



OUR 51ST YEAR RUIDOSO NEWS

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Hundreds of pounds of marijuana seized

Ruidoso woman arrested in raid



Lincoln County Sheriff Tom Sullivan (left), Ruidoso Police Chief Lanny Maddox and Frank Hooper, head of the Lincoln County Narcotics Unit, show the marijuana they say was confiscated from the house of Valerie Hubbard Tuesday. Equipment such as grow lights, fans, records and other plant growing-related items also were found and seized by law enforcement officers to be used as evidence. Hubbard has been released on bond.

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Two months of undercover work netted the Lincoln County Narcotics Unit the largest drug operation ever discovered in Ruidoso.

Officers from the narcotics investigation unit, the sheriff's office, the Ruidoso Police Department and agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation Tuesday carried away more than 400 marijuana plants, dozens of sacks of dried marijuana and plastic bins of plant parts from a home at 108 Oxford in the Black Forest subdivision. Officers estimated the street value of the stash at \$765,000.

And they also recovered a list of customers and a detailed account of the cultivation of each plant, said Frank Hooper, who heads the narcotics unit.

Charged Wednesday in Ruidoso with possession with intent to distribute more than 100 pounds of marijuana was Valerie McAdams Hubbard, 53, who owned the house where she supposedly ran an orchid-growing business.

Hubbard's bond initially was set at \$75,000, but was reduced to \$25,000 by Magistrate Judge William Butts. Hubbard's attorney, Don Dutton posted a \$2,500 security bond and arranged her release from jail Wednesday, according to court records.

"I really don't have any comment, because I have not seen all of their reports. I've only see the court-filed documents," Dutton said Thursday. "It's our intent to file a plea of not guilty at the arraignment and proceed from there."

Hooper said the narcotics unit, composed of officers from the county and Ruidoso, received a tip six months ago that Hubbard was growing marijuana plants at her home. They found information during another drug arrest that she associated with an accused dealer. In December, they took over the investigation from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Hooper said.

But coming up with enough probable cause to obtain a search warrant isn't always easy, Hooper said.

Because Hubbard was suppose to be operating a business called La Plantera out of her home, her unusually high electric bills (\$700 a month) and water bills could not be used as an indication of marijuana-growing activity, he said.

"She was suppose to have a

Hillside protection ordinance passes

• The law, now called the residential terrain management ordinance, no longer applies to commercial construction and, say opponents, has "no teeth" left.

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Glen Barrows implored Ruidoso Village Councilors Tuesday not to pass an amended village ordinance on hillside development.

"I think this goes too far," Barrows said of the amendment, which was sent back twice for revisions before its unanimous passage Tuesday night.

"The percentages are too liberal," said Barrow, a member of the Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Committee. "We have relaxed it, and relaxed it and relaxed it. My point to you is what are you going to be looking back at in 10 years time? ... We can't put the hills back."

The new law, whose name was changed from hillside development to residential terrain management, no longer regulates commercial developments. It also allows builders considerably more leeway on how much land they want to develop, or change from its natural state.

The ordinance, designed to reduce

hillside damage and flooding to other homes, had been previously written to discourage development on hillsides, staff said.

However, sloped lots represent the majority of developable land in Ruidoso. The village has about 3,000 vacant lots remaining, and most are on a slope of a 20 percent grade or more, said Cleatus Richards, director of the Ruidoso Planning Department.

Proposed changes to the ordinance have been the source of controversy and debate before the Ruidoso Village Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission for many months. Developers said the past amendments were still too rigid, confusing and prohibitive.

The final version, besides giving developers the opportunity to sloped a greater percentage of a sloped lot, also struck about 20 requirements from the prior version.

Councilor Robert Donaldson, one of three councilors on the sub-committee that wrote the final ordinance, said the prior regulations were confusing in regard to what portions apply to commercial development compared to residential.

Richards said commercial construction projects will continue to be monitored by village and state build-

ing codes.

"But none of the hillside measures would apply to the commercial developments," Richards said.

Changes were initiated to the hillside development ordinance about a year ago by the Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commission at the recommendation of Richards, he said. After several heated public hearings, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended a changed ordinance to the village council for final approval.

The council, in the face of protests from developers, sent that amendment back to a council sub-committee for more changes. The sub-committee, composed of Donaldson, Bob Sterchi and Bill Chance, submitted a second version of the ordinance to the council for approval in January. Again, developers said the law was too rigid.

The final version, approved Tuesday, was rewritten by the sub-committee in conjunction with two local developers, Tim Hoyt and Tim Collins.

Sterchi said the amendment was reached in accord, but added,

See HILLSIDE, page 7A

See RAID, page 2A

County commissioners shift funds to remedy depleted operating budget

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Operating money for Lincoln County is stretched so thin, County Commissioners had to reach into an account designated for repair of county buildings to cover a state required reserve in the general fund.

During a mid-year budget review Tuesday, commissioners were upset to learn from County Treasurer Joan Park that the county projects an end-of-the-year cash shortage of \$47,315 for the reserve required in the general fund and \$79,206 for the road fund.

According to figures from the finance department and Park, the county started the year with a cash balance of \$4.9 million, but is projected to end the year with \$2.3 million cash in hand. Total expenditures are estimated at \$11.1 million and revenues at \$9 million.

County Manager Frank Potter said the state Department of Finance and

Administration, which oversees county budgets, isn't worried about failure to meet the required reserve in the road department, because that fund will be reimbursed for most of its extra expenses from insurance or federal disaster money tied to heavy rains last spring and a major snow storm earlier this winter.

When Commissioner Wilton Howell said county departments will have to control spending, Potter pointed out that department heads have held the line. The general fund, which contains their budgets, increased by \$36,469. Some of that money was overtime and special crime scene work in the sheriff's office for two murder investigations and to help out at the county jail when it needed more manpower, said Sheriff Tom Sullivan.

One of the largest item increases under the general fund was \$26,362 for attorney fees, budgeted at the beginning of the year for \$75,000, but now projected to cost \$101,362 by the

end of the year, June 30.

County Attorney Alan Morel pointed out that he spends time on assignments given to him by commissioners as well as answering questions and advising department heads and elected officials.

"I can't control my bosses or who calls on me for work," Morel said. The county can contract with other attorneys or consultants to handle specific projects, as it has in the past for collective bargaining and the county personnel manual, he pointed out.

"Maybe we have too much access to him," Commissioner Monroy Montes said.

But Potter said it's less expensive to consult the attorney before an issue is made than face a lawsuit later.

Commissioner Rex Wilson suggested that volunteer committees handle more of the work involved in

See BUDGET, page 3A

Capitan burn victims satisfactory, expected to make 'full recovery'

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Erin Keller came home to Capitan Wednesday for the first time since she was released last week from the burn center of University of New Mexico Hospital in Albuquerque.

Her father, Phil Keller, is listed in satisfactory condition at the center where both were flown Jan. 24, after the cab of Erin's pickup truck erupted in flames.

But Donna Keller says her husband is doing well and that he and her daughter are expected to make full recoveries from their burns.

"Her voice is real hoarse, but her face has all this pretty new pink skin," Mrs. Keller said of Erin. Her daughter didn't require skin grafts on her face, but some were necessary on her right hand. She also suffered some small burns on her body, but they're healing well, Mrs. Keller said. And although Erin was on an inhala-

tor for a while, her lungs were not damaged.

Her husband's face also is doing well without grafts, Mrs. Keller said. His right hand is healing quickly, but the left hand will take more time to recover, because the burns were deeper, she said.

"He did have inhalation injuries, but yesterday he mouthed to me even with the tracheotomy," Mrs. Keller. "They're amazed, each day that his X-rays are looking better and better. I think they're both going to have a full recovery."

"We really appreciate all the concern and caring. Tell people thank you for everything."

Although doctors haven't given her an estimate as to when her husband will come home, she's hoping it's a matter of weeks, not months, Mrs. Keller said.

Contrary to earlier reports, Erin

See VICTIMS, page 2A

RUIDOSO'S THREE-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY High ... 51
Low ... 25
Mostly Cloudy

SUNDAY High ... 53
Low ... 26
Mostly Cloudy

MONDAY High ... 44
Low ... 25
Rain/Snow

WEATHER ALMANAC

Ruidoso Readings	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	45	23	.01"
Wednesday	46	15	.00"
Thursday	42	18	.00"

Regional-Wednesday	High	Low	Forecast
Albuquerque	55	21	Partly cloudy
El Paso, TX	62	33	Partly cloudy
Lubbock, TX	58	27	Partly cloudy
Midland, TX	60	28	Mostly sunny



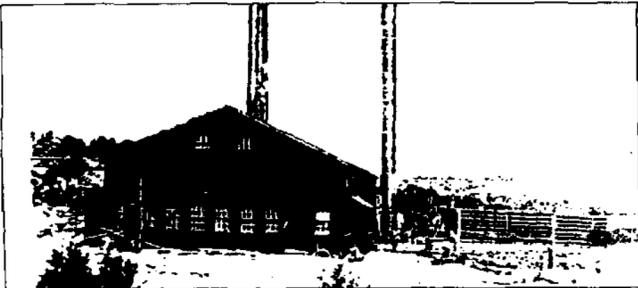
Aug./Sept. phases of the moon



STARDATE

Once you know some of the constellations, the next step is to get binoculars, a more detailed star atlas, and a good observing handbook for deep-space objects. It's a little known fact: typical binoculars improve on the naked-eye view of the sky about as much as a serious amateur telescope improves on the binoculars. In other words, with binoculars you're already halfway there.

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



courtesy Donald M. Queen, Carrizozo

Lincoln County Light and Power Co. smoke stack was located above coal mines in White Oaks.

L.C. SCRAPBOOK

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

White Oaks Eagle Feb. 8, 1900

Industrial Record: Why white Oaks should expect a railroad.

For the reasons that White Oaks is the center of one of the richest mining sections of New Mexico, in coal, copper, gold silver and iron, in abundance, and that it is a live, hustling town, it

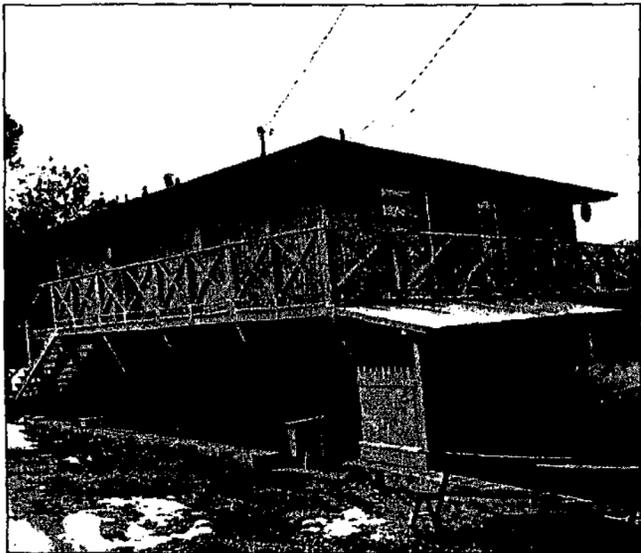
should have a railroad, and that it will soon, there is not the slightest doubt in the mind of anyone at all familiar with all the conditions.

The Northeastern will go there, either by direct line or branch, and the people of White Oaks may as well rest assured of this. The promoters and owners of this that enterprise are not going to remain out of one of the best towns of its territory and thereby antagonize the citizens of that place, many of whom are influential in both business and political affairs...

RAID: officers seized five bank accounts, a Blazer and two houses she owns



Marijuana plants allegedly grown inside Valerie Hubbard's home.



Valerie Hubbard's home in the Black Forest subdivision.

Continued from page 1A

greenhouse for orchids," Hooper said.

Tuesday, Hooper decided to try a straight forward approach and sent three unit officers to Hubbard's house to ask whether she had marijuana in her home.

"She admitted having some marijuana in small quantities for medicinal purposes," Hooper said. "She acted like she was ill, so the officers didn't push it. But we went back with that information and obtained a search warrant from Judge Butts."

Two hours later, about noon, officers showed up at her door and when she didn't respond, they kicked open the door and entered, Hooper said.

When they couldn't find her in the house, they forced opened a locked bedroom door and found clipped marijuana plants drying on lines in the closet, he said.

About that time, Hubbard entered the house.

"There was dirt in her mouth and hair," Hooper said. Officers told her about the search warrant. They walked around the back of the house and asked for the key to enter a door there, he said.

In a series of rooms beneath the house, they found hundreds of individually labeled potted plants, growing lights and sacks of other plants that Hubbard apparently had pulled up in an effort to destroy them before deputies entered, Hooper said.

"But there were so many, she couldn't destroy all of them," he said. "We got 400 plants from under the house, 300 green buds (clipped for processing) and three pounds of dried marijuana in one closet upstairs. Small baggies of marijuana and rolling papers were found all over the house."

"There were buckets full of it (marijuana) all over. We all

had headaches, because the odor was so strong."

Officers spent nearly 10 hours collecting all of the plant material, Hooper said.

Hubbard kept air purifiers in the house set on timers to purge the air every few hours, he said.

Narcotics officers seized five bank accounts belonging to Hubbard, a Blazer and two houses she owns, Hooper said. The second house on Spruce Street had not been searched Thursday.

Officers will have to prove that the items were purchased with or represent profits from an illegal drug activity to obtain a court forfeiture. They then can be sold to generate more money for drug-related investigations.

"She kept a book and each plant had its own name," Hooper said. "She noted when it was planted, watered and cut. One day she wrote that she planted 60, six-foot high plants."

This isn't Hubbard's first brush with the law, Hooper said. She was arrested on a marijuana-related charge in California, but was not convicted, he said.

Receipts for special lighting equipment indicate she may have been in the growing business in Ruidoso since 1993, Hooper said. He didn't know when she moved to Lincoln County.

Using a formula from the DEA, Ruidoso Police Chief Lanny Maddox and Lincoln County Sheriff Tom Sullivan estimated that the haul of plants would translate to about 425 pounds of marijuana on the street with a value of \$1,800 per pound (one plant producing about one pound of material) for a total value of \$765,000. Maddox couldn't recall any drug operation as large in Ruidoso. Sullivan said one or two with as many plants or more have been found in the county in remote portions of the national forest and around White Oaks.

Ruidoso schedules process for the 1998-99 village budget

Saying he anticipated this to be one of the village's more difficult budgets, Village Manager Gary Jackson this week announced a tentative schedule for the 1998-99 budget process.

"There are a lot of items that will have to be squeezed in this budget," Jackson told Ruidoso councilors Tuesday night.

Last fall, the village took a hard hit on its major source of revenue, gross receipts taxes, when the Wal-Mart store closed in Ruidoso Downs. According to village administrators, Ruidoso will lose about \$900,000 a year in gross receipts revenues because of the move. Monthly

gross receipts revenue checks to the village are expected to drop by an average of 14 percent, village staff has said.

Like last year, four budget workshops will be held by the Ruidoso Village Council before a public hearing and vote on a preliminary budget. That vote is tentatively scheduled for May

26, Jackson said. A final budget must be adopted and sent to the state no later than July 28, he said.

The village always seeks as much public participation in the budgeting process as possible, Jackson added.

Budget workshops are scheduled to start April 29

VICTIMS: '... when she ran around the car, she saw that he was still in there.'

Continued from page 1A

was the person who pulled her father from the burning pickup, Mrs. Keller said.

She wasn't able to piece together the sequence of events until her daughter had recovered sufficiently to tell her, she said. The two were driving home with insulation they bought to install in Keller's new cabinet-making shop in their yard at

home. Erin was staying temporarily with her parents after receiving her master's degree in marine biology in December.

"After the initial flame up, Erin got out," Mrs. Keller said. "At first she thought Phil was out, because there was smoke between them. When she ran around the car, she saw that he was still in there. So she beat on the window where the lock was. It was her pickup and he didn't

know where everything was.

"She got him to unlock the door and she pulled the door open. He still didn't know where the seat belt was. By then he was getting kind of (disoriented). She told him to put his hands up. She reached in and unhooked the seat belt. That's why her right hand has more burns."

From there, she ran to the house of neighbor Donna

Willoughby, who called for an ambulance and later, put out the truck fire when the vehicle rolled down Crestview Road hill and struck her home.

A fund in the name of the Phil Keller Family has been established at Sierra Bank to help offset some of the medical expenses. Checks may be mailed to the fund in care of the bank at P.O. Box 4517, Ruidoso, NM 88355.

RUIDOSO NEWS

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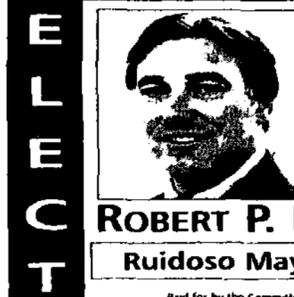
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Ruidoso Mayor • March 3

If Elected, Our Administration Will:

- Seek to increase public input into the decision making process through town meetings and focus groups.
- Treat all of our citizens with respect and will serve this community with honor.
- Provide leadership with a view to Ruidoso's future.
- Place emphasis on long range planning.
- Continue to improve and develop our water system.
- Make maintenance of our infrastructure our priority.
- Focus on new ways to enhance service at Village Hall.
- Work to position Ruidoso's Economy to compete and succeed into the 21st century.

Qualifications:

- Served 2 terms on the Ruidoso Village Council.
- 19 Year resident and business owner in Ruidoso
- Graduate of UTEP with BBA in Finance and MBA with minor in Economics
- Served on Ruidoso Commissions for 7 years.
- Member of Ruidoso-Lincoln County Extraterritorial Planning and Zoning Authority.
- President and long term member of Ruidoso Rotary Club.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Robert Donaldson

County manager declines raise in light of budgetary shortfall

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

County Manager Frank Potter received above average marks from Lincoln County Commissioner Chairman L. Ray Nunley Tuesday in a public evaluation of his job performance over the last year.

But Potter refused to accept a \$4,000 raise proposed by Commissioner William Schwettmann. The raise would have brought his annu-

al salary to \$44,900. "The county can't afford it," Potter said, referring to the depletion of the county's surplus. "I'm dead serious, not after what we went through today (a mid-year budget review). No way. Not when these other employees are not getting one."

Nunley was the only commissioner to discuss some of the 18 questions on the evaluation form and his overall rating of Potter. "I scored him mostly

threes and fours (on a scale of zero to five, as a high)," Nunley said. "I rarely score anyone a five, because there always is room for improvement."

In general, Potter's decision-making skills are good, although some decisions have been hasty, he said, but Nunley added he'd like to see the manager be more straight-forward with commissioners.

He'd like less talk and more action, but overall, Potter does a good job when com-

missioners let him alone to do it, Nunley said.

Commissioner Rex Wilson said when he ran for office two years ago, it was rumored part of his agenda was to fire Potter. But he has a good working relationship with the county manager, Wilson said. He has received comments from residents about Potter's professionalism and the county auditor complimented Potter's efforts to correct past accounting problems.

He'd like to see improve-

ment in budget presentation and tracking, Wilson said.

"I'm terribly frustrated with the budget process and figures that constantly move and change," he said.

Working for five bosses is tough and that's probably why some assignments have not been accomplished, Wilson said.

Commissioner Wilton Howell also stressed the need to complete tasks on time and to comply with regulations.

"But we could be loading

two tons of material on a half-ton pick up," he said, acknowledging commissioners may be piling too much work on Potter's shoulders.

Commissioner William Schwettmann agreed, saying Potter could handle the job if he didn't have to respond to the agendas of individual commissioners.

Sheriff Tom Sullivan and other elected officials voiced their support for Potter, saying he is accessible and responsive to their needs.

BUDGET: demands and needs by the county could further reduce funds

Continued from page 1A

refining items such as the county land use plan put together by the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, and not involve Morel until a final look-through for legal points.

Howell suggested cutting the projected increase to \$13,000 and telling department heads and elected officials to contact Potter with their questions instead of Morel.

If Potter can't provide the answer, he can at least decide when to call Morel with several questions at a time, Howell said.

But Park said sometimes she needs a legal opinion on the spot and must turn to

Morel for help. "Leave it at \$26,000," Commissioner William Schwettmann said. "It doesn't mean we have to spend it."

The biggest hit of the \$622,000 projected mid-year budget increase was \$363,082 in pass-through money from a special mill levy for the Lincoln County Medical Center.

"It is the commissioners who are spending all the money," Duane Williams, county resident

in Ruidoso draws from its mill levy account as it needs the money for operation, equipment or other expenses.

The corrections department is projected to need an additional \$53,339 to finish the year and the road department, an extra \$158,000, with much of the added expenses tied to the heavy snowfall in December that stranded residents of rural areas.

Special programs may require \$1,332 more than budgeted for the year. "The departments are doing an outstanding job of watching their dollars," said Duane Williams, a member of the county road review committee and a regular visitor at commission meetings. "It's the commissioners who are spending all the money."

Two items approved by commissioners this year hit county finances hard, Potter said. They authorized the transfer of \$400,000 out of the general fund and \$400,000 out of the facilities fund for the hospital to begin work on a renovation and expansion project.

Howell said he recalled being told by staff that the county could afford those transfers before they were approved.

Trying to stem the rising anxiety level, Montes reminded commissioners that the county has money to cover the needed reserve by pulling it out of other designated funds.

But Chairman L. Ray Nunley said with the county facing the need for a new jail and other demands, those special funds, including \$200,000 in capital outlay money, also may be drained in the future.

New county jail proposal made

A way to increase the number of jail cells and to comply with state regulations without having to cough up millions of dollars was presented to the Lincoln County Commission Tuesday.

Raul Parra of Rampar Development Corp. based in Albuquerque, gave commissioners a quick run down of different approaches to the ownership and operation of the jail.

But Parra said his company proposes building a jail for the county and then letting the county operate it on a lease basis. At any point after the jail is open, county officials could decide to buy the jail for the principal remaining on the 25-year

loan, Parra said. The county jail in Carrizozo has been crowded for years and recently experience management problems when its administrator suffered a stroke and two guards were charged with criminal offenses.

Parra recommended against a private operator, because "they're there to fill the facility, because they're paid more for each inmate. There's no incentive to get inmates out," Parra said.

The county would have to provide the land for the recommended 100-cell jail.

Commissioners told Parra to meet with the county jail committee that recommends action to the board.

DEATHS FUNERALS

Robert Lee Smith

A memorial service for Robert Lee Smith of Ruidoso, who died on Feb. 10 after an illness, will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Main Street Church of Christ in Lockney, Texas.

A private burial ceremony under the direction of Moore-Rose-White Funeral Home preceded the memorial service.

Born in Floyd County, Texas, on Nov. 2, 1919; he was the eldest son of Robert W. and

Annie Reeves Smith.

He graduated from Texas Tech in 1949 and entered the Air Force, serving until 1945.

He married Lucile West on Aug. 14, 1943, in Tampa, Fla. They farmed in the Sterley community until moving to Ruidoso 15 years ago.

He was the founding president of the Floyd County Historical Museum, a longtime church member and director of Lockwood Christian University, former president of the Lockney

School Board and the Floyd County Farm Bureau, and a Republican National Committeeman.

Survivors include his wife, Lucile; children Sandy Etigson of Ruidoso, Karla Gilliland of Baird, Texas, David Smith of Ruidoso and Robin Boedeker of Quitaque, Texas; and eight grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Children's Home of Tubbock of the Floyd County Museum.

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RUIDOSO NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY
 AT 104 PARK AVENUE, RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO
 Tamara Montes, Publisher Terrance Vestal, Editor
 Keith Green, Editorial Adviser
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OUR OPINION

Rules of the road

Newspapers do continue to play a role in civic and political discourse despite the proliferation of television stations, cable systems, satellite-direct broadcasting AM, FM and UHF radio and the incredible World Wide Web of interactive computers.

That's because newspapers continue to be far and away the dominant source of news at the personal, neighbor-to-neighbor level where we all live.

Thanks to the First Amendment to the Constitution, newspapers in this country also have a particular role to play in keeping readers informed about the people who govern them, or would like to govern them.

