

Yes Fido, there is a Santa Claus



Dianne Stallings/Ruidoso News
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BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

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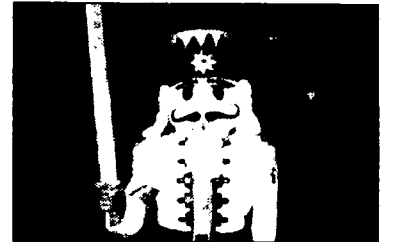
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"And, actually, our business is up from last year," Durham said Thursday from his company's offices at 304 W. U.S. Highway 70.

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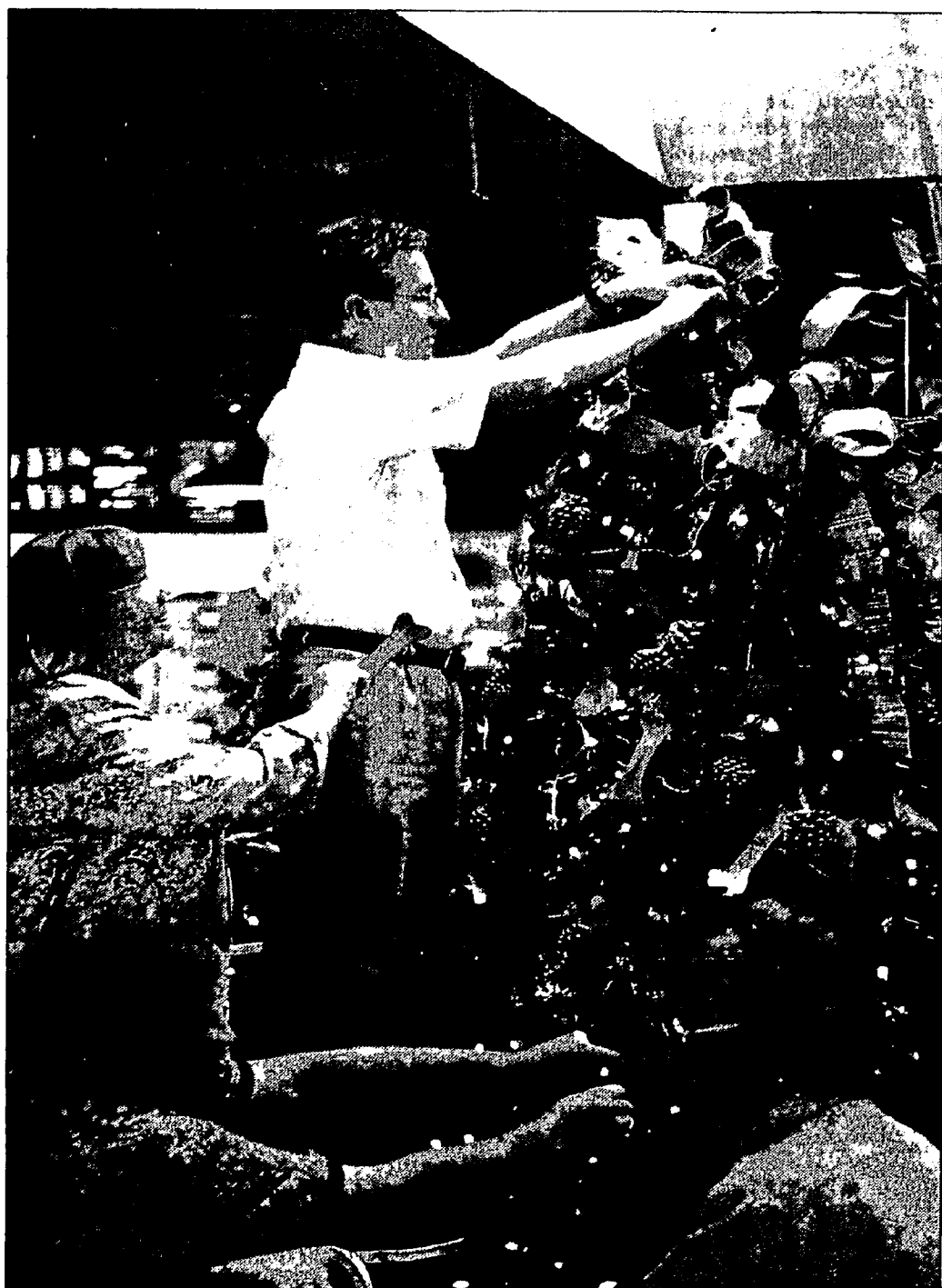


Toni K. Laxson/Ruidoso News
Johnny Durham, right, and his son, Ted Durham, of Sierra Blanca Motors.

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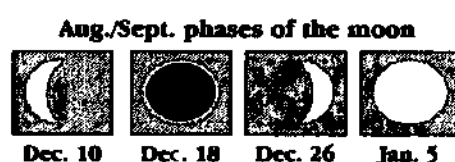
RUIDOSO'S THREE-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY	High ... 50 Low ... 27	Mostly cloudy
SUNDAY	High ... 34 Low ... 28	Snow
MONDAY	High ... 33 Low ... 26	Snow

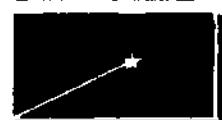
WEATHER ALMANAC

Ruidoso Readings	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	62	26	.00"
Wednesday	59	29	.18"
Thursday	52	26	trace

Regional-Wednesday	High	Low	Forecast
Albuquerque	56	29	Sunny
El Paso, TX	75	41	Mostly sunny
Lubbock, TX	73	42	Mostly sunny
Midland, TX	75	43	Mostly sunny



STARDATE



Regulus, the blue-white "heart" of Leo, the lion, stands just above the Moon as they rise in late evening. As seen from southern Florida, Regulus will be behind the Moon as they rise, around 11 p.m. The star will pop into view about 45 minutes later.

StarDate courtesy of McDonald Observatory, Univ. of Texas at Austin. For more information call 1-800-StarDate.



Monte Vista Service Station in Carrizozo. In 1947 an airplane, according to reports, which was trying to take off on Highway 380, smashed into the station, killing the pilot and another individual who was standing in the driveway. The station was burned to the ground.

L.C. SCRAPBOOK

A glimpse into Lincoln County's past, compiled from local newspapers by Polly E. Chavez.

White Oaks Eagle
Dec. 6, 1900

E.H.B. Chew has been employed as sanitarium at Fort Stanton. The friends of Mr. Chew will be pleased to learn that he secured this splendid position.

Mr. Geo. R. Watson and wife

accompanied Mr. Chew and family to their new place of residence at the Fort Tuesday.

The young folks enjoyed an evening of pleasant entertainment at Mr. and Mrs. John A. Haley's Saturday night.

J.B. Collier's friends are urging him to run for justice of the peace. Everyone knows Collier would make a good justice.

M.C. Lincoln is in the city from the Gallinas where he is working a copper property.

Walker Hyde and wife were in from Three Rivers Tuesday.

Commission to consider lodgers tax increase

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

An increase in lodgers tax from two percent to four percent will be considered Tuesday by the Lincoln County Commission, to bring it in line with the current charge in Ruidoso.

Owners of motels, cabins and RV parks in unincorporated portions of the county now pass through to the county a two percent lodgers tax paid by their customers. The money is used to advertise and promote the county.

The tax generates about \$21,000 a year from 32 businesses.

The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. in the commission room of the county courthouse in Carrizozo. The hearing on the increase is set for 1 p.m.

Tuesday will be the last regular meeting for Monroy Montes as a Lincoln County commissioner, ending eight years on the board, five as its chairman.

Montes, a Republican, lost his bid for re-election in the June primary.

He has asked to discuss the future of the Glencoe Rural

Events Center on U.S. 70 and the community board that guides its promotion and use. He's also asked for an update on the status of the transfer of a DWI monitoring program from the county to the village of Ruidoso.

Commissioners also will talk about the effect of a state Supreme Court ruling last month that raises for elected county officials may only be applied to those going into office and must be approved before they assume their positions. Commissioners and other county officials in mid-term are not eligible for raises based on a state constitutional prohibition against commissioners being able to approve raises for themselves.

Some commissioners and county officers face the prospect of having to repay money they collected as a result of commission approved raises passed in May 1997. About 165 elected officials, who were in the middle of their terms when similar raises were approved, are affected statewide.

County Treasurer Joan Park said County Clerk Martha Proctor, Assessor Patsy Serna and she would have to

repay \$4,500, while commissioners would be looking at about \$1,000 and Sheriff Tom Sullivan, \$4,700.

However, County Attorney Alan Morel has advised county officials to bide their time.

"He said we were acting in good faith when commissioners approved the raises because an opinion had come down that they were legal (in district court)," Park said. "Unless the Attorney General takes specific action, repayment may not be required as part of the Supreme Court's decision."

At the time the raises were approved, Morel had advised against the motion, warning that the constitutional prohibition probably would prevail.

The Association of Counties, which filed the lawsuit resulting in the district court ruling in favor of the raises, has appealed the supreme court's decision. Association officials contend a state law requiring equity in pay for county officials overrides the constitutional prohibition against a commissioner being able to vote himself a raise.

In other agenda items: Commissioner Rex Wilson has asked for discussions about the possibility of

the county auditing its payroll records and about how to handle roads that have been included in the legal design of a subdivision but never built.

A hearing will be conducted on enactment of a front foot road assessment to pay for improvements to subdivision roads.

Several issues dealing with the county jail will be brought up, including a draft of a request for proposals to build a new jail in Carrizozo; an inmate work policy; alternatives to jail sentences; a Chaves County agreement to house juvenile prisoners; a Friday judicial review of inmates; and a request to extend the jail management contract of Corrections Systems Inc., which expires Dec. 31.

Commissioners will discuss putting up flashers on Gavilan Canyon Road at the ball park and asking for money from the state Legislature to improve and surface the road.

Ruidoso Mayor Robert Donaldson will appear to continue discussion of changes to the law that created the Extraterritorial Zoning district around the village.

Details on Mescalero gambling issue still unresolved

• No decision yet on whether another tribe will be allowed to join the Mescalero arbitration process.

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Arbitrators in the dispute between the Mescalero tribe and state about gambling revenue payments have several decisions to make in the coming weeks.

The arbitration centers on the Mescalero's refusal to pay the state a mandated 16 percent of its revenues from slot machines at Casino Apache. Tribal officials have contended the 16 percent is too high to be legal under federal guidelines. State officials say the revenue share is a condition of the gam-

ing bill, and thus the gaming compacts.

The three arbitrators — one chosen by the tribe, another by the New Mexico Gaming Control Board, and a third neutral arbitrator chosen by the other two — have several decisions to make before entering into the actual arbitration itself.

The arbitrators need to decide whether to allow the Jicarilla Apache tribe, the only other gaming tribe in the state to have not made any payments to the state, to join the arbitration process.

An attorney for the Mescalero has protested the inclusion of the Jicarilla, saying in a letter to the American Arbitration Association that the two tribes cannot agree on the issues to be arbitrated,

according to state gaming control officials.

Madonna Bixby, an attorney for the Gaming Control Board, said Thursday she thought the three arbitrators would rule against the Jicarilla.

"I think it's unlikely if there is any opposition by either of the parties," she said, referring to both the Mescalero and the Gaming Control Board.

Janice McCrary, chair of the New Mexico Gaming Control Board, said this week the New Mexico Gaming Control Board, which met in a closed session Tuesday, is expected to announce its preference late this week.

Two other tribes, the Acoma and Taos pueblos, also have asked to be included in the arbitration.

The arbitrators also will have to decide whether or not the actual arbitration will be conducted before the public or in a closed session, McCrary said. Previously, the Mescalero have asked that the arbitration be closed. The stated deadline for the arbitrators' decision is Dec. 14, she said.

Also, arbitrators need to decide whether or not a pre-hearing conference will still be held on Dec. 21 as scheduled, or postponed.

"It probably will be pushed back to the first of the year," McCrary said.

At the pre-hearing, arbitrators are to discuss which witnesses will be called during the actual arbitration hearing and when that hearing will be, McCrary said.

Ruidoso council to vote on political sign rules

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Proposed restrictions on political signs in Ruidoso will add a \$50 fee to a current \$100 deposit and will prohibit signs from being placed in public parks.

The proposed ordinance amendment, which includes other restrictions, is to come before the Ruidoso Village Council Tuesday night for a public hearing and a possible

vote.

In October, Mayor Robert Donaldson initiated the changes based on the proliferation of political signs prior to the November elections. At the time, there were more than 50 signs in a 200-yard stretch of School House Park bordering Sudderth Drive. Donaldson said there were more political signs in the village than he had seen in 20 years of living here.

The changes, which are

proposed for the village election codes where political signs are regulated, include a requirement that the signs be maintained properly.

The length of time in which signs may be posted before an election also has been shortened from 60 to 45 days under the proposed amendment.

Signs for the same candidate will have to be placed a minimum of 300 feet from each other and no closer than 10 feet

from the sign of another candidate, according to the proposal.

Besides public parks, the signs may be placed at public buildings or facilities. Any signs placed in the sight line for traffic must be 30 inches or shorter and at least 10 feet from the road, the amendment states.

As before, the \$100 deposit will not be refunded if the signs are not collected within 10 days following the election.

RUIDOSO AGENDA

The Ruidoso Village Council will convene at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday for the following agenda items:

Presentations:

• Report of audited financial statements and other financial information for fiscal year 1997-98.

Consent regular items

(Consent items, unless removed from the consent agenda, are voted on in one motion by the council):

• Bid award for garbage dumpsters. According to a memo from Finance Officer

Lorri McKnight to the council, the low bid for 3-yard containers, between 500 and 750 of them, is \$249 per container. The low bid for 4-yard containers, between 200 and 250 of them, is \$334. However, none of bids have met the requested delivery time of 45 days, McKnight said in the memo.

• Schedule a public hearing for Jan. 12 to consider a zone map amendment to four lots in the School District subdivision. The lots, which already have four-plexes and a duplex on them, are currently zoned for R-2, though an R-3 zoning is required for the current housing density, according to a memo from the Planning Department.

• Schedule a public hearing

for Jan. 12 to consider a zone map amendment for a 4.23-acre tract off of Don Snyder Drive. The land, which is owned by the developer of an adjacent affordable housing senior apartment complex, is to be rezoned from R-4 housing, such as apartments, to R-1, which is single family homes.

Public hearings:

• A hearing and possible vote to amend the village's regulations regarding political signs, such as where they may be placed and the fees charged by the village.

Regular items:

• Preliminary and final

BUSINESS: Car and truck dealerships lead the top 100 businesses in the state

Continued from page 1A

ate as they have in the past.

Johnny Durham and his brother Billy, now deceased, bought the Ruidoso dealership back in 1965. Ted Durham said the brothers flipped a coin to

see who would get to run the Ruidoso business and who would stay in Roswell, where they had started with a used car business.

Johnny Durham won the toss. Over the years since then, he and his brother bought and

sold other car dealerships, including one in Santa Fe and another in Roswell. Now, he and his son just own the Sierra Blanca Motors dealership.

Though other companies on the list have stores in Ruidoso, Sierra Blanca Motors is the only Ruidoso-based com-

pany to make the list. Roswell has five companies on the list, Alamogordo three and Las Cruces one.

According to the magazine, car and truck dealerships lead the top 100 list, representing about 25 percent of the companies named.

RUIDOSO NEWS

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Architectural design for proposed village youth center is in the works

BY SANDY SUGGITT

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Architectural plans for a proposed youth/teen center in Ruidoso will be ready in the next couple of weeks, Mayor Robert Donaldson told members of a local youth group Wednesday.

Architect George Staten has offered to develop designs for a 2,500-3,000 square-foot building next to the Senior Citizens Center.

It will be rectangular, and will have bathrooms that will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a small storage area, and an office, the mayor said, "and the inside is totally up to the kids."

"We've set aside \$100,000 and the village council said we'd make up for a shortfall," Donaldson told the youth council, a core group of high school juniors and seniors who got input from other young people about a center for youth.

The Optimist and Sertoma clubs have offered money for the project, he said. Lincoln Cablevision has offered to install cable for free. Crimestoppers offered to make a large purchase, such as a pool table, the village has offered an air hockey table, and an individual whom the mayor did not identify has offered a piano.

Nothing has been accepted yet, because kids must decide what they want, Donaldson said.

"The plans are expected to be

ready soon, then we need to get a committee of adults and kids working to make this happen," he said. "Parents and kids need to show the business community this is something everyone wants."

The School House Park area would be available and the mayor wants to set up a committee of youth that will run the center, from junior high school to high school age, with new members joining when others leave so that the center will be adapt-

able to changing needs.

Donaldson said the village will hire an employee to oversee the day-to-day operations through Parks and Recreation—because if parents do the job, kids aren't going to go there.

Donaldson said the teen center wouldn't take the place of a community center, but would serve as a first phase, with the community center as a second phase after it's been shown that the community supports such a facility.

FUNERALS DEATHS

Carla Mancha

The funeral for Carla Mae Daves Mancha, 45, of Ruidoso, will be today at 1 p.m. at Gateway Church of Christ with Jimmy Sportsman officiating. Burial will follow at Ruidoso-Hondo Valley Cemetery.

Mrs. Mancha died Monday, Nov. 30, in Albuquerque.

She was born July 31, 1953, in Midland, Texas and moved to Ruidoso 18 years ago from Phoenix, Ariz. She was owner of Aesthetics by Carla, a board member of Ballet of New Mexico and a member of Gateway Church of Christ.

Survivors include a son, Jesse Wade Anderson, Ruidoso; a daughter, Andy Briana Mancha, Ruidoso; parents Carlton and Hazel Daves of Midland, Texas; sisters Kay Krezer and her husband, David, of Ruidoso, and Karen Anderson and her husband, Ron, of Ruidoso; a brother, Bruce Daves and his wife, Tracie, of Midland Texas; nieces Janice Fine, Mandi Jones and Sage Anderson; nephews Cody Jones and Leaf Anderson.

The family requests memorials to the Children's Fund of Carla Daves Mancha at Ruidoso State Bank.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

Bernice Mammarella

Bernice Ann Mammarella,

73, of Ruidoso, died Tuesday, Dec. 1, at Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso.

Born Aug. 21, 1925, in Ester Hazy, Saskatchewan. She moved to Ruidoso 2 1/2 years ago from Pennsylvania and was a retired bookkeeper. She married Nicholas Mammarella on Nov. 21, 1959, in Las Vegas, Nev. He preceded her in death in June, 1996.

Survivors include a daughter, Nancy White of Tucson, Ariz.; a brother, Reginald Seller of Kitchener, Ontario; sisters Clara Haid of Cambridge, Ontario and Jenny Doherty of Ruidoso; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by four brothers.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

Andrew M. Richardson

Prayer service for Andrew M. Richardson, 78, of Capitan, will be today at 7 p.m. at LaGrone Funeral Chapel in Ruidoso and the funeral mass will be Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Capitan with the Rev. Dave Bergs officiating. Burial will follow at the Capitan Cemetery.

He died Wednesday, Dec. 2, at his home in Capitan.

He was born April 30, 1920 in Arabela to Amanda and Granville Richardson; both preceded him in death.

He had lived in Lincoln County all his life and was a

member of the Catholic Church. He served in the Army during the Korean War.

He married Macrina Sanchez on Aug. 8, 1949, in Carrizozo.

Survivors include his wife, Macrina Richardson of Ruidoso Downs; sons Granville Richardson and his wife Mona of Golden, Colo., Clifford Richardson of Los Lunas and George Richardson of Capitan; daughters Carmen Robinson and her husband, Rock, of Valley View, Texas, and Janette Richardson and her husband, Juan Ortega, of Ruidoso; a stepdaughter, Delma Romero of Ruidoso Downs; brothers Albert Richardson of Ruidoso Downs, Robert Richardson of Socorro, Billy Richardson of Roswell, and Johnny Richardson of Plano, Texas; sisters Rebecca Richardson of Virginia and Olivia Richardson of Santa Fe; 11 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by brothers Edward and Alfred Richardson, and sisters Prestonia Jimenez and Lupera Montes.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

Opal Cummins

A memorial service for Opal Cummins, 84, of Roswell and Ruidoso, will be today at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyter-

ian Church in Ruidoso with the Rev. Jim Humlins officiating.

Mrs. Cummins died Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1998, at the Ruidoso Care Center.

She was born Dec. 16, 1913, in Cross Plains, Texas. She lived in Oklahoma until 1938 when she moved to New Mexico, living in Jal, Tatum, and Lovington.

She moved to Ruidoso in 1992 and then moved to the Villa Del Rey Retirement Home a few months ago in Roswell. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Ruidoso.

She married Bill Cummins on Nov. 12, 1949 in Carlsbad and he preceded her in death in 1980.

Survivors include a daughter, Jerry Betty and her husband Hal of Ruidoso; a sister, Marie Halston of Dallas, Texas; grandchildren Leslie Barryman of Las Cruces and Greg Betty and his wife, Rita, of Rio Rancho; great-grandchildren Krystal and Clayton Berryman and Sean and Ryan Betty; a sister-in-law, Gene McCain of Bourne, Texas; and many nephews and nieces.

The family requests memorials to Hospice of Lincoln County or Cree Meadows Ladies Scholarship Fund.

Sam Dazzo Sr.

Sam Dazzo Sr., 88, of Albuquerque, died Tuesday, Dec. 2. A former owner of Ruidoso

Natural Gas Company, he was a lifelong resident of New Mexico, an attorney and a patron of the arts.

Born in Dawson in 1909, he was admitted to law practice in 1936 and specialized in oil, gas, mineral rights and Indian law. He also represented a number of the state's Indian tribes in land disputes.

He was a cavalry lieutenant in World War II and later was a major in the Judge Advocate General Department.

In Albuquerque, he donated to numerous charities and established scholarship funds at the University of Colorado and the University of New Mexico for law school students.

He became a patron of the Santa Fe Opera to honor his Italian immigrant wife.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Joy Dazzo; a son, Sam Dazzo Jr.; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Donations in his name may be made to the Good Shepherd Center at 218 Iron, S.W., Albuquerque.

Juanita Romero

Funeral services for Juanita Consuela Romero, 53, of Tinnie, will be at 10 a.m. today at the Church on the Move, with the Rev. Al Lane, pastor of Christ Church in Ruidoso Downs, officiating. Burial will follow at South Park Cemetery. Mrs. Romero died Nov. 30

at the University Hospital in Albuquerque.

She was born Aug. 25, 1945, in Roswell to Jose and Maria (Tapia) Sanchez. Her parents and brothers Jerome and Richard Sanchez preceded her in death.

She married Rudolph (Rudy) Romero Oct. 13, 1962, in Hondo.

A resident of Tinnie for the past 20 years, she worked as a concession clerk for the Ruidoso Downs Race Track. She was a member of Christ Church in the Downs and was an active grandmother and mother.

Survivors include her husband, Rudy; sons Ruben Romero of Roswell and Eric Romero of Arabela; daughters Deborah Gomez and her husband, Martin, of Glencoe, Sandra Romero of San Patricio and Sara Romero of Arabela; brothers Joe Sanchez Jr. and his wife, Delores, of Roswell, and Toby Sanchez and his wife, Rosa, of Hondo; sisters Viola Aguirre of Tyler, Texas, Virginia Molina of Roswell, Gloria Garcia of Ruidoso; grandchildren Aaron Gomez, Sadie Romero, Adam Gomez, Patricia Montoya, Patrick Montoya and Renee Romero.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Ballard Funeral Home.

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OUR OPINION

An icy warning

It was an introduction to the winter driving season in the Sacramento Mountains that nobody wanted.

A slick-pavement traffic accident on U. S. Highway 70 near Apache Summit last Monday morning took the life of a vibrant, forward-looking young mother, and left many in Ruidoso who knew her with a new awareness of the fleeting nature of life.

That highway tragedy also should stand as a reminder to all drivers that those who travel our mountains in the morning must be particularly alert to the possibility of slick roads. Overnight, a little rain on a highway can become ice—often almost-invisible “black ice.”

A clear and sunny morning doesn't necessarily mean clear driving, either. A short stretch of shaded road can assure icy conditions for many hours.

Along with driving precautions like a reduced speed and substantial separation between vehicles, every driver and passenger should have their seat belts firmly buckled.

In certain circumstances, nothing can prevent a car from sliding off the road and overturning. That is when seat belts and air bags are the best insurance.

After that, prayers.

No complaints this weekend

Anyone who complains about “nothing to do” this weekend in Ruidoso, should have their brains checked, or something.

Item: Ski Apache will open Saturday, a week later than planned, but now blanketed by some belated natural snow and a considerable amount of the man-made variety.

Item: The third-annual Festival of Trees will turn the Ruidoso Convention Center into something of a winter fairland, complete with Santa Claus, model trains, musical entertainment and dancing.

Item: A benefit concert for (and at) St. Joseph's Mission in Mescalero will start at 7:30 p.m..

Item: In the middle of it all, at 1 p.m. Saturday, the state high school AAA championship football game between the Ruidoso Warriors and the Artesia Bulldogs will kick off at Horton Stadium. It should sport the biggest crowd at a game in Ruidoso in many years—a good number of them from Artesia.

If all us Ruidoso residents partake of all those offerings, we'll need all day Sunday to recuperate and prepare for another delightful week in the tall pines.

