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A duck swims at one of the three ponds that creates a picturesque scene near the Ranches of Ruidoso condominiums.

Dianne Stallings/Ruidoso News

Ponds could be pools of trouble for developer

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Ducks swim gingerly through cattails in the clear pools of water along the side of the Ranches of Ruidoso condominiums north of Ruidoso.

While the water flow in many other streams in Lincoln County has slowed to a trickle, Little Creek is pumping plenty down its course from the bottom of Monjeau Peak to the subdivision off Sierra Blanca Airport Road. The stream eventually joins Eagle Creek and both streams empty into the Rio Ruidoso at Glencoe, ac-

ording to Jalayne Spivey, water resource specialist with the Roswell office of the State Engineer.

But the man who created that picturesque scene may have some explaining to do.

Spivey said while she was in the area looking at the site of a proposed golf course in connection with water rights transfers, she noticed the series of three ponds, created with small dams on the river. The water flows through pipes from one level to the next and then travels under a subdivision road to continue its natural path.

"I don't think it was approved," Spivey said Thursday. "We're writing a letter to them."

The technical division of the State Engineer's Office must be involved in any proposed impounding of streams, she said.

Jack Ryan, who developed Ranches of Ruidoso, owns the water system that serves the area and is selling part of the land for the golf course of a 600-lot to 750-lot subdivision near The Spencer

See WATER, page 2A

Ski Apache gets blizzard of criticism

Businesses blame resort for economic doldrums

BY JAMES KALVELAGE
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The winter without snow has impacted the Ruidoso business community, with retailers and lodgers who say they have discounted their prices calling on Ski Apache to do likewise.

While the winter turnaround in business was labeled a crisis by some, Joan Zagone, executive director of the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, called on the nearly 100 people gathered for a Winter Mountain Summit to work together, to make Ruidoso a diverse and dynamic community.

"There are positive things we can do so that it is not so scary when winter has no snow. We're evolving into a 12-month community," Zagone said at the Thursday afternoon meeting.

But a number of business owners said they had discounted their goods and services to attract visitors to the ski community. Among the shops that dropped their prices are ski rental businesses, whose owners said some customers have cut short their Ruidoso stays because the lift ticket charge at Ski Apache did not match the limited amount of trails open at the ski resort.

Even Ruidoso Mayor Robert Donaldson, who also owns a ski rental shop, echoed the theme. He added value must balance what's available at Ski Apache.

"We're at \$40 (lift ticket charge) after Christmas on limited terrain," Donaldson said. "Our competitors at

See SUMMIT, page 6A

Construction on new county jail to begin in April

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Construction is slated to begin in April on a new \$3.9 million Lincoln County jail in Carrizozo with a target of one year for completion.

Soil testing on the 12-acre site in the town's industrial park was completed last week and plans are being firmed up by the architect for a presentation to the county commission next month, County Manager Tom Stewart said Thursday.

Meanwhile commissioners authorized Stewart to advertise for proposals to manage the jail starting July 1. The county's contract with Correctional Systems Inc., which has been extended several times, expires June 30.

Although the request for proposals was aimed at firms, Tony Seno, a member of the Libertarian Party who regularly attends commission meetings, urged that the scope be expanded to include proposals from individuals.

Commissioners agreed in a 4-0 vote. Commissioner Rick Simpson was at home recovering from

injuries sustained in a horse riding accident.

Stewart said he has been contacted by several companies offering management for less money than the current \$7,000 per month with CSI.

Seno pointed out that privately-managed prisons in the state have been plagued by violent incidents.

"There's an incentive for a firm to keep those citizens in jail to spend our tax dollars," he said. "I want an individual. Preferably someone within the employee pool we trust and is dependable."

Commissioner Leo Martinez said that although he prefers a private firm running the jail, he agrees with Seno that \$7,000 a month for one individual supplied by CSI is too much to pay.

The county could hire an individual during the transition period while the new jail is being built and then revisit the situation after it is open, he said.

"An individual could respond to the RFP (request for proposals)," Commission Chairman Rex Wilson said. "This will let us see and we still can go with an individual."

E.J. Fouratt, a former law enforcement officer, sided with Seno that the RFP should specifically mention the county will look at an individual as well as firms.

"It would save that profit the company takes," he said.

Inmate count sits at about 66 prisoners with 43 at the detention center, 13 in the jail annex, five on monitoring bracelets, two in the Otero County jail and three at a privately run prison for the state.

"We spent a total of \$54,829 to construct the annex and the fence," Stewart said. From the annex's opening Sept. 23 through Jan. 31, it's handled inmates who would otherwise have cost the county \$60,710 to house in other jails, he said.

"We are now operating at a savings of about \$20,650 a month," Stewart said. "This will mean a potential savings of about \$315,631" by the time the new detention center opens.

Inmates at the annex also are working on com-

See JAIL, page 2A

Ruidoso Downs candidates face-off

BY JAMES KALVELAGE
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

All three candidates for mayor in Ruidoso Downs discounted an idea of consolidating services with neighboring Ruidoso.

The issue came up Thursday morning, during a forum on radio station KRUI-AM.

Incumbent Ruidoso Downs Mayor Joe Hayhurst said consolidation had been tried in the past between the two villages.

"We're Ruidoso Downs," Hayhurst said. "And people here don't want consolidation."

Mayoral challengers Jackie Branum, a current member of the village council, and Bob Miller, a retired state police officer, also rejected the idea.

"I think the two villages can grow side by side, but I don't think consolida-



James Kalvelage/Ruidoso News

Mayoral candidates for Ruidoso Downs, from left, Joe Hayhurst, Jackie Branum, and Bob Miller.

See CANDIDATES, page 6A

Martinez has heart attack

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

He thought his cough and rising temperature last weekend were symptoms of the flu, but Lincoln County Commissioner Leo Martinez found out Tuesday he had a heart attack.

He is scheduled today to undergo angioplasty, in which a device is inserted into the vessels of the heart to detect blockages.

Martinez, 57, said he thought he was suffering from the return of a pinched nerve in his back last Friday and a chiropractic treatment relieved the pain. Saturday, he started getting chills and a cough, and felt feverish.

When he saw his physician, Dr. Roger Beechie, Monday, tests were run, including an EKG.

"He said, 'You've had a heart attack,'" Martinez said Wednesday

from his bed in Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque. "The next thing I knew it was like I was on a conveyor belt. They were slapping me with needles and kept asking me if I was hurting. I told them the only thing that hurt was the needles."

In 35 minutes, the commissioner was flown from the Lincoln County Medical Center to Presbyterian.

"I asked them to lift the stretcher so I could look out the window as we were flying over Ruidoso," he said.

Martinez was placed in the coronary care unit.

"I've never been in a hospital," he said. "I'm going crazy with all the things they've hooked me up to."

See MARTINEZ, page 2A

RUIDOSO'S THREE-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY High ... 57
Low ... 18



Partly cloudy

SUNDAY High ... 63
Low ... 24



Mostly sunny

MONDAY High ... 66
Low ... 28



Mostly cloudy

WEATHER ALMANAC

Ruidoso Readings	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	52	27	.05"
Wednesday	58	24	.00"
Thursday	64	26	.00"

Regional-Friday	High	Low	Forecast
Albuquerque	51	29	Partly cloudy
El Paso, TX	60	32	Partly cloudy
Lubbock, TX	61	33	Partly cloudy
Midland, TX	66	38	Partly cloudy

Feb./March phases of the moon



STARDATE

The longest constellation in the heavens — Hydra, the water snake — alithers across the southern sky tonight. It's so big that it takes more than seven hours for the entire constellation to rise. The stars that mark its head rise around 4 p.m., but its tail won't clear the southeastern horizon until about 11:30.

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

Assessment of wolf recovery available for review

The environmental assessment of a proposal to move Mexican gray wolves within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area of Arizona and New Mexico is available for review.

Public hearings are set for 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., March 1 at the Community Center in Reserve and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. March 2 at Light Hall on the campus of Western New Mexico University in Silver

City. The assessment covers the capture and relocation of previously released wolves for management purposes. The Blue Range is in east-central Arizona and west-central New Mexico and encompasses about 7,000 square miles of the Apache and Gila National Forests.

The animals would be switched out of the primary recovery zone to allow quick

response to conflict situations or other management needs, according to Vicki Fox, one of the project coordinators for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Albuquerque.

"Translocation can benefit wolves and human activities by limiting conflicts with people and livestock, avoiding wolf losses and aiding in the dispersal of wolves into suitable locations throughout the Blue Range," she said.

Copies of the assessment may be requested from the Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103 or by calling (505) 248-6920.

Written comments may be sent to the FWS at P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103, or faxed to the attention of the Mexican wolf recovery coordinator at (505) 248-6922 through March 15.

JAIL: Work would be needed to convert the annex into a juvenile facility

Continued from page 1A

community projects in Carrizozo. The only problem is scheduling supervisory staff, he said.

When the new jail is operating, the annex could be used for juveniles as a 48-hour holding facility, Stewart said.

The cost of running a full-time juvenile detention center is too expensive, he said.

Roberta Marquez, facilities certification manager for the state, looked at the old jail Feb. 7 for possible conversion to a juvenile center.

"Considerable work would be required and estimated staffing for any facility managing up to 10 juveniles is nine full-time, non-adult detention center employees," Stewart said. "That's one ad-

ministrators and one direct supervisor per 10 juveniles, 24 hours a day for an estimated annual cost of \$225,000."

Educational classes, psychiatric care, no contact with adult inmates, detoxification specific care and visibility of all detainees also would be required, he said.

The county would be competing with other established

centers in Deming, Alamogordo, Las Cruces and a new campus-like 100-bed center in the Four Corners area, he said.

"My analysis indicates that, under the circumstances, our current expenditures of \$64,094 per year for juvenile care are cost effective," Stewart told commissioners.

WATER: Ryan said he has been acquiring water rights in the area 'for years'

Continued from page 1A

Theater. Ryan said the ponds were created in 1978 or 1980 while he was working on Unit One and Unit Two of Little Creek Hills subdivision.

He initially built six condominiums, but has 18 near the ponds today.

"We put in geese and later, ducks, but we'd come back and they'd be gone," Ryan said

Thursday from his office in El Paso. "I finally figured, we were paying for someone's duck dinners and quit."

Wild ducks frequent the ponds now, he said.

Ryan said he couldn't comment on the letter from the state because he hasn't received it yet.

But he understands why people are worried about the water supply in the county.

"We've had problems with

dry times before," he said, adding that he's owned the land since 1970.

He has been acquiring water rights for years to serve his subdivisions, Ryan said. He also supplies the Spencer Theater.

His most recent acquisition occurred this past year, according to state records.

Greg Haussler with the Natural Resource and Conservation Service office in Capi-

tan said Little Creek is considered an intermittent stream, which is fed by springs along its course.

"Even when there's a drought, springs can keep portions running," he said.

"That's why diversion dams are built near springs, because not all the water in a stream originates at the headwaters."

Chairman: county commissioners are 'dropping like flies'

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Lincoln County Commissioners "are dropping like flies," Commissioner Rick Simpson joked from his bed Thursday, where he is confined in a contraption to immobilize his pelvis

and right leg.

The lifelong rancher, who has trained, traded and shooed horses, was injured earlier this month when a colt he was riding began bucking while the commissioner and his son were on a mountain north of U.S. Highway 70 on the Fred "Peg"

Pfingsten Ranch in Glencoe.

"The colt caught me by surprise," he said. "I got my feet behind me and was hitting myself on the saddle horn. I finally dove off into the rocks."