It seems appropriate, then, at the leading edge of almost a full year of election campaigns, to outline the principles that will apply to this newspaper's handling of political reporting.

Candidates and their supporters might wish to consider it a check-list for dealing with this newspaper. Other readers may look at it as a "how to" guide to reading about the campaign.

We will not publish letters to the editor, signed or unsigned, concerning political candidates during a campaign, whether in the municipal, primary or general elections. Letters discussing campaign issues will be welcome, and are encouraged. If anyone has verifiable information about a candidate that it's believed would make him or her unacceptable if elected to office, we would like to meet and determine whether the information might be published in the news columns of the paper.

We will not endorse particular candidates for elective office, but will editorially comment on political issues or controversies as seems appropriate during the course of the campaigns.

We will, next Wednesday, publish a candidate guide for municipal elections in all the county's villages — Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs, Carrizozo, Capitan and Corona. Similar projects are planned for the state-wide primary and general elections later in the year.

Finally, at every step of the way, prior to every election, we will encourage the citizens of Lincoln County and its political subdivisions to get to know the candidates.

We will urge them to take advantage of public forums like those scheduled in Carrizozo, Capitan and Ruidoso between now and municipal election day. We hope they will question the candidates in public and private about issues of particular concern, and not sit still for wishy-washy non-answers.

Then, after hearing the candidates and thinking about them, we trust every registered voter will express his or her wishes at the polling place for each election.

That's the way democracy is supposed to work.

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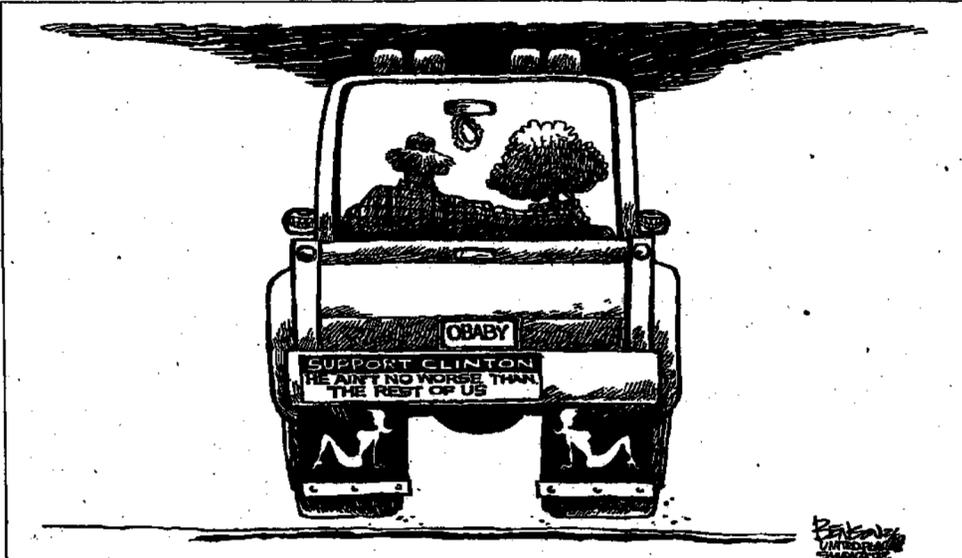
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Omissions and errors

In show business the word always was, "I don't care what you say about me...just make sure my name's spelled right."

In the newspaper business, mistakes, be they typographical or factual, are the inevitable outcome of a fact of life — the ongoing struggle between speed (otherwise defined as meeting deadlines) and perfection.

MOUNTAIN ASIDES



BY KEITH GREEN
 RUIDOSO NEWS

Which is why last week's "Trivia 101" package was so much fun. So much of history is made up of trivia, and sometimes imperfectly remembered people, places and things. If the devil is in the details, then it was a most devilish presentation.

So...for the record, a few revisions, and/or corrections, of Lincoln County's historical trivia:

Reeves McGuire advised by e-mail from Albuquerque that Ruidoso won a state football championship in 1972, beating the Jal Panthers, as well as in 1985. And Dave Parks, who's spent a lifetime in Ruidoso, recalls at least four championships in RHIS history, one of them in 1950, when he was a senior.

McGuire (who considers Ruidoso home) also notes that the '65 All American Futurity was named Savannah Jr., Jack Wallace was the jockey and Ted Wells was the trainer...but blamed if he could name the owner. Trainer Wells' son, Scott, had that one down pat: J. R. and Ray Cates of Tulsa, Okla.

Parks, and others, pointed out that Ruidoso Downs' earlier name wasn't exactly Greentree — but the Spanish Palo Verde.

Several callers noted that the first walk-in theater in Ruidoso wasn't the Camelot. Parks believes the first, in the 1930s, was the Apache, and one called the Adobe was in the building now occupied by the Aspen Tree book store in midtown.

There's also a pretty universal understanding that the old Dowlin Mill, still standing, was built long before 1881. But no one's come up with a specific year.

In the differing memory category: Our experts said Mike and Karen Morris were the first owners of King's. A caller believed it was the Featherstones of Roswell. Dave Parks says it was Don King, and he built it in the 1970s.

And, yes, yes, yes, we truly do know that the *Ruidoso News* was founded some 51 years ago by Lloyd Bloodworth. After all, his son L. P. was on hand to cut a 50th birthday cake for the paper in June of '95. Memories, memories...

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 128, Ruidoso, NM 88345, attention of the editor.

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

THE SILVER LINING

Funeral services for Ray Reed

Services were held Monday, Feb. 9, at the Museum of the Horse in Ruidoso Downs for Ray Reed, who was called home by our Lord on Feb. 4.



BY DAN STORM
 COLUMNIST

The Rev. Montey Jones, pastor of Saint John's Episcopal Church in Sonora, Texas, began the services by reciting from the Episcopal prayer book:

"I am the resurrection and the light, sayeth the Lord. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

The Rev. Mr. Jones, also known as cowboy poet Biscuits O'Bryan, gave thanks for the life of Ray Reed and for his family and many friends. He spoke of Ray as a man of many gifts who had given much happiness to others.

Quoting from the Gospel According to Saint John, he read: "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am there may you be also."

And the 23rd Psalm, which was recited by the more than 240 persons present:

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want..."

Special music

The Graham brothers, Slick, Hoyt and Dale, were joined by guitarist Kim Blakey in bringing favorite songs to the service. These included one

of Ray's composition, "God is the Bottom Line," requested by the family.

Slick Graham, singer for the group, said Ray had told his family that there was a song he wanted sung at his service, entitled "Farther Along," and it was performed.

Ray's daughter, Susie, recited a poem she said had been written by songwriter Cindy Walker about her father, titled "What They Say About Ray." She also gave the eulogy.

In his sermon, Montey Jones paid tribute to Ray Reed as a man who knew God, and was of a deeply spiritual nature.

The memorial blankets which draped the casket were presented to Ray by the Enjady family of Mesalero, including Clarence, Wayne and Wallace.

Ray Reed will be fondly remembered by a wide circle of friends, including the Mesalero Apache Indians, among whom he worked as a cowboy.

Always willing to lend a hand, Ray along with his friend Allan Reynolds had helped me gather cows in the hills south of the Storm Ranch.

He was a very gifted man and received many honors, but he was above all a faithful and devoted husband and father and a true friend.

He will always hold a fond spot in our hearts, and we rejoice that he is now safe and happy with our Lord in Heaven.

Valentine's Day

This is being sent to you just before Noon on Feb. 10 and will reach you on Feb. 13, the eve of Valentine's Day.

I am remembering when my brothers and I were children, making home-made valentines out of red and white paper and paste in Juneau, Alaska.

We made them in school and passed them out to classmates, and then at home, we gave them to family members and neighbors.

Our father once wrote a Valentine poem and sent it to our mother by telegraph. I remember that mother's blue eyes filled with tears of joy as she read the poem. And brother Joe once sent a Valentine's Day telegram saying "thanks for the privilege of being your son."

Some years ago, mother gave me a card saying:

Of course, you know that folks who have a son

Are pretty apt to brag on him and all the things he's done.

But bragging is excusable and quite the thing to do

When folks are fortunate enough to have a son like you.

YOUR OPINION

year to city, county and state coffers from art-related sales. It stands to reason, Ruidoso, should pay attention to this bottom-line fact, and form a close alliance with the arts... One of the mission statements of this new entity is (that it) not be used politically nor be elitist.

Art takes many forms, and adds to the rich brew of creativity.

The core of the association invites artists and galleries to contact the organizers, who are:

Michele "Misha" Malpica, formerly of New Hampshire, a sculptor who has opened her studio/gallery in the Gazebo;

Tim Wierwille, potter and longtime Ruidosan, and the owner/artist of White Mountain Pottery;

Jim Mauritzin, sculptor, owner of Free style Gallery;

Barbara Diehl-Westbrook artist and owner of California Colors Gallery;

and Gail Gillem, owner of Gail's Frame of Mind Gallery.

Plans are to bring several new events to Ruidoso, and to offer them to the schools to culturally enrich the community in which they all live.

These artists believe there is much to do, and with good will from other artists and the

community, their goals can be achieved.

Barbara Diehl-Westbrook
 Ruidoso

A son recognizes his mother's challenging life

To the editor:

My family and I would like to thank you for printing the article regarding the recent death of my mother, Patricia G. Chino. It was truly unexpected, and flattering, to know that my mother's life would be of such interest to so many people. My mother would truly have been deeply moved by your article.

When I spoke at my mother's funeral, I challenged everyone to rededicate ourselves to those good values exemplified by my mother's life and her accomplishments. I renew the challenge to all who read about my mother in your newspaper.

For us to strive to meet that challenge would be the best, most lasting memorial to my mother, and the one of which she would be most proud.

Mark R. Chino.
 Mesalero

RUIDOSO POLICE

Accident victim airlifted

A Ruidoso man apparently blacked out while driving Monday and ran into a telephone pole in the median of U.S. Highway 70, Ruidoso Downs police said.

Albert Stubbs, 73, was airlifted Monday to Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque because of multiple pains following the accident, said Valerie Miller, administrator of Lincoln County Medical Center.

The pains apparently were caused by his seat belt constricting him during the accident, Ruidoso Downs Police Chief David Hightower said, based on reports he had received. Presbyterian reported him in fair condition late Thursday.

Stubbs was heading east in his 1990 Mercury four-door at about 11 a.m. when he blacked out, Hightower said. His car crossed into the median in front of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and struck a utility pole, breaking it. The pole, replaced by the Texas-New Mexico, remained upright despite the break, Hightower said.

Traffic in the eastbound lane of Highway 70 was closed down to one lane temporarily until the accident could be cleared, Hightower said.

Church burglarized

Keys and a screwdriver were taken last week from the Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount, Ruidoso police said.

The burglary is the second at the church on Mesalero Trail in the past month. A stereo was taken in the prior burglary, police said.

Pastor John W. Penn told police last week someone had entered the church — apparently with a key because there was no sign of a forced entry. The burglar tried to pry open the church safe with a screwdriver that is now missing, police said. In addition, several keys were taken from a key hook.

TV, microwave taken

A burglar or burglars broke into the Ruidoso vacation home of an Elida man sometime between last week and Wednesday, Ruidoso police said.

Stolen from the home were a television set, a microwave oven and a coffee pot, police said.

The burglar entered the home by breaking a glass door. The homeowner's son reported the burglary.

Welder stolen

An arc welder worth \$7,800 was taken Monday night from Fun Trackers at 101 Carrizo Canyon, Ruidoso police said.

Don L. Brook, an employee at the recreational facility, said the welder was removed from a trailer sometime during the night. The arc welder, a 1995 or a 1996 model, is reportedly the only one in Ruidoso, according to reports.

More than \$2,000 in ski rentals stolen

Three people from El Paso gave false information when renting ski equipment from a local shop and then failed to return the equipment, Ruidoso police said.

Mike Allison Steed, co-owner of Steeds Ski Sports, told police two brothers from El Paso rented two snowboards and two pairs of ski boots from his shop on Dec. 28. One of the boards has a picture of Elvis on its back, according to reports.

A female, with a false driver's license, also failed to return the equipment she rented from the store on Dec. 30, police said.

The combined value of the stolen equipment is \$2,020.

Home ransacked, burglarized

Broken glass, spilled food and broken furniture were

discovered recently by an El Paso man when he entered his home on Main Road, Ruidoso police said.

In addition to criminal damage to his home, the intruders also took a television set, a microwave oven and a VCR, a total value of \$480, police said.

The El Paso man, who reported the crime on Feb. 1, apparently did not give police a time frame when the home could have been burglarized. An officer investigating the burglary did notice what appeared to be raccoon prints in food items scattered in the kitchen.

The intruder apparently entered the home through a window.

Audit shows Ruidoso annual budget in 'sound, financial shape'

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

An audit of the village of Ruidoso's 1996-97 fiscal budget year came back with a clean bill other than two findings regarding building permits and water usage calculations.

Ronnie Hemphill, whose company conducted the audit, found a problem with village building permits, which involve numerous computations, factors and judgment, he said.

"And what I was after was to increase the accountability for someone like me to come in and say, 'How did you get to this number?'"

The village had improved its permit accountability over the previous year's practices, but needed more improvement,

he said.

Those changes have already been made by village administrators, Hemphill added.

Ruidoso Village Manager Gary Jackson told the council that permit forms had been revised to show how fees were calculated. According to the village response to the audit, two new forms were created by the village — one for commercial projects and another for residential. Both include the calculation of the building fees.

"And from an auditor's standpoint, that's a great response," Hemphill said.

Regarding the water departments tracking of water usage, Hemphill said the task is tremendous in light of water lost through pipe seepage, bro-

ken pipes and lines being flushed.

"But the one thing that I think could be improved upon is using the numbers we know are good and using those numbers with computer programs instead of manual computations," Hemphill said.

"Because you have got millions of gallons of water, and you go to adding up those columns of number of millions of gallons of water, and I don't care who's running the calculator, you're very subject to error. And that's what we found — considerable inconsistencies, considerable errors."

Jackson, reading from the village's response to the audit, said the water department's monthly record keeping process will be maintained on comput-

erized spreadsheets. A clearer format for review of the water usage records will be created and a system to flag anomalies will be created, according to the response.

"We also plan to beef up (water) meter change-out process," Jackson said. When the meters wear out, they tend to under report, Jackson said.

At the conclusion of the audit report, Jackson asked the same question as he does at every audit: "In your opinion of evaluating the village's financial records, would you say that at this point the village is in sound financial shape?"

"Yes I would," responded Hemphill. "And this report certainly supports that position. And Gary does ask that question every year."

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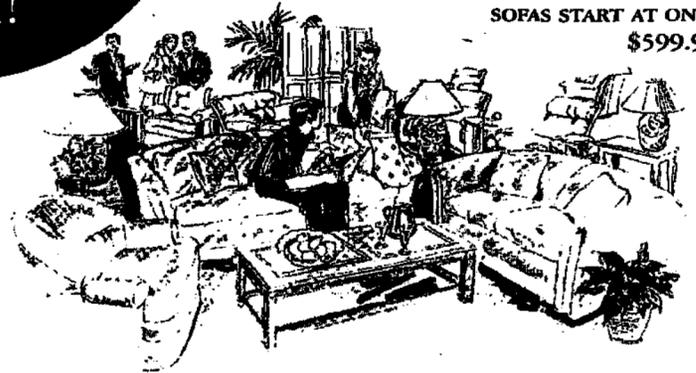


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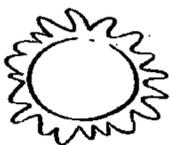


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County commissioners take a second look at subdivision road maintenance requirements

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

To avoid being saddled with high road maintenance costs in subdivisions long after developers have moved on to other projects, Lincoln County Commissioners are rethinking their subdivision rules.

Specifically, commissioners are taking a look at:

- Extending the period to test how well roads wear from two years to three or four years before the county accepts them

for maintenance.

- Requiring a certain percentage of a subdivision to be built-out before the county will accept responsibility for the roads.

- Increasing road construction requirements, including the thickness of surfacing material used for first and second applications.

- Considering a front foot assessment on developer-owned lots, and/or vacant lots until a home is built and the amount of property tax generated increases.

es.

During the commission meeting Tuesday, Commissioner Wilton Howell brought up the problem of roads accepted within the last few years in the Ranches of Sonterra subdivision along Sierra Blanca Airport Road that already are deteriorating.

At Howell's suggestion, a hearing on proposed changes to county subdivision regulations dealing with roads will be scheduled for the commission meeting in March.

He pointed out that the cost of maintenance and snow removal on the roads in Ranches will exceed the amount of tax collected. One hundred and forty-four lots still owned by the developer, Properties of the Southwest, generated \$908 in property tax this year, he said. The entire subdivision brings in \$144,584 in taxes.

About \$52,455 of that ends up in the county's operational fund and is spread among several departments, including the sheriff's office and the road department, he said. The rest goes to schools, the state and

other special entities.

It costs the county \$150 per mile to remove snow each time a storm occurs and would cost about \$25,000 a mile to redo a chip seal surface, he said.

"But we get about \$12,500 a year to take care of 26 miles of roads," Howell said.

Commissioner William Schwettmann, who engineered the Ranches road project, disputed those figures and offered some of his own.

When the property was a large ranch, it generated \$206 in property taxes. Now it brings in \$145,000, "and that's quite a difference," Schwettmann said.

And not all of the benefits are in direct dollars, he said.

The roads cost \$3 million to build. Contractors and associated jobs brought \$750,000 into the local economy. When all the homes are built in the 500-lot subdivision, they will represent \$150 million in assessed value, he stated.

The project has benefited real estate people, financial institutions, plumbers, electricians, supermarkets and other businesses and individuals,

Schwettmann said.

"We're talking big bucks," he said. "What you're trying to do is nit-pick. You're saying we don't have an interest in maintaining those roads, but we certainly do."

Commissioner Rex Wilson said the county should look at two issues: changing road construction specifications and how to pay for maintenance when sufficient money is not being generated by the subdivision.

"I drove those roads last week and saw some deterioration there," he said. "However, if we charge a front foot assessment, the county should put on more staff to ensure the roads are maintained properly."

Road foreman Albert Hernandez said that beside lack of usage because of the low number of houses built, roads are deteriorating because contractors used too thin a chip seal surface application.

When the county contracts for a chip seal road (a mixture of rock aggregate and oil material), it requires the first layer to be three-quarters of an inch deep and the second layer to be

one-half an inch, Hernandez said.

But in the Ranches subdivision, he's seeing a first layer a half-inch deep and a second, three-eighths of an inch, the road boss said.

Chairman L. Ray Nunley said the county should adopt regulations sufficient to ensure roads last and can be repaired when needed without burdening the whole county.

He would support a front foot assessment "if it was not left there forever," Nunley said.

E.J. Fouratt, a member of the county road review committee, said with existing road-related rules, it appears the county is subsidizing developers.

The county also is subsidizing utilities by not charging franchise fees, which could be another source of revenue to maintain roads.

If people in a subdivision want major work or upgrading of their roads, they should form a special assessment district to pay for the work, which occurred in Alto Village, he said.

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Commission to review requirements for sewer systems in smaller subdivisions

A developer is asking Lincoln County Commissioners to lower requirements for sewer systems in small subdivisions.

County subdivision regulations require developers to install water and sewer systems when lots are less than two acres. The requirement is

stricter than state standards, which allow septic tanks on three-quarter acre lots if the land meets other conditions.

But Smoky Davis told commissioners Tuesday he plans a subdivision with less than 50 lots that will be served by the Ruidoso Downs municipal water system. The ground has passed a percolation test required by the state and with city water, no danger of well contamination

exists on the land near Agua Fria east of Ruidoso Downs, he said.

"But due to your ordinance, I can't get a variance for septic tanks," he said.

Commissioner Wilton Howell said he understands why the county would not want to allow septic tanks on smaller lots in a large development with hundreds of homes but the impact with a smaller development

would be much less. He added later that eventually the property probably will be annexed by Ruidoso Downs and it will be served by the municipal sewer system as well.

County Attorney Alan Morel reminded commissioners they already have reduced the lot size once from five acres to two acres.

Commissioners agreed to review lot size requirements at their meeting next month.

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Traffic fright for couple in midtown leads to petition

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Jack Mize and his wife were trying to cross Sudderth Drive last week when they became fearful of their lives.

"A pickup was coming along at 40 miles per hour," the midtown retailer told the Ruidoso Village Council Tuesday.

Fortunately, the truck didn't hit the couple, who have started a petition with other midtown shop owners asking that the village increase police enforcement in the area.

On Tuesday, Mize called councilors as well as Ruidoso Police Chief Lanny Maddox to task, saying the midtown was still too dangerous for pedestrians, despite a recent reduction in the speed limit, from 30 to 25 mph.

About 20 to 30 times a day, he sees cars passing pedestrians in the crosswalks instead of stopping, Mize said.

"You folks and the police force are supposed to protect us," he said, adding that he would like to see an officer monitoring midtown traffic at all times.

"I have my customers come in complaining about almost getting run over"

Jack Mize
Midtown merchant

Mize responded to Mize's concerns, saying he would like to have an officer in the midtown area all the time but didn't have the manpower to do so. His department responded to more calls for assistance in the past year than in any other year, he said.

Police officers did hand out \$50,000 worth of traffic citations in 1997, though, Maddox said.

He and other village administrators had discussed putting an electrical monitoring device in the midtown area to control traffic, he said. But none of the devices considered so far were practical in terms of where they could be placed in the midtown, Maddox said.

"Alan (Briley, deputy village manager) and I have discussed this even to the point of overhead signs above crosswalks," Maddox said.

Maddox disputed an inference by Mize that his officers do not stop speeders in midtown because the village doesn't want to alienate its tourism trade.

"If you are doing over 25, you are going to be stopped," Maddox said. "Whether you are cited or not is up to the discretion of the officer."

A state grant allows the department to put an officer, armed with a radar gun, in the midtown area for intervals, Maddox said.

Visioning session Tuesday to focus on lifestyle issues

Ruidoso's art, history, education and library services will be the topics at a Tuesday session of the Ruidoso Visioning Process Ad Hoc Committee.

The meeting is scheduled at 6 p.m. in the Ruidoso Convention Center.

Anyone interested in any of the above topics is asked to attend.

Information gathered from the meeting will be used by the committee to formulate survey questions on the above issues.

The questions will be included on a community survey, whose purpose is to gauge what residents and visitors want the village's long-range goals to be.

HILLSIDE: what the public wants

Continued from page 1A

"Perhaps we might just want to indicate something in the visioning process to make sure that this is what the public has in mind," he said.

Barrows and another member of the Planning and Zoning Committee, Ovella Estes, asked village councilors to reconsider the new regulations or at least review the ordinance's effectiveness at a later date.

Under the new law, developers could change the natural state of hillside lots too much, going from the previous restriction of 5 percent to 65 percent on steep grades, she said.

"What we have right now is too rigid," Estes told the council. "But the pendulum is swinging too far."

Upon learning what the sub-committee's recommendations were, Estes investigated the degree of slope involved.

"When I realized that you take the steepest slope of Ebarb Drive and that you can disturb 55 percent of that — that's too much," Estes said.

Hoyt said he approved of the new ordinance, though he would prefer no regulations at all, based on the high stan-

dards of local builders. Additionally, he said that even though developers under the new ordinance could disturb more hillside land, it didn't mean they would.

Among the portions struck from the law are requirements for soil stabilization report, a schedule of each stage of construction as well as the hours and days of construction and a map showing existing and proposed trees and vegetation with written information about the character of the vegetation.

The approved ordinance requires that the maximum percent of a site that can be disturbed is:

- On slopes of 0-20 percent, 75 percent may be disturbed;
- On slopes of 21-35 percent, 65 percent may be disturbed;
- On slopes of 36 percent or more, 55 percent may be disturbed.

