furniture or supplies tucked away in closets or attics. He said that nothing is off limits.

The two-lane road will soon split into three when the club starts looking for volunteers to help run the place – including those that are willing to teach classes to students of all ages.

"We've already had all sorts of people come out wanting to help," Coughlin said. "There's a lot going on. This is truly going to be a community involvement."

Those interested in donating time, money or supplies are urged to contact Coughlin at (575) 630-0318 or (575) 973-5469.

WATER WOES from pg. 1

conserve water and be on alert to help identify any leaks or broken pipes that you may see in your neighborhood."

The Village has been fighting an uphill battle with the water situation as demand is barely being met. Last week's storm has only compounded the issue, and it is expected to worsen with heavily booked holiday weekends ahead. According to Justin King, Assistant Utilities Director for the Village; "Our utility crews are working in the Village to find leaks and turn off meters, and we will continue to do that

throughout the weekend. However, it is vitally important that we have everyone's cooperation – especially the lodgers and restaurant owners."

The Village is asking that all lodgers inform their guests about the need to conserve water during their visit. In addition, restaurant owners can contribute by serving water to their patrons only on request. According to a release sent by the village Thursday, many water lines may have burst, and officials are asking residents to check their lines for leaks and report them to the water depart-

ment as soon as possible. Additionally, residents are asked to report any water leaks they may see while out and about. For more information, call the Water and Sewer Department at 257-2386, or the Ruidoso Police Department at 258-7365.



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BUSINESS

Erhard gives Democrats hope for CD2 in 2012

By Patrick Rodriguez

Reporter
patrick@ruidosofreepress.com

The Democratic Party of New Mexico likes its chances of winning back the 2nd Congressional District next fall. Since the creation of the seat in 1969, Democrats have held it for only two years, following Harry Teague's victory in 2008.

This confidence has been handed down thanks to Evelyn Madrid Erhard, who last week formally announced her campaign as a Democrat running in the 2nd District. Some officials within the state Democratic Party say that she has the pedigree to present a challenge for the Republican incumbent, Steve Pearce.

The 56-year-old Madrid Erhard, who grew up in the northern New Mexico city of Española, comes from family of public

servants for the state. One of her ancestors was entrusted with a land grant. Another was a military officer during the Civil War. Her maternal grandfather served as a U.S. Forest Ranger. Madrid Erhard's father fought in World War II and earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree through the G.I. Bill, becoming a teacher and coach at Pojoaque High School.

And then there are Madrid Erhard's credentials, which shouldn't be taken lightly.

She says her political education began in the third grade, around the time former President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. The tragic event sparked within her great empathy and a lasting desire to understand and pursue politics. She was greatly influenced during her school years by the former president's brother, Robert Kennedy, and Martin Luther King, Jr., both of whom were also assassinated, and the plight of migrant workers.

After graduating from high school, Madrid Erhard attended New Mexico State University, eventually earning a bachelor's degree in drama and a Master's Degree in speech and com-



Evelyn Madrid Erhard

munication. While on break from college, she interned at the Los Alamos National Laboratories and later worked for the Lockheed Corporation as a technical writer.

However, this is Madrid Erhard's first taste of running for political office. Pearce has held the congressional seat representing the 2nd District all but two years since 2003.

"It's about how you work with other people," said Madrid Erhard of running for Congress. "I feel that my Master's Degree is right on target of what I should be doing."

She says that while working as a college professor at NMSU, she taught subjects that people will be dealing with in Washington. Some of her students would either speak or write about their current employment situation, most of whom would say that they didn't have health insurance or that they were underpaid.

"They haven't changed from when I first started teaching over 30 years ago," she said. "The concerns have remained the same because no one has done anything to help change the situation."

Registered Republicans have a 46 to 35 percent edge over their Democratic

counterparts in the 2nd District. In Lincoln County that disparity is even greater, as registered Republicans have a 56 to 27 percent edge.

But Stephanie DuBois, the 2nd Congressional District vice-chair for the Democratic Party of New Mexico, says that because of Democratic strongholds such as Dona Ana and Hidalgo counties, and the possibility that other Democratic majority counties like Valencia might be shifted into the 2nd District due to redistricting, the chances of a strong Democratic candidate would set up a real challenge for Pearce.

"Aside from the credentials and the education that (Madrid Erhard) possesses, you can tell that she's committed to this race and that her heart and head are clearly in it," said DuBois, who has heard Madrid Erhard speak at a few campaign events over the past few months. "I can tell that she can handle herself in a debate."

Madrid Erhard said that she would focus a bulk of a campaign on jobs.

"Everywhere you look in the 2nd District, you're going to find that there are different needs that people have," said Madrid Erhard. "I think that jobs are one of the problems is that a lot of people have been pushed toward part-time employment so that there are no benefits, and they were already living from paycheck to paycheck, anyway."

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Four Sixes Ranch, Heath Taylor headed into Hall of Fame

By Ty Wyant

For the Ruidoso Free Press

The famed Four Sixes Ranch, currently owned and operated by Anne Burnett Windfohr Marion, is the owner/breeder and Heath Taylor is the trainer to be inducted into the Ruidoso Downs Racehorse Hall of Fame as part of the 2012 class.

The jockey, and horse also to be enshrined during the June induction ceremony will be announced in the near future.

The Ruidoso Downs Racehorse Hall of Fame is dedicated to educating the public about horseracing and preserving racing's history. It features a collection of very rare pieces of racing memorabilia located at Ruidoso Downs and is open free to the public. All donations to the Racehorse Hall of Fame are tax deductible and help promote the Hall of Fame's mission.

The Four Sixes Ranch is part of the famous Burnett Ranches LLC, which is among the most storied family-run businesses in Texas history. It was started by Captain Samuel "Burk" Burnett in 1868 when he bought 100 head of cattle with a "6666" brand. The operation now stretches over 275,000 acres near Panhandle and Guthrie, Texas, and is overseen by Burnett's great-granddaughter Ms. Marion, also known as Little Anne.

In addition to the vast cattle business, the horse operation has set the highest standard for racing, performance and ranch horses. Their foundation stallions included Cee Bars, Hollywood Gold, Joe Hancock and Grey Badger III. The ranch's racehorse breeding program has flourished over the past 50 years and has been headed by world champions and leading sires Dash For Cash and Special Effort, each a

member of the Ruidoso Downs Racehorse Hall of Fame, until their deaths.



Anne Burnett Windfohr Marion

The Four Sixes currently has a very deep stallion roster headed by leading sire Mr Jess Perry, the second-ranked sire of graded stakes winners in 2011. His 2011 stakes winners include Heritage Place Futurity winner High Rate Of Return and Los Alamitos Super Derby winner Miss Racy Jess.

Miss Racy Jess, co-owned by Burnett Ranches and Johnny Trotter, raced to her third-straight win on Nov. 6 when she won the \$935,350 Los Alamitos Super Derby, Quarter Horse racing's second-richest derby behind the All American Derby at Ruidoso Downs.

Taylor has become one of the most important trainers in quarter horse racing. He is the all-time third-ranked trainer of stakes winners behind Paul Jones and Blane Schvaneveldt, and the fourth-ranked trainer of all-time money earners behind Jones, Schvaneveldt and Jack Brooks. Each of those trainers ranked ahead of Taylor is a member of the Ruidoso Downs Racehorse Hall of Fame.



Heath Taylor

Photos courtesy of AQHA Journal

Taylor saddled Jerry Windham's Stollis Winner to victories in the All American Futurity and Rainbow Futurity on his way to being honored as the 2008 world champion as a two-year-old and going on to become the current all-time leading money earning Quarter Horse.

Taylor has multiple wins in the Heritage Place Futurity, Refrigerator Handicap, Texas Classic Derby, Dash For Cash Derby, Firecracker Futurity, Sam Houston Futurity, Oklahoma Futurity, Oklahoma Derby, Mardi Gras Futurity and the Sam Houston Futurity.

BUSINESS buzz

Realtor raffle iPad winner

The Lincoln County/Ruidoso Association of Realtors announced Don McMasters as the iPad winner during the annual holiday party Dec. 9 at Cree Meadows Country Club.

The raffle raised funds for student scholarships awarded to local youth each year by the association.

The Nest recognizes local business

This week the Nest would like to



Photo courtesy of Stacy Hamilton

Don McMasters and spouse Lorri McNight from City Bank.

recognize Southwest Greens' owners, Kirk Taylor and Scott Forester, as well as Jim Secor of Ziascapes. Southwest Greens donated an Envy Lawn artificial turf for the play yard at the Nest and Ziascapes donated the landscape design and installation of bushes and shrubbery for the family courtyard.

Thanks to these two giving businesses, the children and families at the shelter have a comforting and fun place to play outside all year long.

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Ask an entrepreneur

Some of you will remember local Ruidoso business milestones that heralded change from small-town entrepreneurship to a mix of corporate chain businesses, when we lost our last stationary store, stand alone pharmacy, after the local big-box expanded to "super-dom." Some of these changes left a loss, yet for every shift in the mix another bright spot emerged for local entrepreneurs.

We asked the owners of some of the prominent and successful locally-owned businesses in Ruidoso about the effects Small Business Saturday had and how do their stores compete against corporate and online providers in their market sectors.

Elizabeth Byars, owner of The Wild Herb Market, didn't experience a boost from the shopping holiday, which occurred the Saturday after Thanksgiving. While she feels fortunate there isn't a significant local competitor for her products, the downside is there isn't a large enough population to support her store's goods. The success of The Wild Herb, she said, is due to "providing a friendly atmosphere and service" to her clients, thereby competing well against the big

guys. Many of her clients say shopping at a chain store is a "necessary evil" and would prefer, whenever possible, to shop at her store.

Customer service to Byars means going the extra mile for her clients, including contacting Lawrence Brothers about products she doesn't carry for her clients. Profit is not her only motive; the wellbeing of her clients is. As an added benefit, she gets referrals from her outreach as well, though she never does this with the chain stores, as she would rather circulate opportunities with other local businesses.

Regarding Small Business Saturday, Marty Martell, owner of Village Ace Hardware, said: "I'm sure it helped, but since we ran promotions during that time, it's hard to differentiate" where the bump came from. He acknowledged that the shopping holiday was "overall positive ... as it draws attention to the importance of shopping at local establishments."

Martell said that his chain store competition's price advantage isn't that significant because Village Ace regularly offers price specials, too. The great-

est difference, he said, is that corporate stores require (and divert) higher profits to shareholders and executive salaries. He said that while chain stores may have a "breadth advantage," his customers respond positively to Village Ace's local convenience, knowledgeable assistance and focused products to meet the needs of the typical family.

Shirley Schenk, president and owner of The Golden Yarn, stated that her "vendors did feel the bump from Small Business Saturday and that there was benefit" to the movement. She thought the "No. 1 reason" her store is so successful is her staff's customer service and providing a storefront where clients can see material samples, ask questions, place an order directly with a responsible person and have an actual person to provide support. She felt this gave her clients "a 100 percent level of comfort" that their needs would be met before, during and after the sale, as opposed to the faceless salesperson provided by online retailers or order desks of chain building material stores.

Schenk added an element of "karma" to her philosophy. She regularly



Marianne Mohr
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shops locally, and her feeling is that if she doesn't support local businesses herself, how could she expect others to support hers? Last week she began Christmas shopping at Visions, Klassy Kids and Steppin' Out. She sums it up: "What goes around, comes around."

Marianne Mohr is a retired investor and business consultant from Southern California and currently Multi-Media Program Manager at MTD Media. Reach her at (575) 937-4015 or marianne@ruidosofreepress.com

Checklist for better times

For homeowners these days (and most of us still are) the state of the housing market seems either a constant worry, a pressing burden or, at a minimum, an unpleasant diversion from wealth building.

Across our nation, and we follow these trends in here in Ruidoso, our once booming industry's been beat up pretty badly. In past years, home prices nationally have plunged about 30 percent, millions have lost their homes and millions remain on foreclosure's precipice. Things are pretty rough now and there's a little more pain to be had out there before we see meaningful market stabilization and then a foothold secured for a slow rebound. Most of this problem is the seemingly inexhaustible inventory of homes on the market now and in the

pipeline for the next few years.

So here's a Checklist for Better Times. When we get through these five obstacles that contribute to this current immutable glut of properties, we'll be headed in the right direction.

Jobs growth and economic gains. Using any trail map, we're not out of the woods yet here. The Labor Department can manufacture all the data it wants to suggest improvement, but we know where we're at here. 'Real' unemployment percentages are in the teens and job growth needs to double and triple to make a dent in this number and budge our economy in the right direction.

Clarity on foreclosures. While lawsuits and countersuits fly through the courts, there's no clear agreement on the rights and wrongs of the foreclosure

process. The longer it takes to adjudicate the answers, the longer it takes to move these properties through the process.

Faster foreclosures. Until lenders can speed up the process of getting foreclosed homes and those near foreclosure on the market speedily, the shadow inventory remains, dampening the market.

Reduced inventory. Next on the list, actually reduce the inventory. The inventory will increase with all the impending foreclosures. And there's only one way to quickly clear inventory. It's called lower the price. Will lenders want to lower prices or are they afraid of big losses? Time will tell how quickly they move.

Rising rents. Simple math plays out here. When rents increase to levels where it's more attractive to buy a home



Bob Moroney
bob@buyruidoso.com

than continue renting, renters will convert to homeownership.

So stick this Checklist for Better Times up on the fridge and cross em out one at a time. But don't be in a hurry.

What's on the floor

By Sandi Aguilar

For the Ruidoso Free Press

Some may not consider a casino a typical business, but in reality, it is no different than a clothing store or restaurant. Just as a shirt or sandwich is created, advertised and sold, so is a fun experience. Casinos, like amusement parks, are entertainment centers and faced with attracting customers, providing great service and keeping the customer coming back.