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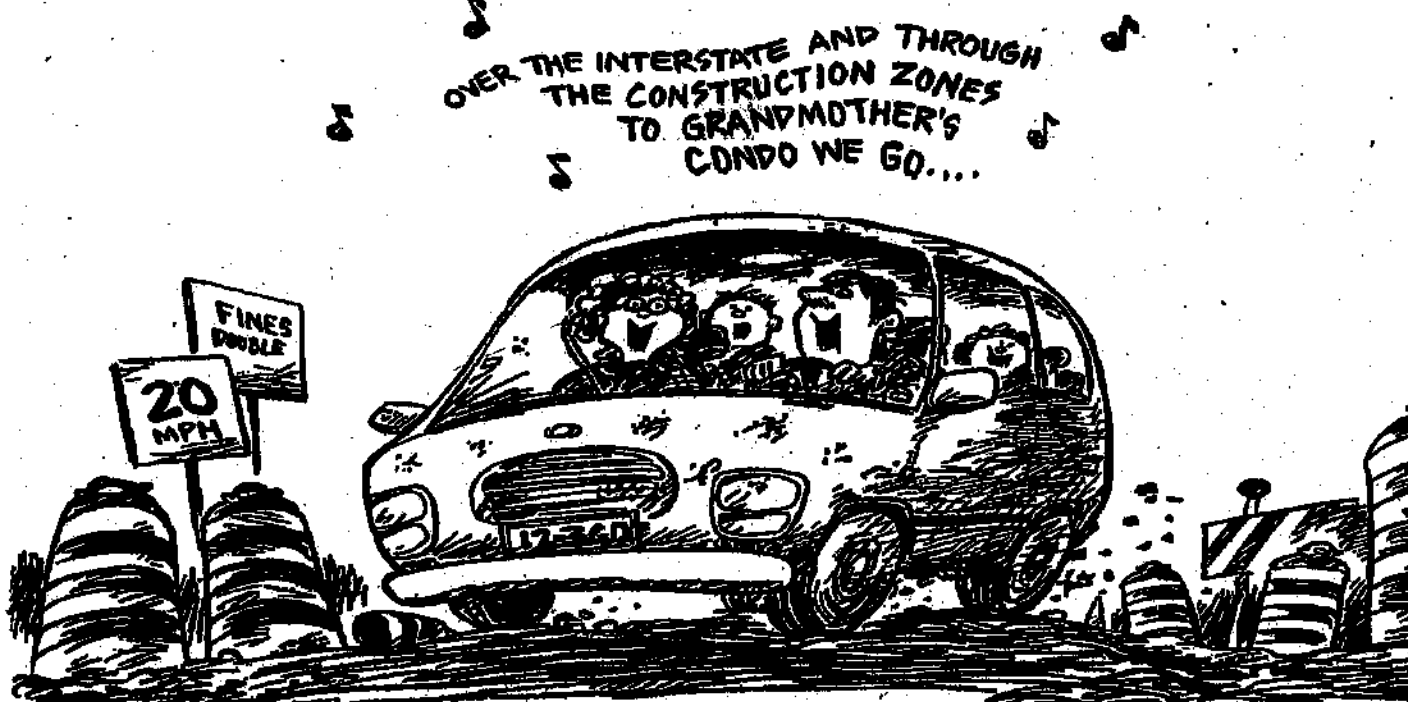
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YOUR OPINION

Gamblers Anonymous offers help in Ruidoso

To the editor:

Are you or someone you love slowly committing suicide due to an uncontrollable obsession to gamble?

There are more than 12 million compulsive gamblers in the United States alone, whose losses run into staggering amounts each year. More broken homes, suicides and imprisonment are due to compulsive gambling than from any other single cause. A recent survey of 2,200 inmates of federal institutions revealed that 1,400 of those incarcerated were convicted of crimes relating to a compulsive gambling problem.

Since it was formed more than 30 years ago, gamblers anonymous has become a fellowship of active groups worldwide. Countless thousands of lives have been saved through the G. A. program of rehabilitation. In G. A., the problem is treated as an illness, not a malicious vice. The members follow a simple suggested plan of recovery, with each one encouraged to interpret and apply it for his or her own best progress. At G. A. meetings, people and their family members engage in an informal type of group sharing that has proven to be extremely successful.

G. A. is a non-profit fellowship with no dues or fees required for membership.

Gamblers Anonymous-Ruidoso meets at Gateway Church of Christ, 415 Sudderth, every Sunday from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Anyone with a problem or who knows someone with this disease is welcome. More information is available at (505) 354-3004.

Dorothy M. Kizer
Ruidoso

A giving idea

To the editor:

Just how many return-address labels am I allowed to apply to one envelope, I asked my local post office attendant, as I proceeded to open even another envelope bribing me to donate to their cause...which usually is a good one I'm sure and in very long standing and a little impersonal, so...

The subject matter of the season was approached by my dear gift-exchanging friend when she suggested our small group of friends open their hearts of giving this year to our favorite local charity instead of to each other. "Brilliant idea," I replied. "I feel better already." (Please, no slight of merchants intended.)

This is the time of year our hearts are open to a more giving attitude because we are reminded of the Original Gift to the World, the needs of others and IRS deductions.

How many ways do we count our blessings? I am grateful we have local ways and means of assisting our elderly and chronically ill, through Home Health Services of Lincoln County (257-5198); Hospice, which provides end-of-life care (257-4324); Family Crisis Center, which can intervene where needed, 257-7365; and our Food Banks.

These are a few of my favorites, probably because I know several of the most generous, caring, efficient and loving nursing staff, volunteers and dedicated individuals... There are many more non-profit

it 501(c)3s and many in need of help and expansion....

IF by chance you are in a slight dilemma as to how your legacy of life will help...take a deeper look.

Shirley J. Meyer
Alto

Good people out there

To the editor:

I had a most disturbing incident happen to me when my billfold mysteriously disappeared while I was shopping in Wal-Mart. Anyone who has ever lost a billfold knows the panic I felt, realizing that my credit cards, drivers license and other important papers were missing and would need to be replaced.

However, much later in the day, I received a phone call from a woman telling me that she had found my billfold and would meet me at Wal-Mart to return it! This woman would not take a reward, nor did she wish to be identified. I am ever so grateful to this woman for the safe return of my billfold.

If more people would practice "random acts of kindness" as this woman showed me, the world would be a much nicer place. Even though only my money was missing when she found my billfold, my faith has been restored that there are still honest and caring people in this world.

A special thanks to my friend Judy Beavers, who saw me waiting to meet this woman, and after hearing about my plight later called my home to check on me.

Thank you for printing this letter, as I have no other way to thank this woman for returning my billfold.

Rose Norman
Ruidoso

THE SILVER LINING

The arrival of the Sacred Month

This is being sent to you on the first of December, the Sacred Month, in early afternoon with the temperature at 68 degrees under a sky of thin clouds, casting all the vale below in a half-light of sunshine and shadow.



BY DAN STORM
COLUMNIST

However, there is a light western breeze blowing down the valley, which carries cold air from the mountain that is wearing a crown of snow, shining pure white and touched with gold outlined against a pure light blue sky.

The snow is a little late, it is true; and yet we now have a running start into a good winter, because once the snow comes into the mountain land, it does not look back.

And winter does not begin until almost a month from today, on Dec. 22.

Nature's decorations.

Throughout the hills and vales Mother Nature's Christmas decorations are getting ready to help us celebrate the Christmas season.

These include the juniper with its silver-white berries and the cedar with its berries of purple, the Algerita (first cousin of the English holly) and the evergreens with their cones. All of these are traditional favorites for the fashioning of Christmas wreaths.

The piñon tree

Time was here in Lincoln County when you could take your pick of Christmas trees from a large variety of evergreens, most of which grow in the higher elevations. Among these are the blue spruce, Ingelman spruce, balsam, silver spruce, Douglas fir and white pine. The piñon tree was not given a second glance.

Today, and for the past many years, the piñon—which is the official New Mexico state tree—is the pride and joy of New Mexico as its Christmas tree.

Early customs

Among the principal Christmas customs going back to early Spanish times are "luminarias" (lighters of the way) and "El Nacimiento" (the manger scene).

The luminarias lighted the way to midnight mass on Christmas Eve. In San Patricio, a fire was built on top of the high hill north of the village, sending the message that church services would be held at the Church of San Patricio.

Another form of the luminaria was sticks of pine pitch driven into the ground and lighted at the top, and placed along the pathway to the church. This has survived until today and is made by filling a paper bag with sand to hold the candle inside secure and upright.

Next time (or soon) we will have something on the manger scenes and other early New Mexico Christmas customs.

Let us rejoice and give thanks to the Lord for the arrival of December, the Sacred Month.

Seasonal chuckles

It seems to us to be relatively important that as the holidays approach an extra effort must be exercised to retain a sense of humor.

That, of course, is because everybody suffers from overloaded circuits during December.

Much too much going on, what with Christmas shopping and multiple holiday parties, not to mention all those year-end things everybody is concerned about—like unexpected visits from relatives and federal income tax forms. (You figure out which is the least welcome.)

So maybe a touch of levity is in order—not original humor of course; no such thing exists.

A headline in the *Roswell Daily Record* this week let it be known: "Illegal aliens found in rental truck."

Well...it's not supposed to be funny, but anytime that newspaper puts the word "aliens" in a big headline right under its nameplate, somehow you've got to laugh.

Roswell, by the way, did have an excellent Christmas crafts show at its convention center last weekend, with a plethora of Christmas decorations and gift items for sale, including those little tiles with aphorisms on them, usually found in kitchens under hot dishes.

We enjoyed reading them—from philosophical to whimsical—but none quite came up to the standard of one we saw a week earlier at the Festival of the Cranes in Socorro:

"God made the country.

"People made the city.

"The devil made small towns."

Please don't get your dander up; surely Ruidoso isn't that small.

But that does remind us of the story about the little girl who got in a fight with a neighbor boy. Her mother lectured her on the evils of fighting, suggesting that the devil made her do it.

"Mom," said the exasperated, and victorious, little girl. "Maybe the devil made me fight him, but spitting in his eye was my idea."

Credit the Rotary International magazine for this line from an exasperated airline attendant after a particularly rough landing:

"Please stay in your seats, ladies and gentlemen, while Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

And that's enough of that until next year.

LETTERS POLICY

The *Ruidoso News* encourages letters to the editor, especially about local topics and issues.

Each letter must be signed and must include the writer's daytime telephone number and address. The phone number and street or mailing address will not be printed; however, the author's hometown will be included. The telephone number will be used to verify authorship. No letter will be printed without the writer's name.

Letters should be 300 words or less in length, be of public interest and must avoid name-calling and libelous language. The *Ruidoso News* reserves the right to edit letters, so long as viewpoints are not altered. Shorter letters are preferred and generally receive greater readership.

Letters may be hand-delivered to the *News* office at 104 Park Avenue or mailed to P.O. Box 123, Ruidoso, NM 88355, attention of the editor.

The *News* reserves the right to reject any letter.

Village council looks at tightening Ruidoso water conservation

• Under a proposed amendment to Ruidoso's water contingency plan, outside watering would be limited to mornings and evenings on odd/even days.

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Tighter watering restrictions for the village of Ruidoso will be discussed either later this month or in early January, Village Manager Alan Briley said recently.

Under a proposal to be brought before the Ruidoso Village Council, the least restrictive level of the village's

five-tiered water contingency plan would be eliminated along with another tier, Briley said.

The amended three-tiered ordinance would be more restrictive under the first phase of the plan, but less restrictive in the subsequent steps, which are determined by the availability of water resources, Briley said.

Councilors are not expected to vote on the proposed changes until after two public hearings on the issue, Briley said.

The ordinance, created in 1996 during a drought, would be amended to start off with the former Phase 2 of the

plan, which allows outside watering on odd days for homes with odd addresses and on even days for homes with even addresses. All outside watering would be prohibited during the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Briley said.

Another proposed change to village water regulations would return cash deposits to Ruidoso's water customers, he said. Currently, residential water customers receive their \$60 deposits after two years of service. Under the proposal, residential customers will see their money returned after a year, Briley said.

Commercial customers, whose de-

posit amounts vary based on usage, are to have their deposits returned after five years of service, Briley said. Currently, commercial customers do not receive their deposits back, even if they have been water customers for 20 years or more, he said.

Another proposed change is to waive deposits for residential customers in lieu of documentation establishing good credit history, he said.

Landlords would be notified of their tenants' delinquent water bills under the proposed changes. Landlords also would be responsible for replacing water service pulled from a property

because of delinquent water bills, Briley said. The change was prompted because the village otherwise has no way to recoup losses, he said.

When a second notice of delinquent payment is sent out to a customer, another letter will be sent to landlords, Briley said. In all, three bills will be sent to customers for delinquent payments.

Village water department employees also would, under the proposed changes, give residential customers one last opportunity to keep their water service through a house call at the property, he said.

Council to consider whether nearby subdivisions must meet Ruidoso road standards

• The Planning and Zoning Commission is asking for guidance about imposing village standards in the 3-mile planning zone.

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Whether Ruidoso should ask a county subdivision to build roads to village standards has prompted an advisory commission to ask for guidance from the Ruidoso Village Council.

"Maybe it's time for a joint workshop," said Chay Rennick, an adviser for the Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commission, at a Tuesday meeting.

The commission on Tuesday approved a preliminary and final plat for 50 acres of the Preserve, an eventual 150-acre development planned for an area off Mechem Drive where Gavilan Canyon Road intersects. But it was approved with the provision that the developer put in a 24-foot paved road and a turnaround rather than the planned 20-foot paved road without a turnaround.

The plat is to go before the Ruidoso Village Council Tuesday night for final approval. The developer might protest the wider road requirement as well as the mandated turnaround.

Though the subdivision is outside village limits, it is within a 3-mile radius, which, by state law, makes it subject to plat approval by Ruidoso. The exception

would be if the lots in the subdivision are greater than 5 acres each and the subdivision as a whole encompasses 24 lots or less, planning staff said.

The state law gives the village some control over development in outlying areas that may eventually be annexed by Ruidoso.

Possible annexation is one factor prompting the commission to ask for a joint workshop with the council, and, if possible, the Lincoln County Commission. The focus of the proposed workshop is whether village standards should be imposed outside the village.

Cleatus Richards, director of the Ruidoso Planning Department, urged the commission to require the wider streets, saying he thought Ruidoso should not take a "short-sighted" view of development near the village.

"The better the standards, the better off you are," he said.

Though the county has few zoning and planning regulations—and those because of state requirements—the county usually requires roads 22 feet wide, according to Kim Roper of the Lincoln County Road Department.

In other action, the commission:

• Heard a presentation from Mayor Robert Donaldson about the council's charge to the commission. Donaldson also addressed the fact that the council sometimes reverses commission decisions, but commissioners should not take those actions personal-

ly. Sometimes the revisions are because the council has received more information about an issue than the commission had, he said. Donaldson urged commissioners to seek input from the council or himself regarding issues they had concerns about.

• Approved a zone change for four blocks in the School District subdivision to change the zoning from R-2 to R-3. The higher density zoning is needed because of three four-plexes already built on the land. Final approval of the change will come before the Village Council on Tuesday.

• Approved a zoning change for a 4.23-acre tract on Don Snyder Drive. The change will allow single-family homes to be built on lots in the tract. The land now is zoned R-4, such as for apartments. The land is the back portion of a development for affordable senior housing. The developer agreed to open the back portion to home development at the request of a neighborhood home owners association.

• Approved a request from Dwight Bouldin for vacation of 6,300 square feet of public right-of-way next to 112 Quince Circle, where a home is built inside the right-of-way.

• Approved several variances request from Dwight Bouldin to allow the decks and house at 112 Quince Circle to be inside the standard setback ranges.

• Approved a request from Rodrick Alan Mayse for a variance for an addition to a home at 516 Second St. The addition would come within 6.55 feet of the side lot line, a variance of 3.46 feet of the standard 10-foot setback.

• Approved a request from Donald C. Weitz for an addition to a home at 236 Country Club Drive. The addition would be built on an existing deck and require a variance of 5 feet and 10 inches from the standard setback of 10 feet.

• Approved a variance request from Bob White and Richard Weber to create a new lot where a side lot line would be 3 feet from an existing home at 441 Mechem Drive. The new lot is zoned for commercial use.

• Approved, in a split vote, a vari-

ance request from G.A. Gant to allow construction of a 12- by 20-foot carport. The carport would be 4 feet and 10 inches from the side lot line, a variance of 5 feet, 2 inches. Commissioner Bill Hirschfeld voted against the variance. In discussion before the vote, he object-

ed to the appearance of the metal fabrication of the "portable" carport, saying it did not conform to village standards in appearance. He further said that type of carport has "popped up" all over town in the past four years, and recommended drafting regulations that

would prohibit that type of carport. • Tabled a request from Stan Cape for a sign for a commercial building in the Cree Meadows subdivision that would rise above the building's roof line. The issue was tabled at the request of the applicant.



Texas New Mexico
representatives Jack Chamberlain & Lisa Muhn, event coordinator,
a Customer Connection check for \$100.00.

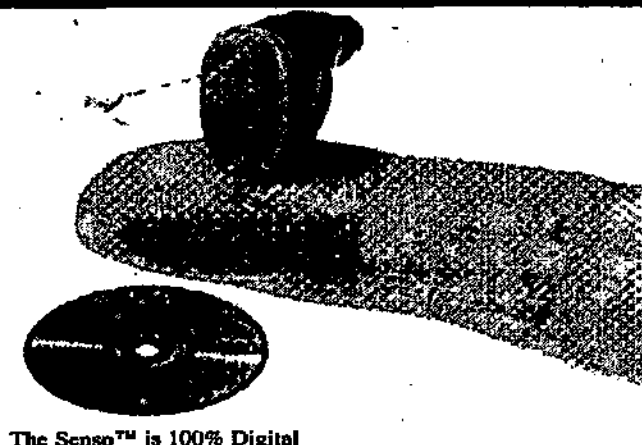
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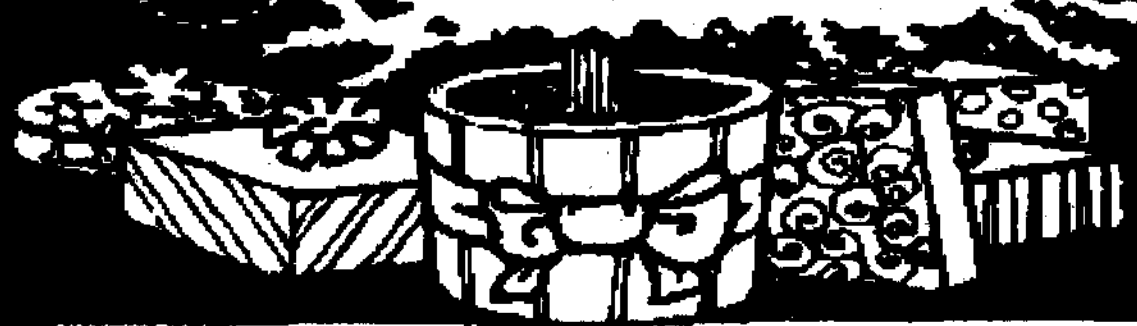
Hospice of Lincoln County, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) agency which provides end of life care and support to residents and families in Lincoln County, is sponsoring a TREE OF LIFE over the coming holiday season.

Christmas angel ornaments to place on the tree may be purchased for \$5, \$10 or \$25 each. Memorial ribbons are \$1 each. Purchases may be made at the Sierra Mall starting November 23rd, at the Festival of Trees on December 5th, or you may call the Hospice office at 257-4324, Doris at 258-5614 or Suzy at 258-3820.

The memorial tree will be located in the Sierra Mall on Mechem Drive. The tree lighting ceremony will be held on Sunday, December 6, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. You are invited to share in a time of remembering.

Special music by the James and Cindy Hobbs Family and Apache Spirit Arriaga, and refreshments.

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RUIDOSO NEWS BUSINESS

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Phone: 505-257-4001

Planning a party in Ruidoso area gets much simpler

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Art Martinez didn't set out to be a supplier for parties and conventions.

It's just that the need for the business kept coming up while Martinez, a Texas transplant to Ruidoso, was pursuing his first business enterprise of arranging convention services for groups.

"I didn't want to do this," Martinez said this week from the Ruidoso Party Rentals shop in the Re/Max Center on Mechem Drive. "I wanted to do Destination Ruidoso ... But I'm having to do all these jobs because they didn't exist here."

The services he needed for arranging conventions and larger parties just weren't readily available in Ruidoso, he said. To make arrangements, people often have had to rent such items as chairs and tables from companies in Alamogordo, Roswell or Albuquerque.

So, Martinez, who recently started Destination Ruidoso, decided to open Ruidoso Party Rentals in the Re/Max Center. He is acquiring a separate business license for the new venture, Martinez said.

► New business

- What: Ruidoso Party Rentals
- Who: Art Martinez
- Where: 1009 Mechem Drive
- When: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays and by appointment
- Phone: 258-5027, 257-4846

Ruidoso Party Rentals offers tables and chairs, tablecloths and skirts, place settings for groups up to 400, chaffing dishes, votives, champagne fountains, lamps, wine buckets, outdoor lights, stages — even ice sculpture molds. If audio-visual equipment or food stations are needed, Martinez can arrange them.

For equipment he doesn't have, such as large party tents, Martinez has connections with Albuquerque businesses.

"I represent all the things that make the bigger conventions happen," Martinez said.

People can rent lattice arches, wicker gazebos and four-panel screens as well, he

said.

The goal is to offer a certain level of quality and service for wedding receptions, conventions and parties, Martinez said, adding that the company already is being used by the Spencer Theater for holiday parties.

Though subject to change, prices at Ruidoso Party Rentals are listed at \$1 per folding chair and 40 cents for a plate or wine glass. Chaffing dishes can be rented for either \$15 or \$21, whether the plain or fancy version is selected. A 5-gallon champagne fountain rents for \$35 a day, and an 18 quart punch bowl at \$6.50.

He intends to raise the quality and service level of conventions in Ruidoso, and does not see himself as competition to the current services offered at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

"I want to supplement what they already have," he said.

His business's motto is: We will make it right.

"So, I'm the one who's going to do whatever it takes to make it (whatever event is being planned) right," he said.



Toni K. Laxson/Ruidoso News
Art Martinez, owner of the new Ruidoso Party Rentals, is armed to supply the equipment needed to throw a party, an event or even a convention.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Local chiropractor gets new degree

Local chiropractor Sandra Davis has received a doctorate degree in naturopathy from the Clayton College of Natural Health, according to a recent press release from Davis's office.

With the new degree and her previous academic degrees, Davis said she feels she will be better able to serve her patients with both personal care and referrals. She will continue her chiropractic practice as the specialty provider with both Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Presbyterian HMO.

Tourism awards presented

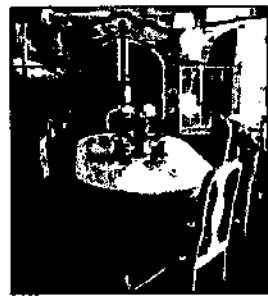
The Tourism Association of New Mexico (TANM) presented its industry awards at the annual Governor's Conference on Tourism in Gallup on Oct. 29, including one to Brad Cooper of White Oaks.

The President's Award was presented to Cooper, director of marketing for the Spencer Theater of the Performing Arts.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ruidoso Downs moving company honored

All American Moving, Inc., a Ruidoso World Wide Moving, was the recipient of two national awards at the van line's recent national conference in Orlando, Fla.

The locally owned company was selected as one of the top five from almost 300 Wheaton agents that participate in the van lines' Quality Improvement Program. The program grades local agencies in areas of professional performance. Statistical categories include estimating accuracy, storage, packing, transportation and customer comments. This award designates All American Moving as the "Best of the Best" in the Wheaton network of agencies.

Ted LaCoe, a driver for All American, also was honored as the National Driver of the Year for Wheaton's Intermittent Fleet. The award is based on the driver's operations, safety, claims, as well as ability to relate to customers, agents and fellow drivers. LaCoe has received this award previously.

TNP reports earnings

TNP Enterprises, Inc., the parent company of Texas-New Mexico Power Company, has reported third-quarter earnings of \$18.5 million, or \$1.40 per share, a small drop compared to third-quarter earnings last year of \$20.7 million, or \$1.58 per share.

Texas-New Mexico Power is TNP's principal subsidiary.

Third-quarter earnings for Texas-New Mexico Power Company were \$21.3 million, or \$1.61 per share, compared to \$24.1 million, or \$1.84 per share, the same period last year.

The decrease in earnings resulted from implementation of TNP's Texas Transition Plan, in which customers choose their electric suppliers. The voluntary plan was the first of its type in Texas, according to a TNP press release.

The five-year transition plan provides rate reductions for residential and commercial customers and allows TNP to recover its stranded costs. Excluding the \$6.5 million ongoing transition plan effect, TNP's third quarter earnings would have been \$27.8 million, or \$2.09 per share, which is \$8.7 million higher purchased power costs. Revenue increased during the third quarter of 1998, due to hotter-than-normal weather and customer growth, partially offset by the movement of a significant industrial customer to self-generation. Residential and commercial customer sales increased by 20.2 percent and 10.2 percent, respectively.

Financial planner receives award

Sam Swearingin, a financial planner with the Ruidoso office of Aragon Financial Services, has been named to the All-American Team of the American Funds Group of mutual funds.

Swearingin was cited for outstanding service to investors in the New Mexico/Texas area and for financial expertise and dedication to principals of sound mutual fund and vari-

able annuity investing.

Swearingin has been with Aragon Financial Services since 1990. He has been in the financial service field for 13 years.

Y2K seminar Dec. 10

A seminar on how small businesses may be affected by the Year 2000, or "Y2K", computer bug will be Dec. 10 in Ruidoso, according to a press release.

Sharon Shultz, a systems analyst for the City of Albuquerque and a popular speaker on the Y2K problem, will present the seminar. Her workshop is designed to present both the problems and opportunities in a lively, informative manner.

The Y2K problem is the concern that on Jan. 1, some computer systems will begin producing information as if the date were Jan. 1, 1900. The problem could affect any equipment that uses a computer chip as well as suppliers and businesses.