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COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Ruidoso Village Council took the following actions Tuesday night at its regular meeting:

- Approved unanimously the residential terrain management ordinance to regulate hillside development for homes;
- Heard a complaint from midtown merchant Jack Mize regarding traffic and cross-

walks in the midtown area;

- Approved a resolution to seek \$190,000 in state money to improve Hull Road;
- Approved a resolution to seek \$ 180,000 in grant money to improve the police department's 911 addressing system;
- Approved vacation of 2,875 square feet of right-of-way in the Apache Hills sub-

division;

- Discussed a conceptual plan on community litter program from the Keep Ruidoso Beautiful Committee.
- Were advised in a presentation that the village received a federal grant of \$7.1 million for the first phase of construction of a crosswinds runway at the Sierra

Blanca Regional Airport.

- Discussed a schedule for the budget process for the fiscal year 1998-1999.
- Discussed a joint project of the Ruidoso Fire Department and the Parks and Recreation Department to clear 100 trees from an acre near Grindstone Lake as a test to reduce fire hazards.

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Last school bonds sold at low rate; building plans reviewed

BY JULIE BAXTER
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Ruidoso School Board got some good news about bonds and building projects Tuesday, and got a glimpse of the district's future look and shape.

The board accepted a bid from Southwest Securities Inc. & Associates for \$3.5 million worth of bonds at an interest rate of 4.617 percent. The \$3.5 million are the last bonds to be issued from the \$8.5 million bond referendum approved by

voters last February.

The board also took a look at plans for an addition at White Mountain Elementary School, which will be paid for by part of the bond money.

The addition will include six classrooms and will total a little more than 10,200 square feet.

With the prospect of the White Mountain addition being started by this summer, the board looked back on current projects and ahead at projects yet to come.

A new kitchen at Sierra

Vista Primary School and a new roof at Ruidoso High School are nearly complete. The kitchen should be up and running in a matter of days and the roof should be finished by the end of February. Both projects were paid for with money from the first issue of \$5 million in bonds last May.

Projects waiting in the wings include two auxiliary gyms for the district and a new roof at Ruidoso Middle School.

Architect Scott Stafford said plans for the gyms should be

ready for bid in four to six weeks, and could be built and ready for use by the time school starts next fall.

The middle school roof is a high priority, too. A serious leak last week damaged ceilings, floors and walls and left the district wondering how to minimize further damage until the weather dries up.

Superintendent Mike Gladden said the district will continue to patch and repair the roof until precipitation stops and some dry weather allows crews

to get to work on the new roof.

Waiting for dry weather is important, because when a new roof is installed, the old roofing membrane will be removed. And if a storm hits when that layer is gone, it could mean substantial leaking and substantial damage. The roof at the high school served as an example.

In December, a portion of the entryway soffit, or underhang, was damaged when a heavy storm hit while the roofing crews had the protective layer removed.

► Building status

School construction at a glance:

- High school roof, Sierra Vista kitchen nearly complete.
- Two auxiliary gymnasiums and a roof for the middle school are in the planning stage.
- \$8.5 million in bonds have been sold.

Superintendent's contract renewed for another year, clearing way for a future pay hike

The school district's budget gets an equalization boost from the state, but no added staff is anticipated

BY JULIE BAXTER
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The helm of the Ruidoso School District belongs to Superintendent Mike Gladden for another year.

The Ruidoso School Board unanimously voted to renew Gladden's contract, keeping him at the same salary but making him eligible for a raise in the future.

Gladden's contract, which is renewed annually, stipulates that when other staff members receive a raise, he will be eligible for the same raise as well.

In other financial matters, the board approved a \$157,400 increase to the district's budget authorization. Caron Snow, district business manager, explained that the authorization is simply the OK for the district to spend the money.

The money will be used to pay salaries and benefits for instructional assistants and ancillary service personnel such as psychologists and physical and occupational therapists. The \$157,400 is extra money the district received in state equalization funding for an increase in program costs and from the district's Dec. 1, 1997, enrollment count.

No additional staff will be hired. Instead, Snow called the spending authorization a restructuring.

The salaries and benefits were originally budgeted in the district's Impact Aid fund for Indian Education. A decrease in that funding caused a portion of the salaries and benefits to be restructured and to be paid from the district's general fund.

Snow said the restructuring is temporary until the year's end and will most likely be restructured again when the district drafts next year's budget.

Other budget transfers totaling \$34,255 also were approved for instructional materials, transportation rents and leases and a Title I tutoring program for elementary schools, which will be extended to the summer.

In other business, the

board:

- Presented a retirement gift to Nancy Anderson Branch. Anderson Branch was a teacher at White Mountain Elementary School for 14 years before retiring at the end of the last school year.

- Heard a food service report from Ken Weaver of Aramark. The food service corporation has been managing the district's food program to reduce deficits. He credited breakfast programs for helping food service make headway. Weaver said the district is now serving about 300 more meals a day than last year and credited teamwork as the reason for the program's success.

- Agreed to a board visit to White Mountain Elementary

and White Mountain Intermediate schools Tuesday.

- Accepted the resignation of Virginia Maes as an instructional assistant at Nob Hill Early Childhood Center and approved the hiring of Donna Bowen to replace her.

- Heard plans for the Region IX Education Coopera-

tive Staff Development Day to be held Feb. 26 at the Ruidoso Convention Center. No school will be held in any of the Region IX districts in order to allow staff to attend the workshops. Speakers slated include national consultant and author Nan Henderson and playwright Mark Medoff.

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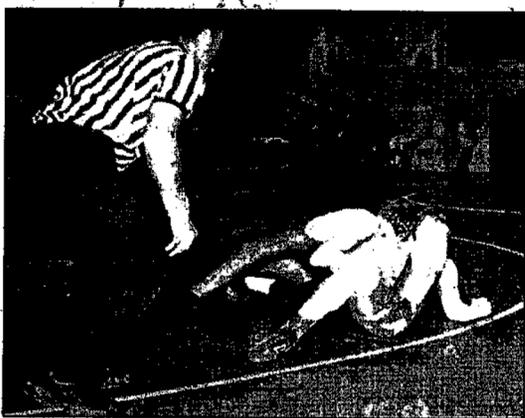
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Steve Bennett/Ruidoso News
The Ruidoso wrestling team will make its bid for the runner-up position at the district wrestling tournament Saturday in Silver City.

► DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

Wrestlers want silver in Silver City

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Cobre Indians wrestling team is the team to beat at Saturday's district tournament in Silver City.

Concede the gold. Fight like heck for the silver.

That's what Ruidoso wrestling coach Jerrett Perry expects from his Warriors.

"We've had the best three practices of the year this week," Perry said Thursday. "We feel like this is the first time since 1985 that we've had the possibility of

being a district runner-up."

There's little doubt in Perry's mind that the Indians won't win the team title. Cobre should challenge longtime power Aztec for the Class AAA state championship team laurels in a week, Perry noted.

But Perry thinks it's reasonable for the Warriors to like their chances for silver in Silver City.

"We're there. We're peaking. We just have to hold on until Saturday," said the second-year Warrior coach.

And he hopes the intense rivalry between Silver and Cobre

will serve as a decoy of sorts for the Warriors.

"Silver City is not even thinking about us. They're thinking about Cobre. We're going to come back and sting them," Perry vowed Thursday.

Controversial format

Controversy seems to come with the territory this year in Silver City. The hosts of the district tournament have decided to change the format from a dual meet tournament where each team wrestles the other in a dual to double elimination tournament

by weight class.

"District coaches are very upset about that," Perry said. "It's a tournament style we have to seed kids. None of us will be able to see kids according to the criteria."

The best method to seed individual wrestlers is head-to-head competition, but few of the district teams met this year in dual meets, Perry pointed out. Because of that, wrestlers will be seeded according to overall record, head-

See WRESTLERS, page 3B

Track official awaits senate's decision about gaming board

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

Unlike legislative sessions of the last several years, Ruidoso Downs Race Track general manager Rick Baugh can talk about this year's session with a relaxed confidence.

Baugh's toughest fight was put behind him in 1997 when the state legislature approved a bill allowing slot machines for the state's racetracks after two previous failed attempts.

His concern this year is House Bill 41, which, if approved, will fund the state's gaming control board.

"The best I could tell you right now is we're keeping a close eye on H.B. 41. It was approved by the House at 52-13, sent over to the Senate as of last Friday, and it came out of corporation and transportation to an 8-0 vote," Baugh said.

The bill passed the Senate Finance Committee by a 6-0 vote Tuesday, and was scheduled go the Senate floor for a vote Thursday or today.

"We're seeing no problems," Baugh said.

The bill would appropriate \$4.4 million this year for the start-up expenses of the gaming control board and its continuous computer monitoring of licensed gambling machines, and \$3 million for operation in 1999.

If approved, Baugh said it would take at least six or seven months before the gaming control board was up and running.

"Then you're looking at November before we could really operate - September or October, doubtful," Baugh said. "It just takes some time to get things done."

That means racetrack patrons probably won't be pulling slot machines handles in between races during the 1998 Ruidoso Downs race meet.

The Downs of Santa Fe decided it couldn't afford to wait until the late fall or early winter for its slot machine income to subsidize racing purses. Management elected not to offer a race meet this summer, which bodes well for Ruidoso Downs, Baugh said.

Traditionally, Santa Fe and Ruidoso Downs both operate their meets during the summer, but not this year.

"We're going to be overwhelmed with stall applications and we're looking forward to the challenge to accommodate all the horsemen," Baugh said.

Ruidoso Downs' 51-day race meet begins May 22 and ends Labor Day, Sept. 7.

With the probable passage of H.B. 41, Baugh sees the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel.

"Now instead of looking at years to get everything turned around, we're looking at months," Baugh said. "And that's something we were looking forward to for a long time."

Crowning scorer



Laura Clymer/Ruidoso News
Corona's Logan Marshall has ranked as one of the more prolific scorers in Class A boys basketball this season. Through last Friday the Cardinal was averaging 28.8 points a game. Marshall and his Corona teammates were in Carrizozo Tuesday, taking on the Grizzlies in a District 3A showdown. The Cardinals prevailed, 51-49. Carrizozo concludes the regular season with games at 7:30 p.m. today versus Fort Sumner and at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday against Mesilla Valley. The Grizzly girls, 41-36 winners over Corona Tuesday, also host Fort Sumner for a 6 p.m. game. Their district playoffs begin, in all probability, Tuesday in Corona.

Capitan girls searching for lost formula

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

Vertigo sidelined Tiger girls basketball coach Bryan Massé for his team's Tuesday game in Dexter.

But what's really making him nauseous and sleepless in Capitan is the Tigers' funk of late.

"I went to sleep at 4:30 a.m.," Massé said Thursday. "That's what it (a losing streak) will do to you."

A little more than two weeks ago the Tigers could hardly keep their feet on the ground after a come-from-behind, District 6AA victory over Tularosa - their first over the Wildcats in several years - Jan. 27. Capitan was 10-5 overall and poised to take the 6AA by storm.

Then came a shooting slump, resulting in a couple of losses and then some underlying team chemistry that led to dysfunction rather than fusion.

After Tuesday's 45-40 loss to Dexter, the Tigers find themselves 10-9 overall and 1-4 in the 6AA.

"As a coach there didn't seem to be any reason for us to be sliding," Massé said. "Why all of the sudden have we forgotten how to play? We're not even running the ball when we have the chance. We've been victims of ourselves."

So with one game left in the District 6AA regular season, Massé has sounded the red alert. The Tigers watched game film Wednesday, and they watched over and over.

"We went through the film and I didn't hold back any punches," Massé said.

The Tiger coach pointed out what the Tigers weren't doing - spreading the floor on offense, executing the fast break, getting low on defense.

"Basically we're just beating ourselves by not doing what we're supposed to do," Massé said. "It was time to tell them to quit pointing fingers and step up."

For the Tigers to step up, they need to beat Cloudcroft by more than four points. That would give Capitan the nod in the tiebreaker, because the Bears beat Capitan 47-44 in their first district meeting. Cloudcroft guard Beth Anderson burned the Tigers for 27 points in that contest.

A loss or a victory by two or fewer points means Capitan visits Cloudcroft Tuesday in the first round of the district tourney. A win by four or more and the Bears come to Capitan. (Should the Tigers beat Cloudcroft by three points, a coin flip will break the tie.)

"Friday night's ball game is for the first-round advantage," Massé said. "Hopefully we've learned that you don't get a whole lot of second

See TIGER GIRLS, page 3B

Tiger boys visit starving Bears in district match-up

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Tiger boys basketball team righted its swerving self Tuesday with a 56-50 district win in Capitan.

Capitan climbed into a tie for second place with the Demons at 2-2 in District 6AA play. The Tigers are 7-11 overall, heading into tonight's game in Cloudcroft against the Bears.

Cloudcroft is luckless in district action thus far, but don't overlook the Bears, said Tiger coach Gerald Montes.

"Since they haven't won a district game, I think we're going to be prime meat for them," he said. "I'm afraid they're getting ready to break loose and I don't want to be their victim."

For evidence, Montes points to the Bears' game against district-leading Tularosa. The Wildcats upped the district mark to 4-0 with a victory, but it wasn't easy.

"They played Tularosa pretty tough Tuesday," Montes said.

Cloudcroft post player Chris Evans worries Montes.

"We've got to stop him. If we don't stop him, it's going to be a long night," Montes said of the Bears' big man.

The last time the teams met, Capitan's Kris Davis and Eric Ferguson hand-cuffed Evans for the first half while the Tigers built a 20-point lead. Evans broke loose in the second half, however, and led a Cloudcroft comeback that fell short, 68-65.

"He scored 23 on us in the third quarter alone," Montes said. "We've got to do something to slow him down." Montes will send two Tigers at a time to attack Evans in tonight's game.

Capitan has two games left in the regular season, if it wins both of those games then the Tigers are almost certainly guaranteed a bye into the second round of the district tournament playoffs and a home game as well.

"I'm afraid they're getting ready to break loose and I don't want to be their victim."

Gerald Montes,
Capitan boys
basketball coach

"We're still in the hunt. We're still in the race. But if we don't play in Cloudcroft, then we're playing that Tuesday of district (playoffs) week," Montes said.

Varsity tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m. today in Cloudcroft, after the junior varsity contest.

Capitan 56, Dexter 50

Some clutch fourth-quarter free-throw shooting and an inside-outside scoring tandem lifted the Tigers over Dexter.

After forging an 11-point halftime lead and watching the lead disappear in the second half, the Tigers regained it on guard Garydon Silva's three-point bucket in the fourth quarter.

Capitan then hit 76 percent of its foul shots to secure the win.

Silva finished with 22 points, while Davis added 17 and Ferguson 9 for the Tigers.

District 6AA Standings

	District	Overall
Tularosa	4-0	10-9
Capitan	2-2	7-11
Dexter	2-2	N/A
Cloudcroft	0-4	5-15

Class AA Boys Top 10

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3. Hope Christian (tie) Mora
5. Mesa Vista
6. Jal
7. Clayton
8. Santa Fe Indian
9. Menaul
10. Escalante

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TIGER GIRLS: Capitan faces must-win game

Continued from page 1B

chances in life."
 It might be hard for some to believe, but just two weeks ago coaches were voting the Tigers into the Class AA Girls Top 10 poll.
 Massé believes his team is good enough to receive those votes because the Tigers beat traditional powers such as Tatum (twice) and Eunice.
 "We got a reputation early because of games like that Eunice game," Massé said.
 "People are expecting that team to show up, and I am too," he added.

Dexter 45, Capitan 40
 An uninspired defensive effort allowed Dexter's Demons to rally for the 6AA victory Tuesday. Dexter fought back from a 20-16 halftime deficit, despite a better shooting performance for the Tigers.
 "We didn't do a real good job taking care of the ball. We didn't do a very good job playing defense. We lost sight of our man ... gave a half effort on the press," Massé said.
TIGER TRACKS: It's been rough two weeks for Massé physically. After fighting off the flu, the Tiger coach was hit with vertigo Saturday

night. He couldn't walk, and if he did get up, he vomited. Massé didn't make it to school Monday or Tuesday. "I wouldn't have done them any good," he said. Assistant coach Gail Brown directed the Tiger efforts Tuesday...Friday could be the last home game for seniors Monica Johnson, Michelle Wilson, Courtney May, Tawnya Reynolds and Sonya Wood. Tularosa and Dexter play tonight as well. The Wildcats, who lost to Dexter earlier, must beat the Demons by 13 points to win the district's No. 1 seed. The winner of Tuesday's Capitan/Cloudcroft game plays Thursday.

WRESTLERS: Ruidoso goes for the silver at Silver

Continued from page 1B

to-head (if applicable) and invitational finishes.
 "It's impossible to seed kids who haven't wrestled each other," Perry said.
 Of the four schools fielding teams for the district's wrestling tournament, three will compete for team laurels - Ruidoso, Cobre and Silver. New Mexico Military Institute will take a partial team to Silver City.

Because there are only three full teams, Perry favors the old dual meet format.
 "I want to go dual format. That means we have a shot at Cobre and Silver," he said. "And it's an absolute fact who is district champ."

Perry said the Cobre coach is also displeased with the district tournament format. The Ruidoso coach will suggest a return to the old format at the Saturday morning seeding meeting.
 "It's beneficial for everybody," Perry said.
 Regardless of the format, the tournament will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday.
 What if Perry's suggestion is nixed?
 "We've been overcoming obstacles all year and this is just another one," he said.

Ruidoso's entries in Saturday's district tournament, by weight class, name, overall record and selected coach's comments in parenthesis:
 103 - Dusty Justice, 7-9
 119 - Cade Hall, 6-8
 125 - JJ Rue, 5-8

130 - Casey Arnett, 0-8
 135 - Austin Ritter, 0-5
 140 - Richard Gray, 14-5 (Should be No. 1 seed, a junior who was second at RHS Inv, second in Belen Inv, and a favorite for a district championship)
 145 - Grant Brumlow, 2-6
 152 - Seth Bassett, 6-8 (Perry is predicting an upset for his Warrior wrestler in the second-toughest weight class)
 160 - Remy Reidhead, 8-4, (Should be seeded No. 2, third at RHS Inv. "Remy has really come on strong and he's starting to wrestle up to his potential.")
 171 - Jason Leadingham, 11-5, (Should be a No. 2 seed. He's beaten his Silver foe and was second in Belen Inv. "Jason has had the best week of practice in his life. Jason is focused right now.")
 189 - Brett Meyer, 3-6, (Beat Silver once then lost to him by point at RHS Inv.)
 215 - Johnny Adams, 8-4, (Adams' Cobre opponent Madrid, was a state medalist last year. Adams beat Silver twice last year, but has lost twice this year.)
 HWT - No entry for Ruidoso. Freshman Gustavo Dominguez is sidelined with an injured knee.

On deck

Friday
GIRLS BASKETBALL
 Hot Springs at Ruidoso, 7:30 p.m.
 Cloudcroft at Capitan, 7:30 p.m.
 Fort Sumner at Carrizozo, 6 p.m.
BOYS BASKETBALL
 Capitan at Cloudcroft, 7:30 p.m.
 Fort Sumner at Carrizozo, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday
 Lake Arthur at Hondo, 6 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
 Lake Arthur at Hondo, 4:30 p.m.
WRESTLING
 Ruidoso at District 3AAA tourney, 2 p.m.
 Silver City

Dexter 45, Capitan 40
 Tularosa 54, Cloudcroft 32
 Carrizozo 41, Corona 36

Ski report

• New snow last 48 hours: 4 inches
 • Settled snow depth midway on the mountain: 69 inches
 • Surface conditions: powder and packed powder
 • Skiing conditions: excellent
 • Trails open: 55 of 55

Scoreboard

Tuesday, Feb. 10
BOYS BASKETBALL
 Santa Teresa 55, Ruidoso 50
 Capitan 56, Dexter 50
GIRLS BASKETBALL
 Lake Arthur at Hondo, 6 p.m.

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Don't miss your chance to have you're questions answered and to find out where the candidates stand on the issues. Remember, Election Day is March 3.

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► NEW BUSINESS

Committed to helping you get fit

BY JULIE BAXTER
RUIDOSO NEWS BUSINESS WRITER

John Pfenning admits he was bitten by the weightlifting bug nearly 25 years ago and the infection is still pumping in his blood.

Now Pfenning is introducing Ruidoso to the contagious thrill of getting, being and staying healthy. Pfenning is the man behind Fit Happens, a personal training business meant to help any and everyone get fit.

"I started in body building when I got out of the service and started college in the early '70s," Pfenning said. "In a short period of time I was bitten by the body building bug."

He said he liked the way it felt, the results he saw after a little bit of hard work and the challenge of pushing himself to do more and to do better. He said he thinks that others will share those joys if they give weight training a chance.

"There isn't anyone who can't benefit from this," Pfenning said. "It's all about creating a healthy lifestyle for longevity."

Long life isn't a benefit unless it's a quality life, he said. Weight training is one way Pfenning thinks people can ensure their golden years are indeed golden. He said regular workouts can increase flexibility, vitality, metabolism, lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and simply make you feel better.

"Resistance training is not for the person who's in their 20s who wants to get into body building," he said. "They're the exception rather than the rule."

Specific groups he said can benefit from the benefits of weight training include women in their 30s, 40s and 50s, older people with arthritis and young people seeking to start on a healthy path for life. For women, Pfenning said, regular weight training can prevent osteoporosis and for arthritis sufferers it can make everyday



Personal trainer John Pfenning guides client Stacey Miller through a workout at the Ruidoso Athletic Club.

things seem like everyday things again.

His client list ranges from a 16-year-old to an 80-year-old. The eldest client serves as a shining example of the benefits of weight training.

"For him, simple things like tying his shoes or getting dressed have gotten easier," Pfenning said. "Things we take for granted."

Pfenning said he tries not to ask for too much of his clients' time or his clients' money. He usually sets them up on an exercise regimen of three one-hour workouts a week.

"Three hours a week isn't that much. You spend an hour eating lunch anyway," he said. "One hour to exercise really isn't that bad."

The cost also is something he tries to keep reasonable. He stressed that this isn't Beverly Hills where clients are expected to pay \$50 or \$60 an hour just for the trainer's presence. He said he put his low cost in perspective by pointing out how much people spend on cosmetics, lotions and potions with the aspiration of looking younger.

Pfenning also doesn't expect every client to be a client for life. Instead, he sets up an exercise program for them, shows them what equipment to use, how to

use it without hurting themselves, walks them through a few workouts and then turns them loose if they want.

Subcontracting and working exclusively with clients at the Ruidoso Athletic Club, Pfenning said he's found a nice niche in health care. A physician's assistant as well as a certified trainer, Pfenning said he's seen his share of patients come and go. But now, he said he watches them get healthy instead of watching them get well, get sick and repeat the cycle.

"These people get healthier and healthier," he said.

As his clients get healthier, Pfenning also reminds them to not get frustrated.

"You didn't get out of shape overnight," he said, "you're not going to get back in shape overnight either. It just takes a little patience."

So far the majority of his clients have listened and stuck with it. His client base has grown to 18 since he started Fit Happens this fall and he's only had three or four drop out. Those that did drop out, Pfenning said, had just over-committed their time and had too much going on.

For more information about Fit Happens, call Pfenning at 378-4524.



Last year



This year



Next year

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We'd like to say thanks to everyone for the constructive comments. You can bet we're using this insightful information to take our standards to the next level. Which means things will continue looking up.



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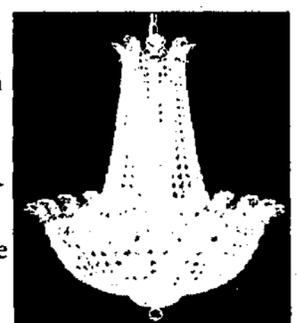
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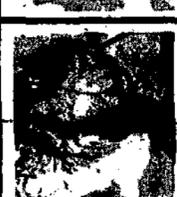
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ONE OF A KIND PROPERTY: Situated on 7 secluded acres with small creek and lots of pines. Custom built, 5 bedroom, 3.75 bath home with unique design. Over 3,000 sq. ft. plus two car garage. Priced way below replacement cost. \$250,000.00.

