



OUR 52ND YEAR RUIDOSO NEWS

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Mescalero could hold new elections

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Mescalero Apache tribal members will decide Tuesday, Jan. 5, if a special election should be scheduled to vote on who should be the tribe's president.

The referendum will put one question to the estimated 1,800 eligible voters: Does Article XXI of the Mescalero Apache Tribe's Constitution require that a special election be held to elect a new president to serve for the remainder of a president's term, when the office of tribal president has become vacant due to death?

A majority "yes" vote will result in an election being called.

President Wendell Chino, who led the Mescalero for more than 40 years, died Nov. 4. Vice president Paul Ortega was sworn into office the next day under the interpretation of the constitution that he would finish out the last year of Chino's two-year term and the next presidential election would be in November 1999.

Tribal council members rejected a petition with 473 names calling for a presidential election submitted by Freddie Kaydahzinne, director of tribal housing, because it did not contain

enough names, according to a tribal official, who asked not to be identified.

"After a discussion, the petition (to accept the petition) was withdrawn," he said.

However, under the power of the council, members later agreed to conduct a referendum instead on the question of whether an election is needed, the official said.

That does not mean the council thinks an election is necessary, he said. His reading of the tribal constitution is that the only time an election would be needed is if both the presidency and vice presidency were vacant.

Article 21 of the Mescalero Constitution reads: "In the event of a vacancy, for any cause, in the office of president, the vice-president shall assume the duties of the president until a successor has been duly elected and qualified."

It goes on, "In the event of a vacancy, for any cause, in both executive offices, such vacancies shall be filled at a special election...."

Thirty percent of the eligible voters must cast their ballots or the results will be declared invalid, the official said.

Police report DWIs down this holiday

Decline of incidents attributed to education, awareness

BY BEN CHRISMAN
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Police officials and local night club owners agree people are becoming better educated about the effects and risks of driving while under the influence of alcohol, and as a result are using designated drivers more frequently.

Lt. Bill Bower of the New Mexico State Police Department said that DWI arrests are down from December 18-20, no DWI arrests or accidents were reported in Lincoln or Otero County.

"I can honestly say I have never seen that before," Bower said.

Cpl. Dewayne Goar of the Ruidoso Police Department said that the number of DWI's so far for the month of December is five total, three more than in the entire month of December in 1997. In 1996, however, there were a total of 11 DWI arrests in December.

By law, a person registering a .08 or higher on a blood or breath test may not legally drive a vehicle.

Dean Fowler, owner of The Quarters and Win, Place and Show night clubs, said he has seen a trend of people using designated drivers. He said the holiday season brings more people to the bars, and these people are often tourists who have different tolerance levels with the change in altitudes.

"The altitude can affect tourist who come here and aren't used to it," Fowler said. "It's the responsibility of the bar owner to make sure they get a safe ride home."

Fowler said both of his businesses offer a free ride program year round for anyone who asks for one. He estimates that 30-40 people a month use this program.

Goar said that increased police surveillance under government-funded saturation programs has helped curb DWI rates. He said under these programs, the police department has been able to place as many as 12 officers in one area by giving them overtime pay.

"We target areas with excessive accidents," Goar said.

Goar said that some of these problem areas include Highway 70 and Sudderth Drive, Mechem Drive and White Mountain Drive, and the Warrior Drive area.

Goar said under-age people often use back roads and try to avoid police because they are unable to go to bars. Instead, younger people go to homes or in the forest to drink. He said that people of legal drinking age are more prone to get arrested for DWIs because they are easier to find due to the locations of the bars.

But Bower said that people under the age of 21 are easy to spot because "they can't handle it (the effects of alcohol) anyway."

He added that people who are not frequent drinkers are also easier to spot than those who drink often because they do not have a high toler-

See DWI, page 2A

To some, he's just a stranger in a beard



Eighteen-month-old Leandra Courtney Chimal pleads for her mother to rescue her from the arms of friendly Old Saint Nick during a community Christmas celebration at Mescalero put together by the program directors of the Mescalero Apache tribe. The event Wednesday included entertainment, food and gifts for young and old. Frank Buchler played Santa.

Santa's not the only one working today

Police, hospital workers and some store employees celebrate the holiday on the clock

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

While most people are opening presents or feasting with their families for Christmas, others will be working to keep things going.

People will be out driving, and police will be patrolling the streets, but in Ruidoso, Sgt. Ignacio López, a pretty quiet day, said Sgt. Ignacio López.

"I worked Christmas my very first year here, and I was on graveyard," he said. "It was very quiet, it snowed, I remember. Midtown was all lit up with Christmas lights, there was snow everywhere, and it looked like a Christmas card."

Over the 16 years he's been a police officer, he's also worked Christmas Eve, when he'd rather be with his family. He has six children at home and considers the night before Christmas a special time because of all the excitement.

Dispatchers will be taking calls for 911 emergencies, and for Heather Bryan's two little kids, that means they have to wait till she gets off work at 3 p.m. Christmas Day to open their presents.

"Daddy said he'd make them wait till I got home," she said, "but we'll have a traditional opening of one present Christmas Eve."

Bryan said she would probably have volunteered to work the holiday anyway, even if she hadn't been assigned, because of the extra holiday pay.

Another place that has to stay open on holidays is the hospital, but Norma Baldrige, a nurse at Lincoln County Medical Center who'll be working from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Christmas Day, said it's not really all that bad; her husband works Christmas Day at Ski Apache anyway.

"I enjoy my job anyway, so it doesn't really matter whether it's

Christmas Day or not," Baldrige said.

Although some patients have to stay there, she said, if people can go home for the holidays, they do.

"So we try to keep it up and bubbly, more like a party atmosphere so they won't feel that alone. Usually when they are here, their families will come, so it tends to be more families. We kind of relax about visiting hours on holidays," Baldrige said.

John Dixon will be working from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Showtime Video for people who want to watch movies on Christmas day. He won't miss Christmas dinner because he'll have cooked and eaten it before coming in to work.

"I don't mind at all," Dixon said. "Only because I think there are people who need to be taken care of and we need to do that well. People still rent movies on Christmas."

Convenience stores stay open, too, and David Ells, manager of the

Allsup's store at 2820 Sudderth Drive, will be working from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Christmas Day.

"Well, if I didn't want to work Christmas, I'd get a job at a bank or something," Ells said. "That's part of the business ... we're open all the time and Christmas is one of our busiest days, if not the biggest day for our stores."

Because Allsup's stores are often the only ones open, they stock things people might need at the last minute - like cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin and pie shells - but no alcohol. And everybody has to work a shift, he said, even though some are only four to six hours.

"Everybody that is working for us will be working Christmas because it is such a busy day and so there's no favoritism," Ells said.

But the upside is that customers are a lot friendlier than usual and relieved to find any place open at all, he said.

NEWGUIDE

► WINTER GUIDE

Check out this special section to see what's going on around you

INSIDE

► VAMONOS



It's all about murder, mayhem and mystery

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► SPORTS

Christmas brings winter visitors and good conditions to Ski Apache

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► WEATHER



Sunny skies are on tap for the weekend.

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RUIDOSO'S THREE-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY High ... 52
Low ... 16
Sunny

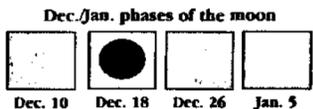
SUNDAY High ... 53
Low ... 18
Sunny

MONDAY High ... 48
Low ... 20
Mostly sunny

WEATHER ALMANAC

Ruidoso Readings	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	38	9	.00"
Wednesday	36	10	.00"
Thursday	38	7	.00"

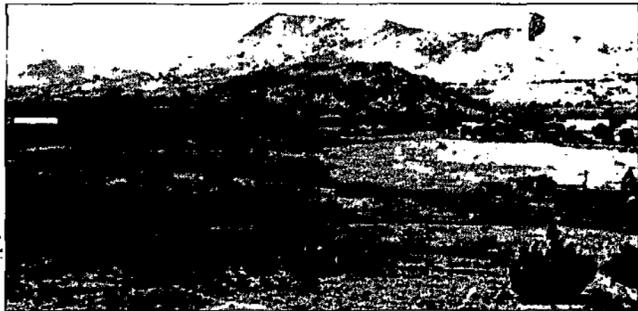
Regional-Wednesday	High	Low	Forecast
Albuquerque	52	20	Sunny
El Paso, TX	56	25	Sunny
Lubbock, TX	49	17	Sunny
Midland, TX	52	18	Partly cloudy



STARDATE

On Sunday night Saturn and the waxing gibbous Moon huddle near each other. In early evening, they stand high in the south, with Saturn just a whisker to the right of the Moon. Saturn looks like a bright golden star.

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



Nogal, 1918

courtesy Johnson Stearns

L.C. SCRAPBOOK

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

White Oaks Eagle Dec. 27, 1900

The lamb and the lion have lain down together at Capitan. Mr. Knuckles, editor and publisher of El Capitan has taken unto himself a partner, J.H. Lightfoot, of the Miner, and they came out under a new name, Capitan Progress. "What is there in a name?" Mr.

Knuckles, the republican of the firm is the manager and the editor, Mr. Lightfoot, is presumably to be the manager of the firm. A cross between a republican and a democrat in the same newspaper office is a little out of the ordinary, and will very likely produce a political mule. The Eagle wishes the new combination the ordinary newspaper courtesies and it may be that in the course of time either the one or the other member of the new firm will become converted and the issue be all democrat or all republican.

Convention Center hotel negotiations near end

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A lease agreement between Ruidoso and a Midwestern hotel firm may be before the Ruidoso Village Council by January, a village official said this week.

"I am hopeful that by the ... 12th day of January that we will have a lease for you all to review," Ruidoso Village Attorney John Underwood told village councilors Tuesday.

The contract is to lease a

3.8-acre site next to the Ruidoso Convention Center to Leisure Hotels, L.L.C., a Kansas-based firm, for the construction of a Hawthorn Suites. The facility, estimated to cost \$4.9 million by hotel executives, is to have 100 rooms and a restaurant.

Ruidoso Mayor Robert Donaldson on Tuesday said the village council on Jan. 12 will probably set a date for the first public hearing on the lease.

"I envision a minimum of two public hearings, and possi-

bly a third depending on the feedback from the first two," Donaldson said.

The goal, he said, is to allow the community full input on the agreement before the Village Council signs the contract.

Negotiations between the village and Leisure Hotels began in August. The village has unsuccessfully tried to land an upscale hotel next to the convention center for several years. Leisure Hotels would be the third to enter into a lease

agreement with the village for the potential hotel site.

In November, the village and the Ruidoso school district agreed to jointly buy about 12 acres of land in the White Mountain subdivision between the Links at Sierra Blanca golf course, the school complex and the convention center. Part of that land will be used for additional parking at the hotel and convention center, Donaldson has said. The village will spend about \$134,000 for its portion of the purchase.

Mayor's rec center plan more than just an indoor pool

• Components of a recreational plaza could be started on as soon as this summer, according to mayor's plan.

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

While an indoor swimming pool is still, at best, years away, the village of Ruidoso can start augmenting other recreational opportunities next to the White Mountain Recreation Center much sooner, village leaders said this week.

"Ruidoso has always been about recreation," Ruidoso Mayor Robert Donaldson told village councilors Tuesday. "And we as a city and as a school district own a tremendous (land) asset out there."

On Tuesday, the council supported Donaldson's 26-page conceptual plan to build a recreational plaza in the area bor-

dered by Hull Road, White Mountain Drive, Mechem Drive and Cree Meadows.

As soon as this summer and fall, work could begin on additional walking/jogging paths, tennis courts, a picnic area and a large pre-teen playground complex, according to Donaldson's proposal.

The plan calls for a total investment of \$5.3 million for new recreational facilities, including an indoor swimming pool with adjoining offices for the Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department. The pool/office is projected to cost \$3 million, though village consultants are currently trying to come up with a more concrete cost for the project, Donaldson said. A combination gymnasium/community center could be next door, according to Donaldson's plan.

While the pool and village

offices could be paid through a bond vote in the fall of 2000, the goal is to get the state to pay for the \$1.5 million gymnasium-community center, according to Donaldson's plan. Because the village will be paying off most of its debt in the next few years, the new bond issue will not increase taxes, he said. Other proposals for the recreation plaza, to be paid for through various funding sources, include the tennis courts, a 2-acre picnic park, a pre-teen playground, an additional 3 miles of walking/jogging paths, a fountain park and an outdoor lecture site.

The area already contains the Ruidoso Convention Center, the Links at Sierra Blanca golf course, a 3-mile walking/biking path around the golf course, Ruidoso public schools, four multi-purpose athletic fields, a skate park, a Little League base-

ball practice field and other community facilities, such as the Ruidoso Public Library and Ruidoso public schools.

In addition, a \$4.9 million Hawthorn Suites hotel is proposed for a site next to the convention center. Donaldson told the council it was negotiations for a lease to the hotel firm that spurred him to draft plans for the recreational plaza. But the plaza's development is not contingent on the village reaching a lease agreement with the firm, he added.

The exact use for the gymnasium/community center is not spelled out in Donaldson's plan, because it would be up to the community to decide what is most needed, he said. However, it would not contain basketball courts because they would be a duplication of the two new gyms currently under construction by the school district.

DWI: Police are using more saturation patrols

Continued from page 1A

ance and can be seen making more mistakes while behind the wheel.

"The hard-core alcoholic can look like they are sober and do not exhibit the same extremes," Bower said.

Bower said no DWI checkpoints are planned in Lincoln County or Otero County for the upcoming weeks. Instead, a saturation program will allow the state police department to increase the number of officers in the area.

Goar said there are several indications that a person is driving while drunk. He said some of the first indications occur when the person is driving or swerving onto the shoulder or the other lane, the driver is using the car's high beams or is not using lights at all, or the driver is making sudden start and stops due to the lack of depth perception that occurs after drinking.

Under state law for the first DWI offense, there is a maximum 90 days in jail and a maximum fine of \$500. A

felony occurs on the fourth offense, and is punishable by a mandatory six months in jail.

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HIGHWAY BRIEFS

Road construction stopped for holidays

Road work along Mechem Drive will be at a stand still for the holidays and start again Jan. 4, construction officials said.

If the contractor, Meadow Valley Contractor, Inc., needs to be contacted because of problems in construction areas, such as an accident, Ruidoso Police Department dispatchers have emergency contact numbers for company officials, Ruidoso Village Manager Alan Briley said this week.

Mechem traffic lanes set for winter

The changing traffic lanes on Mechem Drive are set for the winter, a construction official said.

"Pretty much what you see out there is what you get," Village Manager Alan Briley said this during a Village Council update Tuesday of the road work.

Roadside concrete barriers will remain along parts of the road to just past Cree Meadows Drive, where the A-Frame Ski Shop is located, officials said.

Kevin Clower, Meadow Valley spokesperson, said crews will do some touch-up work along the road during the winter, such as on driveways and repairing patches on the road.

More Mechem work to be bid in January

Four miles of State Road 48, from Ski Run Road to the turnoff to Bonito Lake, is to go out for bid in January, highway officials said.

The project is the third of three phases to widen and realign Mechem Drive, State Road 48. The third phase is estimated to cost \$5.8 million and

take two years to complete, state highway engineers say.

Meadow Valley Contractors, Inc., the Phoenix-based road construction firm that has contracts with the state for four other area highway projects, intends to bid on the project, a company official said.

"We will be bidding on everything that comes our way," Clower said.

New traffic signal to be put on Sudderth Drive

The village of Ruidoso has gained state approval to put a traffic signal at the midtown intersection of Sudderth Drive and Center Street, Village Manager Alan Briley said this week.

To expedite placement of the traffic light, the state's contract with Meadow Valley Contractors, Inc. will be amended to include the job, Briley said. By going through the state contract, the village won't have to go out for bid on the project, a process that could take months. A Meadow Valley subcontractor will put in the traffic light, projected earlier to cost \$100,000, for about \$75,000, Briley said.

Village leaders began lobbying state highway officials earlier this year for two additional stoplights in the midtown shopping district because of a series of accidents involving pedestrians. Currently, the only midtown stoplight is at Eagle and Sudderth.

Though the state has only approved one of the two requested traffic lights, village leaders will continue to petition the state for another stoplight at Country Club Drive and Sudderth, Ruidoso Mayor Robert Donaldson said this week. Briley said state highway officials would only agree to the two stoplights if the Eagle light is removed.

"We took the view that we would go ahead and take the light (at Center) and begin the battle again," Donaldson said Tuesday during a Ruidoso Village Council session.

Highway 70 construction project continues

Road crews on a \$5.6 million project to repave 6.1 miles of U.S. Highway 70 have been working on the electrical system for street lights the length of the project, a construction official said this week.

The project starts at Sudderth Drive and ends where the divided highway becomes a two-lane road.

Kevin Clower, spokesperson for Meadow Valley Contractors, Inc., said coordinators are awaiting state approval for a company proposal to reduce the project's cost.

To stabilize clay-like soil under the road, crews were to excavate 2 feet below the road, and fill the excavation with more stable material, Clower said. However, the cost and time involved in a 2-foot excavation the entire length of the project is considerable, he said. The company is proposing instead to reduce the depth of the excavation, but stabilize the soil with a lime treatment.

"It can speed things up and get the same quality of road as before," Clower said.

The road construction project includes the creation of a continuous left-hand turn lane into the Ruidoso Downs Race Track. Also, median lights in front of the racetrack will be removed and replaced with breakaway street lights on either side of the highway. Curbs and gutters will be added and drainage will be improved.

Capitan, Carrizozo officials to discuss Zia Gas

By DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A joint meeting of the Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas municipal utility board and trustees from both towns is set for 7 p.m. Jan. 5, at Carrizozo City Hall.

"It will mainly be an executive session (closed to the public)," Capitan Mayor Norman Renfro said Wednesday. "The offer by Zia is certainly one idea we have to look at, but there are other options too."

Renfro was referring to a offer to buy the municipal gas utility by Zia Natural Gas president David Hamilton. The offer was sent by fax to the mayors of both towns Tuesday and published in the newspaper Wednesday. But Hamilton attached a Jan. 5 deadline to accept his offer, or a \$125,000 bonus on top of the \$489,000 price will be withdrawn.

"There's no way we could give him an answer by Jan. 5," Renfro said. "I'll have to talk to Manny (Hernandez) to see if we can respond in some way. If we do decide to go this way, we'll need public input. We're all just trying to do what's best for the community."

Attorneys for the villages and the gas company also will

attend the meeting, Renfro said.

The lower gas transportation rate guaranteed to the municipal gas company's predecessor, the Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas Association, as part of a 1992 purchase of a transmission line from the utility by Zia, will expire Jan. 1, 2001, Hamilton said Wednesday.

The villages then will be faced with paying the full tariff rate established by the state Public Utilities Commission, he said. Village officials have been aware of that situation since 1992, he said.

To avoid that increase and provide their own avenue of gas transmission, the towns and their utility board are trying to condemn the same four-inch pipeline Zia bought six years ago. While the villages contend a new eight-inch line is all Zia needs to serve its customers, Hamilton said both lines are needed. The actions of Capitan and Carrizozo, which account for about 6 percent of the company's load on that line, could negatively impact the other 8,000 customers of Zia in the county, he said.

"We feel the condemnation is illegal and an attempt to violate their stipulated agreement," Hamilton said. The vil-

lage first should have offered Zia the full market value of the line, about \$2.6 million, he said.

His current offer to the villages to buy their gas company would benefit all customers, Hamilton said. Even if Zia receives a rate increase under consideration through appeal in front of the state Supreme Court, customers in all categories would see a savings compared to what they are paying now, he said.

Zia also has been talking to the state about serving Fort Stanton (now handled by the municipal utility) in line with Gov. Gary Johnson's call for ways to save in state energy costs, he said.

According to the 1992 purchase agreement, the towns have the authority to require Zia to buy the rest of the company's assets until the year 2001. This isn't the first time Hamilton has made an offer to purchase the utility, Hernandez said. But it's the highest amount proposed to date.

Zia's attorney said earlier this week that Zia officials placed the advertisements about the purchase offer in the newspaper, because they thought Capitan and Carrizozo residents should know their options.

FUNERALS DEATHS

Sidney Preston

The funeral for Sidney Guy Preston, 76, of Roswell was Monday at the Ballard Funeral Home Chapel in Roswell with Ted Spurlin and Delbert Nelson officiating.

Burial was at the South Park Cemetery in Roswell.

Mr. Preston died Friday, Dec. 18. He was born July 25, 1922, in Lynn County, Texas and was raised in Roosevelt

County, N. M.

Employed with the U.S. Forest Service in Ruidoso until his retirement in 1969, he was a 21-year member of the Country Club Church of Christ. In World War II, he served in the U. S. Coast Guard.

He married Joyce Bownds on Dec. 9, 1945, in Carlsbad, NM.

Survivors include his wife, of Roswell; one son and daughter-in-law Larry and Trudy Pre-

ston of Mountainair; one daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Gene Jarvis of Ruidoso; brother and sister-in-law Kenneth and Bambi Richards of Astoria, Ore.; sister Luna Mae Martin of Fallon, Nev.; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Charles Bass Preston.

Harris-Hanlon Mortuary of Mountainair was in charge of arrangements.

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First course - Marinated Portobello Mushrooms
Second course - Country Minestrone choice of entree

PORK TENDERLOIN - grilled and served with pineapple raisin chutney, garlic-basil mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables

STUFFED QUAIL - boneless oven roasted, stuffed with a fruit sausage, served with wild rice and fresh vegetables

PENNE PORCINI - pasta with mushrooms, white truffle oil, onions, red-green peppers, shallots and garlic in red wine cream sauce

LOBSTER THERMIDOR - classically baked with mushrooms in Mornay sauce, served with cous cous and fresh vegetables

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RUIDOSO NEWS

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

Yes, Virginia...

In 1897, the New York Sun received a letter to the editor, from an 8-year-old girl named Virginia O'Hanlon, and Francis P. Church answered in an editorial that has inspired for more than a century, and even as the Third Millennium approaches continues to be widely reprinted, in newspapers and on the Internet.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can perceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, may 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

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THERE'S NO WAY THEY CAN GET YOU FOR HIGH CRIMES, MR. PRESIDENT. BUT THEY MAY TRY TO IMPEACH YOU FOR MISDEMEANORS.



MISDEMEANORS? SHE THE ONE WITH THE LEGS?

YOUR OPINION

A fair trial, then...

To the editor:

In response to the Democratic Party's plea to all but pardon Mr. Clinton:

What a bunch of bunk. The facts in this case have been established. The President lied under oath to a federal grand jury and violated his oath of office to uphold the Constitution. He admits it. The Democrats admit it. *The President violated the law.*

Does it rise to the level of impeachment? Yes, perjury is very serious. It's a felony. But can't the Senate just censure him? No. There is no provision in the Constitution for censure. But two-thirds of the voters, say, don't convict; don't we live in a democracy? No, we live under a constitutional republic. The difference is dramatic yet simple. In a democracy the most votes win; mob rule, even if the vote is on your constitutional rights.

In a constitutional republic, the individual maintains rights that can't be voted away, taken away or given away. It's called the Bill of Rights. Yes, it even protects the rights of Mr. Clinton.

The question is, are there enough votes in the Senate to convict and remove Mr. Clinton? The Constitution clearly states that "The Senate shall have the sole power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath of Affirmation."

It means those in the Senate must uphold the law. When the evidence and the law call for conviction, then the Senate must uphold (its) oath to the American people and convict and remove Mr. Clinton.

Ain't no gray area here, boys. Given the evidence, it's clear to everyone that if any senator voted not to convict Mr.

Clinton, then that Senator would be in violation of his oath. I say, make a judgement based on the evidence, then throw the bum out.

*Tony Seno
Lincoln County
Libertarian Party chair
Ruidoso*

More help for Santa

To the editor:

After reading in the *Ruidoso News* last week that there were some 300 children in the area that would not be receiving any Christmas presents, and finding out that many Angels with these children's (wishes) on them had not been provided for, we felt that no child should be without a gift.

We approached Rene Otero, manager, Family Dollar Store, and David McCarley, manager, Walgreen's, for their help.

(Because of their help, we were able to purchase many, many gifts, get them wrapped and taken to Santa Cops.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our special thanks to Mr. Otero, Mr. McCarley, (the newspaper) and Santa Cops for their help, and just for caring.

Merry Christmas to all.
*Betty Fletcher
Ruidoso*

'Inconvenient' spending

To the editor:

Some suggestions to our new mayor and councilors regarding usage of our money:

1. To prevent accidents and loss of life we need stripes on our streets; it is a real problem, night or day, to figure where the center and edge of streets are.

2. The manager said recently new dumpsters would be put in place—but not placed

as close to residences as is now the case — a matter of "inconvenience" only, I believe he said.

He should try walking on Hull Road or Paradise Canyon carrying trash to place in the dumpster.

3. They are going to consider devoting Wednesdays to filling holes in the streets. Have they considered how many holes can be fixed in one day, and how many may need help.

The bill I receive each month is considerably higher since the arrival of our new administration, and perhaps they should see to it that certain money is spent for our "convenience" and not cause some "inconvenience."

We love Ruidoso!
*E. J. Sutherland
Ruidoso*

What Christmas spirit?

To the editor:

As a relatively new resident of Capitan, I have been impressed with the effort people are making to decorate for the Christmas holiday.

We have been out several evenings to admire the lights and decorations.

We were really disturbed this morning to find that vandals had destroyed the luminarias at Smokey Bear Museum and Park. Also, one of the residents that has an impressively decorated yard had his Santa taken and placed in the middle of the highway. A neighbor found it and returned the Santa, but it will have to have some repair before it can be placed outside again.

It is beyond me what kind of satisfaction someone(s) could get out of this kind of act. Shame on you who committed this act of vandalism!

*Patricia Garrett
Capitan*

HOLIDAY REMINDERS

Don't let Christmas become a disaster

• Some wise Christmas Day advice arrives annually from the American Red Cross. This time, it's about holiday fires.

Christmas trees that glitter with lights and tinsel symbolize the joyous spirit of the holiday season. The American Red Cross urges Americans to remember that the trees also symbolize the potential fire hazards that can be a tragic part of this time of celebration.

About 600 fires a year are started by ignition of Christmas trees, leading to an average of 33 deaths and 17 injuries.

The months of December, January and February are bad months for house fires, including those widely associated with holiday celebrations. More than 40 percent of home fires occur during this three-month period, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

The 1.4 million volunteers

in the American Red Cross' 1,318 chapters respond to 60,000 disasters a year — one disaster every 10 minutes. Major disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes and floods get the headlines but every single holiday fire comes down to a single, terrible moment for the victims.

During December, January and February, the majority of the responses by the Red Cross are for fires. Red Cross volunteers help victims of these fires find temporary shelter, provide them with vouchers for food and clothing and provide other needed assistance.

Many of these fires could be prevented. The American Red Cross offers common-sense tips to avoid holiday fires.

• Decorate Christmas trees only with laboratory-approved lights.

• Unplug Christmas tree lights when leaving home or going to bed.

• Do not decorate trees with candles.

• Keep candles away from decorations and other combustible material.

• Place trees away from heat sources and exits.

• Water cut trees daily.

• Make sure chimneys have been inspected and cleaned if necessary.

• Keep space heaters at least three feet away from bedding, clothing, furniture, drapes and anything else combustible. Use equipment that is approved for indoor use. Turn space heaters off if you are not available to monitor this equipment. Remember at all times children anywhere near space heaters must be supervised at all times.

• Don't wear loose-fitting clothing when cooking to avoid ignition by stove burners.

Rabbit for Christmas

In the little town in the Missouri Ozarks where I grew up, Christmas was (as for many of my generation) a time when people took a certain pride in making do.

That meant, as I now recall, chicken instead of turkey for Christmas dinner, with home-made bread, potatoes from the cellar, home-canned green beans from the pantry shelves, molasses and cornbread...

MOUNTAIN ASIDES



BY KEITH GREEN
RUIDOSO NEWS

One Christmas we gathered at my grandparents' house, a couple of miles out of town, for a family dinner.

I was about 9 years old and just beginning to appreciate huntin' and fishin' and trampin' through the woods. I'd spend hours looking at pictures of guns for sale in the Montgomery Ward catalog, and dream those Daniel Boone kinds of dreams.

So excitement abounded when my dad wondered that Christmas morning if the two of us might go out in the woods and maybe get a couple of rabbits to go along with the hens that already had been dressed and put in the pot.

Off we went, dad with his old .410 gauge shotgun and me with the hope that I'd get a chance to shoot it.

Our edge of the Ozarks had lots of second-growth hardwood and pine, and that morning a dusting of snow made the going easy.

And, by golly, we could see the rabbit tracks almost everywhere after we got out of sight of the house, down by the little creek that ran into a bigger creek and finally into the big (complete with boats in summer) Spring River.

Dad taught me quite a bit about hunting that day — to walk quietly, avoid the snagging blackberry bushes, keep the shotgun broken down so there was no way you could fall and shoot yourself or someone else; how to crawl through a fence after laying the gun down on the other side. Things like that.

And after an hour of tramping — there, ten yards away, next to a scrub oak, we finally saw a rabbit.

A very tender, beautiful bunny sat gazing at us with soulful rabbit eyes.

I looked at that rabbit, then at dad. And he looked back and asked, "think we ought to make him run?"

I nodded, and threw a stick. That rabbit took off like a rocket.

Dad's shot missed, and he looked a bit sheepish. We saw no more rabbits that day.

In retrospect, I didn't mind at all. It remains my best-remembered Christmas day.

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 88355, attention of the editor.

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

Festival winners announced

Judges Linda Flack, Bill Chance and Alan Briley had a tough job selecting winners of the Festival of Trees Christmas tree and wreath decorating competition on Saturday, Dec. 5 - the entries were all wonderful, according to organizers.

Decorated by local individuals, businesses and groups, the trees and wreaths were displayed and many were donated for a silent auction to raise funds for the community holiday lighting project and Casa Alegre group home.

The tree winning "People's Choice," "Best of Show" and a \$500 cash prize was decorated "for the birds" by the Ruidoso Garden Club.

The second place tree award went to Grindstone Graphics and third place was awarded to the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce.

A tree decorated by Keep Ruidoso Beautiful, which used recycled trash, won in the "Most Original" category.

A cash prize of \$100 was awarded to Long's United Drug for its "Best of Show" wreath.

The ribbon for "Most Original" wreath was awarded to Grindstone Graphics.

The "People's Choice" award and second place award for wreaths went to Nature's Tapestry.

The ribbon for third place wreath went to Lincoln County Hospice.

The 8-foot raffle bear carved by Bob Adams was won by Lourdes Valles of El Paso.

The event included music and performances by Ballet New Mexico, the Mexican folk dance group Raramuri from El Paso, and the Bad News Blues band.

Scout offers Christmas dinner as Eagle project

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Reny Reidhead is offering 200-300 free Christmas dinners to anyone who wants them at the Senior Citizens Center at 501-A Sudderth Drive.

"It's just a dinner for anybody who'd like to come eat, or who'd like to have a free meal," Reidhead said. "I'm going to be there at the Senior Citizens Center helping serve everybody and getting the food ready."

Reidhead, 17, organized the traditional holiday dinner to be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today as an Eagle Scout project, said Marlin Bates, 30-year scoutmaster for Troop 107, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints.

Eagle Scout projects must include some service to the community or to a community organization and give leadership experience, Bates said.

The plan had first to be approved by the troop committee and the Conquistador Council in Roswell, and after its completion it will go through a Character Board review.

"Out of 100 scouts joining, approximately 2 percent make it to Eagle Scout," Bates said. "The requirements are not really that hard, it just requires personal management skills to do it and young men are learning to do that."

The Eagle Scout project stops most of them, he said, because they have to design it, get it approved and then carry it out.

"It was my mom's idea," Reidhead said. "It sounded like a good idea. I did the final deciding, got a menu all together, then put it all together. There's a bunch of people helping us."

No, he said, this isn't practice for a future career in catering: "I'm doing this to help people out and to get my Eagle project done," he said.

It took him three or four days to pull together, and he

delegated responsibility for individual chores and for getting the food donated or purchased.

"The whole family is going to be helping me," he said. "I have a pretty big family. I have to have 100 hours total in the whole project, so the more people that help, the better."

Reidhead won't be washing the dishes afterward, either. That's what little sisters are for.

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Come between 8 and 11:45 p.m. for your personal walk.

PROJECT "UPDATE 48"



CAUTION AHEAD!

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season!!

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY THROUGH CONSTRUCTION AREA ON PROJECT!

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



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three seatings
5:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 10 p.m.
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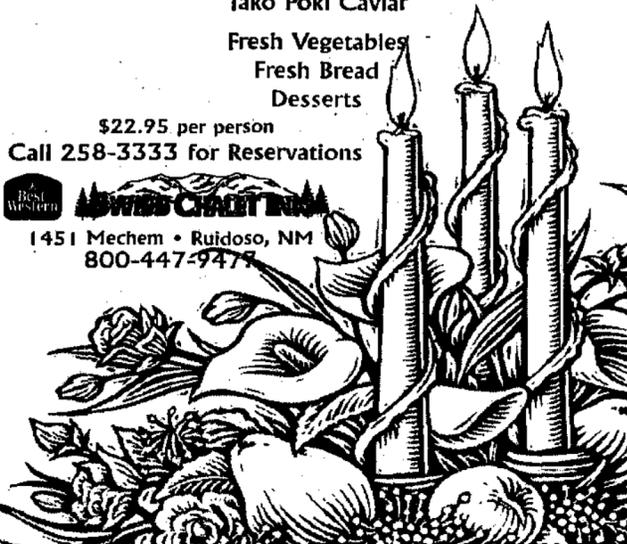
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Santa's helpers



Toni Larson/Ruidoso News
Sam Clark, front, helps Stacey Miller load the last of the Santa Cops Christmas packages for delivery. About 300 Christmas baskets were delivered to indigent Lincoln County families Saturday.

Make-A-Wish officials warn against fraudulent telemarketers

ALBUQUERQUE - Despite a growing number of telemarketing calls being placed to homes in New Mexico that appear to be from the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the charity in fact does not and never has employed telemarketers to raise money, the director of development for its New Mexico chapter said recently.

"We have received many calls from frustrated or confused individuals asking us why we have employed telemarketers to call them. The simple answer is, we have not, and do not," Gregg Rosenberry, the director of development for the

Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Mexico, said. "If families receive a telemarketing call from an organization sounding like the Make-A-Wish Foundation, I want the community to know unequivocally that as a matter of policy we do not telemarket. The Make-A-Wish Foundation has a nationwide policy against telephone and door-to-door solicitation."

Telemarketing can be a legitimate way of marketing and selling products and services. However, in some instances, consumers are exposed to instances of telemarketing and selling products and services.

However, in some instances, consumers are exposed to instances of telemarketing fraud, and they should know how to recognize and avoid them, Rosenberry said. "It is important for the public to ask questions of anyone who calls on the telephone soliciting for a cause."

Knowing what the organization is about, getting clear and direct answers and understanding some of the techniques of telephone fraud are ways for individuals to avoid confusion and to avoid donating to an organization other than that which they intend to

benefit. The Washington, D.C.-based National Consumers League has formed a special department known as the Alliance Against Fraud in Telemarketing that has outlined several ways for consumers to avoid becoming victims.