The 'floor' of any retail or entertainment venue is where the product is. Billy the Kid casino floor consists of 300 machines, all ranging in size, theme and age. "Just like a retailer, we must get in new product and move existing ones around. This keeps the place looking and feeling fresher," says slot operations manager, Greg Obregon. The casino recently acquired several dozen new machines and Obregon was especially excited about the Dangerous Beauty and Crystal Kingdom which are, according to Obregon, extremely popular games. "We want to give our customer a great experience every time they come." Obregon says, "we are very proud of the strides we have made to bring in a great assortment of machines, the customers particularly like the penny slots and video poker."

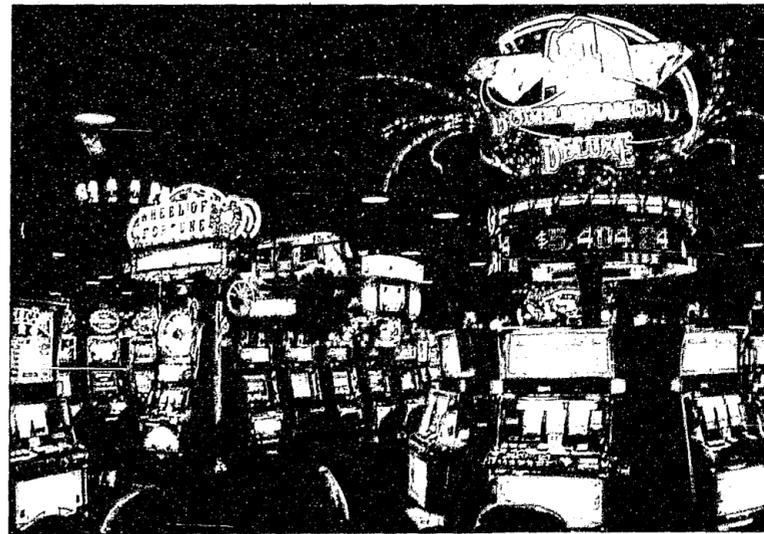
The actions of all casinos in New Mexico are highly monitored and regu-

lated, especially the race tracks. "We have a supportive relationship with the NM Gaming Commission and are in constant contact with them," says general manager Shaun Hubbard. According to Hubbard, the commission works closely with the racinos (horse racing casinos) to resolve issues in a timely and cohesive manner. The agents and board are truly working for solutions to benefit all parties," Hubbard explains.

Billy the Kid has only 300 machines due to the size of its customer base. More machines would be allowed to this facility, but are leased to other casinos in larger populated areas. All of the machines at Billy the Kid are electronic slots, including the table games. The statute allowing gaming at race tracks does not allow for traditional table games. The statute also regulates food and alcohol in conjunction with gaming. This regulatory component of the gaming business is considered in all aspects of the creation of promotions, marketing and rewards.

The casino works closely with the gaming commission and recently purchased a new slots system which will increase the ease of supplying regulatory reports. The system will also allow for increased customer service with more promotional opportunities.

Says Obregon, "We are entertainment. We must keep our customers



happy with new machines, a different look and fun promotions. A customer may feel winning is the reason for coming to a casino, and it is...but really it is about an enjoyable time. Did they feel good when walking away...and will they be back?"

The casino management would like to remind customers; they are responsible gaming property and encourage moderation.

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EDUCATION

RHS grad awarded ProStart National Certificate

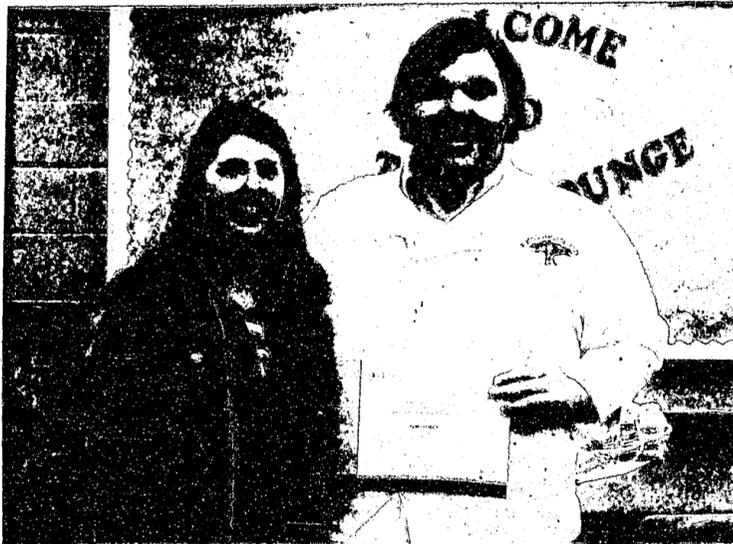
Ruidoso High School is pleased to announce that 2011 graduate Danny Romero has been awarded the ProStart National Certificate of Achievement by the National Restaurant Association. The NRA Educational Foundation commends this student on successfully mastering the competencies and completing all program requirements of the ProStart program.

Nationwide, 80,000 students in 47 states, territories and districts are served by ProStart, a two-year curriculum supported by the National Restaurant Association and state restaurant associations across the United States that blends classroom learning with mentored work experience to teach high school students. The ProStart program is a two-year course of study designed to teach high school students the culinary and management skills needed for a career in the restaurant industry. When students meet academic standards, complete a checklist of competencies, pass two national exams, and work at least 400 hours in the

industry, they are awarded the ProStart National Certificate of Achievement that signifies they are well qualified to enter the industry workforce.

According to Julie Rigsby, Romero's culinary arts teacher at Ruidoso High, "I am so proud of Danny. He loves to cook and was a top employee at his worksites in high school. Danny is currently taking online classes and plans to enter culinary school in the near future. In addition to working long hours in the summer months, he was a leader in the culinary classes and a two-year member of Tepee Lounge." Danny is the son of Icela and Jerry Romero of Ruidoso.

If you would like to see other Pro Start students in action, please consider eating lunch at Tepee Lounge, the RHS's student-owned and operated restaurant. Lunch is served every Thursday and the public is welcome! For more information call Julie Rigsby at 258-4910 ext. 7954. The restaurant also does caterings for the public when time permits.



Danny Romero receives his ProStart National Certificate from RHS culinary arts teacher Julie Rigsby. *Courtesy photo*

Martinez announces early childhood reading initiative

Governor Susana Martinez last week announced a proposal to invest \$17 million dollars in new funding to go toward help New Mexico's children learn how to read.

The Early Reading Initiative is expected to provide new reading coaches and offer new screenings

to students who are struggling in that area, as well as increase funding for pre-K programs and supplemental instruction for children in need of reading assistance.

The 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress found that 80 percent of state's fourth-grader cannot read at grade level, which could lead to poor student performance in later grades and a state-wide graduation rate that is among the lowest in the country.

"We have an opportunity to invest in the future of our children by ensuring that they have a foundation for learning and success in life," the governor said. "When our students can read, they can more easily achieve, and by monitoring our students' progress at an early age, we can step in and help those who

are struggling so that every New Mexico child can read proficiently before entering the fourth grade."

As part of the \$17-million Early Reading Initiative, the state would spend more than \$6 million to invest in reading coaches. Each reading coach would support a group of about six elementary schools, and would work closely with teachers on the best strategies to help struggling students find success. Teachers would also be provided with screening assessment tools to regularly monitor a student's reading progress in early grades, and struggling students would get the help and attention they need.

"We know that a child that can't read by the third grade is four times more likely to drop out of high school," said Public Education Department Secretary Hanna Skandera. "Our children will be the leaders of our state before we know it. It's time we give them the opportunity they deserve."

As part of the Early Reading Initiative, Martinez will attempt to work with the state Legislature to ensure that students would no longer be advanced from the third grade to the fourth grade without having learned basic reading skills.

Youth of the Week

Robbie Lee Richardson



Robbie Lee Richardson is a ninth-grader at Capitan High school. She enjoys sports, 4H Club and actively participates in rodeos.

It's not always handled the best way; she says more interaction is better than reaction.

Horses, goats, a dog and a cat keep Robbie busy, but her favorite pet is Dean.

"He's an amazing horse and gives 150 percent all of the time to anything you ask him to do, even if he doesn't want to do it," she said. "He has a great personality and you just have to love him."

If she was given \$2 million and had one week to spend it on anyone but herself, she would give the money to St. Jude's Hospital, animal shelters, residents in her community, including her family, and countless other charities.

Being Different with Robbie Lee would be the title of a book written about her.

For more information about "Youth of the week" contact Lisa Morales at 575-258-9922 or lisa@ruidosofreepress.com.

Robbie started competing in rodeos when she was 8 years old, and has participated in them for the past six years. Her dedication to the sport has paid off, winning the 2010.NBHA Reserve Championship in barrel racing. She contributes her success to her family and God.

Robbie spends her time hanging out with her family and friends.

One thing that Robbie wishes she could change is the way her school-mates react to peer pressure, because

Share your memories; win cash prizes

The Ruidoso Tourism department Ruidoso, a long-time vacation destination, has unveiled the Love Ruidoso Photo Contest which is open to anyone who has captured memories of fun times in the mountain village. The contest, which runs through Dec. 31, is being sponsored by the Ruidoso Tourism Department and is designed to capture the enduring beauty of Ruidoso and its surrounding areas. Winning photos will be selected by a panel of judges, and the winners will receive \$100 for each photo that is selected. These photos will also be used in upcoming ad campaigns as well as on the new Ruidoso Tourism website, DiscoverRuidoso.com, which is currently in development.

According to Gina Kelley, Director

of Tourism: "Visitors come to Ruidoso for a variety of reasons - skiing, hiking, biking, horse racing, and just plain relaxing. So instead of us 'staging' photo shoots to capture our idea of why people visit, why not use the real thing!" The Tourism Department is looking for "lifestyle photos" that depict Ruidoso in all of its seasons, and anyone can submit up to six photos total into the following categories: outdoor recreation, dining/shopping, historical imagery, events, family fun, and relaxation. A total of 50 photos will be selected and awarded the \$100 prize. For a complete list of contest rules and details and to download entry forms, please visit RuidosoAttractions.com/photocontest.html. The deadline for submitting entries is Dec. 31.

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The psychling chronicles

CL 125

We had been on the road for two weeks traveling through New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada and Utah as we exited the west and now contemplated the amber waves of grain leaving Wray, Colo., to play tag with the borders of Nebraska and Kansas. We had spent much of the previous winter planning this trip. The beat of the mini 122cc engines seemed thankful to leave the west's



Galen Farrington
rablady@beyondbb.com

on a 5,000-mile, 36-day journey through America on matching Honda CL 125s. We would putt-putt through 10 states and parts of eastern Canada before descending southward into New York City where we would partake in my family's hospitality for a month. I had crossed the country for many years in my 53-horsepower VW on the almost finished interstate system, and although those trips

were slow, they were about the destination, not the journey. Chris and I had many travel goals, one being to travel with a purpose through all 50 states, and since college loans absorbed some of our income, camping and motorcycling enabled us to visit most of the United States, western Canada and northern Mexico by motorcycles of various sizes during our first 10 years in Ruidoso, and most of them were small bikes that took on the big trips.

Crossing into New York through Niagara Falls, Chris realized that most of the Empire State was scenically extraordinary due to the abundance of valleys, mountains, broadleaf trees, rural towns and friendly people. The muted tones of the city hit us head-on as we crossed the George Washington Bridge for Chris's first New York City experience and the end of our first epic motorcycle journey.

During the early 1970s, when rent prices doubled during the summer in Ruidoso, Chris and I could travel most of the summer more inexpensively than living in a rented house. The mantra of one summer was "Shore to Shore in '74," and was purposefully designed as a slow-moving sensory overloaded journey into America. We explored the country that summer through an immersion that is only available on single-track vehicles. To use the electronic analogy, on a motorcycle or bicycle the sojourner is occupying the best seat from which to enjoy surround sound high-definition television. All senses are peaked and your immediate environment is dictated by the climate you are flowing through; no computer-controlled, encapsulated bubble of glass, metal and fabric to maintain comfort.

We had blistered in the heat of the Mojave, camped in the snow of Colorado, flowed across the plains of Nebraska, watched Ford Mustangs gallop from their Detroit assembly line, and stood at the feet of Miss Liberty in New York Harbor. We also reversed the American axiom and found smaller was better for this blue highway adventure. There really are no destinations, only rest stops that enable life's adventure to continue.