The seminar will be from 6-9 p.m. at the Ruidoso Center of Eastern New Mexico University at 709 Mechem Drive. Registration is \$5 and includes refreshments and all materials.

It is sponsored by the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Roswell Small Business Development Center and the Ruidoso Center of ENMU. Co-sponsors are First National Bank of Ruidoso, Ruidoso State Bank and Norwest Bank New Mexico.

Preregistration with the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce is required. For more information, call the chamber at 257-7395, ENMU Ruidoso at 257-2120, or the Small Business Development Center in Roswell at (505) 624-7133.

Range management focus of meeting

Range management in the next century will be the focus of the New Mexico Section of the Society for Range Management's winter meeting Dec. 9-10 in Albuquerque, according to a press release.

The meeting, to be at the Mountain View Holiday Inn, will consider where range management has been and where it's going in the next century.

The meeting will include sessions on grazing animals, ecosystems restoration and rangeland ecology.

For more information, call (505) 646-1191.

Mescalero hosts state-wide teen conference

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

More than 100 teen-agers kicked up their legs to kick off the Annual Teen Conference hosted by Mescalero Teen Supreme Club Nov. 20-22, said Mescalero Recreation director Nate Raynor.

Teens came from Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Tularosa, Nambé Pueblo, Picuris Pueblo, and Mescalero for the conference at Carrizo Community Center, Raynor said.

"We sent some kids to Wichita, Kan., last July to a conference and they came away saying everything was like a black issue, not a teen issue," he said.

"Teens don't have a color; issues are issues. They were feeling like they didn't learn anything, so I told them, 'Why don't we put one on and concentrate on teens in New Mexico?' and they came up with this conference."

Robin Simmons, of the Otero County DWM, Program, Raynor, and 13 members of the Mescalero Teen Supreme Club planned the entire event and invited guest speakers and teens from across the state.

After the opening night dance, there were workshops that covered a wide variety of teen issues, including improving self-esteem and how to succeed.

In the post-conference evaluations, participants said they

enjoyed the conference but thought it was too short.

"They enjoyed the self-esteem and education topics," Raynor said, "and they had ideas for next year's conference: they want to talk about teen pregnancy and drugs and alcohol."

He said in his view the highlight of the conference was when Mescalero elementary kids danced the War Dance, the Round Dance, the Back and Forth, in costume, and involved the teens in the dancing.

Two college students from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, Rashad Raynor and Janelle Garcia, were keynote speakers at the luncheon and talked about what they are going through in college.

Raynor said post-conference evaluations revealed that two of the highlights noted by teen participants were the talk on self-esteem by Anita Raynor, director of the basic education program at New Mexico State University, and Mescalero education director John Shendo's talk on education.

In addition, Wayne Martin, of Vision Ford-Lincoln-Mercury in Alamogordo, talked about getting started in business. Mary Ballard, of the Otero County branch of the South Central New Mexico Prevention Coalition in Alamogordo, talked about Rohypnol, the "date-rape drug," and Bobbi McDonald of New Mexico State University in Alamogordo spoke on career choices.

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Women in Lincoln County getting help in many ways

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Women facing a pregnancy in Lincoln County don't have to go it alone.

A network of services and programs already exists to help them, and it's the job of the people with Presbyterian Medical Services-Community to get what they need, says Wanda Gielow de Figueroa, coordinator for the Maternal Child Health Planning Council (MCHP).

Although the council was created in 1995, only recently did it become associated with Presbyterian Medical Services as a means of providing prenatal and after birth care programs that otherwise would have shut down for lack of a sponsor.

The MCHP Council was formed in 1995 and put together the Lincoln County Strategic Health Plan. Funded by the state, the council hired Gielow de Figueroa to help coordinate its efforts.

The 'early days'

From that origin, the county Health and Wellness Board emerged, which currently is gathering information for the county commission on the public attitude toward financing a medical indigent care fund and at the same time updating its data on women and children in the county.

"At the outset, the fiscal agent, the entity that accepts the money and passed it through to the program, was Home Health Services of Lincoln County," Gielow de Figueroa said. "It was just great for three years being able to do that, and then Home Health Services, along with every other home health agency in the nation, started to have trouble and really needed to focus in on what

their calling was. So they started dropping contracts.

"The first one they dropped last spring was our Families FIRST, an excellent perinatal and pediatric case management service set up with the hospital for all mothers after delivery. Within 48 hours, we were in their homes and got them set up on breast feeding support and set up a system that every four months we'd go into the home and check the baby for developmental delays—just do nice screenings. It was good case management."

The MCHP Council identified entities for Gielow de Figueroa to query about becoming the fiscal agent for its programs.

An agency called CHINS (Children in Need of Services) with offices in Lincoln and Otero County agreed to temporarily assume the role so MCHP programs wouldn't stop.

"But they couldn't do it long term either. We had to seek someone outside the county," Gielow de Figueroa said. "We went to Presbyterian Medical Services."

The agency is not connected to Presbyterian Health-Care Systems, which manages the county-owned Lincoln County Medical Center hospital in Ruidoso, she said.

"People get it confused," Gielow de Figueroa said. "There was this mission of Presbyterian to do all of these services in New Mexico. At one point, Presbyterian divided into two non-profit categories. One was the hospitals and one was the medical services, specializing more in rural health clinics."

Getting Families FIRST

Presbyterian became fiscal agent for Families FIRST five months ago, and for Maternal Child Health Coor-

dination, Sept. 15. The closest Presbyterian Medical Services clinic is in Tularosa.

The new agency formed as a result of the arrangement is called PMS-Community Health Services.

"We hope this name indicates the wide variety of services we provide now and that we hope to in the future," she said. "It's real generic so we can seek dollars for a variety of programs. It could be everything from urban renewal to community development, down to the flu shots."

Finding the funds

The arrangement has presented some major advantages to the MCHP Council, she said.

"Because (PMA-C) is a much larger entity, it's easier to write grants for bigger dollars to come into the county," Gielow de Figueroa said. "In the first three months, I got \$20,000 in grants and that's all to the benefit of women and children in this county."

Some of the money comes from private foundations, but the recent award will come from the state in three grants, she said.

The money will be spent on supporting a Lincoln County Youth Council and the Health and Wellness Board, but the largest chunk will be used to look at health education and "asset building" for young people in Hondo.

Part of that effort will be to work on completion of the Hondo Health Clinic, which is designed to serve the community, as well as students.

The organization works in collaboration with many different entities, she said.

Under the Families FIRST program, public health

department employees alert the PMS group when women are pregnant and workers make contact with them in the clinic immediately.

"We're making phone calls and trying to get them into doctors' offices and into the WIC (Women, Infants and Children) program," Gielow de Figueroa said. "We assist women—whether they are teenagers or older—in filling out applications and we get them a temporary Medicaid card. That's probably one of the biggest selling points to these women, a temporary Medicaid card while their paperwork is going through."

It's important that the women see a physician early in the pregnancy because much of the essential development takes place in the first three months, she said.

"Once the baby is born—still under Families FIRST—workers do a home visit within the first week, help out with breast feeding problems and infant care questions and hook the mothers up to the appropriate social services, if they need any," she said.

Every four months they go back into the home and observe the child playing.

"The mother answers a questionnaire and together we figure out if the baby is doing O.K. on a gross development screen," Gielow de Figueroa said. "If the baby has any challenges, we hook them up with the Birth to Three program in town (under Region IX), or refer them to the Parents as Teachers program, which goes out on a monthly basis and does visits."

Bringing in new services

If someone sees a need for

a new service dealing with women and children in the county, Gielow de Figueroa can work with them and write a grant through PMS.

"The March of Dimes called me and told me that in the entire state population... more women here are reporting smoking during pregnancy than any other county of similar population base," she said. "So I did a search to figure what type of program would be appropriate and then wrote a grant to the March of Dimes so when we have a Families FIRST nurse doing a case management, she also can be doing some assistance in smoking cessation with the goal of having healthier kids."

PMS-Community Services will continue with the type of services that have been offered for the past three years, but will focus in 1999

on developing a breast feeding task force to give women a telephone number they can call after they've gone home from the hospital with their newborn.

"When they call, we can hook them up with someone to help them out so they don't discontinue breast feeding," Gielow de Figueroa said. "If a woman breast feeds, we can save \$1,000 in medical costs, much less the pain to the child in the first year of life. Babies have fewer upper respiratory infections and ear infections and things like that."

"We've been doing it piecemeal the last three years and want to do it officially now. We also have a population of women who get no prenatal education, because they are Spanish speaking. We're going to work on that project, smoking cessation and suicide."

Altrusa a benefactor



Kitty Jelsovsky, Ruidoso Altrusa (center), and representatives of four organizations that benefited from the group's fund-raising efforts this year, stack their hands in community solidarity. Contributions were given Tuesday to (left to right) Gary Dean, Lincoln County Food Bank; Spencer Baldwin, Ruidoso Fire Department; Lila Goodman, Lincoln County Crisis Center; and Mary Allen, Lincoln County Literacy Council. White Mountain Search and Rescue also received a donation.

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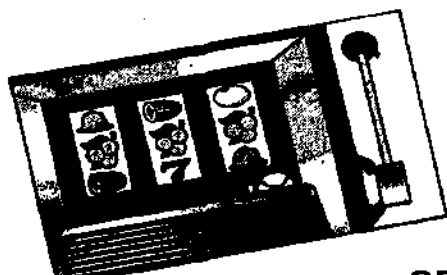
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Sports Shorts

Warrior cagers open season today against talented Tulie

Gary Grahn's second campaign as the Ruidoso boys basketball coach begins today with plenty of challenges on tap.

The Warriors host Tularosa in a 7 p.m. contest at the Ruidoso High School gym. Grahn will miss as many as three probable starters for the home opener because they will play in the Class AAA State Football Championship game Saturday against Artesia.

Because of those circumstances, Grahn has opted to play the game as a junior varsity contest even though Tularosa will play its varsity team.

The Ruidoso freshmen play the Tularosa frosh at 5:30 p.m. followed by the 7 p.m. Ruidoso JV/Wildcat varsity game.

Ski Report

Ski Apache will open Saturday for its first day of operation for the 1998-99 season. Conditions as reported at 10 a.m. Thursday:

Trails open: Six of 55
Lifts open: Three of 11 (Chairs 3, 4, 5)
Snow depth on open trails: 12-24 inches
Skiing conditions: Machine groomed packed powder
New snow Wednesday night: 4 inches
New snow in last week: 15 inches

Until Dec. 18, adult lift tickets are \$29 and children's are \$19.

Scoreboard

Tuesday, Dec. 1
Girls basketball
Artesia 64, Ruidoso 22

This week

TODAY
Girls basketball
Ruidoso at Lovington, 6 p.m.
Capitan at Roadrunner Tournament, TBA
Boys basketball
Ruidoso vs. Tularosa, 7 p.m.
Ruidoso JV, Mescalero, Carrizozo at the Hondo Eagle Classic, TBA
Capitan at Roadrunner Tournament, TBA

Saturday
Class AAA State Football Championship
Artesia (12-0) at Ruidoso (11-2), 1 p.m., Horton Stadium
Girls basketball
Capitan at Roadrunner Tournament, TBA
Boys basketball
Ruidoso JV, Mescalero, Carrizozo at the Hondo Eagle Classic, TBA
Capitan at Roadrunner Tournament, TBA

On deck

Reindeer Run
The 14th Reindeer Run is set for 9 a.m. Saturday in Roswell. Entry fee is \$13 plus a can of food if registered prior to Nov. 27; thereafter, fee is \$17 and a can of food. Race day registration from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Events are: 10K run, 10K walk, 2-mile run and 2-mile walk. For more information, write to Bob Edwards, 715 E. Linda Vista, Roswell, NM 88201.

Holiday Classic Fun Run
Sponsored by the Alamogordo Family Recreation Center, the Holiday Classic Fun Run will be Dec. 12 from the center's parking lot at 1100 Oregon Ave. The half mile and 1-mile races will start at 9 a.m. Cost to enter is \$8 in advance, \$10 the day of the race. The 10K and 5K walk/run will begin at 8:30 a.m. Entry for it is \$9 in advance and \$11 the day of the race. Long sleeve T-shirts to the first 100 registrants. Call 439-4142 for more information.

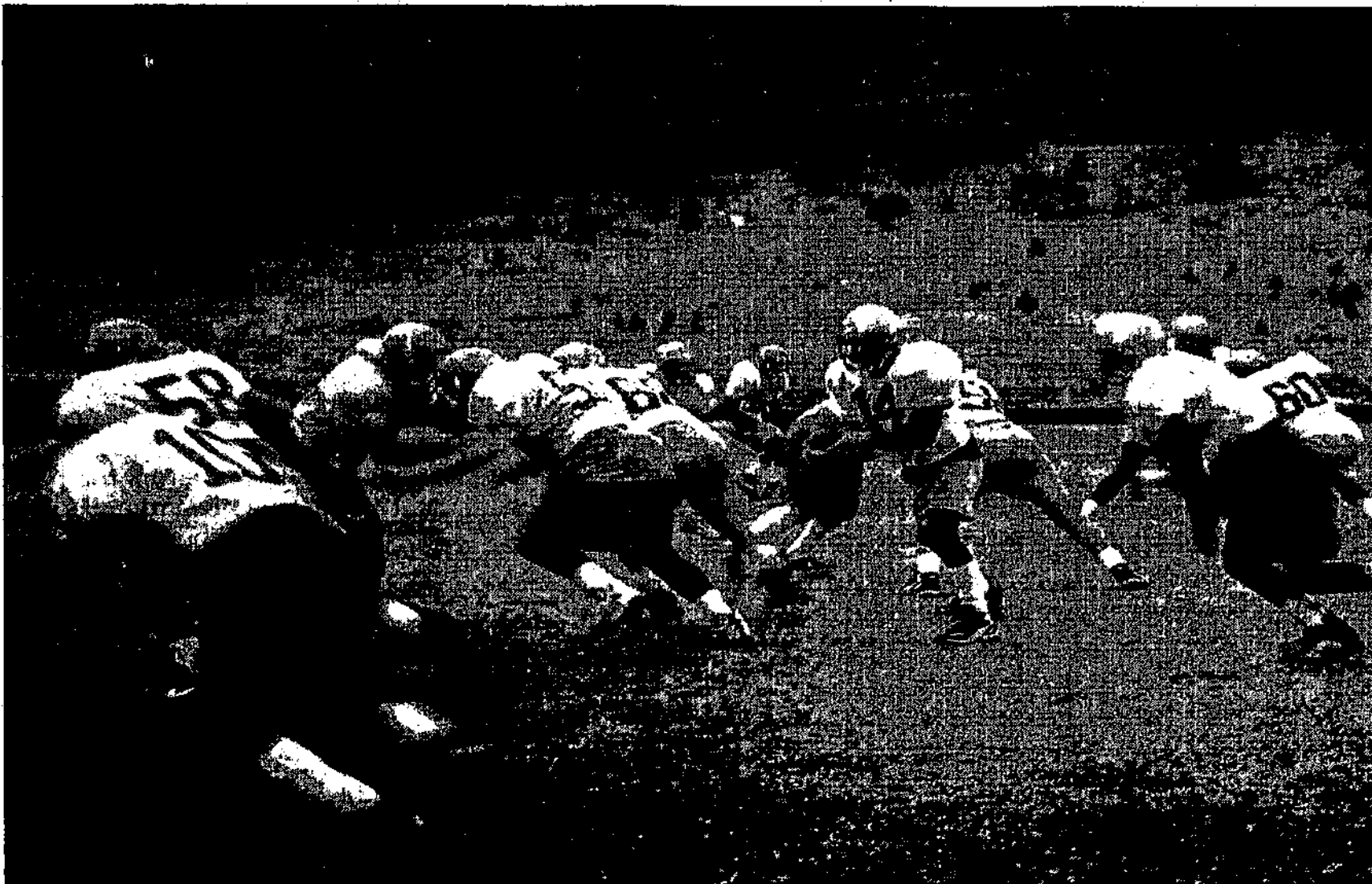
Fishing report

Fishable waters
Streams: Ruidoso, Bonito, Hondo, Penasco
Lakes: Alto, Bonito, Lake Mescalero, Grindstone
Fly selection for streams:
• Sizes 14 to 18
• Dries - stimulants, elk hair and god-dard caddis, blue winged olive, daves hoppers, ants and beetles.
• Nymphs - pheasant tails, prince's and gold ribbed hairs ears. Streamers are muddlers, woolly worms and zonkers.
Lakes: Alto, Bonito, Lake Mescalero, Grindstone, Bonito Lake is closed.
Fly selections for lakes:
• Sizes 12 to 22
• Dries - midges in the 20s, elk hair caddis, and some action on beats.
• Nymphs - big pheasant tails, some large prince's and egg patterns. Streamers or prop flies, muddler's and woolly buggers.
Area lakes have been fairly productive during brief periods of time during the day. Check the minor and major moon cycles. Lake levels have been on the full side. All waters on the reservation are closed except Lake Mescalero.

Mike Hyman
Ruidoso River Association

AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP • RUIDOSO VS. ARTESIA • 1 P.M. SATURDAY

Which team will fulfill its mission?



Ruidoso's balanced offensive attack beat Artesia in every statistical category the first time they met, except the most important one, points.

Warriors want title and respect; 'Dogs seek third straight crown

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

Saturday's battle for the Class AAA Football Championship comes down to whoever performs the basics the best: throwing the ball, catching the ball, kicking the ball, tackling whomever has the ball and most of all, hanging on to the ball.

At least so say the Ruidoso and Artesia coaches.

"We have to try and maintain control of the football, not make mistakes - fumbles, interceptions, penalties, things like that which interrupt the flow for the offense," said Ruidoso offensive coordinator John Roberts.

When the two teams met first on Oct. 23, the Warriors racked up more yards, more first downs and more turnovers. That allowed Artesia to rack up more points, namely 51 to Ruidoso's 21.

On paper, Ruidoso won the battle, but it was the Bulldogs who won the war.

Artesia coach Cooper Henderson knows this.

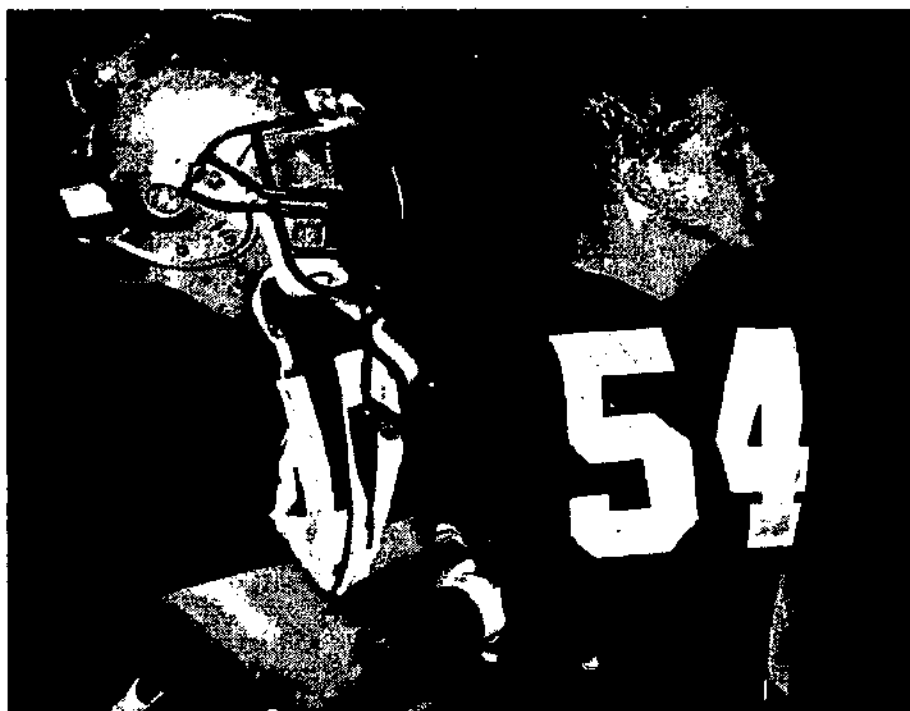
"When you look at the statistical battle last time, they won it pretty handily. They moved the ball more than we did, and we just really have the challenge of coming out and doing a better job of controlling the football," Henderson said Thursday.

Coaches on both sides seem content to "dance with the one who brought them" to the big dance.

"I think at this stage of the season most people have been working on things for a long time and they don't feel like changing is in the best interest for their teams," Roberts said. "I know we don't feel like making a lot of changes."

If anything has changed offensively, it has been Artesia's proficiency to run the ball of late, thanks to running back J.P. Barta, a transfer from Corpus Christi, Texas, who hasn't missed a beat fitting into the Artesia scheme.

After a bruising semifinal win over Silver, 34-0, Artesia



Ruidoso's Brett Meyer and Jason Leadingham (No. 54) have led an effective defense (15 points per game) that's played second fiddle to Ruidoso's offense (38.2 points per game) all year.

quarterback Mark Joseph is "healthy and ready to go," Henderson said. "He's doing fine. We've ended up running the ball some. Last week he got slowed just a little bit and he's healthy and ready to go. We ran the ball two weeks ago a bunch, but when you run for 300 yards, there's nothing wrong with that either."

Ruidoso defensive coach Rodney Webb's unit will try to do what it did the first time the two teams met, only better.

"The key word is slowing them down," Webb said. "You're not going to stop an offense like Artesia."

"They're going to get points. They're going to move the football. They're going to move it Saturday, but the key is eliminating big plays, not beating yourself and stopping the running game. That's going to be our goal."

The Warriors defenders will see a bull's eye on Barta.

"He's really emerged. He's a big play guy," Webb said. "If you let him squirt and get in the open field it's real dangerous ... If you don't contain him

and tackle him within the first five yards or so, he can take it big on you. Our job is to contain him near the line of scrimmage and not let him get out."

Leading Ruidoso's unsung defense are noseguard Jason Leadingham and linebackers Remy Reidhead and Brett Meyer.

"It hasn't been a big-play defense. We haven't scored a lot on defense. We haven't created a tremendous amount of turnovers," Webb said. "But we've just been real fundamentally sound. We've eliminated big plays all year and stopped people's running games."

Henderson is equally concerned with Ruidoso's offensive capabilities.

"Ruidoso did a great job of executing their offense, great schemes and we're expecting the same this time. We've just got to come back and try to play a little sounder football than what we did the first time."

► GAME DAY

• **What:** The Class AAA State Football Championship Game

• **Who:** Ruidoso (11-2) vs. Artesia (12-0)

• **When:** 1 p.m. Saturday

• **Where:** Horton Stadium, Ruidoso

• **Tickets:** School officials expect a sellout of the 6,500 tickets. Gates open at 10 a.m. If any remain, tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students.

• **Parking:** Some parking is available in front of the middle school and along the streets. Ruidoso principal Ron Hodges suggested fans park in the old Wal-Mart parking lot and walk to the game.

• **Seating:** Horton Stadium can seat about 3,200 plus an additional 600 with four sets of bleachers school officials have brought in for the game. Fans will not be allowed to rope off seats, nor sit on the opposing team's side of the field, Hodges said.

► WHO TO WATCH

• **for ARTESIA:** QB Mark Joseph (113-212, 2,155 yards passing)

RB J.P. Barta (75 for 420 yards)

DE Marc West (6-1, 205 pounds)

• **for RUIDOSO:** QB Corey Saenz (72-136 for 1,295 yards passing)

WR Josh Varnadore (41 catches for 848 yards, 20.7 yards per catch)



Ruidoso News file photo
Coach Cooper Henderson discusses strategy with Ruidoso quarterback Michael Swanner during the Warriors' famous "snow bowl" win over No. 1 Goddard in the 1988 state semifinals.

A familiar forecast on tap for game

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The forecast for Saturday's Class AAA State Championship football game is eerily familiar to the last time the Ruidoso Warriors faced these odds - partly cloudy skies and heavy underdogs to the state's No. 1-ranked team.

Now, whether or not coach Les Carter and his Warriors can repeat what Ruidoso did back in 1988 - a miraculous 24-21 upset of then-No. 1 Goddard Rockets in blizzard-like conditions - well, that is for Saturday's expected capacity crowd of 6,000 to witness.



Les Carter

Ironically, 10 years later, the coach who orchestrated Ruidoso's theft of a state semifinal victory over Goddard in '88 returns to the crime scene, this time on the opposing team's sidelines. Cooper Henderson, who coached Ruidoso to its only Class AAA State Championship in 1985, brings his 12-0 Bulldogs to Horton Stadium where the two-time defending state champions will try to make it three in a row and six of the last seven.

Ruidoso (11-2) hosts undefeated Artesia at 1 p.m. Saturday in a game that will decide the 1998 Class AAA State Football Champion.

Artesia and Ruidoso finished the regular season ranked one-two, respectively, and ended the District 4AAA campaign one-two also. The Warriors will have to pull off an upset if they are to change that one-two trend.

It's a challenge they're up for. "Artesia's the 'Tittletown' as they called it," senior fullback Adrian Herrera said Thursday. "But we knew since when we lost down there that we wanted a shot at them again. We've always wanted to play Artesia in the state championship and we've got it."

Classmate and quarterback Corey Saenz said it's all about "respect."

"This is what we've always dreamed of - to be in the state championship, to win the state title. It's all about respect because everyone thinks Artesia is going to blow us out," Saenz said.

Flashback to 1988 - "Warrior Davids will face Goliath" announced the headline in the Nov. 24, 1988 issue of the Ruidoso News. "The Rockets easily handled the Warriors in an early season blowout, 38-0," wrote sports reporter Charles Stallings.