These include:

- Don't allow yourself to be pushed into a hurried decision.
- Always request written information, by mail, about a product, service, investment or charity, and details about the organization that is offering it.
- Don't make a donation, investment or purchase that you don't understand.

RUIDOSO POLICE

Multiple burglary suspect arrested

The Ruidoso Police Department may have a suspect for numerous burglaries committed over the summer and fall.

Police officers arrested Ben Herrera, 40, of Ruidoso Monday morning and charged him with several burglaries committed between Aug. 24 through Oct. 17, said Lt. Wolf Born of the Criminal Investigation Division.

The Ruidoso Police Department requested assistance from the Sheriff's Department since it was in the county's jurisdiction and one of the sheriff's deputies went with Ruidoso police officers to make the arrest, said Detective Doug Babcock.

Herrera was arrested at his job site in the Alto area, Babcock said.

Herrera is being charged with three burglaries of household items and jewelry from residences on Waco Drive, Skyline Road and Singing Pines Road, he said, all felony counts (over \$250 each).

The suspect was only at this job for a short time and was in jail prior to this for a couple of months on an unrelated case, said Babcock.

"He's probably responsible for more burglaries than we can tag him on, but this'll work," he said.

Condo burglarized

Suspects broke the front window and opened the latch of the door of a vacation condo at Innsbrook Village between 9 a.m. Dec. 14 and 12 noon Dec. 18, police report. A television and VCR were taken from the living room.

Businesses vandalized

Ruidoso police reported finding graffiti on seven businesses in the 2600 block of Sudderth Drive. It is believed these occurred between 5 p.m. on Dec. 18 and 8:30 a.m. Dec. 19.

Vehicle burglarized

A Pioneer cassette player valued at \$250 was stolen from an S10 Blazer stalled at 418 Sudderth Drive between 5:30 p.m. Dec. 15 and 1:02 p.m. Dec. 17, according to police reports.

The suspect broke the passenger window and damaged the dash mount, valued at \$50, when removing the cassette player.

Credit charges made

Police received a report on Dec. 17 that on Nov. 30 more than \$3,000 was charged to the MasterCard Platinum credit card of a person in Ruidoso without his approval.

Old Mill hit by burglars

Police report that the Old Mill at 641 Sudderth Drive was burglarized and silver and turquoise jewelry was stolen between 5 p.m. Dec. 19 and 10 a.m. Dec. 20. Unknown persons entered by breaking out the plexiglass window on the west entrance.

COURT RECORDS

The following criminal cases were taken from Lincoln County District Court records in Carrizozo. They are identified by date filed, the defendant, the charges and the docket number.

Oct. 28 - Agnes Bigmouth Scott; fraud by worthless check, a misdemeanor, and five counts fraud by worthless check, a special penalty felony; CR98-137.

Oct. 30 - Debbie Swift, two counts fraud by worthless check, special penalty felony, and one count fraud by worthless check, a special penalty misdemeanor; CR98-138.

Nov. 2 - Jeremy Nunnekkamp; receiving stolen property, bribery or intimidation of a witness, embezzlement more than \$250, embezzlement from \$100 to \$250; receiving stolen property over \$250 and receiving stolen property over \$100; CR98-139.

Nov. 18 - James Millsap; aggravated residential burglary and receiving stolen property more than \$2,500; CR98-142.

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Ten of 11 lifts are carting skiers to all areas of the Ski Apache terrain. Eighty-five percent of the ski area is open for skiers.

Bill Riggles/special to the Ruidoso News

Ski area prepares for Christmas rush

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

Ski Apache official Riker Davis described the days before Christmas as "the calm before the storm."

Each day, over the past several days, between 2,000 to 3,000 skiers have skied the slopes of the Ski Apache.

That's expected to change starting Saturday.

Much like shoppers stampeding the stores for after-Christmas sales, skiers too, will crowd the slopes for after-Christmas skiing.

"My guess is that Sunday, Monday and Tuesday will be the strongest days in the stretch," Davis said Wednesday.

Ski shop owner Orin Nutting of Ski West Sports confirmed Davis' predictions.

"We've got a lot of reservations for the days after Christmas," Nutting said.

If skiers want a bargain, however, they should head up the mountain today, Davis advised. That way they can purchase a three-day lift ticket for \$114, which averages \$38 a day. Starting Saturday, lift ticket prices increase to \$43 a day for the holiday rates through Jan. 2.

Skiing and surface conditions remain good to excellent

on the 47 open trails.

"Considering that we haven't been getting dumped on recently, the conditions were packed powder skiing. It was really nice," said Davis, who skied Wednesday afternoon.

There has been little opportunity for the area's snowmaking crews to finish up any last-minute Christmas shopping. Crews started making snow Monday night and hadn't

stopped as of Wednesday evening - more than 60 hours of snowmaking with more than 50 snow guns blasting fresh powder on the slopes.

The Elk Ridge trails have received the most of the manmade

snow, Davis said.

"We've continued touching up Capitan and Deep Freeze where we have our snowmaking capabilities also," Davis said.

Ten of 11 lifts are operating and 47 of 55 trails are open. Settled snow base on trails open is 30 inches. Only Chair 6 which serves the Apache Bowl and the Apache Bowl itself are closed.

Even though snowfall and skiing conditions aren't what they were a year ago and the ski area's opening was delayed by 10 days, Nutting said business has been steady. Last year at this time Ski Apache report-

► Hitting the slopes

Skiing conditions at Ski Apache:

- Settled snow depth on trails open: 30 inches
- Trails open: 47 of 55
- Lifts open: 10 of 11
- Snowmaking: Yes, mostly on Elk Ridge complex trails



Jamie Lamphier from Brown City, Mich. receives a helping hand from Mary Marietta. The couple was skiing Meadows last weekend.

Bill Riggles/special to the Ruidoso News

ed a base ranging from 40 to 55 inches, plus a storm delivered eight inches of fresh powder during Christmas week.

"We've been pretty busy. For us, it's a little different because we have clothing, too,"

Nutting said.

"It's not quite like last year, but all in all pretty good. We've been right along with some of the days like last year. Generally we're pretty happy with what's going on."

► HIGH COUNTRY SHOOTOUT

Senior guard Corey Saenz leads the 2-4 Warrior basketball team. Ruidoso hosts the 16-team High Country Shootout which begins Tuesday.

Ben Chrisman
Ruidoso News



Three days of hard core hoops on tap beginning Tuesday

BY LAURA CLYMER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

Three days of non-stop high school boys basketball begins Tuesday at Ruidoso's High Country Shootout.

Sixteen teams from New Mexico, Arizona and Texas will compete for top honors in two divisions: Class AAA varsity and Class A varsity and Class AAA junior varsity.

Teams participating in the Class AAA varsity bracket are Ruidoso, Sudan (Texas), Raton, Canutillo (Texas), Portales, Lydia Patterson Institute (Texas), Christian (Ariz.) and Chihuahua (Mexico).

The eight teams in the small school division are: Camp Sierra Blanca, Mescalero, Artesia JV, Hondo Valley, Canutillo JV, Carrizozo, Raton JV and Ruidoso JV.

Ruidoso (2-4 overall) meets Sudan High School in its first-round game at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at Ruidoso High School.

Interim coach Billy Page's Warriors are coming off a thrilling 63-61 victory over an unheralded Portales team. Page, however, won't be on the sidelines when the Warriors play their opening round game in the High Country Shootout. In the waning moments of the Ruidoso/Portales game, Page was ejected after receiving his second technical foul of the game. New Mexico Activities Association rules require a coach to sit out the next game after being ejected from a previous game.

In addition to the host Warriors (2-4 overall), cage fans from across the county can also see Carrizozo, Hondo Valley, Camp Sierra Blanca and Mescalero battle it out on the basketball court. Play begins bright and early Tuesday when Camp Sierra Blanca (a juvenile rehabilitation detention for boys) takes on an undefeated Mescalero team coached by second-year mentor Christy LaPaz. The Chiefs stayed perfect with a 78-75 win over Carrizozo Dec. 17. Camp Sierra Blanca and Mescalero tip off at 8:30 a.m. at Ruidoso High School.

Another local team will be in action Tuesday morning as well. Michael Booty's

Hondo Eagles play the Artesia junior varsity at 10 a.m. The Eagles (3-3) and Booty especially appreciate the new format of this year's tournament. Last year smaller schools competed in the same bracket as the Class AAA teams.

"It didn't do us very good to play the Portales varsity," said Booty, who is in his third year at Hondo, which has a school enrollment of less than 150.

But the Eagles will be without a starter and their sixth man for the tournament. Diego Ontiveros, who starts for Booty, and Jose Ontiveros will miss the tourney because they are visiting relatives in Mexico, Booty said.

Suiting up for Hondo will be senior guards Josh Candalaria and Beau Gomez and leading scorer Jerome Jerome, a sophomore rounding out Booty's six-man rotation are sophomore Manny Lopez and juniors Filbert Salas and Aaron Gomez.

The Eagles were 18-6 a year ago, but six seniors are gone from that team. At 3-3 overall thus far, Booty said his team should come around after the new year.

"I think once we get through this vacation period and play two and three games a week, they're going to show a lot more progression," Booty said.

Carrizozo's first-round opponent is the junior varsity team from Canutillo. Rick Beserra's Grizzlies play at 1:30 p.m. against the visitors from Texas. Leading Carrizozo is junior guard Ryan Roper.

In the final small school division game, the Ruidoso JV plays the Raton JV at 7 p.m.

Second-round action is slated to begin at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the high school. The tournament concludes Thursday with play at Ruidoso Middle School and Ruidoso High School.

The Class AAA bracket title game is set for 4 p.m. Thursday, while the Class A/AAA Junior Varsity bracket championship game will tip off at 2 p.m. Both title games are at the high school.

► THE OUTDOORS

Game and fish sets deadline for depredation hunts

The deadline to apply for New Mexico's 1999-2000 population-control hunts for antelope, deer, elk, javelina and oryx is Feb. 6, 1999.

According to a press release for the New Mexico Game and Fish Department, these hunts often are called "depredation hunts," and individuals who want to participate should apply on Form 98. Only one applicant may apply on a form, and a separate form may be used for each species.

The full price of the license should be included for all but the deer entry permits, which are \$6.

"These hunts are designed to reduce wildlife populations in circumstances where they are damaging private property," said Barry Hale, assistant chief for the Division of Wildlife at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

Oryx hunts also may be authorized when the animals are interfering with activities on military bases or damaging range experiments.

Those who apply should realize they

will be given short notice for these hunts, as little as 12 hours, game officials stated. Although the animals are causing problems one day it's no guarantee they will remain in the same spot the next.

No control hunts were held for antelope or javelina during the 1998-99 license year to date. A total of 14 hunters received the chance to hunt deer in southeastern New Mexico, and eight hunters were authorized to pursue elk in the southeast. Six hunters were given the chance to hunt elk in the northeast quadrant of the state.

The most hunting activity was authorized for oryx. With three months remaining in the 1998-99 license year, a total of 103 persons have been given the chance to pursue oryx.

In all, 1,565 hunters applied for the oryx population-control hunts for the 1998-99 license year, which ends March 31, 1999.

After the applications are received, a computer drawing determines the order in which hunters are called. If a hunter can't be reached, or can't participate, the next

hunter on the priority list will be notified.

Hunters who do not accept the hunt will be moved to the bottom of the priority list. Those who can't be reached and those who decline an "emergency" hunt offered with only 12 hours notice, shall retain their position on the priority list.

Most hunters manage to break free for the oryx hunts. It took only 115 phone calls to arrange for 103 hunters, according to the game and fish department.

However, 33 phone calls were required to find 14 hunters who could participate in deer hunts in the southeast quadrant of the state.

The population-control list is maintained for a complete license year, and hunters who are not called will not receive refunds until sometime after April 1, 2000, officials stated.

Application Form 98 and summaries explaining the population-control hunts are available at Department of Game and Fish offices in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Raton, Roswell and Santa Fe. Applications will be accepted by mail only.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Tourism award received by local

A local man, Brad Cooper, was one of four people recognized this fall by the Tourism Association of New Mexico (TANM) at its industry awards during the New Mexico Governor's Conference on Tourism. Cooper, marketing director at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, received the TANM President's Award at the conference, held in Gallup on Oct. 29. This annual industry conference showcases the newest in industry developments and marketing issues.

The two other people to receive this award are Mary Kay Cline, vice-president of the Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau and Marla Cooper, director of the Alamogordo Tourism Division.

The award is presented to tourism professionals who significantly contribute to the association during the past year. All three recipients were recognized for their work in the publicity and public relations field.

The TANM Tourism Professional of the Year Award was also presented to Janet Green, deputy secretary of the New Mexico Department of Tourism. This award is presented for outstanding accomplishment on behalf of the state's tourism industry as a whole. Green was recognized for her work with the New Mexico/Spain Cuarto Centenario.

The Tourism Association of New Mexico is a trade association representing all facets of New Mexico's tourism industry. Public and private sectors come together in the TANM umbrella to promote the state's tourism and convention business. Association members are drawn from all regions of New Mexico, as well as 10 other states and Canada.

New loan officer at Alexander Mortgage

Alexander Mortgage recently announced the addition of loan officer Vicci Chavez to its staff.

Chavez brings 10 years experience in the mortgage industry in both residential and commercial loans as well as in new loans and refinancing, according to a news release. Trudy Alexander, marketing director, said Chavez is a welcome addition to the staff.

Subway raises scholarship money

About \$275 was raised by Subway one day last month for the Scholarship for Christian Athletes, company representatives said.

The store, at 148 Sudderth Drive, donated \$1 for every foot-long sandwich sold on Nov. 21. In return, student athletes from Ruidoso High School donated their time working at the Subway. The students became employees for a day, and did everything from wipe tables to take orders, according to a company press release.

Century 21 expands staff

Century 21 Aspen Real Estate recently announced the addition of Patricia Otero Kearns to the staff.

Kearns, former operator of El Paisano restaurant in Capitán, is a native of Ruidoso. She also owned an excavating company for eight years and a wholesale jewelry store for nine years.

She has been a real estate agent's assistant for her husband Kimble Kearns, with Century 21, for the past three years.

Investment office uses state-of-the-art technology

• A Ruidoso investment adviser offers the international services of Edward Jones.

BY TONI K. LAXSON
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

With the state-of-the-art satellite outside his office, Jim Trolinder at anytime can tap into the most current investment information available. "We can get up-to-the-minute quotes on any kind of stock or bond you want," said Trolinder, who with his wife, Bunny, opened an Edward Jones investment office this fall in Ruidoso.

"We also have state-of-the-art research available to our clients," he said.

High technology is built-in at the Edward Jones building, a 2,000-square-foot office built this summer at 1121 Mechem Drive.

While he handles the firm's 300 clients and their investments, Bunny Trolinder takes care of the marketing and just about everything else. Helping the couple with office management is Billye Burnum.

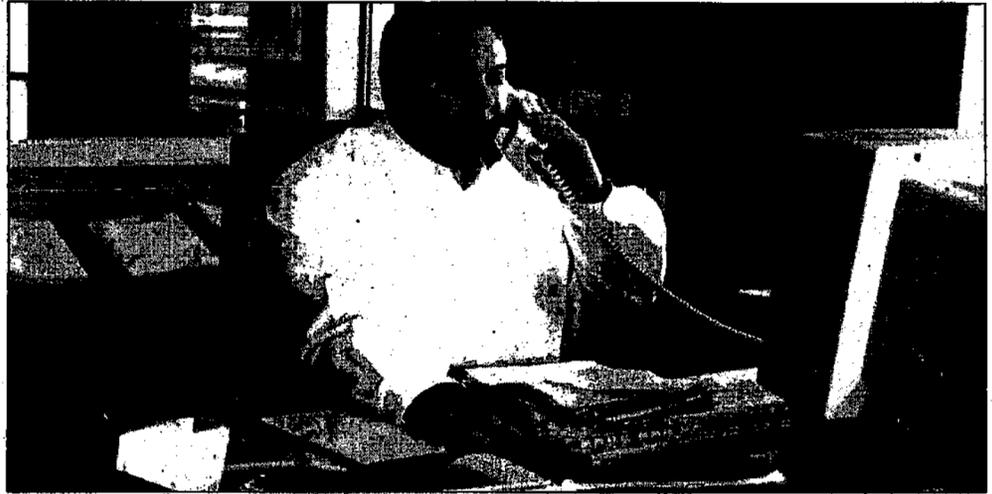
For Jim Trolinder, a multi-licensed investor with 19 years professional experience, the business represents the fruition of a lifetime goal.

"It's been a 20-year dream," he said.

While the couple owns the business, they access the Edward Jones network to provide investment services. Edward Jones, established in 1871, is one of the top five brokerage firms in the country, Jim Trolinder said.

It also is rated No. 1 in the *Registered Representative Magazine*, a publication for brokers, for the past seven years, he added.

The magazine's rankings are based on overall brokerage grades for service.



Jim Trolinder at his Edward Jones office manages investments for 300 clients nationwide.

Toni Laxson/Ruidoso News

"Also, remember at the first of October when the market was down so bad? We were rated No. 1 as far as our research portfolio performance by the *Wall Street Journal*," he said.

The company's style of financial management is to first protect the client's principal, he said. "And No. 2, we make as much as we can after protecting the principal, based on the client's needs."

At his office, Jim Trolinder focuses on offering local people retirement planning and financial management, a service that targets Ruidoso's many retirees. However, his clients live all over the country, from California to Florida, he said. The company also represents a variety of income levels and investment choices.

"We have a varied range of clients (whose investments) start with \$2,000 and go to \$2 million per client," he said.

Clients and potential clients are invited to small investment seminars at the new business, the couple said. The seminars are served in the office's boardroom, where participants are treated to a catered lunch and may possibly take in a live broadcast from a corporate CEO. For example, the next CEO scheduled is the head of DuPont, Jim Trolinder said.

The majority of his clients, about 200, are in the Midland area of Texas, where Jim Trolinder was an investment broker for 16 years. When the couple's children moved out of the home a little more than three years ago, the Trolinders decided it was time to change environments.

"And we decided we wanted to get up in the morning and look at trees rather than desert," Bunny Trolinder said.

After moving here, Jim Trolinder worked for the local Merrill Lynch office as a finan-

cial adviser before deciding to take the big step of opening his own business.

"I wanted the freedom of being in business for myself and being responsible for my clients' investments 100 percent," Jim Trolinder said.

"This is what we actively wanted," Bunny Trolinder said. "And he worked for a long time to get here."

► New Business

- What: Edward Jones, an investment house
- Who: Jim and Bunny Trolinder
- Where: 1121 Mechem Drive
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 6. Mobile Homes for Sale
 7. Houses for Rent
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 9. Mobiles for Rent
 10. Condos for Rent
 11. Cabins for Rent
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WANT TALL PINES, SECLUSION AND VIEWS AT A PRICE YOU CAN AFFORD? 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1500 sq. ft. handyman special. Lots of potential and situated on two lots. \$59,500.00.

OWNER ANXIOUS, PRICE REDUCED! Roomy 4 bedroom, 2 bath, manufactured home with split floor plan and lots of built-in extras. Good condition, large deck with beautiful view of Ruidoso. \$82,000.00.

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

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

BUYING ON A BUDGET? Owner will finance this affordable 2 bedroom, 1 bath got-a-way in the pines with comfortable covered deck. Furnished, city utilities. \$32,500.00.

CUTE MOUNTAIN CABIN! Small one bedroom, 1 bath weekend or summer cabin on nice lot with tall pines. Fully furnished, cute and affordable at \$36,500.00.

1608 SUDDERTH DRIVE

LOT FOR SALE: PINECLIFF
104 Lark, 120' Front. Backs up to National Forest. (505) 378-4947, (915) 267-5475.

WOODED LOT, CLOSE TO Innsbrook & Texas Club, nice view \$25,000. Daytime 257-2121, after 5:00 258-5232

Now selling
WHITE MOUNTAIN ESTATES
UNIT 6
24 single-family lots - 2 with super views! Also 2 commercial lots. Phone or fax White Mountain Development Co. 505-258-5050

BEAUTIFUL 67 ACRES with gentle slopes, Junipers and some Pine. Electric and telephone available. Priced at \$4,000.00 an acre. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228.

TWO LARGE LEVEL LOTS zoned for mobile in Fawn Ridge addition on Buck Trail. Paved access, Asking \$21,000 for both lots. 258-2099.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE RUIDOSO NEWS TODAY! Call Gina for the rates in your delivery area or buy a gift subscription for a friend. 257-4001.

RE/MAX of Ruidoso
1009 Mechem, Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345
Office: (505) 258-5833
800-657-8570
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

THREE OR FOUR BEDROOM, 2 bath modular, approx 2000 sq. ft., fireplace in master bedroom, work shop space, attached carport, easy access and the perfect mix of great neighborhood and wooded area make this perfect for everybody! Call Melody! \$104,900. 98-81906

NEW LISTING. Innsbrook condo, fully furnished, \$110,000. All one level, nice view of the lake. Call Marge for details.

ADORABLE MOUNTAIN COTTAGE w/glass-in sun room and hot tub room. Large covered decks, paved driveway, 2 car carport, storage room, large landscaped corner lot. Lots of extras. Call Marcial! \$99,500.

RE/MAX of Ruidoso
Nancy Wilkinson & Marcia Guynes
1009 Mechem
Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345
Office: (505) 258-5833 800-657-8570
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

NEW HOME IN ALTO
Over 2,000 sq ft of Mountain Elegance. Two master suites. Nice wooded lot; good access; oversized garage. \$189,000 #98-80948

ADORABLE MOUNTAIN COTTAGE
Large covered decks, two car carport, hot tub room, glassed-in sunroom, large landscaped corner lot. \$94,900 #98-80325

Golfers Paradise

302 Heath
Attractive Cedar/Redwood home bordering on the Links Golf Course (16th tee box). 3200 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 living areas, 2 fireplaces and a loft. Accessible, double garage. Deck with beautiful views. \$249,000
For sale by owner
Call (505) 258-3730 for appointment.

STARR REALTY

ALTO FULL GOLF MEMBERSHIP LOT - Very buildable - sacrifice. \$17,500

RV PARK & MOBILE HOME PARK - Back on market. Great Hwy 70 location. Some owner financing. Listed at only \$450,000. #98-80913

BEAUTIFUL 3BDR, 2BA - near new, close in, at \$134,500. #98-81754

LOCATION LOCATION - Tara Woods #9, light off Eagle - Cree Meadows reduced to \$4,900! Possible assumption. #97-71923

CABIN - close in, approx \$55,000. #98-81824

Lynn Starr - Realtor/Broker
Raynell Stampler - Realtor/Assoc. - (H) 257-4597
Richard Ebner - Realtor Assoc. - (H) 258-5908
Jr. Knox - Realtor Assoc. - (H) 257-3501

Ph. 505-257-4274
Fax 505-257-1031
email - starr1@zianet.com
website - www.zianet.com/starr/

716 Mechem Drive
(Across from Furr's at Sierra Mall)
Ruidoso, NM 88345

NEW HOME FOR SALE
108 Bluebird
 View of Sierra Blanca, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, dbl garage, front and rear decks, fireplace, work shop/storage area, quiet and secluded neighborhood.
\$148,500.00
Don Russell Construction, Inc.
 GB-98 #029672 (505) 258-4408

4 Houses for Sale
GUEST HOUSE OR STUDIO plus three bedroom, two bath main house with hot tub, sprinkler system. Backs Links Golf Course and hike/bike path. \$189,900. Don Lincoln, Coldwell Banker-SDC, 257-5111.
NEARLY NEW 4 BEDROOM BATH Living room, dining room, game room, 2 car garage, 2 complete living areas on 6 acres in Lower Eagle Creek. Too many features to list! Below appraisal at \$340,000. Will consider partial trade for El Paso property. **Jace Ensor, Mountain Top Real Estate, (505) 420-1330 or (505) 258-9203.**

"NEED A HOME?"
 We have helped over 5000 families buy mobile homes. **LOW DOWN & LOW PAYMENTS**, on any size new, used or reposs. DLR#00695. Before you buy, call Bob, 1-800-853-1717

ALL APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED!
 Zero down no cash needed. Incredible 90% credit approval. Rebates. \$1500 on singlewides, \$3000 on doublewides. On select models.
 Call for details 1-800-695-1112.
Super Center • 10625 Central NE • Albuquerque, NM

UNFURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT ON RIVER
 3 bedroom, 2 bath located at 18 Meander Drive. \$850 plus utilities. References required. Contact Myra at 257-4895 days, 258-4127 nights. SEEN BY APPT ONLY

\$275.00 FURNISHED EFFICIENCY Cabin. Cozy & Clean. Utilities paid. Midtown, 258-5877

Ruidoso's Home Team with the Winning Record!
Kimble & Patty Kearns
 Call 420-0257

NEW HOME IN RANCHES OF SONTERRA
 4 br, 2 ba, view of Sierra Blanca. River Rock fireplace, big deck. Call 505-392-9526 or 369-5497

36X80 3BDRM/2BA ISLAND Kitchen, includes delivery delivery, washer/dryer, air conditioning, siding, only \$249. a month, 1500 down or anything of value. Please call 1-800-2-0-5-1 or 1-800-346-1418, DL#784.

"NO CASH" "NEEDED"
 We trade for anything. We have the largest selection of single and doublewides in New Mexico. Free delivery. DLR#00695. Call Bob, 1-800-853-1717

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH unfurnished dome house. View of Sierra Blanca, nice decks, lots of storage. \$850 month plus utilities. Call Mark at Tail Pines Realty, 257-7786.

2 BDRM/1BA EASY ACCESS near "Y" on river, water furnished. Natural gas, electricity & cable available. Nice! \$295/mo 378-4498, 378-4487.

RESTORED HISTORIC HOME in Lincoln with a huge master bedroom. A rustic front gate leads to a courtyard enclosed with a rock wall. Beautiful wood floors and a great fireplace create a cozy feel inside. Located on 1.2 acres with irrigation water rights. Proven commercial value. \$152,900.
 Century 21 Aspen Real Estate • (505) 257-9057

BY OWNER: NICE 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath home. Great area! Call for more details 505-388-9482 or 505-538-1878.

TIRED OF PAYING RENT? Low on cash? Want a new home right away? Call Tony 1-800-798-0604.

BAD CREDIT OR NO CREDIT? 1st time buyer? A new home is only a phone call away! Low Down Easy Quality **D. L. Anderson at Unique Mobile Homes 1-800-852-3498**

ATTENTION SKIERS Fully furnished 2BDRM: Jacuzzi Tub, Sleeps 8, \$100/night. Convenient location. Next to shopping and ski bus stop, 648-2195.

SMALL ONE BEDROOM: 8x30, park model trailer for rent, \$175 monthly. Off Carizo Canyon Rd. Reference required. 257-4598

366 Sudderth Drive • Ruidoso, NM 88345
OFFICE (505) 257-4700 • FAX 257-2060
OUT OF TOWN 800 257-0811
Pine Mountain Realty
 Announcing Our Website...
 Please drop by for a look at <http://www.zlanet.com/pmr>
 Best Wishes & Happy Holidays from everyone at Pine Mountain Realty

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

FIRST TIME BUYERS PROGRAM!
 Amazing 95% credit approval. New 16x80 \$25,990 under \$209 monthly. New 32x44 \$33,990 under \$249 monthly. Rebates applied to sales prices listed.
 Call for details 1-800-257-8884.
Quality Homes • 185 Juan Tabo NE • Albuquerque, NM

A ZERO DOWN PROGRAM! \$500 DOWN PROGRAM!
 Rebates up to \$3000! On select models. No down land home packages. Need a home? We can help.
 Call for details 1-800-257-8884.
Quality Homes • 105 Juan Tabo NE • Albuquerque, NM

SMALL HOUSE, 2 BEDROOM, 1.5 bath, good location, \$300/mo plus bills. Call 258-5959 days, 257-4699 after 5, ask for Chris.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage, \$650 per month. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage, \$700 per month. Filter & Associates, 378-7108

CLASSIC RUIDOSO LOG CABIN IN SUPER CONDITION! On nice lot with valley view. Three bedroom, 2 bath, circular drive, beautiful tall pines. Great full-time or vacation home. By appt. only. Call Don or Kathy, Jo. OE

UPPER CANYON FURNISHED CABIN With Deck
 "ON THE RIVER"
 Call for appointment Bess Amaral (Roswell) (505) 623-4809

EXCLUSIVE 50 YEAR WARRANTY!
 New deluxe 4 bedrm, 2 bath under \$229 monthly. Fully loaded new 32x80 \$59,990 under \$398 monthly. Rebates applied to sales prices listed.
 Call for details 1-800-695-1112.
Super Center • 10625 Central NE • Albuquerque, NM

WARM CABIN NEAR MIDTOWN; clean, furnished, 1 bedroom, 1 bath for rent. Bills paid, \$425 per month. 257-6827

305 HIGH MESA DRIVE; month to month rental. Totally remodeled 3bdrm/3ba, gameroom & workroom, two levels, unfurnished. Backs 15th fairway of Alto Lakes Golf & CC, \$1,800/mo. Day: James 257-9057; Night: John 257-3989 owner/agent.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage, \$650 per month. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage, \$700 per month. Filter & Associates, 378-7108

PRICE JUST REDUCED ON THIS VERY NICE MOUNTAIN HOME IN A BEAUTIFUL SETTING - Almost an acre lot across from Alto Village. 2x8 ext. walls, woodburning stove in the sunken LR, covered deck to enjoy summer evenings. Nice floor plan. Ask for Gary. Was \$104,500 now \$95,000. MLS #98-80509

5 CONDOS FOR SALE
BY OWNER: 2BDRM/2BA, 2 car garage/porch, fireplace, washer/dryer, pool/spa, jacuzzi, cathedral ceilings, 1500 sq. ft., furnished/unfurnished, beautiful views. \$89,500. 378-1163

CIUDADANIA NO ES Necesaria Para Ser Dueno De Su Propia Casa Movil. Le Consigno Finalmente. Alberto DL#784 1-888-907-7376.

RE/MAX MOBILE HOME
 3br 2ba on 4 acres in Portales, NM. Would like to trade for property in Ruidoso area.
 Contact: Kathy, Sales Asso. at 749-1881 or 763-7806
RE/MAX FIRST PLACE REALTORS OF GLOVIS

8 Apts. for Rent
NICES TWO BEDROOM, One Bath Apartment in town. Cathedral ceilings, washer/dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove included. Gas heat/hot water. "LOW UTILITIES" 915-757-8043 for details.

11 Cabins/Vacation
2 BEDROOM UN-FURNISHED cabin, Midtown, easy access; \$400/mo.+ dep. + utilities. Call 257-9128.

AFFORDABLE FAMILY LIVING in good neighborhood. 3br, 2ba plus den or office w/garden window. Knotty pine, workshop, storage, fenced yard. \$80K. Please ask for Don or Kathy for more information.

CHAMPIONS RUN CONDO; excellent condition, 2 bedroom, \$88,500. 378-5616

RE/MAX MOBILE HOME
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COZY 8x8 CABIN; NEAR mid-town. Clean, warm, furnished, 1 bedroom, 2 beds, 1 bath for rent. Available weekends, monthly or long term. 257-6627

GARY LYNCH REALTY
FULLY FURNISHED UNIT WITH A VIEW!
 Enjoy a Sierra Blanca view from this wonderful 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath condo. Fireplace, dining area, study, utility room, 1-car garage and more. Fully furnished with few exclusions. Bring your toothbrush! \$125,000.
ALTO VILLAGE FULL MEMBERSHIP LOT - Super Alto lot with a view, good tree cover. Located in a very nice part of Alto Village. Paved access to the lot, buildable, downhill slope. Just listed, only \$26,500.00!
NEAR COMPLETION, LOOKS GOOD! Cute 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home is being rebuilt from the foundation up! Metal roof, nice front porch and deck; 2 lots combined to make one. Neat, old fireplace from original home. Owner/agent. Only \$99,750.
 "Making New Friends While Keeping the Old"

PRIME COMMERCIAL PROPERTY!
 Approximately 10,000 sq. ft. of building. Check out this sq. foot price. Right on Mechem, backs up to golf course. Owner financing available. \$450,000.
 Gary M. Lynch, Broker, GRI; Res: 338-4252
 Cindy K. Lynch, Associate, GRI; Res: 338-4252
 Phyllis Boyd, Associate, GRI; Res: 378-4358
 Lynn Meadows, Associate; Res: 338-4317
 Kim Baugh, Associate; Res: 257-5287
 Kay Telf, Associate; Res: 258-9044
 David Warren, Associate Broker; Res: 630-8102

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13 Room for Rent
WANTED ROOMMATE to share large 2 bedroom apartment. \$275 per month plus 1/2 utilities. Call 257-9017 or 258-3918.

JOSEPH A. ZAGONE
 Multi-Million Dollar Producer
 Picture of Success
 Hustler of the Year
CENTURY 21 Aspen Real Estate
 1-800-858-2773
 (505) 257-9057
 (HM) 258-4242
 Lifetime Area Resident
 20 Years RUIDOSO Area Real Estate Experience
 Call 420-3807 98-97-98

BREATHTAKING SIERRA BLANCA VIEW
 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home in Alto. Gorgeous satellite tile, gas-log fireplace, alarm system, Jacuzzi, social membership and more! Did I say breathtaking Sierra Blanca view? \$220,500 #98-81707
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

Brand New & Beautiful
 Under construction, completion Feb or Mar '99. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, attached 2-car garage, Sierra Blanca view. Quiet and secluded location. \$175,000 #98-81924
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

RE/MAX MOBILE HOME
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RE/MAX FIRST PLACE REALTORS OF GLOVIS

15 Storage for Rent
L & D SELF STORAGE Hwy. 48 Space available. 258-4599 or 257-9463.
UPPER CANYON MINI Storage units now renting. Call 257-9873 or 420-0850

PARK-LIKE SETTING
 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on 2.3 gorgeous acres. Great floor-plan! Huge decks, outdoor hot-tub. Views and seclusion. \$225,000. Two additional 2 acre tracts also available. #98-81497
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

NEW HOME
 One-level, 3 bedroom, 2 bath floor plan. Location in White Mountain Estates. Fireplace, wood ceilings, attached double carport \$97,500. #98-80345
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

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RE/MAX FIRST PLACE REALTORS OF GLOVIS

17 Business Rentals
OFFICE AND RETAIL Space for lease at Pinetras Square, 2810 Sudderth Drive. 257-5166. Monday thru Friday, 9AM to 4PM.
GREAT LOCATION Plaza Center, Sudderth. Approx. 1800 sq. ft. for lease. Richard or Kathy at Coldwell Banker SDC, Realtors 338-8489.