Most of our friends thought we were absolutely neurologically dysfunctional when they learned we were embarking

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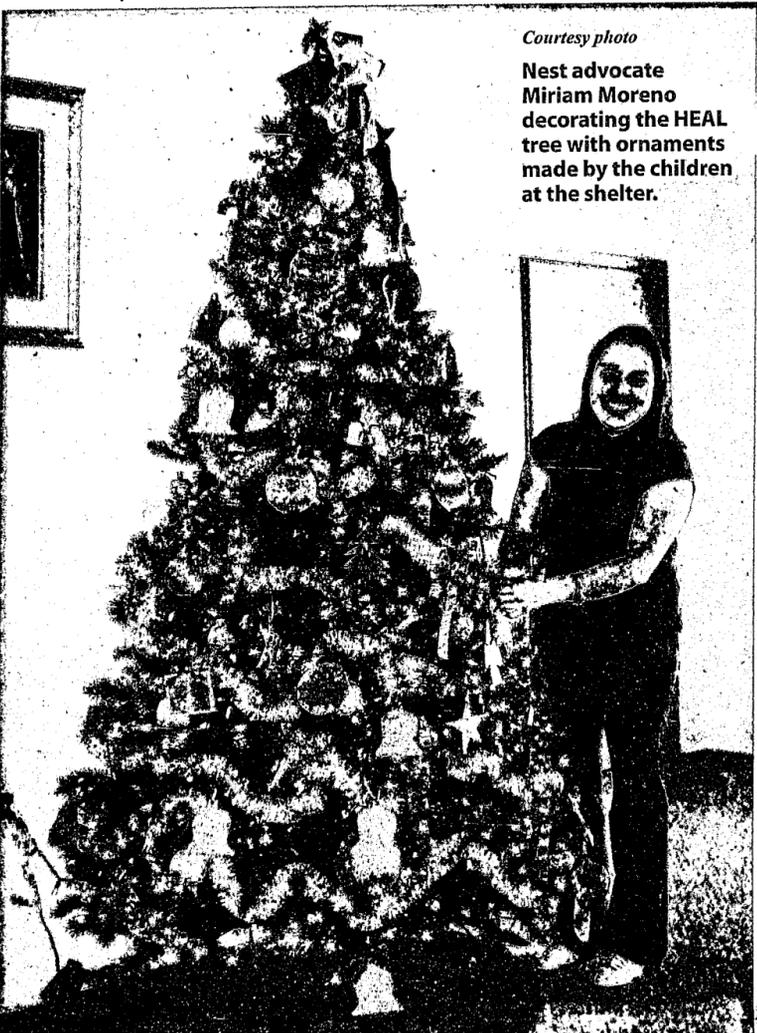
Nest tree at Spencer

Since 2008, Spencer Theater has invited nonprofit organizations to display charity Christmas trees in their halls. The beautiful trees are complete with ornaments designed to inspire giving. This year, the children of the Nest handcrafted many of the shiny ornaments that hang on HEAL's tree.

The back of each ornament contains an item that the shelter needs. The items range from construction paper to an area rug. According to Carrie Calkins, Shelter Manager, "We've experienced so many cuts to our funding this year that seemingly nominal donations can mean the difference in our ability to continue some of our dedicated programs, such as the Children's Program."

The Christmas trees are a part of the holiday decorations at the Spencer Theater through January. "When we have our shows, you will see the crowds gathered around the trees. The trees definitely generate giving," says Kathleen McDonald of the Spencer Theater.

This is the fourth year The Nest has participated in Spencer Theater's Angel Tree program. The Nest's tree is located upstairs, outside of the entrance to the balcony.



Courtesy photo
Nest advocate Miriam Moreno decorating the HEAL tree with ornaments made by the children at the shelter.

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Hubbard Foundation names grant recipients

The R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard Foundation has selected the 2011 Southeast New Mexico Grant Program Recipients for Lincoln County. Robert Donaldson, Executive Director of the Hubbard Foundation, announced grants totaling \$105,691 to sixteen successful applicants in Lincoln County:

Capitan Women's Club, \$1700, Carrizozo Little League Baseball, \$8,000, Chamber Music Festival, \$2,000, City of Ruidoso Downs Police Department, \$20,000, Early Years Childhood Center, \$4,000, Hondo FFA, \$1,500, Hondo Valley Public Schools Physical Education, \$5,000, Hubbard Museum of the American West, \$5,000, Lincoln County as Teachers-Ruidoso, \$4,000, Lincoln County Santa's Helpers, \$2,000, Ruidoso Downs Race Track Chaplaincy, \$12,000, Sierra Blanca Christian Academy, \$4,300, Southwest Arts Alliance, \$2,500, Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, \$10,000, Village of Ruidoso Police Department, \$5,691, and Scholarship Sertome/Miss NM, \$20,000.

Mr. Donaldson said, "Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have said many times, that the grants made through the Southeast New Mexico Grant Program, to local non-profit groups such as those announced today, make such a positive, personal difference in the lives of the people served by these

groups." On a personal side, Mr. Donaldson said "I know that the last two years has been a tough economic environment for Lincoln County's non-profit organizations. It is such an honor and pleasure to be able to meet and speak with so many people who provide so many needed services for the people of our county under these difficult financial times. It is humbling when you meet real people who labor out of the limelight to improve the lives of the citizens in their communities, who don't just talk about placing others before themselves but live that life every day. As a Foundation, we are honored that we play a role in helping these organizations meet the needs of the people and communities they are serving."

The Hubbard Foundation awarded \$245,691 to 53 different organizations in the seven county region for the Southeast New Mexico Grant Program this year. They received over 75 requests totaling over \$790,581. Since 2001, Hubbard Foundation's Southeast New Mexico Grant Program has provided over \$2,071,333 to approximately 398 non-profit organizations in the seven county area of Southeast New Mexico. The Foundation stated that they hoped to offer this program again next year and invite non-profits to contact the Foundation office early in 2012 for details of the program.

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LULAC redistricting idea would affect Lincoln County

Plan would shift county into CD3

By Patrick Rodriguez

Reporter
patrick@ruidosofreepress.com

A redistricting plan advocated by a well known Hispanic civil rights group would put Lincoln County in the same congressional district as Santa Fe and Taos. The idea put forward by the New Mexico League of United Latin American Citizens is one of eight being heard by state District Judge James Hall in a trial that began Dec. 5 and is expected to last until the end of this week.

Congressional District boundaries are required to be adjusted for population changes every 10 years. The goal is to make sure that district populations will allow for each New Mexican's vote to be of equal weight, which is necessary to comply with the legal requirements of one person, one vote.

Redistricting landed in court because the Legislature failed to approve a plan for new congressional districts and Gov. Susana Martinez vetoed Democratic-backed proposals for legislative and Public Regulation Commission districts.

The plan that has the backing of LULAC is HB 46, sponsored by Rep. Joseph Cervantes, D-Las Cruces, during the special session. Under this piece of legislation, Lincoln County would have shifted into the 3rd Congressional District. Also moving into the 3rd district under the LULAC plan would be the northern section of neighboring Chaves County, including the

city of Roswell.

The plan would give the 3rd District a Hispanic majority in the southern and west-central part of the state.

Currently, all of Lincoln County is situated in the 2nd Congressional District, which is represented by Steve Pearce, a Republican from Hobbs. The city of Hobbs would be left in the 2nd Congressional District under the LULAC plan.

Hispanics account for 46 percent of state's population. Currently, 36 percent of the voting-age population of the 3rd District is Hispanic, which may be someone of any race, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The district is currently represented by Ben Ray Lujan, a Democrat from Santa Fe.

Hispanics account for 46 percent of the voting-age population in the 2nd District.

Lawyers for the governor and other state GOP elected officials had originally said that LULAC shouldn't be allowed to offer a redistricting plan because the group missed a court-established deadline for seeking to become a party in the case. They contend LULAC failed to follow the proper procedures for giving other lawyers notice of their request to join in the case.

LULAC says the governor and other elected officials have accused the group of gerrymandering, as the groups plan could make the 2nd Congressional District more Democratic by moving Lincoln County and most of Chaves County.

"We just want to make sure that we do things fair, and the only plan that we could see doing that by the Legislature that met the criteria was House Bill 46," said Pablo Martinez, state director for LULAC. "We don't care about the partisanship. Our job is to advocate

in the best interest of our constituents in the Hispanic community regardless of political party."

The state must comply with Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 in reshaping districts to avoid diluting the voting strength of minorities – such as Native Americans and Hispanics – said Martinez.

Some Republicans and Democratic lawmakers support a "least change" plan making few revisions to current districts. The proposal would move fewer than 25,000 of the state's residents into new districts.

None of the other congressional redistricting ideas being heard would have Lincoln County moved out of the 2nd Congressional District.

In the 2nd District, said Martinez, "we haven't been able to get anyone elected outside of Hobbs or Lea County."

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Winter Shorts at Sacred Grounds



Photos courtesy of Frederic Moras

The Winter Shorts programs continue through the holiday season on Friday and Saturday evenings at Sacred Grounds Coffee and Tea House from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

At left, A matter of husbands - pictured is Sharon Lurix (left) and Lori Lamphere. Below, The Implausible Claus - pictured is Lea Keylon (left) and Avonlea Ward.



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SPORTS



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RESULTS

Dec. 6

Boys basketball
Hondo at Elida, cancelled, snow
Capitan at Carrizozo, cancelled, snow
Ruidoso at Artesia, cancelled, snow

Girls basketball
Hondo at Elida, cancelled, snow
Capitan at Carrizozo, cancelled, snow
Tularosa at Mescalero, cancelled, snow
Hatch at Ruidoso, cancelled, snow

Dec. 8

Boys basketball
Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft
Capitan 59, Animas 35
Cloudcroft 61, Mescalero 46
Lake Arthur Tournament
Hondo 66, Jesus Chapel 33
Lake Arthur 43, Corona 37
Sandia Prep Tournament at Albuquerque
Atrisco Heritige 70, Ruidoso 36

Girls basketball
Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft
Capitan 54, Animas 35
Cloudcroft 61, Mescalero 56
Lake Arthur Tournament
Clovis Christian 28, Hondo 25
Corona 55, Lake Arthur 10
City of Champions Tournament at Artesia
Carlsbad 71, Ruidoso 41

Dec. 9

Boys basketball
Magdalena 57, Carrizozo 17
Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft
Cliff 54, Capitan 48
Mescalero 68, Deming JV 67
Lake Arthur Tournament
Hondo 66, Loving 62
Clovis Christian 45, Corona 39
Sandia Prep Tournament at Albuquerque
Rio Rancho JV 78, Ruidoso 54

Girls basketball
Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft
Dexter 29, Capitan 25
Cliff 48, Mescalero 45
Lake Arthur Tournament
Hondo 69, Jesus Chapel 15
Grady 60, Corona 49
City of Champions Tournament at Artesia
Ruidoso 68, Deming 58

Dec. 10

Boys basketball
Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft
Third place
Capitan 56, Mescalero 47
Lake Arthur Tournament Championship
Hondo 25, Grady 22
Seventh place
Artesia JV 38, Corona 37
Sandia Prep Tournament at Albuquerque
Ruidoso 79, Navajo Prep 55

Girls basketball
Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft
Fifth place
Mescalero 65, Animas 43
Third place
Capitan 47, Dexter 34
Lake Arthur Tournament
Third place
Corona 84, Hagerman JV 8
Fifth place
Hondo 60, Artesia JV 27
City of Champions Tournament at Artesia
Ruidoso 53, Chaparral 36

SPORTS UPCOMING

Dec. 13

Boys basketball
Corona at Mescalero, 7 p.m.
Capitan at Cloudcroft, 7:30 p.m.
Hondo at NMMI, 7:30 p.m.

Girls basketball
Corona at Mescalero, 5 p.m.
Capitan at Cloudcroft, 5:30 p.m.
Hondo at NMMI, 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 15

Boys basketball
Capitan at NMMI, 7:30 p.m.
Hondo, Mescalero in Mescalero Tournament, TBA

Girls basketball
Hondo, Mescalero in Mescalero Tournament, TBA

Dec. 16

Boys basketball
Grady at Carrizozo, 7 p.m.
Artesia at Ruidoso, 7:30 p.m.
Hondo, Mescalero in Mescalero Tournament, TBA

Girls basketball
Grady at Carrizozo, 5 p.m.
Ruidoso at Goddard, 7:30 p.m.
Hondo, Mescalero in Mescalero Tournament, TBA

Dec. 17

Boys basketball
Hondo, Mescalero in Mescalero Tournament, TBA

Girls basketball
Ruidoso at Chaparral, 3:30 p.m.
Hondo, Mescalero in Mescalero Tournament, TBA

Wrestling
Ruidoso at Tucumcari Invite, 7:30 a.m.

Hondo boys tops in Panther Invite

By Karen Boehler

For the Ruidoso Free Press

LAKE ARTHUR – The championship game of the Lake Arthur tournament came down to two very different teams: one with only six players on it – one of which was injured and only able to play sparingly – and another with 13 players.

But even though Grady's players had to spend the majority of the 24 minutes on the court, they still battled Hondo down to the wire, with the Eagles having to come back to earn the 25-22 tournament victory.

"I thought it was a pretty good defensive effort on both ends," said Hondo coach Brad Holland. "Grady, they defended well. They packed the paint. We had troubles getting to the basket. It was just a good defensive battle, I think."

For most of the game, neither team seemed able to buy a basket as a strong defense by both sides kept the offenses off balance.

Two buckets by Broncho Adam Lunsford – who led the scoring with 21 points – and one free throw gave Grady a 5-4 lead



Photo by Karen Boehler
Hondo's Roberto Nores, right, shoots from the outside as Grady's Adam Lunsford attempts to block Saturday during the Panther Invitational at Lake Arthur

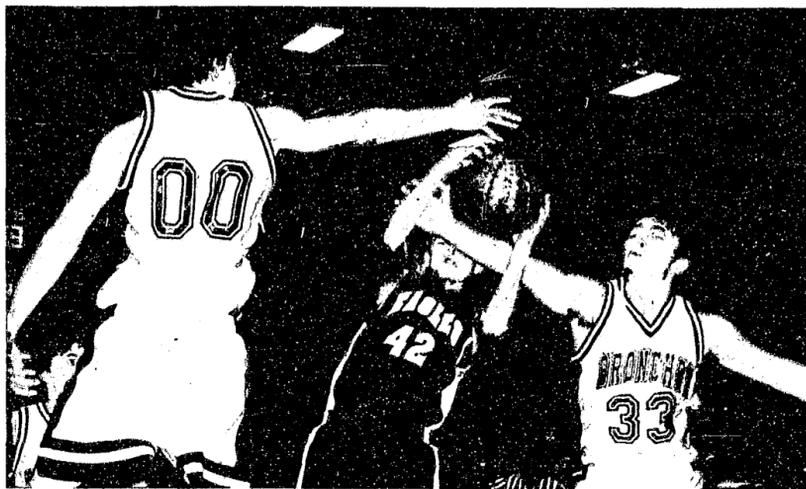


Photo by Karen Boehler
Hondo's Jordan Brady, center, is fouled by Dylan Porter of Grady (33) under the net Saturday at Lake Arthur. Also defending on the play is Broncho Adam Lunsford.

after one over Hondo.