The not-so-distant history gives many the reason to believe Artesia will beat Ruidoso and win its umpteenth state title. The Bulldogs have eliminated the Warriors in the quarterfinal round of the playoffs in 1997 (45-20), 1996 (51-14) and 1994 (38-0). Ruidoso didn't make the playoffs in 1995.

In regular season games, the closest Ruidoso has come to beating the Bulldogs (in the last five years) is a 19-8 loss to Artesia in the 1997 season-opener for both teams. This year, in the district opener for both teams, the Bulldogs exploded in the second half and went on to a 51-21 blowout of the Warriors.

But the past is the past, said fifth-year Ruidoso coach Les Carter.

"I think it's a completely different situation," Carter said Wednesday. "Playing the state championship you kind of have to throw everything away that's happened in the past, and even

CHAMPIONSHIP: The team that makes the fewest mistakes will have best shot at AAA title

Continued from page 1B

Drawing Henderson's concern are quarterback Corey Saenz (72-136 for 1,295 yards passing and 86 carries for 727 yards), the return of senior fullback Adrian Herrera, who says he'll be 100 percent on Saturday, and receivers Josh Varnadore (20.7 yards per catch) and Thomas Schiele.

"They've got weapons. There's no doubt that Saenz is going to be No. 1 in anyone's book. They've got both receivers playing well here lately. I think they're balanced. I don't think you can focus on just one," Henderson said.

Anchoring the Artesia defense, which held a crippled Silver offense to 87 yards of total offense, is senior defensive end Marc West (6-1, 205).

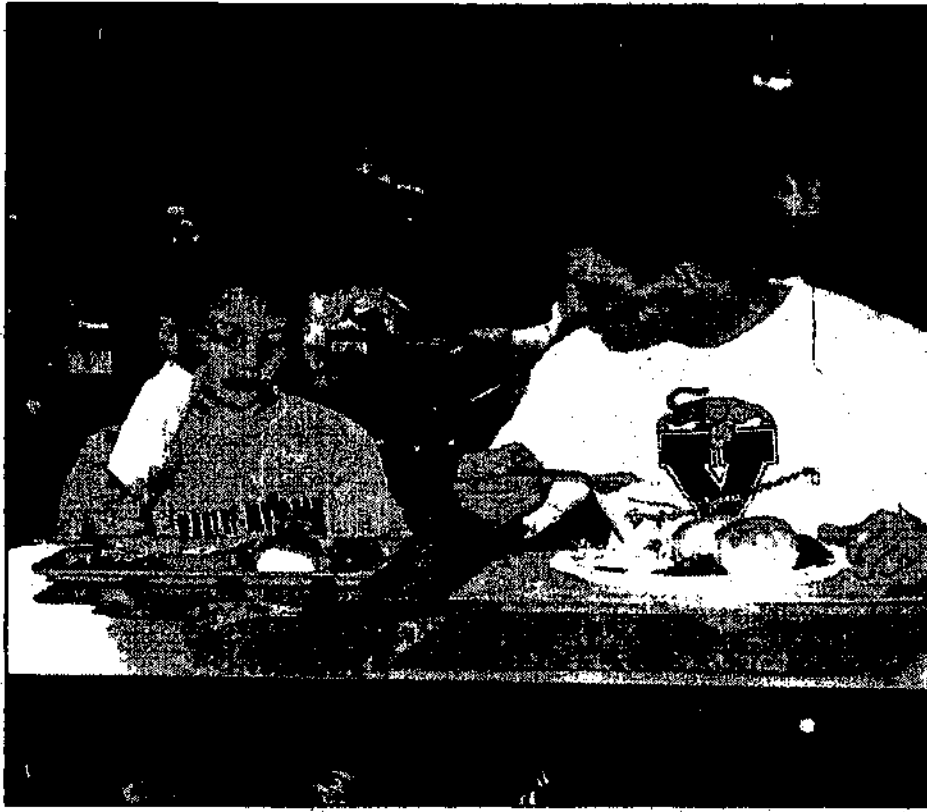
Ruidoso junior Grant Brumlow draws the West assignment.

"He's probably the best defensive end in the state. He's the toughest this year," Brumlow said.

"He gets to the outside well," continued the 5-11, 176-pound junior. "We've just got to get in his face, get right on him. He's not necessarily quick off the ball, but he does quick reads. When he sees pass, he goes right for it."

The Bulldogs have more than West, Roberts said. "It's not like one man makes all the tackles. They're a three-, four-man tackling group," Roberts added. "They are extremely well prepared and they recognize what the other team is doing and are hard to fool."

In addition to the Oct. 28 game with Artesia, Ruidoso head coach Les Carter has



Sierra Vista Primary students hosted the Warrior football team for lunch Wednesday. Tanner Sturgeon, 8, visits with Ruidoso senior Richard Gray.

another game to refer to — a state championship game played 30 years ago when he was a player at Coble.

"We played Goddard for the state championship," Carter recalled during Wednesday's practice. "We were undefeated and ended up losing it."

And what did he learn from that game?

"Looking back at what happened with us, we played a game where we outgained them. We did everything we needed to do, but we just didn't score the points because of fumbles and turnovers and that kind of thing," Carter said.

"We've talked a lot this week about just making sure we play smart ball and do the things we have to — don't turn the ball over, keep our minds where we need to be."

DRUMBEATS: It's hard to keep track of Artesia's titles, but not as difficult to count Ruidoso's. The Warriors have one Class AAA title to their credit (1985), plus two AAA runners-up finishes (1986 and 1988). Other RHS state football titles are: Class AA - 1972 and Class C - 1950, 1955 and 1957. The Warriors were also the Class AA runner-up in 1972.

SIMILARITIES: Fans will remember

Continued from page 1B

the past 13 weeks of actual playing.

"You have to throw all that away and say, here's two excellent teams lined up. The coaching we're doing this week is really probably for naught. We're not changing anything. They're probably not changing anything. So it just comes down now to the team that gets out there and gets after it."

Henderson agrees with Carter.

"The key to the game is for both teams to go out to play their best ball game, and I know that sounds oversimplified, but that's hard when you try to put all the things together — the offense, the defense, the kicking game."

"The one that can do that best is going to be the one that will come out on top because you have two very quality football teams that are well matched. It comes down to playing it on Saturday."

Right down to the weather forecast, the elements of Saturday's title game remain strangely similar to those from a decade ago.

"The outlook for the weekend shows partly cloudy skies," reports the Ruidoso News on page 1 of the Nov. 24, 1988 issue.

And this Saturday's forecast — partly cloudy.

NOTABLE QUOTABLES



Corey Saenz

"We have to stay on our blocks, cut down the turnovers and penalties. We've got to go out and hit them, not let them hit us to win this game."

RHS quarterback Corey Saenz

"I'm proud and excited about it. We have so many friends that we respect in Ruidoso, in the schools themselves. We've always been for them except when we're playing them."

Artesia coach Cooper Henderson on what it's like playing Ruidoso, a team he coached to the state title in 1985

"It's great to be in the championship game. There's not very many players that ever get the opportunity to play in the state championship game. But our feeling is, if we're going to get there, we oughta win. Let's don't go to be second. Let's go with the idea that we're going to play to win the ball game. With these guys, it's not very hard to motivate them to that level."

Ruidoso coach Les Carter on playing in the title game

"Just don't try too hard — relax and play your game. Don't be intimidated because Artesia can be beat. Play with a lot of heart."

Michael Williamson, a member of the Warriors' 1985 championship team, giving advice to the 1998 Ruidoso Warrior football players

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PROJECT "UPDATE 48"



CAUTION AHEAD!

BEWARE OF WORKERS!

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY THROUGH CONSTRUCTION AREA ON PROJECT!

Placing pavement from Farley's to the A-Frame Ski Shop. Will be placing curb and gutter and drive pads from Cree Meadows to Terrace Drive on the east side.

The Contractor is in the process of drying out the grade between Cree Meadows and Terrace for the survey grade setting and placement of base course.

Throughout the project, curb and gutter is being placed.

Look for weekly update of construction activities in every Friday's issue of the Ruidoso News. Any questions, please contact Meadow Valley Contractors, Inc. at 258-4400.

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1:00 p.m. Wednesday for Friday

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4. Houses for Sale
5. Cabins for Sale
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7. Houses for Rent
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9. Mobiles for Rent
10. Condos for Rent
11. Cabins for Rent
12. Mobile Spaces for Rent
13. Room for Rent
14. Water to Rent
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16. Pastures for Rent
17. Business Rentals
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20. Trucks & Auto for Sale
21. Vans for Sale
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39. Work Wanted
40. Services
41. House Sitting
42. Child Care
43. Child Care Wanted
44. Firewood for Sale
45. Anglers
46. Lost & Found
47. Thank You
48. Announcements
49. Personals

Correction Policy

As always...Please check your advertisement for errors. Claims for errors must be received by The Ruidoso News with 24 hours of the first publication date.

Prepaid ads will be cancelled upon request, but without refunds, in consideration of the reduced rate.

Publisher assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements except to publish a correction in the next issue.

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BRADLEY RD: 2
bedrooms, 1.5 bath, clean,
cute cottage, easy access,
\$65,000. Sierra Blanca
Realty 257-2576.

JOIN THE
ALTO LAKES G.C.C.
FLAT LOT, \$7,500.
TERMS:
ALEX ADAMS
258-3330

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WANTED FAST DEAL!
Owners moved, 3 bedroom,
2 bath, den, garage, 184
Juniper, \$79,800. Sierra
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Mallard
430-6730

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131 CORONADO: 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, approx. 3,500
sq. ft. with fantastic views of Sierra Blanca. Overlooks Cree
Meadows golf course. Great entertainment area, 3 fireplaces.
\$250,000. May take trade in Midland/Odessa area.

TWO ALTO LOTS: With full golf membership and great views
of Sierra Blanca. \$22,000 - \$28,000.

FIVE ACRE TRACT IN ALTO AREA: Heavy wooded, very
secluded. Killer view of Sierra Blanca. \$45,000 owner finance.

ON CREE MEADOWS GOLF COURSE: 3 bedroom, 3 bath,
approx. 3,000 sq. ft. well maintained. Huge living room/din-
ing room combination, great for entertaining. \$280,000
owner anxious.

ALTO COUNTRY CLUB: 4 bedroom, 3 bath, full golf mem-
bership. Two living areas - great mother-in-law area. Secluded
on cul-de-sac. \$222,500.

BY OWNER:
302 Heath
Attractive
Cedar/Redwood
home with
beautiful Links Golf
Course views (16th
tee box), 3200 sq. ft.,
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 living areas, (2 fireplaces) +
loft, double garage, covered decks, very accessible.
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for appointment.

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Office: (505) 258-5833
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Equal Opportunity
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SPACIOUS CONDO! Fantastic Sierra Blanca
views! Two bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, 2 living areas, 2
living areas. \$83,500/Call Wayland. 98-81672

DRIVE BY this house at 115B Metz and call me
for an appointment to see. It truly is a perfect
house with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and all amenities.
Priced right at \$169,900. Call Sandy! 98-81428
HOTEL/MOTEL - 21 units, indoor pool, hot tub, 3
bedroom, 1 bath living quarters. Includes condo
management business. Excellent income. Call
Wes for more information. 98-81691

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OUT OF TOWN 800 257-0811

Pine Mountain Realty
BEAUTIFUL FAMILY SIZE RANCH-ETTE IN SCENIC NOGAL, 20 miles
north of Ruidoso 1.8 acres, 4 bdrm/2
bath, 2nd story living area with wrap
around deck and views, views, views;
plus a detached 2 car garage. Too much
to list. Please call and ask for Randy.

ENJOY THE PANORAMIC VIEW
YEAR ROUND! Large decks for summer
and spacious living room w/center fireplace
for the winter. Glass front, 4 bedrooms and
3 baths, fully furnished including jacuzzi and
pool table, and a 1 car carport. Priced at
\$125,900 - Ask for Gary. MLS#98-81682.

MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS DREAMS A REALITY IN THIS ONE OF
A KIND CUSTOM HOME. Imagine lights reflecting off the incredible
marble fireplace that opens into both the living room and master bed-
room. Spacious and open floor plan for the holiday entertaining. Elegant 3
bdrm, 2.5 bath with separate guest quarters. Almost new. MLS#98-69228.
Please ask for Kathy Jo.

HOME RECENTLY REMODELED AND DARING! Windows, doors
and carpet replaced throughout, natural rock fireplace located in beautiful
knotty pine living room, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, laundry room. Please ask for
Marti Kay. Owner is a licensed NM Real Estate Agent. \$56,000 MLS#98-
80998

IN THE ARTIST COMMUNITY OF NOGAL 20+/- ACRES of old growth
forest with rustic cabin of approx. 1400 sq. ft. and detached 20x30 shop, also
3 other out buildings. 100 mile view with creek nearby. Owner is licensed NM
Real Estate Sales person. Ask for Randy. Price reduced to \$136,900.

CALL US FOR NIGHTLY OR MONTHLY RENTALS!

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Bill Pippin
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WANT TALL PINES, SECLUSION AND
VIEWS AT A PRICE YOU CAN AFFORD?
Three bedroom, 2 bath, 1500 sq. ft. handy-
man special. Lots of potential and situated on
two lots. \$59,500.00.

SEARCHING FOR SECLUSION? Enjoy a Sierra Blanca
view and cascading stream from the deck of this 3 bed-
room, 2 bath manufactured home - 1995 Cavco with nice
landscaping, secluded feeling, walk to National Forest.
\$89,000.00.

OWNER MUST SELL! 1977 3 bedroom, 2 bath
mobile located on 2.5 acres. Views and a great
place for horses and other livestock. Possible
owner financing. \$40,000.00.

READY TO RETIRE? Great location just
north of Cree Meadows Golf Course. Very
comfortable, well built, one level, 3 bedroom,
2.75 bath home with city utilities. Super for all
seasons with easy access. \$187,500.00.

MOUNTAIN CABIN! Small one bed-
room, 1 bath weekend or summer
cabin on nice lot with tall pines. Fully
furnished, cute and affordable at
\$38,500.00.

THE PRICE AGAIN!! Roomy 4 bedroom, 2 bath
modular with split floor plan and lots of built in
extras. Good condition, large deck with beautiful
view of Ruidoso. \$82,000.00.

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Moving
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NEWLY REPAINTED
3BDRM/2-3/4BA with large
heated sunporch that could
be a 4th bedroom. Carport; 2
storage buildings, large lot
with easy access, no stairs,
remodeled in 1994. 103
Chelsea St. Please call Dick
Webster Tall Pines Realty,
257-7788.

GORGEOUS CEDAR
HOME AT CREE
MEADOWS

3BD / 3BA, fireplace,
large windows, wheel-
chair access, approx.
3,000 sq. ft., ceiling fans,
dog runs, beautiful yard &
trees - 110 Sarah Lane.
Call Ann at Total Real
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FULLY FURNISHED HOME
Really sharp, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home built in 1986. Vaulted
ceilings, cozy fireplace, nice loft room, light & open floor plan,
cherry kitchen. Don't miss out on this one! \$149,900.
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CALL SCOTT MILLER at 257-9057

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Rambling, one-level with private guest suite, big covered
porch, gameroom w/full size shuffleboard and bar. Office,
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CALL DOUG SIDDENS at 336-4248

NICE MOBILE ON BIG LOT
16x80, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Spaciously designed with large
suite separate from other bedrooms. Cathedral ceil-
ings in living room. Big kitchen & dining area. \$58,900.
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CALL KATHY CRAIG at 257-9057

DELIGHTFUL RUIDOSO SUMMER CABIN
Fully furnished on almost 1/2 acre. Two bedrooms, 1 bath,
rough hewn beamed ceilings, cozy rock fireplace. Sliding
glass doors open onto wide deck. Near Cedar Creek and sur-
rounded by tall pines. \$58,000. #98-81908
CALL PEGGY JORDAN at 257-9057



SUPERBI!
Quality home with elegant decor. Huge Sierra Blanca view. Very
Impressive! Fourth bedroom can be study or office. Alto Lakes
Golf & Country Club full membership included. \$625,000.
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CALL COLLEEN WILSON or SUSAN P. MILLER at 336-4248

FULLY FURNISHED CONDO
Whispering Bluff - 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths. Nice decks, paved
access, city utilities. Just move right in. Price reduced! Now
just \$49,000! #98-80432

CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE at 257-9057

VALLEY VIEWS
Terrific 3/1 mobile home with add-on. Free-standing fireplace,
barn/workshop. Location in Valley Heights on .85 acre with
great trees. \$52,500. #98-81888

CALL GEORGIA UNDERWOOD at 257-9057

MOBILE HOME ON 1.2 ACRES
Very well kept 2 bedroom, 1 bath with covered porch and
great view of Sierra Blanca. Chain-link fence around big yard.
Horses allowed. Just \$39,500. #98-81909
CALL KIMBLE L. KEARNS at 257-9057

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Two bedroom mobile home on 1.2 horse acres \$39,500; 3
acres with mountain views \$15,000; Tree covered lot, mobile
homes okay, \$8,000; Alto Golf Membership buildable lot,
\$23,000; Level lot near Mechem, mobile homes okay, \$10,000.

ENJOY A BREATHTAKING
view from the covered decks of this
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1440 square foot
double wide on .65 acres. This
home is fully furnished and has a
big fireplace. It is priced to sell at a
great value. \$59,000.

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REALTY

CUTE MOUNTAIN CABIN! Charm and charac-
ter surround this 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home.
Located close to shopping and area attractions,
yet still in the pines. Price includes satellite and
components. Some knotty pine! Truly afford-
able! Only \$55,000.

GREAT FIRST OR SECOND HOME! Quality
furnishings including built-in entertainment center
come with this 2 bedroom, 2 bath home.
Fireplace, utility room and a 1-car carport.
Paved drive. Nicely landscaped and a soft
Sierra Blanca view. Only \$115,000.

JUST LISTED - CUTE AS A BUTT! Metal
roof and stucco show off this darling almost
new 2 bedroom, 3/4 bath home. Fireplace, stor-
age, 1-car protection, paved drive and more.
Neat and clean and fully furnished for only
\$89,500.

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Spacious, one-level 3 bedroom, 2 bath
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garage, large closets and more. Close to
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Only \$149,500!

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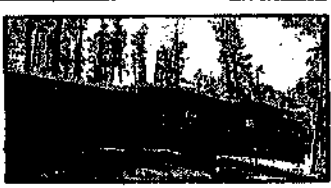
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NEW HOME
One-level, 3 bedroom, 2 bath
floor plan. Location in White
Mountain Estates. Fireplace,
wood ceilings, radiant hot
water heat, attached double
carport. \$97,500. #98-80345
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 420-3807



PARK-LIKE SETTING
Three bedroom, 2 bath home on
2.3 gorgeous acres. Great floor-
plan! Huge decks, outdoor hot tub.
Views and seclusion. \$225,000.
Two additional 2-acre tracts also
available. #98-81108
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 420-3807

FANTASTIC SIERRA BLANCA VIEW
Four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home (master
bedroom on entry level with private deck).
Views from every room! Roof just one
year old. Great location in White Mountain
Estates. \$225,000.
#98-81108
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 420-3807



EXTRA AFFORDABLE, fully furnished mobile home on nice lot
in quiet area. JUST \$33,000. Great owner financing!
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 420-3807

UPPER CANYON AREA
4 bedroom, 2 bath.
Vaulted ceiling, fireplace,
laundry area, antique
bath, excellent condition,
built 1990, 1754 sq. ft.
\$108,000 257-7415

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mobile home, 2 bdrm, 1.5 ba,
clean, comfortable, a/c
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\$100. \$95.00 Gas interior
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STEEL BUILDINGS, NEVER
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was \$19,990 will sell for
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Christmas-imaginations! Visit
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Why wait? Best prices paid
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37 Wanted to Buy

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38 Help Wanted

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Appliance and electronic
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RNs & LPNs
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Ruidoso Care Center
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Human Resources at
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GET PAID \$15 - \$30 PER
HOUR processing insurance
claims for local doctors office.
Complete training provided.
Computer required. Call
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WORKERS Looking for year
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Nursing Assistants needed for a long term facility. We
will pay you while you train. Shift differential. Benefits
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Contact Therese at 257-9071.

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Join the premier ski school in the southwest.
Full-time and part-time work available.
ANNUAL HIRING CLINIC:
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Contact Scott Goeller at 336-4356, ext. 120.

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Temporary, Part-time Faculty
The Ruidoso Center is seeking a part-time,
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A Master's degree in the respective academic disci-
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Interested applicants should bring a letter of inter-
est, a current resume and transcripts to:
Dr. Jim Miller, Center Director
Ruidoso Center of ENMU
709 Mechem Drive
Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345
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visit http://www.enmu.edu/Ruidoso
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Applications accepted until Friday, Dec. 15, 1998

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED
Full or Part-time. Above min-
imum salary. Apply in person
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Help needed for Midtown
cabin operation. Above min-
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hours guaranteed. Reference
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Ruidoso Ford - Lincoln -
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CATTLE BARON Restaurant
is now accepting applications
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Health benefits available and
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THE TOWN OF ESTANCIA
is seeking applications for
the position of Police Officer.
Applicants must be 21 years
of age; must have a high
school diploma or GED; no
criminal history or adverse
driving record. New Mexico
certification is preferred. A
background investigation will
be performed. Salary DOE.
Applications may be obtained
at the Town of Estancia of-
fice, 517 Williams Avenue,
Estancia, NM 87018 or you
may call at 384-2708 Mon-
day-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00
p.m. Application deadline is
December 7, 1998 at 5:00
p.m. The Town of Estancia re-
serves the right to accept
and/or reject any and/or all
applications. We are an
Equal Opportunity Employer.

SAFE DRIVERS NEEDED.
Apply anytime. Pizza Hut,
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Is expanding their
sales staff.
We provide training
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programs. Minimum qualifi-
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1. High School Diploma and
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2. Strong written, verbal and
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3. Bilingual (Spanish/
English) preferred.
Only fully-qualified individuals
need inquire. Application
deadline is Monday, Decem-
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HIRING all positions. Apply in
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Apply in person.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Candidates should possess a
background in sales, with an
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Excellent verbal and written
skills are necessary to suc-
ceed in this financially reward-
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dates should submit a re-
sume with cover letter and
references. Please include a
writing sample. Salary is paid
from commission. This is a
full-time position. Apply at
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EOE/M-F.

HELP WANTED: all positions
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MR BURGER NEEDS EXPERIENCED PART-TIME
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Front Counter person. Apply
in person. 1203 Mechem

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heating, cooling, tech./
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ing industry. If you are look-
ing for a career with excellent
benefits and outstanding pay,
call Nathan at
1-800-568-9229 or
1-800-568-9232 Monday-
Friday, 8am-5pm. O/O aver-
age .91 cpm.

OTHER DRIVERS LOOKING
for new opportunity? The
TLO Companies offers great
benefits and opportunity to
work near home across
the U.S. Curious? Call for in-
formation 1-877-819-4852.

ACCOUNTANT: Immediate
opening. Full-time year-round
newly created position for
individual with excellent full-
charge bookkeeping, com-
puter and spreadsheet skills
who has successfully com-
pleted formal accounting
courses to work in all areas
of business operation including
general ledger, bank reconcil-
iation, payables, receivables,
payroll and revenue au-
diting. Please submit your
resume to: Controller,
Ruidoso Downs Race-track
and Casino, P.O. Box 448
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88348
(No Phone calls please).

WANTED MAINTENANCE
Person for Condominium Com-
plex. Carpentry, Electrical,
Plumbing skills desirable. Will
consider person with limited
skills, that would like to learn.
Only a steady dedicated
person with hand tools will be
considered. Good salary and
benefits. Immediate open-
ings. Call for interview,
338-4377.

**NOW HIRING ALL POSI-
TIONS** at High Country
Lodge, Highway 48 & Alto.

DRIVER COVENANT
Transport. Coast to coast
runs. Teams start \$35-\$37.
\$1,000 Sign-on Bonus for
Exp. Co. Drivers, for experi-
enced drivers and owner
operators. 1-800-441-4384.
For Graduate Students
1-800-338-6428.

**LINCOLN COUNTY
GRILL**
Now Hiring All
Positions
Top Salaries
Paid Vacation
Health Insurance
2717 Sudderth
Ruidoso

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS:
HS grads. Excellent paid
training. 17-28. Must be will-
ing to relocate. 1-800-354-
8627

THE VILLAGE OF Capitán is
seeking applications for a full
time New Mexico Certified or
Uncertified Police Officer.
\$1200-\$1400 depending on
experience. Uniform
allowance and benefits. Must
reside in Capitán. Complete
job description and applica-
tions available at the
Village of Capitán, P.O. Box
248, Capitán, NM 88316.
Phone 505-354-2247.
Applications will be accepted
until 4:00pm December
4, 1998.

THE TOWN OF ESTANCIA
is seeking applicants for the
position of Police Chief. Applica-
nts must be 21 years of
age; must have a high school
diploma or GED; no criminal
history or adverse driving
record. New Mexico certifi-
cation is a must. Background
investigation will be
performed. Salary DOE. Will
be required to reside in
Estancia or within five (5)
miles of Estancia. Applica-
tions may be obtained at the
Town of Estancia office, 517
Williams Avenue, Estancia,
NM 87018 or call the office at
384-2708 Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Application deadline is De-
cember 7, 1998 at 5:00 p.m.
The Town of Estancia re-
serves the right to accept
and/or reject any and/or
all applications.