GREAT OWNER FINANCING
 Fantastic Sierra Blanca view. Three bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Recently repainted. Beautiful landscaping. Great decks, city utilities, paved drive. \$158,800 #98-81475
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

ALTO 14TH FAIRWAY
 Tile and stone, beautiful fireplace, huge kitchen, multiple decks, large master suite. Custom features throughout. \$400,000. #98-60643
 By appointment only.
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

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RE/MAX FIRST PLACE REALTORS OF GLOVIS

18 Bus. Opp.
CHARMING ADOBE STYLE Commercial plus living quarters, artist studio/gallery/professional/retail, \$139,800. Call Jennie Dorgan. Possible owner financing. 1-888-556-1349 or 830-9900

QUIET CENTRAL LOCATION
 Two bedroom, 1 bath. Great fireplace, fresh paint, new carpet, covered deck, attached garage and storage building. In-town location. \$77,500. #98-81373
 CALL JOSEPH A. ZAGONE AT 420-3807

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RE/MAX FIRST PLACE REALTORS OF GLOVIS

19 Condos for Rent
2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH Condo. Completely furnished and wonderful views. No pets and non smokers only. \$575 per month plus utilities. Call Mark at Tail Pines Realty, 257-7786
NICE 2BR/2BA CONDO, good location, easy access, \$500/mo plus bills. 258-6969 days, 257-4699 after 5, ask for Chris.
COZY, WELL INSULATED 1bdrm house, conveniently located near "visions", nice carpet & appliances, \$395 plus gas/elec, lease, deposit, 505-621-4057.

"God bless you over the holidays"

\$99 FOR A VARIETY of long-term income streams...

T.L.C. CONSTRUCTION has family land on the river below lake...

SKI RENTAL BUSINESS for sale by owner...

19 Autos for Sale

1995 TOYOTA 4-RUNNER: V-6, excellent condition...

1993 Pontiac Bonneville, loaded, leather, alarm, sunroof...

1990 LINCOLN TOWN CAR: excellent mechanical condition...

1985 THUNDERBIRD 95% original, 6,000 miles...

1993 CHEVY CAVALIER: Good Transportation, \$2000...

1982 CHRYSLER AUTO: 80,000 miles, \$1000 OBO...

1991 TRANS AM: V-8, T-tops, loaded, beautiful car...

20 Trucks/4X4's

1997 FORD RANGER 4X4 EXT. CAB: XLT, under 15,120 miles...

1985 F350 DUALY: A good one, clean, good rubber, 4sp...

25 Livestock

TACK, SADDLES, & Ropes, Fenton Art Gallery...

5 YEAR OLD REGISTERED thoroughbred mare, green broke, dark Bay...

29 Pets & Supplies

AIREDALE TERRIERS: AKC puppies; 3 females left. Health guaranteed...

REGISTERED LT GOLDEN Retriever Puppies, \$250.00...

SAVE A PETS LIFE!! By sponsoring a pet in the Ruidoso News...

AKC ROTTWEILER Puppies, Championship bred Sires...

FREE TO GOOD HOME: Friendly 3/yr. Old Standard Poodle mix...

MINIATURE DACHSHUND puppies for sale; two males, nine weeks old...

31 Household

MOVING SALE: Dining room set, \$700. Patio furniture, living room furniture...

MULE CREEK TRADING WESTERN ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES. COWBOY HATS. NEW WINTER HATS JUST ARRIVED...

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

CASA BLANCA is accepting applications for all positions. Looking for people willing to work hard and get paid well.

Brillante Construction Thomas Brillante General Contractor. REDWOOD DECKS • REMODELING • PAINTING. 258-5198.

"WEB PAGE" DESIGNS Quality work. Reasonable Prices. Call the "Web Wizard" 354-2803.

34 Arts TANGO BUENOS AIRES 1 Night performance at the Spencer Theater, Jan 23, 1999...

THE BARN Spaces Available • 257-5510. BLOWOUT SALE! Everything Discounted!

SAFE DRIVERS NEEDED, Apply anytime. Pizza Hut, 1201 Mechem.

FULL-TIME CARETAKER for show horses, maintenance and some landscape.

FINISH CARPENTRY Custom woodwork & cabinetry. "336-1125". Trimline Const. Lic. # 054776.

RUIDOSO BOOKKEEPING SERVICE LINDA ZINN-OWNER. REASONABLE RATES. CUSTOMIZED SERVICE. (505) 257-4065.

35 Sporting Goods GUNS FOR SALE: Mossberg Model 590, 12GA, Persuader, 9-Shot, Parkerized...

CHRISTMAS SALE: Demo Stereo equipment and big screen TVs; will sell for under dealer cost.

MECHANIC needed to work at Ruidoso Ford - Lincoln - Mercury. Contact Ron, 378-4400.

COOKS & SERVERS needed at Farley's. Health benefits plus 401(k) plan available.

DAVID FRYER General Contractor 257-2410. Building - Remodeling. Lic. #55166.

42 Child Care DEPENDABLE BABY Sitter. Meals included. Flexible hours. Call 257-3768.

36 Miscellaneous \$WE BUY\$ Seller Financed Notes • Insurance Settlements • Land Note Portfolios...

COMPLETE COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR SALE 34MB, 2.5GB, 233 Processor, 4mb video card...

MAID HELP NEEDED AT Economy Inn. Call 378-4706.

COMMUNITY REPS TO WORK with High School Institutions. Exchange Students & Host Families...

HONEST, DEPENDABLE. No job too small! Trash hauling, Pine needle raking/removal...

SEASONED FIREWOOD: Juniper, Cedar, or Pinon. Delivery or pickup. Commercial wood sales also.

WANTED: REAL ESTATE contracts. Receiving Payments? I can buy your future payments for cash...

KINGS TREASURE THRIFT STORE Mon-Fri 9:30-4:30pm Sat. 10-2pm. Bargains galore!

RNs & LPNs needed at Ruidoso Care Center. \$2000 sign-on bonus.

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED Full or Part-time. Above minimum salary.

T.L.C. CONSTRUCTION & PAINTING will give you a free bid A.S.A.P.

"THE FIREWOOD GUYS" Pinon Fir, \$120/cord; Cedar, Juniper, and Mesquite...

STEEL BUILDINGS SALE: 5,000+ sizes. 40x60x14 \$7,281; 50x75x14, \$10,324; 60x100x16, \$15,236...

DRIVER..HIRING. Experienced & inexperienced drivers wanted. Contracted CDL training available!

DRIVER COVENANT Transport Coast to Coast. Have valid New Mexico's driver's license.

YARD LABORER Full-time, Mon - Sat. Benefits available. Apply in person at C&L Lumber & Supply 2028 Hwy 70 W, Ruidoso Downs.

J.J. CONSTRUCTION INC. License #28461 • Bonded & Insured. Commercial & Residential Construction.

SEASONED FIREWOOD: While it lasts! Pinon, Juniper, Pine or mixture. Highway 48, mile marker 11; next to welding shop.

37 Wanted to Buy WANTED FOR PARTS: Motorcycles, 4-wheelers, etc. Running or not, older cars, trucks.

38 Help Wanted ROUTE DRIVER NEEDED Part-Time, Night Shift. Must have valid New Mexico's driver's license.

Direct Care Staff Position Available Challenging work with mentally retarded and developmentally disabled clients.

AVON PRODUCTS - Start your own business. Work flexible hours. Enjoy unlimited earnings.

AM-PM COOKS: IMMEDIATELY! Apply in person at the Village Cafe, Hwy. 70 Ruidoso Downs.

47 Thank You THE FAMILY OF EDWARD ARAGON SANCHEZ would like to thank everyone for their concerns, prayers, food and presence during the family's bereavement.

39 Bank Position First Savings Bank has a Teller Position open at 2713 Sudderth Dr. Ruidoso.

49 Personal MOM: MERRY CHRISTMAS & Happy New Year! I love you and miss you so much.

HELP WANTED Applications being accepted for all positions K-Bob's. Come be a part of the team at our newly remodeled restaurant.

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING your home or business, fast and thorough, references available.

40 Services PROFESSIONAL CLEANING your home or business, fast and thorough, references available.

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N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0110

ACROSS

- 1 Where NaCl is collected
- 8 First name in German politics
- 14 Noted Ojibwa of fiction
- 16 1955 title heroine
- 17 Classic adventurer
- 18 Fan
- 19 Where the Mikado once lived
- 20 Relative of "Fudge!"
- 22 "Show Boat" composer
- 23 Focal point
- 25 Politico Bella
- 27 Overly strict
- 31 Kind of buddy

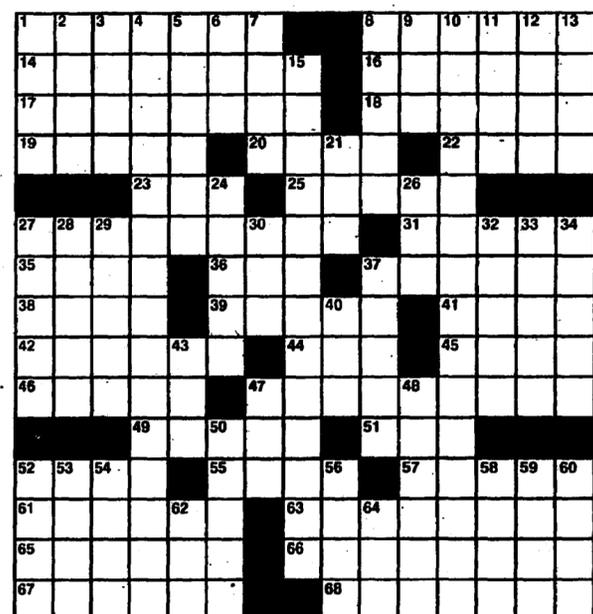
- 35 Rate — (be perfect)
- 36 Vote in Québec
- 37 "Life of Christ" painter
- 38 Diana of "The Avengers"
- 39 46-Across, e.g.
- 41 Senior member
- 42 Abbey Theater name
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- 45 About
- 46 Four-time Emmy-winning series
- 47 Elimination game
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- 51 Health grp.
- 52 "Heartbreak House" writer
- 55 Transportation Secretary beginning 1993

- 57 Wouldn't hurt

- 61 He coined the phrase "Harmony in discord"
- 63 Holdings
- 65 Compliant one
- 66 Lifting device
- 67 Eighty-sixes
- 68 Defrauded

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- 2 Unsubstantial
- 3 Italian body of water
- 4 With 10- and 15-Down, a Fellini quote
- 5 Prove to be successful
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- 7 None-too-gentle landing
- 8 Frequency unit
- 9 Jeff Lynne's rock grp.
- 10 See 4-Down
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- 21 Epitome of simplicity
- 24 Exchange
- 26 Where: Lat.
- 27 Utterance
- 28 Mohawk River



Puzzle by A. J. Santora

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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- 30 Easter start
- 32 Office assistant
- 33 Japan's Bay
- 34 "Terrace at Le Havre," e.g.
- 37 Kind of radiation
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- 43 Farm animal
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- 50 Impersonators
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- 56 Sacred bull of Egyptian myth
- 58 Some soil
- 59 Start of Massachusetts' motto
- 60 Made a tax valuation: Abbr.
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VÁMONOS!

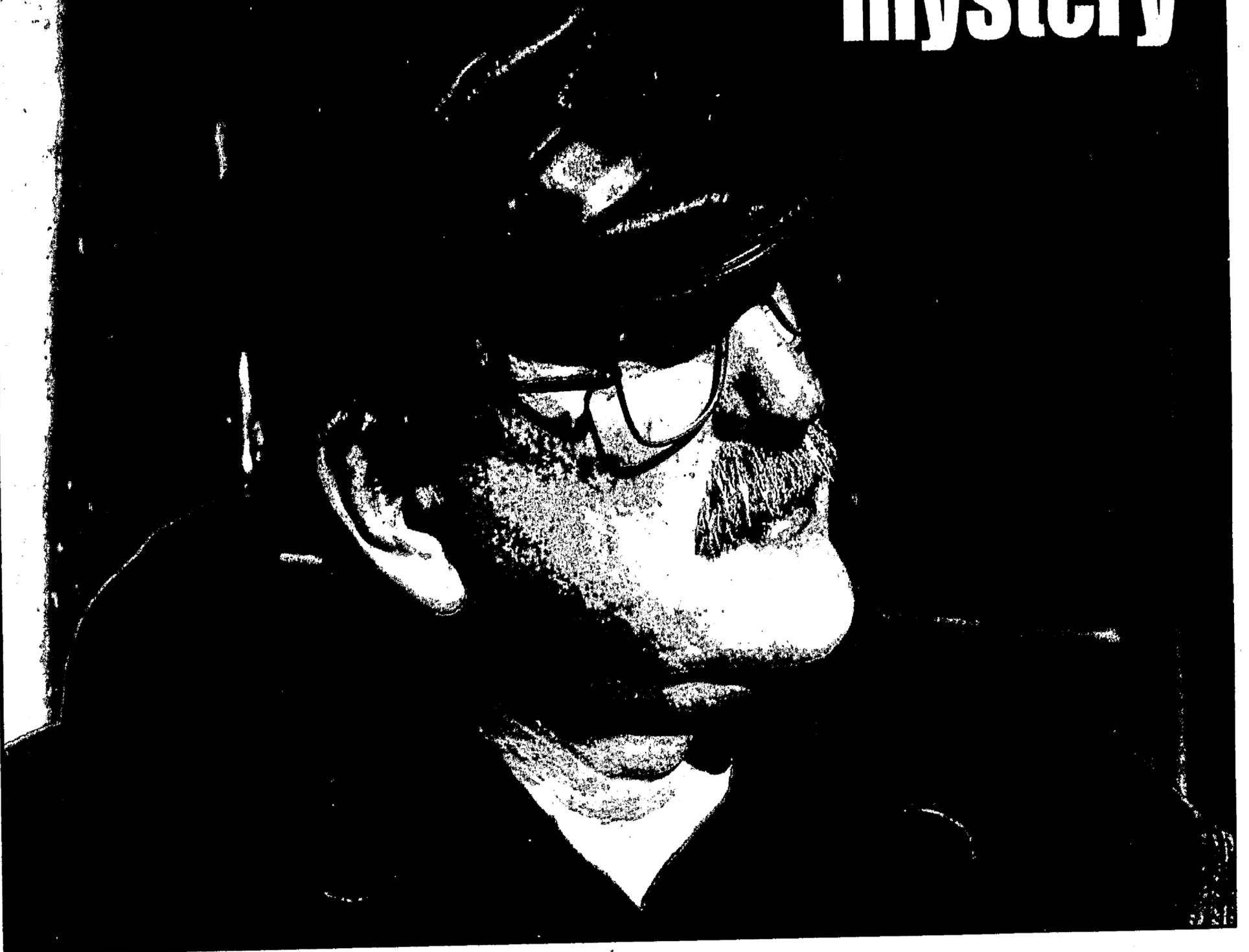
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT IN LINCOLN COUNTY



Where to be
a new year
party animal

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A man of mystery



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ON THE COVER



Ben Chrisman

LINCOLN MYSTERY AUTHOR, Steven Havill, recently completed his seventh book in the Bill Gastner series. Havill visited with *Vámonos* reporter, Sandy Suggitt, to discuss his "offspring" — fictional characters Bill Gastner and Estelle Reyes-Guzman. Please see page 4C for more character development.

further inside

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▼ Dining guide

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editor



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graphic designer



Meredith Keeton,
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Sandy Suggitt,
staff writer

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



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Ruidoso News

Art and Artifact

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

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

Benson Fine Art

Moving to San Patricio, 258-5113, 653-4081, or 653-4085.

Call for an appointment, 258-5113 or 653-4081.

Bonito Bronze

1204 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, 258-1313

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

California Colors

201 Country Club Rd., Ruidoso, 257-9518

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

Cabin Fever at Escudilla Log Works

320 Smokey Bear Blvd., Capitan, 354-4801

Handcrafted cabin furniture made from native woods as well as lamps, ironwork, stained glass, pottery and unique antique accessories. Open Monday through Saturday. Closed Sundays.

Chamber of Commerce

710 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-7395

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

Eagle Ranch Art Gallery

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

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

Gail's Frame of Mind

1204 Mechem, Ruidoso, 258-9071.

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

Gary D. Garrett

2306 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, 257-6977

The gallery features the acrylic paintings of artist Gary Garrett.

Handwoven Designs

102 Lincoln Ave., Capitan, 354-2008

Maggie Doyle is a nationally recognized, fourth-generation hand weaver with a working weavery in Capitan. She draws inspiration from the landscapes of her New Mexican home for her handwoven clothing. Using natural fibers, dyes, and hand-spun yarns, the garments are finished with knitted trim and eclectic buttons. Call first.

Hurd-La Rinconada Gallery

Off Hwy. 70 in San Patricio, 653-4338.

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

The Kenyon Thomas Gallery

346 Sudderth, Ruidoso by the traffic lights at Paradise Canyon, 257-1036.

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

Lincoln County Artists Co-op

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

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

Lorene & Larry's

268 Main Rd., Capitan, 354-2605

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

Expressions in Bronze

2002 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-3790

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

The Montano Store

Hwy. 390, Lincoln, 653-4372.

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

Mtn. Arts Gallery & Framing

2530 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-9748

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

Museum of the Horse

Hwy. 70, Ruidoso Downs, 378-4142.

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

Nogal Store & Gallery

Highway 37, Nogal

Featuring the works of Nogal and Lincoln County area artists and craftsmen such as Tim Brazie, Mike and Georgia Lagg, Pam Topper, John West, Anne Buffington, Susan Weir-Ancker, Ivy Heyman, Leroy Anderson and Coleta Lively. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Red Rose Art Studio

County Rd. E016, Hondo, 653-4203.

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

Sacred Images, Angels & Icons

416 First St., Ruidoso, 257-6627

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

Spring Canyon Gallery

2206 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, 257-1561.

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

Stribling Fine Art

1031 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, 258-4892

Featuring contemporary Southwest paintings by New Mexico artist Stephen Stribling. Located in The Attic complex (upstairs in back). Hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, or by appt.

The Tree's House

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

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

Western Trails Gallery

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

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

White Mtn. Pottery Gallery

2328 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-3644.

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

White Oaks Pottery Studio and Gallery

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

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

Spencer Theater awarded national arts grant for music

The Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts is not more 15 months old, and yet it has already scored a major national arts grant.

The theater was chosen to represent New Mexico in the "Continental Harmony" millennium project for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and American Composers Forum (ACF).

"Continental Harmony: Music for the Millennium" is a nationwide initiative that provides an opportunity for community groups to commission a musical work that reflects their history, culture and hopes for the future. This music is to be written for local performers and a local celebration.

The grant money pays for a composer residency during 1999, and ACF has asked all 50 host communities across the country "to sound the new millennium" with performances of their commissioned works on the same day - July 4, 2000.

Spencer Theater administrators say this project will be the main focus of their community outreach for the next two years. Spencer Theater will organize a community task force that will help select the composer and guide the residency. This group will also gather com-

munity input for the shaping of the new composition.

"This project will involve members of the community at every level," said Margaret Lahey, Spencer Outreach Coordinator. "People here of every age, every culture, every walk of life will have some kind of contribution to make."

The creative vision of the new work is already in place, thanks to the efforts of musician and teacher Patricia Brimberry. Brimberry is the musical director of Dancing Bear Music Studios. Drawing on local history, family legacies, cultural traditions and the role of natural and technological forces, Brimberry is writing a musical drama that relates the story of the region.

"It's specifically about the people of the Southwest, but it is a universal story," Brimberry said. "I see it as a modern myth about the blending of human cultures."

The ACF staff will visit Spencer in January and meet with the Continental Harmony task force to prepare a community job description for composer applicants. The composer, who will write New Mexico's new music, will be selected by June.

CALLS FOR ART

The Sky City Visitors' Center Local Selection Committee (LSC) wishes to purchase one or more 2D or 3D artworks for the Pueblo of Acoma/Sky City Visitors' Center. The LSC is looking for artwork which has significance within the traditional and cultural values of the Pueblo of Acoma. The media is open to traditional, handmade pottery; traditional clothing or textiles; paintings; and traditional style jewelry. Scale is open. The Sky City Visitors' Center will be responsible for installation of the artwork. Project amount is \$2,000. Open to New Mexico residents only. Deadline is January 8, 1999. Interested artists may submit slides or photos of available work to NM Arts by 5 p.m. Jan. 8, or deliver the actual artwork under consideration to the Sky City Visitors' Center on Jan. 11, to be picked up on Jan. 13. Please request the prospectus for more details on how to apply for

this project. Call or write Art in Public Places, 228 E. Palace Ave., Santa Fe, NM, 87501, (505) 827-6490 or in state 1 (800) 879-4278.

The Bernalillo County 1% for the Arts Program announces a competition for the commission of a site-specific sculpture to be placed at the intersection of Isleta Boulevard and Arenal Road, SW in Albuquerque. The theme is open to the individual creativity of the artist but should consider the unique character and history of the South Valley of Bernalillo County. Project amount is \$75,000. Deadline is Feb. 1, 1999. Open to New Mexico residents only. For a prospectus call (505) 768-4013 or write to Bernalillo County 1% for the Arts Program, Bernalillo County Purchasing Division, One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor, Albuquerque, NM 87102.



The Arts

More murder and mayhem in store for Gastner



A student of human nature, teacher of eighth-graders and adult novelists, medical history buff, former journalist and photographer, Steven F. Havill is better known regionally as a creator of credible Southwest characters for his Bill Gastner mystery series.

The little town of Lincoln is not only the setting of historic conflicts, but also the setting from where Havill creates conflict for his fictitious children – aging undersheriff Bill Gastner and brilliant young investigator Estelle Reyes-Guzman who live in the fictional village and county of Posadas, in southern New Mexico.

Havill just completed the seventh book in the Gastner series, and this year will complete the

remodeling job on his home in Lincoln. This is his 24th year teaching and his 17th year writing books (He wrote four “medical Westerns” prior to beginning the Gastner series).

He’s the bestselling local author (of 20 to 25 authors) for Peter and Dorinda Reum of The Aspen Tree bookstore and for Ronnie and Rita Crawford of 3 Bar D Ace Hardware and Mercantile in Capitan as well.

Havill received on-the-job training for his writing as an education and police reporter in upstate New York in the 1970s. Havill spent four to 500 hours riding around in patrol cars, so it’s no accident his series features an undersheriff and an investigator.

“Over two years – what an education!” he said. He rode with village patrols, sheriff’s deputies and the Department of Game and Fish, and was fascinated to discover how hardworking and professional they were.

“They genuinely – most of them – love their jobs and do them well, and make some incredible mistakes and are grotesquely underfunded,” Havill said. But hanging out with them was educational for him

A conversation with mystery writer, Steven Havill

Story by Sandy Suggitt
VAMONOS STAFF WRITER

Photos by Ben Chrisman
RUIDOSO NEWS STUDENT INTERN



THE ARTS

in other ways.

"The other thing I picked up is how many really strange people there are in the world," he said. "I was absolutely flabbergasted. I used those (people) in my books."

But, he said, it was his first novel, a "medical Western," that planted the seed "to have as a central theme, police officers who don't have hidden agendas and aren't just jerks."

That first novel, *The Killer*, is about a typhoid epidemic, three young medical scammers and an insightful marshal with a limp.

"They always have some visible defect," Havill said about his main characters. He went on to write three more Westerns before switching to contemporary mysteries.

The Gastner series is in "real time" with the characters aging along with their creator. Gastner quits smoking between a couple of the early novels and still reaches automatically for cigarettes through the pages of the later ones.

Each novel takes place in just a few days, and Gastner and Estelle work nonstop, making the most of each minute. So, it's not surprising that Gastner overdoes it and has to have triple bypass heart surgery.

"I intentionally made him *not* a redneck," Havill said with obvious affection. "He's fat, getting old, all kinds of ailments, but he's very bright, he's not lazy."

And, in order to get everything done in a couple of days or 240 pages, Havill made him an insomniac. He claims to have stolen that trait from a real person — an old sheriff friend of his family back East.

"When I was riding along with the deputies, he was still sheriff and he would go out at night and just park his LTD somewhere and buzz down the windows. He might back into the vineyard and he'd look out across this county.

"And we'd drive by in the deputy's car and the radio would go 'squash squash.' He just hit the mike a couple of times 'cause he saw us, (saying) 'I'm here.' He really kept tabs on things.

Although there's nothing else in common with that real sheriff and Gastner..." Havill said.

So Gastner grows older. Estelle gets married and has two children while rising through the ranks and becoming more experienced, and all the while, still calling Gastner "Sir," even though it's obvious they're trusted friends and fond of each other.

Doesn't that make them family, the offspring of their author, after seven books and all those years of slinging hurdles at them?

Yes, Havill admits.

Bill and Estelle seem to ask, "What are you going to do to us next?"



But would Havill dare to end the adventures of Bill and Estelle?

"Oh sure," Havill says. But he replies quickly and softly — perhaps so his characters won't hear.

"There's that thought in the sixth one, (Bill) has announced that he's going to retire and she's announced that she's moving to Minnesota — her husband has gotten a job in the Mayo Clinic."

But in the seventh book, just sent off to St. Martin's Press, they're back at work investigating a "really nasty crime — which is the murder of the sheriff — and Gastner suddenly finds himself, not only not retired but he's going to be filling in as sheriff." Meanwhile Estelle is packing for a move to Minnesota.

We'll see if she actually gets there or what his fans have to say about it. As it is, fans get so carried away with *Posadas*, New Mexico that they ask Havill for maps so they can follow the chases better, he said.

Although he receives demands from fans for visual aids, Havill says he doesn't get much from pressure his editor or publisher. They're content to have a book a year in the series.

Havill has had to veto cover art occasionally, though, over which he ordinarily has little control. *Prolonged Exposure* came out with a photograph that looked like the Arches National Monument in Utah, so he called and suggested they get something from New Mexico. They did.

Meanwhile, Havill's own life story moves along. He's currently

researching what he expects will be a "really heavily medical book" set in the 1890s near the Puget Sound area, about the dangerous logging industry and quacks who deal with trauma treatment.

"I think that every writer, after he's done a book or two — in my case this is number 11 — you get pipe dreams about a 'big book,'" Havill said.

But he's not a driven writer, he says. He's a middle school teacher and a teacher of 80 adult writing students through *Writer's Digest* workshops.

"I have several things I don't like to do," he said, "and one of the things I don't like to do is sit long hours in front of the stupid computer screen staring at it.

"I have lots of other things I like to do."

Books by Steven F. Havill

Western titles

The Killer
Leadfire
The Worst Enemy
Timber Blood

Bill Gastner series

Heartshot (out of print, going for \$100 first editions on antiquarian book market)
Bitter Recoil
Twice Buried
Before She Dies
Privileged to Kill
Prolonged Exposure
Out of Season (to be published by St. Martin's Press in 1999)





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

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 Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods,
 Carrizo Canyon Road,
 Mescalero
 Hours: Breakfast: 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Lunch: 12 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Dinner: 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Apache Tee Cafe

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

Price Range: \$\$
 Phone: 257-5141
 Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods,
 Carrizo Canyon Road,
 Mescalero
 Hours: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
 (Closed Mondays and Tuesdays)

The InnCredible

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

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

K Bob's Steak House

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

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

Cafe Mescalero

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

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

Dan Li Ka Dining Room

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

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

Cattle Baron

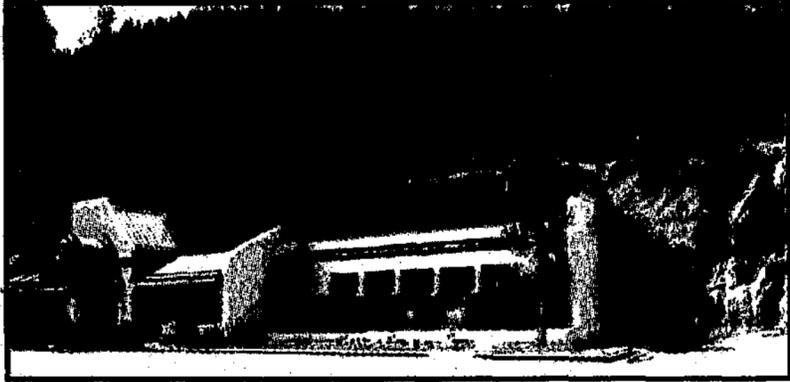
Sensational steaks, seafood and a 46-item salad bar are featured on Cattle Baron's menu. Fresh trout, catfish, Pacific snapper and King salmon and speciality dishes like filet mignon with green chili bearnaise sauce are also patron pleasers.

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

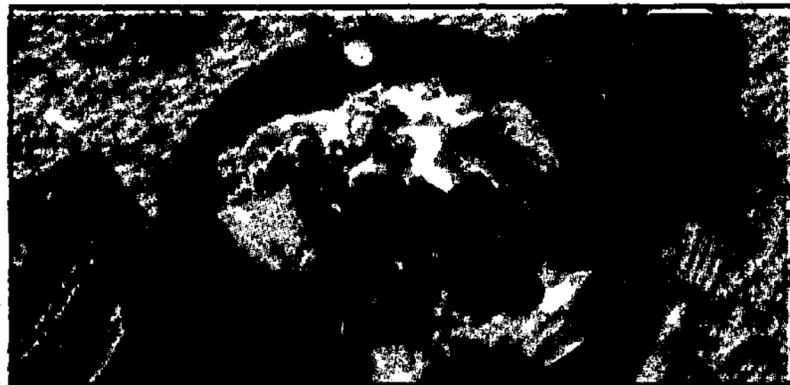
Address: 212 Metz Dr., in Innsbrook
Village, Ruidoso

Hours: Lunch 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.,
Dinner 5-10 p.m.,
Closed Monday



Your Restaurant

Call the Ruidoso News advertising department
at 257-4001 to have your restaurant listed here



Michelena's Italian Restaurant

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

Price Range: \$-\$\$

Phone: 257-5753

Address: 2703 Sudderth Dr. - Midtown

Hours: Open 11:00 a.m.



La Lorraine

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

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

Phone: 257-2954

Address: 2523 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso

Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tues.-Sat.,
5:30 to 9 p.m. Mon.-Thurs.,
5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat.



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

WILLIAMS & WILDE

GOING OUT



VAMONOS!

music

Where to party like it's 1999!

story by Meredith Keaton
VAMONOS STAFF WRITER

*The passing of
another year is
the cause for much
celebration and anticipation.*

Local restaurants, bars and clubs will host celebrations, offering many different ways to ring in the new year. If having a private New Year's party is not on the agenda, check out the local hot spots for live music, food and fun.

The KGB Blues Band will perform two sets at Casa Blanca beginning at 9 p.m. No reservations will be made, so party-goers will be seated on a first come-first serve basis.

Screaming Eagle Lounge at Enchantment Inn will host No Excuse. There is a \$10 cover charge which includes party favors and champagne.

Plenty of live music will welcome 1999 at both The Quarters and Win, Place and Show. The Roadrunners will play at The Quarters, while The Smokey Ridge will entertain the crowd at Win, Place and Show.

Cost is \$15 per person at either bar, and that includes free party favors and a bottle of champagne per table at midnight.

"We generally fill up by 6:30 p.m. So get here early," said Dean Fowler of The Quarters.

Farley's will offer food and drink specials and free champagne at midnight. Identification will be checked

at the door, Farley's manager warned.

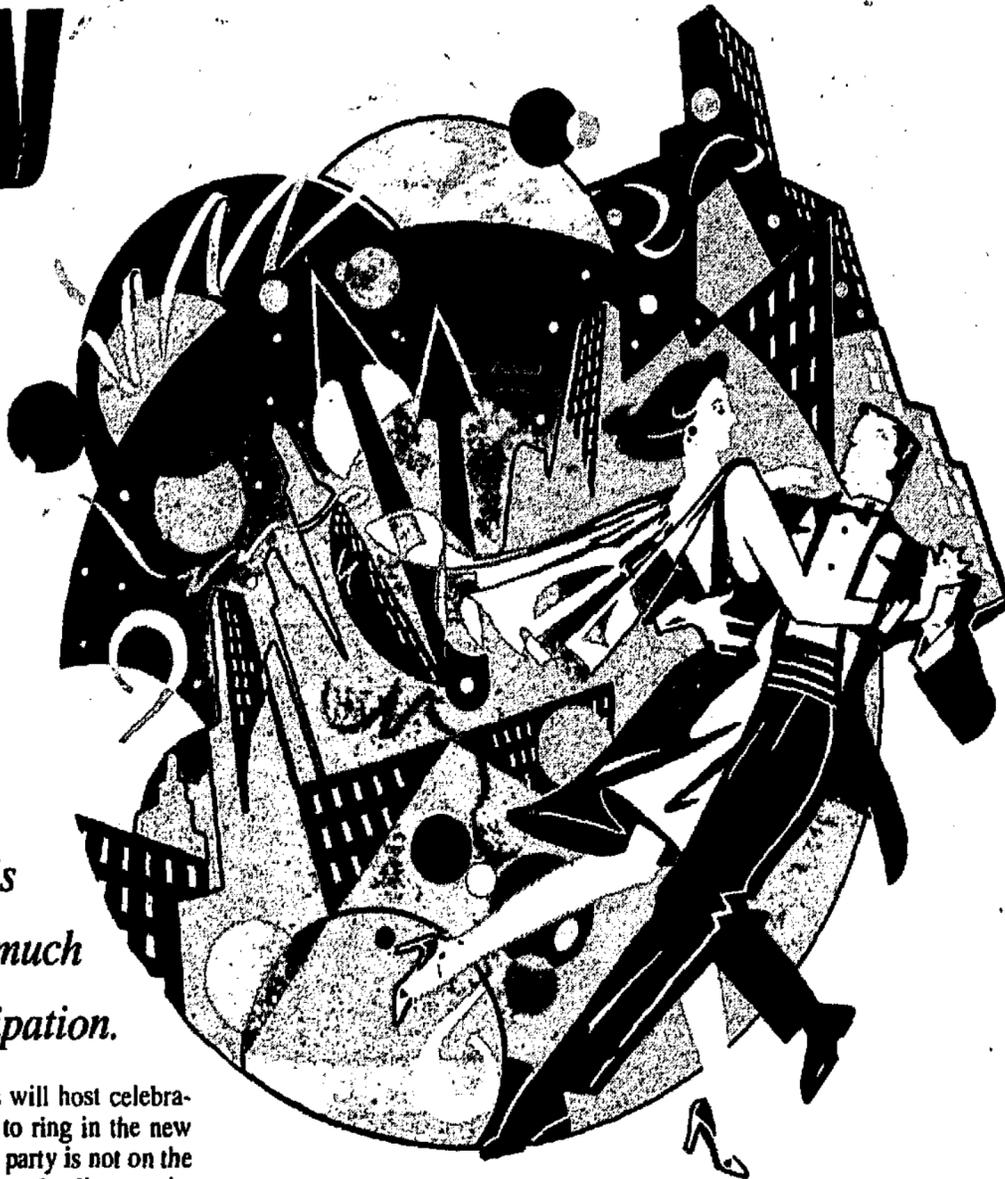
Locals are encouraged to attend festivities at The Club House, with free champagne, party favors and no cover charge.

Cree Meadows will host two bands beginning at 8 p.m. Party favors, food and free champagne will begin the evening, with a breakfast buffet in the morning.

The Inn Of The Mountain Gods will host two parties; one at the West Conference Center for \$99 a couple. Advanced reservations are required. Call 257-5141 for information.