Simpson, 51, separated his pelvis in the middle and tore it loose from his spinal cord on the right side, he said.

"They've got me in a world-class girdle holding my pelvis in place and a brace holding my right leg in place," he said. "I'm suppose to spend at least 30 days in bed. I'm about halfway there."

Noting that Commissioner Leo Martinez is hospitalized in Albuquerque with a heart-related ailment, Simpson said, "I told the other commissioners they better take care of themselves or there won't be a quorum. We'll have to do the meetings with three-way conference calls."

Fortunately for Simpson

when the accident occurred Feb. 5, he was riding with his 14-year-old son Diego.

"Normally, I'd be alone," he said. "He rode for help."

Aided by Ken and Dennis Nosker, Simpson's wife and son created a makeshift gurney out of an old door and brought a sleeping bag to haul Simpson to a nearby road and a waiting vehicle.

He spent six days in the hospital and has been recovering at home.

He is scheduled for an X-ray today to judge his progress. He hopes to be able to attend the next regular commission meeting March 16 on crutches.

Simpson said he may miss a special meeting set for March 9 in Ruidoso.

Simpson said he holds no grudge against the colt.

"It wasn't his fault," he said. "He's a good horse and wouldn't deliberately hurt anyone."



The Parson Hotel in Bonito Canyon.

L.C. SCRAPBOOK

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

White Oaks Eagle
Feb. 22, 1900

S.M. Wharton, editor of the Eagle, left Tuesday morning for El Paso, where he intends to remain a week or ten days, partly for rest, but principally on a business mission. During his absence John A. Haley will conduct the publication of the

Eagle. A powder mill explosion removes everything in sight; so do drastic mineral pills, but both are mighty dangerous. Don't dynamite the delicate machinery of your body with calomel, croton oil or aloec pills, when Dr. King's Ne Life Pills, which are gentle as a summer breeze, do the work perfectly. Cures headache, constipation. Only 25 cents at M.G. Paden's drugstore.

Lots will be for sale in the new town of South Capitán.

MARTINEZ: He said the heart attack is a sign to change his lifestyle

Continued from page 1A

Further testing showed no damage to the heart muscle, but some problem with a valve, which is possibly the cause of an irregular heart-beat he's now experiencing, Martinez said.

He added that he has joined the prestigious ranks of presidential candidate Sen.

Bill Bradley.

"This is a wake-up call for me to change my lifestyle," Martinez said.

Although he doesn't drink or smoke, two factors his doctor said helped Martinez survive the heart attack, his cholesterol is substantially higher than the preferred range of below 200 points, the commissioner said.

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The Ruidoso News (USPS 472-800) is published each Wednesday and Friday at 104 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, NM 88345. Second class postage paid at the Post Office at Ruidoso, NM 88345. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Ruidoso News, P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355.

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It's coming . . .
Community Update 2000

The RUIDOSO NEWS is proud to present the event that brings Lincoln County residents together to voice their challenges and share solutions. This year's topics are based on a reader's survey collected last year. On March 31, we will present panel discussions on water resources, affordable housing, growth and economic development.

Don't miss it.

For more information, call 257-4001

RUIDOSO COUNCIL

Regular council meeting set for Tuesday

Village of Ruidoso councilors, at their regular council meeting on Feb. 29, will continue a review of a proposed amendment to the zoning code pertaining to the minimum size of residential lots. Scheduling of a public hearing on the lot size restriction, when a lot is further subdivided, is also on the agenda.

The council will also hear a discussion on water issues. On the consent agenda, is an amendment to the 1999-2000 fiscal year budget, an agreement with the New Mexico Highway and Transportation Department for street department projects.

Also on the consent agenda is the approval of a grant to update the Automated Weather Observation System at Sierra Blanca Regional Airport, approval of an agreement with Seely and Associates for the education program for the Billy the Kid National Scenic Byway, and a bid award for traffic products.

Items on the consent agenda are voted for approval by the village council in one motion unless removed from the consent agenda. Councilors will also hear about Census 2000, from a Census Bureau official.

The meeting, at the Council Chambers of the Ruidoso Administrative Center, 313 Cree Meadows Drive, begins at 6:30 p.m.

VILLAGE BRIEFS

Lodger's Tax committee to accept applications

The village of Ruidoso Lodgers Tax Committee will accept funding request applications from organizers of recurring special events through March 1.

Lodgers tax money is made available annually.

Funds are to be used for marketing the recurring events, through such items as advertising.

The money awarded must

be matched by organizations receiving the funds.

The Lodgers Tax Committee will review applications at the April 11 meeting.

Organizations requesting lodgers tax funding will be required to make a brief presentation about their upcoming event.

For more information or to request an application, contact Village Clerk Tammie Maddox at the Ruidoso Village Administrative Center, or phone 258-4343.

Commission passes resolution opposing water transfer

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Lincoln County Commissioners added their voices to the protest of proposed and approved water rights transfers for developments in the Sierra Blanca Airport Road/Angus area north of Ruidoso.

Although County Attorney Alan Morel said the county lacks a 40-year water plan that would give it standing with the State Engineer's Office in transfer protests, a resolution has been approved by commissioners calling for closer coordination with the office that reviews and takes action on such requests.

The resolution points out that the county's 1997 Comprehensive Land Use Plan requires that the county be notified prior to action being initiated on all interstate and federal water development, conservation or other actions that might impact water rights or uses in the county.

Approval of changes in water right ownership should occur only after "local advertisement" and only if the transfer doesn't impair existing rights and is not contrary to the conservation of water nor detrimental to the public welfare, the resolution states.

Along with the resolution, County Manager Tom Stewart

sent State Engineer Tom Turney a copy of a letter from the Lincoln Historical Preservation Board. The letter details the group's concern over the transfer of water rights from the Rio Bonito River near Hondo to a new golf course development located closer to the headwaters of the river.

"We are opposed to the transfer of water rights out of our existing ditches (acequias). Such transfers will in effect begin to remove and dry up stream flows in the historic acequias of the Lincoln Historic District," wrote the five members of the preservation board.

"These ditches, diverted from the Rio Bonito, support the traditional agricultural use of water, they define the historic landscape of this valley through old growth walnut and alder trees lining the acequias and the open pastures and orchards that we recognize as historic and tra-

ditional to this valley."

Stewart noted that commissioners and residents are bothered that the applications were advertised only in an Albuquerque newspaper, which appears "to violate the intent of the...directive to publish the proposed action in a local paper."

As former commissioner Ralph Dunlap, a Lincoln resident, pointed out, the Albuquerque paper is not available in Hondo, Lincoln and San Patricio, although the requirement is for publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the affected stream system.

He also noted that if water rights are transferred to a point above historic Fort Stanton, the rights attached to the fort land could be in jeopardy in the future.

Although it is too late to protest the transfer of 57.3 acre feet of Rio Bonito water rights for the golf course development

near Angus, the county is protesting other applications totaling about 100 acre feet, Stewart wrote. One acre foot equals 325,851 gallons of water.

"Under current circumstances of extreme drought that we appear to be facing, the Board of Commissioners feels an obligation to ensure the proper use of this precious asset," Stewart wrote.

CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK

by
Dr. Jack V. Waters
Chiropractic
Physician



A Pain in the Neck

Your neck has a big job to do. The seven cervical vertebrae and the muscles in your neck have to balance about ten pounds — the weight of your head — all day. This is true whether you are standing, sitting, walking, or looking straight ahead.

What can you do to relieve the pressure on your neck? Sit back in a chair, not on the edge with your feet touching the floor comfortably. Raise the knees slightly higher than the hips to reduce curvature in the lower back. When standing, maintain the natural curves of the spine, curling pelvis forward slightly. Tighten the abdominal muscles and tuck in the buttocks. Hold your head erect, the ears resting just above the shoulders. Control stress, which can induce neck pain when it causes you to tighten your neck muscles. Regular exercises, done properly, will improve muscle strength and posture, resulting in less strain on your neck and back. Your chiropractor can provide you with suggestions for exercises and instruction on proper technique.

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- Stroud MGA
- Texas Club Grill and Bar
- The Links at Sierra Blanca
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RUIDOSO NEWS

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

Keeping track of the elephants

Good advice from the distant past: "When the elephants are dancing, stay off the floor." That's about the best advice available for us victims of road construction - sometimes resembling road rage - in Ruidoso. The highway builder, Meadow Valley Contractors, Inc., and the highway designer, the state Highway and Transportation Department, now have entered into a finger-pointing contest, each blaming the other for delays in rebuilding two of our key highways - state Highway 48 and U. S. Highway 70.

Perhaps that's inevitable, since all three segments of the Ruidoso-area work initially were scheduled to be completed before the arrival of the year 2000.

Meadow Valley's president claims the delays were inevitable, since designs prepared by the state's highway people tended to ignore things like whole mountains of rock to be blasted loose. Meanwhile, the state's highway boss is upset because Meadow Valley sent a copy of its protest letter to the press, allegedly to shift the blame for delays from the builders to the designers.

Whatever, road crews after many weeks of slow-down (presumably for bad weather that never came) have cranked up their equipment again, with some visible progress.

Reading between the lines of the ongoing hassle between builder and designer, it seems clear that the bottom line really is the bottom line - the millions of dollars being paid by the state (most of it federal highway money from gasoline taxes) to get these jobs done.

Meanwhile, the rest of us dodge the orange barrels and watch out for elephant tracks.

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

Letters may be hand-delivered to the News office at 104 Park Avenue or mailed to P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88345, attention of the editor.

The News reserves the right to reject any letter.

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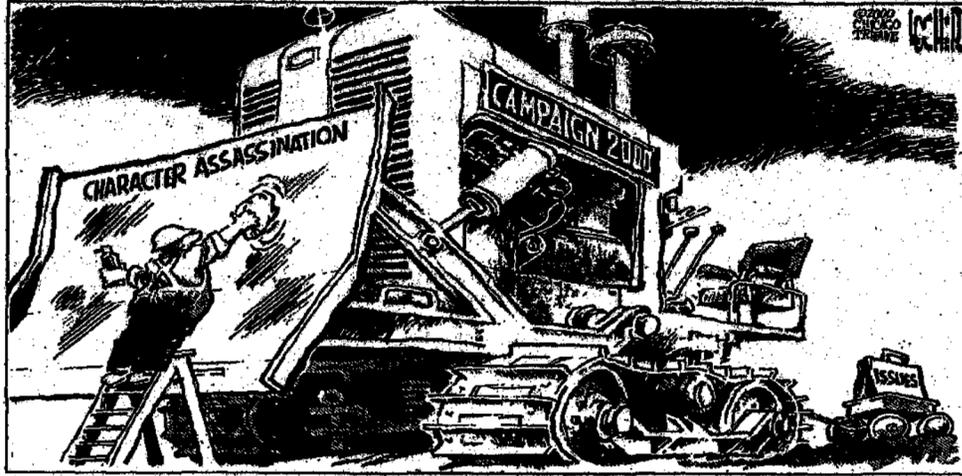
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YOUR OPINION

The librarian issue

To the editor:

I was dismayed upon reading the letter from Mr. Arrow-smith-Lowe to learn of Ingrid Schmidt's dismissal from the public library. Ingrid and her Story Hour program have enriched the lives of so many children in the community for years. Where is the public outcry and support for a woman who has given so much to our village? I am unaware of the reason for dismissal, but given her character and essential integrity I find I am confounded by her dismissal.