Roberto Nores – who was Eagle top scorer with nine – opened the scoring with a field goal 45 seconds into the match but the only other points in the Hondo first came off free throws by Adrian Vasquez.

The teams traded baskets to open the second then Grady went on a 5-0 run to stretch the lead to 12-6. But Hondo shut the Bronchos down in the final three minutes and went 4-for-7 from the line before Nores put in a final second shot to tie the game at 12-12 at the half.

Defense continued to dominate in the third, but after trading leads, Grady was up 20-16 after three.

Luis Montano cut the Broncho lead to two with a shot just 15 ticks into the final quarter, but Lunsford got the only Grady points of the stanza with a matching bucket in the first minute.

After that, Nores tied the game with 6:50 remaining; Billy Candaleria put Hondo up by two on an inbound steal and, especially in such a low-scoring game, Montano sealed the win with the final points of the game with 1:27 remaining.

Holland said it was nice to win such a close match, and again gave credit to Grady.

"They come with a lot of energy," he said. "They're very patient offensively and they move the ball well offensively. And defensively, you get what you get. They play smart defensive, they had us out of the paint and they don't foul. Usually teams with not many players you can get them in foul trouble but they're a pretty smart defensive club."

Grady coach Jim Kneipp said even though his team makes mistakes, their hard play makes up for those errors.

"I thought we just hurt ourselves bad yesterday (in Friday's win over Lake Arthur), and I feel like we hurt ourselves bad today with mistakes we shouldn't have made," he said. "But I love my kids and they play hard, so that's all I can ask for. They lay it on the floor. Lay it on the line. That's all I can ask."

The championship trophy was the first for the Eagles at the Panther Invitational, and along with the team trophy, Candaleria, Montano and Nores were named to the all-tournament team.

Lady Cardinals take third at Lake Arthur

Karen Boehler

For the Ruidoso Free Press

LAKE ARTHUR – The No. 4-ranked Corona Lady Cardinals finished the Lake Arthur tournament with a third-place trophy and an 84-8 victory over the seriously out-manned Hagerman junior varsity.

The young Bobcats – playing only their third game of the season – won their opening round match vs. Jesus Chapel, which put them on the championship side of the bracket against some serious competition.

In Saturday's finale, Corona led 31-2 after one quarter and 52-8 at the half. Playing under a running clock, the Cardinals stretched it to 68-8 after three,

and shut down any Bobcat offense in the second half.

Corona coach Nicky Huey said there wasn't a lot he could do against the young Bobcats except give everyone a lot of time to play.

"You try not to run the score up, but at the same time we've got to do what's going to make us a good basketball team," he said. "We can't get out of character, and we've got the No. 1 team (Elida) coming up next week so we've got to keep playing good basketball."

The Cardinals got scoring from all but two players, with Allysanne Huey (28), Taylor Huey (20), Cory Egan (12) and Kelly Gensler in double figures.

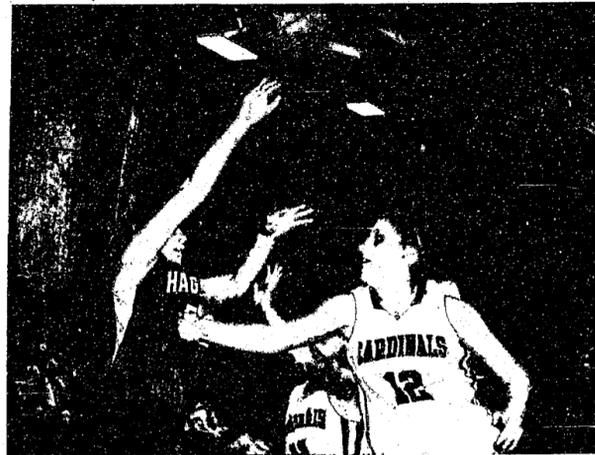


Photo by Karen Boehler
Corona forward Kelly Gensler, right, goes for the stop against Bobcat Jessica Franklin, Saturday, in the third place game of the Panther Invite at Lake Arthur.

Lady Warriors fifth at Artesia

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor
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It's already been a depressing reality for the Ruidoso Lady Warriors in this young basketball season – a terrific first half, followed by a disastrous second.

Or at least, a disastrous third quarter.

That's just what happened Thursday morning in the first round of the Artesia City of Champions Tournament, as Ruidoso dropped a 71-41 decision to Carlsbad.

The Lady Warriors were then able to salvage the tournament with wins over Deming and Chaparral to take the consolation championship.

"We were actually up by two at the half," said Ruidoso coach Dean Hood of the Carlsbad game. "Our third quarter was awful, but the fourth quarter was pretty decent."

Almost the exact same thing happened this morning against Deming, as the Lady Warriors won 68-58, but that was after being ahead by 15 points at the break.

"We lost our composure some, but were able to get it back," Hood

said. "It helped that Deming wasn't the same kind of team that Carlsbad is."

Brittanie Vega had 18 points to lead Ruidoso (2-2) against Carlsbad, while Lyndsey Saenz had 10 points. Saenz was the leading Lady Warrior against Deming with 22 points, while Madigan Gonzales had 13 points and Claudia Morales 12.

On Saturday, the Lady Warriors got a lot of work from its bench in its 53-36 victory over Chaparral, which gave Hood a lot of hope for the future.

"Shanna Sandoval, Felicia Polanco, Darian Magooshboy and Daniella Puenta all put in some good minutes," Hood said. "It wasn't about the points they got, but about their ball handling, rebounds and support that we needed to give our starters some rest. That helped us a lot."

Lyndsey Saenz led the team with 19 points, while Madigan Gonzales added 17 points and had as many rebounds.

Ruidoso (3-2) plays at Goddard this Friday, a team that has been down in recent years, but is one Hood says

see GIRLS pg. 15

Ruidoso in the mix at Las Cruces

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor
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Ruidoso wrestling coach John Pacheco knew the Las Cruces Invitational would be a tough test for his team – featuring 32 of the best large schools in the state – as well as every El Paso team.

To finish 12th out of all of those teams with 79.5 points was quite an accomplishment, particularly since the Warriors were the second best Class 3A team there, behind only Silver, the defending state champion. They were also two spots ahead of Cobre, which finished fourth in last year's state tournament.

"What really beat us up, we got a bunch of bad draws," Pacheco said. "All our kids got the one or two seed in the first round."

Despite that tough draw, some individuals shined.

Tanner Desoto was able to upset a No. 3 seed in his first round match and eventually made it to the championship in the 220-pound class before falling for a second-place finish.

Other Warriors to place were Matthew Carr, eighth at 195 pounds, and Mikeal Montoya, fourth at 285 pounds.

see WRESTLING pg. 15

Capitan girls beat Dexter in rematch

By Todd Fuqua

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CLOUDCROFT – Two games in two days against the same team wasn't the most favorite thing to do for Dexter girls coach Kim Hamill, and her frustration at the Lady Demons' loss to Capitan in the third place game of the Mountain Top Tournament left her not very talkative.

Capitan coach John Devine, however, was more than happy to talk about his team's 47-34 victory.

"For us to get a victory against the best one-win team in the state was good," Devine said of his team's win over Dexter. "We overcame some adversity, but that will suit us well in the long run."

The game was a rematch from the day before, when the Lady Demons got their first victory of the season with a 29-25 victory. Because the Mountaintop is only a six-team tournament, the pairings on the final day were determined by point spreads, and the two schools ended up against each other in Saturday's finale.

Perhaps the biggest difference from Friday to Saturday was the absence of Hannah Manamann from the floor for Dexter.

The Lady Demon center had 10 points for her team Friday, second only to Natasha Banda's 12, but was taking the ACT Saturday, and her play inside was missed.

Capitan was also missing two starters due to those tests, but they were able to show up just before the game and were able to enter the game in the second quarter.

The Lady Tigers (3-2) wasted little time taking control, scoring the game's first seven points before a shot by Vessica Solis fell for Dexter with 4:31 left. She was fouled during the shot and converted the three-point play to put her team back by four points.

The only other points the Lady Demons had in the first period came on a putback by Ivan Loya with 2:34 left.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Capitan guard Jamie Fields, left, looks to penetrate the defense of Dexter's Stephanie Miles (21) and Tamara Salas Saturday during the Mountain Top Tournament at Cloudcroft.

Dexter was able to get within four points by halftime, but the Lady Demons were unable to get much closer, as Capitan was able to use its quickness to beat the press.

"I thought (Jamie) Fields did an excellent job when we had to go to four corners to beat their press," Devine said. "Neither of us were at full strength, but overall, I think we could have won this tournament."

The Lady Tigers were unable to rely on center Kersti Davis, who scored just six points before fouling out. Much the same thing happened Saturday, although Capitan was able to rely on freshman forward Georgia Lynn Eldridge, who led her squad with 15 points.

Ivan Loya was the top Lady Demon with 10 points Saturday.

Fast start

Capitan opened the tournament Thursday with a big 54-35 win over Animas.

"The guards are starting to get into it and shooting a bit better," Devine said. "If we can get that outside game going, then we can get the ball inside even better."

Capitan did a pretty good job of getting the ball inside as it was, finding center Kersti Davis open all day underneath the basket. She was also in double digits with rebounds, and led the game with 23 points.

While the Lady Tigers never trailed – they scored the first six points of the game before a layup by Animas' Karina Sarellano at 3:46 in the first quarter – the Lady Panthers hung around for most of the first half.

Capitan then went on a 10-0 run to close out the first half and take a 27-12 lead.

"At the beginning of the game, I knew I was out of shape, but I knew we had to pull it together and do what we needed to do," said Kersti of the team's sluggish start. "But then the adrenaline kicks in, and you kind of get into shape when you need to."

The outside shooting was fair enough for Capitan – guard Jamie Fields scored 10 points in the game – but her more important contribution was being able to run the offense confidently in the face of a frenetic Lady Panther defense.

"I have a lot of confidence in her at point guard," Devine said of Fields' performance. "I think she can bring the ball up against anybody we'll face all year long. We just need to get the rest of our offense working to give her help, but she makes great decisions out there."

Small errors hurt Mescalero girls

By Todd Fuqua

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CLOUDCROFT

The Mescalero Lady Chiefs experienced frustration playing in this year's Mountain Top Tournament, losing their first two games of the year due to little mistakes.

Mescalero (5-2) opened the tournament with a 61-56 loss to tournament host Cloudcroft, then lost a narrow one to Cliff, 48-45.

The Lady Chiefs were able to come out of the tournament with a big 65-43 win over Animas.

"That one started off rough too," said Mescalero coach Nate Raynor. "We couldn't buy a layup in the first half."

Mescalero was up by only three with 2:55 left in the second quarter, but then went on a 12-0 run to close out the first half and go ahead by 15 points.

"We put that second unit in and they came through," Raynor said. "After halftime, it was no problem."

Four different Lady Chiefs scored in double figures in the game, led by Diona Chavez with 18 points, followed by Valerie Garcia's 13 points, Tristine Chico with 12 and Corrie Randall with 11.

Friday's loss to Cliff was due to missed layups and turnovers.

"Our defense was good, but our turnovers killed us," Raynor said.

Mescalero was down by just one with seven seconds left and had the ball, but were called for travelling after inbounding the ball. The Lady Chiefs were then forced to foul to stop the clock and send the Cowgirls – a very good free throw shooting team – to the line to finish off the win.

A turnover also sealed the Lady Chiefs' loss to Cloudcroft Thursday. The Lady Bears – without high scorer Polly Rogers near the end – missed numerous shots and free throws down the stretch. Karlee Alvord had a steal with 1:53 left in the game, but missed the layup, and Valerie Garcia – who led Mescalero with 19 points – was fouled and made both her free throws.

That put the Lady Chiefs down by just three points with just over a minute left, but every time both teams had a chance to score, they couldn't get the ball through the hoop.

Mescalero was forced to foul to stop the clock, but the Lady Bears were unable to make them pay until another steal by Alvord led to a last-second score to finally put the game away.

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Tuesday Senior team standings, week 13 of 32

Name	Won	Lost
The Who?	35½	16½
Serious Not	28	24
Ageless Wonders	25½	26½
Old Timers	23	29
Larry Larry's	22½	29½
Spud & the TaterTots	21½	30½

High scores
Handicap series – Spud & the TaterTots 2573, Old Timers 2431, Serious Not 2411
Handicap game – Larry Larry's 873, The Who? 849, Ageless Wonders 801
Men's handicap series – Tom Douglas 647, Hubert Lee 629, Richard Gipson 614
Men's handicap game – Gene Nitz 240, Larry Hinds 238, Harry Allwein 231
Women's handicap series – Lucy Servies 703, Ursula Eckersley 661, Sylvia Allwein 607
Women's handicap game – Gloria Wheeler 265, Sandi Meek 244, Myrna Douglas 220

Wednesday Mixed team standings, week 13 of 32

Name	Won	Lost
Ruidoso Bowl	19	5
Evan's Team	19	5
Western Auto	16	8
Ruidoso U-Haul	14½	9½
No Doubt	12	12
Even Par	11	13
Team 7	9	15
Wild Cards	8	16
Car Quest	6½	17½
Knight Riders	5	19

High scores
Scratch series – Western Auto 2288, Ruidoso U-Haul 1963, Knight Riders 1671
Scratch game – Even Par 754, Team 7 657, Car Quest 609
Handicap series – Evan's Team 2561, Wild Cards 2511
Handicap game – Ruidoso Bowl 906, No Doubt 897

Men's scratch series – Keith Bower 654, Tim Vega 631, Jim McGarvey 628
Men's scratch game – Tom Douglas 256, Virgil Reynolds 233, Evan Reed 213
Men's handicap series – Ronnie Wright 699, Anthony Romero 659, Lance McMillan 643
Men's handicap game – Brad Archer 274, Bob Layher 250, Jeremy Williams 238
Women's scratch series – Crystal Ingle 506, Pam Bernard 460, Shelly Layher 395
Women's scratch game – TJ Romero 191, Jean Fanning 165, Anne Lindsey 143
Women's handicap series – Connie Reynolds 658, Shelley McGarvey 653, Trina Thomas 622
Women's handicap game – Sharla Ganaway 242, Marianne Mohr 228, Sue Reed 228

Thursday Men's team standings, week 13 of 32

Name	Won	Lost
Down's Auto Repair	20	4
Western Auto	18	6
GSV	14	10
Insidhers	14	10
Ruidoso Septic	10½	13½
Ruidoso Bowl	9	15
Buckner Electric	5½	18½
Good Ole Boys	5	19

Season high scores
Scratch series – Down's Auto Repair 3084, GSV 2971
Scratch game – Insidhers 1061, Ruidoso Bowl 883
Handicap series – Western Auto 3181, Ruidoso Septic 3107
Handicap game – Buckner Electric 1184, Good Ole Boys 1032
Individual scratch series – Terry Bernard 716, Joe Shafer 628, Keith Brower, David Hoffer 626
Individual scratch game – Evan Reed 300, Tim Vega 257, Virgil Reynolds 234
Individual handicap series – John Cardone 720, Lonnie Edwards 705, Bob Layher 690
Individual handicap game – Ronnie Wright 280, Floyd Ganaway 262, Ron Wright 258

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Capitan bests Chiefs in District 7-1A preview

By Todd Fuqua

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CLOUDCROFT – It was a preview of District 7-1A battles to come Saturday in the third place game of the Mountain Top Tournament, as the Capitan boys put together a 56-47 victory over Mescalero.