The Mescalero Inn and Night Club will also host a party, with door prizes, party favors and food. A DJ will spin the latest hits. Tickets are on sale at the Mescalero Inn front desk for \$15 per person.

Other local venues are sure to offer entertainment, so check with your favorite night spot for more details. Remember to take your I.D. and to make reservations ahead of time if you can.



Win, Place & Show

Headin' South plays nightly at WPS, 2516 Sudderth Dr.

The Quarters

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

Cree Meadows Country Club

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

The Texas House

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

Galloping Tortoise

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

performances

The Hornheads

An exhilarating horn quintet performs a wide variety of music at 7 p.m. Jan. 11. The third performance in the Ruidoso Community Concert Series. Call 336-4015 for details.

Lauren Pelon

Musical artist Lauren Pelon presents The Living Roots of Music, a program which traces the story of music and instruments. The dinner/concert is set for 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, at the San Juan Mission Church in Lincoln. Cost for the 6 p.m. dinner and concert is \$35 and reservations are required. It won't be necessary to make reservations to attend the 8 p.m. concert only. Tickets for that are \$15 per person. Legatos Restaurant in Lincoln will cater the gourmet dinner. For ticket information, call 354-2316.

what's brewing

The Ruidoso Roastery, 113 Rio Street, 257-3676

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

The Galloping Tortoise, 662 Sudderth, 257-2511

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

Best Bet



Courtesy photo

THE KGB BLUES BAND will ring in the new year with two musical sets beginning at 9 p.m. on New Year's Eve at the lounge in Casa Blanca restaurant.

SILVERSCREEN

Here's what is showing at Sierra Cinema. For more information call 257-9444. * Indicates not showing on Christmas Day.

You've Got Mail
Rated: PG

Show times: 12:15 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:15 p.m.
Plot: Once upon a time there were two bookstore owners. One was a passionate young woman who ran a small children's bookstore. The other was the owner of Manhattan's largest book superchain, a man whose enterprise could put every independent bookstore out of business. The man and the woman were natural enemies. But when they coincidentally - and anonymously - met in cyberspace, they accidentally fell in love.

Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star as Joe Fox and Kathleen Kelly, two booksellers who face off against each other in real life even as they unwittingly romance each other

via modem.

Mighty Joe Young
Rated: PG

Show times: 12:30 p.m., 3 p.m., 6:15 p.m., 8:40 p.m.
Plot: Zoologist Gregg O'Hara (Bill Paxton) is exploring the remote Pangani Mountains in Central Africa when he comes upon an incredible discovery - an awesome 15-foot gorilla. Fearsome and dangerous when provoked, he is tame in the hands of Jill (Charlize Theron), the 21-year-old orphan who raised the gorilla and named him Joe. When Joe's life is threatened by poachers, Gregg and Jill rescue Joe by moving him to a California animal preserve. However, Joe is not safe for long. His newfound notoriety makes him a target for an enemy of his past ... a ruthless poacher who is eager to steal Joe for his unique value in the endangered species black market. Feeling threatened and confused in his manmade confines, Joe escapes

and attempts to navigate the modern metropolis of Los Angeles, leaving a trail of destruction and chaos in his wake.

Prince of Egypt
Rated: PG

Show Times: Noon*, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m.
Plot: Born a slave. Raised by kings. Chosen to lead. His story is known around the world; his name is revered by millions ... Moses. This is an epic drama of heritage and destiny, the first full-length animated feature by DreamWorks. The story of Moses and his passage from slave to prince to deliverer is one that has endured for thousands of years, inspiring generation after generation with its timeless themes of faith, hope and freedom. "The Prince of Egypt" stars Val Kilmer and Ralph Fiennes as Moses and Rameses, two brothers raised on a lie and ripped apart by a secret revealed.

VIDEORAMA

Showtime Video's new December and January video releases

- December 22**
Blade
Cousin Bette
Rat Pack
Wrongfully Accused
Basketball
Bram Stokers Mummy
Knock Off
Montana

December 29

The Avengers

- January 5**
How Stella Got Her Groove Back
Out of Sight
Disturbing Behavior

- January 12**
The Truman Show
Studio 54
Dance with Me
Pi
High Life

Top Rentals for Dec. 18-Dec. 25

- Blade
Lethal Weapon 4
Madeline
Halloween H20
Parent Trap
Six Days, Seven Nights
Mask of Zorro
Land Before Time 6
Negotiator
The Horse Whisperer

Information courtesy of Showtime Video, 1715 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-2801.

Whales break surface at Tombaugh theater

The incredible and mysterious migration of the world's largest mammals comes to life in Alamogordo when the IMAX film Whales premieres January 1 at the Space Center's Clyde W. Tombaugh IMAX Dome Theater.

Whales, a 41-minute film narrated by Patrick Stewart of Star Trek: The Next Generation fame, combines art and science to capture the wonder of whales on their annual migration path. The film follows blue, humpback, orca and right whales - as well as dolphins - through the coastal waters of Alaska, Newfoundland, California, Patagonia, Hawaii and Columbia and depicts these gentle giants' amazing grace and offers insight into their lives.

The film features the blue whale, the largest mammal to ever live, whose heart is the size of a small car and whose blood vessels are so large a child can crawl through them. Audiences will watch killer whales use various techniques to locate and hunt their

prey. The film also shows right whales holding their tales up to sail on gentle ocean breezes, and introduces a myriad of other aquatic life including the elusive manta ray.

Whales shows how scientists are attempting to understand why and how whales successfully migrate the expanses of the world's oceans. The adventure of that migration spans thousands of miles in the annual cycle from feeding grounds to breeding grounds.

The film captures and unforgettable concert as the whales communicate with each other in an underwater encounter. Their songs reach out in an emotion-stirring medley of haunting melodies that sound eerily familiar.

The first showing of Whales will be at 10 a.m. on Jan. 1. For other show times and admission prices for Whales, contact the Space Center 437-2840 or 1-800-545-4021.

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The deputy and the train robbers



Drew Gamber
LINCOLN HERITAGE
TRUST HISTORIAN

He died in Tucson on January 31, 1931, one of the last people left with a first-hand knowledge of that frontier and one of its most famous places: Tombstone, 'the town too tough to die.'

The name of Billy Breakenridge is a familiar one to anyone who has made a study of, or even read up on, the Earps and their time in Tombstone. Like many of the characters who acted out their parts in the dramatic days of the early 1880s, there is controversy surrounding Billy Breakenridge and just exactly what kind of man he was.

In the 1920s, when Billy was writing his book about the period, "Hellidorado," he stayed with Wyatt Earp and his wife Josie at their Los Angeles home. When the book came out, the Earps were (understandably) outraged by the fact the Billy portrayed Wyatt and his brothers as villains.

Wyatt's opinion of Billy could be summed up in three words, the words that he invariably used to describe Billy Breakenridge were "that process server." Clearly, Wyatt's estimation of Breakenridge's abilities as a lawman on the frontier was considerably less than good.

But then, Wyatt had an axe to grind. In Earp's favor, it should be noted that he never spoke of Breakenridge's sexuality, a topic that was much in question during Billy's days on the frontier. The rumor was that Billy preferred his own sex to the opposite gender. However, in the end, Breakenridge's sexual preference had absolutely nothing to do with his abilities as a lawman, and for that reason, I am going to limit my discussion of them to the above mentioned rumor.

Tombstone

Billy Breakenridge's boss in Tombstone was Cochise County Sheriff Johnny Behan, a man known more for his political abilities and ambitions than for his ability as a policeman. According to Billy, he (Breakenridge) was Behan's numero uno deputy, his second-in-command. Others, including Wyatt Earp, felt that Breakenridge was nothing more than a "process server" who also had the unenviable task of regularly sweeping out the jail.

While the truth probably lays somewhere between the two descriptions, it is a matter of historical fact that Billy was involved



BILLY BREAKENRIDGE

in several gunfights with outlaws. On the other hand, he was quite chummy with certain other well-known outlaws, such as Curly Bill Brocius and Johnny Ringo.

Born on Christmas Day of 1846 in Watertown, Wisconsin, Billy left home at the age of 14 to sell newspapers in Milwaukee. Two years later, he enlisted as a teamster with the U.S. Army, serving during the Civil War. In 1864, he joined the notorious Col. Chivington and participated in the infamous Sand Creek massacre of peaceful Native Americans.

After the war, he was employed as a train brakeman, but by the year 1867 he was employed as a storekeeper in Sidney, Nebraska. By 1878, Billy's urge to travel, or itchy foot, found him serving as a deputy sheriff in Phoenix. The following year, Tombstone boomed and Breakenridge, like so many others, was lured there in the hopes

PAST TENSE

of getting rich quick. After working at hauling lumber for a time, he secured another appointment as a deputy sheriff, which brought him into contact with John Behan. Billy preferred Behan's brand of law enforcement to that of the Earps. Wyatt and his brothers enforced a rather rough-and-tumble brand of law enforcement, and Billy felt that Behan's politically motivated actions were preferable.

These are all arguments that go on to this day among historians, but for the purpose of this column, we are going to jump ahead in time to 1895.

The Robbery

On the night of January 30, 1895, bandits stopped the Southern Pacific Express some four miles west of Willcox, Arizona and escaped with possibly as much as \$40,000. By February 6th, the lawmen believed that the bandits did not head for Mexico, as originally assumed, but rather were hiding in the mountains of Cochise County, Arizona. They also reached the conclusion that of all the men originally under suspicion, the actual bandits were two local cowboys named Joe George and Grant Wheeler.

Breakenridge, in the company of Wells Fargo detective John Thacker, took off into the hills to hunt the miscreants down. Unfortunately, the two lawmen could not agree on which course to take, and wound up parting company, each to pursue the outlaws in his own way.

While Breakenridge was busy circulating a picture that he had procured of Grant Wheeler in the hopes of tracking his man down, Wheeler himself supplied him with new information. He did this by robbing another Southern Pacific train on the night of February 4, 1895 near Stein's Pass, New Mexico. Again, the authorities believed Wheeler to be in the company of Joe George.

This time, however, the outlaws were outwitted by quick thinking railroad employees. When the outlaws ordered the brakeman to disconnect the express car from the rest of the train, he actually disconnected the train from behind the tender.

Several miles up the track, when the outlaws ordered the engineer to stop the train so that they might blow their way into the express car with dynamite, they were disappointed to find that the

express car was no longer with them. Luckily for the crew, the bandits did not become so upset that they started shooting. Instead, they simply vanished into the night.

The Pursuit

Unfortunately for the forces of law and order, a snow storm that night obliterated the outlaws' tracks, and the pursuit was put on indefinite hold. Breakenridge, however, was convinced that something would break, and he settled back to wait.

On March 15, Breakenridge received word that the outlaws had been seen on the lower Gila River in Grant County, N.M., heading north.

In late April, Billy headed north to Colorado. Showing his picture of Grant Wheeler to everyone who would look at it, Breakenridge found a lady rancher who, upon viewing the photograph, announced that Wheeler had ridden past her ranch only two days before Breakenridge's arrival. The lawmen were closing in.

In Mancos, Colorado, Breakenridge found a livery man who stated that Wheeler was camped about a quarter mile outside of town and that the outlaw had been making regular visits into Mancos.

When Breakenridge, in the company of a deputy named Smith, began nosing around the town in search of Wheeler, they found two cowboys who turned out to be a wealth of information. They (the cowboys) told the lawmen that Wheeler had spent the previous night asleep on a haystack and that he was supposed to meet them later in the day for a drink.

Wheeler apparently changed his mind, though, because as the day wore on, it became apparent to one and all that Wheeler was not going to show up as planned.

One down

Breakenridge and Smith then raised a posse and going to the haystack, picked up Wheeler's trail and followed it out of town. The trail led them to a shallow ravine not far from town and as the posse approached, they suddenly saw Wheeler walking up the bank. When one of the lawmen shouted at him to "Throw up your hands!" Wheeler, far from complying, leapt back down into the ravine. As he did so, one of the possemen fired at him, and they heard him fire a shot

in return. It was, however, impossible to tell in which direction Wheeler was shooting.

The posse then spread out and approached the ravine from several different directions. As the majority of the posse cautiously approached Wheeler's position, one of them mounted his horse and rode around to the mouth of the ravine. From that vantage point, he could see Wheeler lying face down on the ground with his head lying almost in the campfire.

The outlaw had committed suicide rather than be taken by the posse. Sending Wheeler's body back into Mancos for disposition, Breakenridge sent out some wires to both Southern Pacific and Wells Fargo, apprising them of the situation.

On April 30, 1895, A Phoenix newspaper ran the following headline: "He died for it. Grant Wheeler, the Willcox train robber, commits suicide at Mancos, Colorado. Detective Breakenridge was at his heels."

Joe George and the loot

However, Joe George, the other naughty fellow, was still very much at large. In addition, none of the loot had been found on Wheeler, and it was assumed to be in George's possession.

Billy Breakenridge searched and searched, but it was as though Joe George had vanished from the face of the earth. In the end, Breakenridge never did find either George or the money. No one did. It was over.

Billy Breakenridge's book, "Heldorado," was finally published in 1928, much to Wyatt Earp's disgust. But Earp died the following year, leaving much of the information in Breakenridge's book uncontested - as it remains to this day.

Billy himself lived another three years, basking in the success of the book he wrote about his adventures on the American frontier. He died in Tucson on January 31, 1931, one of the last people left with a first-hand knowledge of that frontier and one of its most famous places: Tombstone, "the town too tough to die."

Sources: "A Challenge for Billy Breakenridge" by Harold Edwards; "The Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters" by Bill O'Neal.

Parting shot



Jim Hufstiller

THE DRIVE-UP WINDOW at Mr. Burger isn't limited to four-wheel modes of transportation. Four hooves are welcome too.

SIERRA
CINEMA

257-9444

MIGHTY JOE YOUNG (PG)

*12:30 3:00 6:15 8:40

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

*12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15

PRINCE OF EGYPT (PG)

*12:00 2:00 4:00 6:30 8:30

*NOT showing Christmas Day 12/25

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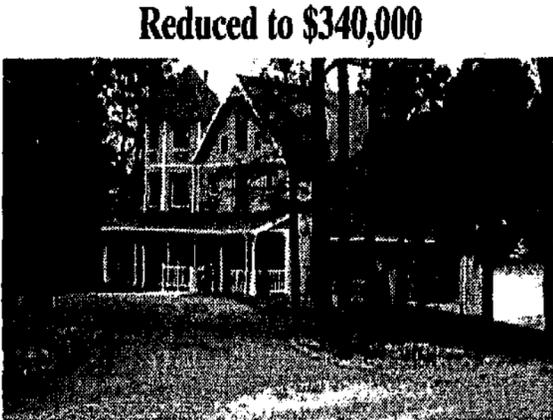


Three bedroom, 3 bath lodge type home on 19.683 rolling acres bordering National Forest. 36' x 120' barn - 36' x 60' stable. 90' x 200' piped arena. Gentleman's horse ranch deluxe. 2 bedroom/2 bath mobile. Sierra Blanca and Capitan views. Creek frontage.



Hamilton Terrace

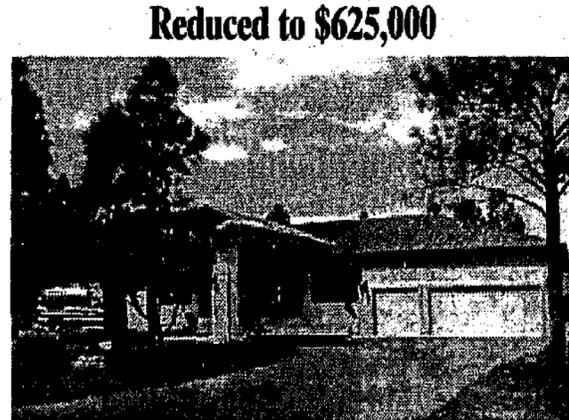
Fletcher • \$249,000 • 454 Mechem Drive
Great location for all kinds of business or can be used as a super large home. 1.1205 acres of land, chain link fence on part of property. One large home and separate guest efficiency



Reduced to \$340,000

Alto

Lemaster • \$350,000 • 728 Deer Park Drive
3 bdrm, 3 bath. Fully furnished. Full Golf Membership. Total mountain appeal!



Reduced to \$625,000

'Alto

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



Alto

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



Alto

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



Alto

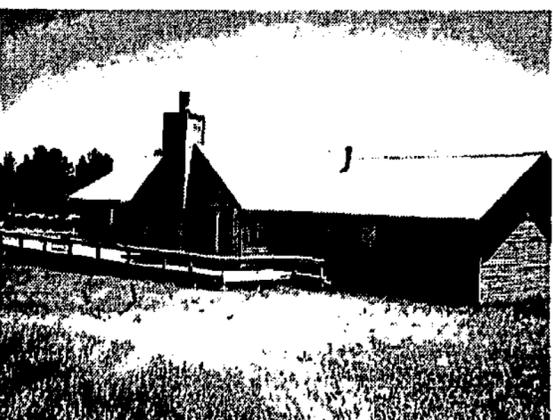
Brown • \$325,000 • 215 Broadmoor
Three bedroom, two and one half baths. Grand fairway view up #14. New sunroom, full membership.



Reduced to \$149,000

Alto

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



Alto

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



Reduced to \$399,000

Alto

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



WOW! WHAT A FIREPLACE!

→ Reduced to \$225,000 ←

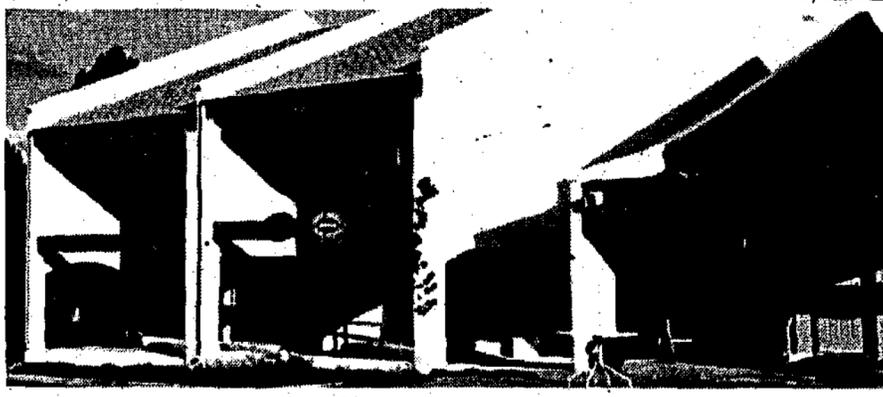
Alto

Warner • \$235,000
510 Lakeshore Drive
Three bedroom, 2 bath, full golf membership. Newly remodeled with southwest flair. Exceptional rock fireplace 1-car garage.

Reduced to \$81,000



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



Commercial

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



Devon Hills

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



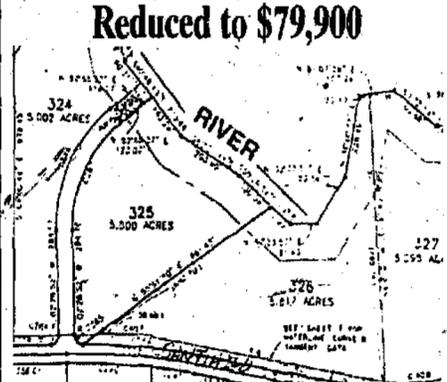
Navajo

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



The Alto Store

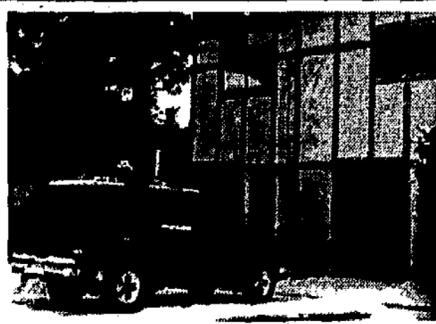
\$239,500 • Corner of Gavilan and Hwy 48
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Ranches of Sonterra

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



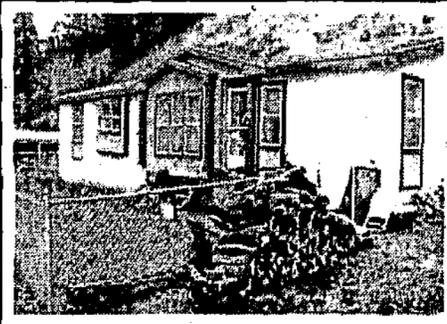
Innsbrook Village

Garrity • \$105,000 • 212 Metz, Unit #225
 Corner unit, 3 bedroom, 3.5 baths. New carpet, paint and vinyl throughout.



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Palmer Gateway

Provence • \$95,500 • 110 Di Paolo Street
 Three bedroom, 2 bath, fairly new modular with beautiful views.

Sold Sold Sold



Middle Cedar

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



Downtown Ruidoso

Canning • \$1,500,000 • Corner of Sudderth and Country Club
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Tall Pines

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



Alto

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

Reduced to \$139,900



Skyland Addition

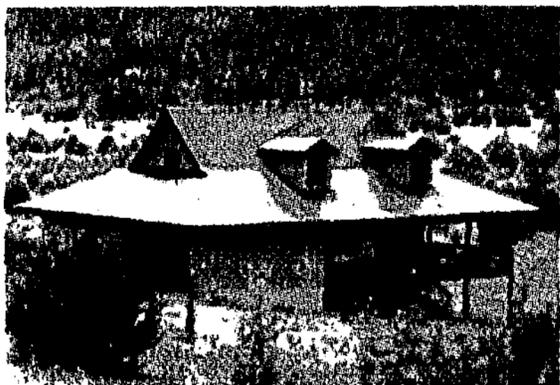
Proctor • \$149,900 • 4-Plex
 New carpet and paint. All rented 1 bdrm, 1 bath units. Just across from Ruidoso Women's Club.

Sold Sold Sold



Lake View Estates

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



Alto

Howard • \$249,900 • 119 Reindeer Drive

5 bedroom, 3 bath on 6.6 acres w/social membership. Big Sierra Blanca view. This country style home is 3 years old. Hardwood floors and private master bedroom and bath. Vacant and easy to show!



Upper Canyon

Hawkins • \$225,000 • 1038 Main Road

Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, 2-car garage. 9 foot ceilings, crown molding, wooden shutters, stained glass windows! A must see home.

Reduced to \$349,900



Upper Canyon

Robbins • \$399,900 • 619 Main

3 bdrms, 3 full baths. Plus guest apt. with private entry, on the river on 2 lots!



Shangri La

Tuloma Inc. • \$359,000 • 6 Shangri La Drive

3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage. Large custom stucco home on 5.13 acres. Exceptional kitchen layout. Light colored tile and carpet.

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White Mountain Estates

7 Rivers • \$209,900 • 809 Hull Road

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Lewicki • \$1,200,000 • 11+ acres on the river

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Alto

Nichols • \$168,500 • #65 Deer Park Townhouse

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Alto

Bennett • \$475,000 • 117 Quail Run

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

Reduced to \$139,900



Upper Canyon

Carzoli • \$149,500 • 213 Perk Canyon Dr.

Three bedrooms, 3 baths with decorator touches throughout. A great house for the price.

Sold Sold Sold



White Mountain Estates

Mayes • \$159,900 • 315 L. L. Davis

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Nice views. This home has pizzazz. A must see!



Upper Canyon

Burger • \$249,900 • 1042 Main Road

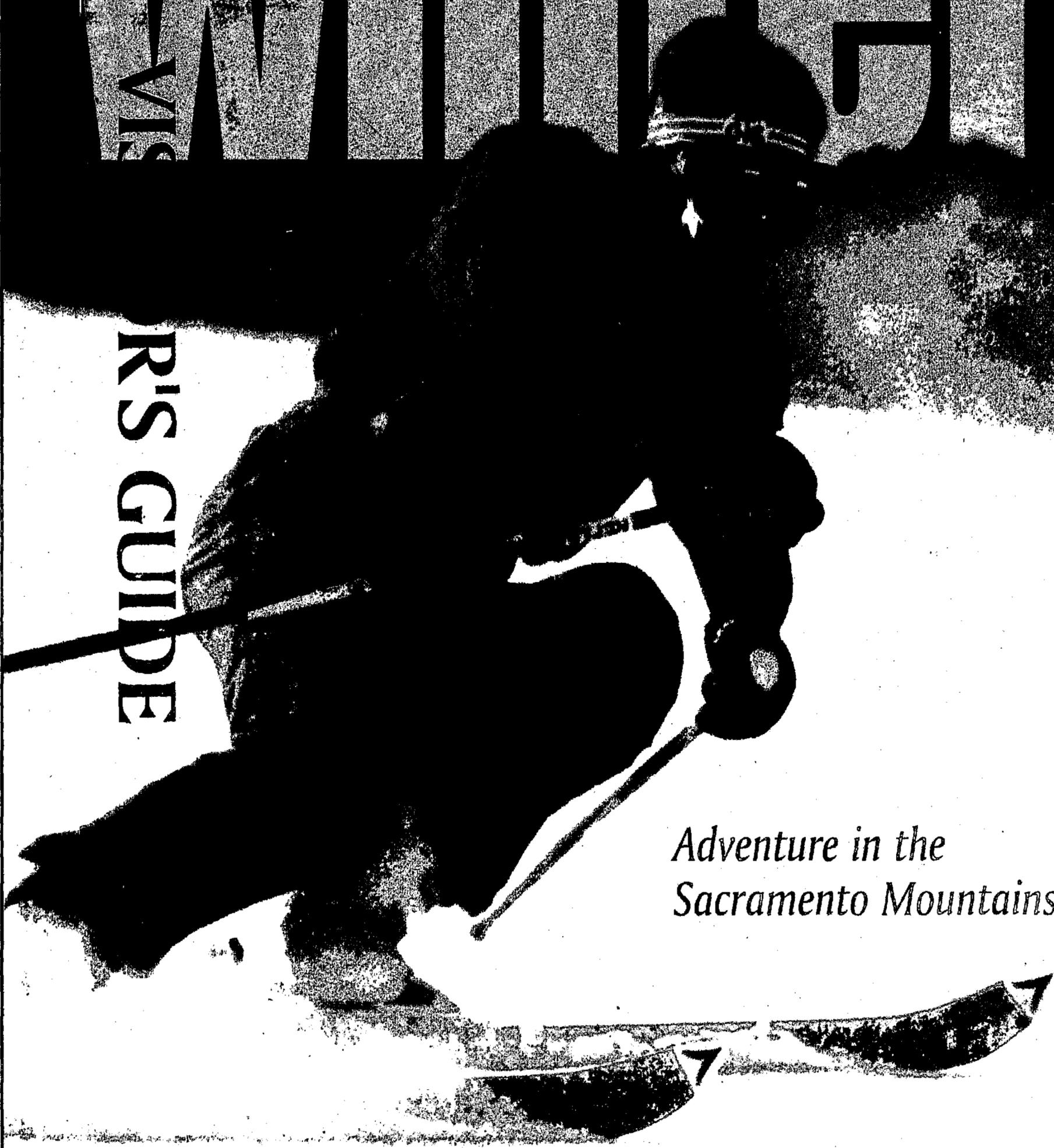
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→ Reduced to \$239,000 ←

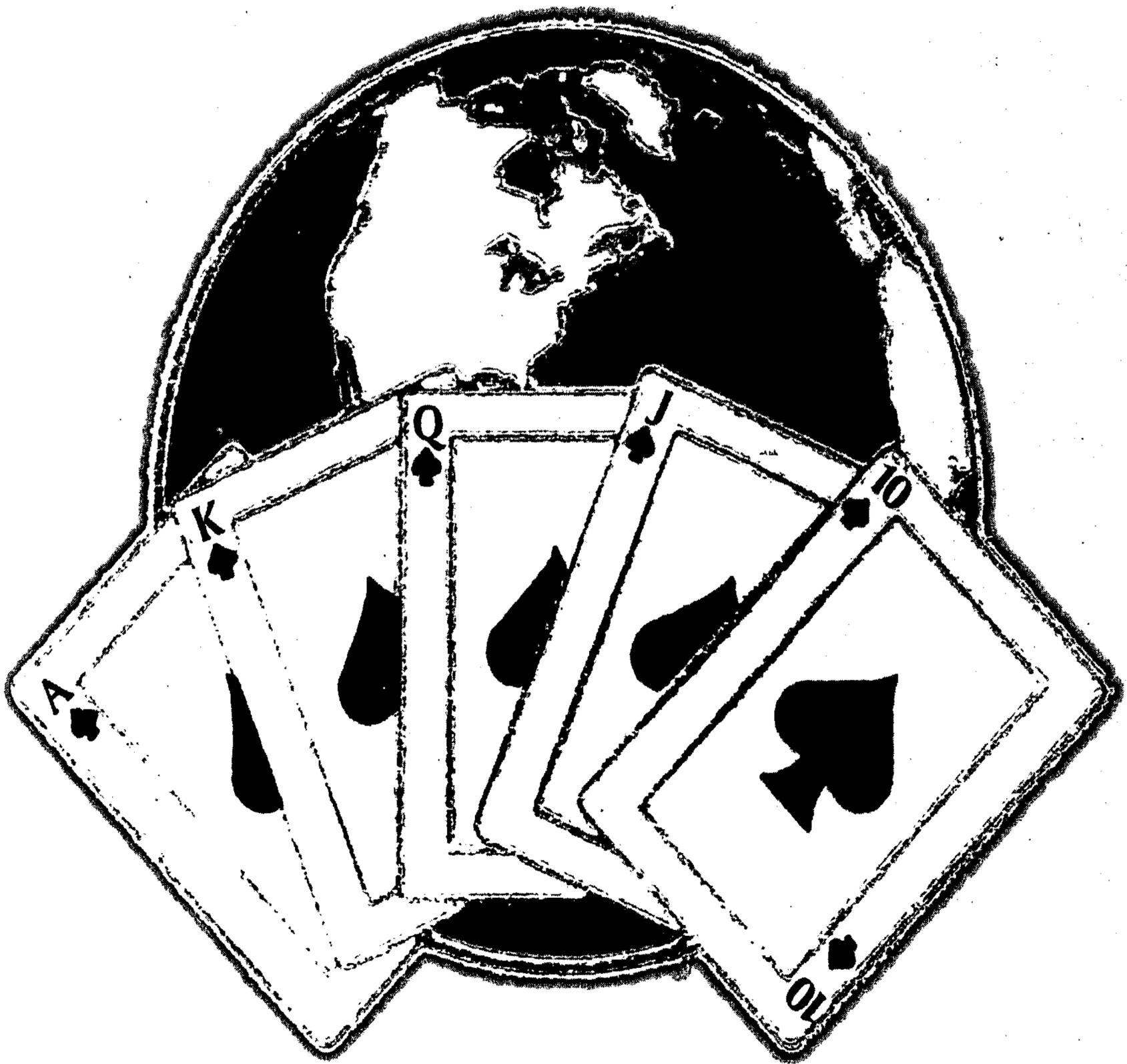
WINTER

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Sacramento Mountains*



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The snow-capped Sacramento Mountains of Lincoln and Otero counties tower over the surrounding plains and deserts like a dream of winter. Thousands of visitors from near and far come to taste the winter pleasures provided in this pine-clad landscape on the slopes surrounding the magnificent peak the first European settlers named Sierra Blanca.

Those pleasures for many focus on the downhill skiing offered by Ski Apache, the popular ski area owned and operated by the neighboring Mescalero Apache tribe, or on cross-country adventures on skis or snowshoes in the Cloudcroft area—which also offers downhill action at Ski Cloudcroft.

But increasingly a winter vacation or weekend in the Sacramentos has provided another kind of adventure—that of discovering the people and places of a part of the nation that is so steeped in history that it has become almost synonymous with the “taming of the west.”

In the following pages, visitors to Ruidoso and the Sacramentos will be offered the nuts-and-bolts kind of information that will help them plan a winter hol-

iday. But, beyond that, they can learn something about the colorful history that has made Lincoln County a magnet for those wishing not only to study but also to feel the qualities that produced such heroes and villains as Sheriff Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid.

The valleys of the Ruidoso, Bonito and Hondo rivers were settled in the mid-19th Century, and cradled communities such as Lincoln (the first county seat), San Patricio (where artists Peter Hurd and Henriette Wyeth found a lifetime of challenge and joy) and Capitan (made famous by a bear named Smokey). Fort Stanton was a bulwark against the Apaches in those early days. Singer Ilona Massey made “My Adobe Hacienda” in the valley famous to whole generations in the mid-20th Century. Sculptor Dave McGary found fame while working in Ruidoso. Sculptor Luis Jimenez does startling creations at his home near Hondo. Many other lesser known artists live among the hills and valleys of the region, working quietly and well. Others into arts and crafts have built their own small paradises in places like White Oaks, Nogal and Carrizozo, all contributing to the aura of a growing, dynamic region.

Welcome to the Sacramentos in the winter of 1998-99. Enjoy, and learn.

Winter VISITOR'S GUIDE

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Cover Photograph

RUIDOSO NEWS

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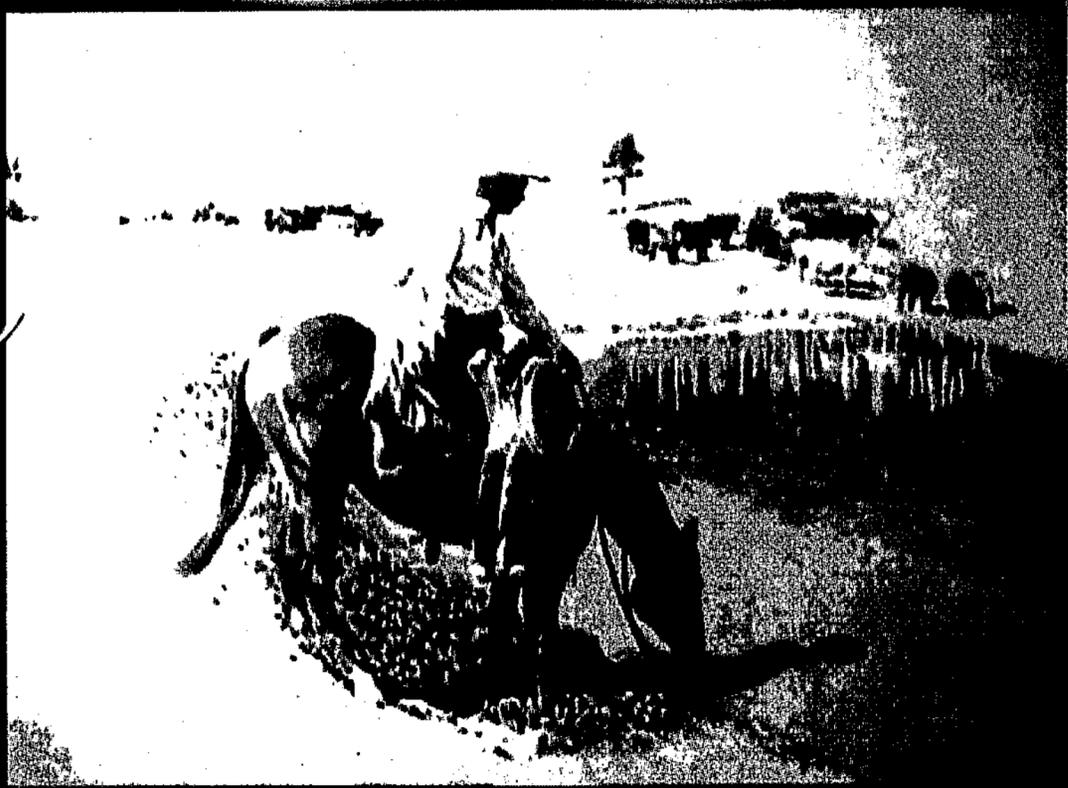
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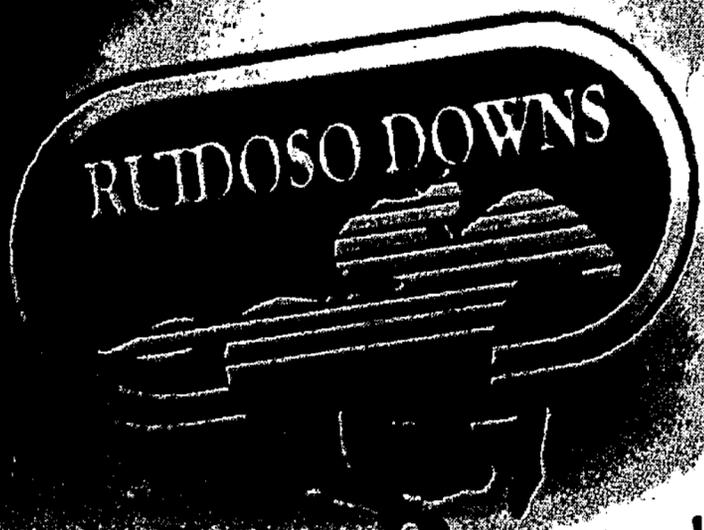


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Ruidoso

BY SANDY SUGGITT RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Ruidoso can be a winter wonderland in the morning and a golfer's paradise in the afternoon. Visitors can participate in the excitement of snow-covered hills, or sit quietly by a fire with a good book and watch the snow from afar.