I urge any of you whose children have been positively affected by Ingrid to please show your support by writing ... on her behalf. I hope the current situation might somehow be resolved for Ingrid's sake as well as the children of Ruidoso.
Jaimie Stroud
Ruidoso

Reader Forum rules

To the editor:

I had expressed concerns about the Internet online "Reader Forum" rule changes and the registration procedure newly instituted by the News. (Editor Terrance) Vestal allayed my concerns and I will now register as requested in order to continue my participation in the forum. It has been a very good way to trash out the local issues with others in the Internet community, including the mayor.

I would like to point out to the...readership that there exist alternatives to the Ruidoso News forum. These are long-established forums, but the Ruidoso-related ones see little or no use - I assume because so few people know of them. For example, my Internet Serviced Provider subscribes to over 30,000 USENET forums, most of which are unmoderated ones... These newsgroups, as they are called, are not Web sites. They are accessed using the "newsgroup" feature of your Web browser, or by using dedicated newsreader software. Anyone anywhere can anonymously post messages to these newsgroups and interact with others who participate - no need to register.

Ruidoso newsgroups are: ruidoso.forsale, ruidoso.general, ruidoso.news, and ruidoso.realestate... Statewide newsgroups are nm.config, nm.forsale, nm.general, nm.jobs, and nm.test, and uinm.general (for the University of New Mexico). There are other Ruidoso and NM newsgroups on USENET in the America On Line hierarchy.

As for Web site forums, besides the Ruidoso News, there are other businesses that maintain chat rooms or message boards on their Web sites, all of which are likely to be moderated by the Web site owners.

J. L. Schuller
Ruidoso

Priorities wrong

To the editor:

I have owned both investment and residential property in Ruidoso for many years and my property and gross receipts

taxes have always increased over these years.

Paradoxically, our streets are poorly maintained, our trash collection, creates debris fields, our water delivery system is marginal, and, most alarmingly, our police and fire departments are improperly housed and compensated.

See for yourselves - visit the Eagle Street Main Fire Station. Tour the police building - held together with everything but duct tape and bailing wire; don't miss the basement!

Compensation paid to these two vital entities is marginal at best.

Yet, on... Feb. 16... we were urged to authorize a \$6 million bond issue to construct a recreation center "...much needed...quality of life." Pro-forma financials are highly suspect; i.e., we were told that it would "only" be \$10,000 for all insurances.

Ludicrous! The reality of Ruidoso is that there are approximately 8,500 full-time residents struggling to pay rent, feed and clothe themselves, and pay taxes. Our good folks have little or no disposable income left.

To be told that tourists will support it, that 1,550 Ruidosians will use it annually and that this center will not require any taxpayer support is patently false.

Please vote on this critically important issue no later than March 7, 2000, and take your common sense and checkbook into the voting booth with you.

Louin P. Robinson
Ruidoso

GUEST COMMENTARY

It's fire time, when forewarned is forearmed

BY CAP NAEGLIE
FOREST HEALTH COALITION
OF LINCOLN COUNTY

As measurements of the snow pack yield alarming results, water levels in our lakes drop, and our rivers barely run, scientists predict an inevitable drought for Southwestern states. University of Arizona wildlife expert Tom Swetnam warns of a potential disaster in mountain communities like Ruidoso because "There's literally thousands of homes right in the fuel."

At this time of year, in 1996, we faced a similar problem with the moisture level in our forest dropping to dangerous levels and the threat of a catastrophic wildfire occurring. It happened! The Chino Wells fire on the Mescalero Apache Reservation, a few miles from Ruidoso, burned 4,000 acres in four hours. It cost \$4 million to fight the fire and \$112 million to repair the damage. No homes were lost, because in part, tribal members know the importance of having substantial fire-safe zones around their homes.

If the fire had occurred in either the Ruidoso or Alto area, it is possible that thousands of homes could have

been lost and countless lives. Since 1996, the Forest Health Coalition of Lincoln County has attempted to raise the level of awareness of our residents as to what can and should be done to make our community and homes fire defensible. Without future rain or snow, we may soon be faced with inadequate water to fight a forest fire. With no secondary escape routes for many canyon residents and inadequate emergency planning, we cannot help but stress the importance of this message.

Is your home in the fuel?

Here are some questions you can ask yourself:

1. Have you reduced wildland fuel loading around your home by raking pine needles, trimming grasses and moving woodpiles to a safe distance from the home?
2. Have you removed "ladder fuels" which allow a fire to move from the ground through the lower branches to the crown of a tree? A minimum four to five foot distance between ground level and the lowest branch of a tree is recommended.
3. Have you reduced the number of small trees on your

property, which could become ladder fuel in the event of a fire?

4. Have you considered thinning larger trees on your property so the crowns of the remaining trees do not touch? This is not only good for tree health, but decreases the risk of a crown fire. The New Mexico Forestry Division in Capitlan can help you decide how to make your property more fire-safe. The phone number is 854-2231. There is no charge for this advice.

5. Have you created a fire defense zone around your home? This is important not only to protect your property, but your life. The Village of Ruidoso allows all homeowners to create a 10-foot vegetation clearance zone around homes. The existing ordinance allows for the removal of all trees less than 10 inches in diameter and allows for substantial thinning of trees greater than 10 inches in diameter without the need for a variance. Landowners outside Ruidoso in Lincoln County should consider the recommendation of the National Fire Protection Agency. The NFPA recommends a 30-foot vegetation clearance zones when houses are built on level ground and

Brief letters, best read

Communication is a wonderful skill that expands exponentially with the development of technology. But with all that, one admirable trait all too often is missing - brevity.

That has come to my attention lately in letters to the editor of this publication.

In short, letters too often are too long.

Not only does it make them difficult to read, but - if the content is worthwhile - difficult to edit for length. The Ruidoso News can't print letters longer than 300 words, by policy. But that is a maximum; the best, most readable, letters are the short ones - the ones that make a point and then close.

Or, as a deft dinner speaker once said, "be prompt, be brief, be seated." The idea being, of course, that brevity is the soul of wit.

Then there was the 4th Earl of Chesterfield, a British diplomat (1694-1773), who became famous for published letters to his son. One such rambling letter concluded with an apology for its length: "I didn't have the time to write a short one."

It does take time to write short letters, because words are slippery and hard to use properly. Is that why the endless Internet has exploded with whole worlds of ungrammatical, not to say illiterate, vented spleen?

All this, of course, is to remind all our letter writers that great messages can be delivered in few words; consider Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address, not even 200 words long.

Or consider a little poem that I learned somewhere along the way - the shortest poem, perhaps, ever written - titled "Ode on the Antiquity of Fleas":

Adam
Had 'em.
And I'll stop writing right now, at 274 words, more or less.

MOUNTAIN ASIDES



BY KEITH GREEN
Ruidoso News

The writer is a member of the steering committee of the Forest Health Coalition of Lincoln County.

Counties realize larger role in development of federal range regulations

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Faced with a 550-page document, rancher Rex Wilson fessed up Thursday that he hadn't covered every line of proposed livestock grazing standards on Bureau of Land Management allotments.

"Nobody in their right mind would," he said. "Can you imagine a cowboy on the range trying to operate a ranch with that?"

The hefty tome was released last month for public review, the culmination of years of debate and discussion.

Public comment will be accepted if it is postmarked no later than Feb. 28.

"This process started five years ago when I was chairman of the (county) Public Lands Use Advisory Council," said Wilson, who is chairman of the Lincoln County Commission. "Tom Sidwell and I urged the commission

to ask for the county to be a cooperative agent with the BLM."

With the backing of New Mexico Lt. Gov. Walter Bradley, and calling on provisions in federal law, counties were given a seat at the table in coming up with recommendations that will impact grazing allotments.

"New Mexico was the only state that took this route," Wilson said. "Now the human dimension has to be considered in environmental assessments. I see that as the real victory."

"There's an awful lot of stuff (in the standards) I'd like to see different. It was a long grueling process, but I feel it is a far better document than it would have been if we had not been involved in its development."

Lincoln County falls under the BLM Roswell field office with the counties of Quay, Guadalupe, DeBaca, Curry, Roosevelt and Chaves. The BLM

cares for about 520,000 acres in the county. BLM spokesman Howard Parman said he was not sure of the number of ranchers allocated acreage to graze livestock on BLM land locally.

Mike Nivison, Clondcroft village administrator, said he is still assembling his written comments.

He spent three years working on the guidelines as a representative of Otero County, he said.

"Obviously, anytime you have two or more entities sit down and work on a document with so many involved, not one is going to be 100 percent satisfied," Nivison said. "Whether the document works depends a lot on how it is administered on the ground from the agency's standpoint."

He said he agreed with Wilson, that the big break through was the involvement of counties in putting together the stan-

dards.

"It's part of the changing roles of counties and we're finding out there were plenty of other things we didn't participate in that we probably should have," Nivison said.

Counties should remain involved in developing definitions of "indicators" that will be used to measure if a management plan is working and to be a party in developing corrective actions called "mitigation," he said.

The guidelines apply where public land does not meet the standards and existing livestock grazing practices are determined to be a contributing factor.

The standards include recommendations favored strongly by environmental groups and by ranching groups, but the agency is recommending the adoption of those developed by the state Resource Advisory Council, with

a cross-section of representatives.

"We did come a long way, but I don't think all the dust has settled yet," Nivison said. "The most important thing is that we have been a player and now we need to learn how to continue to play."

In the summary for the standards, BLM officials state that "large scale reductions in numbers of livestock are not expected because adjustments have been made over time through the BLM Rangeland Monitoring Program."

In the short term, some allotments may increase while other may decrease, it states.

"My sense is that there will not be much change, if any," Parman said. "We won't be making decisions based on management last year for folks in Lincoln County, because we have data that goes back 20 years."

Some management strate-

gies may change as allotment authorizations are renewed, he said.

Recent court decisions require grazing permit renewals and transfers to comply fully with the National Environmental Policy Act, and mandate a review of the permits.

The BLM in Roswell completed 150 last year and will cover 55 this year, according to Parman, with a 10 year goal of 400.

Comments should be mailed to: BLM - S&G Comment, NM931, P.O. Box 27115, Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115.

Protests will be accepted only from people who participated in the planning process and must be confined to issued previously raised in the draft.

Protests should be sent to: Director (WO-210), Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Brenda Williams, 1849 C Street NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

County commission holds second round of discussions on medical indigent fund

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

During the Lincoln County Commission's second review of proposed rules for a new county fund for the medically indigent, questions were raised about who should administer the money and who should be eligible to collect it.

A third hearing will be conducted at the commission's March meeting. The proposed

law is the result of more than three years of discussion and debate. The money to pay for the fund comes from a one-eighth of a cent gross receipts tax that took effect last month.

At the monthly meeting Feb. 17, Commissioner L. Ray Nunley said he doesn't think all jail inmates should be considered indigent.

"It would drain off part of the money for those truly in need," he said.

"If they have their own insurance, we would use that," said County Manager Tom Stewart. But the county is responsible for the medical care of its inmates, he said.

Then the medical care should be paid from the jail's budget, not by the medically indigent fund, Nunley said.

Commissioner William Schwettmann agreed with Nunley.

"I don't suppose you'll find

too many long-term detainees who aren't indigent," said Commissioner Leo Martinez.

People considered medically indigent may own homes and cars and have a job, but the cost of medical care is beyond their financial resources. Commissioners are scheduled to adopt an income guideline as part of the regulations.

If inmates qualify for Medicare or Medicaid, the county could file under those pro-

grams, said County Attorney Alan Morel.