ADORABLE! Neat, clean, well maintained, nicely furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile in great location with year-round access. Completely fenced on large lot with city utilities. \$80,000.

GREAT LOCATION FOR FAMILY! Could qualify for FHA loan. Walk to school from this very affordable, neat, clean 3 bedroom, 1 bath, fenced back yard, storage building and covered back deck. Easy access and easy to enjoy at \$73,000.00.

Bill Pippin, Broker 336-4855

1-800-489-9289

FAST SELL NEEDED and they are ready to cut a deal on this versatile, 2 bedroom, 2 bath with 2-car garage in a nice neighborhood. Open living, dining & kitchen area. Good access, easy to enjoy. \$92,250.00

READY TO ENJOY! Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile located in good neighborhood close to town. Very clean, nicely furnished, covered parking, city utilities. \$51,500.00.

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New Mexico 88345
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SUN VALLEY HOME, 3/2 with gorgeous wood ceilings. Double garage, rock fireplace and great decks. \$149,500. Call Chris to see. 97-71285

GO FISHIN'!!! Cute, completely remodeled, 2 bedroom, fireplace, covered deck overlooks small waterfall on the creek. Easy, easy access, all one level. Best get-away around! \$69,900! Call Melody. 97-71848

DARLING TWO BEDROOM, 2 bath, just \$59,500. Owner will finance, excellent rental or full time. Call Marge. 97-71401

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 1 1/2 year old modular home situated on 3/4 acre, level, beautiful wooded lot with Sierra Blanca view. 3-2, 1512 sq. ft., fireplace, large deck-storage bldg, drywall and solid wood cabinetry throughout, skylight, all appliances including DW stay. Low county taxes and only 6 miles from town. \$79,000. Call to see 336-4988

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2 Real Estate Trades
PRICED TO SELL OR TRADE Home in Alamogordo or Tularosa for home in Ruidoso. 257-4551 or 585-8541.

4 Houses for Sale
2-2 CONDO, SIERRA BLANCA VIEW, cul-de-sac. Pine trees, furnished. Quiet neighborhood. White Mountain Estates. \$77,700.00. (505) 258-4893

THIS HOME HAS 3BR/2BA, double garage (attached) 2500 sq. ft. more or less, 3 acres with river frontage. Flat land, fruit trees, shade trees, large barn with pipe corral and stalls. 1 1/2 miles from town. Can't be shown any more. 805-778-4157 Owner/Agent

NEED A HOME, Low or No Down Credit Problems We can help call DL at 1-800-952-3488!

MOBILES FOR SALE 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, add-on, space 56, Cherokee Park. \$15,000. 64170 1931 Redman Space 183, Circle 8 Campground. Must see! HOLIDAY HOMES, 1301 MEICHEM, 258-3330

7 Houses for Rent
3 BEDROOM 2 BATH, washer, dryer included. \$650 month. Water hookup. \$300 deposit. Call Cynthia, Coldwell Banker, SDC. 257-5111

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OUT OF TOWN 800 257-0811
Pine Mountain Realty

LOVELY CONDOS AT CHAMPIONS RUN! One overlooking the track, 3 bedrooms and 3 1/2 baths, delightfully furnished, open garage, across the street from the pool. Absolutely one to see! Asking \$99,500. MLS #97-71394. Also Zetum, 3 bath, near swimming pool, unfurnished. Asking \$69,500. MLS #98-80015

RELAX ON YOUR VERY OWN SPACIOUS BEDWOOD DECK. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has an open living area that invites entertaining. Garage and a custom fireplace. Too much remodeling done to list item by item. List price is \$88,000. MLS #97-71110

CARRIZOZO HIGH DESERT LIVING WITH AN INCREDIBLE VIEW OF SURROUNDING MOUNTAINS! These 30 acres have fencing, 4 wells, one of which is irrigation. Historic two story adobe built in the early 1900's currently being restored. All utilities in place including natural gas and city water. \$99,000. MLS #97-70109

PRIME COMMERCIAL LAND approx. 600' on HWY 70, owner will sell all or part. Improvements will be negotiable if purchased with the 30 acres. Asking price \$125,000.00. Owner financing available to qualified buyers. MLS #97-71396

WAKE UP TO A BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF SIERRA BLANCA! Build your new home on this approx. 1/2 acre lot w/all city utilities available. One of the few lots left in this well established neighborhood. \$35,500. MLS #97-70270

CALL US FOR NIGHTLY OR MONTHLY RENTALS!

HELEN OR SUZANNE will help with your Classified Ad. Call 257-4001

3 Land for Sale
2 1/2 ACRE FLAT LAND with river frontage. Lots of trees. Call or see in person. 505-378-4157 Owner/Agent

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IN MOUNTAIN GARDENS Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath furnished, 2500 sq. ft. National forest, 4 stalls, 2000 sq. ft. pipe bull wire, 2000 sq. ft. rich soil, include all lot. Call 2 on Highland Dr. Walking distance Race Track and Sports Theater. Call great by appointment. \$99,900 378-8552

NEED A HOME, Low or No Down Credit Problems We can help call DL at 1-800-952-3488!

MOBILE HOMES ON MEADOWS 2 for 1 2 lots, 2 mobiles 1 price \$55,000 TOTAL REAL ESTATE 540 Sudderth Ann Roddy, call 420-7092 office 257-1381

NEW LODGE HOME in Upper Canyon. Rustic charm, sleeps 12. Nightly or long term. Owner/Agent 257-2876

KIMBLE KEARNS' INVESTMENT INSIGHTS
Cellular 420-1197
Office 257-9057

COUNTRY CHARM describes this "log home in the woods" near the end of the road, it offers seclusion and fabulous covered decks from which to enjoy it. It has 3 bedrooms and 2 baths, and was built with details and elegance in mind. Fruit trees and flower gardens, galore. \$160,000

THIS 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath home offers a huge view of Sierra Blanca. It is situated on 3.36 flat acres, where horses are allowed. Recently remodeled, it has an enlarged bathroom with a skylight, and an added fireplace/Earthstone. \$46,000

Call Kimble to sell your property Century 21 Aspen Real Estate 420-1197 257-9057

6 Mobiles for Sale
GOVERNMENTAL LOANS for new mobile home. Affordable housing! Down payment assistance if needed. 3 bedroom, 2 bath under \$299 month. Only 24 openings available! Free Pre qualification. 800-795-8372, 888-681-3242

LIMITED TIME SPECIAL BUY!
 Huge 5 bedroom, 3 bath Palm Harbor for only \$379 per month. 10% APR, 360 months - 10% down.
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ALTO! BEAUTIFUL AREA! 3BR, 1BA, fully furnished, sleeps 8. 208 Sun Valley Road. Close to Sid area. \$700 month, \$300 D.D. 625-1443 or 628-3610

GARY LYNCH REALTY
 616 Mechem Ruidoso, NM 88345
 lynchg@lookingglass.net 257-4011

CUTE, SPACIOUS, FULLY FURNISHED! Located in Innsbrook Village, this 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath condo comes with all the amenities! Fireplace, deck, storage and more! All one level. Owner motivated! Only \$60,000.

A JEWEL WITH A MAGNIFICENT VIEW! This 3 bedroom, 2 bath manufactured home was custom built to the owner/builder specifications. Fireplace, carport, storage, covered decks and more. Owner financing available to qualified purchaser!

HARD TO BELIEVE THIS PRICE! Enjoy a view of Sierra Blanca and the golf course from both decks! Two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo with fireplace, living room and dining area. Partially furnished. Only \$53,900! Possible Lease Option.
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1999 MOBILE HOME 12x60 with a 6x11 pull-out in the living room \$5,000 378-8040

810 UTAH, NEAT, 3BR/2BA, storage shed + fenced yard. \$35,500 Sierra Blanca Realty 257-2576

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8 Apts. for Rent
 111 RIO ARRIBA #6/ Unfurnished, 1BR/3/ 4BATH. \$625 per month, includes basic utilities. Call Cindy, Gary Lynch Realty, 257-4011. Lic.#273628

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102 Meadows Dr, Alto: Under construction with a permanent view of Sierra Blanca. A level access and lots of curb appeal will surely catch the eye. The exterior is stucco with lots of relief encompassing 44 corners to give the home architectural flair. The entry is especially attractive with the focal point being an oak, hand carved front door with transom and sidelights. This door was carved and signed by the Branson. Missouri artist. The entry door hardware is an exquisite Baldwin mortise lock. Marvin brand wood windows allow for lots of light and a maintenance free exterior finish. The view will be the topic in the home as you enjoy approximately 560 square feet of covered patio at the rear of the home. A three-car heated garage with an electric outlet for recharging a golf cart will be appreciated by the man of the house.
 About the interior: approximately 3,900 luxurious square feet of living area includes a master suite, with a large walk-in closet. The master bath includes his and her separate vanities, jacuzzi tub, glassed-in shower, and separate water closet room. The jacuzzi deck, vanity tops and shower are all finished in travertine marble. Featured in this floor plan are three additional bedrooms, 2.5 additional bathrooms, study/music room, large utility room with sink and built-in ironing board, family room with fireplace, living room with fireplace, breakfast nook, formal dining room and kitchen. The kitchen includes a smooth-surface electric cook top, double oven (convection/thermal), trash compactor, dishwasher, disposal and built-in microwave. A large walk-in pantry is flanked by birch cabinets with tile counter tops and with a work island in the middle of this well-arranged kitchen. The two gas fireplaces are custom designed to each be one-of-a-kind. Ten-foot-high ceilings are accented with graceful ellipsoid arches in the entry, formal dining room and living room. The floor finishes are ceramic tile and berber carpet. Accent lighting is achieved with recessed lighting both inside and out. A security system will add peace of mind to ownership of this home.
 A few extras included are: a full golfing membership, paved circular driveway, custom concrete entry, dual forced-air heat and refrigerated air with programmable thermostats, two 50 gallon natural gas water heaters with recirculating pumps for on-demand hot water, and many more custom features too numerous to mention. There is still some opportunity for further customization.
\$585,000
 For more information or an appointment to tour this site please call 258-4408 or 336-4175 or contact your local real estate agent.
 E-mail inquiries to dlr@lookingglass.net

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Call RENTAL HOTLINE - 257-9603
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HOMES FOR RENT:
 eEfficiency apartment- furnished, very clean, new paint, carpet & furnishings, utilities paid! \$400/mo. Credit check required. Call Donna Mobley at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.
 *Two bedroom, 3/4 bath furnished cabin, close to town, \$425/mo. plus bills. Credit check required. Call Donna Mobley at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.
 *Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath house, 2 level modified A-frame, large living area, unfurnished, \$750/mo. plus bills. Credit check required. Call Donna Mobley at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.
 *Two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Whispering Bluff Condo in great shape, Sierra Blanca view, close to the Links walking track. \$575/mo. No smokers. No pets. Available 2/11/98. Credit check required. Call Mask Mobley at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.

CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN

2/2 Unfurnished. No Pets. Ruidoso Properties 257-4075

111 RIO ARRIBA #1 Unfurnished 1BD/3/4 BATH. \$425 per month. Includes basic utilities. Call Cindy, Gary Lynch Realty, 257-4011 Lic#273528.

FURNISHED APARTMENT: ALL BILLS PAID in exchange for a couple to work front desk and light maintenance duty so many hours a week. Please call 257-4058

NICEST TWO BEDROOM, ONE BATH APARTMENT in town. Cathedral ceilings, washer/dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove included. Gas heat/hot water. "LOW UTILITIES" 257-9086 for details.

9 Mobiles for Rent

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH Mobile home. Washer, Dryer. \$400 month. You pay gas and electric. 257-4687

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH Furnished, clean, quiet, paved, microwave, washer, dryer. \$475 + bills. 257-6781

CAPTAIN MOBILE HOME LOTS FOR RENT, 1 Acre with utilities. Late model homes only. \$200 monthly. 354-3197

10 Condos for Rent

2BR, 2BA, PARTIALLY FURNISHED W/D, F.P., JACUZZI, SPOOL, HOT TUB, \$550 378-9191 after 4:00 weekdays, (anytime sat sun)

108 EAGLE DRIVE #8 Cute 2 Bdrm, 1 bath condo. On 2nd level, some stairs to access. Furnished, W/D, DW, FP, stove, refrigerator. Located in Golf Course Estates, course view and view of Sierra Blanca. \$650.00 per month + utilities. Call Kathy at Coldwell Banker SDC, Realtors 336-8489

FOX HOLLOW CONDOMINIUMS #27 Upstairs unit 2 Bdrm, 1 3/4 bath, partially furnished, W/D, DW, FP, stove, refrigerator. Located in White Mountain Estates, view of Sierra Blanca. \$500.00 per month, water paid. Call Kathy at Coldwell Banker SDC, Realtors 336-8489

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH CONDO Easy access, furnished or unfurnished. \$500/MO plus bills and deposit. 258-5853 257-4689 evenings. Ask for Chris.

DUPLEX, 2 BEDROOM, Approx 1000 SF, unfurnished, except kitchen. \$425 month. Water paid. References required. \$250 cleaning, damage deposit. Available immediately. 258-5717

11 Cabins for Rent

RENT ONE BEDROOM FURNISHED or unfurnished cabin. Ready 1st. Close to town. 258-5525 \$375.00/month

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EASY ACCESS

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13 Room for Rent

MATURE ADULT; Honest, dependable, nonsmoker. 258-3139

14 Want to Rent

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL LOOKING for 2 bedroom unfurnished house. Dog owner. Move in by March 1st. 257-4659 257-7540 Steven

15 Storage for Rent

L & D SELF STORAGE Hwy. 48 Space available. 256-4599 or 257-8463.

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4th Street Mini Storage - 312 4th Street, Capitán, NM 88316. (505) 258-5767. 1st 30 Days Free!

17 Business Rentals

RETAIL STORE OR OFFICE on HWY 70E, 1/2 East of Racetrack. \$300 plus electric. 378-4861

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616 SUDDERTH 6500 sq. ft.

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FOR LEASE: 850 sq. ft. office space, Jira Plaza, available 4/1/97. Brokers welcome. Cwen Russell, Real Estate Broker. 505/257-6341.

WHITE MOUNTAIN PLAZA Space available. 800 SF 1204 Mechem 258-5375

18 Bus. Opp.

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*Exceptional riverfront property for sale, lease or lease/purchase. One block from downtown walking district. Approx. 3,300 sq. ft. building, ideal for restaurants, micro-brewery, art gallery, etc. \$369,000. Call Mark Mobley at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.

*Large 4,400+ sq. ft. building on Mechem. High visibility. Great location for meeting facilities, warehouse (retail or wholesale), retail shop, restaurant, etc. Zones C-2. \$310,000. Call Mark Mobley at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR SALE: *Money making opportunity!! \$40,000 - \$50,000 worth of business guaranteed every month. Established business with unlimited potential available. Call Mark Mobley at Tall Pines Realty for details. 257-7786

*Inexpensive investment, good return! Mobile home park in Tularosa, NM \$79,900. Call Dick Weber at Tall Pines Realty for details. 257-7786.

*Lots of great possibilities and great location for this commercial property!! Seven cabins, seven RV spaces, approx. 22,000 sq. ft. available. Office, living quarters & rental unit on .96 acre lot. \$393,500. Call Pat Brown at 257-7786, Tall Pines Realty.

19 Autos for Sale

MUST SELL! 1988 Ford Tempo, 4 door, very good condition. \$2,200 O.B.O. 257-3007

FOR SALE 1983 MONTE CARLO Good condition \$2,800 OBO 378-7061 or 420-7563

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1994 FORD ESCORT, 4 door, 53,000 miles \$6,200. 378-4184

1990 ISUZU, 4WD, good condition, new motor, tires, brakes, battery, \$5,500. 257-8037 or 378-8315

20 Trucks/4X4's

73 CHEVY TRUCK Engine runs great. Needs transmission \$700 OBO 378-9187

1996 CHEVY Z-71 Extra Cab, 3rd Door, 350 Vortec, Automatic, 4X4, CD, Cruise, All Power, Factory Warranty \$23,900 REDUCED \$22,500 505-524-8300 505-642-5588

1986 GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4, V-8, All Power, Cruise, Air, New Tires, Automatic, 33K Miles, 6 Disc CD Changer IMMACULATE \$22,600 REDUCED \$21,800 505-524-8300 505-642-5588

1997 CHEVY Z-71 Extra Cab, 3rd Door, 350 Vortec, Automatic, 4X4, CD, Cruise, All Power, Factory Warranty 2 to choose from \$13,300 REDUCED \$11,800 505-524-8300 505-642-5588

21 Vans for Sale

1997 DODGE RAM WAGON 3500 VAN XLT package. 15 passenger, fully equipped. \$19,900 Mike 336-4044

1994 FORD AREOSTAR 4x4, v-6, 8 passenger, cruise, all power, air. Perfect for the snow \$13,300 REDUCED \$11,800 505-524-8300 505-642-5588

24 RV/Travel

RUIDOSO RETREAT Riverside R.V. sites for permanent vacation travel trailers. Reserve today for Summer!! 505-257-2576

27 Feed & Grain

HAY FOR SALE: Alfalfa and oat. Three Rivers Ranch 648-2448

1997 JEEP WRANGLER

4X4, 9,000 miles, factory warranty. Red, Beautiful \$15,600 REDUCED \$13,900 505-524-8300 505-642-5588

1981 JEEP CJ-7 Laredo, 6 cylinders, hardtop & bikini top, chrome rims. \$5,500 Call 257-1449 eat or sun

1995 TOYOTA 4X4 Pickup, 5 speed, AC Runs & Looks Great. 45K miles \$13,900 505-524-8300 505-642-5588

1986 CHEVY 4X4, 1/2 TON Pickup. New engine \$5,500. Mike 336-4044

1985 C-10 CHEVY PICKUP Automatic, runs good, camper top, new tires (front) \$1350 257-1346

1990 F250 SUPERCAB PICKUP with camper shell, XLT Lariat 8800 GVW 351, F.I.E., electric brakes, excellent condition. \$7,500 or take trade. 258-5583

1976 CHEVY PICK-UP 350 engine, A/C, P/S. Runs on gas or propane, #1200. 378-4438

29 Pets & Supplies

AKC YELLOW LAB PUPPIES Taking deposits. References & photos. Champion pedigree. Price \$200 265-2608

AKC MINIATURE PINCHER 1 1/2 Year old male. Black & tan. Proven stud \$350 Ruidoso Area (505) 378-8439

AKC MINIATURE POMERANIAN, 2 years old, male, red & cream. Proven stud. \$300. Ruidoso Area. (505) 378-8439

30 Yard Sales

"WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE UP OUR BUSINESS & WE'RE CERTAINLY NOT LEAVING TOWN"

CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO THIS LIST FROM TIME TO TIME

GARAGE SALE: Saturday only, 2/14, 8-7, 253 North Central "The Downs" Lots of miscellaneous

SATURDAY 2/14 Bent Tree Jamoree (1 Mile off Hwy 48 on Airport Hwy) Antiques, Gas Range, Ponic Tables, Beauty Shop Equip, Baby Items, Clothes.

MOVING SALE

MUST SEE!!! UNIQUE ITEMS 257-5680

END ROLLIS END ROLLIS FOR SALE NOW AT "THE RUIDOSO NEWS"

Great For Packing, Art Projects. \$1.00 per inch. From the core out. Call first for availability. 257-4001

MOVING SALE: Indoor Fri-Sat, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., golf clubs, furniture, household items, nice clothing, weight bench, baby items, drum set, wallpaper, 1/2 mile past Fairways on Mechem, Springs Condos. Look for Balconelli Everything goes. 258-3204

31 Household

DARK HARD WOOD SOLID Bed, table, 23 Very good condition. 258-5805

HOT POINT WASHER, GE DRYER, (BOTH ELECTRIC) brown queen hideabed sofa. \$50 each. 258-5814

Joyce's Furniture

New & Used Furniture New & Used Mattresses Used Appliances We Buy, Sell & Trade 650 Sudderth - 257-7575

COUCH & CHAIR, Beige pastel flowers, \$300. Three gold, brass glass and tables \$100, 378-4946. Washer, dryer, lazyboy matching recliners, 1941 Wood deck 378-8292

6 CHAIRS (1 EXTRA) Brown w/black upholstery, excellent condition \$100. 336-4661

Mansfield Furniture

"Buy, Sell or Trade" New & Used Furniture & Mattresses 257-3109 • 1000 Sudderth Dr.

33 Antiques

RECOLLECTIONS

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, FURNITURE, DECORATIVE MEASURES 147 HIGHWAY 20 AT THE Y 378-8162

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34 Arts

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35 Sporting Goods

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36 Miscellaneous

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37 Wanted to Buy

38 Help Wanted

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- River front property, huge cottonwoods, well already in on five beautiful acres in Ranches of Sonterra. \$65,000.
- Five flat buildable lots to choose from north of town from \$15,000 - \$16,000. All underground utilities already in.
- Beautiful building lot in Village of Ruidoso, 108 South Slope, view of Sierra Blanca. Gentle slope, underground utilities to edge of lot, .34 acre. \$23,500.
- 214 Lancashire, wooded and secluded, easy access. ONLY \$4,500. GREAT INVESTMENT! .33 acre.
- Three buildable, heavily wooded lots. Within walking distance to down town. City utilities available. HUD 2 home allowed. All three for \$25,500!
- Alto: beautiful treed lot on 16th T Box. Easy access, full golf membership. \$35,000.
- Pinecliff: Choice, buildable, accessible lot. Great views of village and Sierra Blanca. Over 1/4 acre. \$17,500.
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- Beautiful 1 acre tract lots on the river in Hondo valley. \$20,900.
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N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

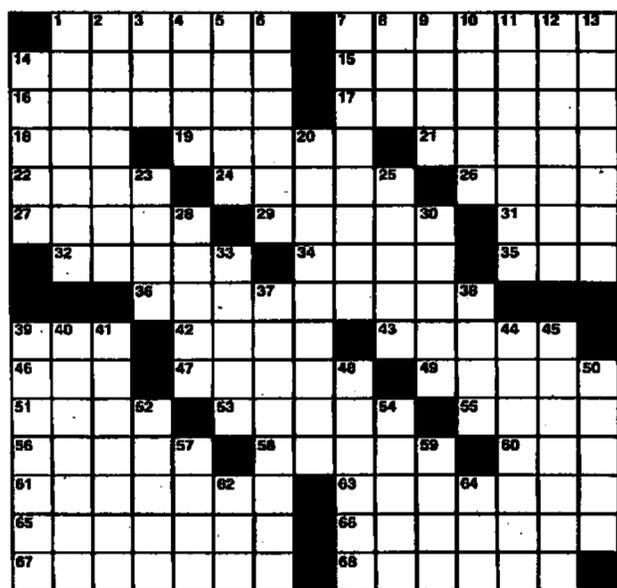
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0928

- ACROSS**
- 1 Proof of pedigree
 - 7 One left holding the bag?
 - 14 Kind of service
 - 15 Through
 - 16 Cobblers' forms
 - 17 Pirates
 - 18 J.F.K.'s service
 - 19 Kennel club rejects
 - 21 Annoyed with
 - 22 Zippo
 - 24 Gathering storm
 - 26 Part of a pedigree
 - 27 Used a prie-dieu
 - 29 Giverny artist
 - 31 Actor Ruman of "Ninotchka"
 - 32 Concert hall
 - 34 "— My Heart"
 - 35 Old bat
 - 36 Bankruptcy listing
 - 39 It's hard to get out of
 - 42 Traffic cop?
 - 43 Make tracks
 - 46 N.T. book
 - 47 Three-time Masters winner
 - 49 Cloaks
 - 51 Crockpot concoction
 - 53 Rosencrantz and Guildenstern
 - 55 Connecticut community
 - 56 Shinto temple gateway
 - 58 Powerful ray
 - 60 Hydromassage facility
 - 61 Follower
 - 63 Sanjo banjo
 - 65 Not as clear
 - 66 Dodgers
 - 67 Locks
 - 68 Puts another way
- DOWN**
- 1 Compatriot
 - 2 Changed a bill
 - 3 Life
 - 4 Netherlands town
 - 5 Incurred
 - 6 Gambler's strategy
 - 7 Nursery item
 - 8 Schooner's contents, maybe
 - 9 Knock
 - 10 Old Norse collections
 - 11 Inclined to sulk
 - 12 Forcible seizure of a ship, in maritime law
 - 13 Reserve
 - 14 Moxie
 - 20 Ricky's nightclub
 - 23 Songwriter Wilder
 - 25 Erector's set
 - 28 Players take them
 - 30 Olympics symbol
 - 33 "— my big mouth!"
 - 37 They wish
 - 38 Land
 - 39 Computer command
 - 40 Adequate
 - 41 1979 film with a Best Actress nomination
 - 44 Peregrination
 - 45 Hardens, or softens!
 - 46 Not as bright
 - 50 Astin and Lennon
 - 52 Thin strands
 - 54 Forestall, with "off"
 - 57 Medical suffix
 - 59 You love, to Livy
 - 62 Miss Peggy
 - 64 Mrs. William McKinley