CONSULTANTS NEEDED
New Mexico Human Services
Department seeks consul-
tants for intensive planning,
coordination, and community
development, at the local
level for welfare reform/
workforce development.
Will include creating com-
munity councils and guiding
Councils in developing a
comprehensive plan. Applica-
nts must be individuals or
private nonprofit community
based organizations with
strong experience in needs
assessments, program de-
velopment, community de-
velopment, and strategic plan-
ning. Must have strong man-
agement and facilitation skills
to effectively mobilize com-
munities around this complex
program. Applicants sought
for the Lincoln County area.
Applicants must be available
for intensive work from mid-
Nov to Feb. Submit a letter of
interest to HSD, Office of the
Secretary, P.O. Box 2948,
Santa Fe, NM 87504 no later
than 5 p.m., December 15,
1998. Include: resume show-
ing experience and qualifica-
tions, writing sample, state-
ment certifying availability,
proposed county or counties
to be served. Contracts will
not exceed \$20,000. For
more info call (505)
843-6833. HSD does not dis-
criminate on grounds of race,
color, national origin, sex,
sexual preference, age, handi-
cap, or religion.

GENERAL SERVICES
Law & Maintenance
Professional help
needed. Excellent
team work environ-
ment. Good pay, year-
round work.
Call 258-1555

DRIVE FOR STEVENS
TRANSPORT Need Train-
ing? We'll pay the cost! Call
now about enrolling in this 3
week course at US Truck
Driving School
1-888-286-8617.

DRIVERS: Do you want:
Great pay! Lots of Miles!
Home often! Are you 23+
with CDL-A, 8 mos experience?
Then call Continental
Express 1-800-745-9670,
1-800-685-4473.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS For
One Skilled Carpenter &
Laborer, call 378-4431, ext.
222 for appointment.

AVON PRODUCTS - Start
your own business. Work
flexible hours. Enjoy un-
limited earnings. Call toll free
(888)942-4053.

OFFICE HELP WANTED:
Village Hardware, 2815 Sud-
derth Dr. Computer experi-
ence necessary. Apply in
person only.

COOKS & Servers
needed at Farley's
Health benefits plus
401(k) plan available.
Apply in person at
1200 Mechem.

NIGHT AUDITOR NEEDED:
11-7 shift. Apply in person at
Super 8 Motel, Hwy. 70
West.

WAITSTAFF NEEDED: Must
be 21 years old. Apply any-
time. Pizza Hut, 1201
Mechem.

MR BURGER NEEDS EXPERIENCED PART-TIME
COOK and experienced
Front Counter person. Apply
in person. 1203 Mechem

JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER
heating, cooling, tech./
interior needed. Must have
valid N.M. drivers license.
Call 605-822-1949 for in-
terview.

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JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER
heating, cooling, tech./
interior needed. Must have
valid N.M. drivers license.
Call 605-822-1949 for in-
terview.

NOW ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS for our
management team at Pizza
Hut on Sudderth. Apply in
person.

ATTENTION! Delivery
drivers needed. Make up to
\$12.50 per hr. Apply at both
Pizza Huts 257-5181 or
258-3033.

HOUSEKEEPER \$7.50/HR
at local cottage estab-
lishment, references re-
quired, 257-2557.

CASA BLANCA is accepting
applications for all positions.
Looking for people willing to
work hard and get paid well.
Apply in person 501 Mechem
Dr.

39 Work Wanted
**HONEST, DEPEND-
ABLE.** No job too small.
Trash hauling, Pine
needle raking/removal,
mowing, landscaping,
window washing, house
cleaning, wedding.
430-6946, 354-2803.

HANDYMAN, 20 YRS Car-
penter Experience! Free
estimates. Please call,
258-5036.

KUSTOM COUNTERS
Custom
Formica Fabricating
Kitchen & Bathroom
Counter Tops
Avonite • Gibraltar
Solid Surface Products
Certified Installer
Marble Bath
Kitchen and Bath
Cabinetry
Sales & Installation
SCOTT D. TREMBLAY
505-338-8284
Cell 338-83046

HOUSE CLEANING: Re-
ferences. After Party
Cleanup! 378-5385.

Brilliant Construction
Thomas Brillante
General Contractor
Redwood Decks • Remodeling
• Painting
258-5198
Cell 338-6310-08 68

**GARDEN GREEN & SUPER
CLEAN** - powerwashing,
deck, refinishing, yardwork,
plank, needles, roofs, gutters,
hailing, odd jobs, estimates.
257-2172, 420-5225.

David Fryer
General Contractor
257-2410
Building - Remodeling
Lic. #55166

NEED MUSIC FOR YOUR
Christmas Party? Call Frank
Hanwright at 257-5575;
Sings Country Western to
Easy Listening.

**J.F.
CONSTRUCTION INC.**
License #28161 • Bonded & Insured
Commercial & Residential
Construction
New Construction, Additions,
Remodeling, Deck Repairs,
Roofing, Masonry, Sheetrock
Repair, Insurance Work.
No Job Too Small!
No Job Too Large!
Quality Work
All Work Guaranteed
257-7818

40 Services
**RUIDOSO
BOOKKEEPING
SERVICE**
REASONABLE RATES
CUSTOMIZED SERVICE
(505) 257-4065

RAY PARRISH CONSTRUCTION
"Quality Workmanship • No job too large or too small"
Commercial • New Home • Remodeling
Furniture • Displays
420-5095 • 257-3230 • 257-9256
GB98 Licensed & Bonded - Lic #80184

DEPENDABLE BABY
Sitting. Meals Included. Flex-
ible hours. Call 257-3768.

41 House Sitting
HOUSE SITTING: CARING
for your home (and pets) with
love and respect. Available
for the Holidays. References,
Call Kell 257-1109.

42 Child Care
DEPENDABLE BABY
Sitting. Meals Included. Flex-
ible hours. Call 257-3768.

43 Personal
PREGNANT? NEED HELP?
Pregnancy Crisis Center.
Free pregnancy test. Caring
and confidential assistance.
258-1800

44 Firewood for Sale
FIREWOOD: SEASONED,
SPLIT Various types, lengths
and amounts. Delivered and
stacked. Available everyday.
257-5806.

"THE FIREWOOD GUYS"
Pine Fir, \$120/cord; Cedar,
Juniper and Mesquite, \$140/
cord, Oak, \$160/cord; Free
delivery! Call 257-0031 or
257-8374.

**QUALITY SEASONED
FIREWOOD** - Juniper,
Cedar, or Pinon. Delivery or
pickup. Commercial wood
sales also. Reasonable
prices. Call Preston Stone
354-2366

45 Auctions
Sun. • December 6 • 10:00 AM
Carrizozo Auction Co. • Hwy 380 W.
Carrizozo, NM • Auction Signs Posted

MINI STORAGE SUNDAY
1st Sunday - Every Month - 1:00 P.M.
●AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Large mini storage
sale this month, including one unit of tools;
Kenmore washer & dryer; Great ski gear; Radial
arm & table saw; Furniture & appliances; Sev.
"brand new" hydraulic carousels; Over
100 unpacked boxes; Sev. locked trunks;
Heaters; Fans; ACs; Coolers; MUCH MORE!

NOTE: All packed goods will be unpacked in
front of you to view and bid on; All locked trunks,
etc., will be cut open in front of you! "FUN!"
●SPECIAL MENTION: All remaining artifacts,
rifles, pistols, badges, pottery, knives, glass-
ware...will be sold. Also sev. tables of Christmas
decor, sev. cases of assorted freeze dried foods.
●TERMS: Cash, check w/positive I.D.
NO CREDIT CARDS!! BIG SALE!
CARRIZOZO AUCTION CO. - 505-648-6217
(Over 20 years Professional Service -
Over 2000 Successful Auctions)
COL. SWEDE L. SWEDEEN, P.A.I.

NOW OPEN! Carpet Connection NOW OPEN!
Furniture
1509 Sudderth Dr. • 257-8427
Ray & Melva Pack
Hours: M-F 8am-5pm • Sat. 9am-2pm
•Carpet •Tile •Vinyl •Hardwood •Furniture

T.L.C. CONSTRUCTION and
(Painting), needs work, Ex-
terior oil painting, carpentry, re-
modeling, basement apart-
ments, decks, any and all con-
struction. Native Ruidosolan,
Licensed, 338-9118.

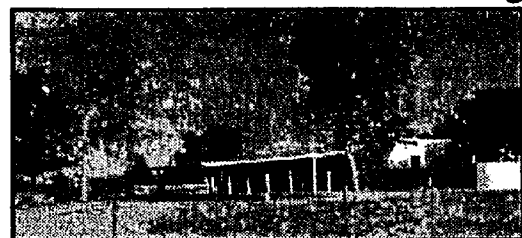
MOTHERLY LOVE CHILD
CARE 24 Hrs, 7 Days. Atten-
tive care with interactive age
appropriate activities. Pre-
school program. Licensed.
378-1243, 378-4334

TALL PINES REALTY

2704 Sudderth • 257-7786 • 800-257-7786

Johnny Mobley 257-5485 Multi-Million Dollar Producer
Mark Mobley 257-3890 Multi-Million Dollar Producer
Dick Weber 336-7711 Multi-Million Dollar Producer
Pat Brown 257-7416 Multi-Million Dollar Producer
Charlene Marinick 257-3620
Rob Baldwin 336-5648
Mary Lou York 336-9154
Over 20 Years Experience

Feature of the Week



HACIENDA ON THE RIVER!!

38 acres, 18 acres water rights with remodeled 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-car garage with covered swimming pool, kiva fireplace, tile floors etc...plus 2 bedroom caretakers house. \$750,000.

TALL PINES IN NICE SETTING with this newly painted 3 bedroom, 3 1/4 bath with large heated sunporch that could be a 4th bedroom. Carport, 2 storage buildings, large lot, easy access, no stairs, remodeled in 1994. \$94,000.

VIEW OF THE CAPTAINS with this fairly new 3 bedroom, 2 bath double wide with nice decks on 3.3 fully fenced acres with fruit trees and 2 storage sheds. \$114,900.

***** LOTS and LOTS of LOTS *****

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS, FLAT ACCESS, PRIVACY!!! What more could you ask for. Your own walking trail in your own forest, city utilities, great access. You need to see these lots in Buena Vista Estates, the preferred address in Ruidoso.

ALSO, ALTO SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP. Make an offer!!!

Se Habla Español

the purpose of submitting to all qualified electors a public school capital improvements tax question.

Section 2. The County Clerk of Lincoln County is the proper filing officer and the county clerk of record and shall conduct this Election in accordance Election Code, except as otherwise provided in the School Election Law, being Sections 1-22-1 through 1-22-19, NMSA 1978.

Section 3. The following positions on the Board shall be filled by a vote of the qualified voters:

Position 1: a four year term commencing March 1, 1999.

Position 2: a four year term commencing March 1, 1999, and

Position 3: a four year term commencing March 1, 1999.

Section 4. Declarations of candidacy and a sworn statement of intent are to be filed with the County Clerk of Lincoln County, in Carizozo, New Mexico, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on December 15, 1998, being the thirty-fifth day before the Election.

Section 5. At such Election, the following public school capital improvements tax question shall also be submitted to the qualified, registered electors of the District:

"Shall the Board of Education of Ruidoso Municipal School District No. 3, Lincoln County, New Mexico, be authorized to impose a property tax of \$2.00 per each \$1,000 of net taxable value of the property allocated to the District under the Property Tax Code for the property tax years 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 for the purpose of the following capital improvements in the District, i.e., erecting, remodeling, making additions to, providing equipment for or furnishing public school buildings; purchasing or improving public school grounds; purchasing, computer hardware and software for student use in public school classrooms; and maintenance of public school buildings or public school grounds exclusive of salary expenses of employees of the District, and purchasing activity vehicles for transporting students to extracurricular school activities?"

Section 6. The polls shall be open between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on the Election day.

Section 7. All Lincoln County general election precincts wholly or partially within the District shall be consolidated into a single precinct for this Election. Qualified voters of the District shall vote at the polling place located below (except for the absent voters precinct):

CONSOLIDATED PRECINCT ONE

Consisting of all Lincoln County general election precincts that are wholly or partially within the Ruidoso Municipal School District No. 3.

POLLING PLACE: Ruidoso Civic Events Center 111 Sierra Blanca Drive Ruidoso, New Mexico

ABSENT VOTERS PRECINCT

For voters who are absentee for any precinct within Ruidoso Municipal School District No. 3.

POLLING PLACE: Office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County Lincoln County Courthouse Carizozo, New Mexico

Section 8. Absentee voting will be permitted as authorized by Section 1-22-19, NMSA 1978, and the Absent Voter Act of the Election Code, i.e., Sections 1-6-1 through 1-6-18, NMSA 1978 and 1-6A-1 et seq., NMSA.

Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained from the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, Lincoln County Courthouse, in Carizozo, New Mexico.

Absentee ballots of District voters may be marked in person at the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, Lincoln County Courthouse, in Carizozo, New Mexico, commencing at 8:00 a.m. Friday, January 8, 1999,

being the twenty-fifth day preceding the Election, until 5:00 p.m. January 29, 1999, being the Friday immediately prior to the Election. On the day of Election, the County Clerk of Lincoln County shall deliver the absentee ballots and other related material to the absentee ballot precinct board which may be a regular precinct board.

Section 9. The County Clerk of Lincoln County is required by law to close the registration books for the Election at 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 1999, and a person will be allowed to vote only if he or she is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age on the day of the Election, a resident of the District, and registered to vote in the District at 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 1999.

Section 10. Voting shall be by voting machine, except for absentee voting which may be by paper ballot. At least one voting machine shall be used at the polling place.

Section 11. The tax contemplated by the public school capital improvements tax question shall be in addition to any tax imposed to pay debt service on any bonds or for any other purpose. Such capital improvements shall be authorized pursuant to the Public School Capital Improvements Act, i.e., Sections 22-5-1 through 22-5-10, NMSA 1978.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of November, 1998.

/s/James Paxton President (SEA)

Attest: /s/Karen J. Anderson Secretary

1924 1T(12)4

LEGAL NOTICE

PROCLAMACION DE ELECCION

Sección 1. El 2do día de febrero de 1999, tendrá lugar en el Distrito Escolar Municipal No. 3 de Ruidoso, Condado de Lincoln, Nuevo México (el "Distrito") una elección escolar regular del distrito (la "Elección") para el propósito de someter a los electores calificados del Distrito los nombres de los candidatos para tres posiciones en el Consejo de Educación del Distrito (el "Consejo") y para el propósito de someter a los electores calificados del Distrito una pregunta de impuestos de mejoramientos capitales de escuelas públicas.

Sección 2. El Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln es el oficial de registro apropiado y el escribano del condado de record y deberá conducir esta Elección de acuerdo con el Código de Elecciones, excepto como esta de otra manera provisto en la Ley de Elecciones Escolares, siendo Secciones 1-22-1 hasta 1-22-19, NMSA 1978.

Sección 3. Las siguientes posiciones en el Consejo serán llenadas por voto de los votantes calificados:

Posición 1: un término de cuatro años comenzando el 1 de marzo de 1999.

Posición 2: un término de cuatro años comenzando el 1 de marzo de 1999, y

Posición 3: un término de cuatro años comenzando el 1 de marzo de 1999.

Sección 4. Declaraciones de candidatura y una declaración jurada de intención deben ser registradas con el Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln, en Carizozo, Nuevo México, entre las horas de 9:00 a.m. y 5:00 p.m. el 15 de diciembre de 1998, siendo el tercer martes en diciembre. Candidatos deben ser residentes del Distrito a partir de la fecha de

esta proclamación. Una declaración de intención para ser un candidato por escrito debe ser registrada con el Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln, en Carizozo, Nuevo México, antes de las 5:00 p.m. el 29 de diciembre de 1998, siendo el trigésimo-quinto día antes de la Elección.

Sección 5. En dicha Elección la siguiente pregunta de impuestos de mejoramientos capitales de escuelas públicas también será sometida a los electores calificados, registrados del Distrito:

"¿Deberá ser autorizado el Consejo de Educación del Distrito Escolar Municipal No. 3 de Ruidoso, Condado de Lincoln, Nuevo México, a imponer un impuesto de propiedad de \$2.00 por cada \$1,000 del valor neto de la propiedad sujeta a impuestos ubicada al Distrito bajo el Código de Impuestos de Propiedad para los años de impuestos de propiedad de 1999, 2000, 2001 y 2002 para el propósito de los siguientes mejoramientos capitales en el Distrito, es decir, erigir, renovar, hacer adiciones a, o proveer equipo para o amueblar edificios de escuelas públicas; comprando o mejorando terrenos de escuelas públicas; comprando equipo de computadoras y software para uso de estudiantes en salones de clases de escuelas públicas; o comprando vehículos de actividades para transportar a los estudiantes a actividades escolares extracurriculares?"

Sección 6. Los papeles de votación estarán abiertos entre las horas de 7:00 a.m. y 7:00 p.m. el día de la Elección.

Sección 7. Todos los precinctos de elección general del Condado de Lincoln enteramente o parcialmente dentro del Distrito serán consolidados en un solo precincto para esta Elección. Votantes calificados del Distrito votarán en el paraje de votación de abajo (excepto por el precincto de votantes ausentes):

PRECINCTO CONSOLIDADO UNO

Consistiendo de todos los precinctos de elección general del Condado de Lincoln que están enteramente o parcialmente dentro del Distrito Escolar Municipal No. 3 de Ruidoso.

PARAJE DE VOTACION: Centro de Eventos Cívicos de Ruidoso

111 Sierra Blanca Drive Ruidoso, Nuevo México

PRECINCTO DE VOTANTES AUSENTES

Para votantes que están ausentes para cualquier precincto dentro del Distrito Escolar Municipal No. 3 de Ruidoso.

PARAJE DE VOTACION: Oficina del Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln, Casa de Corte del Condado de Lincoln

Carizozo, Nuevo México

Sección 8. Votación por ausentes será permitida como esta autorizada por Sección 1-22-19, NMSA 1978, y el Acta de Votantes Ausentes del Código de Elecciones, es decir, Secciones 1-6-1 hasta 1-6-18, NMSA 1978 y 1-6A-1 et seq., NMSA.

Aplicaciones para boletos de ausentes pueden ser obtenidos de la oficina del Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln, Casa de Corte del Condado de Lincoln, en Carizozo, Nuevo México. Boletos de ausentes de los votantes del Distrito pueden ser marcados en persona en la oficina del Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln, Casa de Corte del Condado de Lincoln, Carizozo, Nuevo México, comenzando a las 8:00 a.m. el viernes, 8 de enero de 1999, siendo el vigésimo-quinto día inmediatamente anterior a la Elección, hasta las 5:00 p.m. el 29 de enero de 1999, siendo el viernes inmediatamente anterior a la Elección. En el día de la Elección, el Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln entregará los boletos de ausentes y otro material relacionado al consejo del precincto de boletos de ausentes que puede ser un consejo regular de precincto.

Sección 9. El Escribano del Condado del Condado de Lincoln esta requerido por ley a cerrar los libros de registra-

Public Liquidation Sale!

'93 Ford Tempo... \$4,397
'96 Suzuki Sidekick, 4x4, 4 Dr... \$10,750
'97 Ford F-150, 3 Dr, SC, 4x4... \$19,875
'97 Ford F-150, Reg. Cab... \$13,200
'96 Chevy K1500 Ext. Cab, 4x4... \$17,800
'96 Chevy Cavalier... \$6,995
'95 Ford Aspire... \$4,150
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All vehicles have new factory warranty or 100% limited warranty. Pick your financing to fit your budget from zero down.

We have the LARGEST selection of 4 wheel drive vehicles in our history and more arriving every day!

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'96 Toyota Rav 4 4x4, A/C, cassette Starting at \$297 per month	2 - '94 Geo Trackers 4x4, auto, A/C, cassette, starting at \$8,995	'93 Ford Aerostar AWD, Fully loaded, V-6, automatic Starting at \$199 per month
'95 1/2 Isuzu Rodeo 4 Dr 4x4, A/C, V-6, cassette Starting at \$17,995	'95 Nissan Pathfinder 4 dr, 4x4, leather interior, moon roof, power windows & lock Starting at \$18,997	'96 Subaru Outback SW Fully loaded, power windows & locks Starting at \$319 per month

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 98-8

The Village of Captain Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on December 14, 1998 at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall Bldg for the purpose of discussing establishing Ordinance 98-8. Assessment Fees that would be used to purchase heavy equipment and add an addition to Village Hall. A separate assessment fee will also be discussed to purchase gravel for roads in the subdivision areas. The Ordinance 98-8 will be considered for adoption at the regular council meeting to be held on December 14, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall Bldg. The public is encouraged to attend. /s/ Deborah Cummins Clerk-Treasurer, CMC Village of Captain 1931 3T(12)4,9,11

YARD SALES

CAPTAIN: SATURDAY
ONLY Hwy 48, near Village Hall. Furniture, appliances, clothes, misc. 9am-7pm

FRIDAY, SAT, BAKERS RACK
stereo, shelving, pillows, curtains, also 4 place hand crafted display case \$500. Secretary desk \$75, 8 ft. Spanish credenza \$300, twin bed \$30, book case display \$75. 315 Hwy 70 E.

113 BUTLER STREET:
Moving sale, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Misc. furniture, household items. Everything must go! NO EARLY BIRDS! Please Dealers make offer.

SATURDAY 5TH 601
Parkway Ruidoso Downs, clothes, furniture, etc.

"LA TIENDA CHIQUITA"
Gigantic moving sale! Everything must go. A lot of \$1.00 items. Sale starts December 4th till all gone. 648 Sudderth, 257-3183

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

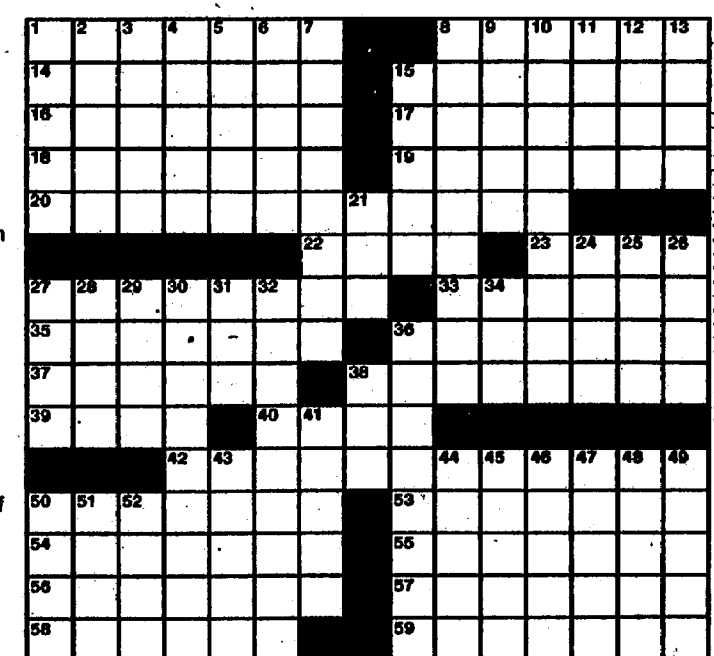
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0103

- ACROSS**
- Just sit, as soup or coffee
 - Empire State leader
 - Island song a.k.a. "Farewell to Thee"
 - Emulate Bobby Shaftoe
 - Becomes bored with
 - Like Romeo and Juliet, in Act II
 - 1980's Attorney General
 - Takes care of
 - Tank carrier?
 - Toodle-oo
 - Bugs in lines
 - Flickering
 - Easily tripped up
 - Jam-packed
 - Think about, at night
 - Mountaineer's descent
 - Well-schooled
 - Prefix with scope
 - As mentioned
 - Certain mounts
 - 1988 earthquake site
 - Cry at a basketball arena
 - Ahead
 - Blow up
 - One out?
 - Pussyfooted
 - Kitchen drawer gadget
 - Monthly since 1850
- DOWN**
- Protected, as an estate
 - Skip
 - "Careless Hands" singer, 1949
 - Aviary sound
 - Desert dreams, perhaps
 - Of doubtful morals
 - Got the better of
 - Engage in bar-hopping?
 - Expiate, with "for"
 - A-one
 - Without warranty
 - Fictional suit-changer
 - Globe plotter
 - Boorish joker's question
 - es Salaam
 - Wine county
 - Race pace
 - "Auld Lang"
 - Growing room
 - Mom's mom
 - "Dragnet" org.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RED YAM BATTLE
ALI BASE INURES
CIVILWAR STREEP
THEHAPPYHOOKER
SUDAN LYNN
DDAY PSYCHED
ASH EXEG HALE
LEE PRESSONNAILS
OGRE AWAY LEI
TABASCO ETTU
COMA ISACT
SHERMANHEMSLEY
THE TAB GENERALS
EUROPE LADS RIO
ATONED ELS MEN



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- Took unfair advantage of
- Fr. title
- Alice's restaurant?
- Word in society
- Fries, usually
- Count Basie's "Darlin'"
- "Haste makes waste," e.g.
- Like a crane
- Reddish-brown
- Submit
- Pass twice
- Weave in and out
- Aromatic chemical
- Offspring
- Chow chow, maybe
- Bring in the sheaves
- Moon feature

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Apr 4, 1998 • Ruidoso News • Section C

Vámonos!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT IN LINCOLN COUNTY



Get in the
spirit at
The Festival
of Trees

page 8C



The Nutcracker
comes to life

inside

The Arts

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Going Out

8

Past Tense

10

ON THE COVER



Meredith Keeton

BALLET NEW MEXICO will have the opportunity to perform The Nutcracker at the Spencer Theater Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12 and 13. For many, it will be their first time dancing on stage in a professional production. For more highlights, please see page 4C.

further inside

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- artists' show gives first glimpse of new works 4C

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- where to eat what 6C

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- movies 9C
- videos 9C

vámonos staff



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Ana Anglada,
graphic designer



Meredith Keeton,
staff writer



Sandy Suggitt,
staff writer

Vámonos!, the arts and entertainment magazine of Lincoln County, is published every Friday by the Ruidoso News. Literary submissions are welcomed. Submit for consideration to Laura Clymer, Vámonos! editor, P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355, or call 505.257.4001.