Martinez said he would prefer a private company administering the indigent program.

"I'm not in favor of adding another layer of bureaucracy," he said.

He questioned if Presbyterian Healthcare Services, the company that manages the county-owned hospital in Ruidoso, could administer the program.

Andrew Clark of the state Health Policy Commission, responsible for compiling medical data from counties annually, said the commission could contract with a firm instead of hiring an individual to handle the job.

Under the existing medical indigent system, only Lincoln County Medical Center and its related providers are eligible to collect reimbursement out of indigent money supervised by the hospital.

Supporters of an independent fund argued that the system denied care to poorer residents who must use specialists not connected with Presbyterian or are referred to physicians in other counties.

Once a separate fund is operational, health care providers in and out of the county with no connection to Presbyterian could draw from the fund under an annual cap provision.

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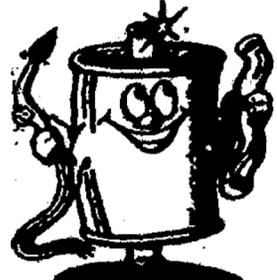
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SUMMIT: Davis said he has not seen as tough a winter as this one

Continued from page 1A

Angel Fire, Red River, Taos and Santa Fe are all on limited terrain, too. They're charging a lesser price."

"I don't believe you're correct there," responded Riker Davis, Ski Apache's marketing director. He said most of the other ski areas have raised prices.

"We're not competitive within terms of people planning a trip from Odessa or El Paso," Donaldson said. "And I've talked to people on the mountain who've said 'what do you make of this' when there's 600 people up there on a Sunday. If it were \$29 you'd get a lot more people."

"I disagree with you that volume can overcome a price discount," Davis said. "If you discount your product 25 percent, easy math shows you need 20 percent more volume, in bodies, just to hit that break even point in dollars."

A number of ski shop owners said Ski Apache failed to be competitive with other ski slopes, which discounted prices because of limited snowfall.

Some warned the full-price ski lift tickets for an incomplete product left skiers grumbling that they might not come back to Ruidoso.

Thirteen of 55 ski trails are open at Ski Apache, Davis said.

"What we've got up there is limited, but it's great," Davis said of the open trails.

But saying the "snow gods have not been with us," he noted only 51 to 52 inches of snow has fallen this winter.

"In my 23 years here I haven't seen a winter as tough as this one," Davis said.

Davis credited a huge snow-making effort for the great conditions on the open trails.

The Ski Apache official said the cost of making snow

was about two-thirds of the operation's \$30,000 monthly electric bill. Davis said, coupled with labor and insurance costs, reduced lift ticket prices were questionable.

One of those calling the situation a crisis, Ron Anderson, a village councilor and a ski shop owner, said all businesses must work together in such times.

"I know the lodges are willing to discount, most of them. I know the ski shops are doing what they have to do to bring people here," Anderson told the Ski Apache official.

"If the place is going to have a future, and treat people right, they have to treat them right when it's bad, too. We all have to be in the same boat."

Davis, chamber officials, and some ski rental shop owners called on all businesses to provide customers with correct information about snow conditions.

"We have snow up there,"

Anderson said. "We have good snow of what's open up there."

Anderson said he has heard from tourists that have said other merchants called the conditions terrible. Urging business owners and operators to drive up to Ski Apache, Anderson said get the correct information first hand.

Davis said rumors have already begun, with the final day of the school ski program Tuesday, that the ski mountain was closing.

"We certainly want to hang in there until spring breaks, around the middle of March," Davis said.

Davis said he doubted skiing would be taking place at Easter, which arrives late this year on April 23.

"Crisis is an opportunity," Zagone said. "So we have an opportunity here to do something about it. Things could be better, but we've got a lot going for us."

CANDIDATES: The candidates said they did not have the same priorities

Continued from page 1A

Branum said.

"They're two separate entities, and can proceed each their own," Miller responded.

The candidates agreed that citizen calls dealing with infrastructure that needed repair should see a timely response, immediate if it involves water or sewer lines.

Each candidate had a slightly different take on what the most pressing needs were for Ruidoso Downs.

Jackie Branum called water a top issue.

"We're pretty well on top of it because we have tried to look ahead," Branum said. "We need to look at more (storage) tanks, so that when we have good water and rain, we can capture some of it and use it."

"Water is a concern," said Miller. "The sewer situation is too. We need to get more people on the sewer. I'd say 35 percent of the people are not on sewers, and they need to be."

Hayhurst said water and sewers are issues that are being addressed. The incumbent said he is hearing from residents about streets.

"We have money in the budget," Hayhurst said. "And as soon as spring gets here we're going to start on those streets."

Miller said it was time to upgrade the visual image of Ruidoso Downs.

"We need to get planning and zoning with enough authority to go in and take care of that," Miller said.

Hayhurst responded that Ruidoso Downs did not have a real image problem.

"I think we've come a long way in the last seven or eight years, really cleaning up the area," Hayhurst said.

But Branum said the village's appearance needed to be worked on.

"It's something that takes time," Branum said. "And if we have everybody behind us try-

ing to help, it goes a lot quicker."

Asked during the forum to expand on their statements in a Ruidoso News candidate profile, Miller added to his printed words that "knee-jerk spending must be stopped."

"I think the priorities need to be adjusted," Miller said. "I'm for better streets and more sewer, a better quality of life." He added that he is well versed in "what village government is all about."

Branum said growth in Ruidoso Downs wasn't excessive, "but we really need to look ahead. We need to do some pre-planning. Like if you're going to put in a new street, lets put in stubs for the water and sewer, so we don't have to go in again and cut up our streets after we get them fixed. I think we need to look at the long range on everything, because we're going to keep growing."

Hayhurst said he didn't know if he would do things much different than in the past.

"I'm running on my past and what I see for the future of Ruidoso Downs," Hayhurst said. "I would just continue doing the things that we've done in the past."

Branum said one thing she would do different than Hayhurst would be to "open communications."

"I think we really need to get things out in the open," Branum said. "Citizens question things. Maybe, if they knew about things ahead of time they wouldn't feel like people were keeping things from them."

The three are seeking a four-year term as Ruidoso Downs mayor. Hayhurst has served in that capacity for nearly eight years. Branum has been a village trustee for more than 15 years. Miller, who has lived in Ruidoso Downs "for a long time" said he has a broad view of the needs of the community.

Man arrested for DWI after second collision within an hour

BY JAMES KALVELAGE
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A Ruidoso Downs man was arrested Monday for driving while under the influence after a second rear-end accident within one hour.

According to accident reports from Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs police, John K. Pfenning, 49, was initially involved in a traffic incident at 2:43 p.m., at the intersection of Sudderth Drive and Mescalero Trail in Ruidoso.

Pfenning was cited by Ruidoso police for following too close after the vehicle he was driving struck another

stopped for a red light.

At 3:47 p.m., in Ruidoso Downs, Pfenning plowed into another vehicle on U.S. Highway 70 in Ruidoso Downs. In addition to a charge of following too close in the second collision, Pfenning was taken into custody by Ruidoso Downs police, and charged with aggravated DWI.

That crash injured three people, occupants of two other vehicles.

According to Ruidoso Downs police, Pfenning's vehicle rear-ended one auto, which in turn was pushed into a third vehicle. All three vehicles were traveling east on U.S. 70.

At least one of the injured occupants was pregnant.

Deborah Brooks, 42, of

Ruidoso, was taken to the Lincoln County Medical Center. Brooks was in the third vehicle. Two other women, Kelli L. Hughes of Nogal and Terri Powers, 39, of Capitan, were also injured. They were passengers in the second vehicle, which was initially rear ended by Pfenning. Brooks and Hughes were treated in the hospital's emergency room.

According to police, Pfenning was released from the Ruidoso Downs lock-up Tuesday afternoon, after an \$1,100 dollar bond was posted.

Ruidoso Police Chief Lanny G. Maddox said Tuesday Pfenning was not charged with drunk driving because there was no suspicion the driver was impaired when an officer responded to that first accident.

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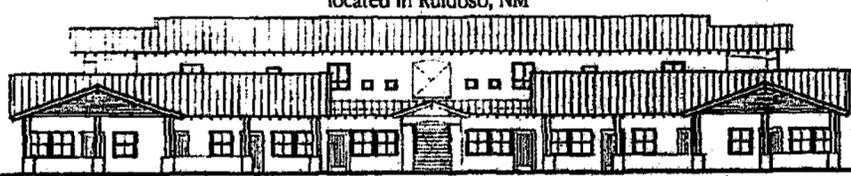
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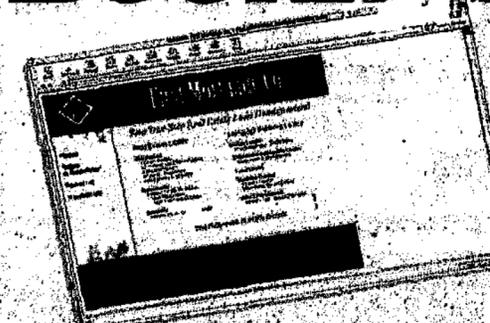
On March 7, Ruidoso voters will be asked to vote on a bond issue to fund construction of a community recreation center. The proposed center will house a 50 meter indoor swimming pool, an indoor elevated walking track, and a multi-purpose space with moveable walls designed for both athletic and non-athletic use. Your vote counts. **Please remember to vote on March 7.**

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COMMISSION BRIEFS

Road assessment meeting scheduled

On a request from Lincoln County Commissioner L. Ray Nunley, a special commission meeting to review possible road assessment projects is set for 6:30 p.m., March 9 at Ruidoso Village Hall.

Residents who want the work must initiate the projects, which will involve self-assessment, Nunley said.

Progress report on debt collection

In the past month, Lincoln County Treasurer Joan Park's staff collected \$3,175 in delinquent debts for ambulance service from 1994 to 1998.

Park presented the report at the commission's last meeting showing what she accomplished since the county commission decided to try collection internally before possibly hiring a collection company.

Letters were mailed to 434 people, costing \$173.63. Of that number, 167 were returned to her office and 77 were forwarded to different addresses. Twenty-three accounts were paid in full.

"Without exception, they were shocked to learn they had a balance due," Park said. "The public has been nice and appreciated we were letting them know."

In some cases, the county had copies of claims filed with

insurance companies, yet the companies had no record. Those 12 will be re-filed, she said.

No response was received from 151 of the accounts as of Feb. 16, she said. Of the remaining number, 12 agreed to submit payments, 32 were dead, 18 refused to pay, 10 were classified as indigent, one declared bankruptcy, five were in jail and five were not at known addresses.

Commissioner Leo Martinez asked if at some point Park would recommend to the commission which accounts should be written off as bad debt. Park said it's too early in the process now.

"My problem was you spending time on this, I just thought going with a private company was the way," Martinez said. "Either way, I'm glad somehow we're going after these bills. I just wish it had started a long time ago."

Sheriff offered new substation space

Another space was offered Thursday to Lincoln County Sheriff Tom Sullivan for a deputy substation.

In listing possible uses of the Glencoe Rural Events Center, Barbara Casey suggested a sheriff's substation would solve a space problem for the sheriff and ensure a deputy would be in the area to minimize response time to calls in settlements such as Hondo.

Casey, superintendent of the

Hondo School District, is involved because her district manages the buildings and grounds, which is located on U.S. Highway 70 12 miles east of Ruidoso Downs, for the county.