Ruidoso always has been a summer resort area, but from about the 1960s on, it began a gradual transition to a year-round resort, said Herb Brunell, whose father opened Brunell's clothing store in Ruidoso in 1946. A lot of people retired up here, he said and they discovered Ruidoso because of horseracing.

"The ski area probably kicked it off in the '60s," he said. "When people realized that we had more than one season, and as they spent more time in Ruidoso, they found out there was more reason to be here than just horseracing or skiing - plain ol' looking at the trees that are decorated by Mother Nature."

So there's the beautiful winter scenery of a New Mexican village nestled in the "Swiss Alps," but a winter eclipsed within a few days by warm, spring-like weather. There's the quiet joy of watching the mountains rise up from the mists, snow-covered, or playing in its pristine whiteness, and then a few days later, doffing boots and parkas, and hiking lightly clad.

"The mountains are a great place to be in the winter," said village Mayor



Linda Wallace

Ruidoso is fun for all ages ...

Robert Donaldson. "The air is so cold it's crisp, and everywhere there is beautiful scenery because of the snowfall and the winter sky."

In fact, Donaldson suggests just sitting on the deck, wrapping yourself in blankets and watching the stars, which are clear because of the altitude and the dry air.

But there's more to Ruidoso in the winter than sitting around watching stars or toasting in front of a fire.

For those who just want to play in the snow and for serious skiers, Ruidoso's winter weather offers spectacular snow conditions in a relatively mild climate.

Ski Apache has 55 ski trails and 11 lifts and makes its own snow. There are also from 30 to 80 ski instructors on hand for all levels of learners, and equipment can be rented there or through any of a number of ski and sports shops in Ruidoso.

Besides the ski slopes, the mountains and wilderness around the village provide plenty of room for cross-country skiing,

snowboarding, snowshoeing, ice skating, tubing, snowmobiling and building forts or having a good, old-fashioned snowball fight.

Many other activities are available year-round: sports like golfing, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and, of course, shopping and eating.

Ruidoso has three golf courses and another will open soon in Alto; numerous streams for fishing, miles of wilderness for trekking on foot, on horseback or on cross-country skis and over 90 unique shops carrying everything needed for winter or summer sports, attending the theater, and decorating a cabin - or a friend's neck.

Arts and entertainment

There's live music all over town, from Western to blues in various restaurants and bars (Cree Meadows Country Club, Galloping Tortoise, Cafe Mescalero, The Quarters, Win, Place & Show) to world-class performances at the Spencer Theater's \$20-million performing arts center, and concerts put on by the Ruidoso Com-



file photo

... and fun for the entire family.

munity Concert Association at the First Christian Church.

Sierra Cinema has three screens and shows current movies and there are a half dozen places to rent videos.

In Ruidoso Downs, even though there aren't any live horse races during the winter, a half mile east of the race track at the Sports Theater, visitors can view live racing action via satellite, and can even take part in the thrill of pari-mutuel betting.

A ways down the road is the Museum of the Horse with sculptor Dave McGary's colorful exhibit of horses, "Free Spirits at Noisy Water" out front and inside, the Ruidoso Downs Race Horse Hall of Fame and various special exhibitions, including interactive ones where visitors put on jockey goggles and ride horse mannequins, and the Kids Korral, with mechanical horses for kids to ride.

More than 20 art galleries in the Ruidoso area offer many hours of viewing pleasure and a wide spectrum of styles and materials.

"Besides the obvious big-art attractions of (Peter) Hurd, (Dave) McGary and the McMahon Fine Art Gallery, there is a community of artists in Lincoln County ... attracted by the quality of life and the environment, said Tim Wierwille, owner of White Mountain Pottery.

Galleries, he said, are growing in quality. "You can get anything from a \$100,000 bronze from McGary, an original Peter Hurd, to a \$5 handmade pottery mug."

He recommends visitors get off the beaten path, too, and seek out the fine artists tucked away all over Lincoln



file photo

Mid-town Ruidoso in all of its winter splendor.

County and particularly some of the off-shoot artist's communities.

Dining

Over 50 restaurants in Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs provide delightful culinary variety to suit any taste, from gourmet French cuisine (La Lorraine), Northern Italian cuisine (Che' Bella), Central European (Cafe Rio), to many varieties of Mexican food, Texan-style steaks, and fast food.

Lodging

Ruidoso accommodates visitors for any length of stay, too, with a variety of lodging options: rustic cabins, quaint bed-and-breakfasts, full-service hotels, and condominiums.

"In the Ruidoso area we have over 70 different kinds of lodging and over 2,500 rooms," said Joan Zagone, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce's Visitor Center. This doesn't include several hundred rooms in private homes rented

out for weekends.

Zagone said visitors requesting information from the Visitor Center were up 45 percent this year over last year. Why are they coming?

"People come to Ruidoso for our landscape and our weather," Zagone said. "We have one of the best ski areas in this part of the southwest ... (and) we are one of the few resorts that can promote skiing in the morning and playing golf in the afternoon."

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McGary Sculptures pictured from left to right: *Touch the Clouds* • *Hearts of Conviction* • *Bounty of Gray Hawk*

Ski Apache

BY TONI LAXSON RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Ski Apache, with 11 lifts and 55 ski runs over 750 acres of mountain, offers a range of skiing experiences — most of which can be enjoyed in beautiful weather.

"Terrain-wise, what's attractive about it is there is a little bit of everything for everybody," said Scott Goeller, director of the resort's ski school. "If you want first-time training it's here. If you want groomed intermediate, kind of ballroom type smooth terrain — just easy cruising — it's here.

"But if you really want to get at it, the aggressive type of bump skier, or the really steep stuff, we also have our share of that. It's the kind of mountain that appeals to everybody.

"And the weather is one of the most user friendly around as far as a ski town goes," he said. "The weather is extraordinary."

Ski Apache is unique in that it is 12,000-foot mountain stuck in the desert, he said. Ski days are either sunny or "it's just snowing like heck," he said. "That middle-fiddle type of day just doesn't happen. It's either all or none."

Often when it snows on the mountain, the town below doesn't get snow or as much of it, which is a nice boon for motorists, he said. Addi-



courtesy Riker Davis/Ski Apache

... and adults have plenty of action to choose from as well.



courtesy Riker Davis/Ski Apache

Children can experience the slopes with lessons geared especially for them ...

tionally, temperatures at the ski resort are generally 10 to 15 degrees warmer than its counterparts to the north, he said.

Ski Apache, according to resort information, opened as Sierra Blanca Ski Resort for Christmas in 1961. After several years of feasibility studies measuring snow depths on horseback, the Forest Service was persuaded in the late 1950s to release a portion of the White Mountain Wilderness on the north side of Sierra Blanca Peak. Successful oilman, Robert O. Anderson, from Roswell, N.M., formed Sierra Blanca Corporation and brought in ski expert, Kingsbury Pitcher, from Aspen, Colo., to develop a new ski area. During its inaugural year, the ski area offered three T-bars and \$3 lift tickets.

In 1963, Anderson merged his oil properties into Atlantic Richfield and sold his several ski business. Under the leadership of Wendell Chino, the Mescalero Apache Tribe bought Sierra Blanca Resort. Pitcher left after buying the Santa Fe Ski Area. Roy Parker, who had managed a ski resort in Colorado and had years of experience in ski area operations, was hired by the Mescalero Apache Tribe in the summer of 1964.

Parker's ski business skills have guided the area through more than 30 years of expansion and improvement. In the winter of 1984-85, the ski area hosted an all-time record of 274,000 skiers and the name changed appropriately to Ski Apache.

In the case of a dry year, Ski Apache has invested in a multi-million dollar snowmaking system that can cover the lower third of the mountain.

The ski season traditionally runs from Thanksgiving to Easter and hosts skiing

guests mostly from Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico.

Of the dozens of different lodges in the Ruidoso area, the Inn of the Mountain Gods continues to be one of the favorite gems. This four-season resort also is owned by the Mescalero Apache Tribe.

Ski Apache, known in the southwest for its premier ski school, teaches more new skiers than many areas twice its size, according to information on the resort. The resort this year will have a new ski rental shop to supply many of those first-timers with the necessary equipment.

Parker said the new ski shop was built this summer where the old one used to be. The 14,000-square-foot, three-story building offers a sports store, more fitting booths and 24 public restrooms.

In addition, the rental shop will have almost double the amount of equipment with 1,200 available rentals, including snowboards.

Parker said the price schedule at Ski Apache has changed slightly from last year. Individual season ski passes may be purchased for children, when in the past children were included in a family pass. Also, skiers 75 years and older ski free this year, Parker said.

Early season lift tickets have been discounted this year at \$29 for a full-day pass. The lower price is available from Nov. 29 through Dec. 18.

Lift tickets in general have increased slightly from last year. For instance, a single day lift ticket in the regular season for weekdays went from \$39 to \$40. Beginners are still given a free full-day lift ticket with ski lessons at \$40, Parker said.

"We specialize in beginners," Goeller

said, adding that the ski school is well respected in not only the southwest but the country.

Goeller has about 110 ski instructors in the school, about 35 full-time instructors and another 80 who come in on weekends and holidays to handle peak times. Lessons are offered in the mornings and afternoons, with the times are approximate, he said. Classes are formed as students appear.

All levels of instruction are available for both skiers and snowboarders, including private lessons, Goeller said.

"We offer upper level classes — anyone from a wedge christy skier to a full out racer or bumps (moguls) skier," he said.

His instructors receive training throughout the season on both ski techniques as well as on teaching techniques, he said. On Dec. 5 and 6, people interested in becoming ski instructors are invited to a special clinic at Ski Apache, Goeller said.

Though not part of the ski school, an adaptive ski program for people with disabilities is offered at Ski Apache, and it attracts people from across the country to the resort. Special equipment and one-on-one assistance is given to skiers in the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers Program. Lisa Maue is director of the 22-year-old program. Anyone wishing to know more about the program may call her at (505) 336-4416, or at (505) 354-3191.

Goeller is offering a children's program at the ski school this year called the Kiddy Korral and targets 4- to 6-year-old children. The program features small



courtesy Riker Davis/Ski Apache

The many runs at Ski Apache offer winter adventure whether you're a novice or an expert.

class sizes — the student/teacher ratio is 7:2, he said.

"We get the kids out on the snow," he said. "What we try to do is let them experience the thrill of going down the hill."

But, "I would like to stress that it is not a day care — it is a skiing program."

Another program at the resort is a kids club for children over 6 that lasts 10 Sundays and is tailored for local children. A season pass for the child is included in

the price. For more information, contact Goeller at 336-4356, ext. 111.

For more complete information about Ski Apache, look up the web site at www.skiapache.com. For a 24-hour snow report call (505) 257-9001.



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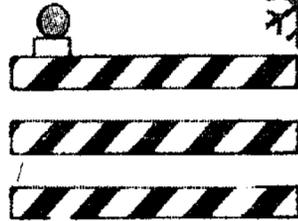
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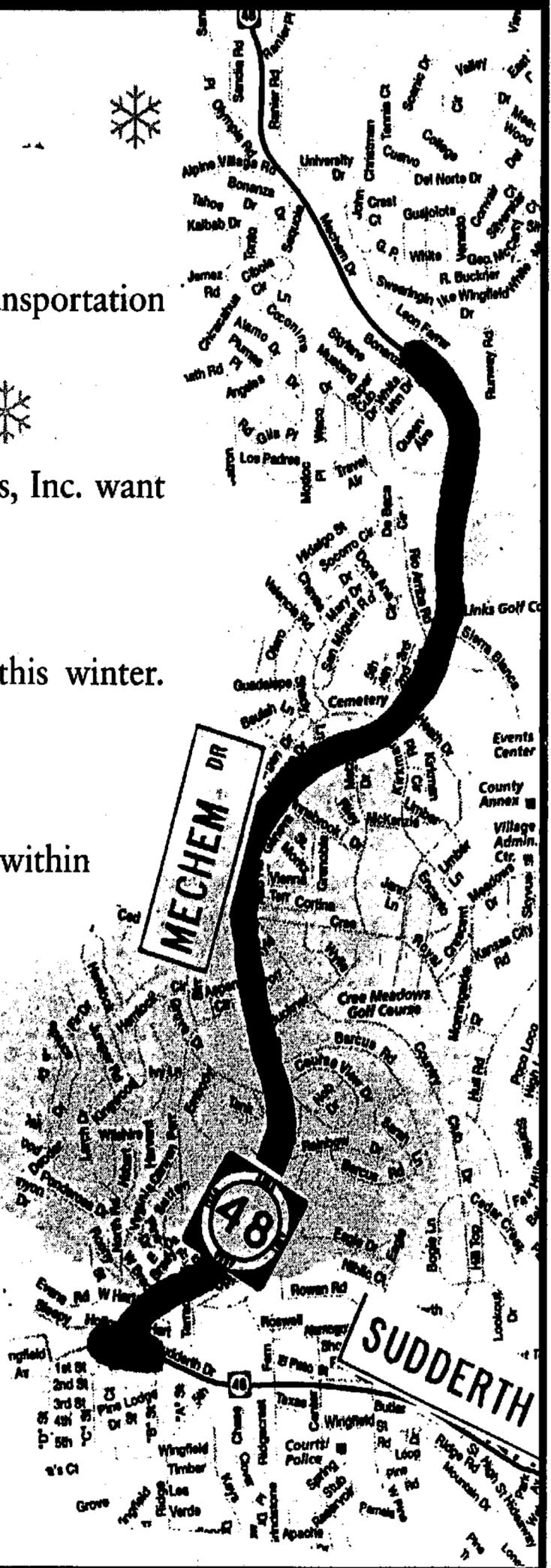
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Profile

BY TONI LAXSON RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Scott Goeller started skiing at age 7. Thirty-nine years later, not only is Goeller still skiing, but he has made a career of it — from ski instructor, to ski instructor supervisor and, as of this year, to ski school director at Ski Apache.

"You have to look for something you love doing," Goeller said about career choices. "Skiing made me happy. So, you kind of gravitate toward things that please you. I was just happy to be making a living doing something I have a passion for."

A native New Englander, Goeller has been with Ski Apache for 22 years, and head supervisor of the instructors for the past 12 years before being promoted to director.

He actually came to Ruidoso in 1977 intending to stay only a week,

Goeller said. He ended up staying 22 years.

He grew up in the Philadelphia area, went to school in Maine and skied a lot of the east coast mountain ranges. He went to Colby College in Waterville, Maine, and was on the school's ski team, competing in the slalom and giant slalom, Goeller said.

Then, "a combination of college, military and skiing brought me out west," he said.

In 1977, he was living in Steamboat Springs, Colo. when the Colorado mountains underwent a winter with little to no snow.

"And it happened to be a banner season at Ruidoso," he said.

So, he came out, intending to stay about a week.

He now holds credentials as a fully certified Pro Ski Instructor of America (PSIA) as well as a divisional clinic leader for the Rocky Mountain division of the PSIA, the national accreditation organization for ski instructors.

As such, he travels part of the season to other ski

resorts in the Rocky Mountain range giving clinics to members of the organization on not only skiing techniques but on how to teach skiers.

Goeller's very proud of the ski school at Ski Apache, and is happy to enumerate its qualities as well as its status as one of the premier ski schools in the southwest.

He has a core group of about 30 full-time ski instructors, who have been working at Ski Apache for the past 10 to 20 years, Goeller said. He has another 80 ski instructors who work during the peak periods on weekends and holidays.

The school, he said, specializes in beginners but also has classes for every level of skier or snowboarder.

Goeller himself has learned to snowboard, and recommends it to other long-time skiers.

"By golly, I tell you what — it really is an eye-opening sport for someone who has been on Alpine skies all their life to suddenly be back in the learning process all over again," Goeller said.

"It's a great thing for people who have been on skis for a while," he said, adding that the different techniques used in snowboarding gave him a fresh perspective.

"It makes something as ordinary and mundane as getting off a chair lift exciting," Goeller said.

When asked what ski instructors do over the summer, Goeller laughed briefly and said they do what everyone else does.

"We have lawyers, college professors, bartenders, construction workers, retired people, military people ... just about virtually anything that you want to name," he said.

"What brings them back to teaching is just a love of the sport."



Scott Goeller on the slopes caught by Taos photographer Ken Gallard.

Fashion

BY LAURA CLYMER RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

When it comes to ski fashion, the options range from the practical to the technical.

Skiers can choose from a variety of styles and colors to fit their needs. For hard core skiers, who cherish each run, there are highly technical jackets and pants that keep them on the mountain all day. For casual skiers, who may ski a half dozen times a year, more practical wear can serve a dual purpose: it keeps them warm and dry on the mountain and looks good as casual wear.

Regardless of how you dress, the common thread to all ski fashion is layering.

"The key to it is layering, paying attention to the weather and layering," says JoAnn Taylor of Mountain Ski Shop. "The one piece suit limits you because you can't take off the jacket. We believe separates because you can layer them, that way, for example, you can have a powder jacket in the spring and a parka in the winter."

Layering starts with long underwear, continues with a turtleneck, sweater, pants (stretch, shell or insulated) jacket, socks and gloves and is topped off with a ski hat of some kind and eye protection.

Tish Nutting, who has worked retail for 10 years and enters her fifth year as co-owner of Ski West Sports, offers this advice about layering.

"If you're wearing the proper underwear, it wicks away the moisture. It pulls the sweat away from the body and transfers it to the outer layers of clothing," Nutting says.

Plus, you don't need to wear four pairs of socks to keep your feet warm. Nutting suggests that "You just need one good pair of wool socks."

The versatility of layering allows you to



Laura Clymer

JoAnn is shown wearing a women's insulated parka by Obermeyer®, a pair of in-the-boot stretch pants by Obermeyer® and a pair of after ski boots by Oscar®.

peel off clothing as the day warms up and add them back on toward the end of the day. Layering also allows you to adjust for changes in the weather.

Clothing that is comfortable, waterproof and warm will make a day on the mountain more enjoyable.

Jackets and pants treated with Gore-Tex, Activent or Entrant repel water and "breathe." The waterproofing keeps you dry, while the clothing's breathability prevents condensation of your sweat after tackling that black diamond run.

Polartec fleece has replaced wool as a practical layer of warmth, adds Myra Taylor, also of Mountain Ski Shop. The fabric also "breathes" moving perspiration away from the body while trapping the body's warmth.

"They crossover, which is good for ski wear," Myra Taylor says. "They're good with jeans. You can wear them casually and to ski in."

But Nutting disagrees that wool sweaters are "out," noting that men seem to prefer pullovers.

"The truth of the matter is, I think people are going back to sweaters," Nutting says. "I find more people checking labels to make sure it's wool - natural fabrics are back definitely."

For women, the trend seems to be more toward combining function with fashion.

"They are going back to the over-the-boot stretch pant, which is beginning to replace the ladies in-the-boot stretch pant, which was a little more fashion for-

ward," Nutting says. "So now women don't have to hassle with gaiters."

Nutting is also noticing more insulated pants for women.

"It's because women get cold. It's smarter for a woman to be in an insulated pant because they generally don't ski as much," Nutting says.

Bright, rich and vibrant colors dominate the fashions geared to the 18- to 35-year-old age group. Royal blues, reds, oranges, yellows and apple greens seem to be the top choices. Versatile black pants go with just about everything.

Nutting describes the color selection as "the crayon box - the bright yellow, that great red."

Snowboard clothing manufacturers have expanded their offerings to include women and include more colors.

Before, "grungy" colors were it.

"Snowboard clothing is getting a little more feminine - more pastels and away from the drab army greens," says Myra Taylor.

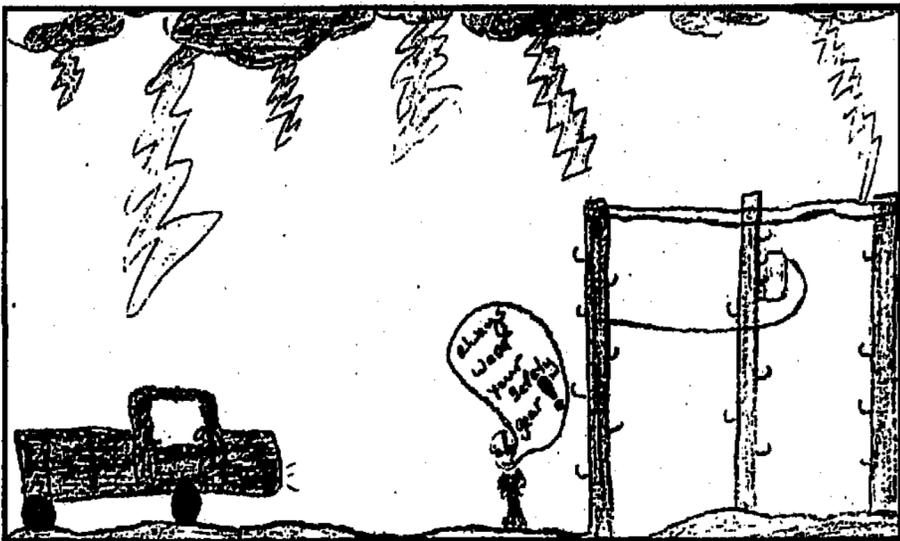
Adds Nutting, "Those people are starting to care about what they look like. They're doing colors that pop, too."

The snowboard influence seems to always be on the cutting edge of ski hat fashion. A couple of years ago the movement spawned hats called the "jester," "dreads" and "the cat in the hat." This year it's the beanie - tight-fitting, simple and striped.

"Any ski hat is a good hat - keep your ears covered," Nutting advises.



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Drawing by Rebekah Enriquez, daughter of Employee Pete Enriquez

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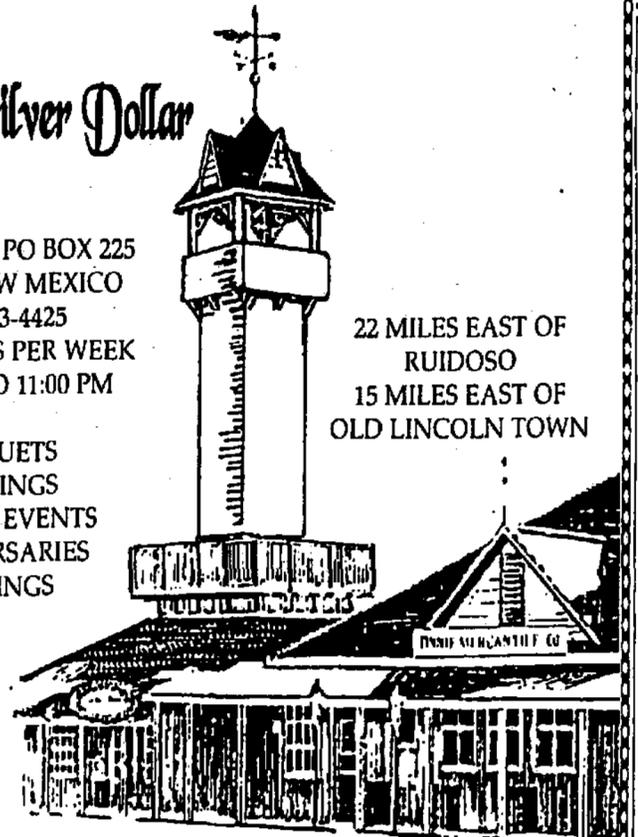
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Gear

BY LAURA CLYMER RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Skis – like automobiles – come in all shapes, sizes and colors. Also like cars, different skis deliver different rides.

So, treat the purchase of ski equipment the same as you would the purchase of a new car. You test drive the car. Why not test ride the skis?

"I'd rather see someone ski something first and then buy it," says ski technician Orin Nutting of Ski West Sports.

Try demonstration skis ('demos') and talk to someone you can trust – someone who can help you make an informed decision about the skis, advises Nutting, adding that consumers preparing to buy skis should consult several ski technicians.

And before you buy, check your ego at the door before going into the ski store of your choice.

Are you really the next Picabo Street or Jonny Moseley?

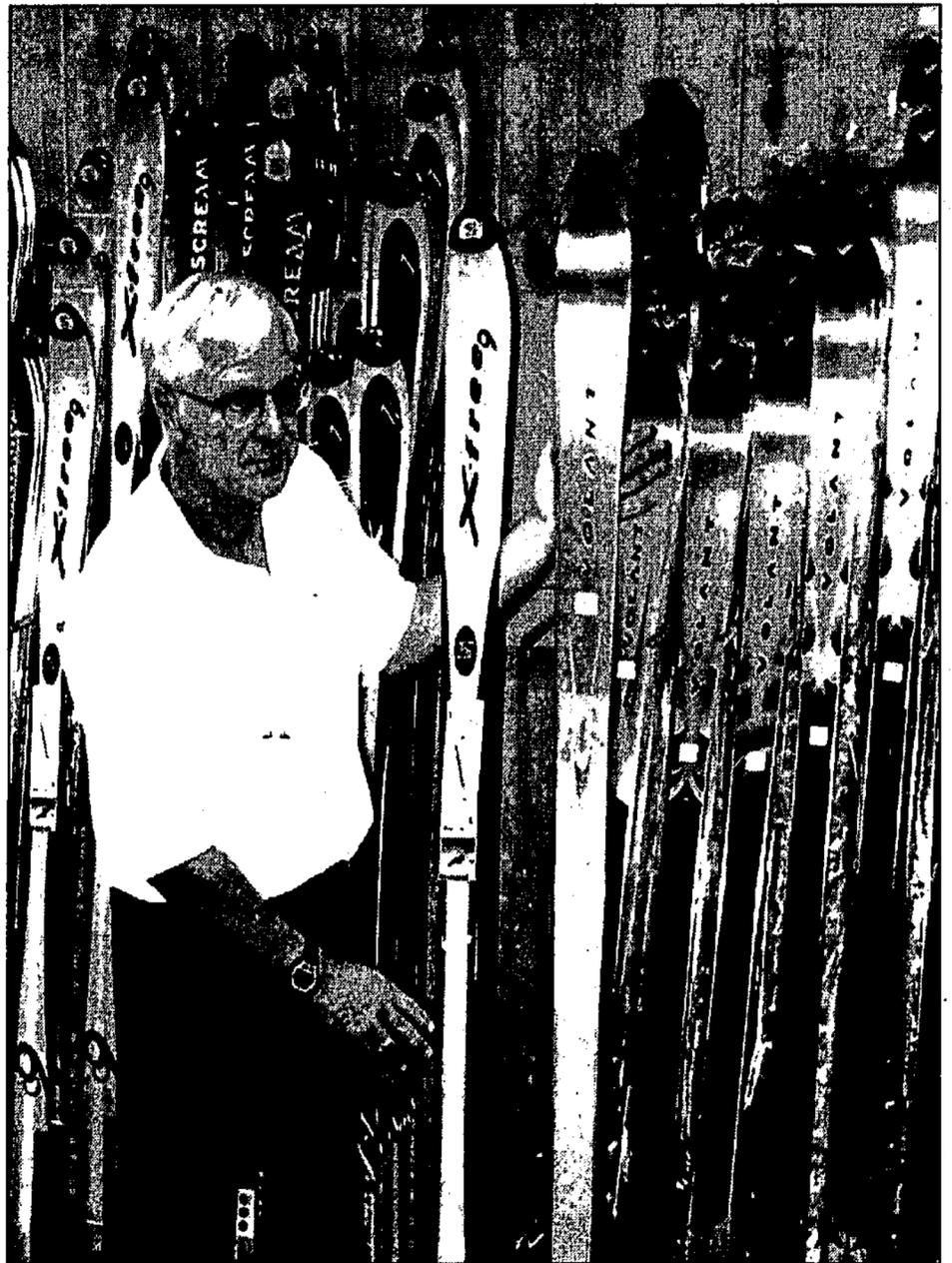
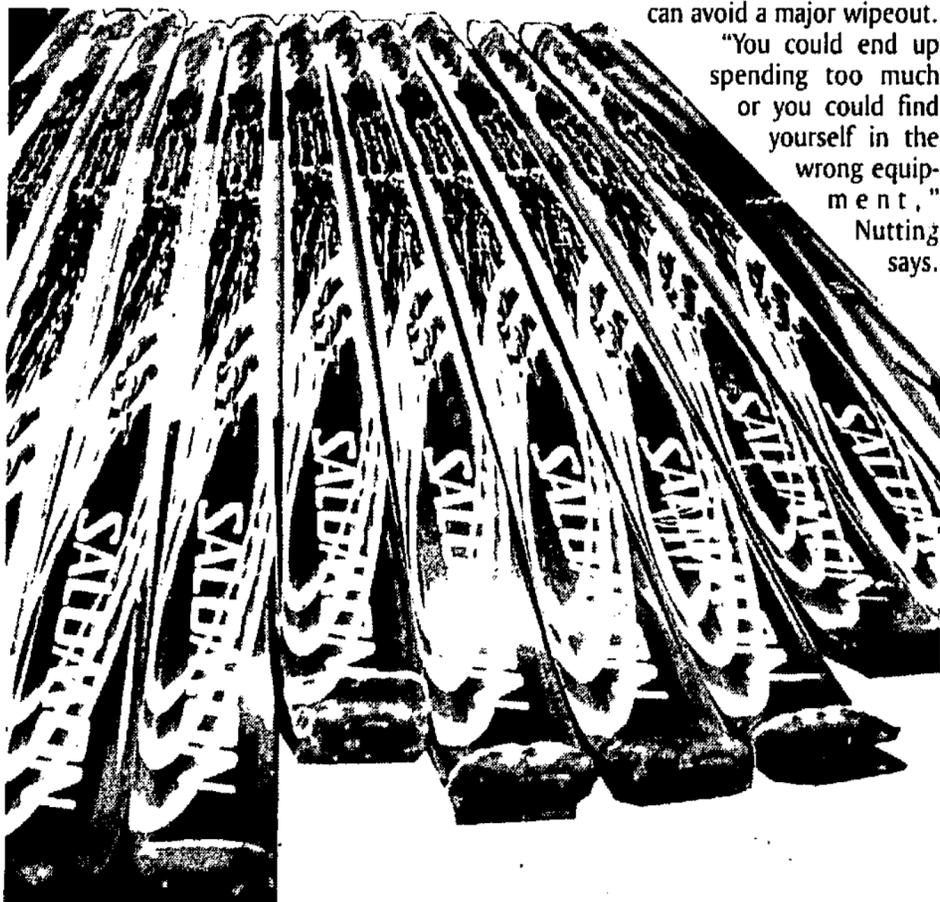
"You need a ski that fits how you ski, whether you're a beginner, intermediate or an expert," Nutting says. "Almost all skis now are shaped skis. The important thing is getting skis that are not going to outski the skier."

Even though they are a couple of years old now, shaped skis are still the hot new ride for skiers, says Ronnie Taylor of Mountain Ski Shop.

"The curvature – that's what makes some turn quicker or easier," says Taylor, explaining why the hourglass shaped skis are popular.

By testing a demo and accurately assessing their skiing abilities, consumers can avoid a major wipeout.

"You could end up spending too much or you could find yourself in the wrong equipment," Nutting says.



Laura Clymer

Ronnie Taylor of Mountain Ski Shop with two of the many shaped skis on the market.

Major manufacturers of skis are fine tuning the shaped skis.

"They're still the thing, everyone is just trying to make them better," Nutting says. "At first they had you skiing really short ones – still shaped skis but longer ones. They're just improving them more."

One of those improvements are vibration absorption systems. Every ski manufacturer does it different, for example, Salomon's technique are stabilizer bars.

"It reduces chatter," says Taylor. "The stabilizer bars will eliminate that. Vibrations can kick a ski sideways and dump you and cause a premature release of the bindings."

Bindings and boots

Much of Nutting and Taylor advise regarding skis applies to bindings and boots as well.

"Again, same as the skis, there are price point bindings and then there's top of the line bindings. You can definitely over-buy in bindings," Nutting says.

Adds Taylor, different levels of bindings have different spring capacities. The higher the binding number the greater force required before that binding releases.

There are bindings for beginners and bindings for experts, Nutting says.

"You don't want to pre-release. You don't want to come out when you shouldn't; you want to come out when you should," Nutting says. "You need to find a binding that is in your proper weight range and in your proper ski range."

As with skis, ideally a skier can demo

a ski boot as well.

"To know it fits - if you can ski in something – that's what you want to buy," Nutting says.

What to avoid?

"During the summer they find a boot on sale and they put it on and buy it. Then when they ski in it, they pack it down and then they swim around in them," Nutting says.

Boots come in everything from something as basic as a Yugo to something as smooth as a Cadillac.

"The more expensive they are the more adjustments they have to fine tune to your foot," Nutting says.

The bottom line when it comes to ski equipment is this:

"We don't need the same things," says Taylor, "You want the correct boot, binding and ski for you."

Step into that snowboard

Seven years of experimenting has resulted in the latest development in snowboarding – the step-in snowboard binding by Burton.

Burton, one of the biggest manufacturers of snowboards, spent seven years developing and perfecting this snowboard.

"With other boards you have to step your foot in and hook your straps," Orin Nutting says.

The step-in binding eliminates the fiddling with straps.



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Snow Play

BY DIANNE STALLINGS RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

While many snow-seeking visitors head to the ski slopes for downhill thrills, those seeking a different winter experience in the Sacramento Mountains can try out tubing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.