257-9444

I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)

*3:00 6:55 *9:00

A BUG'S LIFE (G)

*12:45 *2:45 4:45 6:45 *8:45

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (G)

*1:00 5:00

ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)

*1:45 4:10 7:00 *9:25

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*Friday & Saturday Only

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DANCING
ROMANCING.



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per couple

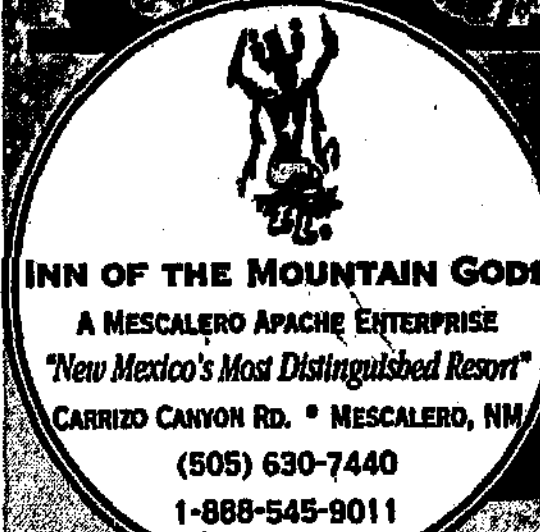
\$50⁰⁰
single

•El Paso's
The Dance Band

•Doors Open
8:30 p.m.

•Light Hors d' oeuvre

•Holiday Attire
Requested



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Art and Artifact

107 S. Lincoln Ave., Capitan, 354-2316.

A contemporary gallery featuring fine art and rare, unusual objects for collectors, housed in a 1896 bordello. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, or by appointment.

Benson Fine Art

Moving to San Patricio, 258-5113, 653-4081, or 653-4065.

The gallery is moving from Jira Plaza into an old adobe in San Patricio. During the moving time, however, the gallery's web site will be active and period artists can be viewed by calling for an appointment, 258-5113 or 653-4081.

Bonito Bronze

1204 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, 258-383

Bronze sculptor Gaylon Gillem's works. Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

California Colors

201 Country Club Rd., Ruidoso, 257-9518

Barbara Dehl-Westbrook is the artist in residence of this 5,600 square-foot gallery of art. Call for more information.

Cabin Fever at Escudilla

Log Works

320 Smokey Bear Blvd., Capitan, 354-4801
Handcrafted cabin furniture made from native woods as well as lamps, ironwork, stained glass, pottery and unique antique accessories. Open Monday through Saturday. Closed Sundays.

Chamber of Commerce Gallery

720 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-7395

Artist for December: The latest works of Jerry Rice are featured. Hours are: Monday, 9-5; Tuesday through Thursday, 8:30-5; and Friday, 8:30-4:30.

Eagle Ranch Art Gallery

7288 Hwy. 54/70, Alamogordo, 1-800-432-0999.

Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

Gail's Frame of Mind

1204 Mechem, Ruidoso, 258-9071.

An alternative gallery featuring originals by Gaylon Gillem, Denise Dorn, Iz, Mike & Georgia Lagg, Billie Long, Marcia Bizeau & Bears Tiews, Pam Topper, Jim Leasure, Rick Hall, Laurel Appel, Rand Harmon, Barbara Culler, Buddy Godinez, Bruce Chapman, Bernice Landrum, Falling Rock Pottery and Langley Tiffany Lamps. Open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Gary D. Garrett

2306 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, 257-6977

The gallery features the acrylic paintings of artist Gary Garrett.

Handwoven Designs

102 Lincoln Ave., Capitan, 354-2008

Maggie Doyle is a nationally recognized, fourth-generation hand weaver with a working weavery in Capitan. She draws inspiration from the landscapes of her New

Mexican home for her handwoven clothing. Using natural fibers, dyes, and hand-spun yarns, the garments are finished with knitted trim and eclectic buttons. Call first.

Hurd-La Rinconada Gallery

Off Hwy. 70 in San Patricio, 653-4331.

Solo show of Michael Hurd's latest works opened Aug. 16. The gallery also includes works by Peter Hurd, Henriette Wyeth Hurd, Andrew Wyeth, Jamie Wyeth, Carol Hurd, Rogers and Peter de la Fuente. Works can be viewed Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment on Sunday.

The Kenyon Thomas Gallery

546 Sudderth, Ruidoso by the traffic lights at Paradise Canyon, 257-1056.

Pottery and pastels by Kenyon Thomas, fine weavings by Marcia Thomas. Call for gallery hours.

Lincoln County Art Co-op

Four Seasons Mall at 2500 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-6906.

Twenty local artists featuring oil, pastel, acrylic, wood working, sculpture, metal art, Victorian lamps, ceramics and tile. New artists welcome. Meetings at 5:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

Lorene & Larry's

268 Main Rd. Capitan, 354-2605

Original art and watercolor painting, Southwestern prints, custom design furniture by Larry.

McGary Studios & Expressions in Bronze Gallery

2002 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-3790

Dave McGary's facility features a finishing studio and a gallery which showcases a two-decade retrospective collection of his "Images in Bronze." Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

The Montano Store

Hwy. 380, Lincoln, 653-4372.

Featuring the newly renovated store and temporary exhibits highlighting the Montano family, Hispanic contributions to the area and adobe architecture. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday to Sunday. Admission fee included in the \$5 daily pass which can be purchased at the Court House or the Lincoln County Heritage Trust at either end of town.

Mtn. Arts Gallery & Framing

2530 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-9748

The gallery features originals and prints by local artist Teri Sodd. Prints by Bill Jaxon, Michael Atkinson, Judy Larson, Dale Terbush, Robert Carver and Suanne Wamsley. Handmade artifacts, pottery, kachinas and rugs also available. Open seven days, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Museum of the Horse

Hwy. 70, Ruidoso Downs, 378-4142.

Free Spirits Juried Fine and Decorative Art Show, featuring the works of local artists. Winter hours: Museum hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Nogal Store & Gallery

Highway 37, Nogal

Featuring the works of Nogal and Lincoln County area artists and craftsmen. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday.

Quemada Studio & Gallery

2415 Sudderth Dr., #3, Ruidoso, 257-5743.

Located at LeClaire's Mountain Village. Colorful paintings of people and places. Studio hours are 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and by appointment.

Red Rose Art Studio

County Rd. E016, Hondo, 653-4203.

The studio of Hondo Valley artist Paula White features her works in oil, acrylic and porcelain in styles from impressionistic to abstract expression. Weekly classes are held on Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for hours.

Sacred Images, Angels & Icons

416 First St., Ruidoso, 257-6677

New Orleans artist Jim Leasure specializes in portraits of clients' guardian angels. He also paints angelic themed school and church murals, ceilings and walls of private homes and businesses. His studio is open to the public by appointment.

Spring Canyon Gallery

2206 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, 257-1561.

Artist Misha Malpica opens her Spring Canyon sculpturing studio to the public. Joining her is Jim Mauritsen and his works connecting stone and burlwood. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, or by appointment call 257-1561 or 257-0205.

The Tree's House

Nogal Canyon Road off Hwy. 37 between mile markers 9/10, Nogal, 354-4206.

The Lags are woodworkers who design and create a variety of functional artworks, including doors, screens and lamps. Located in Nogal at Hwy. 37 and Nogal Canyon Road.

Western Trails Gallery

320 East Smokey Bear Blvd., Capitan 354-4203.

Original western oils, a collection of quality Indian jewelry and artifacts, unique ethnographic and regional crafts. Featured artist is Jei Wei Zhou whose oil paintings take a western/ southwestern theme.

White Mtn. Pottery Gallery

2328 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-3644.

Featuring Tim Wierwille's landscaped series, Will and Johana DeMay, Chris Heede, Larry Davidson, Vicki Conley, Ivy Heyman, Alan Butler and Bill Campbell. Call for gallery hours.

White Oaks Pottery Studio and Gallery

3 1/2 miles NE of White Oaks, 648-2985.

From her adobe studio, potter Ivy Heyman makes functional porcelain, sculptures and lighting in the shadow of Patos Mountain. Enjoy a one hour drive north from Ruidoso. Open seven days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



courtesy photo

'BUFFALO' by local artist and Capitan art teacher Jerry Rice.

Rice featured artist at Chamber

Jerry Rice, perhaps best known for his pastel "Hot Lips the Purple Heifer," will display his latest works at the Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce throughout the month of December.

Rice has lived in the area for 16 years. During this time his work has been displayed at numerous local galleries and shows throughout the state. This versatile artist has experimented in many different mediums, sometimes working in acrylics, watercolors, or pastels, and sculpting in bronze.

His latest works represent a departure from past references and subject matter. Displayed will be recent pastel landscapes and sky-scapes. Southwest traditions, aes-

thetics, environment, and audience are factors that have influenced this particular approach to art.

Rice's background includes a bachelor of arts degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University, and post-graduate work in Colorado and New Mexico. Currently, Rice teaches art at Capitan High School. Previously, he lived on the Navajo reservation near Gallup where he taught art for six years. This was a significant experience for Rice, one which still exerts an influence on his perception and artistic interpretation.

Rice's work is on display at the Picture This Gallery in midtown Ruidoso.

Solo show for San Patricio artist

A collection of the work of Linda Miller, whose independent lifestyle and "old world" approach to painting and "old world" approach to painting have gained her a wide and appreciative audience, will be shown at the Museum of the Llano Estacado in Plainview, Texas, starting Dec. 6.

The one-week show, sponsored by the Plainview Chamber of Commerce, Plains Art Association and the Plainview Cultural County, celebrates Miller's unique view on art that incorporates animals, still lifes, cultural items and delicate hummingbird nests.

Miller agreed to gather her work

for the show because of her family's ties to Plainview and Wayland, Texas. A reception opening the show and sale is scheduled for 1-5 p.m. Dec. 6.

Locally, Miller shows out of her home/studio gallery in San Patricio, a stop worth the time of any collector or art student. Miller built the impressive home with the help of friends and has artfully arranged intriguing and paintable scenes in every nook and corner.

Call ahead to be sure she's home and to get directions at (505) 653-4762.



The Arts

Christmas classic takes first position on the Spencer stage

story by Meredith Keeton
VAMONOS STAFF WRITER

One of Spencer Theater contributions to the community is a chance for young performers to take their talent to the big stage.

Ballet New Mexico, led by Randall Graham who choreographs and teaches the troupe, will perform The Nutcracker at the Spencer Theater Dec. 12 and 13. The production will offer the

dancers, who are as young as 5, the unique experience of "performing on a beautiful stage in an intimate theater," said Graham.

The dancers agree with their instructor. Lauren Lahey, 13, has danced for about 11 years and appreciates the chance to perform at Spencer as well as Graham's instruction.

"Randall's technique and the way it's all put together is different than what I've seen and done with other teachers. Performing at the Spencer gives us a chance to dance on a professional stage," Lahey said.

Graham received his early dance training from the Dallas Metropolitan Ballet. He went on to dance with the Boston Ballet

Ensemble, Joffrey Ballet in New York and in Broadway productions. He is now the artistic director of Ballet New Mexico.

Ballet New Mexico, which is a non-profit organization supported by donations and volunteers on the board, will combine with professional dancers in The Nutcracker. There are more than 200 people in the cast and on the production and direction crews. The performance, though grand, is still a local production; everyone involved is from New Mexico.

Choreography for The Nutcracker began in September, with rehearsals beginning in October. The choreography and plot are somewhat different from the traditional version, offering



courtesy Herb Brunell

"NUTCRACKER" Tommie Armstrong and "Clara" Lauren Lahey



courtesy Herb Brunell

SOME MEMBERS of Ballet New Mexico are as young as 5-years-old.



Meredith Keeton

SNOWFLAKES surround two party guests.

audiences a new take on an old favorite. While some of the dancers are young, many have danced for at least seven years.

"This is my first Nutcracker. It gives these dancers invaluable experience performing. I'd like to see some of them go on to dance professionally," Graham said.

The drive that keeps the dancers on their toes throughout intense practices and rehearsals is rewarded in the performance.

Lahey said, "Getting to dance on stage and seeing the audience react is the best part."

Ballet New Mexico is a community effort. Parents and volunteers help with costumes, props and programs, and donations from local businesses help to cover expenses. Board members help to organize and support the group and its productions. "Any production is

hard, and this is a huge production and undertaking. It's all hard, but it's enjoyable at the same time," Graham said.

The payoff for parents, who are often involved is obvious. "They get to see their children on stage in a professional production," Graham said.

The community involvement, hard work of volunteers and dedication of dancers is helping to support the art form of dance in Ruidoso. "I plan on dancing throughout my life," Lahey said.

Performances will be at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater in Alto. Tickets for the 2 p.m. shows are \$12 for adults, \$5 for children. Tickets for the 7 p.m. shows are \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children. For more information contact the Spencer Box Office at 1-888-818-7872.

Nutcracker Cast

Act I

Herr Drosselmeyer - Randall Graham

Dr. Stahlbaum - Tom Arrowsmith-Lowe

Mrs. Stahlbaum - Jayne Houghton

Clara - Lauren Lahey

Fritz - Tommie Armstrong

Nanny - Alexis Hoff

Maid - Laura Houghton

Grandfather - Kiko Lopez

Party Guests - Stan Monks, Maria Monks, Dora LaBrecque, Barry LaBrecque, Marcella Garcia, Leon Eggleston, Deborah Petrone, Kathy Macintosh, David Macintosh

Clara's Friends - Katy Martin, Lauren Dunlap, Michele Raven, Munrai Davidson, Carol Sittigletary, April LaBrecque, Charlotte Pawlak, Holly Boese, Ericka Olivera, Marissa Olivera

Party Children - Aleah Topper, Megan Smith, Melody LaBrecque, Heather Jackson, Hayley Koontz, Caydee Martin, Drew Goss, Jacob Rigsby, Scott Thompson, Peter Zagone, Chase Barrow

Ballerina Doll - Sarah Monks

Soldier Doll - Jaelynn Bolden

Rat King - Robbie Schut

Nutcracker - Tommie Armstrong

Mice - Alexa Vasquez, Taylor, Vuicich, Kaylie Boswell, Jessica Rank, Jayci Rank, Cheyenne Genest, Melissa Mota, Whitney Rue, Sarah Koehler, Niki Hudson, Danielle Coleman, Katie Gomez, Victoria Arrowsmith-Lowe, Eliot Arrowsmith-Lowe, Danielle Brugink, Lindsey Porter, Calie Yaklich

Soldiers - Heather Jackson, Caydee Martin, Hayley Koontz, Rachel Levinson, Brittany Porter, Tara Mota, Elizabeth Jackson, Destiney Stubbs, Megan Mirau, Xochil Jimenez, Karissa Armijo, Megan Smith, Kendra Martin, Katy Martin, Lauren Dunlap, Docia Phillips, Charlotte Pawlak, Holly Boese, Michele Raven, Munrai

Davidson, Marissa Olivera, Ericka Olivera, April LaBrecque, Melody LaBrecque

Snow Queen - Kay Thompson-Kaplan

Snow King - Martin Murphy

Snowflakes - Lozen Linley, Jaelynn Bolden, Sarah Monks, Keely Barnett, Kristi Doyle, Laney Atherton, Alexis Hoff, Alexa Beier, Natasha Lopez, Angela Zagone, Devin Dennis, Rachel Dawson, Laura Houghton,

Snow Angels - Lauren Dunlap, Katy Martin

Act 2

Sugar Plum Fairy - Deanna Encinias

Her Cavalier - Manuel Padilla

Angels - Lozen Linley, Alexa Beier, Angela Zagone, with Rachel Levinson, Brittany Porter, Tara Mota, Elizabeth Jackson, Destiney Stubbs, Megan Mirau, Xochil Jimenez, Caydee Martin, Hayley Koontz, Heather Jackson, Melody LaBrecque, Megan Smith,

Spanish Chocolate - Rachel Dawson, Sarah Monks

Arabian Coffee - Natasha Lopez

Chinese Tea - Laura Houghton, Devin Denis

Marzipan Sheppardesses - Laney Atherton, Keely Barnett, Jaelynn Bolden, Lozen Linley

Pollichoinells - Amber Long, Mikaila Gonzales, Jamie Keaton, April LaBrecque, Melody LaBrecque, Kaitlin Keaton, Danielle Jones

Waltz of the Flowers - Rachel Dawson, Alexa Beier, Alexis Hoff, Devin Dennis, Amber Goodloe, Angela Zagone, Laura Houghton, Sarah Monks, Lozen Linley

Dew Drops - Laney Atherton, Keely Barnett, Kristi Doyle, Jaelynn Bolden

Grande Pas de Deux - Deanna Encinias, Manuel Padilla



Laura Clymer

VICKI CONLEY with a new work, "Sea Turtle," a collage

Artists' show gives first glimpse of new works

story by Laura Clymer
VAMONOS EDITOR

Trained to be a scientist, artist Vicki Conley has a great appreciation for the process. She's expressed that appreciation successfully as a potter with her functional pottery featuring a hummingbird pattern.

Now that she has more time on her hands (her children have grown), Conley has expanded her artistic horizons to include paper collage, watercolor monotype and etchings.

"The production pottery pays the bills, and now I'm trying to explore lots of art media just for my own art interest," Conley said.

Those interested in catching a first glimpse of Conley's new works plus get in a little holiday shopping can do so at the Pinon Pottery studio sale set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at Conley's home, 205 Canyon Rd., Ruidoso Downs.

Saturday's show will also feature the works of jewelry artist Donna Spray, who has explored some new media as well.

Conley said she's exploring new media, in part, for the fun of it.

"It's just a way to venture into some other artistic directions," said Conley, who plans to open a studio/gallery along Highway 70 in 1999. "I've been a exploring a whole lot of print making. I'm a process oriented person and I guess that's why I like print making or throwing pots."

Other media Conley is experimenting with are tile making and paper collage.

Spray has made jewelry since 1975, but it has only been since 1993 that she has experimented



Laura Clymer

DONNA SPRAY unveils her necklaces featuring handmade glass beads at the Saturday show.

with glass beads.

She started making her own glass beads and fused glass accents more out of necessity than anything else.

"I cut stones and built pieces around them and I needed beads to match them, so I had to learn how to

make them," Spray said.

How to get there

Take Highway 70 east through Ruidoso Downs to the Agua Fria subdivision entrance and then follow the signs to the studio.



Casino Deck Buffet

Come enjoy our newest restaurant the Casino Deck Buffet. With excellent food made by our experience chefs, and a view that never ends, you will never have to gamble again on a great place to eat.

Price Range: \$\$
Phone: 257-5141, ext. 7858
Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: Breakfast: 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Lunch: 12 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Dinner: 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.



Apache Tee Cafe

Looking for a meal with some atmosphere, take the short drive to Apache Tee. Serving up steaks, seafood and daily specials created by chef Brendon Gochenhour and drinks from the full-service bar, the Apache Tee has the best view and the friendliest staff around.

Price Range: \$\$
Phone: 257-5141
Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: Beginning December 7 ...
 Lunch: 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
 Dinner: Wed. - Sun. 5-9 p.m.
 (Closed Mondays and Tuesdays)



The InnCredible

For 30 years, The InnCredible has been treating diners to specials like Crabby Monday and Wednesday lobster, not to mention fresh fish, steaks, chicken, pasta, barbecue and more. In this business you're either great or you're history - InnCredible is both.

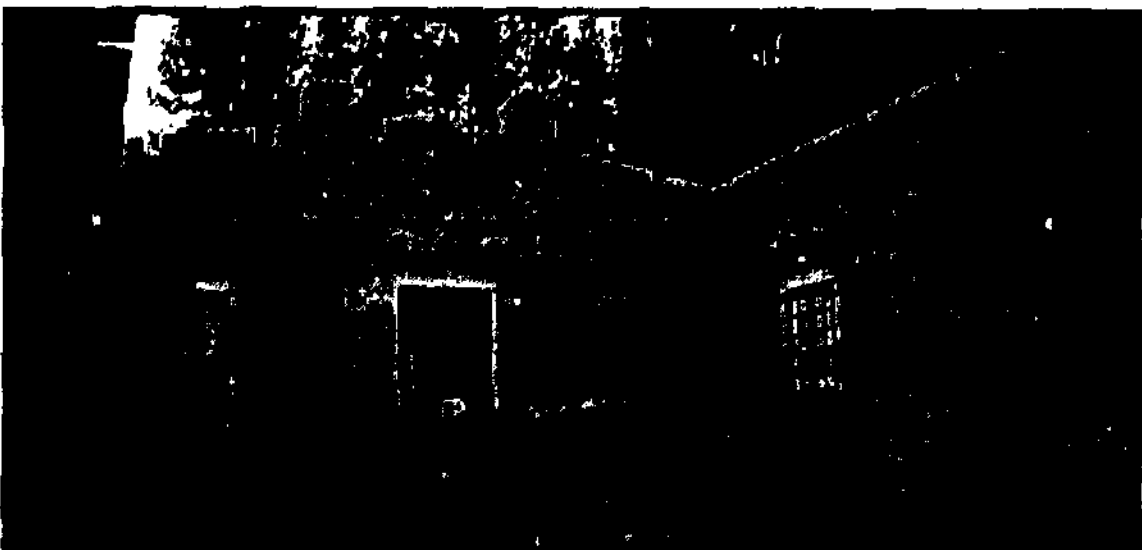
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$
Phone: 336-4312
Address: Highway 48 North at Alto Village.
Hours: The bar opens daily at 3:30 p.m. with fine dining starting at 5:30 p.m.



K Bob's Steak House

Steaks, seafood, prime rib and the best salad wagon in town await diners at K Bob's. Open since 1979, the steak house serves up some hearty country breakfasts and daily lunch and dinner specials, as well as catering for all occasions. Y'all come in.

Price Range: \$-\$\$
Phone: 378-4747
Address: West Highway 70, Ruidoso Downs
Hours: Open seven days a week at 6 a.m.



Cafe Mescalero

Fine dining in a casual atmosphere is what you'll find at Cafe Mescalero. Serving traditional Mexican food Southwest favorites for lunch and dinner.

Price Range: \$\$
Phone: 257-6693
Address: One mile south of the Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: Beginning December 8 ...
 Dinner 5-9 p.m.
 (Closed Mondays)



Dan Li Ka Dining Room

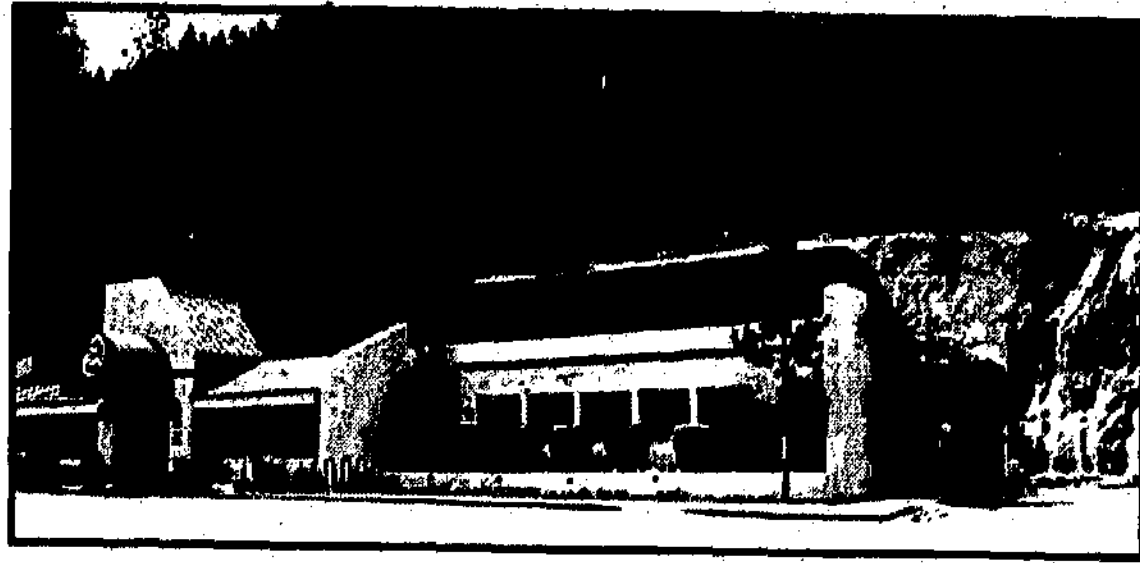
Elegant dining with fantastic views of Lake Mescalero provides the atmosphere at Dan Li Ka. The dining room also offers a Sunday brunch buffet and always has fine cuisine choices for lunch and dinner. And while at Dan Li Ka don't miss the decadent dessert and pastry menu.

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$
Phone: 257-5141
Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: Breakfast: Mon. - Sat. 7-11 a.m.
 Sun. Breakfast: 7-9:30 a.m.
 Sun. Brunch: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Lunch: Mon. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Dinner: 6-10 p.m.

Cattle Baron

Sensational steaks, seafood and a 46-item salad bar are featured on Cattle Baron's menu. Fresh trout, catfish, Pacific snapper and King salmon and specialty dishes like filet mignon with green chili bearnaise sauce are also patron pleasers.