"The sheriff's office is cooperative and helpful to the school, but there are times when an officer is needed, but because of the size of the county, it takes an hour for him to get there," she said. "With a deputy at Glencoe, it would take a few minutes. That would be a great improvement and less of a strain on the officers."

She said she also would like to conduct bingo nights at the center, a Parents Night Out giving free child care, and provide meeting space for service clubs and school groups. The Hondo Rodeo Club, Little League and other baseball groups are already using it, she said.

She received commission approval to use a \$25,000 appropriation by the state Legislature to improve sidewalks for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Commissioners also agreed to look into the legal aspects of a bingo night.

The district wants to change the kitchen with money it generates and to fix up a stage area when 14 Americorp participants spend six weeks in Hondo, Casey said.

"We're not making big bucks, but we're not in the red," she said. "We want people to become accustomed to using the center."

Businessman takes issue with commissioner

Ron Storey, owner of Data Chek, returned to the Lincoln County Commission at the commissioner's last meeting to voice objections to how he was treated by Commissioner William Schwettmann last month.

He attended the previous meeting because he was asked to review the services of his company and how he might approach uncollected ambulance service debts.

When Schwettmann questioned potential liability to the county by hiring a private company to collect those debts, Storey said he considered that a valid issue.

But he objected to Schwettmann questioning him about past lawsuits and then pulling out a document, saying the Attorney General of Texas found the company "guilty" of misdeeds in October 1999.

Schwettmann said he had no idea how he received the document.

"I've been to those meetings two or three times before and I never saw Commissioner Schwettmann grill anyone else

about their background or past lawsuits like he did us," Storey said. "I have to ask myself why. Was he trying to embarrass me or Commissioner Leo Martinez?" who advocated using a private company for collection.

"The document, which the commissioner publicly presented as a lawsuit, was not in fact a lawsuit," Storey said during the commission meeting. "It was an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance."

While Schwettmann read excerpts from the document, he did not read the section in which the Attorney General specified it should not be considered an admission of prior violation.

The omitted section also states that company officials deny violating any provisions and that the company entered into the agreement for settlement purposes only, Storey pointed out.

Calling Schwettmann's actions "malicious," Storey said, "It is disappointing to see this kind of behavior by one of our county commissioners toward constituents, county residents,

an employer and tax payer. Our reputation is all important to us and we will defend ourselves."

He ended by thanking other commissioners and the county manager for their courtesy.

Schwettmann did not comment on Storey's statement.

Also at the meeting, requests for more than \$4,000 in lodgers tax money were approved following the recommendation of the county's Lodgers Tax Committee.

The money is collected from operators of motels, RV Parks and other lodging businesses in the unincorporated portions of the county and is to be used to promote tourism.

The requests were for:

- \$1,000 for Sherry Barrow to establish a county advertisement on a web page for one year.
- \$500 to promote the White Oaks Miners Day Celebration.
- Distribution of literature by The New Mexico Literature Exchange for \$564.64.
- \$2,000 to advertise the Cinco de Mayo Celebration and the Tribute to Hispanic Culture.

RUIDOSO POLICE

Man arrested after allegedly firing weapon

A Ruidoso man was arrested after police responded to reports of gunshots along Gaviilan Canyon Road near White Mountain Meadows Estates, according to police reports.

Gabriel Louis Tam, 30, was charged with carrying a firearm while under the influence of an intoxicant, discharging a firearm within 150 yards of a dwelling, driving while intoxicated, menacing an officer and operating a vehicle with a suspended or revoked license.

Police were dispatched after receiving a call of shots heard. Responding police units heard additional shots, reports

state. Officers found Tam in a vehicle on a driveway along Gaviilan Canyon Road.

When asked to exit the vehicle, an officer believed the suspect to be intoxicated.

Discovered in or near the vehicle were a semi-automatic handgun, several rounds of ammunition, several spent casings, and a partial six-pack of beer.

According to a police report, Tam told officers he had gotten into an argument and went to the location to shoot his gun.

Man arrested for alleged breaking and entering

A Ruidoso man was charged with criminal tres-

pass, criminal damage to property and breaking and entering, after he allegedly kicked in a door of a residence he had been previously ordered not to enter.

Filbert R. Herrera, 35, was arrested Feb. 16 for the incident at a Hemlock Circle residence.

Larceny at Kidz World

Police are looking into a larceny case, where a tricycle was taken from Kidz World at 394 Sudderth Drive.

Sometime between 6 p.m. Feb. 15 and the following morning someone took a small bike from a rear playground.

The tricycle was described as red and yellow with a plastic fin over the rear wheels.

CLUB NEWS

Hepatitis support group forming

A Hepatitis C support group is forming in Ruidoso. The first meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m., Saturday, March 25, in the conference room of the Lincoln County Medical Center.

An expert on the disease from the state Health Department will be the guest speaker.

Hepatitis C affects the liver, but can be treated. The disease in early stages has no symptoms, but can be detected with a blood test.

Many people who underwent surgery years ago invol-

ving transfusions may be unaware they have the disease, which can be transmitted by IV drug use and transfusions. It is not a sexually transmitted disease.

For more information, call (505) 257-6415 or the state health department in Lincoln County at (505) 258-3252.

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Commission splits on paving Deer Park roads

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Residents on two roads in Deer Park Woods will see their streets surfaced, although County Attorney Alan Morel warned the county may be opening the door to an avalanche of similar requests.

"In my opinion, you have lots of people in subdivisions who don't like their roads and may step up and ask for the same," Morel last week.

In a 2-1 vote with two other commissioners abstaining, the board approved a motion to surface 1,859 feet on Doe Road and Deer Park Drive and to leave it up to Road Manager Albert Hernandez to find \$16,000 in his budget to pay for the chip seal work.

Voting for the motion were commissioners William Schwettmann and L. Ray Nunley. Voting against it was Chairman Rex Wilson. Commissioners Leo Martinez and Rick Simpson, who attended the meeting by conference call from home where he's recovering from a riding accident, abstained. Chip seal is a mixture of rock and oil applied on top of already existing roads.

Attorney Lee Griffin explained that 46 lots are contained in Unit 6 at the dead end of Deer Park Drive. In 1984, the county accepted the roads in Unit 5 and in 1987, surveyors Tim Collins asked for acceptance of roads in Unit 6, but the county declined because the cul-de-sacs were smaller than county requirements.

In the late 1980s, the cul-de-sacs were widened to 70 feet and someone should have asked for county acceptance at that time, Griffin said.

"It was not done," he said. "No one knows why."

The company that developed Alto Lakes, which includes the Deer Park area, filed for bankruptcy in 1989, Griffin said, and Deer Park Woods "fell between the cracks."

"If it was just homeowners, it wouldn't be a problem," he said. But construction vehicles use the road to turn around and it is a natural extension of Deer Park Drive, tying to a fire escape route on the unmaintained portion, Griffin said.

Thirty-six property owners each paid \$820 when the Alto Lakes community approved a self-assessment for paving in the late 1980s, he said.

Hernandez said in his opinion it's not the county's fault that someone "dropped the ball."

The property owners should pay a contractor to surface their roads and warranty them for one year. Then the

county could accept them for maintenance, he said.

"These people already paid to have their roads chip-sealed," Griffin said. "They shouldn't have to pay a second time. They didn't get anything for a lot of money."

Schwettmann, who was president of the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club at the time of the self-assessment project, said many people didn't receive any direct benefit for the charges they paid. The money was used more for heavily traveled roads, he said, although he agreed the property owners deserved some consideration.

A motion by Martinez to have the property owners pay for the work failed to muster a second. Griffin pointed out that without the official sanction of the county, all of the property owners couldn't be forced to pay their share and five or six might end up paying for the whole project.

But Morel said that statute of limitations has expired over subdivision road assessments that were challenged in the early 1990s.

Nunley offered an alternate motion to make the project part of the county/state cooperative program. The motion was later amended to allow Hernandez to decide how to pay for the work.

County to take bids on inmate medicine

Wal-Mart removes itself from process because of Nunley's close tie to county government

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Lincoln County is trying a new approach to supplying medication to inmates in the county jail in Carrizozo.

Central purchasing officer Jane Williams, hired last November, is asking for bids from Walgreen's and Long's pharmacies and from the Lincoln County Medical Center's pharmacy managed by Presbyterian Healthcare Services.

The move was prompted by the decision of Wal-Mart pharmacist L. Ray Nunley, who also serves on the County Commission, not to supply medication to the jail any longer, because of his tie to county government, Williams said.

"We'd been kind of splitting it around the county, but Mr Nunley thought it was not appropriate even though Wal-Mart was often the least expensive," she said. "It wasn't much money."

Over an 18-month period, the county spent about \$3,000 on inmate medication, she said.

Nunley has declined to elaborate beyond, "It was my and the company's decision."

With only two businesses — and possibly the hospital — to supply medications, Williams decided to put together a proposed service contract based on the types and amounts of medication purchased in the previous year, which is called a "market basket" approach.

Bill Long, owner of Long's Pharmacy in Sierra Mall, said the county called him "periodically", mostly when Wal-Mart's pharmacy was closed, he said.

"I've done very little business with the county jail, but we will sure bid on it," he said Monday.

A spokesman for Walgreen's in Ruidoso said that business has been called in the past to supply medicine for the jail. Corporate officials will decide if the company will bid on the contract to supply the jail in the future, the spokesman said.

The contract will be awarded based primarily on the low bid, with some consideration for the number of hours the business is open and the discount given to the county for medications not included in the "market basket," Williams said.

The percentage of discount must be based on a catalog of current prices. The percentage cannot be changed for the life of the contract, although prices can be adjusted every six months, she said.

"We built in a clause saying we'll entertain price increases or decreases only as they reflect costs passed from the manufacturer, not for overhead," she said.

The prices also must be in line with currently accepted levels for the region, she said.

Bids are due by 2 p.m. March 8, at the county office in Carrizozo and county commissioners are scheduled to award a contract on March 16.

DEADLINES:

Display & Classified Display advertising deadlines are as follows:

- Wednesday's edition.....Monday 5:00 p.m.
- Friday's edition.....Wednesday 5:00 p.m.

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YOUR VOTE COUNTS

According to unofficial results, Honda voters passed a general obligations bond with 48 ballots in favor of the measure and 45 opposing it. But the public schools capital improvement question, which meant \$35,000 this year, failed 44-43.

Vote March 7

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Tigers upset Bears for district tournament win

By CHARLES FLANARY
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

CLOUDCROFT — The Capitan Tigers invaded the Bears' den Tuesday night, coming away with their first road and district victory, upsetting Cloudfcroft 59-51.

The win sent the Tigers (4-19, 0-8) to the second round of the 6AA tournament, scheduled for Thursday in Dexter.

The Tigers got the tip-off but couldn't make anything happen to open the game. Michael Bowen of Cloudfcroft was the first to score, giving the Bears to a 2-0 lead. Capitan was quick to answer with a 3-point from Truman Armstrong, putting them up 3-2. The first quarter was close, changing leaders several times until the final minute, when Armstrong was sent to the line three times in a row. He came away making four of the possible six shots.

A last-second field goal by Tiger Anthony Garcia gave Capitan a five point lead to end the first, 15-10.

The first basket of the second quarter was a free throw by Bear Dustin Porch. Porch's shot, along with a free throw Bowen brought the Bears to within three with about seven minutes left in the half.

Cloudfcroft pressed the Tigers in an effort to keep them from scoring. Capitan, however, was eager to maintain its lead and answered with a field goal by Dustin Sultimer, increasing the Tiger lead to 17-12. It seemed as though the Tigers were going to finish the half with a seven point lead, but the Bears pulled out three last-

second points.