The Tigers (4-1) were able to win on the back of center Jake Lamay, who had 18 points inside. After trading leads with the Chiefs throughout the first half, Capitan took the lead for good with 2:52 left in the second quarter on a three-pointer by Tim Dickenson, who had 10 points.

But that didn't mean Mescalero was out of it for good. While Capitan was winning with the inside game, the Chiefs (3-3) were making a comeback with outside shooting.

The Kaydahzinne boys were Mescalero's biggest scoring threats, combining for 37 points and four 3-pointers. The comeback might have worked, but Capitan started holding the ball and forcing the Chiefs to foul to stop the clock, which sent the Tigers to the line to seal the win with free throws.

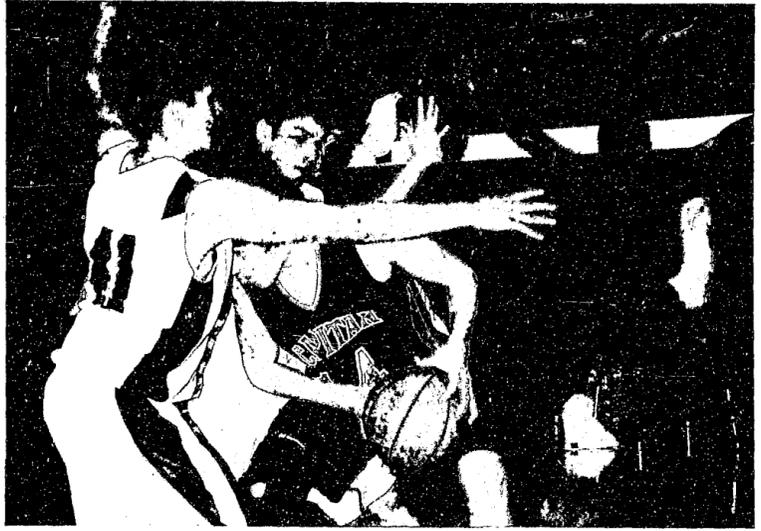
"We left a lot of points out there, which was the end result of them

(Capitan) winning," said Mescalero coach Mike Torres. "But I see a lot of positives still. We're coming around and the kids are getting the team concept."

Both Torres and Capitan coach Marv Sanders recognize this as a possible preview of the district schedule near the end of the season, and Torres said people shouldn't take his team lightly.

"We'll have the capability to compete with anyone else in this district," Torres said. "I don't think anyone should count us out."

"Both teams are growing and getting better, so it's all about who



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Capitan's Thomas Fields, with ball, is guarded closely by Mescalero players Aaron Kaydahzinne (41) and Dillon Perico Saturday at Cloudcroft. Actively coaching on the sideline is Mescalero head coach Mike Torres.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Capitan's Lawrence Whipple, left, puts up a hook shot over Animas' Mark Bri to Thursday at Cloudcroft.

works harder in practice," Sanders said. "I see a dogfight every time we play."

The Tigers were in the third place game after scorching Animas 59-35 in the first game of the tournament, then falling 54-48 to Cliff.

"We wanted to try to get the high percentage shot by going inside, but we got into foul trouble and missed some easy shots," Sanders said of the loss to Cliff. "The kids could have quit when it was 20-7 in the first quarter, but they showed a lot of heart and kept whittling away at that lead."

"Cliff shot from the outside as well as any team I've seen this year, but we did get better," he added. "They could see what the results were. Last

year they lost by 60, this year they lost by only 23."

Mescalero opened with a 61-46 loss to tournament host Cloudcroft,

then rebounded for a narrow 68-67 win over the Deming junior varsity to propel them into the third place game.

Warriors salvage win at Sandia Prep tourney

By Todd Fuqua

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Every game a basketball team plays will teach them more about themselves. So what did the Ruidoso Warriors learn from their appearance at the Sandia Prep tournament over the weekend?

They can't afford to make any mistakes.

The Warriors went 1-2 at the tournament, salvaging a 79-55 win in the seventh place game over Navajo Prep in the tournament's final day.

Prior to that, they lost 78-54 to the Rio Rancho junior varsity Friday, and dropped a 70-36 decision to Atrisco Heritage in the tournament's opening game.

Ruidoso's loss to Atrisco may have seemed lopsided, but coach Dennis Davis said the score was actually tied at 18 midway through the second quarter.

"We had a couple of possessions in a row where we didn't score or we turned the ball over, and they (Atrisco) always converted," Davis said. "Once we got behind a little bit, the kids started panicking and making more mistakes. That sealed it for us."

Atrisco Heritage had a very good shooting percentage, and beat the Warriors from outside, raining in 10 three-pointers in the game. Ruidoso, meanwhile, shot only around 50 percent, and didn't have the same success from the outside.

That the Jaguars protected the ball well didn't help Ruidoso either.

"We didn't have a lot of fast break opportunities," Davis said. "They controlled the tempo at their end and got some offensive rebounds, and we didn't get a lot of easy scoring opportunities."

Most of our points came out of our offensive set."

As a result, no Warrior had a huge amount of points. Terence Shields had 11 points to lead the Warriors, Wambli Little Spotted Horse had 10 points, while Ismail LaPaz added eight.

More mistakes

The Warriors' problems continued Friday against Rio Rancho, but the mistakes didn't really manifest themselves until late in the third quarter. Ruidoso led by a point after the first period, and only trailed by two at halftime.

"But then we couldn't hold onto the ball," Davis said. "Our defense also slacked off. We didn't control things and we threw the ball away a lot."

Even with the loss, Shields had a stellar game, leading his team with 22 points, while Brandon Lewis scored 15 and LaPaz nine.

The tables turned in the Navajo Prep game, as Ruidoso (3-2) was able to take a big lead early, allowing Davis to empty his bench and bring in a lot of younger players that don't usually get a lot of playing time.

This was in spite of the Warrior being down two kids who were back home taking the ACT test.

Every Warrior scored, and LaPaz led the team with 24 points. Shields added 15 points, Derrick Montelongo 13 and Joe Marquez 12.

"It was a much easier game, but I'm still stressed about some things," Davis said. "We have a long ways to go before we can be competitive against some really good teams."

The Warriors are off until Friday, when they host Artesia.

WRESTLING from pg. 13

But Pacheco pointed out all of his wrestlers – most of whom weren't at last week's El Paso Burgess Invite – got a lot of quality time on the mat.

Ruidoso will be at Tucumcari this Saturday, then head to Silver for the Colt Duals after the Christmas break.

GIRLS from pg. 13

you can't count out anymore.

"They've made a lot of improvements, and they're playing pretty good ball right now," Hood said. "It could be an interesting game."

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Grizzlies off to slow start for the season

By Todd Fuqua

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CARRIZOZO – After Magdalena's Rio Chadde scored on a layup two minutes into Carrizozo's game against the Steers, Grizzly Nick Chavez sunk a free throw to put his team back one point.

It was the closest Carrizozo would get.

Utilizing their superior numbers and size, the Steers went on a 10-3 run to close out the first quarter and surged ahead for a 57-17 thrashing of Carrizozo Friday.

"Those guys are a little better than us," said Carrizozo coach Porter Cutrell. "We have a chance to do well, but we can't come out and expect to be

good when they've just come out for basketball after the football season has ended."

Friday's loss marked the worst Carrizozo (0-4) had suffered this year. The Grizzlies have lost closer games to Cloudcroft and McCurdy, and took the Los Lunas junior varsity into overtime before falling in last weekend's Magdalena tournament.

Magdalena (6-0) needed no extra time to put the Grizzlies away. After Chavez scored on a jumper to start the second quarter, the Steers shut them down the rest of the way and entered the break up 32-5.

Steers 57, Grizzlies 17
Magdalena (6-0)
Tyler Julian 0 0-0 0, Arquis Nelson 1 0-0 3, Duster Apachito 0 0-0 0, Clifton Guerro 1 0-0 3, Daniel Hand 3 2-3 9, John Woods 1 0-0 2, Dyron Apachito 0 0-0 0, Dre Montoya 5 2-2 15, Kendall Apachito 4 0-0 9, Yal Harris 0 0-0 0, Miles Parscal 1 1-2 3, Rio Chadde 6 1-3 13. Totals 22 6-10 57.
Carrizozo (0-4)
Gene Gore 0 0-0 0, Jace Hill 0 0-0 0, Nick Chavez 2 1-2 5, Carl Barela 0 0-0 0, Devon Artech 0 0-0 0, Dalton Vega 0 0-0 0, Tavi Nash 2 0-0 4, Josh Ventura 0 0-0 0, Don Myers 0 0-0 0, Marshall Ventura 3 1-2 8, Andy Vergudo 0 0-0 0, Zachary Zamora 0 0-0 0. Totals 7 2-8 17.
Magdalena 12 20 12 13 -- 57
Carrizozo 3 5 6 6 -- 17
Three point goals – Mag 7 (Montoya 3, KApachito, Nelson, Hand, Guerro), Car 1 (M Ventura). Fouled out – Mag (Chadde). Rebounds – Mag 21 (Chadde 7), Car 22 (Chavez 4). Steals – Mag 8 (Woods 2), Car 2 (Chavez, Nash). Blocks – Mag 5 (Chadde 3). Turnovers – Mag 15, Car 17. Total fouls – Mag 11, Car 13.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Carrizozo's Zachary Zamora, left, tries to get around Magdalena defender Dre Montoya Friday at Carrizozo.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Carrizozo guard Tavi Nash races down the floor with the ball during his team's loss to Magdalena Friday at Carrizozo.

Dre Montoya was the top scorer for the Steers with 15 points, while Chadde added 13 and blocked three shots before fouling out.

No Grizzlies were able to reach double figures in scoring, as Marshall Ventura led the team with eight points.

Other than the point total, Magdalena didn't really beat the Grizzlies that bad. Carrizozo actually outrebounded the Steers and had just two more

turnovers. What really killed the Grizzlies was their inability to make baskets.

"We're not that bad, and we're getting better. We're just in the early stages of learning what we're trying to do," Cutrell said. "We're changing over and learning a whole new system, and it's a lot of stuff for some of those guys."

The Grizzlies will try to get on the winning track Dec. 16 when they host Grady.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Country Swing music guild honors Jodi Nix

By Eugene Heathman

Editor
eugene@ruidosofreepress.com

During the annual Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse Cowboy Ball Dec. 10 at Mountain Annies, Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys received a lifetime achievement award from Joe Baker 2011-President, Western Swing Guild. Baker hosts a nationwide radio show, *Bakers Back Forty Bunkhouse* on MTD Media's W105 Country.

Nix is a well-established artist in Texas, and he gives "Glory and thanks to God" for the talent, and the ability to use it to play music that he dearly loves. A true Traditional Country Music and Western Swing artist, he has been in the business 50 years. Nix has played dances

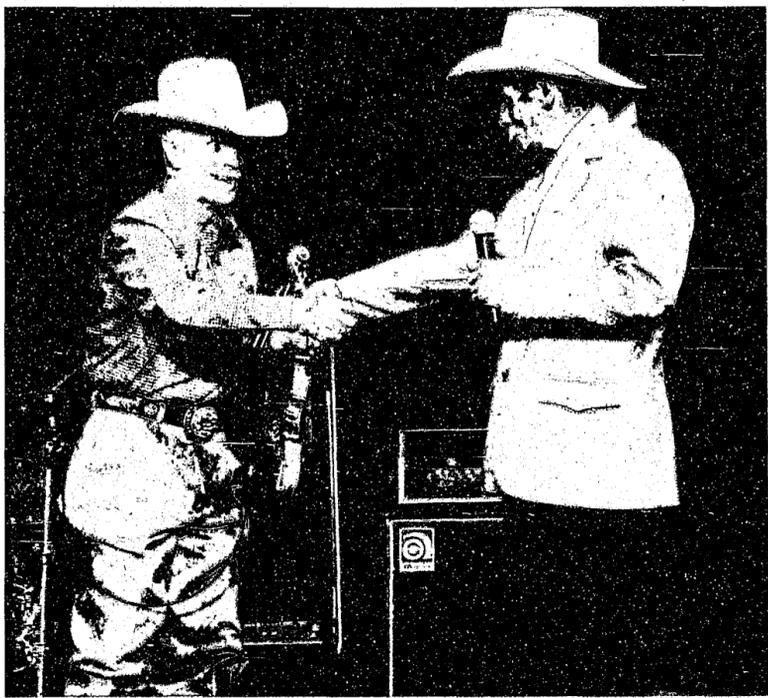
and shows all over Texas and parts of the southwest. He leads one of the finest dance bands in Texas; they fill the floor on every song.