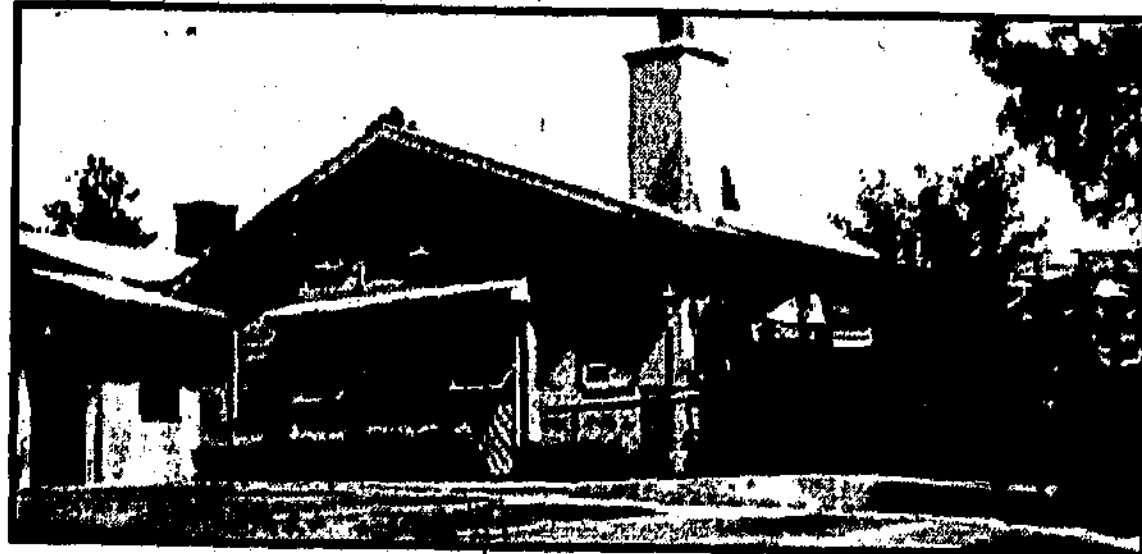
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$
Phone: 257-9355
Address: 657 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso
Hours: 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat.



Farley's Food Fun & Pub

Good food, food fun and good prices is what Farley's is all about. The atmosphere is light and fun and there are 16 domestic beers on tap. Cooks Pedro Bonilla and Nick Lawrence grill one of the best burgers around and you won't want to miss the wood-fired pizza.

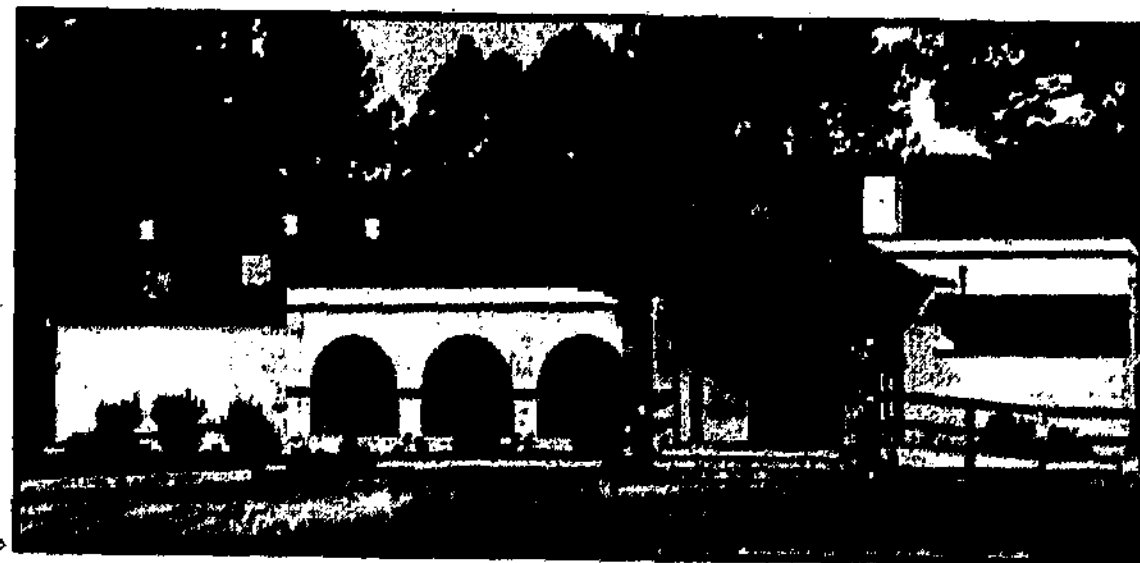
Price Range: \$-\$\$
Phone: 258-5676
Address: 1200 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso
Hours: The restaurant opens at 11:30 a.m. seven days a week.



Texas Club Grill & Bar

Enjoy great charbroiled steaks and seafood, Texas-style chicken fried steak and fresh pasta in a casual Western atmosphere. The menu also features terrific coconut shrimp and fried catfish. Live music on weekends and cocktails are the perfect complement to a Texas Club meal.

Price Range: \$-\$\$
Phone: 258-3325
Address: 212 Metz Dr., in Innsbrook Village, Ruidoso
Hours: Lunch 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Dinner 5-10 p.m., Closed Monday



Top of the Inn Deli & Pizza Parlor

Fresh baked pizzas, large deli sandwiches, soups, ice cream and bakery goods. Gourmet coffees and cappuccinos are also available to satisfy your caffeine craving. Enjoy good food with a great view.

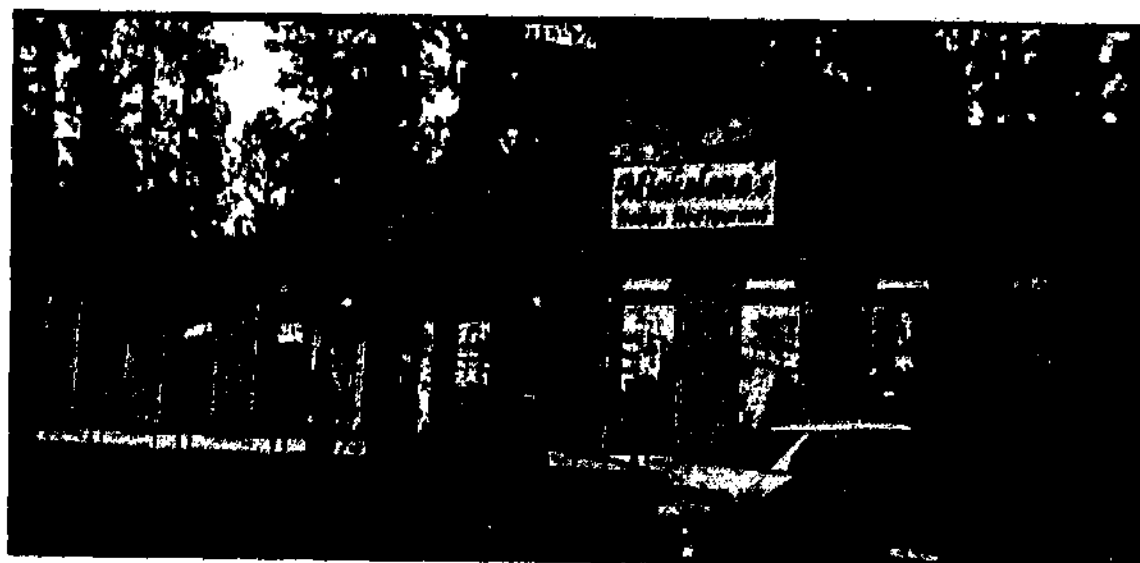
Price Range: \$-\$\$
Phone: 257-5141
Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: Beginning November 30, Top of the Inn Deli will be closed for the winter.



Michelena's Italian Restaurant

Family style dining at one of Ruidoso's favorite restaurants. A variety of Italian dishes such as ravioli, lasagna, manicotti and, of course, pizza. An excellent selection of fine wines and imported beers.

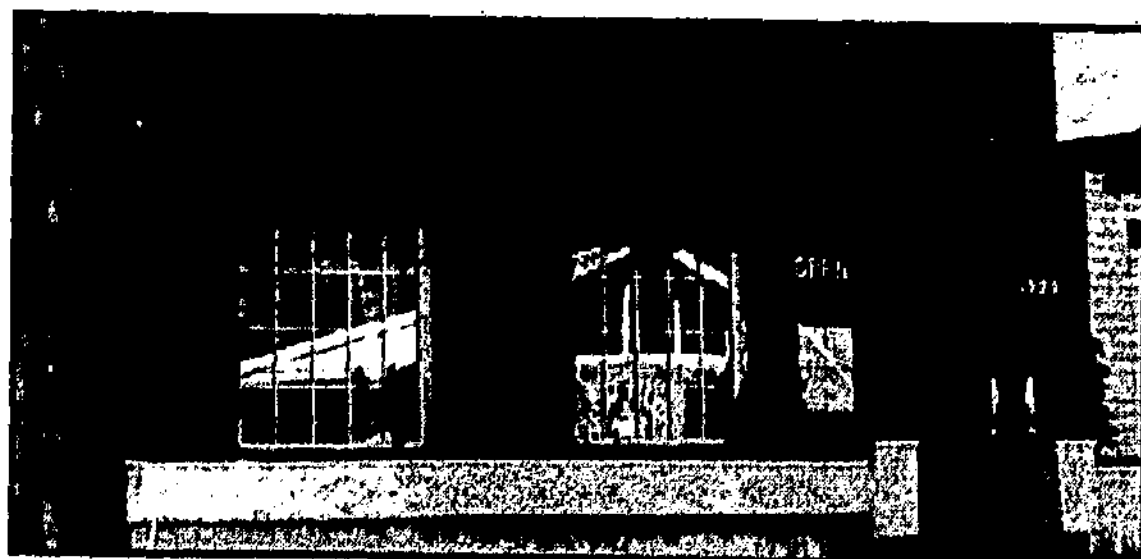
Price Range: \$-\$\$
Phone: 257-5753
Address: 2703 Sudderth Dr. - Midtown
Hours: Open 11:00 a.m.

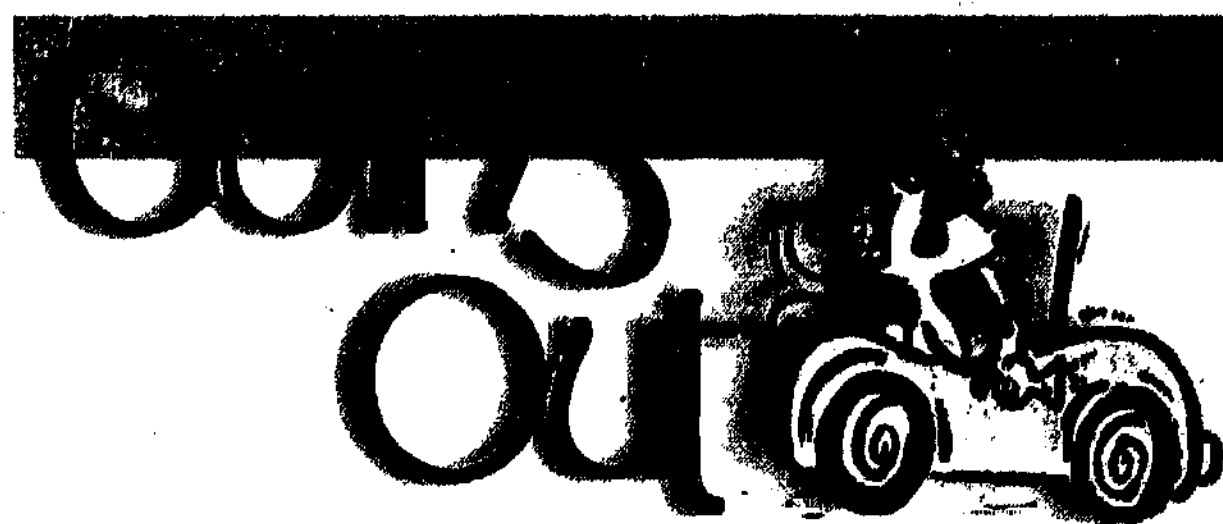


La Lorraine

La Lorraine specializes in French and gourmet dining. Known for their pepper steak and creme brulee, they're bound to make your mouth water. Also featuring veal, lamb and seafood. Customers rave about the presentation of the food and the outstanding service at La Lorraine.

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$
Phone: 257-2954
Address: 2523 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso
Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tues.-Sat., 5:30 to 9 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat.





ONE OF THE featured entertainment acts is the Mexican folk dance troupe Raramuri

courtesy

A festival of fun

story by *Sandy Suggitt*
VAMONOS STAFF WRITER

The sounds of the Bad News Blues band from Tucson is good news for the Festival of Trees Saturday at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

A Ruidoso crowd favorite, Bad News Blues tops off a full evening of entertainment and fun for the whole family at the third annual Festival of Trees celebration.

Because of the football game, the doors will open at 3 p.m. at the Convention Center for the silent auction of decorated Christmas trees, wreaths and gingerbread houses, said Lisa Muhn at the Chamber of Commerce. The event is free of charge.

The silent auction will be from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., and new this year, she said, is a \$500 prize for the decorator of the "best of show" tree. Decorator of the winning wreath will receive \$100.

Storytelling begins at 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. by Nelda Lewis, a volunteer with Friends of the Library. Children (and grown-up children as well) can check

out a display by the Alamogordo's Cloud Climber Module Train Club.

Other activities for children include bouncing on the Moon Walk for \$1 a jump, and Santa Claus will pose with children for \$3 per photo from 4 p.m. on, thanks to the French Club at Ruidoso High School.

Barbecue dinners will be available from 3 p.m. until people stop ordering, \$6.50 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under, sponsored by the Texas House Café. A cash bar will open from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Grupo de Danza Folklórica "Raramuri" from El Paso - with more than 40 performers - will wow audiences from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

"It's pretty fabulous," Jan Eldredge said of the performing group. "They do traditional festival dances - there's a dance where girls balance candles in glass votives on their heads, there's a dance where guys dance with sabers. They're very accomplished."

At 6:30 p.m. Ballet New Mexico will perform excerpts from the Nutcracker, and from 8 p.m. till midnight, Bad News Blues from Tucson

will give people a chance to kick up their heels and dance off the barbecue they've been eating.

An 8-foot carved, wooden bear created by Bob Adams will be raffled for \$1 tickets or six tickets for \$5, and the winner will be announced at 10 p.m., Eldredge said. The bear is standing in front of the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce on Sudderth Drive.

Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Festival of Trees Saturday until the drawing is held, or before then at the Chamber of Commerce and the Ruidoso Board of Realtors.

Minimum bids for the trees and the wreaths are \$20 and \$5 respectively. Those wishing to donate a tree for the silent auction can enter the contest free.

The White Mountain Chapter of the American Culinary Federation is making and donating 24 gingerbread houses.

Proceeds from the entire event will go to the village Parks and Recreation for additional lighting throughout town and to Casa Alegre, a group home for developmentally disabled adults.

music

Win, Place & Show

The Doug King Band plays nightly at WPS, 2516 Sudderth Dr.

The Quarters

The Ellison Brothers play through Sunday. Karaoke on Mondays and Tuesdays at 2535 Sudderth Dr.

Cree Meadows Country Club

Live music every night: piano from 5 p.m.-7 p.m., dancing Wednesday through Saturday, 7 p.m.-11 p.m.

The Texas House

Live entertainment Fridays and Saturdays. Open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursdays through Tuesdays. Closed Wednesday.

Galloping Tortoise

Live music every Sunday beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday blues jams at 7 p.m., featuring the musical talents of Geneva and Reggie, Cynthia Foster, Virgil Stephens, Greg Young, Michael Beyer, Suede Mills, Sam Dunnahoo and Michael Pyburn and more.

performances

Fiesta Navidad

Mexican Christmas traditions begin with a re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's pilgrimage to Bethlehem, and concludes with renditions of both Spanish and English carols. One performance at 8 p.m. Friday at the Spencer Theater. Tickets are \$12, \$20 and \$25. Call the box office, 336-4800 for availability.

ENMU Community Orchestra Winter Concert

Season's greetings and music from our own ENMU Community Orchestra at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 10, at the First Christian Church, Hull and Gavilan roads. Free admission.

The King's Singers

Two performances of this noteworthy a cappella group of six Englishmen are slated for 8 p.m. each night, Dec. 18 and 19 at the Spencer Theater. The King's Singers will perform a delightful program of traditional Christmas Carols and sacred songs. Tickets are \$12, \$20 and \$30. Call the box office, 336-4800 for availability.

what's brewing

The Ruidoso Roastery, 113 Rio Street, 257-3676

Open Monday through Thursday 7 to 5, Friday 7 to 9 and Saturday 8 to 9. A good assortment of fresh roasted coffees and all the basic espresso drinks plus bagels and pastries.

The Galloping Tortoise, 642 Sudderth, 257-2531

Basic espresso drinks, homemade desserts, deli sandwiches and live music jams featuring local artists.

Best Bet



Courtesy photo

SCHOLA CANTORUM will present a benefit concert for the St. Joseph's Apache Mission in Mescalero at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. The choral group from Santa Fe will perform traditional Christmas music from the Renaissance and Baroque periods. A free-will offering will be accepted for the church's restoration effort.

SILVERSCREEN

Here's what is showing at Sierra Cinema For more information call 257-9444. * Indicates show times for Friday, Saturday and Sunday only.

Enemy of the State

Rated: R
Show times: 1:45 p.m.*, 4:10 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:10 p.m.*
Plot: A chance encounter with an old friend destroys attorney Robert Dean's (Will Smith) fast-track career and happy home life when he is framed for a murder by a corrupt intelligence official. As an administrator within the N.S.A., Thomas Brian Reynolds (Jon Voight) appropriates the vast resources of his department to commit the perfect crime and conceal a political cover up of immense proportions. Dean's only hope to reclaim his life and prove his innocence is a man he's never met, a

mysterious underground information broker and ex-intelligence operative known only as Brill (Gene Hackman).

Babe: Pig in the City

Rated: PG
Show Times: 1 p.m.*, 3 p.m.*, 5 p.m., 6:55 p.m., 9 p.m.*
Plot: It's the mud pen for the big city as the oinker who stole everyone's heart takes on the bright lights. James Cromwell and Magda Szubanski return in their roles in the sequel about a personable pig.

A Bug's Life

Rated: G
Show times: 12:45 p.m.*, 2:45 p.m.*, 4:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 8:45 p.m.*
Plot: The creators of "Toy Story" return with another computer-animated story. This one is about a misfit ant who helps to save his colony from a gang of nasty grasshoppers.

Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Kevin Spacey, David Hyde Park and Denis Leary provide the voices.

I Still Know What You Did Last Summer

Rated: R
Show Times: 3 p.m.*, 6:55 p.m., 9 p.m.*
Plot: Julie James (Jennifer Love Hewitt), the beleaguered heroine of I Know What You Did Last Summer returns on the year anniversary of last summer's tragic deaths to face terrifying hallucinations. While on vacation in the Bahamas with friends, Julie is confronted with a scene all too familiar — murder and mayhem — and finds herself once again running for her life.

If cat's were human...

... they would watch "Masterpiece Theatre," drive a BMW, belong to Alto Lakes Country Club, eat Brie on crackers, subscribe to the New York Times and think Harley-Davidson* was a law firm.

They'd also book their holiday reservations at The Cat's Pajamas in Alto.

Where's your cat staying over

Christmas?

*The Cat's Pajamas will donate 15% of all gift shop sales in December to Lincoln County Humane Society. Come and shop for your 4 and 2 legged friends.



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N.Y. TIMES BESTSELLERS

FICTION HARDCOVER

1. **A Man In Full**, by Tom Wolfe. Life in Atlanta on the cusp of the millennium, as Old South values collide with a new world.
2. **Mirror Image**, by Danielle Steel. Identical twin sisters experience quite dissimilar lives in New York and France early in this century.
3. **When The Wind Blows**, by James Patterson. A young girl helps a widow and an F.B.I. agent uncover a deadly plot.
4. **All Through The Night**, by Mary Higgins Clark. The Mystery of a missing child and a missing chalice is solved in time for Christmas.
5. **Bag Of Bones**, by Stephen King. A series of terrifying events besets a best-selling novelist four years after his wife's sudden death.
6. **The Vampire Armand**, by Anne Rice. The progress of an eternally young man from ancient Constantinople in contemporary New Orleans.
7. **The Path Of Daggers**, by Robert Jordan. The eighth volume in the fantasy series "The Wheel of Time."
8. **The Poisonwood Bible**, by Barbara Kingsolver. Five female characters, a missionary's family, narrate this novel set in the Belgian Congo during the country's fight for independence.
9. **Rainbow Six**, by Tom Clancy. John Clark, heading an international task force, investigates terrorist incidents in Switzerland, Germany and Spain.
10. **Welcome To The World, Baby Girl**, by Fannie Flagg. The pleasures and problems of a rising star in television news during the 1970s.

NONFICTION HARDCOVER

1. **Tuesdays With Morrie**, by Mitch Albom.
2. **For The Love Of The Game**, by Michael Jordan.
3. **...And The Horse He Rode On**, by James Carville.
4. **Conversations With God: Book 3**, by Neale Donald Walsch.
5. **The Professor And The Madman**, by Simon Winchester.
6. **The Ten Commandments**, by Laura Schlessinger.
7. **The Death Of Outrage**, by William Bennett.
8. **Values Of The Game**, by Bill Bradley.
9. **Conversations With God: Book 1**, by Neale Donald Walsch.
10. **Lindbergh**, by A. Scott Berg.

Music Lessons...

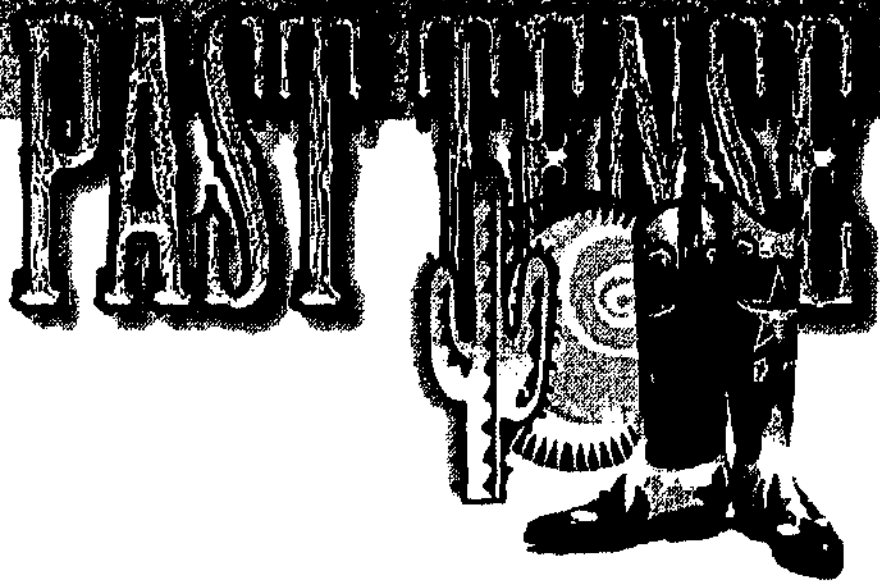
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What the Heck

PART 1 of 2



Drew Goinber
LINCOLN HERITAGE
TRUST HISTORIAN

Before the bandits
had gained access
to the express car,
Heck had substituted
bags of scrap
paper for the real
money, which he
had hidden in the
old coals of the
stove inside the car.

When the average man on the street thinks of the legendary lawmen of the Old West, the name Heck Thomas does not come readily to mind, but it should. Thomas was a career lawman, surviving many dangerous encounters with desperate men, but if he is remembered for anything, it is as the man who killed legendary bandit chieftain Bill Doolin.

Beginnings

But he was much more than that. At the tender age of 12, Heck enlisted in the 35th Georgia Volunteers during the War between the States. During the first terrible years of Reconstruction, the young man served as a policeman in Atlanta, staying there and dealing with some real nasty characters, from both the North and South, on an almost daily basis. In 1871, he married Isabelle Gray, a minister's daughter. To the couple were born two children – Henry and Belle, born in 1872 and 1875, respectively. Family man or not, Heck (born Henry Andrew, but always preferring his nickname) had the urge for new things, for adventure. And that was what sent him westward to his destiny.

Texas

Heck's first job in Texas was as an Express guard with the Texas Express Railroad. About the same time that Heck took this job a train was robbed at a place called Allen Station. This was one of the first train robberies in Texas and authorities were anxious to see that it did not become a trend. With this in mind, Texas Governor Hubbard posted a reward for the arrest and conviction of each member of the gang. Both the Texas Express and the Houston and Texas Central Railroad matched this offer, bringing the total to an astronomical (for the time) \$1500 per bandit.

After going to the scene of the crime and interviewing the witnesses, Heck and another detective noticed that the description of a man called Spotswood came up time and time again. Spotswood was already considered by the authorities in Denton, Texas as "a bad one from Missouri." However, Spotswood had flown the proverbial coop in Denton, but his still very-warm trail led to a place called Pilot Point. Heck and his fellow lawmen arrested the fugitive with-



HECK THOMAS

out a struggle.

Everyone but Heck felt that they had captured the leader of the gang and that the rest of the culprits had departed for friendlier climes. Heck Thomas began riding the trains, in the express car, with bags of bogus loot waiting for the next attempt that he felt sure

PAST TENSE

would come.

And he was right about that next attempt. On the evening of March 18, 1874, the rest of the outlaws attempted another train robbery. This time, however, they had Heck Thomas with whom to deal.

A Mexican Standoff

At first, it was a Mexican standoff, with Heck refusing to budge from the express car. Finally, after the bandits had used some coal oil to set fire to the car, Heck surrendered. While this was going on, the unguarded conductor and brakeman had armed themselves with a shotgun and proceeded to open fire on the outlaws from the cover of darkness.