After a major snow, trails throughout the Lincoln National Forest around Ruidoso at 7,200 feet above sea level and at Bonito Lake off State Highway 37 north of the village, provide plenty of adventure. But snow usually lingers longer in the higher elevations in the Sacramento District, about 40 miles southwest of Ruidoso and in Cloudcroft at about 9,000 feet elevation.

Tubers don't have to go far to find the fun. A favorite spot for free sledding is the hill next to the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center in



School House Park off Sud-derth Drive. A berm has been added to keep sled-ders out of a new fenced playground. A few miles north on Mechem Drive

(State Road 48) will take you to Cedar Creek Drive next to the Smokey Bear Ranger District office. Go to the end of the road and try tubing on the community's first ski area, now an undisturbed meadow with sloping hills.

A commercial snow play area on Ski Run Road plans to offer ice skating and tubing; check with the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce for hours and fees at (505) 257-7395.

Because of budget cuts and safety concerns, the U.S. Forest Service has shut down its Silver Snow Play Area that was a top tubing spot near Cloudcroft, but Triple M Snow Play: Mystical Mountain Magic more than takes up the slack as the premier destination for tubing with or without a lift and for guided snowmobile tours daytime or at night.

This year, owner Craig Sparling isn't worried about the weather, because he's brought in snow-making equipment. Triple M will open Dec. 19, unless Mother Nature delivers an early package of flakes. It will stay open every day through Jan. 4, then will cut back to 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday for tubing, and from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Friday through Monday for snowmobile tours. Private tours may be scheduled any time.

Snowmobile tour rates are \$30 per hour for singles and \$40 per hour for doubles. Tubers pay \$16 for all day and \$8 for half day for the lift and a tube, or \$8 for all day with a tube, but no lift. If you bring your own tube, the lift rate by itself is \$12 all day or \$8 half day, and slope access only is \$6 all day.

Sleigh rides have been discontinued, but night rides on his brand new fleet of snowmobiles are a special treat, Sparling said.

Mystical Mountain Magic is 4.7 miles outside of Cloudcroft and is reached by taking Highway 130 south from town to the intersection of the Sunspot Highway. Turn onto Sunspot and watch for the sign on the left. To find Cloudcroft from Ruidoso, take U.S. 70 west toward Mescalero and turn south on Highway 244. For more information, call (800) 766-7529.

The Lodge, a historic inn and restaurant in Cloudcroft, also offers snowmobiling, tubing and cross country skiing. Call (800) 395-6343 for more information or check the article on Cloudcroft in this guide.

Although tubing is not permitted along Highway 82 right-of-way around Cloudcroft, exceptional tubing areas are found at Upper Karr Canyon on the Sunspot Scenic Byway (NM6563) at the mouth of Sleepygrass Picnic Area.

Steed's Ski Sports on Mechem Drive in Ruidoso is the major local supplier of cross country skis and snowshoes. Several shops in Cloudcroft also offer rentals.

"If you can walk, you can snowshoe," says Mike Steed. "It's pretty low key, but you can make it as difficult as you want by



file photo

Snow play isn't just limited to skiing.

going to quite difficult areas. They can take you to areas where you can't cross-country ski."

Locally, popular spots include Monjeau Peak off Ski Run Road, the Bonito River drainage and Buck Mountain, he said. Rent is \$10 for a full day. Snowshoes sell for \$150 and up.

Cross-country skiers use tele-skis, which are flat with solid metal edges. Unlike downhill skis, boot heels are unattached. Steed rents cross-country equipment for \$10 per day, \$8 for children. Retail prices range from \$150 to \$300. Buck Mountain, which can be accessed by a road near the top of Ski Run Road, is a good spot to start. Skiing Crest Trail to Monjeau Peak Lookout Tower also is a thrill, he said.

On a heavy snow day, it's not unusual to see cross-country buffs sliding across golf courses or down subdivision roads, cruising through Upper and Lower Eagle Creek or heading for any forest trail covered enough to protect underlying vegetation.

Be sure to stop at the Smokey Bear Ranger District Office on Mechem or the Sacramento District office in Cloudcroft during the week to buy a waterproof map that shows all of the trails in the forest. That, combined with a village map, should meet your needs.

Denise Ottaviano, Forest Service public affairs specialist, said trails in the White Mountain Wilderness Area are better suited for well experienced skiers or snowshoe enthusiasts, because of the extremely rugged terrain. Snowmobiling is allowed on unplowed forest roads and across the forest in areas with sufficient snow cover, if they are not posted against motorized vehicles.

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Outdoors

BY LAURA CLYMER RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

If your idea of "attacking the mountain" means scaling the terrain on your own two feet or on a pair of fat mountain bike tires, then don't pack away that hiking, camping and mountain biking gear just yet. Even in the winter, the Sacramento Mountains can provide plenty of non-skiing winter recreational activities.

A trail's accessibility and its steepness determine whether or not it's a candidate for winter hiking and mountain biking says longtime hiking and camping enthusiast Johnny Hughes.

If you can get to it, then you can probably hike at least a portion of a trail.

But before you even arrive at the trailhead, it's a matter of survival to have the right equipment.

"Wearing adequate foot gear is most important. Take layered clothing and fire starter in case something happens," Hughes recommends.

Hughes also suggests being prepared to treat water.

"Iodine tablets will kill all the nasties," he says. "During the winter, people don't feel as dehydrated because of the cool temperatures, but they are."

For hiking, Hughes suggests nearby Perk Canyon and Cedar Creek Canyon. Another option is the Barber Ridge Trail trailhead, accessible from the Three Rivers Campground. The trail runs along the western base of the White Mountain Wilderness.

"It's more of a high chaparral than a typical mountain area," Hughes notes.

For camping, the best winter bet is the Three Rivers campground on the western side of the Sacramentos. Three Rivers is lower in elevation, below 6,000 feet, which makes for better camping temperatures.

"It's accessible, and it's usually snow-free," Hughes says.

Three Rivers is also attractive because of the wildlife. "That is a huge wintering area for elk," Hughes says.

The campground features restrooms, horse corrals, horse trails, fishing, camping and picnicking areas. It's also conveniently located near Three Rivers Petroglyphs National Recreation Site where native Indians scratched sacred designs in stone.

To get to Three Rivers Campground, take Hwy 54 north out of Tularosa, or Hwy 54 south out of Carrizozo.

Hiking

For hiking close to town, Hughes rec-



Laura Clymer

Proper foot gear is of utmost importance when you take to the trails in the winter. If the trail is too snow covered, strap on a pair of snowshoes.

ommends two nearby trailheads. They are:

Perk Canyon

• General description: A 4-mile round-trip hike or mountain biking excursion into the upper Brady Canyon Drainage.

• Special attractions: Views of Sierra Blanca. Close proximity to Ruidoso.

• Net elevation gain: 950 feet.

• Difficulty: Easy to moderate

• Directions: Take Main Street into Upper Canyon. Turn right at Story Book Cabins sign. Turn left onto Perk Canyon Rd. If you have a high clearance vehicle, make a hairpin turn at the end of the paved road and proceed to the trailhead. If you don't, park and hike a 1/4 of a mile to the trailhead.

Of note: The trail is open to mountain bikers but because of some short, steep rocky sections, the trail may be unsuitable for novices.

Cedar Creek Trail

• General description: A year-round, 1.5 mile long trail that is close to Ruidoso in proximity.

• Special attractions: Wildlife and solitude.

• Net elevation gain: 760 feet

• Difficulty: Moderate

• Directions: Turn on to Cedar Creek Road by the Smokey Bear Ranger Station and proceed for 1 1/2 miles. Turn right at the Spring Canyon intersection and go about 1/2 mile and look for the trailhead. Or, you can access the trailhead from the other side. Go to Ski Run Road and take it to the junction of Forest Road 127. There is plenty of parking at the camp site located at the junction, and the trailhead is on the south side of the highway.

Mountain biking

For mountain biking, the trails at Fort Stanton are open year round to bicyclists. Located on Fort Stanton Special Management Area lands, the Tlaloc Trail makes a 19.65 mile loop of historic Fort Stanton and features a change in elevation of 920 feet.

To get there, take U.S. 380 out of Lincoln northwest 5.6 miles to the entrance of the Fort Stanton Management area. Take S.R. 220 approximately 6/10ths of a mile from the entrance. Park at the Horse Corrals parking lot and check the bulletin board for announcements.

The Facts

For more information about hiking and camping in the Lincoln National Forest, contact:

Ruidoso

Smokey Bear Ranger District Office, 901 Mechem Drive, (505) 257-4095.

Cloudcroft

Cloudcroft Ranger District, P.O. Box 288, (505) 682-2551.

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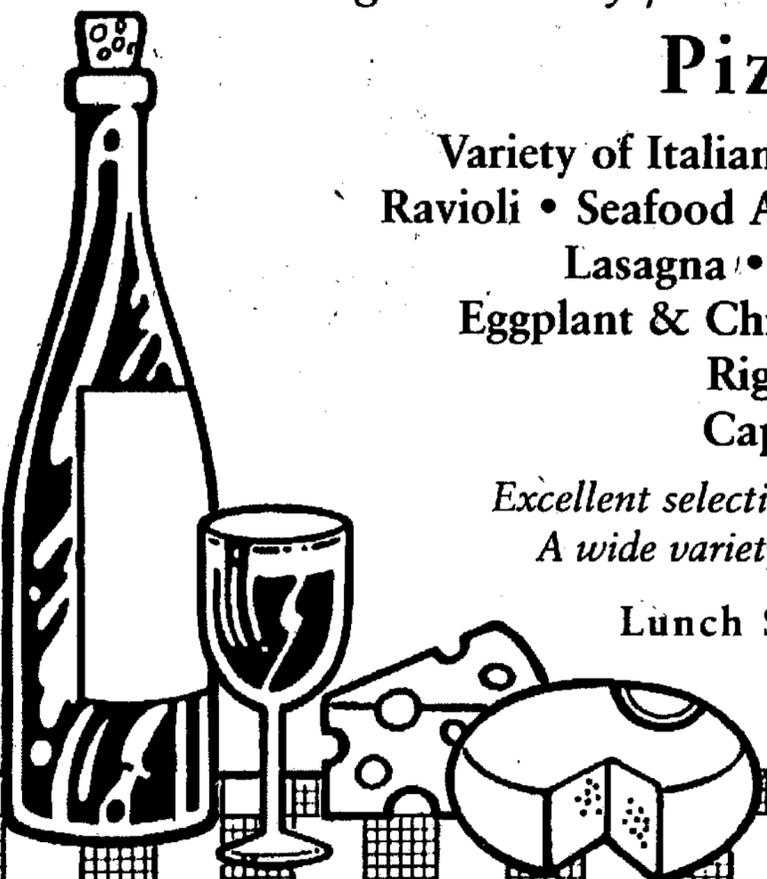
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Theater

BY LAURA CLYMER RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Spencer Theater offers patrons the best of both worlds: big city entertainment in the intimacy of a small theater.

The 514-seat, \$20 million facility enters its second winter season with a lineup that features the likes of the King's Singers (Dec. 18-19), the Russian National Ballet (Feb. 6), Spirit of Dance (March 12), the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra (April 1) and Navah Perlman (May 1).

The season started in mid-September with the theater's first taste of Broadway. The musical comedy "big" opened its 1998-99 tour from the Ruidoso theater after a two-week residency for rehearsals and production.

The season has since been rolling along the Highway 61 House of Blues Tour featuring John Hammond and Booker T. Jones, country music legend Glen Campbell and violinist Mark O'Connor.

Audiences are drawn to the theater not only for its world-class performances but also for, well, the theater itself. The wedge-shaped, building designed by Albuquerque architect Antoine Predock reflects the the ground-to-sky slope of nearby Sierra Blanca.

More than 450 tons of white, mica-flecked limestone quarried in Spain and imported from Italy was used for the luminous outer shell. The Crystal Lobby creates a diamond-like image at night, reflecting light from 300 hand-cut glass panes.

Inside, three vibrant glass creations by Washington artist Dale Chihuly adorn the upper and lower lobby areas.

The 4,970 square foot auditorium seats 514 patrons on two levels. With the "worst seat in the house" 57 feet away, everyone feels as though they're being treated to an in-home concert. This combined with state-of-the-art technical equipment completes the theater-going experience.

If you can't make a performance, public tours are available 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. most Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reservations are not required but encouraged.

Call the box office at 336-4800 for more information.



Diane Stallings/Ruidoso News

The Sierra Blanca Mountains create a perfect backdrop for the Spencer Theater.



courtesy Spencer Theater

Tango Buenos Aires is scheduled to perform at the end of January 1999.

WHAT'S IN STORE

Spencer celebrates the holidays with traditional songs and stories with a Mexican flavor from Fiesta Navidad and the English version from The King's Singers. Then in January, Tango Buenos Aires comes to town, followed by the Russian National Ballet, performing "The Sleeping Beauty."

In March, Aquila Theatre Company of London presents "The Odyssey" and "Comedy of Errors." Spirit of the Dance storms in from Dublin, and Mixed Company presents Alfred Uhrey's Pulitzer prize-winning play "Driving Miss Daisy." April is enchanted by the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra concert featuring violin soloist Dylana Jenson, then gets funky with an urban adaptation of Kipling's "The Jungle Book."

The season ends with a solo recital from pianist Navah Perlman, daughter of the world-famous Itzhak Perlman.

"Most of these events are one-night-only performances," said Spencer Theater executive director Theta Smith. "I would encourage anyone who really wants to see these shows to get their tickets early."

Single season tickets are on sale. Call the box office for availability 336-4800, or call ProTix at 1800-905-3315.

The remaining winter lineup is:

- Fiesta Navidad Fiesta Navidad
Friday, Dec. 4
\$25, \$20, \$12
- The King's Singers

Friday- Saturday Dec. 18-19
\$30, \$20, \$12

- Tango Buenos Aires
Saturday, Jan. 23
\$35, \$30, \$20
- Russian National Ballet
Saturday, Feb. 6
\$30, \$20, \$20
- "The Odyssey" Aquila Theater Co.
Friday, Feb. 12
\$25, \$20, \$12
- "The Comedy of Errors"
Aquila Theater Co.
Saturday, Feb. 13
\$25, \$20, \$12
- Spirit of Dance
Friday, Mar. 12
\$30, \$25, \$12
- "Driving Miss Daisy"
Friday, Mar. 26
\$20, \$15, \$12
- New Mexico Symphony Orchestra
Thursday, Apr. 1
\$30, \$25, \$12
Friday, Apr. 2 at 10 a.m.
all tickets \$6
- "The Jungle Book"
Friday, Apr. 9 at 7 p.m.
\$15, \$10, \$8
- Navah Perlman
Saturday, May 1 \$20, \$15, \$10

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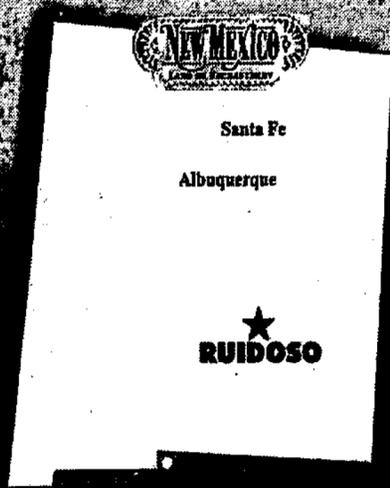
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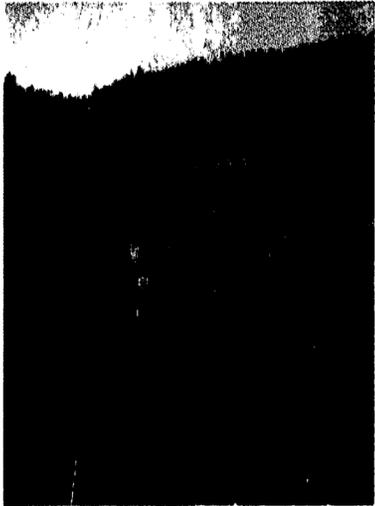
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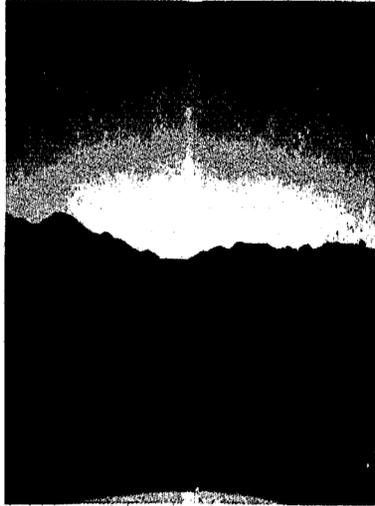
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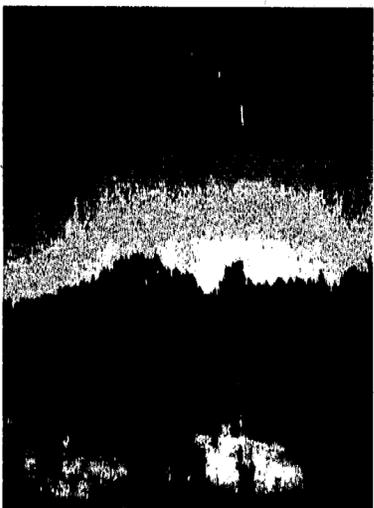
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Tract #434 • 5.9 acres
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Was \$39,900
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Tract #435 • 7.4 acres
Outstanding Capitan Mountain and Rio Bonita Valley views.
Was \$33,900
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Tract #443 • 12 acres
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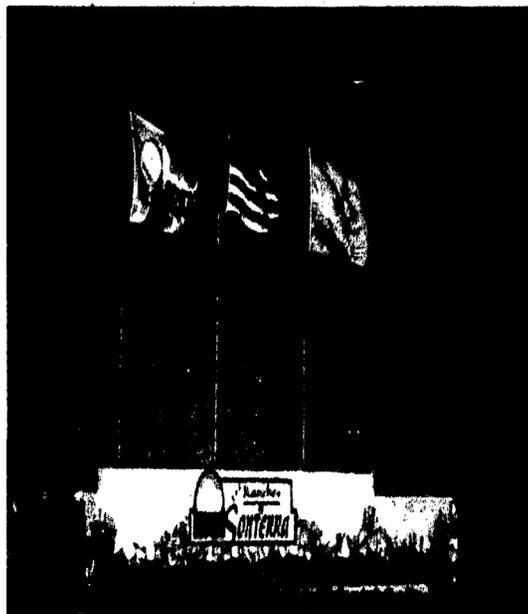
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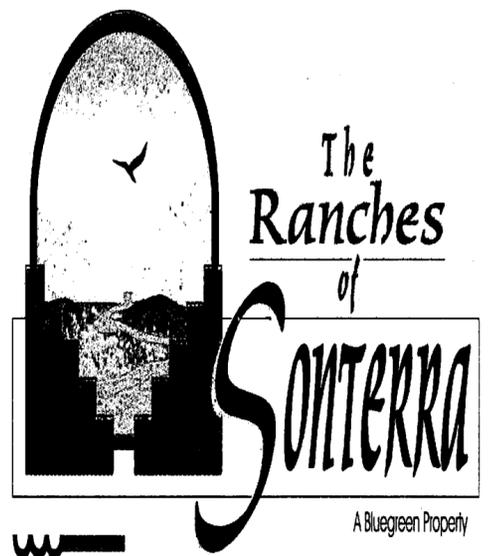
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Museum

BY TONI LAXSON RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Museum of the Horse provides a close look at the American West, past and present.

Bruce Eldredge can sum up the new attraction at the Museum of the Horse in two words: "Virtual Reality."

"We now have a virtual reality horse race game," said Eldredge, who is director at the 50,000-square-foot museum located in Ruidoso Downs next to the racetrack.

"It's the first game of its type to put a racer into an animated horse race. Your image is projected into the race. We prototyped it with the Vivid Group out of Toronto, Canada, and with the Hollywood Park Racing Corporation out of Englewood, Calif.

"It's quite a new thing. I think that it breaks ground for us in that it allows us to really amalgamate horses, which is an old technology — thousands of years old — with a new technology. And as I said, it's one of the first of its type in the world."

The game, which may go on loan to Churchill Downs in Kentucky for one week in November during the the Breeders Cup race, is just one aspect of the museum, where more than 10,000 objects regarding the American West are housed.

"One of the problems we have as a museum is that people come here thinking that we are just about horses," Eldredge said. "And, of course, we are more than just about horses. We are about the general history of the West — as well as about horses."

The Museum of the Horse is the second largest private museum in New Mexico in terms of budget size, visits and staff size, Eldredge said. Visitors may view an extensive collection of horse-drawn vehicles from both Europe and North America including carriages, coaches, delivery wagons and agricultural vehicles. Guns and saddles, cowboy boots and Indian head wear are all on display as well.

There's a Ruidoso Downs Race Horse Hall of Fame illuminating the winners of past All American Futurity, the richest quarterhorse race in the world. And there's other special sections, such as the Kid's Korral, where children may try on the clothing of the old West or try out their own (wooden) steed.

One of the most obvious attractions at the museum is the bigger than life outdoor sculpture, "Free Spirits at Noisy Water." Artist Dave McGary created the sculpture which features seven different breeds of horses galloping over the hilly terrain in front of the museum.

More than 60,000 people tour the museum every year, Eldredge said. Another 15,000 people come to the Cowboy Symposium sponsored by the museum every fall. And another 10,000 participate annually in general programs and activi-



Toni Laxson

"Free Spirits at Noisy Water," by sculptor Dave McGary, graces the museum grounds.

ties put on by the museum, he said.

"People want something to do that is arts, cultural or historically oriented during their visit to the area," Eldredge said, adding that the days of visitors just wishing to visit the track or slot machines are in the past.

"People want a well-balanced, well-rounded vacation. And we are just part of that, just as the Spencer Theater is now a part of that."

Most of the museum's collection was donated by Anne C. Stradling, a New Jersey heiress and noted horse aficionado who collected western memorabilia until her death in 1992.

Her collection had been on display from 1960 until 1989 at the Patagonia Museum of the Horse in Arizona. However, when her health began to fail, Stradling agreed to move her collection to the Hubbard Museum, which then became the Museum of the Horse. The building itself is the former Chaparral Convention Center, according to museum literature.

"When Anne gave her collection to the museum back in 1990, she gave about 10,000 objects," Eldredge said. "In the past five years, we have sort of weeded through (the collection). Some of those objects included file cabinets — things that I wouldn't consider museum collection objects."

About 9,500 of Stradling's collection are on display as well as about 600 new items that have been added to the museum in the past six years, he said. The new items are often donated by people who have decided the museum was the proper place to display, for instance, a historic saddle or an antique stable cloth from the family of a major American cloth manufacturer, Eldredge said.

The museum's success is attributable to the support of the community as well as the efforts of its board of directors and founders R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard, owners the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack, El-

dredge said.

"That's the sort of thing that makes this museum go. It's not just Anne Stradling. It's not just R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard. It's also everyone else," Eldredge said.

EXHIBITION SCHEDULE (subject to change)

- Free Spirits Juried Fine and Decorative Art Show and Sale
Nov. 21-Jan. 3
- Clayboard Art of Kathy Morrow
Jan. 8-31
- Local Reflections of New Mexico: Photographs of Edward Curtis
Feb. 5-March
- Henriette Wyeth School Visual Arts Festival
April 4-25
- Reflections of a Journey: Engravings after Karl Bodmer
May 30-July 18
- Veloy Vigil Retrospective
July 23-Oct. 18
- Eighth Annual Fall American Photographic Competition Exhibition
Oct. 23-Nov. 14
- A Ruidoso Christmas
Nov. 19-January 2000
- Free Spirits Juried Fine and Decorative Art Show and Sale
Jan. 14-March 19, 2000
- Henriette Wyeth School Visual Arts Festival
March 24-April 23, 2000
- A Brush with Greatness
May 26-Oct. 22, 2000

The Facts

Open daily

May through Labor Day
9 a.m. through 5:30 p.m.

Labor Day through April
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas

Adults	\$5
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Military with ID	\$4
Children 5-17	\$3
Monument only	\$1
Children under 5	Free
Members	Free

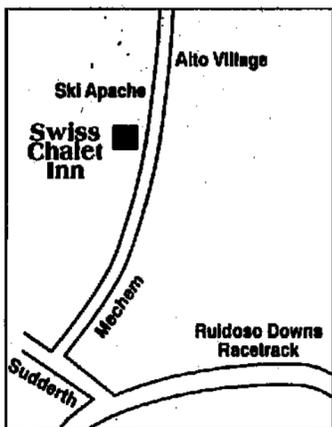
The Museum of the Horse is located 1 mile east of the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack and Casino on U.S. Highway 70 in Ruidoso Downs.

Special education and group rates are also available. For more information, call (505) 378-4142 or (800) 263-5929.



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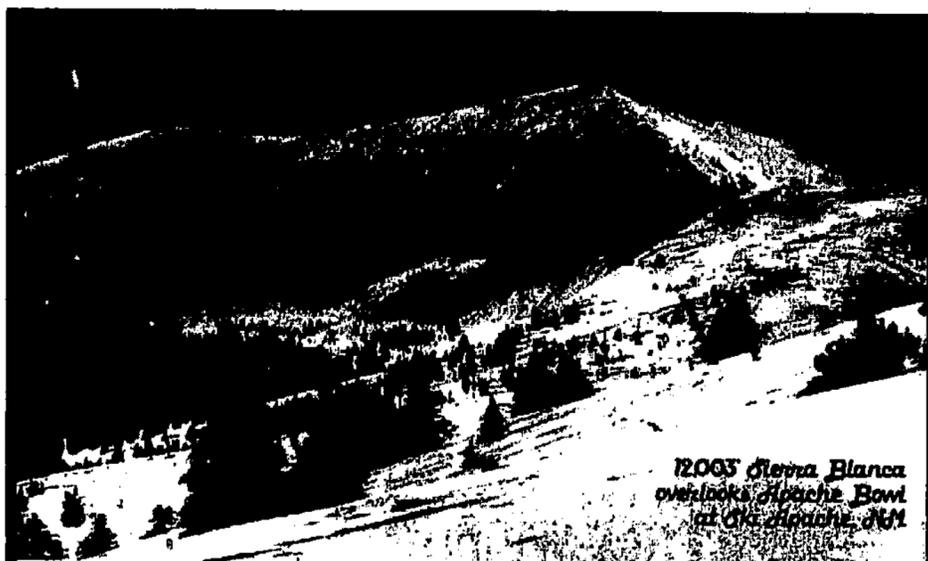
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Carrizozo

BY POLLY CHAVEZ FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Traditions ... that's what Carrizozo residents enjoy sharing with visitors to their town.

Carrizozo is located about 35 miles northwest of Ruidoso, and is home to about 1,175 people, including life-long residents and new comers, some of them retirees who chose to live in a small-town atmosphere. Among them are artists and writers who seek the clean air and tranquility of the Carrizozo environment.

Civic groups, agencies, churches and art groups sponsor events for visitors and locals to enjoy - American flag holiday displays, street fairs, parades, classic car shows, art loops, holiday festivals, church fiestas, fireworks displays, and luminarias. Last year there were 10,000 of the twinkling candle-in-a-sack decorations. The citizens have diverse cultural backgrounds bringing ethnic experience when planning events.

Carrizozo, located in south central New Mexico and at the junction of U.S. Highways 54 and 380, is steeped in diverse history, beginning with cattlemen

and the railroad.

The town is the county seat of historic Lincoln County, where the native Indian and Spanish/Mexican settlers were later joined by people of eastern, western and northern Anglo-American origins.

You can't really talk about the history of Carrizozo without first touching on White Oaks, a village located nine miles north of Carrizozo, which had its hey day in 1879.

Much of the history of south central New Mexico was centered around White Oaks, which was a prosperous gold mining boom town of the 1880s. Hotels, saloons and gambling joints were established first. But White Oaks longed for a railroad, the lifeblood of a town in the late 19th Century.

According to excerpts from the *White Oaks Eagle* back in 1900, the Carrizozo area was referred to as the "Carrizozo ranch." The name was borrowed from the



Polly Chavez

A caboose in Carrizozo that will house the chamber of commerce and visitors center.

name of the tall reed grass the Indians and Spaniards called "carrizo" grass. Carrizozo historian Ann Buffington-West says, "There was such an abundance of this grass that someone made up the name "carrizozo," meaning LOTS and LOTS of carrizo grass.

The first railroad entered New Mexico in 1878. The steam locomotives brought many changes to the economy of the territory. Carrizozo owes its start to the El Paso and Northeastern Railroad (EP&NE), which pushed into this area in 1889.

It was railroad entrepreneur Charles Bishop Eddy who turned his attention to the Carrizozo ranch area and his vision of the huge amount of business that could be gained from mineral, agricultural and livestock resources. By August 1899, Eddy established a supply center that became today's town of Carrizozo. A branch line was built to the Salado coalfield near Capitan. Miners were laid off when the coal fields were exhausted. Rails were laid creating new settlements while bypassing others. Original EP&NE surveys called for the railroad to follow its northward

course via White Oaks but right-of-way problems changed the plans and tracks were routed through Ancho.

In more recent years, railroad activity has subsided around Carrizozo though the town itself still has plenty to offer to visitors.

Travelers to Carrizozo are often seen taking photographs of the town's many historical buildings that feature unique early-day architecture. Some of the structures were built in the late 1930s and early 1940s through the Works Program Administration.

The Carrizozo Recreation Area lake, on U.S. 380, east of town is stocked with trout every three weeks beginning Nov. 1 through the end of April. Antelope, ducks and geese frequent the area. The area features a picnic/playground section, tennis court, basketball nets and a Little League baseball field.

A public golf course with two miles of fairway is located by the lake and is "the longest 9-hole course in the state of New Mexico," according to Jim Payne, town foreman.

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Capitan

BY DIANNE STALLINGS RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

For a slower paced day filled with good food, great scenery and interesting shops, but without the tourists crowds, try Capitan, a community of about 1,000 people—including a number of artists who have chosen a rural lifestyle.

Founded on coal mining and famous as the birth place and burial site of Smokey Bear, Capitan is laid out along two major roads, State Road 48 coming 22 miles north from Ruidoso and U.S. 380 running east from Carrizozo to intersect with U.S. 70 at Hondo.

Smokey Bear Historical Park on U.S. 380 (also called Smokey Bear Boulevard) is the focal point of the community, which gained its fame in the 1950s when a bear cub was rescued from a fire in the Capitan Mountains and became the national living symbol of the U.S. Forest Service for wildfire prevention.

The park features interactive and other displays on bears and forest fires, presents a film on the Smokey Bear program and gives visitors a sampling of native vegetation representing different life zones in New Mexico.

Children can work off some energy at the playground while parents relax at the picnic tables.

The park is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Next door is the Smokey Bear Museum operated by the village. Admission is free, but donations are accepted.

"We have a lot of literature on Smokey and memorabilia," said curator Lena White. "The gift shops sells a little bit of everything."

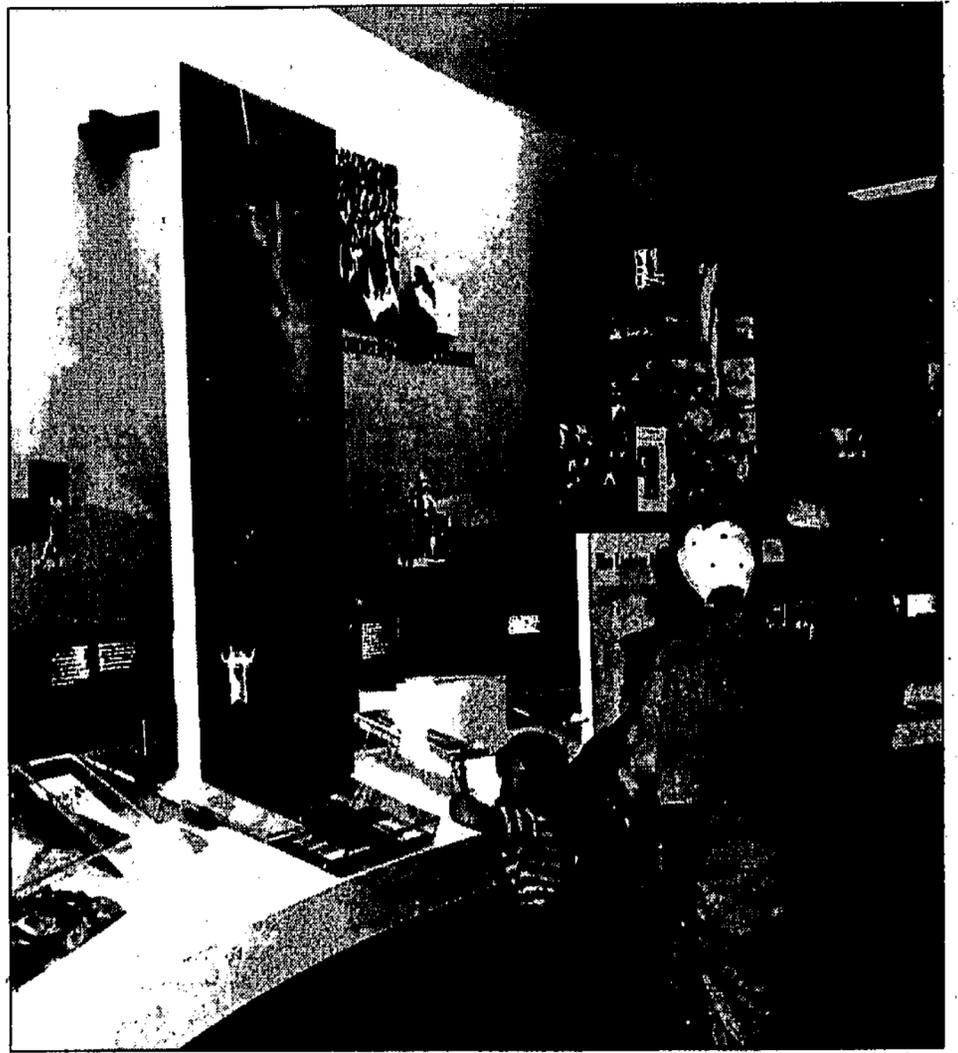
Winter hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Capitan offers such shopping stops as the Mule Creek Trading center at the east end of town on



Dianne Stallings

This train depot in Capitan dates back to the turn of the century.



Laura Clymer

The Smokey Bear Museum is fun for children and adults.

U.S. 380, where rustic becomes an art with the Gallery of Cowboy Furnishings that features wagon repair, saddle making and the sale of Western memorabilia and antiques. Clustered in the middle visitors will find a leather shop, a woodworking business, a T-shirt store, a weaving artist, an eclectic collection of items sold under the store name of Art and Artifact and the Victorian Dream, and the Angel Tree Exchange, which is worth a walk through at any time.

Next to Capitan Village Hall on Lincoln Avenue (SR48) is the community's public library, operated by volunteers.

When hunger pangs hit, visitors are in for a treat no matter which restaurant they choose. This little town is packed with gourmet chefs and just plain good cooks.