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SWASTIKAS DISCO
 CONTINENT INLAW
 INTHEGATE SHERE
 SKEET TIP SHEETS
 LOGO SHORTS
 MATE ANTOINE
 EVENTS ANNE TEA
 DINAH HMS SKIPS
 ESS IHOP STEREO
 GRENADE PEEP
 TURTLE EAST
 ERNIE PYLE EARLE
 RIDGE DEPORTEES
 STERN EVENTIDES
 TERIS WINESTORE



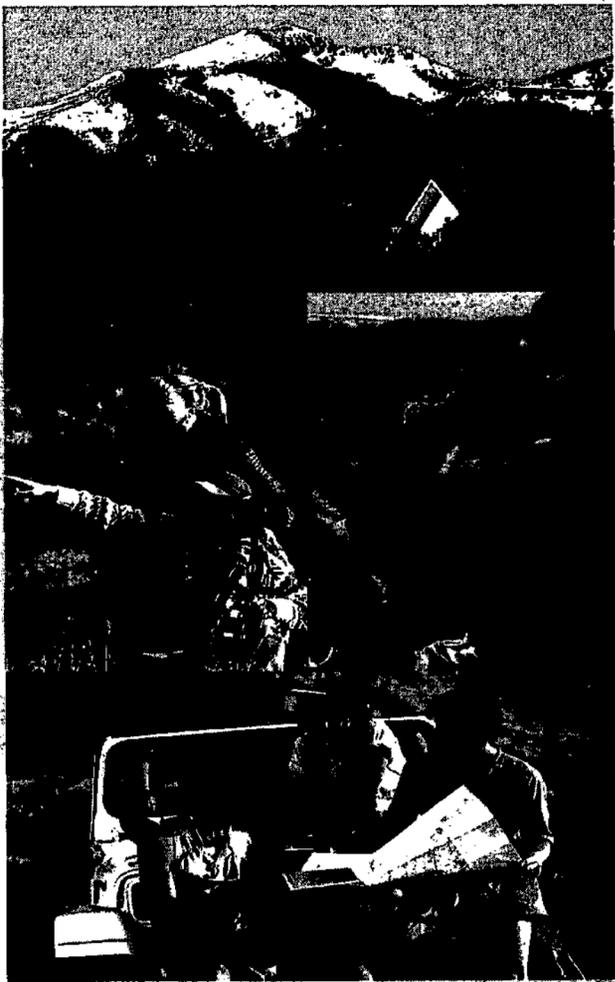
Puzzle by Gerald R. Ferguson

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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Come discover the best kept secret in the Southwest — where tall red pines kiss deep blue skies, and the surrounding valleys and mountains are as natural as they were 100 years ago. The Ranches of Sonterra is now offering 5-25 acre ranches starting from \$24,900. Of course, it almost goes without saying that this planned community has sensible development guidelines, paved roads, electricity, a private river park, limited rights to divide, and attractive seller financing. Just call our Visitors Center at 1-800-RUIDOSO (784-3676) for your lifestyle brochure and more information. No matter what you're looking for, once you visit The Ranches of Sonterra, you'll agree it's one of the most beautiful places on earth.



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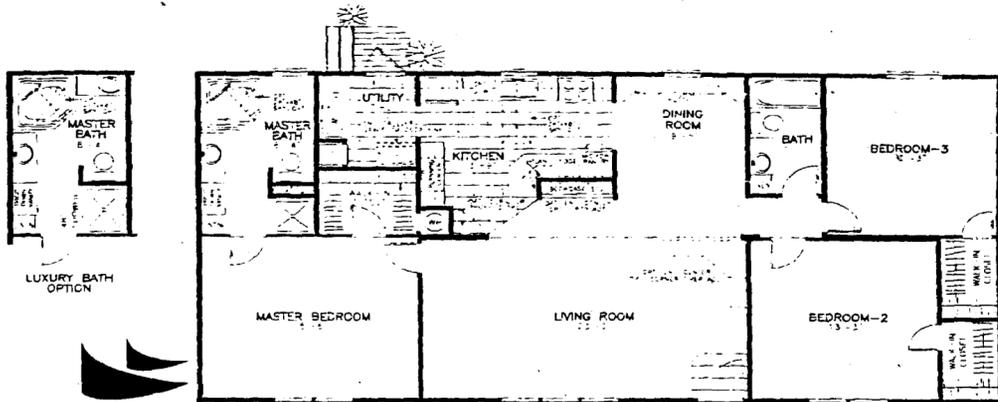
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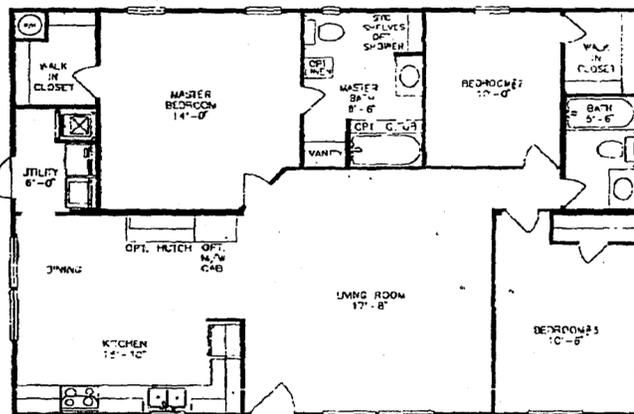


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|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. China sinks in bathrooms | 8. Dormer roof | 15. Water heater blanket & switch |
| 2. Linen cabinets & drawer banks in both baths | 9. Upgraded carpet | 16. 18 cu. ft. refrigerator |
| 3. Elongated toilets | 10. High-density urethane foam carpet pad | 17. Pot & pan drawers in kitchen |
| 4. Huge master close | 11. 150 lb. mortise hinges | 18. Lazy-Susan in top kitchen cabinet |
| 5. Metal mini-blinds throughout | 12. 12" eaves | 19. Cabinets lined throughout |
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| 7. Lever interior door handles | 14. Large utility room | 21. Furnace cabinet with door |



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655 Hwy 70 West, East of Museum of the Horse, Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT IN LINCOLN COUNTY

February 13, 1998



inside

Oh, those
summer
nights

3

Beyond
roses &
chocolate

8

Charming
until the
end

10



THE CAT'S PAJAMAS
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or Sherry
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financial needs!**



**Pictured left to right:
Irene Chavez, Trudy Lopez & Sherry Anklam**



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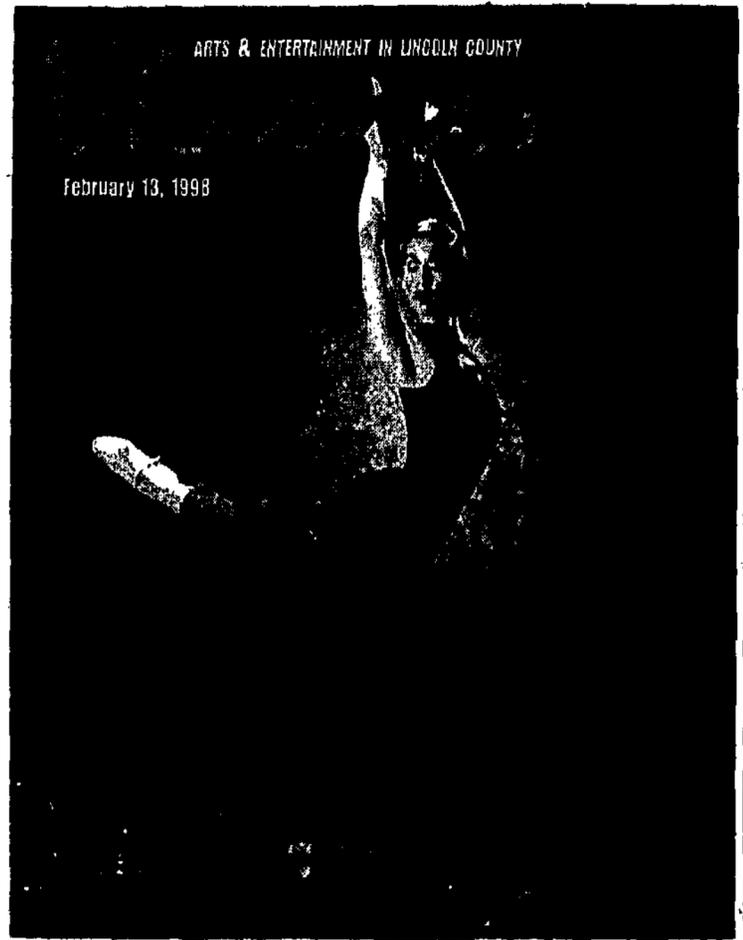
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Las Cruces
505/521-8188

The Adobe
1111 E. Mountain Ave.
Las Cruces
505/527-2795

Something terrible happens when
you don't advertise...

absolutely nothing

February 13, 1998



Courtesy photo

on the cover

The first summer season at Spencer Theater promises plenty of song and dance, plus a few snickers and symphonic sounds. For a preview of the complete lineup, see page 4C

further inside

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 - a chef's art11C
- ▼ **Dining guide**
 - where to eat what6C
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 - bridge tactics9C
 - N.Y. Times crossword9C
- ▼ **Past tense**
 - the grey fox, part II10C

vámonos staff

Laura Clymer,
editor



Julie Baxter,
staff writer



Meredith Keeton,
teen writer



Stephen Cardwell,
graphic designer



Free admission for the military

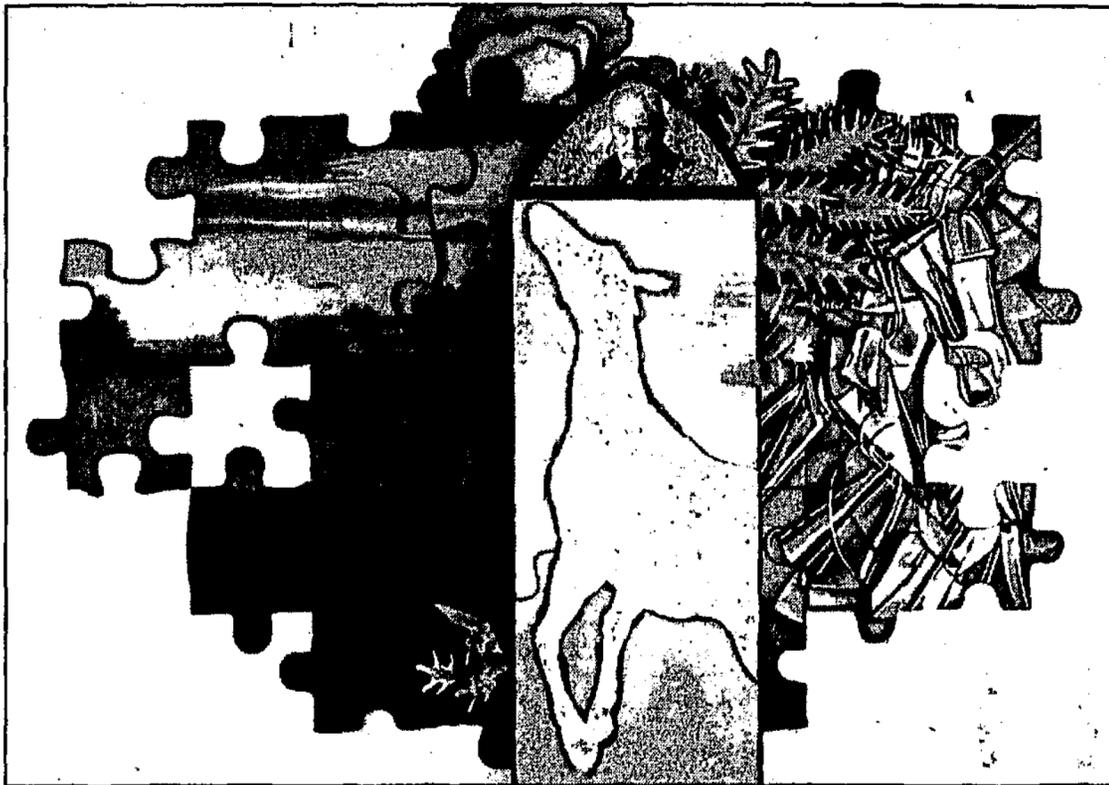
The Museum of the Horse is offering free admission for March to people with a military ID.

The museum's newest exhibit is Ken Dixon's "Order and Disorder: Famous and Legendary Horses of West Texas." These large-scale, three-dimensional works feature horses of distinction.

Of interest to military personnel is the continuing exhibition of Peter Hurd's wartime sketches, which will close March 29.

The exhibit captures World War II through the eyes of war correspondent Peter Hurd, who worked for Life magazine and the U.S. Army Air Corps.

For more information, call the museum at 1-800-263-5929.



"A Legends Descends A Staircase" a multimedia work by Ken Dixon.

EYE ON THE ARTS

Las Cruces museum opens its doors

The Las Cruces Museum of Fine Art and Culture will open its doors with a fund-raising gala and art exhibition.

The celebration begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 at the new museum, 500 N. Water St., Las Cruces.

The highlight of the event will be a special exhibition by acclaimed artists Carolyn Bunch and Tony Pennock. The Big Band on the Rio Grande will perform that night while champagne and hors d'oeuvres are served.

Tickets are \$40 a couple or \$20 each, and can be purchased by calling 541-2155.

Arts council gathers information for artists directory

The Lincoln County Arts Council is compiling the first directory of visual and performing artists and writers, as well as an index of services in Lincoln County.

An information packet for the Lincoln County Arts Directory will be available Feb. 15. Those artists interested in the directory should contact Virginia Jones at 354-2316.

The directory will serve in the arts community in a number of way. Among the benefits are:

- It will create a referral guide for individuals, arts organizations, schools, tourist offices and economic development offices state wide.
- It will make available a data base for artists, galleries, retailers and businesses.
- It will serve a resource guide for newly relocated artists, businesses, gallery owners, etc.

CALLS FOR ART

The Fourth Annual Miniature Arts Show at the Bardean Gallery in Albuquerque is slated for April. The gallery is holding a juried show of miniature art for artists living in New Mexico.

Most media accepted, including: oils, acrylics, watercolors, gouache, pastels, egg tempera, prints (hand pulled), pencils, inks and mixed. Works are to be original and two-dimensional are to follow the traditional maximum image size of 25 square inches, representational pieces to follow a 1/6 scale (or smaller). Sculpture will be accepted this year, with the maximum size being 8 inches by 8 inches by 8 inches (including mount).

The deadline for submitting works is March 20. For more information or a prospectus, call (505) 881-1122.

BENSON FINE ART

Jira Plaza, 700 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso, 257-2813.

Ethnographic art, historical prints and maps are also available. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday or by appointment.

Duncan Studio Gallery

Downtown White Oaks, (505) 648-2253.

The studio of post-impressionist representational artist John Duncan and the impressionist works of his wife (who paints under the name Palla) is the historic Taylor Home (1887) in this living ghost town and budding artist colony. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, as well as most week days. Call ahead to be sure.

Eagle Ranch Art Gallery

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

The Alamogordo Senior High School advanced art class will show its work through January. The students have used a wide range of mediums for the show, which is a kaleidoscope of talent. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

Gail's Frame of Mind

1204 Mechem, White Mountain Plaza, Ruidoso 258-9071.

The gallery features original art by Gaylon Gillem, Patti Mayes, Barbara Diehl Westbrook, Bernice Landrum, Billie Long, Bruce Chapman, Teresa Hughes, Red Moore, Marcia Bizeau, Monty and Barbara Jones, Denise Dorn and Virgil Stephens. Also showing antiques from various vendors. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Hurd-La Rinconada Gallery

Off Hwy. 70 in San Patricio, (505) 653-4331.

The gallery exhibit includes works by Peter Hurd, Henriette Wyeth Hurd, Andrew Wyeth, Michael Hurd, 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.

L.C. Mercantile & Trading Post

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

Discover the art of Southern New Mexico with works by Peter Rogers, Jose Rivera, Suzanne Donazetti, Ken Payne, Geraldo Kirwin, Elaine Armstrong and others. On-premises studios of photographer Lionel Lipmann and Marilyn Gunnell, designer of fine objects in stained glass. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Sunday and by appointment.

Lincoln Heritage Trust

Lincoln Heritage Trust, Lincoln (505) 653-4025.

Garrizozo artist Polly Chavez's Spanish Colonial New Mexican Retablos continues. 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. Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. every day.

McGary Studios & Expressions in Bronze Gallery

2002 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-3790, 1-800-687-3424.

Dave McGary's combined 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 through Saturday, closed Sunday.

The Montano Store

Hwy. 390, Lincoln, (505) 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.

Mr. Legends Gallery & Foundry

610 E. Hwy. 70, Ruidoso Downs, 378-8040.

7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, public bronze pourings and foundry tour.

Museum of the Horse

Hwy. 70, Ruidoso Downs, 378-4142.

Ken Dixon's "Order and Disorder: Famous and Legendary Horses of West Texas" opened Jan. 31. Peter Hurd's wartime sketches continues until March 29. Museum hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

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, (505) 653-4203.

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

Spring Canyon Gallery

The Gazebo Place, 2117 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, (505) 257-1561.

Creating images of the Southwest in mixed media, acclaimed artist Misha Malpica opens her Spring Canyon studio to the public. Her sculptures are on display at the gallery. 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, (505) 354-4206.

The Laggs 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 (505) 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 Mt. 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. "A collection of talented clay artists." Call for gallery hours.

White Oaks Pottery Studio

3 1/2 miles NE of White Oaks, (505) 648-2985.

From her hand-built adobe studio, potter Ivy Heyman throws mostly functional pieces in the shadow of Patos Mountain. The studio is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Call first to confirm.

To have your studio listed in "Bellas Artes" submit the studio name, address, phone number and artist information to: Vamonos, The Ruidoso News, P.O. Box 128 Ruidoso, NM 88355 or FAX to: 505-257-7053. The listing is free of charge.

Summer Sizzles At Spencer



Ruidoso has never seen a summer quite like this — cool pianos and hot brass, modern dance and old-fashioned laughs, Celtic thunder and childhood wonder. The closing of the slopes and the opening of the track still signal the change of seasons; license plates still turn from yellow to white as Texans migrate to the cool pines. But for the first time in history, the glacial Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts gives a whole new meaning to summertime in Ruidoso.

It's a Summer Festival of Events at the Spencer, beginning in May and ending 20 performances later in August. Thirteen spectacular events include some of the biggest names in music and dance, plus fun and educational family shows.

In May, audiences will thrill to the high-energy moves, innovative choreography and lush theatrical style of the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble (May 15-16), and soak up the lazy-river sounds of classical guitarist Christopher Parkening (May 29), performing a special tribute to his mentor, the legendary guitarist Andres Segovia.

In June, local young people get another chance to perform with a professional touring group at the Spencer. The Missoula Children's Theatre (June 13, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.) will need children of all ages for roles in its rendition of the children's classic "Cinderella." Auditions will be held Monday morning, June 8, at the Spencer Theater.

Following the children's theater, the Spencer welcomes five overgrown children with extraordinary talent. Marching onto the stage in tuxedos and formal sneakers, Canadian Brass (June 20) will do just about anything for a laugh. Known as the "Marx Brothers of Brass"

and "The Court Jesters of Chamber Music," this all-brass ensemble of virtuoso musicians delights audiences with music from Mozart to Gershwin to Dixieland.

Actually, Spencer Theater audiences can expect to laugh a lot this summer. Marvin Hamlisch (June 26) may not look like a funny guy, but the Chorus Line composer has more than one quip up his sleeve. In a solo piano performance, Hamlisch personally reviews some of his favorite tunes from his award-winning scores for shows like *The Goodbye Girl*, *The Sting*, *Sophie's Choice*, *Ordinary People*, *The Swimmer*, and of course, *The Way We Were*.

July's programming features some serious fun and moving performances. Jon Nakamatsu (July 10-11) is the first American to win the prestigious Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Ft. Worth since 1981. Performing with the Ft. Worth Symphony Orchestra, Nakamatsu's Friday night concert features a Beethoven Piano Concerto and Saturday's performance is a salute to Gershwin, including the favorite "Rhapsody in Blue." In between shows with the Van Cliburn Gold Medalist, the Ft. Worth Symphony Orchestra (July 11, 2 p.m.) pauses for some fun with a special matinee show called "Adventures in Music," a one hour symphonic experience for the entire family.

Also in July, the Paul Taylor Dance Company (July 17-18, 8 p.m.) brings its unique kinetics to Ruidoso.



Currently in its 42nd season, this acclaimed company is known for blurring the boundaries between ballet and modern dance. Emmy-award winner Paul Taylor has been an irresistible force in the dance world since 1968 and is acclaimed by critics as "the world's greatest living choreographer."

August has never been so cool, starting with Quartetto Gelato (August 1). It sounds like a dessert, but Quartetto Gelato is a delightful ensemble of four friends and many instruments. With mandolin, oboe, English horn, violin, cello, guitar, accordion, and a sense of humor, Quartetto Gelato performs an exciting mix of classical favorites, operatic arias, traditional melodies, tangos and gypsy fiddling.

Things heat up when Trinity Irish Dance Company (August 7-8) storms the stage with aerial grace, percussive power, and lightning fast agility. Inspired by ancient Celtic myths and stories, this Chicago company of young dancers integrates modern dance style with traditional Irish step dancing. World champions of Irish Dancing, this is the company that inspired Riverdance.