Graham Gilbreath sunk an outside 3 for the Bears and brought the score to 24-20 Capitan.

The Tigers started the third with the ball and quickly scored. Within the first minute, they had extended their lead by eight points, 28-20.

Throughout the quarter, Capitan would lead the Bears by an average of eight. Cloudfcroft had some good driving and ball handling, but couldn't seem to hit the basket.

The Bears continued to press the Tigers but didn't even slow them down. With less than five minutes remaining, Armstrong hit a trey that gave the Tigers a 34-22 lead. The Bears were able to beat the Tigers' half-court press several times and shorten the point deficit to seven, closing the gap to 41-34 at the end of the third.

Capitan opened the fourth quarter with a field goal that extended its lead to nine. The Tigers would remain six or seven ahead of the Bears until 2:30 showed on the clock. Bo Sparks made two foul shots to again put the Tigers 12 ahead of Cloudfcroft, 53-41.

The last minute of the game saw intense effort from both teams, along with great enthusiasm from the crowd. The aggressiveness of both teams resulted in numerous fouls. The last seven points were all made by taking turns at the line.

Capitan made one point with 45 seconds remaining on the clock, then it was down to the other end so Bear Brian Anderson could make two free throws. This brought the score to 56-50. Then it was the Tigers' turn with 33 seconds

remaining. The Bears answered again with a free point of their own, making the score 57-51. Tiger Kenny Stahl then went to the line for the Tigers and for the last two points of the game.

As the clock neared the last seconds, the joy was apparent on the faces of both Capitan's players and coach Royce Brown.

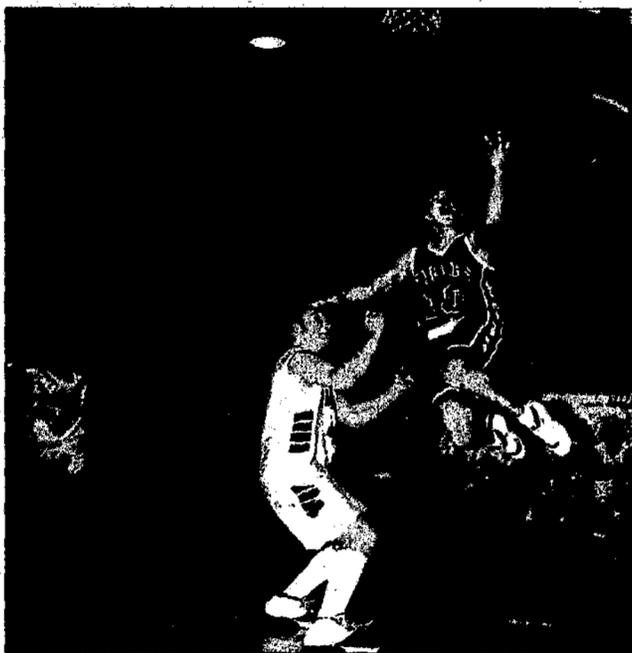
Brown said that his players were unselfish and worked as a team.

"It was a team effort," he said. "We had a group (of players) the second half that was getting it done, so we stuck with them and they were able to keep getting it done."

Brown said they were going to face Dexter as their next opponent, and "just want to get after them and have another good team effort."

The Tiger win sent the Bears home for the season. Looking unhappy, Cloudfcroft coach Jimmy Swope said, "We ended up 11-13, third in district, (but) got beat by the fourth place team."

Cloudfcroft's Bowen had the most points for the night with 25. Armstrong and Stahl had 15 and Bo Sparks 11 for the Tigers.



Flying high. Capitan Tiger Truman Armstrong goes for two ahead of a pursuing Cloudfcroft Bear.

Ski report

Ski Apache is open
Surface conditions: Good on groomed trails.
New snow past 24 hours: 0 inches
Snowmaking in last 24 hours: Making snow nightly
Settled snow base on trails to be open: 16-24 inches
Trails open: Elk Ridge, Bull Run, Buckhorn, Capitan, Top Notch, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Lower Deep Freeze, Lower SBT, Lower Moonshine and the lower novice slopes.
Trails groomed in the past 24 hours: Most trails that are open.
Lifts open: Chairs 2 (midway), 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8, including the Kiddie Korral with Pinocchio surface lift.
Hours of operation: 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Regular season ticket prices: adults \$40, children \$25.

This week

Friday, Feb. 25
Prep boys basketball
Ruidoso at home vs. Cobre (W, JV, Fr), 4 p.m.
Prep girls basketball
District 3AAA Tournament: Ruidoso at home vs. Santa Teresa, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 26
Prep boys basketball
Ruidoso at home vs. Silver (W, JV, Fr), 4 p.m.
District 6AA Tournament at Tularosa
District 3A Tournament at Mountainair

Scoreboard

Tuesday, Feb. 22
Prep boys basketball
District 6AA Tournament: Capitan 59, Cloudfcroft 51
District 3A Tournament: Hondo 75, Corona 43
Carrizozo 68, Vaughn 43
District 6A Tournament: Hagerman 97, Mescalero 34

Pecking Order

Mescalero Parks & Rec
Men's Basketball League Standings through Feb. 25

Team	W	L	Pct.
Alamo Pipe	7	0	1.000
The Players	6	2	.750
Tulle Bad Boys	6	2	.750
Curtis	5	2	.714
Julian G.	5	2	.714
Sierra Blanca Slammers	4	3	.571
Brew Crew	2	5	.286
Oliver O's	2	5	.286
Hardwood Thunder	2	6	.250
Forty Minutes Plus	0	7	.000
Renegades	0	7	.000

Results for Feb. 22
Alamo Pipe, forfeit vs. The Players
Julian G. 51, Hardwood Thunder 48
Sierra Blanca Slammers 89, Renegades 50

Games for Feb. 27
7:30 p.m. - Julian G. vs. Blanca Slammers
Games for Feb. 28
6:30 p.m. - Alamo Pipe vs. Renegades
7:30 p.m. - Sierra Blanca Slammers vs. Brew Crew
8:30 p.m. - Curtis vs. Forty Minutes Plus
Games for Feb. 29
6:30 p.m. - Curtis vs. Hardwood Thunder
7:30 p.m. - Renegades vs. Alamo Pipe
8:30 p.m. - The Players vs. Julian G.

On Deck

Cahoona Park Run
The 18th annual Cahoona Park Run will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at Cahoona Park in Roswell. The event consists of a competitive 10K run, 3-mile fun run/walk and a 2-mile walk. Participants will compete in seven age divisions for both men and women. All participants will receive a long-sleeve T-shirt. Registration is \$9. For more information, contact the Roswell Recreation Department at (505) 624-6720.

March Madness Basketball Tourney

'Zozo advances in 6A tourney

By WENDY WIDENER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

CARRIZOZO — The Carrizozo Grizzlies (12-10, 4-4) topped the Vaughn Eagles 68-43 Tuesday in the first round of the district 6A tournament.

The Eagles stayed right with the Grizzlies until halfway through the third quarter when the score flew from 39-38 Carrizozo to 47-38.

Josh Vega lead the way for Carrizozo with 28 points, followed by Ryan Roper with 17. Roper constantly had the ball and was credited with numerous assists and rebounds.

Vaughn's Lucas Tapia struggled to keep his team afloat with 13 points and Andres Aguilar was one point behind with 12.

The game was tied at only one point in the game. With 5:24 still left on the board in the first period, the score was knotted at 7-7.

The referees seemed to be withholding a lot of guff from the players on both teams. At one point, one official was heard to ask, "Want me to penalize him 'cause he's tall?" most likely referring to the well-over 6-foot Ryan Roper.

During the first half alone, Vaughn was hit with nine fouls to the Grizzlies three. Eagle Miguel Gallegos was pulled out of the game in the fourth period when he tallied his fifth personal foul. The board showed 6:53 remaining with Carrizozo ahead by a mere four points, 47-43.

Scoreboard

State wrestling tournament
Loomis results: 1, Aztec, 253.5; 2, Moriarty, 164.5; 3, Silver, 156; 4, Bloomfield, 138; 5, Las Vegas Robertson, 132.5; 6, Cobre, 129; 7, Shiprock, 117.5; 8, Kirtland Central, 108; 9, Piedra Vista, 94; 10, St. Pius, 90; 11, Albuquerque Academy, 70.5; 12, Taos, 68; 13, St. Michael's, 68; 14, Los Alamos, 55; 15, West Las Vegas, 55; 16, New Mexico Military Institute, 45; 17, Tucuman, 43.5; 18, Ruidoso, 39; 19, Grants, 28; 20, Navajo Prep, 19; 21, Santa Teresa, 14; 22, Bemalillo, 10; 23, Tolatchi, 10; 24, Wingsats, 6; 25, Socorro, 4; 26, Newcomb, 0; 27, New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped, 0.

Ruidoso results
103: Shawn Gurule def. Adam Craig, LVR, 4-1
Tyler Hare, Blm def. Shawn Gurule, pin 2:48
Shawn Gurule def. Alex Acosta, Cob, 3-0
Jorge Chee, Stp, def. Shawn Gurule, Pin 2:25
112: John Dodson, Mor, def. Jeremy Pritchett, pin 5:4
G. Jimenez, Tuc, def. Jeremy Pritchett, tech fall 4:07
125: David McNally def. Joseph Ortega, Soc, pin 5:6
Jonathan Lucero, Cob, def. David McNally, major dec 10-1
David McNally def. D. Martinez, SC, 10-7
Carl Martinez, WLV, def. David McNally, major dec 10-0

Young hoopsters headed to state basketball contest

Four budding basketball stars will compete at the state level in the Knights of Columbus free throw contest March 25 at Del Norte High School in Albuquerque.

The four qualified for the state tournament after winning the regional contest Saturday in Roswell.

Qualifying were 14 year old

Carrizozo coach Mel Holland commented on the Eagles' physical nature.

"They're rowdy from time to time," he said. "It's just part of it. That's just their personality, I guess."

Vaughn Coach Joe G a u n a praised the Grizzlies for a job well done.

"They're a real good, well coached team," he said. "They have a lot of discipline. They beat us. We wish 'em luck. We wish 'em the best. We wish the whole district the best. We didn't do all that bad considering we started with four sophomores and a freshman," Gauna said.

Holland was proud, but critical of his team.

"We were pretty ragged. We finally started playing with a little bit of discipline at the end of the game and it made the difference, but our inexperience showed," Holland said.

Scoreboard

130: Cade Hall def. William Harper, Mor, 5-4
Javier Peru, Cob, def. Cade Hall, pin 1:23
Cade Hall def. Eugene Tellez, Gr, 5-1
Joe Baca, Taos, def. Cade Hall, pin 4:14
140: Danny Gilbert, AA, def. Casey Arnett, pin 1:37
Lawrence Romero, Mor, def. Casey Arnett, pin 1:52
Austin Ritter, SC, def. Austin Ritter, major dec. 11-3
Jacob Collins, KC, def. Austin Ritter, major dec. 11-3
145: Art Martinez, SC, def. Keith Bassett, pin 3:23
Keith Bassett def. J. Casaus, Blm, pin 3:02
Keith Bassett def. J. Casaus, Blm, pin 3:23
Chris Ruiz, Taos, def. Keith Bassett, pin 1:00
Hwt: Patrick Hodges def. Armondo Montoya, LVR, 6-1
Patrick Hodges def. Tim Wagone, Azt, 4-2 OT
David Turmeta, SC, def. Patrick Hodges, 5-0

John Ordorica, who hit 17-of-25 shots and was the top shooter in the tournament.