Spanky's, on U.S. 380, has spectacular pizza, including an artichoke special, and its salads and pasta are a treat for the palate. Next door on Lincoln Avenue is Hotel Chango, which has been lauded in several magazine for its cuisine. The setting is quaint and intimate. Check for operating hours and make reservations at (505) 354-4213.

At the western edge of town on U.S. 380 is El Paisano restaurant, where true Mexican dishes are prized. Smokey Bear Restaurant on the main road caters to the family crowd and is a favorite breakfast stop for locals and visitors. Even fast food is available at Taco Bell in the Shell gas station and convenience store.

Capitan also is a great place to stay overnight. At 6,300 feet above sea level, the temperatures are a bit more mild than in Ruidoso but it's framed by the Capitan Mountains to the north and east and the Sacramento Mountains to the west and south.

Smokey Bear Motel can't be missed, but for those who want a bed and breakfast experience and a little history, try the

Raymond Gilmer Lodge. Reservation can be arranged by calling the lodge at (505)354-2583.

The Territorial Theater, staged in an old mercantile store on Lincoln Avenue, may present some performances during the winter. Call Virginia Jones at (505) 354-2316 to check.

With a little driving south on SR48 at the entrance to town, Animalia Pottery is an experience visitors won't forget. The home of ceramic artists Todd Shelby and Karen Pritchett is a delight for the eyes, painted inside and out with their special creatures and designs.

Head west on U.S. 380 to see the barbed wire sculptures of Buddy Godinez or the unusual "neo-industrial" jewelry, frames and bowls of artist Molly Hart. The list of artists in the area keeps growing, so check with Virginia Jones at Art and Artifact for new names in the area and for directions.

For those seeking an outdoor experience, hiking trails crisscross the Capitan Mountains, which are rugged and can receive significant snow in the winter. Check conditions before embarking on a trek. Within the Capitan Mountain Wilderness is Copeland Canyon trail, a one-mile walk that climbs 400 feet and is considered easy, and Summit trail, marked moderate, which rises 1,520 feet in 8.2 miles. Four other trails — Pierce Canyon, Paucho Canyon, Capitan Peak and Seven Cabins — range in length from 3.5 miles to 5.8 miles and all increase in elevation by more than 2,000 feet. They are marked as difficult. Call the New Mexico Forestry Division at (505) 354-2231 or stop at the office at 302 West Second Street in Capitan to check on trail access.

Nogal

BY DIANNE STALLINGS RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Descending the west side of the Sacramento Mountains about 20 miles from Ruidoso, pull over for a breath-taking panorámia of the mountains as they trail off to disappear in the vastness of the Tularosa Basin.

The grandness of the view on State Highway 37 nearly obscures the tiny hamlet of Nogal, which is the Spanish name for walnut.

The community was named in 1882 for the black walnut trees that grew in Nogal Canyon, but previously was called Dry Gulch and then Galena.

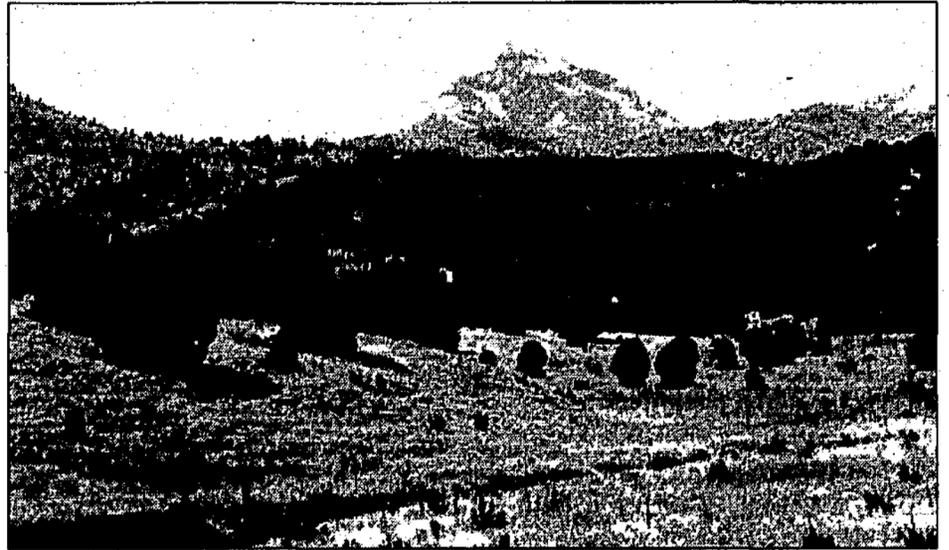
Gold fueled settlement of the area when the ore was discovered about 10 miles northeast of White Oaks, 15 miles northwest of Nogal.

According to "Ruidoso Countryside, The Early Days," by Herb Seckler, Miguel

Otero, father of the territorial governor, built an earth dam in the 1860s at Ancho Gulch to catch summer rain. It acted as a sluice for the placer gravel below the dam.

The first profitable gold was discovered in 1868 by Billy Gill a few miles west of Nogal. But despite the auspicious beginning, no real bonanzas were found by the prospectors who kept searching the foothills.

In the last 10 years, the town has become a favorite for people fleeing large cities and looking for a simpler rural en-



Dianne Stallings

Nogal Peak looms over the hamlet of Nogal, which is located about 20 miles from Ruidoso.

vironment. Older homes have been purchased and remodeled or restored. A series of tennis courts that seem out of place are the only evidence that a tennis school once thrived there.

The active businesses in the town are the post office and a new art gallery created in a former old mercantile store on the main highway through town from Ruidoso to Carrizozo.

The gallery also is to be the site for weekly community dinners, for art shows and poetry readings. But since the local bed and breakfast closed, Nogal is a day trip.

The area is not just famous for its gold mines. Something else lies deep in the earth there – the remains of mammoths, prehistoric horses and other finds of anthropological and archaeological in-

terest. Last spring, officials from a research center in El Paso, Texas, removed one of the most complete mammoths ever recovered in the state.

Hiking and horseback riding in the Lincoln National Forest is a favorite pastime for locals. One of the best hikes in the White Mountain Wilderness – depending on how much it has snowed – lies at the end of Nogal Canyon (best to use a four-wheel drive to get there) and then up to Nogal Peak on foot. Check weather conditions and snow depth with the U.S. Forest Service's Smokey Bear Ranger District Office in Ruidoso before heading out. The number is (505) 257-4095. Dress appropriately and follow safety precautions such as carrying supplies and letting someone know where you're going and when to expect you back.

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Lincoln

BY DREW GOMBER FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

It was once the most violent street in America, but today it is a quiet, lovely drive. As U.S. 380 winds through the foothills of the Capitan Mountains, the overwhelming impression is that you are actually travelling back in time. And in a sense, you are.

Just before you reach Lincoln, you pass the cemetery. And that cemetery gives a clue as to what you are about to experience. Just inside the cemetery gate there is a headstone for a man named Yginio Salazar. It gives the normal birth and death dates, but it is the line carved into the bottom of the stone that gets your attention. It reads, "Pal of Billy the Kid."

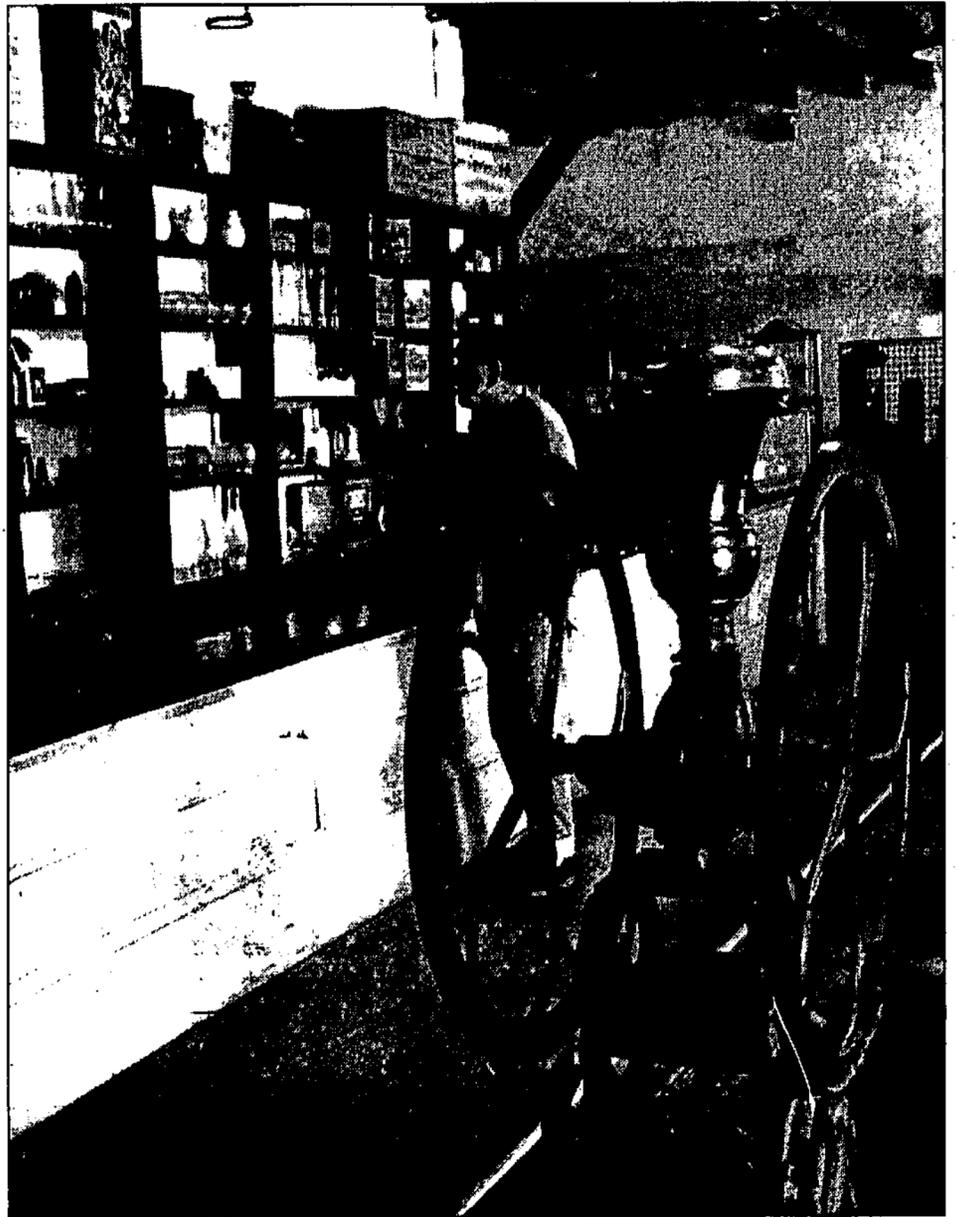
It was the Lincoln County War, fought in the 1870s, that catapulted Billy the Kid into infamous legend. Until that war took place, Billy was just another youth trying to earn a living as a cowboy in the violent Lincoln County of a century ago.

But Lincoln is more than just the birthplace of a legend. If the Kid were to ride back into town today, he would recognize it instantly. Many of the buildings from his time are restored to exact historical detail. There is the Torreón, a stone tower dating back to the 1850s, constructed by the original Hispanic settlers to escape into when the Apaches attacked. There is the Tunstall Store, now a state-run museum, opened by English entrepreneur John Henry Tunstall in 1877, and still stocked with goods from the period. Up the street is the courthouse, originally the Murphy Store.



The Torreón, a stone tower built by the original Hispanic settlers

Laura Clymer



Laura Clymer

Young Englishman John H. Tunstall's store posed a threat to rival L.G. Murphy & Co. and the result was the Lincoln County War. The store is now a state-run museum. Shown in the foreground is a coffee grinder from that time period.

It was the competition between these two merchants that led to the infamous Lincoln County War. Later, the Murphy Store was purchased by the county to serve as the courthouse. It was from there that Billy the Kid shot his way out of imprisonment and into legend on April 28, 1881. There is some physical evidence of this event remaining – at the foot of the stairs where Billy shot one of his guards, a bullet hole in the wall stands as mute testimony to the violence of the era. The courthouse also is owned by the state.

Also in town is the San Juan Mission, which dates back to 1887 and is still an active church. The home of an early Lincoln physician, Dr. Woods, is restored to its original grandeur and is open to the public. Dr. Woods, who did much work with TB patients, frequently used TB cottages, small buildings where patients could have privacy while being treated for the dreaded disease.

At the east end of town is the Historical Center, run by the Lincoln Heritage Trust. The Historical Center is the only curated museum in Lincoln. It features most of the artifacts from the Lincoln County War, including photos of many of the participants, letters, weapons, and, among other things, the knife, gun and spurs of Billy the Kid. Unfortunately, the future of the Historical Center is uncertain. The Trust's doors closed Nov. 1 while the board reorganizes. For further information, please call (505) 653-4025.

Winter hours for all museums in town are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week. A \$3 admission will give vis-

itors access to the five New Mexico state monument museums.

To get from Ruidoso to Lincoln, one takes the "Billy the Kid Loop." Take U.S. 70 out of Ruidoso, go approximately 25 miles and go left on U.S. 380 into Lincoln. The loop continues through Lincoln into Capitan where the visitor can pick up State Road 48 back into Ruidoso. The loop features some of the most beautiful vistas in New Mexico.

Come to Lincoln, where the gunfighters once walked.



courtesy Lincoln Heritage Trust

Lincoln's most infamous resident, Billy the Kid, shown in his only known photograph.

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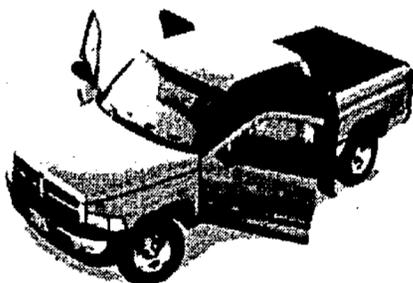


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Hondo Valley

BY TONI LAXSON RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Though the fruit stands along the road have dwindled in recent decades, the ambience, beauty and individuality of the valley continues to draw visitors to the communities east of Ruidoso Downs on U.S. Highway 70, including Glencoe, San Patricio and Hondo.

Attractions in the area include the Hurd LaRinconada Gallery, where the works of the Wyeth dynasty of artists are on display. Another draw is the Tinnie Silver Dollar, a restaurant about 3 miles east of Hondo, that features elegant dining in a historic building filled with artwork, antiques and even a reported ghost.

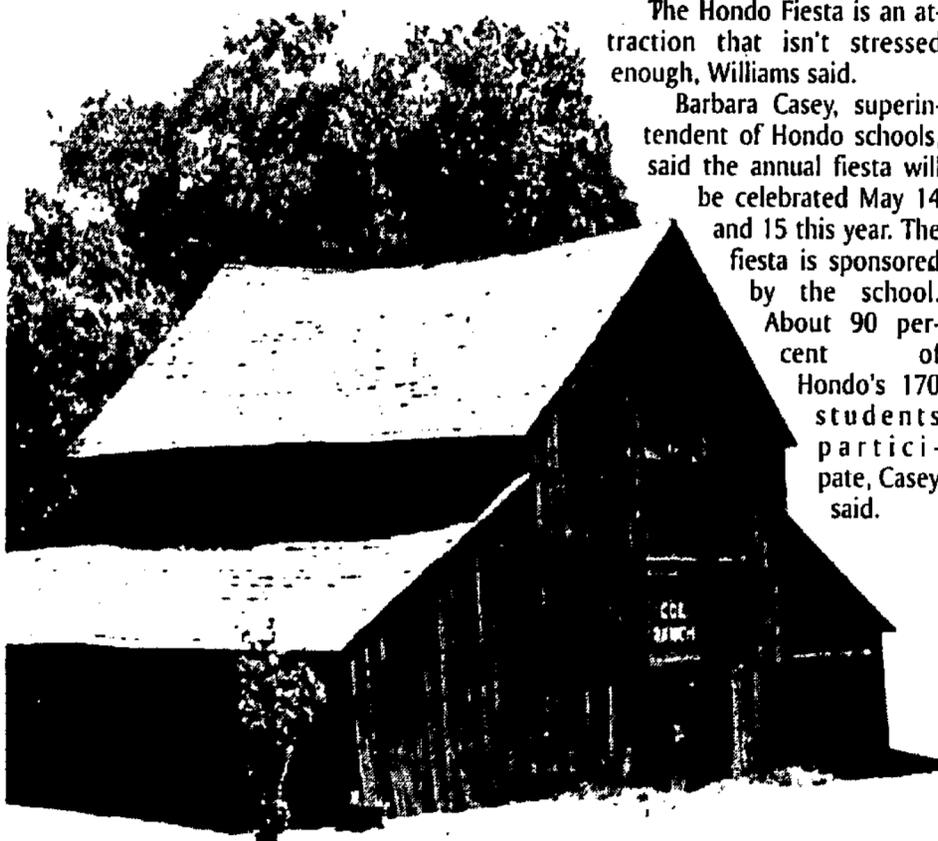
And, depending on the time of year, the valley offers fly fishing, tours of artists' studios, polo matches and the Hondo Fiesta, a 51-year tradition in which children perform dances reflecting the area's Mexican influences on the culture.

Dub Williams, a state representative and a longtime Glencoe resident, said visitors to the area will enjoy touring the valley in the early spring when apple blossoms fill the orchards. Though the trees remain, only a handful of orchards are still being worked commercially, a gradual trend brought on by the inconsistencies of the business, Williams said.

The Hondo Fiesta is an attraction that isn't stressed enough, Williams said.

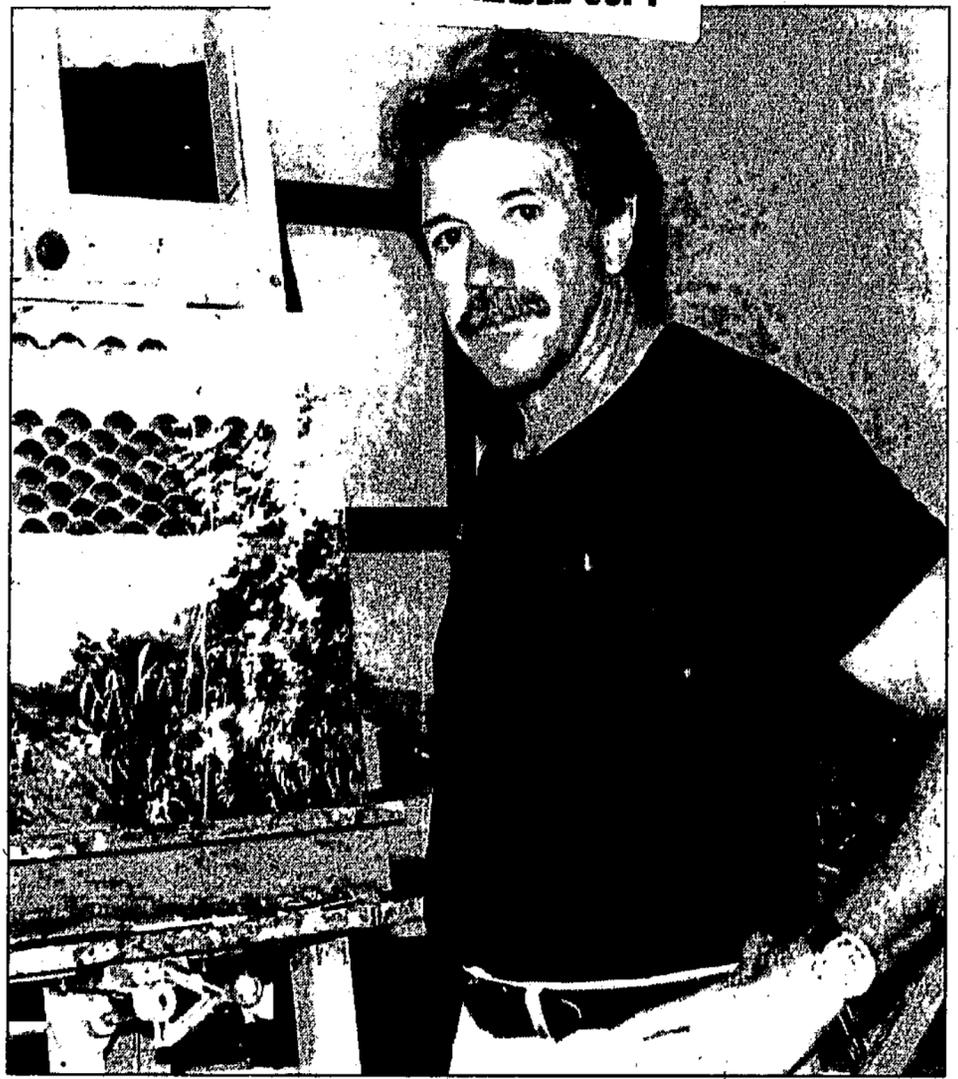
Barbara Casey, superintendent of Hondo schools, said the annual fiesta will be celebrated May 14 and 15 this year. The fiesta is sponsored by the school.

About 90 percent of Hondo's 170 students participate, Casey said.



The old Coe Ranch barn in Glencoe

Dianne Stallings



Laura Clymer

Michael Hurd, artist in residence at the Hurd LaRinconada Gallery

Casey said there are many reasons to visit the valley, including just for the sheer aesthetics of it.

"The scenery is just gorgeous," she said. "You can see wild turkey, deer; you can see the eagles flying overhead. You can drive down here anytime of year, even in the winter, and the scenery is beautiful."

She tours another attraction of the area: the Tinnie Silver Dollar, a historic restaurant known as much for its art and antiques as for its reported ghost. It's located about three miles east of the valley — about a 30-minute drive from Ruidoso.

Salem Sager, owner and manager of the restaurant, said the 10,000-square-foot building was started in 1817 and completed in 1882. A family called Ramond used the building as a combination general store and post office.

"And in 1959, Robert O. Anderson bought the building and changed it into a fine dining establishment," Sager said. "He transformed it into a charming Victorian building with a bell tower, gazebos, long porches..."

Anderson hired local artist John Meigs to travel the world looking for antiques and art to fill the restaurant, Sager said. Among the items he came back with were a life size portrait of Lilly Langtry, a famous singer and dancer from the 1800s, and a 120-year-old massive oak bar from Texas, Sager said.

The restaurant's ghost, a woman named Camille, is rumored to have been killed by either Mr. or Mrs. Ramond and buried outside the post office, Sager said. Though he himself has never seen the ghost, others report sightings all the time, Sager said. A large portrait of Camille hangs in one of the restaurant's dining rooms, Casey said.

The restaurant serves steak, prime rib, prawns, lobster tail, pasta and south-

western specialties, Sager said. Dinner entrees cost \$10.95 to \$18.95 and lunch entrees \$3.95 to \$11.95, he said. It's open 7 days a week, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., all year, he said.

Probably the best known attraction in the valley, the Hurd LaRinconada Gallery in San Patricio, is actually a part of the Sentinel Ranch, which had been the home of renown artists Henriette Wyeth and Peter Hurd, who married in 1929 and moved to the valley shortly afterward.

Both of the artists are dead now, but their son Michael Hurd continues in the family vocation as a painter. The gallery itself was designed by him and built in 1986, according to Renee Miranda, assistant director at the gallery.

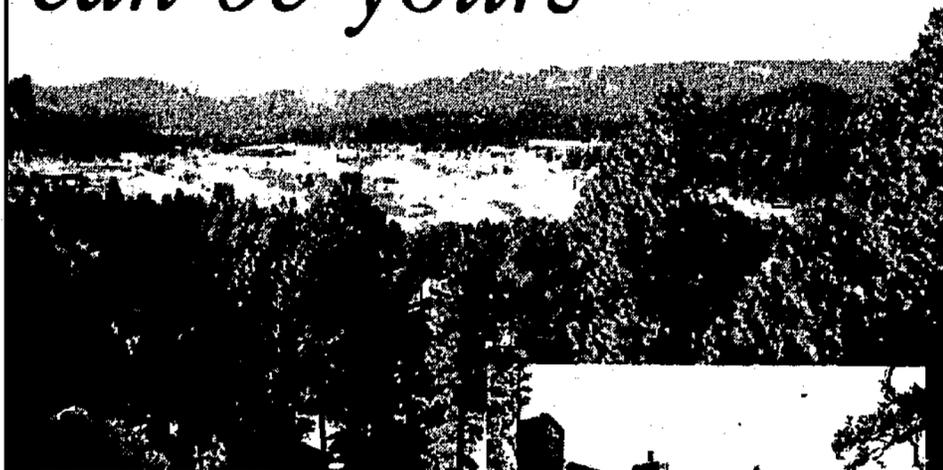
The art work of three generations of the Wyeth and Hurd families is displayed at the gallery, including that of Henriette, Peter and Michael. Also on display are works by N.C. Wyeth, Henriette's father, who was known for his book illustrations. Andrew Wyeth, Henriette's younger brother, is the most famous of the artists displayed at the gallery. He has been recognized as America's foremost realist, according to gallery literature.

The ranch, where cattle still graze, has been converted into the Hurd Ranch Guest Homes. Visitors may stay at the Apple House or the Orchard House, one-room adobe casitas where former ranch hands stayed; at La Helenita, a two-bedroom house named for frequent ranch visitor Helen Hayes; or the Wyeth House, where Henriette and Peter Hurd lived and entertained celebrities.

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Mescalero

BY DIANNE STALLINGS RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Looking at The Inn of the Mountain Gods, Casino Apache, Ski Apache and an assortment of other businesses operated by the Mescalero Apache Tribe, it seems they have left their heritage far behind.

But in this case, appearances are deceiving. A resurgence of interest in the preservation of their culture, language and history is evident in a series of initiatives – some not obvious to casual visitors to the 460,000-acre reservation abutting Ruidoso, but others are easy visual reminders of the tribe's history.

A colorful painting of the mescal plant, the source of the tribe's name, and other scenes of tribal culture and history line the highway along every available flat wall and overpass – a project of Mescalero art students.

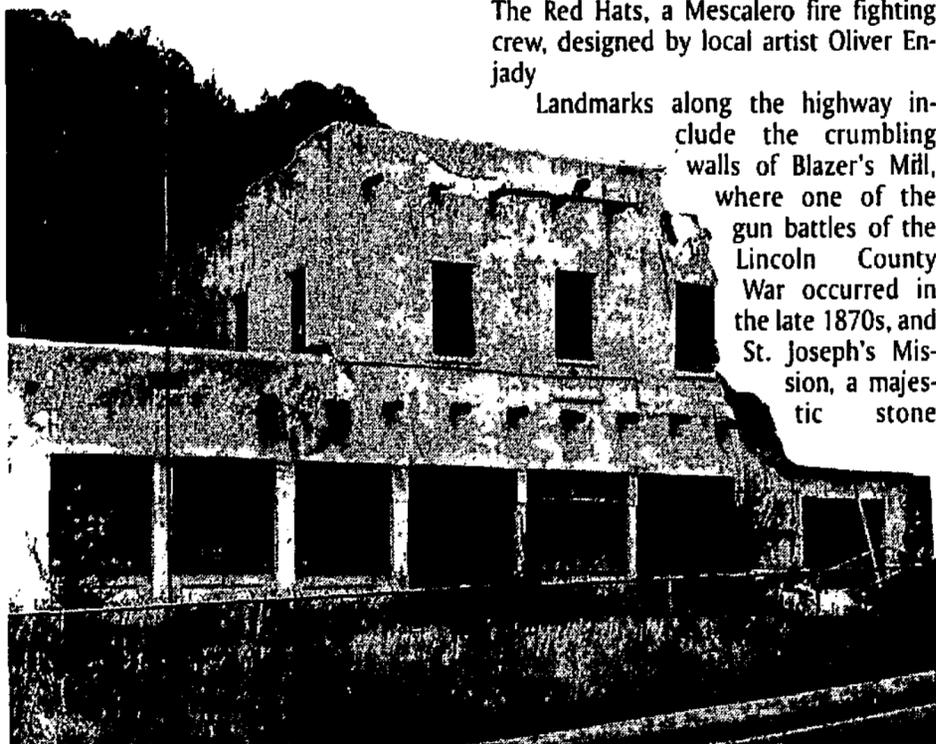
A rare nugget of the past can be found at the Mescalero Cultural Center, across from the tribal store on U.S. 70 in the main settlement.

Managed by curator Ellyn Bigrope, the center features displays of traditional and ceremonial clothing, pottery, baskets, plants eaten and used in ceremonies and other artifacts. Photographs of tribal members from different moments in history line the walls.

Admission is by donation. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Special tours during regular hours or off-hours and weekends may be arranged in advance by calling (505) 671-9254.

Outside the center is a monument to The Red Hats, a Mescalero fire fighting crew, designed by local artist Oliver Enjady

Landmarks along the highway include the crumbling walls of Blazer's Mill, where one of the gun battles of the Lincoln County War occurred in the late 1870s, and St. Joseph's Mission, a majestic stone



A trading post crumbles from age in Mescalero, across U.S. 70 from Blazer's Mill, the site of a gun battle during the Lincoln County War.

Dianne Stallings



Dianne Stallings

A dancer competes in one of the powwow gatherings at Mescalero each year.

monument to the drive of Father Albert Braun.

St. Joseph's took 20 years to build after Braun first arrived in 1916 as a young friar. His work was disrupted in 1918 when he served during World War I. He returned inspired by the Gothic cathedrals he saw in Europe.

All of the material was native to the area. Stone was quarried about four miles west in the canyon near Bent. Lime was burned in pits near the church. Stones were laid in the summer and the fall. Timber for the roof and ceiling was purchased from a local sawmill. Floor tiles came from a pottery plant in La Luz Canyon.

The 131-foot-long, 65-foot-wide church was dedicated in 1939. The four-foot thick stone walls are fifty feet high, 80 feet to the peak of the roof.

Braun, who died in a nursing home at the age of 95 is buried in the sanctuary of the church.

Apache dedication to their churches doesn't mean they have abandoned beliefs established long before the first encounter with Spanish explorers. The symbol of the mountain gods can be found throughout the community, a reminder of the spirits who drive away sickness and evil and bring good health and good fortune.

Visitors may have the good fortune to see one of the Mountain Gods dances, if a community celebration is scheduled.

More than 3,000 tribal members live on the 1,278-square-mile reservation

founded on May 27, 1873. The tribe is governed by an eight-member tribal council, a vice president and by President Paul Ortega. Former President Wendell Chino had led the tribe for more than 40 years before his death on Nov. 4.

Thousands of rainbow trout can be seen at the fish hatchery, operated by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior. A sign for the turnoff is posted on U.S. 70.

For some authentic Mexican cooking, try The Old Road restaurant. You may need to ask for directions, because there are no signs and it's situated off the highway down a dusty road.

The tribal store sells groceries, T-shirts and some handmade items. Another good shopping stop is the Kaa dasita, further east on U.S. 70. Owner Francine Burgess has accumulated the work of many tribal members and representatives from other tribes, from cradle boards to jewelry and beaded medicine bags. The shop is open during the winter from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.

For superb dining, a more sophisticated setting and spectacular scenery, try the Mescalero Tee at the golf course in the Inn of the Mountain Gods complex close to Ruidoso, the main dining room at the inn called the Dan Li Ka, or Cafe Mescalero, formerly Carrizo Lodge.

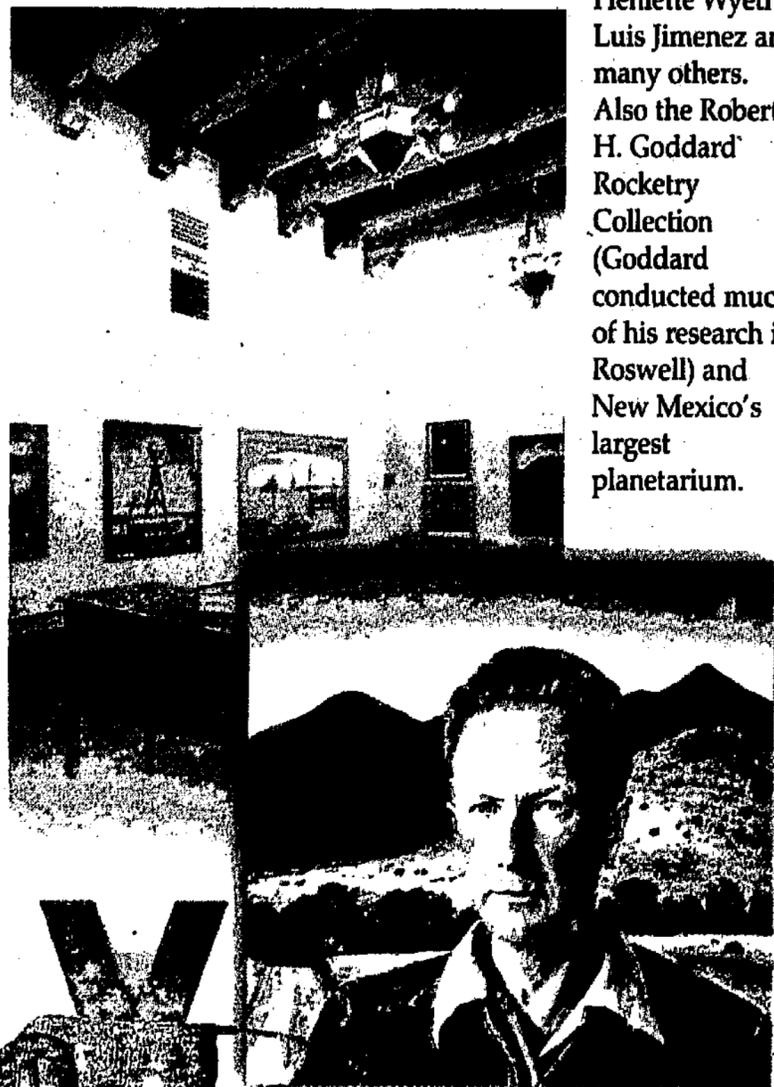
Check to see if evening entertainment is scheduled at the Inn, or you have the option of trying the card tables or video slot machines at Casino Apache.

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White Oaks

BY DIANNE STALLINGS RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Once the population hub of Lincoln County, the settlement of White Oaks remains an intriguing relic of the past, while its charm and scenery draws artists and artisans to the foothills of the Sacramento Mountain Range.

Although summer is the busiest time of the year with the annual Miners Day celebration the first Saturday in June and the Camino del Oro Studio Tour in September, a driving and walking swing through White Oaks is a pleasant way to spend an afternoon with a camera.

The two museums in town – the former school house built in 1895, and the Miners' Home Museum – are closed to visitors in the winter. But the curious can peek through the windows at the miners' museum on the main road through town or walk around the grounds of the school house for a taste of the settlement's history.

One of the best places to get to know White Oaks is at the cemetery just west of the settlement.

Buried there is the first governor of the state of New Mexico, William C. McDonald, who died in 1918. His relatives still live in Lincoln County. Another interesting stop is the multiple burial grave site of a group of men killed in a mining accident.

The discovery of gold plentiful enough to mine is credited by some writers to John Baxter, who arrived in 1878



Laura Clymer

Artisans abound, some in full regalia.



courtesy

Potter Ivy Heyman practices her craft in White Oaks.

from Missouri with his mining equipment packed on burros. A more colorful version has a nervous stranger – apparently fleeing from a posse – trading his claim to a gold strike to two other miners for \$40 and a bottle of whiskey. The lode the man discovered turned out to be the locally famous Homestake mine.