The following weekend brings a completely different dance experience to the Spencer with River North

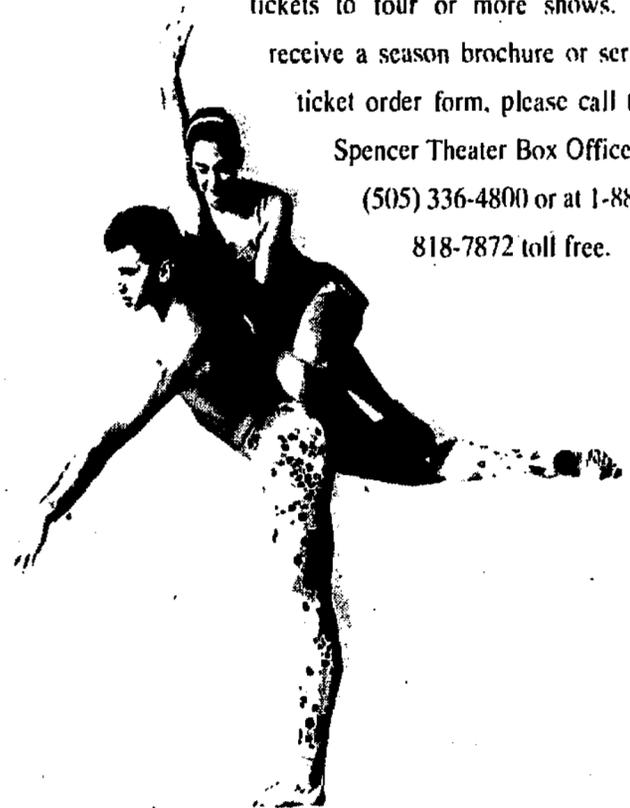
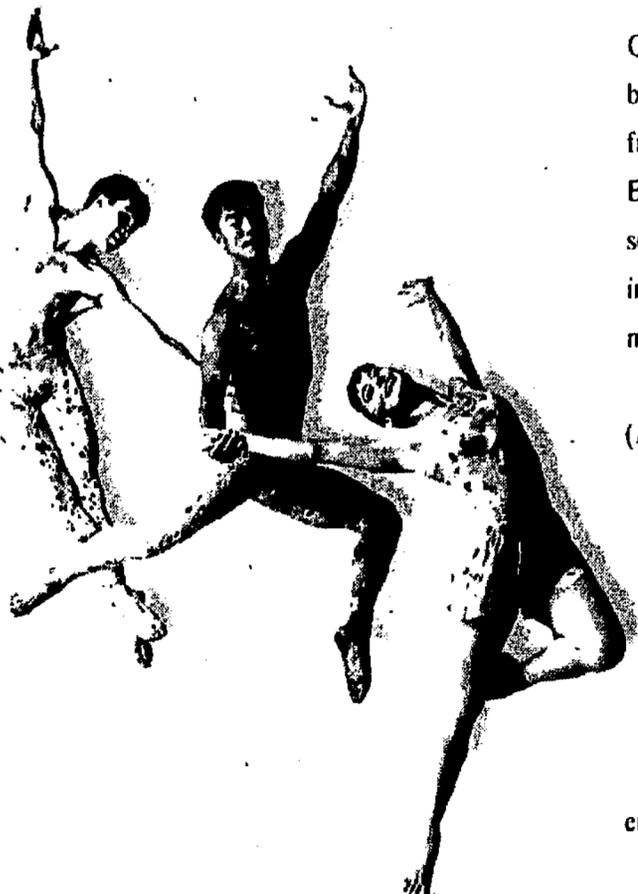
Dance Company (August 15). This powerful Chicago dance company mixes modern jazz dance with tango, salsa, and even the jitterbug. River North also presents a special family program called "Street Beat" (August 16, 4 p.m.). "Street Beat" is a jazz dance retrospective specially designed for young audiences. Beginning with the Roaring '20s, each decade up through the '80s is represented by dance and the performance includes information about the major events of the decade, social conditions, popular music and fashion, and heroes and movie stars.

Classical music with a twist, or popular music with class, is the specialty of pianist John Bayless (August 22). One of Steinway's featured artists, this Julliard-trained Texan blends classical piano with contemporary popular music and Broadway tunes. His "Bach Meets the Beatles" CDs have all hit the top of the charts, and Bayless is hailed by critics as a master improviser and pianistic genius.

The summer season wraps up with one more jab to the funny bone. Nonsense (August 28-29), performed at the Spencer Theater by the Albuquerque Civic Light Opera, is the long-running Broadway musical comedy about a convent of scheming nuns. With light-hearted nun-puns, wacky singing sisters, and shameless one-liners, this show will have audiences praying for mercy.

Summer Series tickets go on sale March 1 (starting at \$142 for four events); and single ticket sales begin April 1. Theater lovers can save up to 8 percent on ticket

costs when they purchase a series of tickets to four or more shows. To receive a season brochure or series ticket order form, please call the Spencer Theater Box Office at (505) 336-4800 or at 1-888-818-7872 toll free.





A Guide To The Finest Restaurants In The Area



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: at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.,
 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. Fri. and Sat.



Bentley's Brew Pub & Paw

If you're pining for a pint of Old English Ale look no further than Bentley's. The Ruidoso brew pub serves up European and domestic micro brews and fine wines, along with some fabulous food. House specialties include fish and chips and steaks hand cut on the premises.

Price Range: \$\$
Phone: 258-4232
Address: 1133 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso
Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.,
 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fri. and Sat.



K Bob's Steak House

Steaks, seafood, prime rib and the best salad bar 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 with a Southwestern flare, the Cafe has "edible art" by chef Anthony Carpenter for breakfast, lunch and dinner and fajita specials all weekend.

Price Range: \$\$
Phone: 257-6693
Address: one mile south of the Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: Lunch 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily,
 Dinner 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Mon.-Fri.,
 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sat. & Sun.



Che Bella

Take a tasteful trip to Northern Italy at Che Bella with its selection of pastas, gourmet pizza, veal, poultry, steaks and fish. And once you've finished your meal, stay a while in the cigar and martini bar for a cosmopolitan way to cap off your evening.

Price Range: \$\$
Phone: 257-7540
Address: 2823 Suddenth Dr., Ruidoso
Hours: Fri., Sat. & Sun.
 Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.,
 Dinner Wed.-Mon. 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.,
 Bella Bar 4:30 p.m. - Midnight.
 Closed Tues.



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: open daily, call for information and/or reservations.

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.



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 speciality dishes like filet mignon with green chili bearnaise sauce are also patron pleasers.

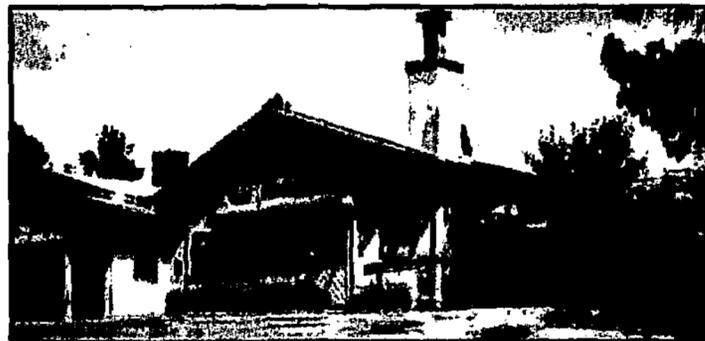
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$
Phone: 257-9355
Address: 657 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso
Hours: 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat.



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. to 5 p.m., Dinner 5 to 10 p.m., Closed Tuesdays.



Top of the Inn Deli & Pizza Parlor

Fresh baked pizzas, large deli sandwiches, soups, ice cream and bakery goods seven days a week. 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: the Inn of the Mountain Gods, Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
Hours: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sun-Thurs, 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. Fri. and Sat.



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

Established in 1985, La Lorraine specializes in French and gourmet dining. Chef Rick Vashina's pepper steak and creme brulee are bound to make your mouth water. 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 2:30 p.m. Tues.-Sat., 5:30 to 9 p.m. Mon.-Thur., 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat.



Price range key: entrees priced \$7 and under = \$; entrees \$7 to \$15 = \$\$; entrees \$15 and over = \$\$\$



Going Out

VIDEORAMA

Showtime Video's new releases for February

Feb. 3

Hercules
G.I. Jane
Gang Related

Feb. 10

Airforce One
National Lampoon's Don's Analyst
Subway Stories

Feb. 17

Critical Care
Devils Advocate
Double Take
Good Burger
Matchmaker
Most Wanted

Feb. 24

The Edge
Ernest in the Army
First Time Felon
Mad City
The Man Who Knew Too Little

Showtime Video's Most Rented Videos for Feb. 1-13

Hercules
G.I. Jane
Gang Related
Airforce One
National Lampoon's Don's Analyst
Subway Stories

BILLBOARD'S BEST

1. Soundtrack - Titanic
2. Celine Dion - Let's Talk About Love
3. Spice Girls - Spice World
4. Usher - My Way
5. Matchbox 20 - Yourself or Someone Like You
6. Backstreet Boys - Backstreet Boys
7. Savage Garden - Savage Garden
8. Chumbawamba - Tubthumper
9. Mase - Harlem World
10. Spice Girls - Spice

N.Y. TIMES BESTSELLERS

Hardcover fiction

1. Paradise - Toni Morrison
2. Cold Mountain - Charles Frazier
3. Fear Nothing - Dean Koontz
4. A Certain Justice - P.D. James
5. The Winner - David Baldacci
6. Cat & Mouse - James Patterson
7. The Investigators - W.E.B. Griffin
8. Memoirs of a Geisha - Arthur Golden
9. The God of Small Things - Arundhati Roy
10. Then Came Heaven - LaVyrle Spencer

Sweet spots to take your sweetheart

I'd rather be on the couch!



Looking for a place for a romantic evening with your mate this Valentine's Day? Here's a look at what's happening at some local restaurants and bars.

• Win, Place & Show, 2516 Sudderth Dr., 257-9982

Sweethearts dance with live music by Measa Country starting at 8:30 p.m., no cover charge and drink specials.

• The Texas Club Grill and Bar, Innsbrook Village off Cree Meadows Drive, 258-3325.

Dinner specials for the special day. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

• The Winner's Circle, 2535 Sudderth Dr., 257-9535

Valentine's bash featuring drink specials and d.j. music.

• Mescalero Nightclub, Carrizo Canyon Road, 257-6693

Valentine's party from 8 p.m. to close with d.j. music and drink specials.

• Casino Apache, Inn of the Mountain Gods, 257-5141

Valentine's celebration begins at 7 p.m. featuring live music, giveaways, free refreshments, door prizes and a grand prize of a diamond pendant necklace.

• Inn of the Mountain Gods, Dan Li Ka Dining Room, 257-5141

Special menu including dessert and champagne, \$50 per couple. Reservations required.

• The Incredible, North Highway 48, 336-4312

Special Valentine dinner dishes. Dinner starts at 5 p.m. and reservations are required.

• Bentley's Brew Pub & Paw, 1133 Mechem Dr., 258-4232.

Dinner specials for two including dessert, choices are Filet Oscar for \$21.95 and Surf and Turf for \$25.95. Specials are available starting at 5 p.m. and the doors open at 11 a.m.

• Cree Meadows Country Club, dinner and dance sponsored by the First Christian Church, 258-9100 or 258-3099.

Live music, food, dancing and Valentine pictures. Tickets are \$12 and available at the door.

Just a note, if you were hoping to take your sweetie to one of the most romantic spots in town - Victoria's Romantic Hideaway - you're out of luck. The cozy dinner spot is booked solid Friday through Sunday, and has already turned 48 people away.

What does your honey really want to do on Valentine's?

When it comes to the best way to celebrate Valentine's Day, do men and women agree? Not really, according to a recent survey conducted by Blistex Inc.

Blistex recently telephone queried some 500 men and 500 women across the United States in all age groups and backgrounds to determine their biggest Valentine's Day turn-ons and turn-offs, favorite gifts and favorite ways to celebrate the romantic holiday.

Surprisingly, 47 percent of men surveyed said that kissing on the couch was their biggest turn-on, compared to dancing to a favorite song (19 percent), relaxing with a foot massage (15 percent) and sharing a decadent desert (12 percent). Women, on the other hand, voted kissing on the couch their least favorite Valentine's Day activity (18 percent). For them, dancing to a favorite song (30 percent) headed the list, followed by relaxing with a foot massage (25 per-

cent) and sharing a decadent dessert (21 percent).

Both sexes (31 percent) did agree, however, that 10 extra pounds was the biggest Valentine's Day turn-off. Bad cologne or perfume and razor stubble were almost tied for second at 24 and 23 percent, respectively.

Other survey results include:

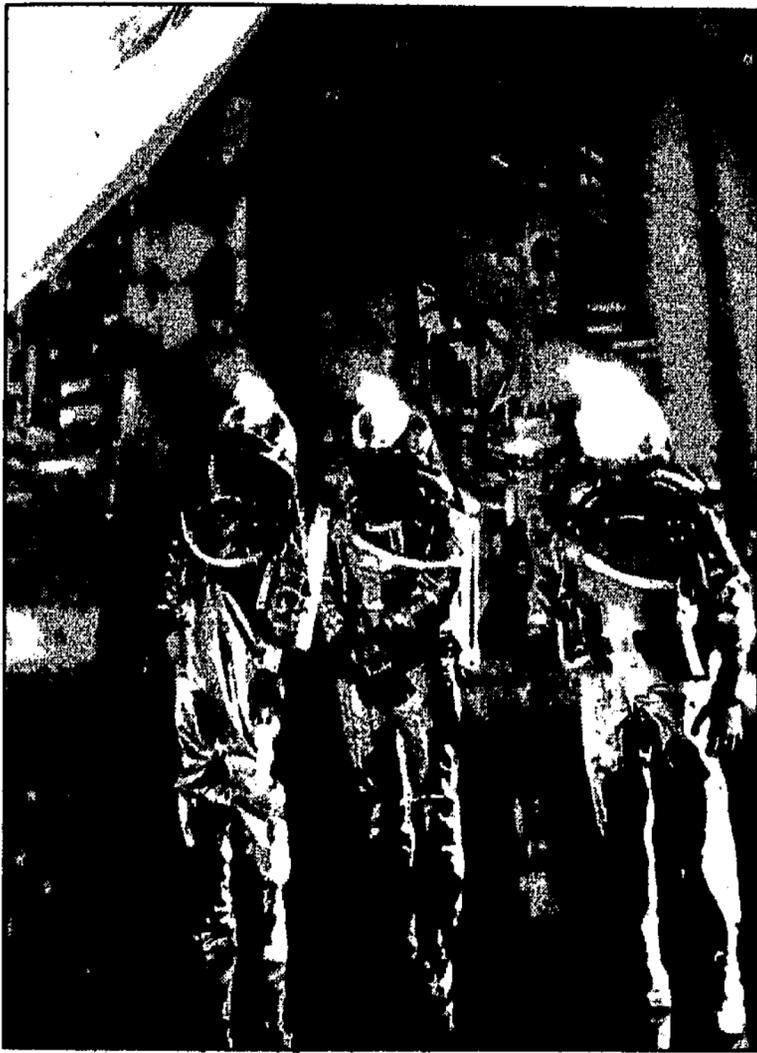
• Both men and women agree that a romantic weekend getaway is the best way to celebrate Valentine's Day (49 percent). Survey respondents in the 18- to 24-age group indicated that a night out on the town was the second best way to celebrate, while all other age groups indicated that a quiet evening at home would be more enjoyable. Going solo with a good book and a pint of ice cream was the least favorite choice (8 percent).

• Topping the best gift list for men (52 percent) and women (39 percent) was a candlelight

dinner. Running a close second for women was a bouquet of flowers (38 percent), followed by a box of chocolates (9 percent) and a memorable kiss (7 percent). Men would prefer a memorable kiss (18 percent) to a box of chocolates (12 percent) or a bouquet of flowers (4 percent).

• When asked what they would most like to receive for Valentine's Day, men would rather start a new romance (9 percent) than get a bouquet of flowers (4 percent). Starting a new romance was the last thing on women's wish lists (5 percent).

• Eleven percent of men and 8 percent of women surveyed have had a first date on Valentine's Day. Of those respondents, 64 percent said the evening ended with a kiss and 20 percent said it ended with breakfast.



Dustin Hoffman, Sharon Stone and Samuel L. Jackson learn the shape of terror in "Sphere." Barry Levinson directs this screen adaptation of Michael Crichton's best-selling novel.

Fear takes shape at cinema

Let's check out what's showing on the silver screens of Sierra Cinema. Opening today is "Sphere." For more information call 257-9444.

Sphere

Rated PG-13
Show times: 12:45 p.m.*, 3:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.*

Plot: A thousand feet beneath the ocean surface in the middle of the Pacific, something has been discovered. Its origin, its structure, its malevolent energy are baffling. But whatever it is, it can reach into your mind. It knows your worst fears. And now its starting to make those fears come true ...

Barry Levinson directs this terrifying science fiction thriller based on Michael Crichton's best seller.

Good Will Hunting

Rated R
Show times: 12:30 p.m.* and 6:45 p.m.

Plot: Wildly charismatic. Impossibly brilliant. Totally rebellious. Those are just a few ways to describe Will Hunting (Matt

Damon). For the first 20 years of his life, he has called the shots. Now, he's about to meet his match.

Like his friends in his rough, working-class South Boston neighborhood, Will does menial jobs between stints at the local bar — and run-ins with the law. He's never been to college, except to scrub the floor as a janitor at MIT. Yet he can summon obscure historical references from a photographic memory and almost instantly solve math problems that frustrate Nobel Prize-winning professors.

As Good As It Gets

Rated PG-13
Show times: 3:30 p.m. and 9:40 p.m.*

Plot: When he walks down the street, Melvin Udall (Jack Nicholson) contorts himself to avoid touching other people. He eats the same greasy breakfast every day, in the same restaurant, served by the same waitress — Carol (Helen Hunt). He keeps to himself as much as possible. When he does speak to other people, it's never to say anything nice. He's threatening and can never find a

compliment for his gay artist neighbor (Greg Kinnear) or Carol.

But, as played by Nicholson, Melvin's also a pretty slick obsessive-compulsive bigot.

Winner of three Golden Globe awards, "As Good As It Gets" has been winning the praise of critics everywhere.

Titanic

Rated PG-13
Show times: 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Plot: The journey of the Titanic begins in the present, at site of the ship's watery grave, two and a half miles under the ocean's surface. An ambitious fortune hunter is determined to plumb the treasures of this once-stately ship, only to bring to the surface a story left untold.

Destiny has called two young souls, Rose De Witt Bukater (Kate Winslet) and Jack Dawson (Leonardo DiCaprio), daring them to nurture a passion that would change their lives forever.

* **Show times Friday and Saturday only.**

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

BRIDGE TACTICS

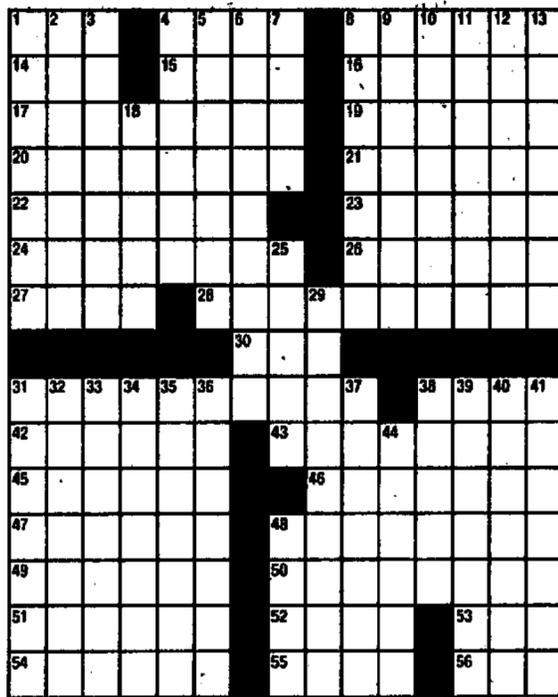
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0531

- ACROSS**
- 1 One may be red, white or silver
 - 4 Bar placed across a guitar fingerboard
 - 8 Buttonhole
 - 14 Osaka-to-Tokyo dir.
 - 15 Neisse River's outlet
 - 18 Mambo's cousin
 - 17 Light, one-seated carriage
 - 19 Night-blooming cactus
 - 20 Coal tar derivatives
 - 21 One may be terrible
 - 22 Approve, in a way
 - 23 Oscar winner West
 - 24 Robe rooms
 - 26 More mysterious
 - 27 Host
 - 28 Rips through pages?
 - 30 Melted glaze
 - 31 Beastly blower
 - 38 Opera "The Tale of — Saltan"
 - 42 Antarctica's — Coast
 - 43 "Tsk!"
 - 45 Cruise destination
 - 46 Statue brought to life, in myth
 - 47 Kind of plan
 - 48 Studying secondarily
 - 49 Musicians' treasures
 - 50 Almost any Three Stooges movie
 - 51 Heed John the Baptist's advice
 - 52 "The Girl With the Hatbox" star
 - 53 "Taps" time
 - 54 Electropilating terminals
 - 55 Kettle sound
 - 56 It starts in April in D.C.

DOWN

- 1 A Ford
- 2 One who does voice-overs
- 3 Style of the Ashcan School
- 4 Beneficiary's brother, perhaps
- 5 Keats, to Shelley
- 6 Cartoon character who debuted in 1944
- 7 They're found in the ground
- 8 Assumed, with "to"
- 9 Guillotined French poet André de —
- 10 Dough to go?
- 11 About 3½ million square miles
- 12 Didn't go near



Puzzle by Frank Longo

- 13 Some test participants
- 18 Cracked
- 25 Words before "Love" on screen and in song
- 29 Lauders
- 31 Nancy's successor
- 32 Creative types
- 33 Heavy-handed group
- 34 Obscured, with "out"
- 35 Travel agent's suggestion
- 36 Can't take
- 37 1973 Pulitzer winner Fitzgerald
- 38 "Amadeus" choreographer
- 39 Gorge
- 40 Fixed up
- 41 Chromatography spray
- 44 Popular liniment brand
- 48 Mare's-nest

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RETARDS AQUEOUS
 EXAMINE BURKINA
 TUGBOAT JIGGLES
 ARTIS ACUTE LAH
 IBET SPORE RITA
 NIA SHAME TANEY
 SAMEHERE WIZENS
 GOITALONE
 SQUAWK GAMESHOW
 CURDY LAMAS OVA
 ROOS ALIEN GOER
 ENL FROND CAPRI
 ESOTERY UNLOOSE
 NEGATED COULEES
 STYLETS KNESET

RUFF STUFF

South dealer.
 East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A 10 6 3
 ♥ J 6 6
 ♦ J 9 8 2
 ♣ K 7

WEST
 ♠ 2
 ♥ 10 8 7 4 2
 ♦ K 10 5 4
 ♣ J 8 3

EAST
 ♠ K Q J 9
 ♥ —
 ♦ A Q 7 6 3
 ♣ Q 10 6 4

SOUTH
 ♠ 8 7 5 4
 ♥ A K Q 9 8
 ♦ —
 ♣ A 9 5 2

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♥ Pass 2♥ Double
 4♥

Opening lead — two of spades.

taken by dummy's ace. South could see at once that he would not be able to score more than eight tricks — five hearts, a spade and two clubs — if he drew trumps at once. So he chose a line of play that would allow him to score as many of his trumps separately as possible.

He began by cashing the K-A of clubs and ruffing a club with dummy's five. A diamond was ruffed and declarer's last club was led. It didn't matter whether West ruffed the club or not. In practice, West ruffed with the eight, which was overruffed by dummy's jack. South then ruffed another diamond in his hand with the nine.

Seven tricks had been played, and declarer had won them all. The A-K-Q of hearts took the next three tricks, and the defenders scored the rest, West's trumps winner going on one of East's spade tricks.

Observe that the defender's seemingly certain four tricks somehow became compacted into three at the end. That's the way things often go in crossruff hands.

The crossruff is an indispensable weapon in the declarer's arsenal. In the right circumstances, it has the power to overcome opposing honor cards and unfavorable distribution — sometimes both.

Take this case where South reached four hearts on the bidding shown. At first glance, it may seem that because of the bad breaks in both hearts and spades, declarer must lose three spades and a trump trick to go down one.

But, thanks to the crossruff, that's not the way it turned out — and there was nothing the opponents could do about it.

West led his singleton spade,

© 1998 King Features Synd., Inc.

Charming until the end

This is the second of two parts about the outlaw known as the "Grey Fox" — Bill Miner.

San Quentin prison was never exactly Club Med, but in the last century, prisoners lived under horrendous conditions by any standard. Bill Miner was incarcerated there from 1881 until June 17, 1901, when the 54-year-old stagecoach robber was released into the 20th century.

PAST TENSE



Drew Gomber
Lincoln
Heritage Trust
Historian

Miner's stay in San Quentin was not uneventful. There were frequent escape attempts, and during one, Miner was wounded in the face by a single buckshot. His companion in this attempt was killed. Also, in 1889, Miner was stabbed by a fellow convict. Bill Miner, was, no doubt, glad to be free, but he must have found the world into which he was released somewhat daunting.

Welcome to the 20th century

Much had changed since 1881. The telephone had become commonplace, with people routinely making long-distance calls. There was talk of a new contraption that could actually fly, and the roads were beginning to become clogged with automobiles. The last "improvement" must have been particularly distressing to Miner. With the horse no longer in use as the average man's primary form of transportation, there would, of course, be no more stagecoaches to rob.