Jody "grew up" in music, started playing drums in his father Hoyle Nix's band at age 8 in 1960 playing five nights a week all over West Texas. Jody started playing the fiddle at age 11, started singing at age 16, recorded with Bob Wills at age 21 on the 1973 *Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys For The Last Time* as a guest artist and sang three songs. Jody has nine albums of his own to his credit, and was a guest artist on both of *Asleep At The Wheel's Tribute to Bob Wills* albums. Jody and The Texas Cowboys played for the Black Tie and Boots Ball in 1989 in Washington, D.C., for then

President George H. W. Bush. Jody has played the Bob Wills Day Celebration in Turkey, Texas for 35 years: 10 with his father, and 25 on his own, and he played the TCR rodeo dances in Stamford, Texas for 21 years, the Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo for 21 years, has been a part of all the Western Swing Festivals in Canton, Texarkana, Snyder and Wichita Falls for more than 22 years, and also the Boys Ranch Ball in San Angelo for 15 years, the Western Heritage Classic Ranch Rodeo in Abilene for 15 years. Jody was also a guest artist with *Asleep At The Wheel* in the original play *A Ride*

With Bob in 2005.

In May of 2009, Jody and the Texas Cowboys were inducted into the Texas Western Swing Hall Of Fame in San Marcos, Texas. Jody has worked with Bob Wills, Ray Price, Marty Robbins, George Strait, Moe Bandy, Red Steagall, Asleep At The Wheel, Johnny Bush, Frenchie Burke, Tony Booth and many many others. The band works 100-115 dates a year, and consists of Jody Nix, bandleader, fiddle and vocals; Robert Weeks, fiddle and vocals; Dixie Hankins, drums; Junior Knight, steel guitar and Brandy Weeks, bass.



Eugene Heathman/Ruidoso Free Press
Jody Nix, left, receives a lifetime achievement award from 2011 Country Swing Guild President and host of *Baker's Back Forty Bunkhouse* radio show, Joe Baker, during the Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse Cowboy Ball.

Carrizozo, Corona community choirs to team up for Christmas cantata

By Patrick Rodriguez

Reporter
patrick@ruidosofreepress.com

The community choir in Carrizozo has performed a Christmas cantata every year for the past 40 years, but this weekend will mark the first time that the town will join with the community choir in Corona to present the musical holiday story.

The Carrizozo and Corona community choirs will perform the Christmas cantata at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Carrizozo at 3 p.m. on Saturday, and then the choirs will perform at the Presbyterian Church in Corona at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Directing the joint community choir for both performances is Scott Schaefer of the Carrizozo choir. He said that the choirs consist of people in the community and not necessarily members of either church.

"The purpose is to get people who like to sing and get them together," he said. "It's a way for us to give back to the community."

Schaefer said that both community choirs have been singing the same Christmas cantata annually, so he thought it would be more entertaining

for the people in both communities if a larger choir performed.

The Carrizozo community choir has roughly 20 members, while the Corona community choir has about 12 members.

A cantata is a vocal composition with an accompaniment, typically in several movements, often involving a choir. A Christmas cantata is typically done in three parts.

The Christmas cantata performed by the community choirs this year is titled "Lead me back to Bethlehem," composed by Pepper Choplin, a music director for the Greystone Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C.

"We're still working out the kinks, but I'm excited," said Sherrill Bradford, the director of the Corona community choir. She will play piano for the joint choir at this year's Christmas cantata, allowing Schaefer to direct both community choirs.

Bradford said that the Christmas cantata will include eight songs and usually lasts between 35 and 45 minutes.

The Trinity United Methodist Church in Carrizozo is located at 1000 D St., and the Corona Presbyterian Church is located at 670 Franklin St. Admission to both performances is free.

Performances begin at
12/9, 12/10, 12/15, 12/18
at Sacred Grounds Coffee

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MUSIC NEWS

Ho, Ho, Ho: Just a few days to go

By Ty Wyant

For the Ruidoso Free Press

It's now down to days until Christmas and if that gift list still has a few names that really need to be crossed out, here are a few musical suggestions to ease your anxiety. Prices are given for a CD purchase, however most can also be downloaded from iTunes or other sources.

For the music lover who has it all

Satchmo: Ambassador of Jazz box set is a 10-CD compilation of Louis Armstrong's work throughout his legendary six-decade career. Elvis Costello recommends buying this box set instead of his own box set out for Christmas release, *Let's go with Elvis*. This has become a hot item since Costello's statement on Nov. 29, so it could be hard to find. It goes for \$149.99 at Amazon.com, but has been backordered. Even if it arrives after Christmas, you'll be a big winner with the music-loving recipient. As of this writing, it was unavailable on iTunes.

For the country music fan

This is for the self-proclaimed country music fan who says that he or she really enjoys all types of music, then only listens to pop country. *The Lost Notebooks of Hank Williams* is a remarkable collection on unpublished Hank Williams lyrics with music provided by a stunning collection of current singer/songwriters, including the project's driving force, Bob Dylan. The CD is \$11.88 at Amazon.com.

Otherwise, you can play it safe with Taylor Swift's third album "Speak Now," which has sold 3.8-million copies and is Grammy nominated for country album of the year. There is also the recently released "Speak Now World Tour Live." "Speak Now" is \$11.88 and "Speak Now World Tour Live" is \$17.88 at Amazon.com.

For the pop music lover

Adele 21 is the hugely popular follow-up to Adele's 2008 release "Adele 19." If the recipient is young, female and goes through life with ear buds attached, then she probably already owns *Adele 21* — it has sold 4.7-million copies. Otherwise, this collection is a stunning presentation of Adele's vocal prowess that shows what is good about the current state of pop music. The single "Rolling in the Deep" is a Grammy nominee for song and record of the year. CD is \$9.99 at Amazon.com and go ahead and throw in *Adele 19* for another \$7.99 to make the complete Adele gift.

Another excellent choice is Bruno Mars' *Doo-Wops & Hooligans*. It is filled with superbly produced songs led by "Grenade," "Just the Way You Are" and "Talking To The Moon." Mars is one of the most creative forces in today's music scene. CD is \$9.99 at Amazon.com.

For the person who lives classic rock

The Rolling Stones' album *Some Girls* kept the band's career relevant in 1978 when there was increased competition from punk rock and disco. Now it is back in a reissue called *Some Girls: Deluxe Edition* with the original songs plus 12 additional tracks. The remastered tracks from the original album include "Miss You," "Shattered," "Just My Imagination (Running Away With Me)" and "Beast Of Burden." The new songs were not completed by the 1978 record company deadline or left off the original *Some Girls* so it would not be a double album. They feature the rocking "Claudine," the bluesy "So Young" and the country "You Win Again." CD is \$19.99 at Amazon.com and also a box set for \$144.13.

For the adult hip-hopping rapster

Kanye West's *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* is nominated for rap album of the year and one of seven Grammy nominations for West. He also collaborated with Jay-Z on *Watch The Throne* earlier this year. *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* shows the musical diversity of this genre and the production is superb. Know that these albums have a parental advisory for explicit material for good reason so this becomes an adult-only gift. *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* is \$9.99 and *Watch The Throne*

is \$15.99 at Amazon.com.

Walk out the door

Perhaps the best gift is an IOU gift certificate or tickets for a local entertainment experience. Be creative by sending them to a high school concert or a night at the local theater. Spice it up with a gift certificate to a local restaurant. Support local business with a unique gift and everybody wins.



www.mymix967.com

Lunatic Soul review - Impressions

By Ty Vinney

Music Reporter

Vocalist and bassist for Polish progressive rock group Riverside, Mariusz Duda has come back to his project band of Lunatic Soul for a second release. *Impressions* is a smooth album of almost instrumental work that tantalizes the imagination and makes you want to sit by a fire and just listen to it with a cup of tea or a glass of wine. Having never heard Lunatic Soul but being a fan of Riverside, I found myself curious as to what Duda has done.

The songs, all titled Impression(s) one through eight take the listener through a journey. Gone is the heavy electric guitar work that can usually be associated with Riverside and in its place is a mix of acoustics, chimes, piano work and harmonious electronic noise in layers upon layers of sound. The whole album paints such wondrous pictures in the listener's mind, and every song is unique. For example, "Impressions III" with percussion and acoustic guitar work seems to take the listener on almost a hike into the heart of a forest. Slow at first but then a heavier sound emerges about two-thirds into the song; as if going from a simple mountain trail to climbing a cliff side. Also included on this release are two vocal tracks, "Gravestone Hill," a tale of a rekindled love, and then the observance of that love growing and creating a family. The

strange twist is the lyrics that are told from the perspectives of old worn down gravestones. "Sumerland" relies a lot on piano and percussion to speak its sad story. Both tracks could easily fit on a Riverside album and have the usual graceful slow melodies that fit Duda's hushed calming vocals.

Bottom line, this album is intriguing. If you want something to take your mind places or just something to unwind after a long day, this album is perfect for many such occasions. It would also be perfect in setting a number of atmospheres and moods. It offers beautiful, gracefully arranged and sometimes melancholy sounding melodies and is both thought provoking and soothing to the soul.



www.1071thenerve.com

Nightwish review - Storytime

By Ty Vinney

Music Reporter

Finally the highly anticipated new single off upcoming album "Imaginaerum" from Nightwish is here! *Storytime* is the introductory piece to the themed album about the life of a composer. The song contains the sounds we've grown accustomed to from the Finnish band, blending metal elements with orchestra. Musically it's a powerhouse with sky-rocketing choir and well-arranged beats. However, the tone of the lyrics is very uncharacteristically bouncy for the band. Marco Hietala is absent from *Storytime*, leaving Annette Olzen the sole mouthpiece for the song. Her vocals seem too fast at times and though matching the beat of the song, just not quite clicking. The usual choir is there and adds a good feel to the song. The lyrics are good but the chorus seems stripped down and just doesn't hold weight like the rest of the song. If you're still on board since Tarja Turunen, you'll probably like this piece. But it might not grab a lot of new attention, as it doesn't play to the wholeness of the band's strengths. Here's hoping for something more intense when the album drops next month!

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Holiday baking can be healthy

'Tis the season to get all our baking supplies out to make yummy goodies for all of our loved ones. I encourage you to make your specialties, but to also mix things up a bit. You may wish to keep the following ideas in mind.

Whole wheat flours may be incorporated into all-purpose flour recipes. All-purpose flours along with other white flours are usually bleached and processed to the point the body can no longer recognize them, which causes the body to work extra hard to properly digest them. Depending on your recipe, you may wish to start by replacing a quarter of the all-purpose flour with the wheat flour, and as you get more comfortable baking items this way, you may wish to replace larger portions. By next year you could be a pro in baking healthy goods.

Chocolate-covered granola cookies: This is an easy one. All you need is 2 cups of granola and 1 1/2 cup of chocolate chips. Heat chocolate chips on low until melted, stirring frequently. Remove from heat and mix in granola. Line a baking tray with wax paper and use a tablespoon to measure out the mixture and drop onto wax paper. Let these cookies cool and they will be ready to serve.

Trail mix: This is an easy and healthy treat,



Angie Fernandez
Veggie.gur109@gmail.com

as it contains protein from nuts and many other nutrients from the dried fruits and seeds. You will need 1 1/2 cups of plain and unsalted almonds, 1/2 cup plain sunflower seeds, 1/2 cup of honey, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 2 tablespoons of olive or canola oil, 1/2 cup of raisins, 1/2 cup of dried cranberries and 1 cup of shredded coconut flakes.

In a large bowl, mix all ingredients except raisins and cranberries. Place mixture on wax paper (easy clean up) and place in baking dish. Bake at 300 degrees for 30 minutes, stirring mixture every 10 minutes. Once you have allowed these items to cool, you will then stir in raisins and cranberries. For best results, you will want to store this mix in an airtight container.

For the baker who wants to use gluten-free flour, Quinoa flour is available in many local stores. There is an excellent recipe for apple-nut bread on the package and online resources can help you find other creative ways to bake using alternative flours.

I encourage you to invite friends and family to join you in your baking adventures this holiday season as this will foster your relationships and support two of the best gifts we can give, wonderful memories and time spent with loved ones.

Easy holiday party snacks

By Everett Brophy,
Treehouse Café

1 French baguette
Aluminum foil squares

Roasted Red Pepper Salad

Ingredients
3 red bell peppers
2-3 garlic cloves
2 oz. fresh basil leaves
2 tbs. olive oil
4 tbs. balsamic vinegar
1 zip lock bag

Instructions

Roast red bell peppers in oven at 375 degrees for 30-40 minutes or until outside of peppers are blackened in places. Place roasted peppers in zip lock bag until at room temperature. Then peel the blackened skin off of the peppers and clean all the seeds out. Slice roasted pepper into thin strips then dice. Dice garlic and basil. Add garlic and basil to the diced peppers along with balsamic vinegar and olive oil. Let all the ingredients marinate until ready to serve. Serve chilled with sliced baguette and salt and pepper to taste.

Roasted Garlic

Ingredients
2 whole garlic bulbs
1 tablespoon of butter or margarine
1/4 teaspoon of sea salt

Instructions

Cut the top of both of the garlic bulbs until the tops of the cloves are exposed. Place the garlic bulbs on two pieces of aluminum foil. Place 1/4 tbs. of butter or margarine on the top of the exposed garlic. Sprinkle tops of butter with sea salt to taste. Wrap the garlic tightly in the aluminum foil. Place in oven at 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes. Slice the baguette to desired thickness. Unwrap the garlic and spread over the sliced baguette.