The discovery of gold caused a stampede to White Oaks and resulting in the establishment of the Old Abe Mine. According to "Ruidoso Countryside: The Early Days" by Herb Seckler, during the last two decades of the 19th Century, White Oaks was recognized as "the liveliest town in the territory." The peak population of the community reached 2,500 residents in 1892.

For a time, Pat Garrett, famous for killing Billy the Kid, was sheriff in White Oaks.

A large two-story brick home was built by the Gumm brothers for Watson Hoyle, who owned a one-twelfth share in the Old Abe. Called Hoyle's Folly, the house still stands as a stately reminder of the owner who was jilted by the woman for whom the house was designed.

The Gumm brothers came to White Oaks to operate the sawmill. The home they built, a graceful white structure behind the old school house, is being re-modeled by new owners.

Another interesting building is the Brown Store, now stabilized and boarded up on the main street. Ruth Birdsong, a local historian, said the structure never contained a bank as some people have written, but did double as a school at one time.

White Oaks' heyday was over by the early 1900s as the mines ran out and closed. The community lost its second chance when the railroad bypassed it and chose a route through Carrizozo to Corona instead – some say because town fathers demanded too high a price for a right-of-way.

The new gold for the White Oaks area is art.

Potter Ivy Heymann displays her work and often that of other artists at her hand-built adobe studio and gallery east of town. Further down the road is Harlan Webb's wood-frame saddle shop with belts, wallets and custom made items.

Painter Bob Reynierson shows his pastels and acrylics at his cozy gallery in town.

Before leaving the quaint settlement, stop at the White Oaks Saloon, the gathering place for friends, families and foes.

White Oaks lies five miles north of Carrizozo and east of U.S. 54, on State Highway 349, about 40 miles northwest of Ruidoso.

Historic Trails

BY TONI LAXSON RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

More than a tour of the hangouts of an infamous outlaw, the Billy the Kid Scenic Byway is actually a road trip through Lincoln County with more than a dozen sites of interest.

People can travel the Billy the Kid Scenic Byway, which begins at the Billy the Kid Interpretive Center, in about 90 minutes if they don't stop. However, since the point of the byways is to stop, travelers may want to take a day or two visiting historical, cultural and recreational sites along the route.

From the artist colony of Hondo Valley to the historic town of Lincoln, the byways' attractions highlight the rich culture and heritage of Lincoln County. Other points of interest include the Museum of the Horse, the Glencoe Rural Events Center, the Smokey Bear Museum, the state parks in Lincoln, the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts

and more.

Side trips include Ski Apache, Bonito Lake and the mining ghost town of White Oaks.

Coordinators decided to name the highway tour after Billy the Kid because of the outlaw's name recognition, both national and international, Bill Hirschfeld, a coordinator of the facility, has said.

It has been at least four years in planning, Hirschfeld said. The federally funded, state-approved and village administered project had numerous red-tape hurdles to jump before taking off, he said.

Byways, designed to increase an



Terrance Vestal

The Billy The Kid Interpretive Center features quite a collection of "Wild West" books and memorabilia in its gift shop, which is run by the Museum of the Horse.

area's tourism, are cropping up all over the country. Hirschfeld has said New Mexico already has eight to 10 byways, including one in nearby Cloudcroft.

Brochures outlining the tour and enumerating attractions are now available at the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, Ruidoso Village Hall, the Ruidoso Convention Center and the U.S. Forestry office.

Internet users may explore the Billy the Kid Scenic Byways website at

www.juge.com/ed/byways/index.htm.

The loop starts at the Center on U.S. Highway 70 next to the Museum of the Horse. It then turns in Ruidoso on Sudberth Drive, travels up State Road 48 to Capitan and hooks south on U.S. Highway 380. At Hondo, where Highway 380 intersects with U.S. Highway 70, the loop turns west and comes full circle again at the Museum of the Horse.

For more information call the Interpretive Center at (505) 378-5318.

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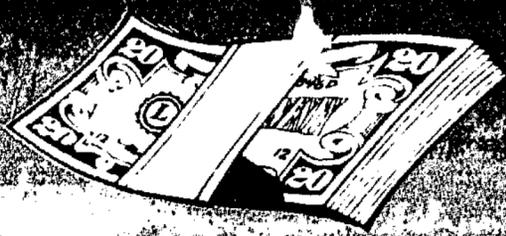
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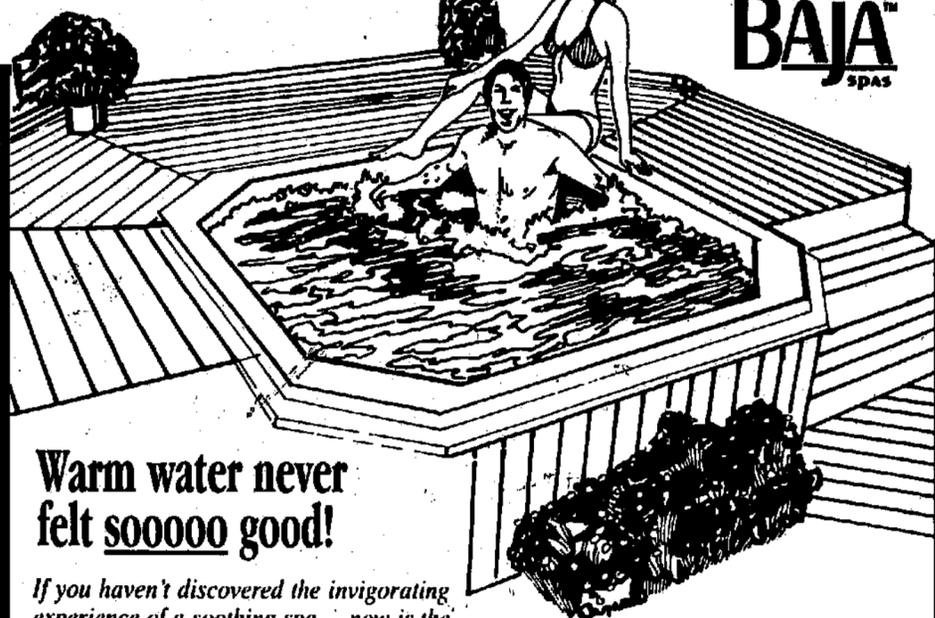
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Cloudcroft

BY DIANNE STALLINGS RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A snowy winter last year has people in Cloudcroft pumped about another season of skating, skiing, sledding, snowmobiling and shopping.

The quaint mountain town tucked in the Sacramento Mountains just 25 minutes from Alamogordo and about an hour southwest of Ruidoso boasts 40 lodging businesses, four RV parks, six restaurants and interesting shops from antiques to artisans, leather to jewelry. Several outfitters are stocked to deck out visitors in the latest gear for cross country and downhill skiing.

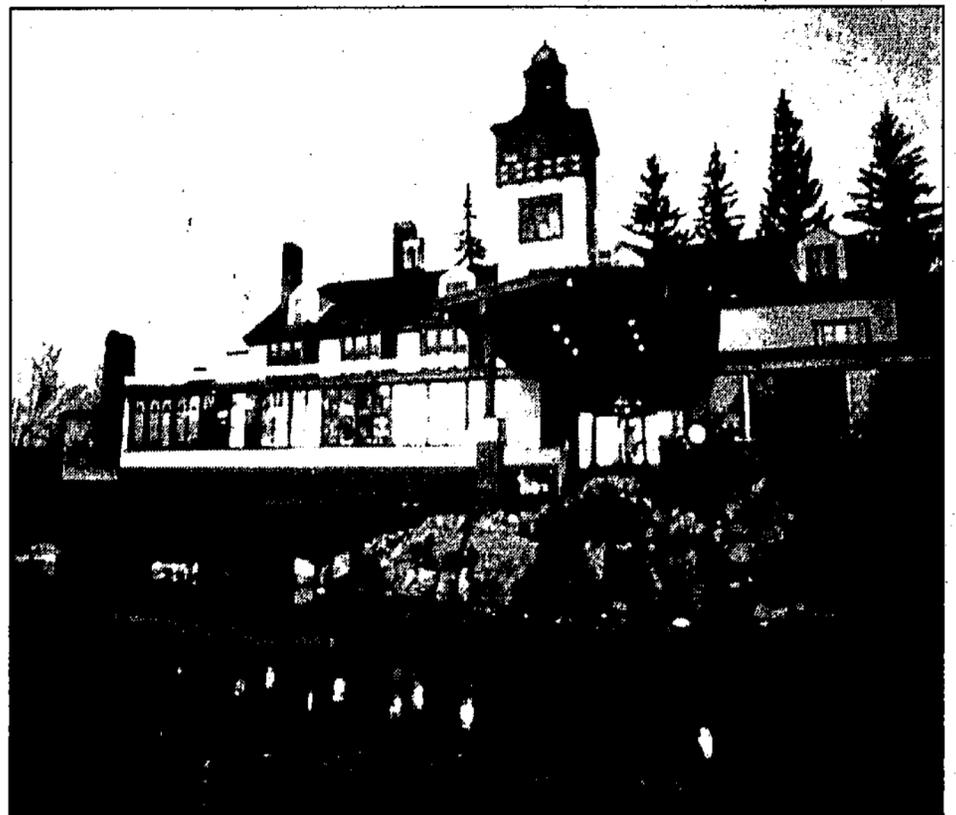
The village at 9,500 feet also offers a calendar of holiday events and the only ice skating around.

A small rink on U.S. 82, the main road through town, will open in mid-December, but this year it will be covered and have lights to allow skaters later and longer access.

Once winter is entrenched in the village, the rink at the west end of Zenith Park will open seven days a week. Skates can be rented at the rink for \$3 for adults and \$2.50 for children. You can take to the ice as early as 10 a.m. on weekends and 3:30 p.m. on weekdays. The skating will go on well into the evening. A large fireplace helps skaters stay warm and the telephone numbers of instructors are available through the chamber of commerce at (505)682-2733.

A full moon skating party will be scheduled in February. Check with the chamber.

One of the town's most distinguished landmarks is The Lodge, a historic hotel true to its turn-of-the-century period. It's one of the best places in the state to spend a snowy vacation with big fire places and a



courtesy

The Lodge, a turn-of-the-century historic hotel

warm wood feel. Besides great dining and views at Rebecca's Restaurant, guests can shop at Season/Lodge Mercantile or they can try inner tubing for \$8 a half day and \$12 for a full day; cross-country skiing for \$12 full rental, \$4 for a trail pass and \$12 for lessons.

Guided scenic snowmobiling tours also can be arranged for \$20 single, \$30 double a half hour and \$30 single or double a full hour.

The Lodge offers special package deals that include discounted prices on accommodations as well as winter activities, which are not available Tuesday and Thursday. Check by calling (800) 395-6343 or (505) 682-2566.

For more winter fun, try Triple M Snow Play: Mystical Mountain Magic, about 4.7 mile southwest of Cloudcroft on Sunspot Highway, where visitors can slide down slopes in inner tubes and then enjoy a lift ride back to the top or can be taken on guided snowmobile tours.

Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Friday through Monday, but daily through the holidays. Night tours also are available. Rates are \$30 per hour for a single and \$40 for a double. Tubers can use the lift for \$12 a day, \$8 for half day, or rent tubes and ride for \$16 or \$11 half days. If you're hoofing it, access to the slopes is \$8, tube included, and \$6 using your own.

Call (800) 766-7529 or (505) 682-2205 for more information.

Surrounding Cloudcroft is the Sacramento District of the Lincoln National Forest, which offers miles of scenic trails for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, as well as some great slopes for tubing. One of the best is Sleepy Grass Picnic area off U.S. 82.

Ski Cloudcroft, on U.S. 82 east of Cloudcroft (turn left coming in from Ruidoso on State Highway 244) offers downhill skiing, snowboarding and inner tubing.

Managed by Layne and Matthew Preslar and Mel and Jeremy McAdams, the winter fun area opens Dec.18 and will stay open seven days a week until the snow plays out.

During the holidays through Jan. 3, Ski Cloudcroft will be open every evening from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. After the that,

evening skiing and tubing only will be available Thursday through Saturday.

Day time hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and week days.

Adult lift rickets are \$25 and juniors are \$16. Night skiing is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children. All day tubing is \$12 and \$10 for night tubing.

"We have a full-service restaurant and rentals at the ski area," said Layne Preslar. "We also rent cross-country skiing equipment for \$12 and there are plenty of trails that can be accessed for free."

For more information, call (505) 682-2333.

Special events set for the holidays leading up to New Year's Eve include:

- Dec. 5 — Tree lighting, ornament making at 2 p.m., Christmas caroling by the Chamber Maids, and the arrival of Santa Claus all on downtown Burro Avenue.
- Dec. 11-12 — Cloudcroft Light Opera Company melodrama, pet parade Saturday on Burro Avenue.
- Dec. 13 — Community Christmas Cantata
- Dec. 14-15 — Cloudcroft Schools Christmas programs
- Dec. 18 — Cloudcroft Academy of Ballet Christmas performance
- Dec. 19 — Late Night Shopping on Burro Avenue
- Dec. 22 — Open House at High Country Leather on Burro Avenue, Department 56 Displays, home-made Christmas goodies, vignette demonstrations, all from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Dec. 24 — Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus tell Christmas stories at The Lodge
- Dec. 31 — Torch parade at Ski Cloudcroft



Dianne Stallings

A cabin near Cloudcroft

Alamogordo

BY SANDY SUGGITT RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Alamogordo, which means "fat cottonwood," is a welcoming, bustling town of 31,000 people situated midway between Ruidoso and Las Cruces. Its warm, dry climate and special attractions offer visitors year-round fun.

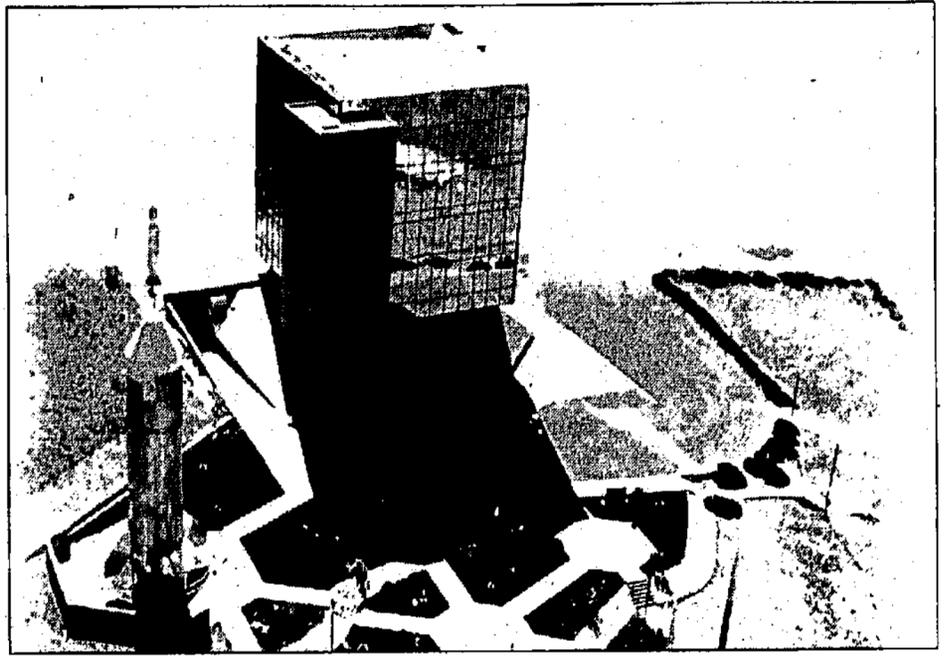
The most famous attractions of this former railroad town are the Space Center's International Space Hall of Fame documenting the history of space exploration and the Tombaugh Omnimax Theater with the world's largest projector system casting a wrap-around image on a 40-foot tilt dome.

For more than a glimpse of the nearly 300 square miles of white sand dunes at the White Sands National Monument, Lake Lucero Tours leads groups one Sunday a month.

Interested in jazz, symphony, opera

or comedy? The Flickinger Center hosts performances and dinner theaters by the Alamogordo Music Theater and the Alamogordo Community Theater, as well as a full range of visiting entertainers. New Mexico University's Tays Center is available also for conferences and concerts.

The kids of Alamogordo designed Kids Kingdom in Roundtree Park, and its turrets and towers exercise the imagination as much as the body. For hikers, bikers and skaters, there's the Desert Foothills Park at the base of the Sacramento Mountains, and for golfers there's



courtesy Ron Keller/International Space Hall of Fame

The International Space Hall of Fame is one of the many attractions in Alamogordo.

the Desert Lakes Municipal Golf Course.

For kids of all ages, there's the seven-acre Alameda Park Zoo – the oldest in the Southwest – and the Toy Train Depot where visitors can ride the miniature train around Alameda Park or see the model railroad track display in the 90-year-old depot building.

For year-round recreation, visit the Desert Foothills Park at the base of the Sacramento Mountains that offers a 1-mile path and access to other trails. Oregon Park has 8 tennis courts and 2 basketball courts, and the Desert Lakes Golf Course.

Dining's a pleasure in about 30 restaurants, including Chinese, Mexican,

Italian, mom-and-pops and fast foods, and if you've been missing that special smell of your grandmother's house, visit Memories, a beautifully decorated Victorian home on New York Avenue serving a range of meals she never dreamed of.

There are more than 50 downtown shops, and along New York Avenue galleries, coffee shops and boutiques abound. The White Sands Mall is a full-service shopping center with 35 stores and movie theaters.

Alamogordo offers visitors a variety of lodging options, including 13 hotels and many motels and bed-and-breakfasts totaling 765 rooms, as well as 13 RV parks and 16 mobile home parks.



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Calendar of Events



November

Wednesday-Sunday, Nov. 25-29

THE ROAD RUNNERS

The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9535.

Wednesday-Sunday, Nov. 25-29

ERIC DIAMOND AND THE PLAYBOYS

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Monday, Nov. 30

DOUG KING BAND

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

December

Tuesday, Dec. 1

DOUG KING BAND

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 2-6

ELLISON BROTHERS

The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9535.

Saturday, Dec. 5

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Joseph Mission (Mescalero) - begins at 7:30 p.m. featuring the Schola Cantorum Singers of Santa Fe. A dedicated group of singers explore the full breadth of the Church's sacred music. They will also be performing at the 6 p.m. Mass. Free admission, for details call 671-4473.

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Ruidoso Convention Center - Concert and

dance from 8 p.m. until midnight featuring The Bad News Blues Band from Tucson, silent auction of trees, wreaths and gingerbread houses. Food vendors, kids activities and Santa Admission is canned goods to benefit the Lincoln County Food Bank. For more information call 1-800-253-2255.

Monday-Sunday, Dec. 7-13

ERIC DIAMOND AND THE PLAYBOYS

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 9-13

CHARTREUSE CAT

The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9535.

Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 12-13

THE NUTCRACKER

Spencer Theater - The timeless Christmas classic performed by Ruidoso's own Ballet New Mexico. For details call 258-3349 or 1-888-818-7872.

Monday-Sunday, Dec. 14-20

ERIC DIAMOND AND THE PLAYBOYS

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 16-18

MIKE PRITCHARD WITH BLUE THUNDER AND THE LIGHTNING HORNS

The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9535.

Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19

THE KING'S SINGERS

Spencer Theater - A delightful Christmas program performed by a group of six Englishmen that far surpasses the usual barbershop quartet. For details call 1-888-818-7872.

Saturday-Thursday Dec. 19-24

VISIT WITH SANTA AND MRS. CLAU

O'Look Creations - 9 a.m. through noon and 2 p.m. through 6 p.m. Have your picture taken with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus and take it home. For details call 257-4156.

Monday-Sunday, Dec. 21-27

HEADIN' SOUTH

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 23-27

THE ROADRUNNERS

Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.



Ruidoso hot spots offer a variety of live music, from country to blues.

Monday-Thursday, Dec. 28-31
HEADIN' SOUTH,
Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Wednesday, Dec. 30
THE ROADRUNNERS
The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9535.

January

To be announced
THE NEW CENTURY QUARTET
First Christian Church - 7 p.m. The only sax quartet to win first place at the Concert Artist's Guild New York Competition. Performing music from George Gershwin and Leonard Bernstein. For details call 336-4015.

Friday-Sunday, Jan. 1-3
HEADIN' SOUTH
Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Friday-Sunday, Jan. 1-3
THE ROADRUNNERS
The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9982.

Monday-Sunday, Jan. 4-10
STACEY RUSH
Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Monday, Jan. 11
THE HORNHEADS
First Christian Church - 7 p.m. Sponsored by Ruidoso Community Concert Association. Exhilarating horn quintet performing a wide variety of music. For details call 336-4015.

Sunday-Saturday, Jan. 11-17
THE RANGE CREEK RIDERS
Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Tuesday-Saturday, Jan. 13-17
BLUE MIDNIGHT
The Quarters - Live classic rock. For details call 257-9535.

Sunday-Saturday, Jan. 18-31
RED HOT ROAD DOGS
Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Saturday, Jan. 23
BLUES AND BBQ
Ruidoso Convention Center - 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. A great BBQ dinner followed by a blues concert featuring Sistah Blue, an all women band from Phoenix. Bring the whole family and keep the blues alive in Ruidoso! For details call 1-800-253-2255.

TANGO BUENES AIRES
Spencer Theater - a six-piece orchestra and vocalists accompany the troupe's 25 dancers. Concert features nearly a century of music and dance from around the world that led to today's version of the tango. For details call 888-818-7872.

February

Sunday-Saturday, Feb. 1-14
THE RANGE CREEK RIDERS
Win, Place & Show - Live country and western music. For details call 257-9982.

Thursday, Feb. 4
CARL PETERSON, SCOTTISH BALLADEER
First Christian Church - 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Ruidoso Community Concert Association. A warm evening of a familiar at home experience. Everyone becomes involved. For details call 336-4015.

Saturday, Feb. 6
THE RUSSIAN NATIONAL BALLET



There's always a place to "kick up your heels" in Ruidoso, from clubs to events, such as "The Festival of Trees."

Spencer Theater - 8 p.m. The Ballet presents "Sleeping Beauty" in a full length dramatic ballet in three acts. Based on the popular fairy tale and set to music of Tchaikovsky. For details call 888-818-7872.

Monday, Feb. 8
NASTAR QUALIFIER
For adults and seniors - Ski Apache. To enter and for complete details call 336-4357.

Friday-Saturday, Feb. 12-13
THE AQUILA THEATRE COMPANY
Spencer Theater - 8 p.m. British actors of the highest caliber. This theater company from London has won international praise for innovative presentations of Greek and classic drama. Friday night they present "The Odyssey" from the epic Greek poem by Homer. Saturday they will perform "Comedy of Errors" by William Shakespeare. For details call 888-818-7872.

Wednesday, Feb. 17
CROSS YOUR HEART CUP
Ski Apache - A wacky day of fun on the slopes. Costumes and prizes. All proceeds go to local charities. For details call 336-4357.

Saturday, Feb. 20
HANDICAP SKIERS ASSOCIATION SILENT AUCTION
Ruidoso Convention Center from 8 to 10 p.m. Incredible opportunity to pick up gifts donated by area merchants and businesses and help a terrific program. All proceeds go to benefit the Handicap Skiers Program at Ski Apache. For details call 336-4416.

LUBBOCK CUP SKI RACE
Ski Apache. To enter and for complete details call 336-4357.

Monday, Feb. 22
NASTAR QUALIFIER FOR CHILDREN
Ski Apache - A day for kids on the slopes. Visit with the Coca-Cola bear and enjoy free cokes. For complete details call Ski Apache at 336-4357.

Wednesday, Feb. 24
HANDICAP SKIERS RACE
Ski Apache - Come out to watch local business people paired with handicap skiers for a fun filled ski race. Proceeds go to benefit the Handicap Skiers Program at Ski Apache. For details call 336-4416.

March

Friday, March 12
SPIRIT OF DANCE
Spencer Theater - 8 p.m. A breathtaking

production that combines show-stopping Irish dance with a passionate story line. For details call 888-818-7872.

Friday, March 26
DRIVING MISS DAISY
Spencer Theater - 8 p.m. Three superb actors give an absorbing, touching performance of Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize win-



A scene from "The Jungle Book," a contemporary spin on the classic tale, scheduled to be performed at the Spencer Theater in April.

ning play. For details call 888-818-7872.

April

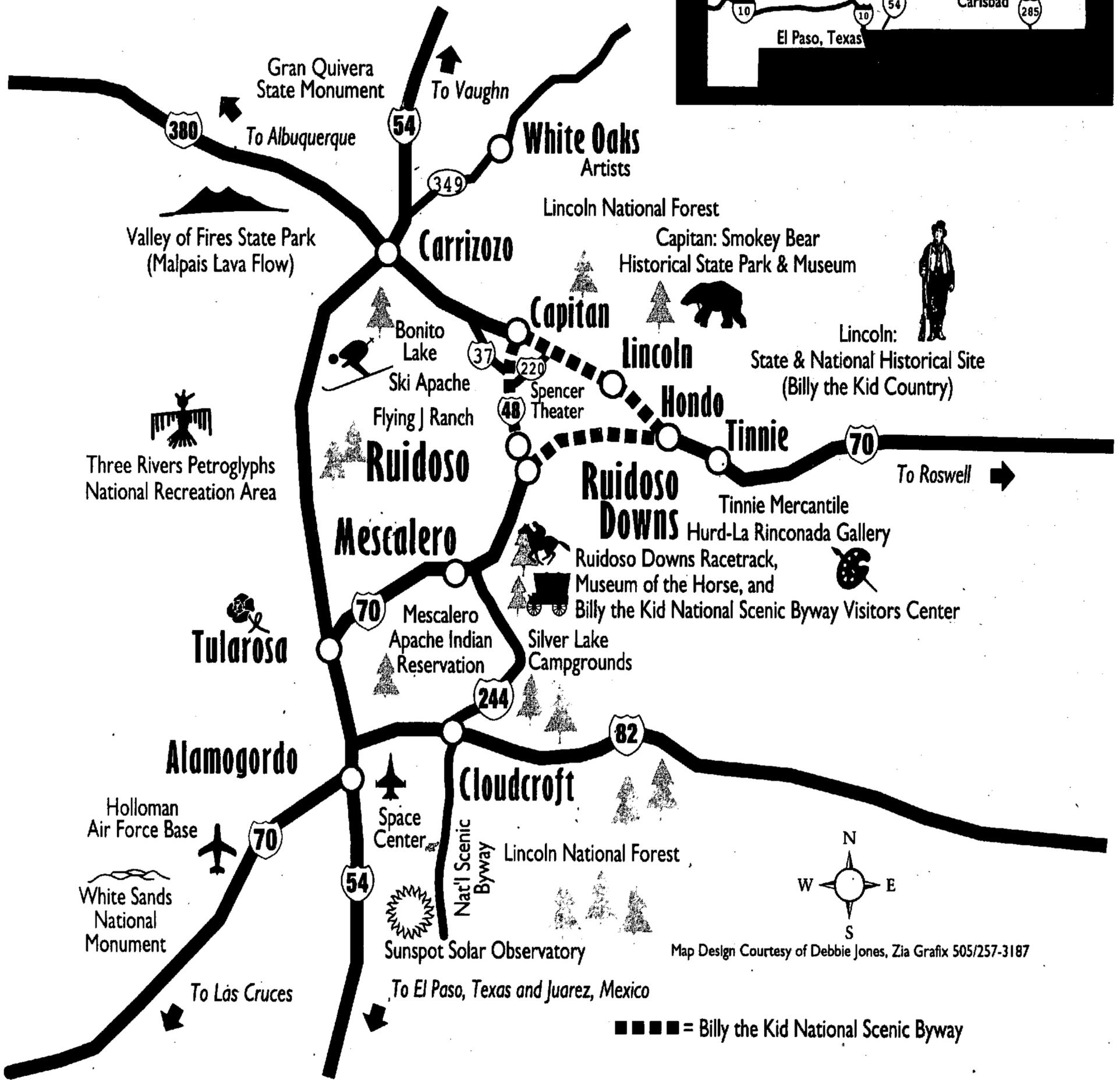
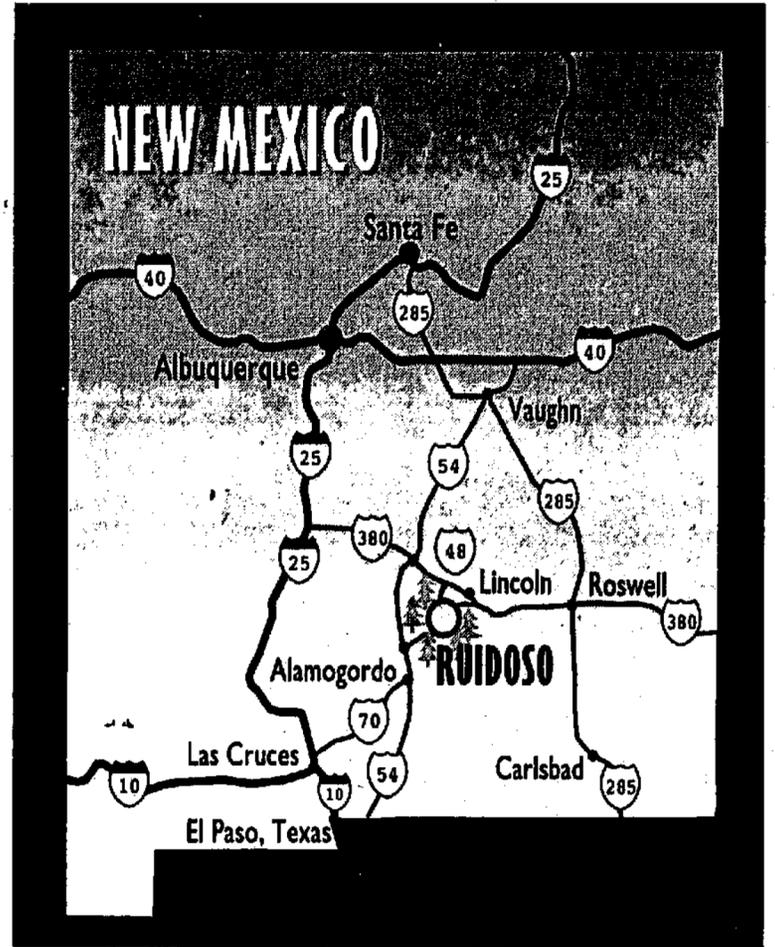
Thursday-Friday, April 1-2
THE NEW MEXICO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Spencer Theater - Featuring David Lockington, conductor, and Dylana Jenson, violin solo. At age 17, Jenson became the first woman and youngest violinist to win the silver medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. For details call 888-818-7872.

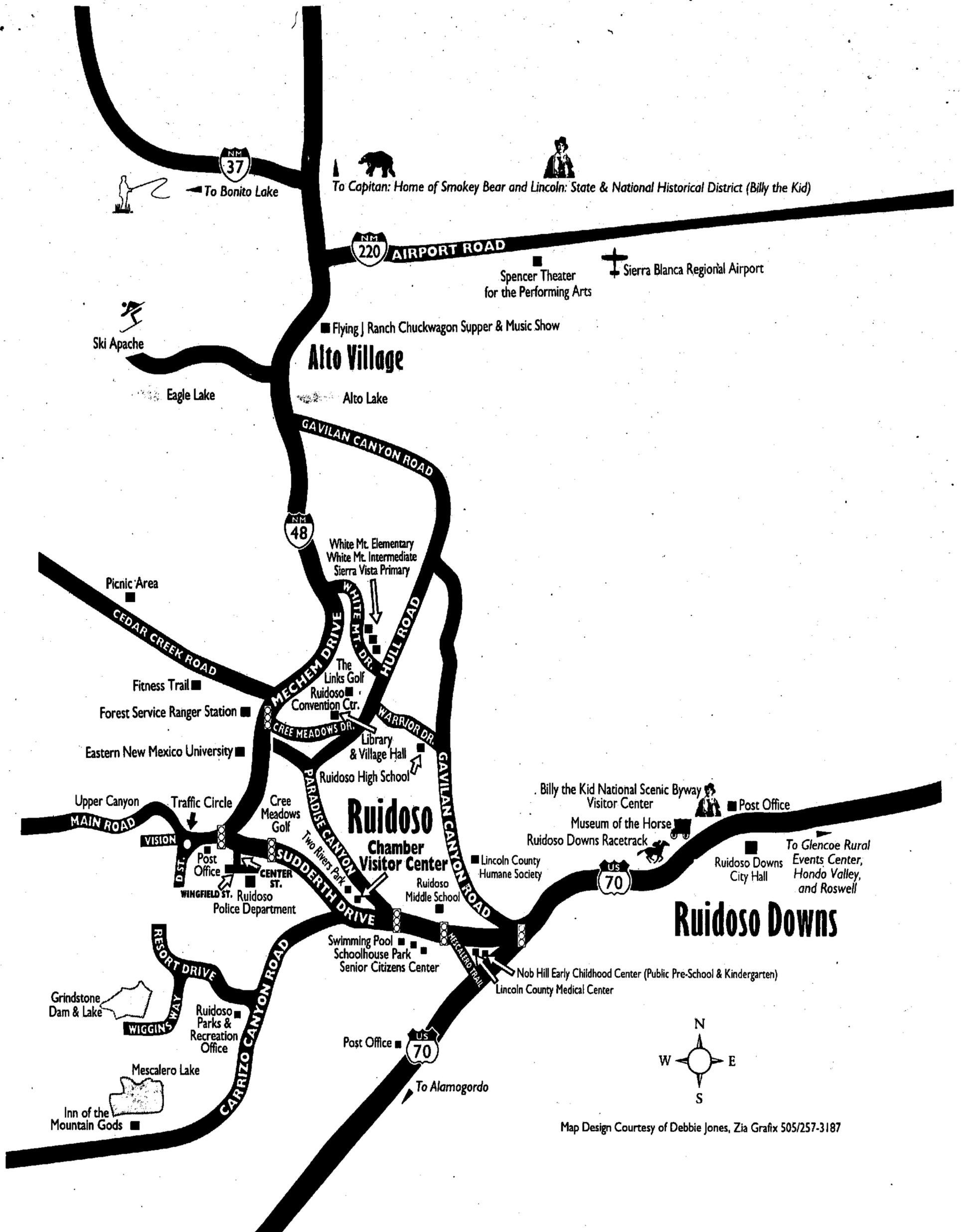
Sunday, April 4
SKI SEASON ENDS
Ski Apache

Thursday, April 8
THE JUDY CARMICHAEL QUINTET
First Christian Church at 7 p.m. Jazz from the swing era. Music by Count Bassey, Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington and others. For details call 336-4015.

Friday, April 9
THE JUNGLE BOOK
Spencer Theater - 7 p.m. Rudyard Kipling's classic tale takes on a contemporary spirit to original music set in the urban jungle. For details call 888-818-7872.

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Schoolhouse Park
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Lincoln County Humane Society

Ruidoso Middle School

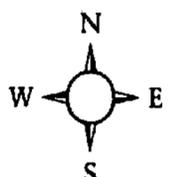
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