After Bill's release from San Quentin, he headed to a place called Samish Flats near the town of Bow, Washington. His elder sister Harriet resided there with her husband. Shortly after his arrival, Bill took a job as superintendent of an oyster bed. As usual, he was later remembered as being courteous, friendly and mannerly.

Bill Miner kept his nose clean for a whole two years, but hey, nothing lasts forever.

Plenty of trains

On the night of Sept. 19, 1903, Miner, in the company of two accomplices, attempted to halt the Oregon Railway and Navigation Express.

As is frequently the case with life, things just didn't go as planned. The bandits had come up with a plan to stop the train, but executed it on the wrong track. As the train thundered by them, they contemplated tossing a lit stick of dynamite onto the express car, but quickly abandoned the thought out of fear of injuring the passengers.

Four nights later, they again attempted to rob the same train with disastrous results. They managed to stop the train all right, but then discovered that the express messenger had locked the door to that car. Attaching some dynamite to the car door and warning the men inside to get clear, the outlaws blasted the door to splinters. Unfortunately for them, as soon as the door was clear the guard inside turned loose with a shotgun. One of Miner's accomplices tumbled into the ditch

next to the track, badly wounded. Miner rushed to the man, and mistakenly ascertaining that their partner-in-crime was dead, he and his other accomplice vanished into the night.

Within a month, Miner's two accomplices were captured and told the authorities the identity of the third bandit. But the crafty Miner was not so easily caught and remained at large. The Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company posted a \$1,300 reward. But Bill Miner was no longer in the area. In fact, he wasn't even in the country.

Canada

Having adopted a new name, "George Edwards," Bill Miner took up residence near Princeton, Canada. As was his custom, Miner began making friends rapidly. In September of 1904, Miner, in the company of new accomplice "Shorty" Dunn, left Princeton to go and make the acquaintance of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Along the way they rendezvoused with Jake Terry, a former partner and friend of Miner's.

On the night of Sept. 10, 1904, the trio, under cover of a dense fog, slipped aboard the Canadian Pacific Railway's Transcontinental Express No. 1 while it stopped to take on water at a place called Mission Junction. They concealed themselves in the baggage car.

Imagine the engineer's surprise when, as the train pulled away from the water tower, someone's hand suddenly rested on his shoulder and the command "Hands Up!" was shouted into his ear. Finally, things went well for the outlaws. Very well. They escaped with \$50,000 in U.S. Bonds, and a whopping \$250,000 in Australian securities. As he debarked, Miner instructed the engineer, "Be careful when you are backing up that you don't meet with some accident."

Whether or not he was aware of it, Bill Miner had just perpetrated the first train robbery in Canadian history.

The Pinkerton Detective Agency, which knew no nationality where criminals were concerned, was called in and rewards totaling \$11,500 were posted for the capture of the three bandits. A huge manhunt was initiated and several arrests that proved to be false, were made, but Bill Miner — now George Edwards again, was already back in Princeton.

A favorite of the children

George Edwards was a favorite of the children in the town. He would give them rides on his horse, tell them stories or show them his pistol. George Edwards was welcomed virtually everywhere he went in Princeton — no one suspected he was the notorious Bill Miner.

Several interesting stories of Miner's stay in Princeton have come down to us. During the winter of 1905, Miner discovered that one of the little girls in town had no one her own age with whom to play. The outlaw spent two days clearing a field and then flooding it, making a pond on which the little girl could skate.

On another occasion, Miner was giving a ride in a buckboard to some children when an accident occurred, injuring one of the children. Miner sat up the entire next night,

personally nursing the injured boy. It was easy for the local folks to grow quite fond of "George Edwards."

It was on Oct. 2, 1905 that Miner, in the company of Jake Terry and Shorty Dunn, robbed the Great Northern Overland Passenger Train just north of Seattle. After the robbery, Miner and Dunn again took up residence in Princeton.

Versatility

Another interesting story about Miner comes to us from a place near Kamloops, Canada. One Sunday when the preacher failed to show up at the local church, the sermon was given by none other than Bill Miner. We can only guess, but it must have been difficult for the aging bandit to keep a straight face.

It was on May 10, 1906, that Bill Miner, along with Shorty Dunn and new recruit Louis Colquhoun, robbed the Canadian Pacific Railway's Imperial Limited No. 97. This time, things didn't go near as well as the outlaws had hoped.

For starters, during the robbery, Miner's mask worked itself loose and before Bill could adjust it, one of the railroad employees got a good look at him. Then, the three bandits overlooked several packages containing a total of \$40,000 in bank notes. In the end, the total take was \$15.50.

The next day, the Mounties were called in. Provincial Police Constable William Fernie went to the holdup site and found some dynamite, wrapped in a Kamloops newspaper. Kamloops was Fernie's bailiwick, and alone, he began tracking the outlaws.

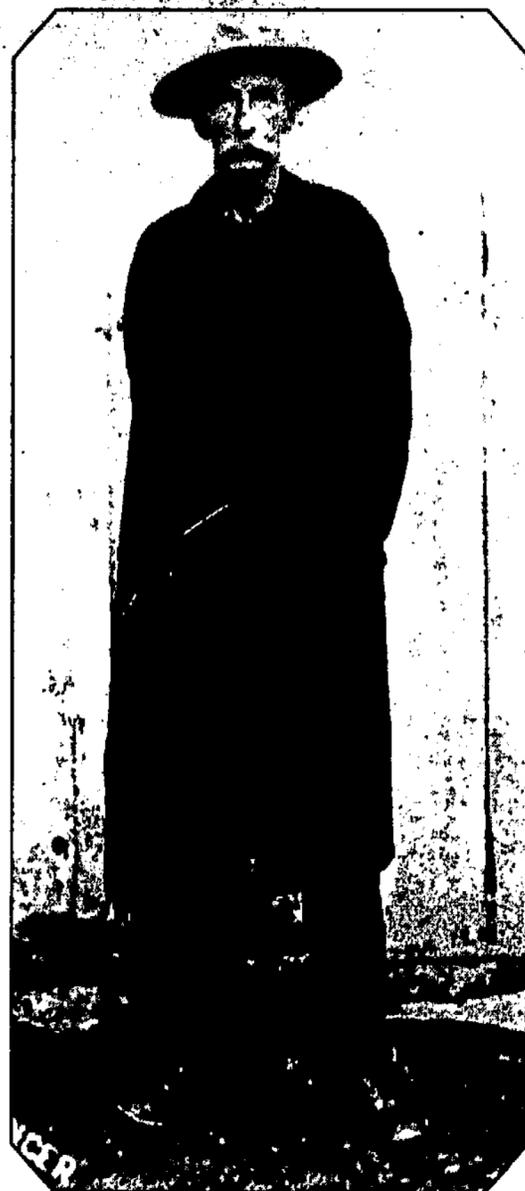
The capture

It was on the morning of May 14 that Fernie suddenly and unexpectedly came face to face with the three outlaws. As Fernie was in civilian clothes, the conversation remained casual and pleasant. Fernie was, of course, aware that he was facing three desperate men and wisely did not attempt to make an arrest. Instead, as soon as he was out of sight, Fernie rushed to find the Mounties.

Returning to the site, the lawmen confronted the bandits. Miner was determined to talk his way out of the situation, but Shorty Dunn panicked and took flight, shouting "Look out boys, it's all up!" Two of the Mounties covered Miner and Colquhoun while the others took off after Dunn. After a brief gun battle in which Dunn was wounded in the leg, the three bandits were taken into custody.

The authorities were not exactly merciful. Colquhoun was given a 25-year sentence and Miner and Dunn were given life. Miner's sentence was because of his previous record and Dunn's was because he had fired on the police.

The feeling of most Canadians is



Bill Miner in his later years.

reflected in a popular joke of the time: "Oh Bill Miner is not so bad," they would say, "he robs the CPR once every two years, but the CPR robs us every day." Miner wasn't quite through yet, though. On Aug. 8, 1907, the aging outlaw escaped from the New Westminster Penitentiary and vanished. The Canadian authorities never saw him again.

It was at this point in the film "The Grey Fox" that the audience was led to believe that Miner was never captured. Well, as much as some of us would like to believe that the aging, engaging old outlaw remained at large, it simply wasn't the case.

Returning to the U.S., Miner resumed his criminal career, robbed a train in Georgia and was captured on Feb. 22, 1911. At the age of 64, Miner was given a sentence of 20 years.

His health was beginning to fail, but Bill Miner's charm had not left him. Escaping from a prison farm near Milledgeville, Ga., on Oct. 18, 1911, Miner was captured on Nov. 3. In July of the following year, Miner escaped again but was captured almost immediately. While being returned to Milledgeville, Miner's vehicle was stopped by a large, cheering crowd that presented him with money and cigars.

The end finally came on Sept. 2, 1913. At the age of 66, the old charmer finally made good his escape from prison by dying of gastritis.

Of all the prisoners ever housed at the prison in Milledgeville, Bill Miner was the only one whose funeral expenses were paid by the citizens of that town.

Q&A

Richard Vashina, head chef at La Lorraine graduated with honors from Johnson & Wales University, one of the largest culinary schools in the country. He has been a top chef in restaurants and resorts from Houston to Charleston, S.C. He expresses his artistic impulses through his flair for food.



Q: Presentation of your dishes is very important to you, isn't it?

A: I think the initial impression is the most important thing. To me it's 100 percent important. It's the ultimate importance. And secondary would be the overall flavor, balance and texture of the food.

Q: What's was one of your more elaborate visual creations?

A: I once took a 32-pound block of white cheddar cheese and carved it into a medieval castle, put knives in it with around it bread and put it on a table at a wedding reception.

Q: What's the most elaborate entree you've prepared?

A: Well, the one they seem to like here is the poached salmon rosettes on lobster sauce. I take the salmon (fillets), shape them into roses and poach them in a flavored broth. Then I put three on a plate, use zucchini as stems and carve the zucchini leaves. On the bottom, I use different vegetables to make it

look like grass or bushes.

Q: Where do you do your experimenting, here or at home?

A: I do it in my mind at home, first. Then I come here and put it together ... I visualize and think of these items, whether we have it, whether it's available, and whether the staff can do it.

Q: So, do you like to eat junk food when no one else is around?

A little bit. It's kind of like a plumber. Usually a plumber has the worst plumbing in the whole city at his house, right? So, my diet is not as balanced and nutritious as it should be.

Q: What's your favorite junk food? Poptarts? McFries? Pudding cups?

A: (laughs) Fruit Loops.

Q: What would you rather be doing, cooking an elaborate meal or eating an elaborate meal?

A: I would rather cook it from start to finish. To tell the truth, I would. Because it is so much fun. And being an artist, which I am, having the capability to do something like that is just overwhelming.

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SPHERE (PG-13)
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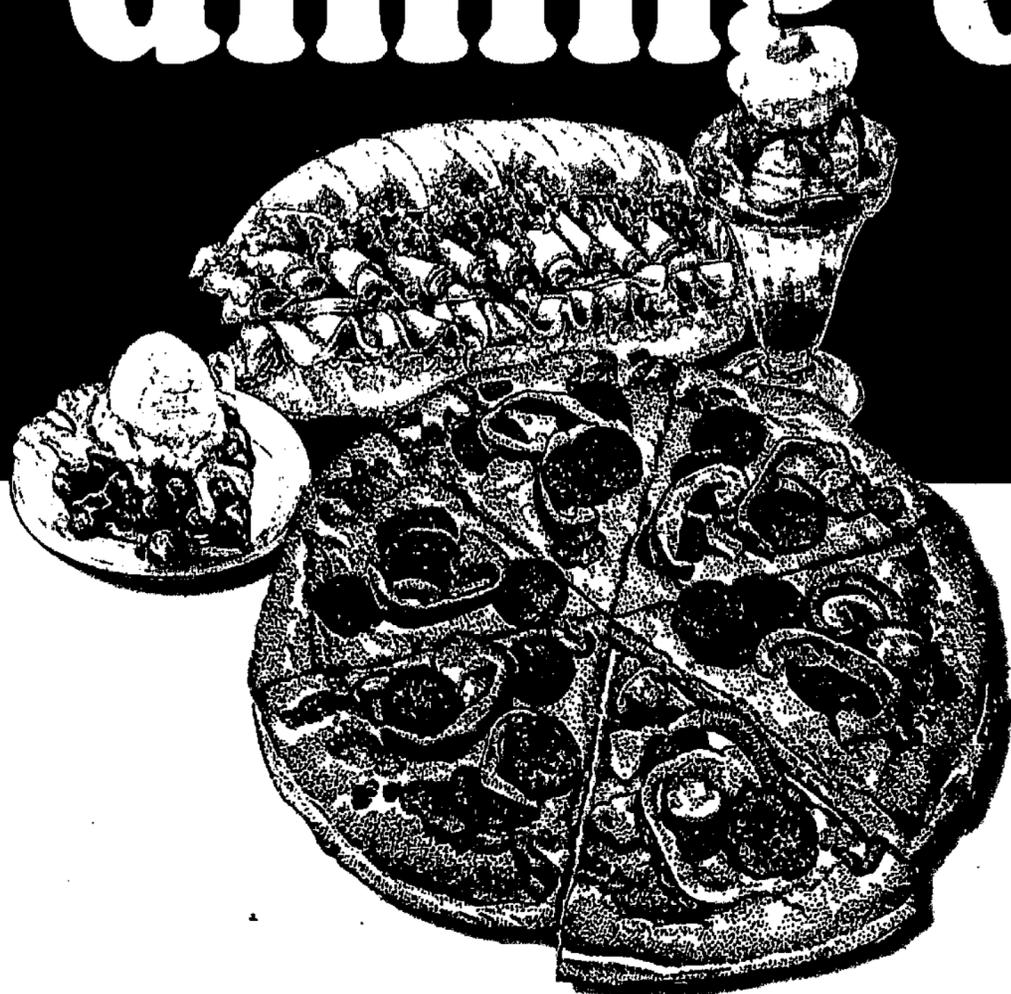
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
 *12:30 6:45

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)
 3:30 *9:40

TITANTIC (PG-13)
 2:30 6:30

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brought to you by

Doug Siddens & Susan Miller

of Century 21
Aspen Real Estate Ruidoso,
New Mexico 88355



Ponderosa Heights

Thomason • \$109,900 • 103 S Candlewood
Three bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1-car
garage. Fully furnished. The perfect
get-a-way cabin!



Apache Hills Subdivision

Jaeger • \$116,000 • 125 Apache Hills Dr.
Four bedrooms, 3 baths. Very
secluded feeling yet right in town.
Very nice - no step entry!



White Mt. Meadows

Halow • \$245,000 • 104 Pat Willingham Ct.
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White Mt. Meadow lot! Rarely used,
all light interior, all one level.

Please ask to speak with Doug or Susan

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Allen • 2 Lots For \$32,500
One is full golf, the other is social. All for one price. Buildable.



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Neesen • \$49,500 • 839 Deer Park Dr.
Social Membership. 1.02 acres buildable lot with house plans!



Alto

Rae • \$125,000 • 234 Mira Monte
3/2, full golf membership. Unfurnished.



Alto

Bleakney • \$139,500 • 629 Midiron Drive
3 bedroom, 2 baths, full membership.
Cute A-frame cabin!

REDUCED TO \$139,000



Alto

Seidel • \$149,000 • 254 Sierra Blanca Dr.
3/3, furnished, full membership.



Alto

Bates • \$154,500 • 211 Brentwood
3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Garage, large deck, Sierra Blanca view, full golf, easy access.

REDUCED \$149,900



Alto

Stevens • \$155,000 • 423 Sunrise

This bright & sunny log cabin just needs that Bob Timberlake touch! Preview this home and see if you too fall in love with the mountain atmosphere this home offers! Three bedroom, 2 bath. Full golf membership. Owner wants offer!



Alto

Williams • \$164,500 • 106 Mira Monte
3 bedroom, 2 bath. Appliances only. Sierra Blanca View!



Alto

Twyford • \$175,000 • 105 Capitan Court
3 bedroom, 2 bath, full golf membership.



Alto

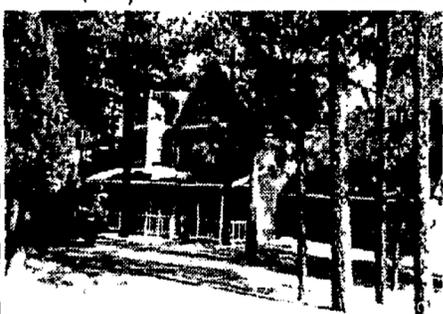
Gilstrap • \$237,500 • 316 El Camino Dr.
4 bedrooms, 4 baths with full golf membership. Chalet style fully furnished.



Alto

Powers • \$319,500 • 106 Tanglewood
3 bedroom, 3 bath. Social membership. New construction.

NOW \$350,000 - FULLY FURNISHED



Alto

Lemaster • \$382,500 • 728 Deer Park Dr.
3/3, full golf membership! Classy!

REDUCED \$459,500



Alto

Crawford • \$479,000 • 113 Raccoon Court
4/3.5, full golf membership. Unfurnished.



Mote • 739 Deer Park Dr.

7 bedrooms and 6 1/2 baths plus an additional 1 1/2 bath. This very prestigious home is located in the heart of Deer Parks Woods with a full golf membership. This home is for the discriminating buyer looking for an exceptional home with a well appointed floor plan. Downstairs this home has a complete guest apartment. Showings are by appointment only. Please call, we would like the opportunity to show you what great taste and quality have to offer!

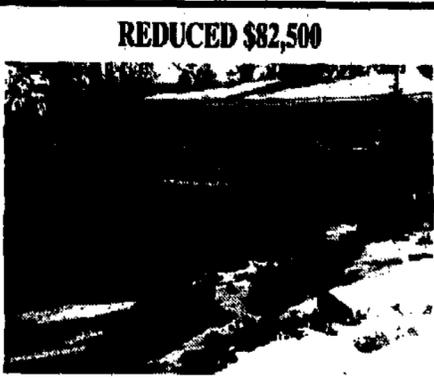
Ask for Doug or Susan

336-4248



Las Lomas

McGarvey • \$67,500 • 604 Colorado St.
4 bedroom, 2 bath. Nice fenced yard.
Large den.



REDUCED \$82,500

Pine Top Hills

Timmerman • \$88,300 • 128 Old Lincoln Rd.
3 bedroom, 2 bath. Doll house, cute!



Village Homes at Chase Forest

Partee Townhomes • \$89,900 • 105 Keyes Dr.
Units 46C and 46E. 2bdr, 2 bath units.
New! Great downtown location!



White Mtn. Meadows

577 - 583 White Mtn. Meadows Dr.
4 nice patio homes \$96,500 each. 2
bdrm, 2 bath, 1 level, 1 car garage!



Alpine Village

117 Iron Mountain Rd. • \$99,500
2/2 nice home on 2 lots with small
barn, 2 horses allowed. Appliances
only. NOW VACANT.



Pinecliff

Proctor • \$99,500 • 104 Cardinal Dr.
2 bedroom, 2 bath. Workshop and large
RV carport. Beautiful yards!



SOLD!!! SOLD!!! SOLD!!!

Town & Country North

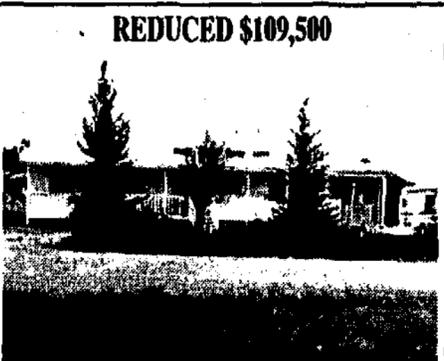
Barbee • \$101,400 • 301 Otero Dr.
3 bdrm, 2 bath. Appliances only + new
washer & dryer. A must see!



REDUCED \$104,000

Western Hills

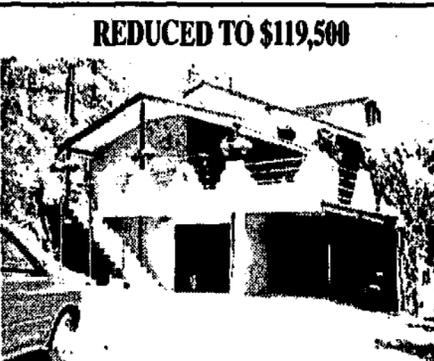
Adams • \$109,900 • 112 Bridle Dr.
2/1.5, 2-car garage. New with owner
financing. Secluded.



REDUCED \$109,500

Golf Course Estates

Christian • \$119,950 • 404 Barcus Rd.
3/2, 1 level w/carport, nicely fur-
nished, sunny lot, golf membership.



REDUCED TO \$119,500

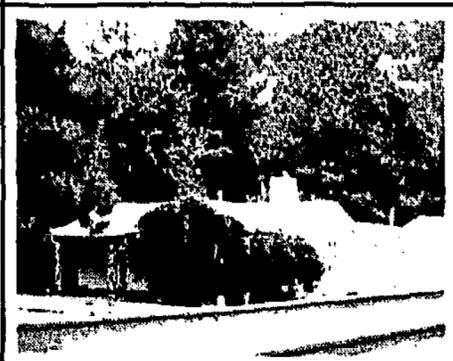
Upper Canyon Area

Bennett • \$149,000 • 215 Maple Dr.
3/2, 1-car garage + large workshop.
Master shower. Wow!



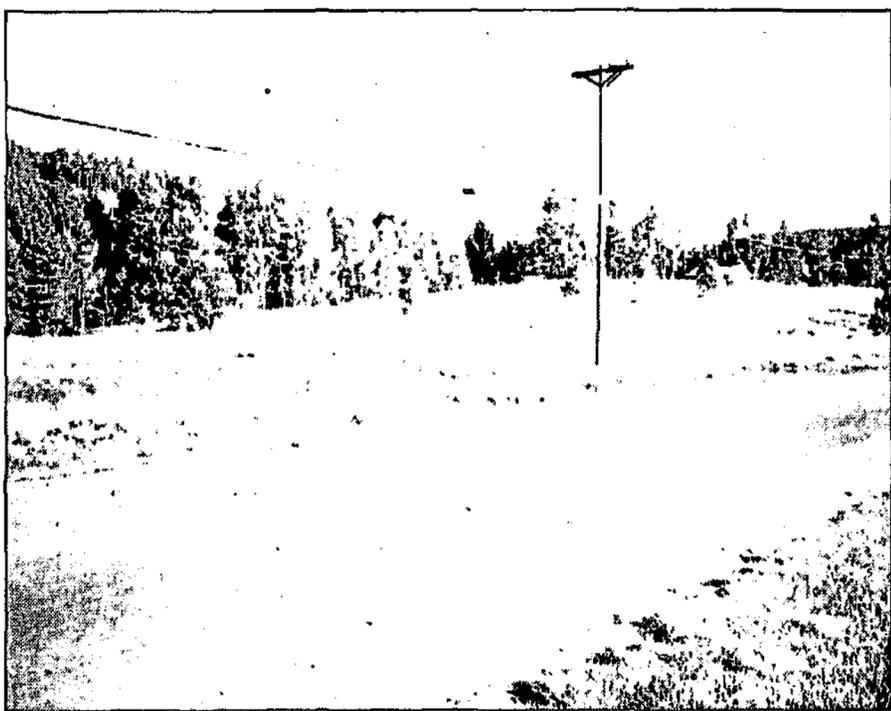
Green Meadows

Vestal • \$113,900 • 112 Clover Dr.
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. All
one level. Nice fenced yard.



On The River

Valliant • \$125,000 • 142 Meander Dr.
3 bdrm., 1.5 baths. Cute older cabin on
1/2 acre river lot. Awesome yard!