When Heck made a desperate dash for the engine, one of the outlaws drew a bead on him and very nearly ended his career. A bullet skidded across his left cheekbone and tore through the base of his neck. Diving under the train, the wounded Heck suddenly found himself in the company of the engineer who had taken refuge in the same place. Heck instructed the engineer to get into the cab and get them the hell out of there. When the engineer protested that the robbers had taken enough money to put the company out of business, and that they had not yet completed their escape, Heck let him in on a little secret: Before the bandits had gained access to the express car, Heck had substituted wads of scrap paper for the real money, which he had hidden in the cold coals of the stove inside the car.

It wasn't until the train arrived in Houston that Thomas and the others discovered, primarily by descriptions provided by the passengers — the bandits had been a little less scrupulous about keeping their masks up when they were not in the presence of railroad employees — that the leader of the gang was none other than legendary outlaw Sam Bass himself.

Sam Bass

Sam Bass, who had once been a cowboy, was always revered by those who practiced his former profession. It was said that he avoided violence whenever possible, but this was not really the case. Sam was not about to let himself be captured without a fight.

While officials were still discussing what to do, Bass and his men struck again. On the night of April 5th, Sam and his cohorts robbed the Texas and Pacific at a place called Eagle Ford. The local citizenry was in an uproar. Bass and his men had to be stopped! A few days later, Heck and two other lawmen had a bloodless encounter with the desperadoes, who escaped into the wilderness.

A day or two later, the gang hit another train. This time, however, things did not go as well for them, and they found themselves involved in a shootout with railroad employees and local citizens. Nevertheless, this was the fourth train robbery in two months and people were beginning to find forms of transportation other than trains. The Texas Rangers, under the command of John Jones, took up the chase. Heck was not present on July 19, in Round Rock, Texas, when Bass and his men met their Waterloo. When the gunsmoke cleared, Bass and two of his compadres lay dead, and the fourth bandit, Frank Jackson, had vanished forever.

Fort Worth

In 1879, the railroad promoted Heck to chief express agent, stationed at Fort Worth. It was here that Heck made the acquaintance of Long-Haired Jim Courtright. Courtright was a tall gunman currently serving as Marshal of Fort Worth, and apparently doing quite an efficient job. Men thought twice about causing trouble in Long-Haired Jim's bailiwick. Courtright was allegedly one of the few of the old-time gunmen who could shoot accurately with either hand. He wore a pistol on each hip, butts forward.

In later years Courtright went bad, using his office to extort money from local businesses. He was destined to push this too far when he tried to lean on diminutive gunman Luke Short, who shot Courtright very dead. But, apparently, at the time that Heck knew him, Courtright was still walking the straight and narrow — well, as straight and narrow as any of the old lawmen walked, anyway.

By 1883, Heck had his own problems. He and his wife had been blessed with the arrival of two more children. But by now, Isabelle was complaining constantly of the rigors of raising children on the frontier. The problem was, Heck *liked* living on the frontier. In 1885, a year after the death of Long-Haired Jim, Heck ran for the office of City Marshal of Fort Worth. When Heck lost the election by all of 22 votes, he decided to go into the detective business. In May, he began as a member of the Fort Worth Detective Association.

The Lees

Heck Thomas had only been in business a few days when he was offered \$2500 to go after two killers — Pink and Jim Lee — up in the Chickasaw Nation.

As Heck was informed, the Lees were as ruthless and cold-blooded as men on the frontier ever got. Jack Duncan, the famous and mysterious detective who had played a major role in the capture of John Wesley Hardin had attempted to capture them and had returned empty-handed.

Heading up to the nations, Heck enlisted the assistance of an old friend, a lawman named Jim Taylor. It took them awhile, but in September of that year, the two determined lawmen caught up with the Lees. Pink and Jim, rather predictably, tried to make a fight of it, but the lawmen already had the drop on them. When the gunsmoke cleared, both fugitives lay face down in the dust and Heck and Taylor were \$2500 richer.

Suddenly finding himself an extremely popular person in the Indian Nations, Heck began riding for Judge Isaac Parker — also known as the "Hanging Judge" — out of Fort Smith, Arkansas. Parker presided over a huge hunk of land that included the Nations (present day Oklahoma).

This didn't exactly thrill his wife, Isabelle. In an attempt to assuage her fears, Heck loaded her into a wagon and the two took off on a sightseeing trip into the Nations. Things didn't go as Heck had hoped, though. Their little trip was cut short when a man tried to steal their horses and Heck shot him, although not fatally. Well, he had wanted to impress Isabelle, and he had certainly done that, although not in the way that he had hoped.

Hoping that things would work out at home, Thomas continued his highly dangerous expeditions into the Territory. In the meantime, Isabelle bore him another son.

Heck's activities did nothing to help calm poor Isabelle. Finally, after he had participated in the hunt for the extremely dangerous Ned Christie, Isabelle took the children and went back to Georgia. She said she would never return unless Heck resigned. He never resigned and she ultimately divorced him. He never blamed her, though. Heck, better than anyone else, knew what a strain he had placed her under.

Sources: "Heck Thomas, Frontier Marshal" by Glenn Shirley; "Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters" by Bill O'Neal.

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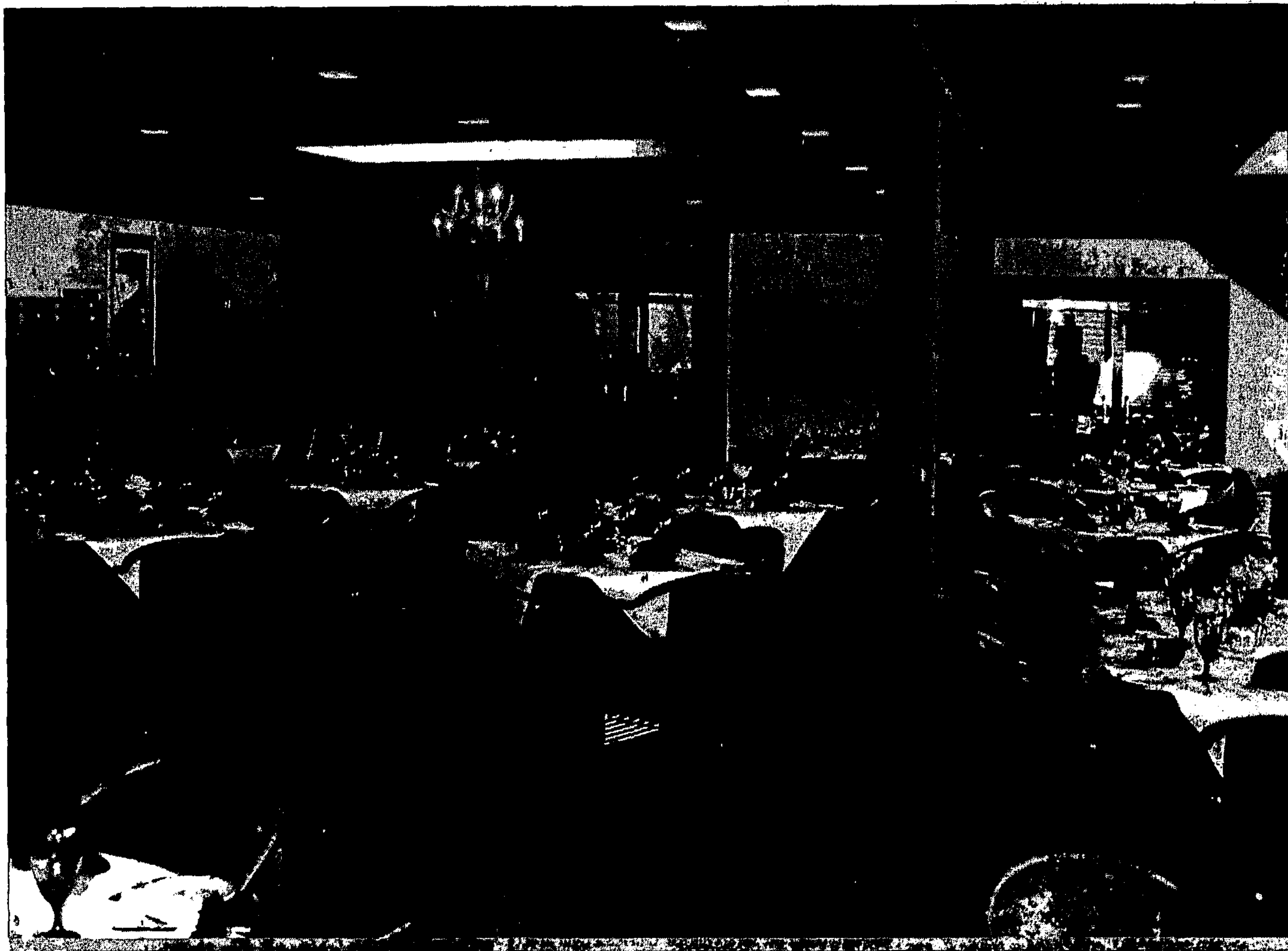
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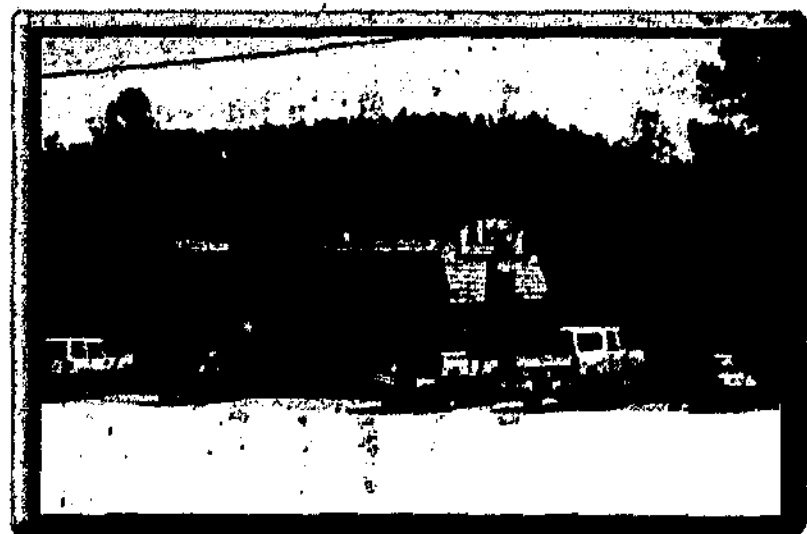
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Alto

Hensley • \$420,000 • 805 Deer Park Drive

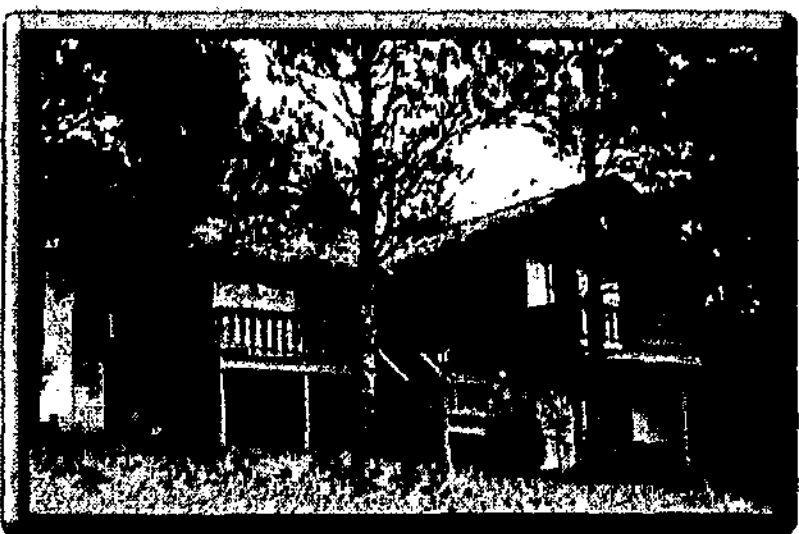
Four bedroom, 4 bath. Beautiful new Santa Fe styled home in Deer Park Woods with full membership.



Alto

Bennett • \$475,000 • 117 Quail Run

Four bedrooms, 4 baths, 2 car garage. Beautiful with 16 foot viga ceilings. Alto social membership. Each bedroom has its own bath. 2 private patios and an office. Alto full golf membership with acceptable offer.



White Mountain Estates

7 Rivers • \$209,900 • 809 Hull Road

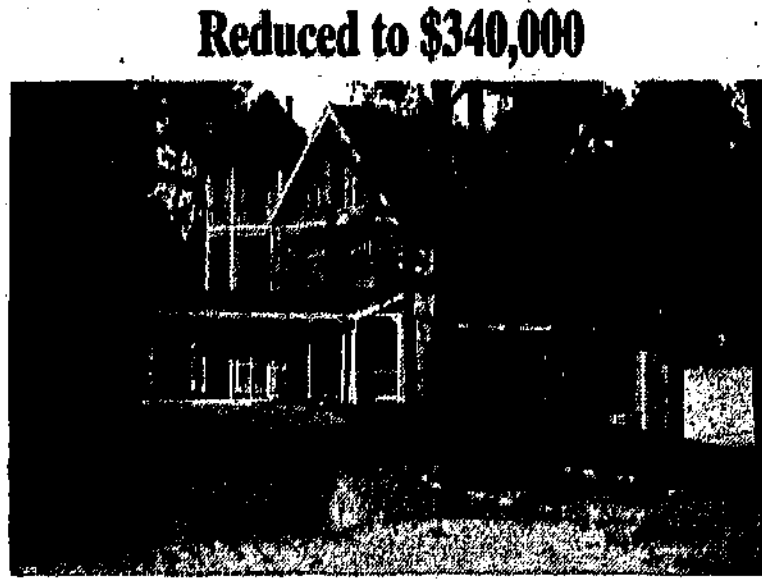
This beautiful large split level home sits on an exceptional lot in White Mountain Estates. Living room plus a nice den. Long private drive. A must see!

→ Price Reduced to \$199,900 ←



Hamilton Terrace

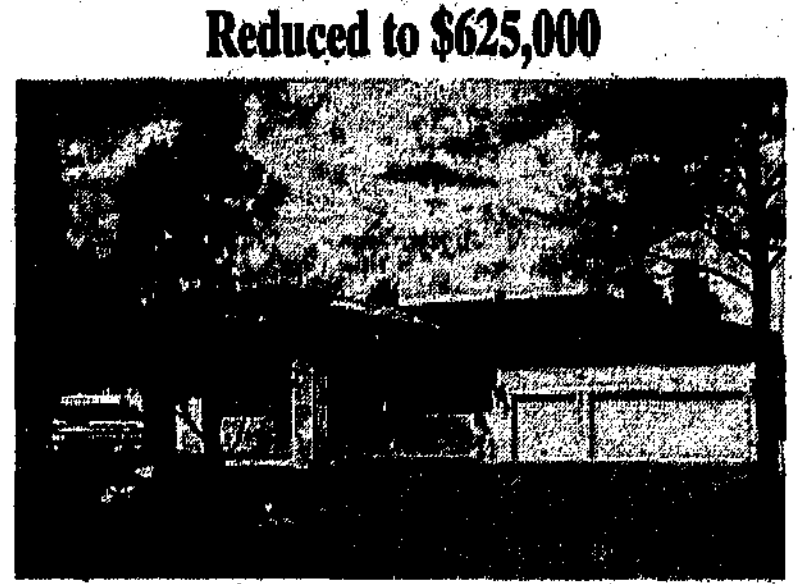
Fletcher • \$249,000 • 454 Mechem Drive
Great location for all kinds of business or can be used as a super large home. 1.1205 acres of land, chain link fence on part of property. One large home and separate guest efficiency



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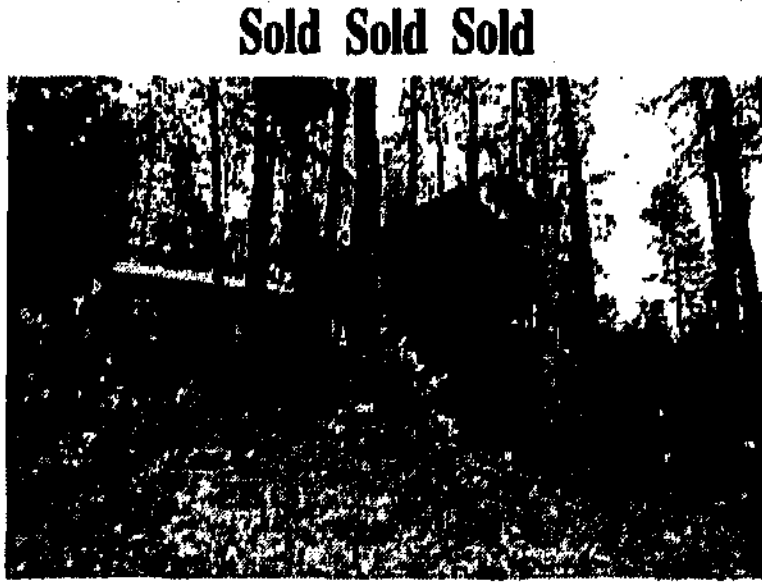
Alto

Weigel • \$695,000 • 106 Meadows Drive
Four bedrooms, 4 baths, full golf membership. Big Sierra Blanca view; large in style and grace. The colors of this home will embrace you!



Alto

Mote • \$788,000 • 739 Deer Park Drive
Seven bedrooms, 6 1/2 baths, complete guest quarters. Full golf membership. Large den with complete bar and awesome views.



Sold Sold Sold

Alto

Muncy • \$144,900 • 203 Sunset
Full membership 3 bedrooms 2 bath. Totally redone, light and bright. Soft Sierra Blanca view. This home now has gas heating.



Alto

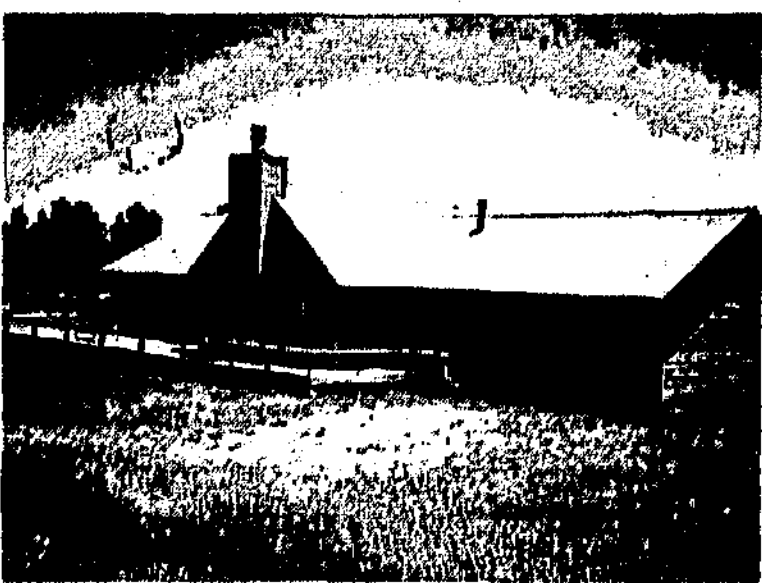
Brown • \$325,000 • 215 Broadmoor
Three-bedroom, two and one half baths. Grand fairway view up #14. New sunroom, full membership.



Reduced to \$149,000

Alto

Kruger • \$165,000 • 206 Sierra Blanca Dr.
3 bedroom, 2 bath, full golf membership. Great get-a-way with easy access!



Alto

Freiderich • \$225,000 • 1008 High Mesa Dr.
Gorgeous Sierra Blanca View gives this 4 bdrm., 3 bath home that added touch. Full golf membership.



Reduced to \$399,000

Alto

Alto Home • \$439,000 • 130 Forest Drive
Four bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, On #11 green. Never before on market. Unique cedar home on 2 lots; massive living area. Possible Sierra Blanca view.



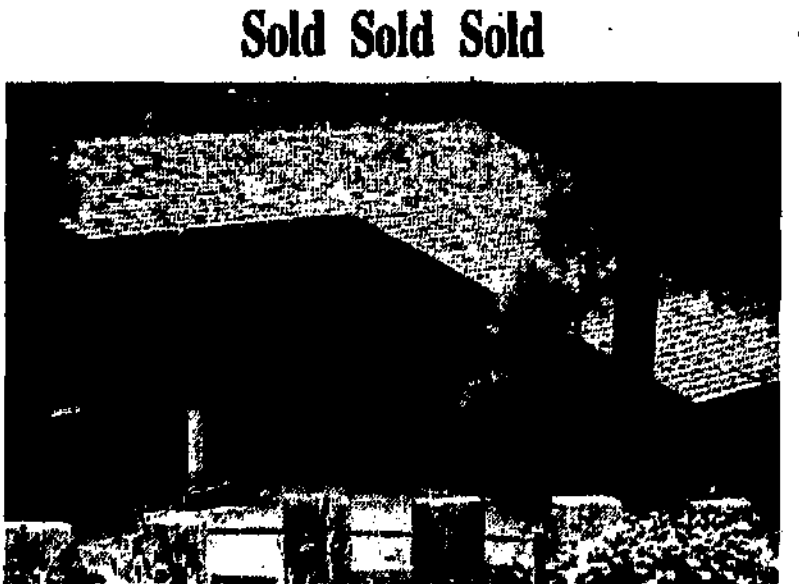
Alto

Crawford • \$479,000 • 113 Racoon Ct.
4 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths. Full Golf Membership, fairly new with lots of light & open floor plan.



Alto

Gilstrap • \$237,500 • 316 El Camino
4 bedrooms, 4 bath, fully furnished, full golf membership. Fantastic view of Sierra Blanca.



Sold Sold Sold

Alto

Farr • \$329,900 • 123 Mashie Court
Three bedrooms, 2 bath, full golf membership. This beautiful home backs up to the 6th fairway.

Sold Sold Sold



Ruidoso Springs

Turner • \$119,900 • 114 Texas Street
3 bedroom, 2 bath, fully furnished w/decora-
tor touches, private deck w/jacuzzi tub and
Sierra Blanca view, walk to the shops location.

Reduced to \$81,000



Cree Meadows Townhome

Ellis • \$89,900 • 111 Niblic Court
3/2 with 1 car garage. 1900 sq. ft.
(approximate). Views of golf course
and Sierra Blanca.

**Property
is
selling**



Devon Hills

Oxford • \$28,500 • 107 Jann Lane
Beautiful lot, all city utilities. Private
cul-de-sac. Close to Texas Club.

Sold Sold Sold



Western Hills

Adams • \$109,900 • 112 Bridle Dr.
2/1.5, 2-car garage. Never lived in-
owner needs to sell.

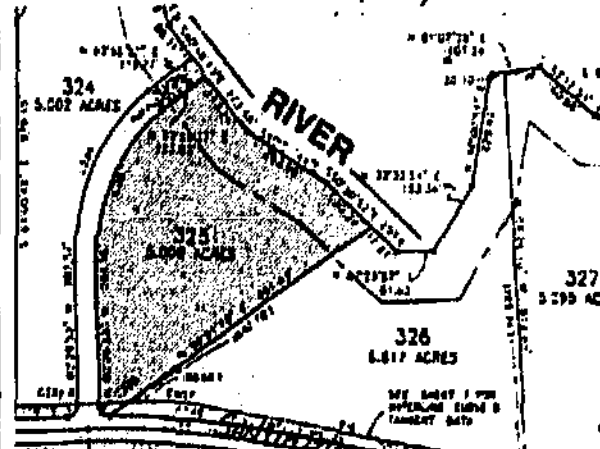


Tall Pines

Kopacka • \$98,000 • 101 Tall Pines Court
Three bedrooms, 2 bath, secluded
cabin with lots of charm. Sunny quiet
location.

**List
with
US**

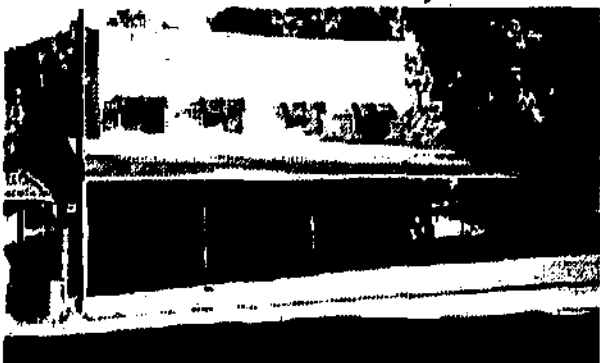
Reduced to \$79,900



Ranches of Sonterra

VanAllen • \$84,500 • 325 Santiago Drive
Beautiful river tract.

Reduced to \$139,900



Skyland Addition

Proctor • \$149,900 • 4-Plex
New carpet and paint. All rented 1
bdrm, 1 bath units. Just across from
Ruidoso Women's Club.



Lake View Estates

Landsheft • \$164,000 • #19 Excalibur Rd.
Outstanding Townhome with enor-
mous views! 3 bdrm., 2 bath.

**Advertise
your
home
here**



Alto

Seidel • \$139,000 • 254 Sierra Blanca Dr.
Three bedrooms, 3 baths, furnished,
full membership. Sierra Blanca view.



Navajo

Partee Townhomes • \$89,900 • 105 Keys Dr.
Two new townhomes. Both are end
units. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, refrigerated
air and new appliances. Great location.

Reduced to \$129,900!!



Middle Cedar

Vigil • \$137,500 • 120 Musketball
3 bedroom, 2 bath. Chalet with car-
port. Very nice with Mountain flavor!



Commercial

McMahon • \$178,000 • Jira Plaza
Last unit for sale - new - finished!



The Deck House Restaurant and the Adobe Plaza est. 1964

\$475,000

Includes the plaza, which has 7 rental units other than the Deck House - the
Deck House Restaurant business and equipment. Never offered at this price.
Books available upon request. Well established clientele base.



Downtown Ruidoso

Canning • \$1,500,000 • Corner of Sudderth and Country Club
4.02 acres of prime commercial!