The Easy Capresse

Ingredients
4 oz. fresh mozzarella
2 oz. fresh basil leaves
1/2 red onion
1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
1/8 cup olive oil
1 French baguette

Instructions

Slice baguette into 1/2 inch slices. Slice all of the ingredients into thin pieces. Assemble each slice of bread with one of each ingredient. Whisk balsamic vinegar and olive oil together in a small bowl and drizzle over each individual slice of bread. Serve as is and ENJOY!

ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR • 12-13 thru 12-19

Things to do every day

Ruidoso Winter Park Tubing Area, located at 500 W. State Highway 532, a quarter of a mile west of Hwy 48 on lower Ski Run Road in Alto. Open from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and until 9 p.m. on designated nights. "A premier snow play area," as Bert the Conqueror from the Travel Channel says: "This is the Holy Grail of snow tubing." The first-class tubing experience offers twists, turns, bumps, jumps and bobsled curves. They have more lift capacity and the largest tubing snow-making system in the Rockies. Featuring exclusively designed tubes for 3-6 riders and super size tubes for 3-10 riders. By popular demand they have expanded the Kidz Korral which is a designated area exclusively for the smaller guests! Full snack bar with hot chocolate, nachos, dogs and the best handmade pizza in town at the Pizza Stand! For more information: (575) 336-7079; www.ruidosowinterpark.com. Kids thru 7 years of age \$9; juniors 8-17 \$17 regular rates and \$20 holiday rates; adults 18 and up \$20 regular rates and \$25 holiday rates. All tickets are good for 3 hours or until end of the day whichever is shorter. Snow clothing available for rent.

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.

1 and 2 Hour Guided Trail Rides in the Lincoln National Forest from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., from Cowboys Riding Stables in Ruidoso Downs. Call 575-378-8217 to reserve your ride time.

Smokey Bear Park is open in Capitán. The Smokey Bear Historical Park is located on highway 380 (better known as 118 Smokey Bear Blvd.) in the heart of the Village of Capitán and is open every day of the year except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's day. Entrance fees into the park are \$2 for adults, \$1 for children 7-12. Children 6 and under are free. Smokey Bear Historical Park is operated by EMNRD-Forestry Division.

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.

Hubbard Museum of the American West, Ruidoso Downs - the first New Mexico museum to be granted "affiliate" status with the Smithsonian Institution. The Museum is home to an extensive permanent collection of magnificent carriages, wagons, saddles, firearms and Indian artifacts, as well as ever-changing traveling exhibits. Located just east of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track on Highway 70, the entrance to the Museum features the landmark bronze "Free Spirits of Noisy Water," one of the largest equine sculptures in the U.S. with eight larger-than-life horses, representing seven different breeds. The Museum is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission begins at \$6 for adults with discounts available for seniors, military and youth. The Hubbard Museum of the American West is owned and operated by the City of Ruidoso Downs. To find more information on the Hubbard Museum of the American West, please visit www.hubbardmuseum.org or call 575-378-4142.

"20th Annual Fall American Photography Competition & Exhibition," Hubbard Museum of the American West, Hwy 70 E, Ruidoso Downs,

runs through Feb. 12, 2012. Now into its twentieth year, the Fall American brings together work by photographers from around the country. Their images present widely differing perceptions of the "American West." More than one hundred photographs are exhibited each year. Almost all photographs are for sale through the Museum's Mercantile Store. The Hubbard Museum will be closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. For more information, contact Hubbard Museum of the American West: 575-378-4142; www.hubbardmuseum.org. Admission: Adults - \$6; seniors and military - \$5; ages 6 to 16 - \$2; under 6 - free.

Pillow's Funtracker - Open weekends, Christmas Break, and most holidays throughout the year. 101 Carrizo Canyon Road just off Sudderth. Pillow's Funtrackers is the premier family fun center in New Mexico. We have been providing fun to thousands of families for over twenty years. Our park includes three go-kart tracks, miniature golf, arcade, Mountain Maze, and seasonal attractions such as Bumper Boats, Panning for Gemstones, Rock Climbing Wall, Extreme Air, and Kiddie Bounce House.

playing at 5 p.m., and the Parade is at 6. Veteran skiers and their lighted torches will ski down the mountain. There will also be a fireworks show. Assorted snacks and refreshments will be available. Free admission. Spectators are encouraged to be there by 5:45. For more information, contact Ski Apache: 575-464-3600; www.skiapache.com. Free.

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

Lincoln County Community Theater's Christmas Special, Sacred Grounds Coffee & Tea House, 2825 Sudderth Dr., Friday and Saturday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Each night, LCCT will be performing six acts from comedy to drama, and includes a delightful Christmas play. Plus, Georgio's jazz music & Sawyer Ward's vocals. All proceeds go to the Lincoln County Community Theatre. For more information, contact Sharon Lurix at 575-808-0051; www.sacredgroundscoffeeshop.com. Admission is \$8 at the door.

The Eliminators perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant and Cantina on Mechem Drive from 7 to 9 p.m.

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

Iron Chihuahua (Classic Rock) performs in Club 49 at Inn of the Mountain Gods, 8 p.m.

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

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

SUNDAY DECEMBER 18

Glen Campbell, Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino, Mesalero, 8 - 9 p.m. "A talented guitarist by the age of 16, Campbell dropped out of high school and headed out west, where he played with bands in Wyoming's bars and roadhouses. In 1952, he joined the Sandia Mountain Boys (a band founded by his uncle, Dick Billis) and soon became a popular performer on local television and radio shows in New Mexico. Campbell formed his own band: Glen Campbell and the Western Wranglers, at the age of 22." (Biography.com) For more information, contact the Inn of the Mountain Gods: 575-464-7777; www.innofthemountaingods.com. Tickets start at \$25.

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

MONDAY DECEMBER 19

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

TUESDAY DECEMBER 13

Santa's Helpers Workshop, the workshop has changed location: 1st Christian Church, 1211 Hull Rd., Ruidoso. Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., runs through Dec. 19. This is the workshop for Santa's Helpers. Volunteers and donations needed. For more information, contact Tammy: 575-336-4629 or Stacey Miller: 575-336-7711. Free.

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

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14

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

Preschool story time at the Ruidoso Public Library at 10:30 a.m. Mountain Country Christmas Brunch, Horse & carriage rides after brunch. Reservations required. Children's Dept is located downstairs.

Christmas Open House at Ruidoso Public Library. Christmas cheer fills the Village of Ruidoso Public Library all day with music, refreshments, history and laughter. Music and refreshments continues the next two days at noon Dec. 15 and 16. Come view all the wreath contest entries. At 1 p.m., learn about the significance of luminarias with local cultural historian Polly Chavez at the Christmas tree upstairs. At 2 p.m., bring the ho, ho, ho to your holiday with laughter yoga with coach Michele Caskey. This delightful participation demonstration will have you giggling, teeheeing and hahahaing your way through the holidays. Music of the holidays will fill the acoustically phenomenal library at 3:30 p.m. with Wayna Wirth on piano and Debbie Meyers on flute. Music students of Wirth will join the duo at 4 p.m., singing Christmas carols. Free.

Rocking Horse Learning Center Pre-K Winter Wonderland Program, 6 p.m. Come see the PreK children's ballet recital as they celebrate the holiday season. The Learning Center also has an angel tree for needy children in Carrizozo. If you are interested in helping buy clothing and toys for these children, call J'lane at 575-937-7721 to pick an angel from the tree.

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 DECEMBER 15

Christmas Open House at Ruidoso Public Library, noon. Instrumental music with the Lincoln County Winds performing an hour program of Christmas hymns, carols, and popular songs, then conclude with a Christmas sing-along. Free.

Live Music with TomTom and friends at Sanctuary on the River, 207 Eagle Drive, 12 - 1:30 p.m. Enjoy hearty soups and salads at ChopChop Inspired Salads and have some lunch-time fun with live music performed by TomTom and friends every Thursday. Come see what's happening at the Sanctuary. Lunch hours 11-2 Tues-Sat. 575-630-1111.

Creo Meadows Country Club is hosting a taco bar and DJ.

Winter Music Concert: Follow The North Star, 6 p.m. in the Old Gym starring the Carrizozo Elementary Performing Arts Classes. Parents, families and the entire community are invited.

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

FRIDAY DECEMBER 16

Ski Apache Sisters on Snow, Women's Ski Seminar Camaraderie, Control & Confidence. This special two-day clinic is designed for women and conducted by women. The Women's Seminar offers an opportunity to explore the slopes with women instructors who know how to provide a supportive and relaxed learning experience. This clinic is for all levels of skiers, from first time beginners to intermediate and advanced skiers, ages 18 and over. Seminar includes two days of instruction, video analysis and a personal improvement plan. Breakfast and lunch will be provided both days as well as a wine and cheese get together at 4 p.m. Saturday. Participants will need to rent or provide their own equipment. For more information, contact Ski Apache 575-464-3600; www.skiapache.com. The 2 day clinic cost is \$165 for season pass holders and \$195 for non-season pass holders.

Christmas Open House at Ruidoso Public Library, noon. Vocal music fills the library again with the Lincoln Corral. This adult chorus will

entertain with Christmas carols and some sing along carols. Free.

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 to 11 p.m.

Creo Meadows Country Club is hosting a fish fry and live band.

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

Susan Landers Kolb performs at the No Name Café 6 - 9 p.m. during Prime Time Fridays. 522 Sudderth, (575) 257-2253. Friday evening diners are by reservation.

Lincoln County Community Theater's Christmas Special, Sacred Grounds Coffee & Tea House, 2825 Sudderth Dr., Friday and Saturday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Each night, LCCT will be performing six acts from comedy to drama, and includes a delightful Christmas play. Plus, Georgio's jazz music & Sawyer Ward's vocals. All proceeds go to the Lincoln County Community Theatre. For more information, contact Sharon Lurix at 575-808-0051; www.sacredgroundscoffeeshop.com. Admission is \$8 at the door.

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.

The Eliminators perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant and Cantina on Mechem Drive from 7 to 9 p.m.

Iron Chihuahua (Classic Rock) performs in Club 49 at Inn of the Mountain Gods, 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 DECEMBER 17

Ski Apache Sisters on Snow,

Women's Ski Seminar Camaraderie, Control & Confidence. This special two-day clinic is designed for women and conducted by women. The Women's Seminar offers an opportunity to explore the slopes with women instructors who know how to provide a supportive and relaxed learning experience. This clinic is for all levels of skiers, from first time beginners to intermediate and advanced skiers, ages 18 and over. Seminar includes two days of instruction, video analysis and a personal improvement plan. Breakfast and lunch will be provided both days as well as a wine and cheese get together at 4 p.m. Saturday. Participants will need to rent or provide their own equipment. For more information, contact Georgia Underwood: 575-937-0564; www.alltheatresinc.com/showtimes/ruidoso.php. 1 food item per child, or 2 food items per adult.

Canned & Non-Perishable Food Drive at Sierra Cinema, 721 Mechem Dr., 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. This is a food drive sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ruidoso, for the Lincoln County Food Bank. All three theaters will show current features, with the exception of 3-D movies. For more information, contact Georgia Underwood: 575-937-0564; www.alltheatresinc.com/showtimes/ruidoso.php. 1 food item per child, or 2 food items per adult.

Dummy Gelunde Competition, Ski Apache Ski Resort, Hwy 532 (Ski Run Rd.). The Dummy Gelunde will take place on Easy Street, 1 - 5 p.m. Dummy Gelunde is a sport of sorts, where teams of one to three people construct snow-riding dummies attached to a pair of skis or a snowboard and launch the handmade contraptions over a giant on-snow jump. Dummies are then judged on distance, air, creativity, takeoff, landing and crowd response. For more information, contact Ski Apache: 575-464-3600; www.skiapache.com. Entry cost is only \$175 per team and is limited to a field of 30.

Ruidoso Dance Ensemble presents The Nutcracker, Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Rd., Alto, 2 & 7 p.m. A Christmas classic for the whole family! Two delightful family performances. Ruidoso Dance Ensemble's original adaptation of Tchaikovsky's Christmas classic featuring gorgeous sets & costumes and outstanding student- & professional

dancers is always a delightful trip into a magical world of dancing nutcrackers, soldiers, sugar plum fairies, candy canes, mice and little girls and boys! The sets come to life, like the 40-ft-tall Christmas tree, smoke-ring firing cannon and swirling grandfather clock. For more information, contact the Spencer Theater: 888-818-7872; www.spencertheater.com. Tickets are \$28.

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

"Comida Informal" - a Santa Fe-themed potluck, Sanctuary on the River, 207 Eagle Drive, 5 - 9 p.m. We are cooking up posole and tortillas. Please bring your favorite appetizer, side dish or dessert! There will be a cash bar of micheladas, margaritas, beer and wine. Live music. For more information, call 630-1111. Additional parking will be available across the street at Ruidoso River Resort.

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.