The Country Club Tract

270 Country Club Dr.

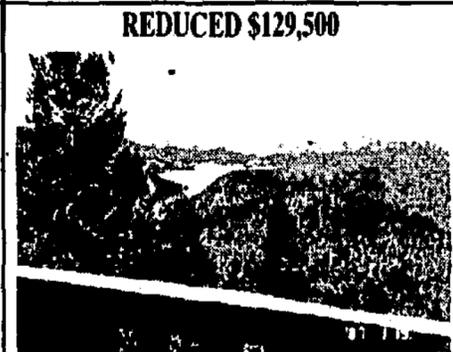
As the photo to the right reflects, this is an exceptional 14 acre tract that is PUD-
zoned. Planned unit development. Multi use potential! Seller financing! Utilities
are nearly finished. A complete package available. Asking \$950,000.



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Middle Cedar

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



REDUCED \$129,500

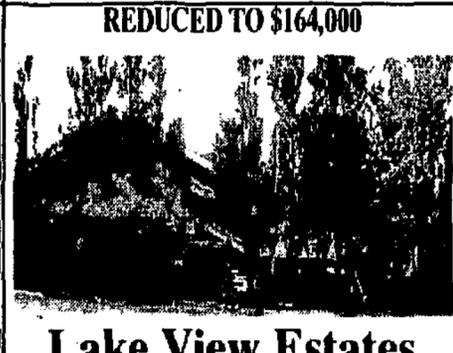
Lake View Estates

Gladstein • \$139,000 • 406 Excalibur #14
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished.
Breathtaking views!



Skyland Addition

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



REDUCED TO \$164,000

Lake View Estates

Landsheft • \$169,500
#19 Excalibur Road
Outstanding Townhome with enor-
mous views! 3 bdrm., 2 bath.

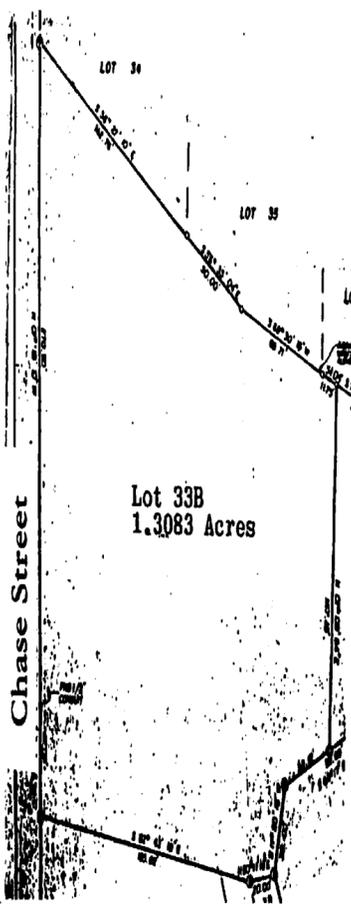
<p>REDUCED TO \$159,500</p>  <p>Cree Meadows Harris • \$169,500 • 135 Rowan Bdrms 3, baths 2, fairway home. Fenced yard, well maintained.</p>	<p>AWESOME MOUNTAIN VIEWS!</p>  <p>Cedar Creek Duran • \$179,900 • N. Cedar Creek Rd. Bedrooms 3, baths 2 1/2, jacuzzi tub, deck, on 1 acre. 2 car garage. Like new condition-motivated seller!</p>	<p>REDUCED \$179,900</p>  <p>White Mt. Meadows Perkins • \$199,500 • 104 EE Miller Court Bedrooms 3, baths 3. Trade considered.</p>	<p>REDUCED TO \$249,900</p>  <p>Cree Meadows Daulton • \$259,900 • 306A Country Club Dr. 3 bdrms., 3 1/2 baths. The interior is styled like a log cabin home with hardwood floors! Creek frontage.</p>
<p>REDUCED TO \$259,000</p>  <p>River Watt • \$269,000 • 110 Bear Creek Trail 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Upper Canyon on river. Two fireplaces.</p>	<p>FABULOUS NEW HOME WITH OUTSTANDING VIEWS</p>  <p>Highwood Addition \$325,000 • 108 Lupine Loop 3 bdrm, gameroom, workshop. Must see! Jacuzzi tub, cherry wood cabinets, hard wood floors, operable remote sky lights, 2 car garage. Want to impress yourself ... check it out! INFO ON SIGN!</p>	 <p>White Mtn. Estates Siddens • \$329,000 • 105 Don Snyder Dr. 4/4.5 plus guest house. 3 car garage. Owner/agent.</p>	 <p>Upper Canyon River Home Robbins • \$399,900 • 619 Main 3 bdrms, 3 full baths. Plus guest apt. with private entry</p>
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Chase Street Acreage! • \$169,500

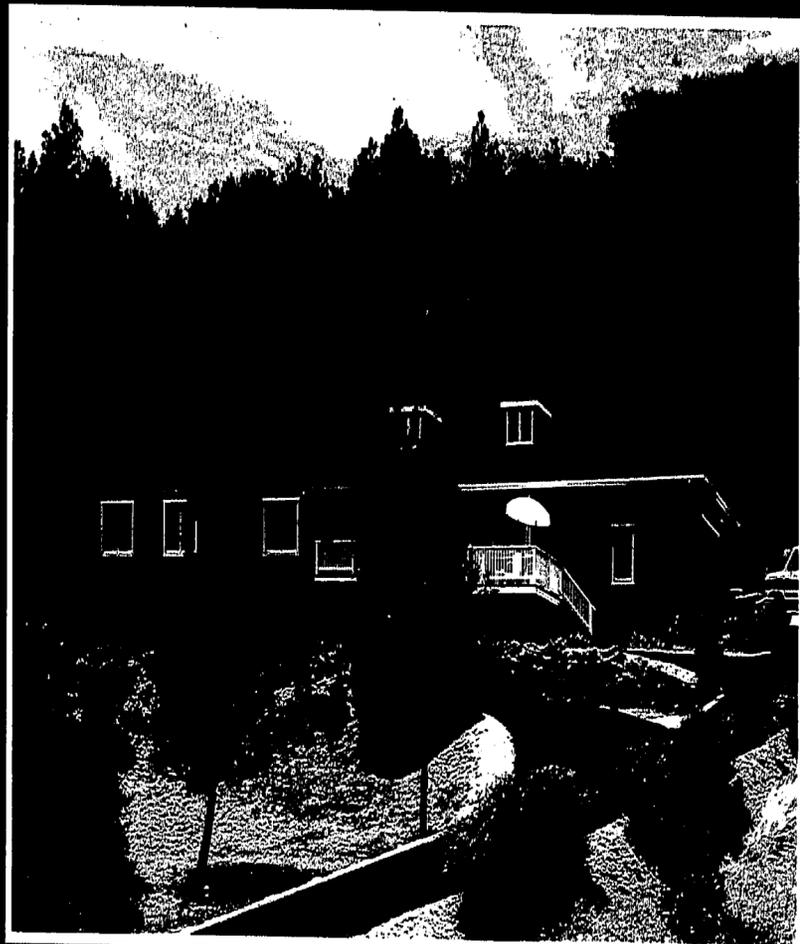
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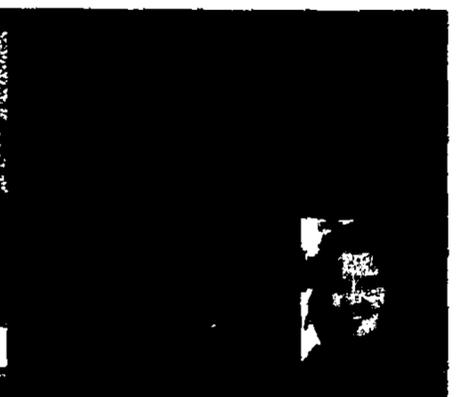
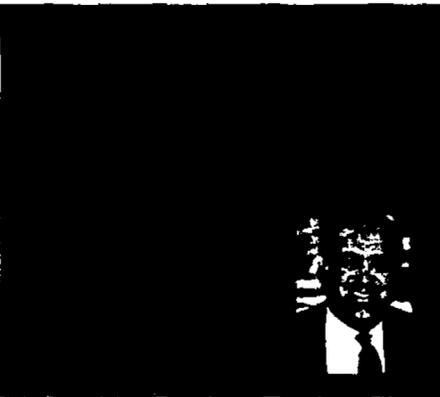
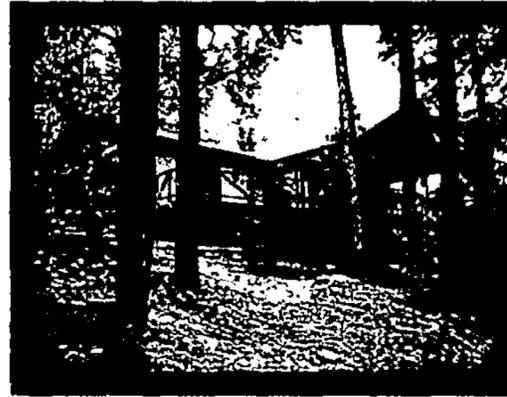
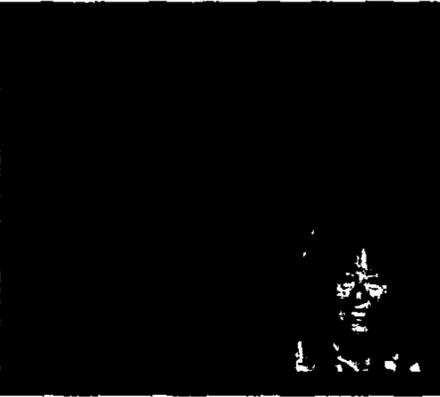
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OUR FEATURED PROPERTY

Sierra Mesa Lodge, nestled into a two-and-a-half acre hillside overlooking the magnificent Capitan mountains is the area's premiere, award-winning bed and breakfast. This established business was designed for its clients' relaxation and privacy. Sierra Mesa Lodge offers five charming guest rooms with private baths, each individually decorated to be a romantic delight (Victorian, Country Western, Queen Anne, French Country, and Oriental). Bountiful woods and meadows surround this place of serenity and charm. An indoor spa hot tub, formal dining room, game room, and living room, provide its guests with the ultimate in luxury and comfort. The new multi-million dollar Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts is just three miles east of the inn.



This elegant bed and breakfast will be sold as a turn-key operation (furniture, crystal, china, etc.) A large owner's suite upstairs makes this the ideal in comfort and privacy for guests and owners alike. A licensed kitchen for serving cooked food provides a full gourmet breakfast and afternoon tea, coffee, and homemade pastries.

This inn has been written about by Travel and Leisure, America's Wonderful Little Hotels and Inns, Bed & Breakfast Guide to the Southwest, Frommers, and has been rated three star by Mobile Guide and four diamond by the Automobile Club (AAA), to name a few. The owners are also members of the New Mexico Bed & Breakfast Association. Sierra Mesa Lodge is offered at \$595,000.

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1/2 ACRE to 5.10.20.29 acres tracts. Adjoins Nat forest! Owner financing avail. gorgeous pines, water avail. \$9,000 \$87,000 97-71953

GORGEOUS EAGLE CREEK! Affordable 1.9 ac. Very upscale area. All fenced & includes driveway w/railroad ties. Can have horses! \$37,500 #97-71352

RANCHES OF SONTERRA- 2 lots both buildable, trees, great SB views, and possible owner financing. 31 Sandesta Dr 10.9 ac and 32 Winterhawk Heights 8.9 ac. Both lots are \$64,500. Price per ac. is well within market. 98-80031 98-80032

GREAT COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITY! - This busy corner will provide the right buyer w/the location of a lifetime. Unzoned, tree covered & very buildable. Mobile & garage already there. \$299,900 97-70415

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BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION, see this beautiful 1.5 acre lot in Deer Park Woods. Full membership \$31,777 97-70160

FULL MEMBERSHIP LOT - Approx. 35 ac in Alto Village. One of the best priced lots in Alto! \$16,900 98-80057

GREAT ALTO LOT w/capitan views! Full golf membership. Good building potential. \$17,500 95-02033

FULL MEMBERSHIP LOT - Just past the Alto Post Office. \$16,500 97-71838

THE "NEW" FOX CAVE- Now operating as a great restaurant. All included. Bus & Equip., 100 yr old front and back bar, antique tables and chairs. 40 ac + 8 "casitas". Still a lot of potential. \$495,000 96-61575

ALTO LOT @ END OF CUL-DE-SAC - This social lot offers an excellent neighborhood to build in. Nice, quiet spot on street with other lovely homes. \$19,500 97-71277

EXCEPTIONAL LOT- White Mt. Est. buildable, all city util. Owner financing. Owner/agent. \$24,900 95-01127

GIANT SIERRA BLANCA VIEW- Tract adjacent to Airport Rd. easy yr round access. Owner is licensed NM REALTOR. \$59,900 96-61849

LOVELY LEVEL, 1/2 ACRE big site with lots of trees, community water & natural gas, located on Alto drive in Enchanted Forest. \$13,000 #98-80013

ADJACENT TO NATIONAL FOREST, excellent building site w/great Sierra Blanca view. Approx. 106 acres. \$155,100 96-61699

ALTO VILLAGE- Flat lot near Alto golf course, view of Sierra Blanca & new golf course. Soc Mem. \$38,000 95-00378

GREAT VIEWS OF CAPITANS framed by a canyon. Flat tract slopes down gently, grass & Juniper. \$38,500 97-71513

GOOD LOCATION- Over 1 acres available on this buildable, gently sloped property. Easy access, yet secluded, 1200 sq ft min. close to new airport. \$29,900 93-20603

CUL-DE-SAC, LUSHLY TREED LOT! Large level lot end of Jann Ln, beautiful area of homes. \$29,900 97-71607

CAN HAVE 2 HORSES @ 1/2 acre! Close to airport & Spencer Theater. Approx. 2.26 acres. \$19,500 97-71833

CEDAR CREEK - Wonderful corner lot, tall pines & creek nearby, level access. Approx. 1/2 acre, water meter in place. \$21,500 97-70187

IN RANCHO RUIDOSO VALLEY, They are setting double wides out there and these lots have all utilities. Flat. 35 ac. owner fin. \$12,500 97-71938

GREAT COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY - Currently 23 space RV Park + living quarters, 2 car gar. & a rental cabin all on approx. 1 acres between Thriftway grocery & The Deck House. Just reduced to \$340,000 97-70732

ACREAGE IN ALTO - Almost 3 acres w/several building sites. Possible short term owner financing. \$28,500 97-71914

GOOD SPEC LOT - Can access from Chaves or Mary Dr. Easy level paved access. \$13,900 98-80056

GREAT RESIDENTIAL LOT - Level paved access, nice central location. Close to schools, lots of sunshine, all city utilities. \$17,900 98-80011

RANCHES OF SONTERRA - 10.5 acre tract with fantastic building site! Privacy, trees, views!!! \$69,900 96-61042

GREAT SPEC LOT - Fairly level, top growing subdivision. Great views. \$8,500 97-71595

ALTO VILLAGE FAIRWAY-full membership lot! Beautiful, very buildable. \$45,000 97-71869

RUNNING CREEK! South facing 1/2 acre tract in beautiful shady Middle Cedar Creek area. \$9,500 97-71433

40 ACRES ON THE RIVER! Glencoe, Hwy 70 E to #270 MM. frontage rd. 7+ ac. water rights. Gorgeous river property! \$350,000 94-40940

HEAVILY TREED CUL-DE-SAC - Upper Canyon area, off Perk Canyon. Lots of trees, city water. \$11,500 97-79188

SUPER NICE LARGE - approx. 2 acre lot. On prestigious McBride Dr in White Mountain Estates. Unit 2. Great views! \$72,500 97-70901

GREAT BUILDABLE SITE ON HILL - Rolling down to flat open meadow w/Magado Creek running thru. \$27,000 96-61704

NICE ACREAGE - Approx. 5 acres in restricted subdivision. Community water available. Views! \$29,000 98-80024

WONDERFUL - Mostly level, buildable, approx. 1/2 acre lot with views of the Capitans! In quiet Enchanted Forest II. \$16,500 97-70468

CORNER LOT IN SUN VALLEY! Buildable lot with plenty of sunshine & could have wonderful views from 2 or multi level home. \$15,000 97-71242

1 FULL +3 PARTIAL LOTS right on Hwy 48. Good exposure & access. \$24,900 98-80048

LOT ON FAWN DR IN ALTO - This gorgeous 2.16 approx. acres in Deer Park has great views! Large building area & full golf too! \$105,000 97-7144

3 ACRES IN TOWN - One of the best building sites in the Village. Possible owner fin. w/large down. Corners flagged. \$105,000 97-70103

SUPER PRICE, fabulous lot! Foundation has been built, water connected, septic installed, elec. \$20,000 97-71987

TALL PINES & VIEWS! Approx. 2.7 acres w/community water, electricity, horses allowed. Only \$29,500 95-00764

HUGE VIEWS - Gorgeous building site, view of river. Lazy paved access w/3 building locations. Capitan & Sierra Blanca views. \$49,500 97-70959

ALTO VILLAGE FAIRWAY LOT! Full membership, beautiful trees, fairway lot! \$46,500 97-71213

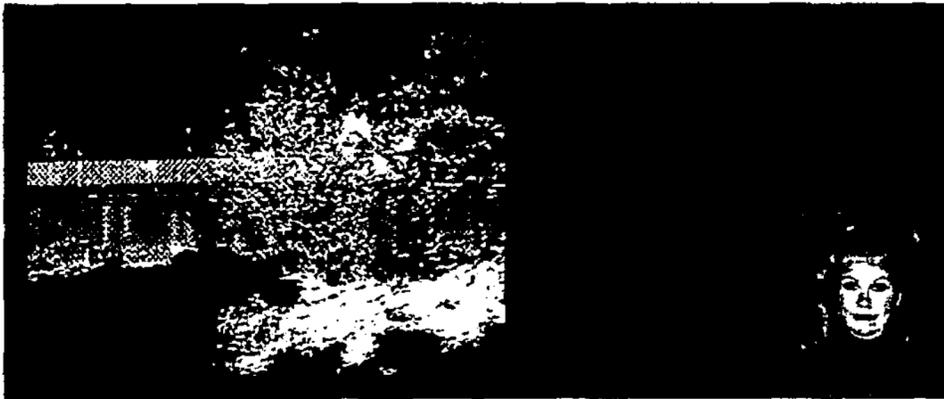
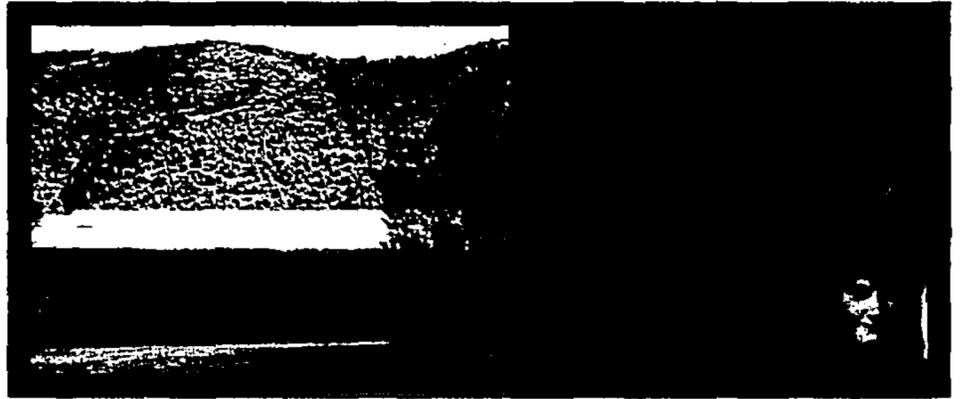
GREAT VIEW LOT - Lots of Ponderosa pines. Somewhat secluded, comm. water. \$4,000 97-71112

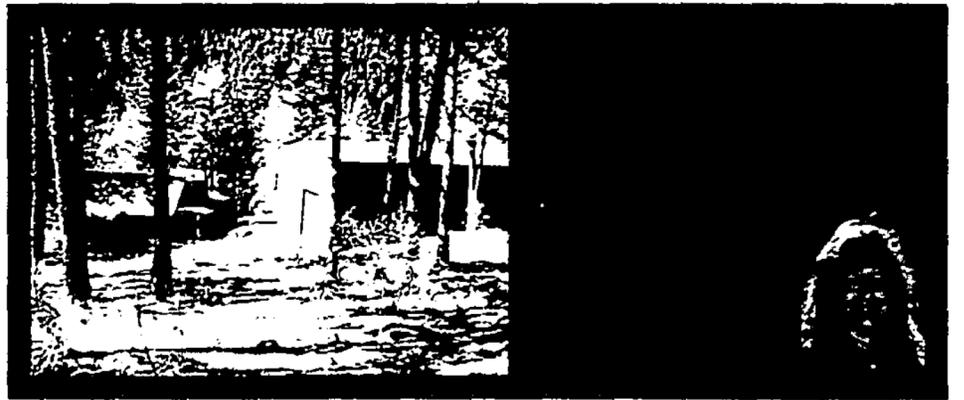
18 LOTS 3.2 TO 7.4 ACRES- Some w/valley views, some w/Sierra Blanca views. From \$22,900 to \$28,900 97-71451

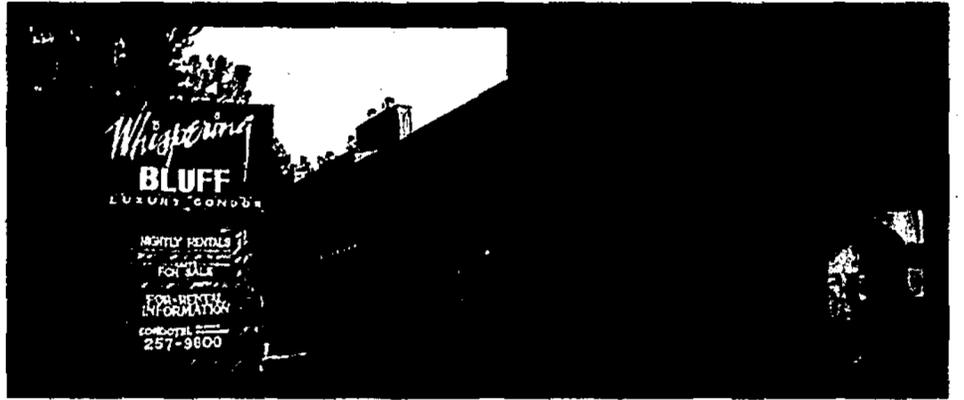
ONE ACRE IN ALTO! Beautiful level lot with paved access. Lovely meadow and trees. Tennis membership included. May seller finance. \$14,900 97-71101

COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL! Great horse property or business location on way to Spencer Theater. Fenced, well, pump house, septic, RV pad, driveway in. Huge Sierra Blanca view. 20 acres. \$239,000 97-70471



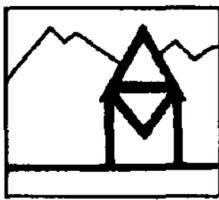






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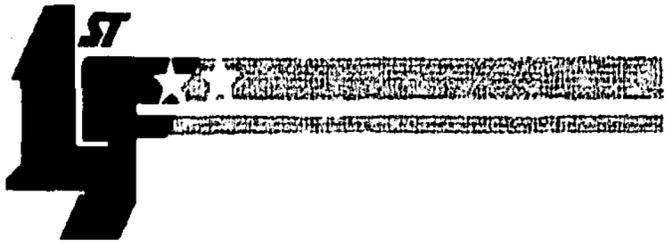
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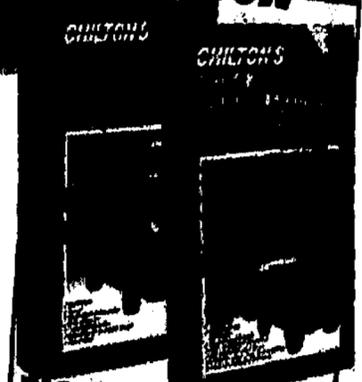
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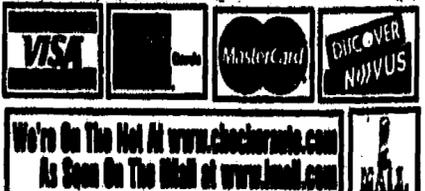
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