Also qualifying were 11 year old Allison Rigby, who made 14-of-25 baskets, 13 year old Bethany Barnett, 13-of-25 and 14 year old Kelly Rigby, 12-of-25.

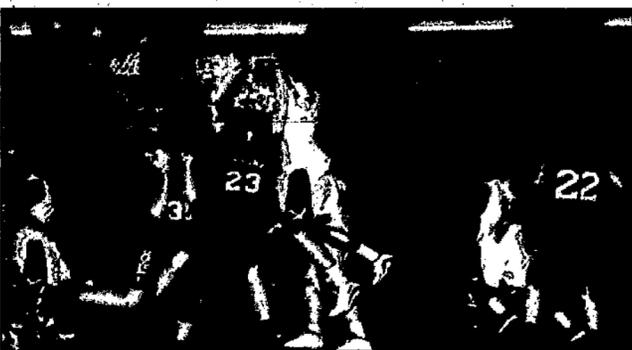
Thirteen year old Steven Klein just missed qualifying for



Grizzley Lane Dixon looks for a way around a crowd of Eagles during Tuesday's district tournament game.

High Fives

All-District players
District 3A - Girls
Renee Raal, Player of the Year
Mel Holland, Coach of the Year
All District
Carrizozo: Bianca Baca, Christa Franck, Brooke Holland
Corona: Sarah Stewart, Delia Gonzales, Courtney Perez
Hondo: Chriseda Acosta
Honorable Mention
Carrizozo: Stella Brewer
Corona: Lora Gonzales
Hondo: Sarah Sanchez, Renee Lopez
District 6A - Girls
All District
Mescalero: Deena Dolan, Ophelia Prins
Honorable Mention
Mescalero: Jessica St. Johns
District 6A - Boys
All District
Mescalero: Phillip Pike, Tony Chimal



A crowd of Corona Cardinals tries to keep Hondo from getting two during Tuesday's district tournament game at the Eagles Nest.

Hondo tops Corona in district tourney

By KAREN BOEHLER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

HONDO — Corona (2-19, 0-8) and Hondo (14-9, 6-2) both had obstacles to overcome in the opening round of the District 6A tournament. For Corona, it was the usual factor of playing with only six team members. The Eagles had brought their troubles on themselves.

"We had discipline problems again, and the kids who started were the only five who weren't in trouble," said Hondo coach Paul Qualls. "The rest of them had some problem, trouble-wise. My philosophy all year has been you do it my way or you're not going to play. And I'm not going to bend."

That meant Hondo started the game with eighth graders and one player, Aaron Gomez, who had sat out much of the season with discipline problems himself. And although Hondo took a 75-43 final victory, the six-man Cardinal squad stayed even through much of the first half.

The game was tied at 9-all after one quarter, with Hondo leading 22-16 at the half.

But Qualls put his starters, the players that "hopefully we're going to go to state with," in for the second half.

"And they came out and they played well after sitting the first half," the Eagle coach said.

Hondo put in 16 unanswerable points before Cardinal

Alfred Sanchez finally tallied two 3:48 into the second quarter. By the end of the stanza, the Eagles led 52-25.

For Corona, the good news was no one fouled out.

"We had an extra guy, and that made a little difference," said Cardinal coach Marcus Johnson. "We were hoping we'd do a little better than we did, but I didn't see a single time they gave up. It's hard to play against a team that just keeps putting in men. Even if it was just a minute break, it makes a difference."

Qualls gave credit to Corona for playing hard.

"I knew they could play," he said. "The score was very lopsided but we didn't try to run it up. We tried to execute our offense. We tried to play defense and that's what happens when you have a decent team playing a hard-working team that just doesn't have the skills and the numbers."

Sanchez led the scoring with 19 points. Brandon Biebelle had 14 and Victor Perez 10. Hondo led Hondo with 14 while Diego Ontiveros and Saul Acosta had 11 each.

For Corona, the season is over. Hondo was scheduled to meet Carrizozo Tuesday in the semi-final tournament round.

"We win Thursday, we get to go to regionals," Qualls said. "That's the important game, not Saturday's game (against Mountainair) Thursday is the big game. We're going to practice to that and play to that."

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OVER YOUR HEAD in debt? Do you need more breathing room? Debt consolidation. No Creditors! Free Consultation (800) 536-1548 www.ancorhorizon.org Licensed, Bonded, NonProfit/Natural Co.

STEEL BUILDING SALE: 5000 x 5000 40x60x14 \$8,000; 50x75x14 \$10,100; 60x100x16 \$15,127; Mini storage, 40x160, 32 units, \$18,934. Free brochures. www.sentinel-buildings.com Sentinel Buildings, 800-327-0780 Extension 79

TAKING BIDS ON A SEARS Craftsman 7000 watt generator; 120-240 volt. Inquire at Liberty Finance, 238 Sudderth Dr.

TOOLS FOR SALE: Good prices. Battery cables, wire stretchers, 16 oz. claw hammers. Prime Time Flea Market, across from Race Track.

TREADMILL: SEARS Pro-Form J6; virtually new! Power incline, distance, laps, time, pace, speed, calories, fat display. Pulse too! Save \$258-460

WE PAY CASH FOR remaining payments on Trust Deed Mortgage! Amortized! Lettered! Nobody beats our pricing! 1-800-490-0731 ext 615. www.nationallcontractbuyers.com

WOLFF TANNING BEDS Tan at Home! Direct and Save! Commercial Home units from \$199. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today. 1-800-842-1310

370 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED FOR PARTS: Motorcycles, 4-wheelers, etc. Running or not, older cars, trucks. 338-8120, 378-4418

380 HELP WANTED

NEED ADDITIONAL Income? www.ehomebusiness.to/edsitz

040 HOUSES FOR SALE

FOR SALE BY OWNER - Mountain Horse Property Unique custom 3400 sq. ft. ranch house, post & beam style, with lots of wood, huge porch and fantastic views, barn, stable, guest house, arena & more. Creek & adjoins National Forest. 19.7 acres. Save from previous listing \$379,995. Captain area. Call 354-2132 for info or appointment.

WHEN YOU WISHED UPON THE STARS,

did you ever want a great Get-Away or Retirement Home? There's a new log cabin in Ruidoso with custom features. Relax on the porch, smell the pines, enjoy the pleasure of privacy and the intrigue of wild life. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1140 sq. ft. on 1/3 acre. \$118,000 CLAIM IT!

Call Frankie, Coldwell Banker agent 505-530-4568

060 MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

\$99.00 A MONTH Low DN New 3BR/2BA Program Extended O.A.C. 1-800-585-3228

LAND/HOME

\$399.00 PITTI Low DN, EZ-QUALIFY 1-800-585-3228

NO DOWN?

We'll do your taxes for free and use it as DN - EZ Qualify 1-800-585-3228

MOBILE HOMES

NEW & REPOS LOW DOWN LOW PRICE LOW PAYMENTS CALL RANDY HISE 1-800-339-6606 DL1D00723

PURPLE SAGE BUILDERS

Karsten manufactured homes. High quality - value added homes built in New Mexico. Over 55 standard features that are optional on many of our competitors. Floor plans from 1,100 - 2,000 sq. ft. See our 3-4-5 bedroom models and lots in Rancho Ruidoso Valley Estates. Visit our sales office on Little Creek Road, 336-4742 Eve. 336-1881 930-330 D00850

380 HELP WANTED

ACCEPTING Applications for maintenance and front desk. Apply in person at Pinecliff Village, 401 Hwy 70 West, Ruidoso Downs.

A LOCAL HOSPITALITY Business is looking for a few exceptional people. Spanish/English is a big plus. Would like to find a few people who are computer compatible, who have better than average customer service skills, and can sell room nights both in person and over the phone. Knowledge of Ruidoso and surrounding areas is necessary. If this sounds like you, please mail a resume along with references to News Reply, P.O. Box 128-RA, Ruidoso, NM 88385.

APPRENTICES WANTED. We need young, motivated people (17-34) to become apprentices in the repair of electronic equipment. No experience needed. Paid relocation. Call 1-800-354-9627.

AVIATION MECHANICS needed; will train, no experience needed. 17-34 year old. H.S. grads. Call 1-800-354-9827.

A WORLD OF opportunity. With international students. Recruit and supervise host families and exchange students. Earn money and travel incentives on part-time basis. For more information call Betty at 800-501-8746. M-F 9-5 or fax resume to 303-648-3077 Council Exchanges USA High School Program.

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

CO. SPONSORED training & 1st year income \$35k. Stevens Transport, OTR truck drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced 888-288-8617 or 800-393-8595. EOE

COMPUTER REPAIR trainees. H.S. grads age 17-34. Learn to repair state of the art computers at our expense and receive exc. salary/benefits pkg. Call 1-800-354-9627.

DRIVER APPLICATIONS processed in 2 hours or less. Long haul drivers needed. Class A CDL required. Student Graduates Welcome. Continental Express 1-800-885-4473

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FOR SALE BY OWNER - Mountain Horse Property Unique custom 3400 sq. ft. ranch house, post & beam style, with lots of wood, huge porch and fantastic views, barn, stable, guest house, arena & more. Creek & adjoins National Forest. 19.7 acres. Save from previous listing \$379,995. Captain area. Call 354-2132 for info or appointment.

380 HELP WANTED

DRIVER CONVENANT Training. Coast to Coast Runs. Teams start \$35-42. \$1,000 sign on bonus for Exp. co. Drivers. For experienced drivers and owner operators. 1-800-441-4384 for Graduate Students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVERS. SWIFT Transportation hiring drivers, teams. Ask about Sign-on Bonus! Contracted CDL. Training available, excellent Pay/Benefits, Assigned Equipment, Consistent Miles, Job Stability. 1-888-890-7938 (spe-rn)

EXPERIENCED housekeeper wanted. Approx 20 hours per week, 2-4 mornings per week. Must have transportation. \$6/hr to start. For interviews, contact Kathie 354-3200.

FULL CHARGE Bookkeeper with 3 years minimum experience. Must have thorough knowledge of automated accounting systems, Microsoft Office, Quickbooks, payroll processing. Salary DOE. Send resume to: Resume, 508 Mechem, Suite D, Ruidoso, NM 88345

FULL-TIME TRUCK DRIVER, excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Apps accepted until 4:00 pm Monday, February 28, 2000. Complete job disc and apps at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345. 258-4343. FAX 258-5381. EEOE

GREAT WALL OF CHINA restaurant has openings for part or full-time waitress, bus person and hostess. Apply in person, 2913 Sudderth Drive.

HELP WANTED: Servers and cooks; full-time. Apply in person at Pub 48, 441 Mechem between 2p.m. and 5p.m.

HOME MAILERS NEEDED Earn \$635 weekly mailing letters. Easy! Limited open positions. Call 1-800-831-5357 Ext 9400 24hrs

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED Full or part-time. Good salary. Apply in person or call Innsbruck Lodge, 601 Sudderth. 257-4071

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED for Thursdays and Fridays. Apply at Crown Point Condos, 220 Crown Drive.

HOUSEKEEPING POSITION available. Please apply in person, no phone calls. Ramada Limited, 1420 E. Hwy 70.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for servers and part-time bartender in the restaurant. See Amy. Apply in person at Swiss Chalet, 1451 Mechem.