Torch Light Parade at Ski Apache, 6 - 9 p.m. A native drum will begin

Super Crossword

Answers

L	A	L	O	A	L	I	A	S	P	A	P	D	E	B	A	R			
A	W	O	L	L	A	D	L	E	A	C	R	E	E	L	U	D			
D	A	V	I	D	F	R	O	S	T	C	H	I	L	L	W	I	L	L	S
S	I	E	V	E	S	L	O	T	H	A	L	A	I	K	A	I			
T	R	I	E	D	O	I	N	T	M	E	N	T	Y	I	N				
A	R	A	B	L	E	P	O	E	T	A	T	E							
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E	R	A	T	O	O	J	A	I	S	T	A	L	E	T	O	A	D		
D	E	T	E	R	S	I	F	T	H	O	N	E	D	E	R	M	A		

Salvation Army continues annual bell ringing campaign

The Salvation Army is looking for bell ringers Friday, Saturday, Sunday in two-hour shifts at Walmart, Walgreens, Lawrence Brothers and downtown. One hundred percent of what is collected stays in Lincoln County. The main goal of the organization goal is to collect enough so our fund never runs dry. This year the group's funding made it almost to November and they hope to collect more this year so we never have to turn anyone away. People in need go to Ruidoso Downs First Baptist Church and fill out an application. Once the application is approved, a check is made out to the need. At no time does cash change hands and all requests are followed up on. Local organizer, Darien Ross said, "Many circumstances can befall upon a person to become in need of Salvation Army assistance. I believe that we are seeing more elderly people because their fixed income doesn't go as far as it used to in addition to losing large amounts of their retirement savings during the recession.



"All of the money raised is distributed locally to those in need from the local Salvation Army headquarters, located at the First Baptist Church on Highway 70, Ruidoso Downs." The Salvation Army was founded in 1865, performing evangelical, social and charitable work and bringing the Christian message to the poor, destitute and hungry by meeting both their physical and spiritual needs. The organization states that its ministry extends to all, without discrimination.

Anyone interested in helping please call Darien at (575) 973-0117.

Weekly Featured Adoptable Pets



Chuy is a handsome black lab mix, about 3 years old. He is solid black and weighs about 50 pounds. Chuy seems like he will be a very loyal dog and is desperate to find a permanent home. He is currently enrolled in obedience school and will graduate in about two weeks.

rently enrolled in obedience school and will graduate in about two weeks.



Gretel is around a year old and weighs 6 pounds. She loves to entertain and is very friendly. She would love a nice warm home and a great family to take her in.

To adopt one of these featured pets, contact the Humane Society of Lincoln County. Hours of operation: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 11-5 and Saturday 11-2. Location: 422 Gavilan Canyon, Ruidoso. (575) 257-9841. Website: adoptmpet.com

Worship Services

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

St. Luke 2:14



The Church is God's appointed agency in this world for spreading the knowledge of His love for man and of His demand for man to respond to that love by loving his neighbor. Without this grounding in the love of God, no government or society or way of life will long persevere and the freedom which we hold so dear will inevitably perish. Therefore, even from a selfish point of view, one should support the Church for the sake of the welfare of himself and his family. Beyond that however, every person should uphold and participate in the Church because it tells the truth about man's life, death and destiny: the truth which alone will set him free to live as a child of God.

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Fr. John Huffman, Pastor; 2816 Sudderth,
Ruidoso. For more information, call
Father John @ 937-7977

Mescalero Family Worship Center
Pete J. Luna, Sr. Pastor; Elden D. Stilly,
Assoc. Pastor; 464-4741

First Assembly of God
Rev. E. Thomas Kearns, Pastor; 139 El
Paso Road, Ruidoso 257-2324

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Carrizozo Community Church (AIG)
Barbara Bradley, Pastor. Corner of C. Ave.
& Thirteenth

BAPTIST
Canaan Trail Baptist
Roland Burnett, Pastor; Located just
past milepost 74 on Hwy. 48, between
Angus & Capitan. 336-1979

First Baptist Church - Carrizozo; 314
Tenth Ave., Carrizozo. 648-2968; Hayden
Smith, Pastor

First Baptist Church - Ruidoso
270 Country Club Drive, Ruidoso, NM
88345. (575) 257-2081; Dr. Allen
Stoddard, Pastor

First Baptist Church - Ruidoso Downs
361 E. Hwy 70, 378-4611, Randy
Widener, Pastor

First Baptist Church - Tinnie
Bill Jones, Pastor

Mescalero Baptist Mission
1016 Old Road Box 9, Mescalero, NM
88340, 585-973-0560, Pastor Zach
Malott

Mountain Baptist Church
Independent-Fundamental KJV. 145 E.
Grandview Capitan - (575) 937-4019

Ruidoso Baptist Church
Wayne Joyce, Pastor; 126 Church Drive,
Palmer Gateway, 378-4174

Trinity Southern Baptist Church
(south on Highway 48) 700 Mt. Capitan
Rd. 354-2044. Mel Gnatkowski, pastor
808-0607

BAHA'I FAITH
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or 258-5595

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Buddhism of the Lotus Sutra
Geography; 257-1569

CATHOLIC
Saint Eleanor Catholic Church
120 Junction Road, Ruidoso, 257-2330.
Reverend Al Galvan

Saint Theresa Catholic Church
Corona. Sunday Mass: 6 p.m.
Saint Joseph's Apache Mission
Mescalero. Father Paul Botenhausen,
OFM

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Bent. Father Larry Gosselin
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
299 3rd St, Capitan, 354-9102

Santa Rita Catholic Church
243 Birch, Carrizozo. 648-2853. Father
Franklin Eichhorst

CHRISTIAN
Christian Community Church
127 Rio Corner w/Eagle, Mid-town. For
more information call: 378-7076

First Christian Church (Disciples
of Christ)
Rev. Ryan Arnold; 1211 Hull at Gavilan
Canyon Road, 258-4250

Carrizo Christian Fellowship
Leonard Kanesevich III, Pastor. 56 White
Mt. Dr., 3 mi. W of Inn of the Mountain
Gods Mescalero. 464-4656

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Gateway Church of Christ
415 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-4381

Church of Christ - Capitan
Highway 48. Joshua Watkins, Minister

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LDS
Church of Jesus Christ LDS
Ruidoso Ward, 1091 Mechem Bishop
Jon Ogden, (575) 258-1253

Church of Jesus Christ LDS
Mescalero Branch, Mormon
Missionaries (575) 317-2375

EPISCOPAL
Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount
121 Mescalero Trail, Ruidoso. Rev. Judith
Burgess Rector 257-2356. Website:
www.edc.us

St. Anne's Episcopal Chapel in
Glencoe

Episcopal Chapel of San Juan in
Lincoln

St. Matthias Episcopal Chapel
Carrizozo, 6th & E Street

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Capitan Foresquare Church
Highway 48, Capitan. Harold W. Perry,
Pastor

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Bank. Stephanie Harmon, Pastor.

Capitan United Methodist Church
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Oaks and Third in Capitan. 575-648-
2846

Trinity United Methodist Church
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Carrizozo. Jean Riley, Pastor

NAZARENE
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Angus, 12 miles north of Ruidoso on
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Pastor

QUAKER
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257-2220. Tony Chambers, Pastor

Andco Community Presbyterian
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Pastor Terry Aiello, CLP
Corona United Presbyterian Church
Pastor Terry Aiello, CLP

Nogal Presbyterian
Church Reverend Bill Sebring

REFORMED CHURCH
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Spomer 575-437-8916; 1st Elder
Manuel Maya 575-9374487

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Calvary Chapel
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88345 (575) 257-6075. Pastor: Carlos
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Christ Church in the Downs
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Marty Lane, Pastors

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

Ed Vinson, Pastor

Church Out of Church
Meeting at the Flying J Ranch, 1028
Hwy. 48, Alto. Pastors: Tim & Julie
Gilliland. Mailing Address: 1009
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Drive, 257-9265. John & Joy Wyatt,
Pastors

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Foot of the Cross Christian
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Grace Harvest Church
1108 Gavilan Canyon Rd. 336-4213

Iglesia Bautista "Vida Eterna"
Pastor Rev. Ramon Robledo, 207 East
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E. Hwy. 70, (575) 378-8108. Email:
revrobledo@lycos.com

J Bar J Church
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Pastor Charles W. Clay, E-mail:
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Peace Chapel Interdenominational
(ULC), Alto North, 336-7075. Jeanmie
Price, Pastor

Racetrack Chapel
Horseman's Entrance, Hwy 70, 505-378-
7264. Chaplain Darrell Winter

The Word of Life Church
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Midweek Advent Worship

In preparation for Christmas, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church is holding a series of special Advent services on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The overall theme of the services is "Savior of the Nations, Come," with the messages based on the messianic prophecies in Isaiah 40. Pastor Schoech's sermon theme for Wednesday, Dec. 14 will be "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." A soup supper will precede the service at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited. The church is located at 1120 Hull Road in Ruidoso. For more information call 575-258-4191 M-F, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Operation Christmas Wrap

Members of the First Baptist Church in Ruidoso will be having free gift wrapping at the 4 Season's Mall, Dec. 17 and 24 from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. and will also have free hot cocoa and coffee compliments of Beads to Beauty.

Weekday Bible study groups available

There are two bible study groups at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church that meet during the week.

The men's ministry group will meet on the first and third Thursday of each month at 8 a.m. at El Paraiso Restaurant, 721 Mechem Drive (in the Sierra Mall).

Hearts in Service women's bible study meets on Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the church in the fellowship hall. All are welcome.

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Carrizozo, los coros de la comunidad Corona formar un equipo para cantata de Navidad

Por Patrick Rodriguez

El coro de la comunidad en Carrizozo ha llevado a cabo una cantata de Navidad cada año durante los últimos 40 años, pero este fin de semana marcará la primera vez que la ciudad se unirá con el coro de la comunidad en la Corona de presentar la historia musical de vacaciones.

El Carrizozo y coros Corona comunidad realizará la cantata de Navidad en la Trinity United Methodist Church en Carrizozo a las 3 pm el sábado, y luego los coros se presentarán en la Iglesia Presbiteriana en Corona a las 3 pm el domingo.

Dirigir el coro de la comunidad conjunta para ambas funciones es Scott Schaefer del coro Carrizozo. Dijo que los coros integrados por personas de la comunidad y no necesariamente los miembros de cualquiera de la iglesia.

"El objetivo es conseguir que la gente que les gusta cantar y ellos juntos," dijo. "Es una manera de retribuir a la comunidad."

Schaefer dijo que ambos coros de la comunidad han estado cantando la misma cantata de Navidad cada año, así que pensó que sería más entretenido para la gente de ambas comunidades si un coro más grande realizado.

El Coro de la Comunidad Carrizozo tiene aproximadamente 20 miembros, mientras que el coro de la comunidad de Corona cuenta con unos 12 miembros.

Una cantata es una composición vocal con acompañamiento instrumental, generalmente en varios movimientos, a menudo con un coro. Una cantata de Navidad se suele hacer en tres partes.

La cantata de Navidad realizadas por los coros de la comunidad de este año se titula "Llévame de vuelta a Belén," compuesto por pimiento Choplin, un director musical de la Iglesia Bautista de Greystone en Raleigh, Carolina del Norte

"Todavía estamos trabajando en los dobles, pero estoy emocionado," dijo Sherrill Bradford, el director del coro de la comunidad de Corona. Ella va a tocar el piano para el coro de la articulación en la cantata de Navidad de este año, lo que permite Schaefer para dirigir los coros, tanto de la comunidad.

Bradford dijo que la cantata de Navidad incluirá ocho canciones y por lo general dura entre 35 y 45 minutos.

La Trinity United Methodist Church en Carrizozo se encuentra a 1000 D St., y la Corona Iglesia Presbiteriana se encuentra a 670 Franklin St. hacia Admisión ambas actuaciones es libre.

Nido en los árboles de Spencer

Desde 2008, Spencer Teatro ha invitado a las organizaciones sin fines de lucro para mostrar la caridad árboles de Navidad en sus pasillos. Los hermosos árboles se completa con los ornamentos diseñados para inspirar a dar. Este año, los hijos de los muchos Nido artesanal de los adornos brillantes que cuelgan en el árbol de HEAL.

La parte posterior de cada adorno contiene un elemento que las necesidades de vivienda. Los artículos van desde el papel de construcción de una alfombra. De acuerdo con Carrie Calkins, gerente de Vivienda, "hemos experimentado tantos cortes a nuestro financiamiento este año parece que las

donaciones nominal puede significar la diferencia en nuestra capacidad de seguir algunos de nuestros programas dedicados, como el Programa de los Niños."

Los árboles de Navidad son una parte de la decoración navideña en el Teatro Spencer y enero. "Cuando tenemos nuestros programas, podrás ver la multitud congregada alrededor de los árboles. Los árboles sin duda generará dar," dice Kathleen McDonald del Teatro Spencer.

Este es el cuarto año de El Nido ha participado en el programa de Spencer Teatro de Angel Tree. Árbol del nido se encuentra arriba, en las afueras de la entrada al balcón.

2010 un año malo para Nueva hipotecas México

El año pasado fue un año malo para las hipotecas que se originó en Nuevo México, de acuerdo a la fecha a partir de la Ley de la divulgación de hipotecas.

Nuevo México cayó dos lugares en el ranking nacional, de 36a-38a, en base a un volumen de 7,7 mil millones dólares hipotecas realizadas en 2010. Más del 60 por ciento de los 2.010 hipotecas en el estado (\$ 5 millones de dólares) fueron a través del refinanciamiento, colocándola 37 en el

país en esta categoría.

En el 2009, \$ 9.7 mil millones en hipotecas se originó en el estado, de acuerdo a los datos HMDA. Eso hace que el Estado año a año caída de casi el 20 por ciento.

En comparación, el total nacional se redujo de \$ 1,8 billones en hipotecas en 2009 a \$ 1,6 billones en 2010. Caída de Nuevo México fue más que el descenso general a nivel nacional, que fue alrededor del 11 por ciento.

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/s/ Cathy Jones, Executive Director

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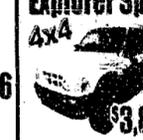
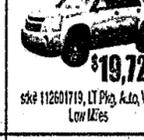
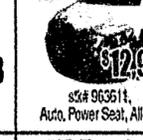
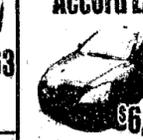
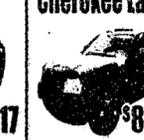
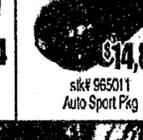
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