JOB OPENINGS. For H.S. grade, 17-34 years old. No experience necessary. Will train in electronics, aviation mechanics & other fields. Call 1-800-354-9627 ext 7

KOKOPELLI's dining club, is seeking qualified applicants for wait staff, kitchen and bartending positions. Please call 338-1818 ext. 24 for an appointment.

LINCOLN COUNTY Medical Center has an opening for a full-time Registrar beginning ASAP. Position will require some nights and weekends. We offer a generous bonus package. If interested, contact Pam, Human Resources, Box 8000, Ruidoso, NM 88385 (505)257-8258

NEED ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant. Experience required. Part to full time. 257-1091.

POSTAL JOBS \$48,323 yr Now hiring. No experience, paid training, great benefits. Call for lists, 7 days (800)428-3860 ext J115

REGISTERED NURSES or LPN in Patient day & evening available, 4 days/week, 10 hour shift. Nearby. PPN also possible. Also traveling assignments in beautiful Northern Arizona; ER, OB & Peds available now. Excellent pay, housing and travel pay. Call Roy ASAP. 1-800-881-9888

RUIDOSO'S NEWEST Staffing Firm now hiring Certified waitresses, waiters, cooks, dishwashers, servers. Call 258-2359 for appointment. E.O.E. Drug test may be required.

RUIDOSO'S NEWEST Staffing Firm now hiring general laborers, operators, and CDL licensed. Call 258-2359 for appointment. E.O.E. Drug test may be required.

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APARTMENT: PINE PARK CT Unfurnished 2 bedroom +loft, 1 1/2 bath condo; \$675 utilities. On market month to month.

Call Cindy 405-278-2529

GARY LYDCH REALTY 257-4011

380 HELP WANTED

LINCOLN COUNTY IS NOW accepting applications for one part-time DISTRICT OFFICER in the Lincoln County Detention Center. Applicant(s) must be willing to work all shifts, must have a clean driving record, no felony convictions, and must possess a valid New Mexico driver's license. Experience in Corrections or disadvantaged individuals is preferred but not required. Obtain application and job description at the Lincoln County manager's Office in Carrizozo or by calling 505/848-2385. The last day to apply for this position is Thursday, March 9, 2000 at 5:00 P.M. Lincoln County, Equal Opportunity Employer and in Compliance with ADA Requirements, Title II-A.

LINCOLN COUNTY is now accepting applications for the position of DEPUTY SHERIFF in the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, located in Carrizozo, New Mexico. Applicant must be 18 years or over, must possess a New Mexico Basic Police Officer's Certification or be certifiable by waiver, and willing to work anywhere in Lincoln County. Obtain application at the Lincoln County Manager's Office in Carrizozo or by calling 505/848-2385. Applications must be received no later than 5:00 P.M., Friday, March 24, 2000. Lincoln County Equal Opportunity Employer and in Compliance with ADA Requirements, Title II-A.

LOCAL LANDSCAPING Firm seeking individuals with landscape, irrigation & maintenance experience. Apply at Corley's Nursery & Landscaping, Inc., E. Hwy 70. 378-4376

LOCAL RESORT needs full-time front office receptionist, evenings and weekends. Send resume to: P.O. Box 7148, Ruidoso, NM 88385.

MERCHANDISER NEEDED in local grocery store. Part-time, flexible hours, twice a week. Please call J.R. Demos & Merchandising at 1-800-210-1452.

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NATIONAL RECOVERY Firm relocating to Ruidoso, seeks Locator Specialist. Duties: Track project & client leads via data base. Locate beneficiaries (individuals, corporations) of abandoned Treasury funds. Must be computer literate, articulate, communication / telephone skills, ability to organize, manage & execute assigned projects. We offer full-time employment, salary, commission, benefits. Send resume, cover letter & salary history to Larry Mosses, 2910 Sudderth, #184, Ruidoso, NM 88345

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GARY LYDCH REALTY 257-4011

380 HELP WANTED

STAT NEED! \$21/hr mini-maintenance. Full-time or flex. part. Must have clean driving record. Call Cheryl 1-800-549-9399

390 WORK WANTED

DENELL IN CONSTRUCTION Bonded, License #83002. Insured. Call Bill at 257-2544. E-mail denell@zianet.com. GARDEN GREEN & SUPER Clean-Powerwashing, deck refinishing, lawncare, pinestripes, roof/gutters, tree/brush removal, firebreaks, hauling. Estimates. 257-2172 or 420-5225

400 SERVICES

COMPLETE YARD CARE Tree removal, pruning, hauling, raking, mowing, gutters. Free Estimates everyday. Referrals available. 257-5806

COMPUTER SERVICES: cleaning, routine maintenance, upgrade, software installation, instructions. Will make house calls. \$15.00/hr. Call Robert at 354-4222.

EARTH MOVING. Excavating, footings, trenches, roads cut, graded, curbs, Lot/Land clearing, leveling, building pads. Gravel Drives, new or repair. Bernard Excavating 378-4132, 420-0704. Licensed, Bonded, Insured.

HANDYMAN SERVICE, maintenance and repair. Free Estimates. References available. 257-2650, ask for Tim.

JOHN'S MAINTENANCE: All phases of repair and maintenance. Homes, cabins & docks. Power wash, seal, or paint. Free Estimates. 258-3703

START SPRING CLEANING Yard work, pine needles raked, handyman work. Wood for sale. No job to small. Reasonable rates. 378-7152

TRACTOR WORK - Small jobs preferred. Mowing, blade work and leveling, backhoes, trenching, auger. Water, electric, sewer lines installed. We're cheaper than renting equipment. Call anytime 258-3788, 354-7000. (7am-8pm 430-8644)

WANTED: Your handyman work on building repair or maintenance. Both residential or commercial. 29 years local. Call Larry at 354-2832 NM Lic #57727

420 CHILD CARE

MOTHERLY LOVE State Licensed Child Care; 24hrs, 7days. Attentive, loving care. Toddler and Preschool classes. 378-4934

440 FIREWOOD FOR SALE

FIREWOOD: Seasoned, split. Various types, lengths and amounts. Delivered, and stacked. Available everyday. 257-5808

490 PERSONALS

FREE PREGNANCY TEST Caring and confidential assistance. 258-1800

110 CABINS/VACATION RENTALS

NIGHTLY & WEEKLY Newly remodeled 2/2 in quiet area, furnished, partially furnished or unfurnished with covered decks, W/D, NO PETS. \$500/mo, plus bills, deposit & references required. 6 mo. lease. Call 268-1722 or 338-1380

180 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

SHOPPING CENTER Ruidoso, 30,000± SF, Nad. Tenants, 100% Occupancy, \$1,850,000. 1st Valley Realty 505-521-1535

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Call Cindy 405-278-2529

GARY LYDCH REALTY 257-4011

490 PERSONALS

FIBROMYALGIA sufferers, this may be your answer for pain relief. Call 1-800-328-5498, free information

500 CONSTRUCTION

SPECTRUM - Construction available for small or large projects. License GB-98. Call 354-5034 or 430-7514.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE RUIDOSO NEWS!!

Mail delivery in Lincoln & Otero Counties: 3 months: \$14.00, 6 months: \$20.00, 1 year: \$34.00

Mail delivery out of Lincoln & Otero Counties: 3 months: \$21.00, 6 months: \$27.00, 1 year: \$43.00

Call Gina: 505-257-4001 or send check or money order to: The Ruidoso News P.O. Box 128 Ruidoso, NM 88385

Home delivery also available!

3 months: \$30.00, 6 months: \$38.00, 1 year: \$68.00

Call Gina today for information on home delivery in your area. 257-4001

080 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

RIVERFRONT CLEAN, SPACIOUS 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, \$550/m, water paid. PINE MOUNTAIN REALTY Lic#116091 257-4700

INSPIRATION HEIGHTS APARTMENTS MOVE IN SPECIAL. Featuring 1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, ranging from \$289-\$427. Rental assistance available and HUD approved. We are an equal housing opportunity complex. Come see us at 110 Sierra Lane, Ruidoso Downs & pick up your application or call Dora at 378-4236 for more information.

Ruidoso Properties Better Homes & Gardens 257-4075 • 257-9603 • 277 Ponderosa Dr. #1 3A, 650/9500 • 125 Ponderosa Dr. 12325/2500 overall/agent • 122 Valley 2nd, corner, granite/corner • \$300 - overall/agent • 210 Highway 21, 3500/4000 - overall/agent Full Service Property Management

FOR RENT • Two bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath furnished condo, \$550 per month plus utilities. Call Kathy at Tall Pines Realty, 257-7786. • Two bedroom, 2 1/2 bath furnished condo, \$700 per month plus utilities. Call Kathy at Tall Pines Realty, 257-7786. • We have 3 units in White Mountain Meadows, both furnished and unfurnished, \$650 per month plus utilities. Call Mark at Tall Pines Realty for more information, 257-7786. • Commercial property on Sudderth Dr. for lease. Includes commercial building plus an apartment in back. \$2000 per month plus utilities or any part thereof negotiable. Call Mark at Tall Pines Realty for more information, 257-7786. Nightly rentals also available! Please call Kathy at 257-7786

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR SALE • Business, building and land for sale. Call us for more information on this property in a great location near a high traffic intersection near the White Mountain area. Turn-key operation. THE PRICE HAS JUST BEEN REDUCED! Call Johnny at Tall Pines Realty, 257-7786. *SEE US ABOUT ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES*

WOW! My classified ads will be seen by more people than ever before. ruidosonews.com received more than 42,000 hits during January 2000. Classifieds Online March 2000 Ruidoso News (505) 257-4001 www.ruidosonews.com

190 AUTOS FOR SALE

FREE! SAVE TIME! wantacar.com BUY or SELL any vehicle the stress free way!

190 AUTOS FOR SALE

LAS CRUCES TOYOTA 2000 Camry LE \$17,998 Auto, A/C, AM-FM/Cass/CD, Keyless Entry, Power Seat, Pwr win, Pwr locks, Pwr mirrors, Cruise S/N#4765

2000 Sienna LE \$23,998 Low Mile Used Program Sienna with Auto, A/C, Rear A/C, Rear Captain Chairs, Security System, AM-FM Cass/CD, Alloy Wheels, Tilt, Cruise S/N# R4608, R4601

2000 Prerunner \$18,498 Auto, A/C, AM-FM/Cass/CD, Bucket Seats, Sliding Rear Window, Cruise S/N#4734, 4763

2000 Celica \$18,498 A/C, AM-FM/Cass/CD, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy Wheels, Rear Spoiler S/N#4734, 4745

TOYOTA everyday 935 S. Valley Drive • Las Cruces, NM 88005 (505) 523-5566

600 LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will hold a Special meeting on Thursday, March 9, 2000, at 9:00 p.m., to be held at the Ruidoso Administrative Center, 313 Cree Meadows, Ruidoso, New Mexico. Items on the agenda are:

- (1) Road Assessments
(2) Potential Fire Restrictions

Copies of the agenda for the March 9, 2000 meeting will be available at the office of the County Manager prior to said meeting.

Auxiliary aides are available upon request; please contact Martha Guevara at 505-849-2385 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

MARTHA GUEVARA ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER 2532 1T(2)25

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lincoln County Enhanced 911 Rural Addressing Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 7, 2000. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, New Mexico.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call/Introductions
III. Approval of Minutes
IV. New Business-Public Hearings
A. Rename Valley View Road in Rancho Ruidoso Estates and Little Creek Hills. Same road, different names.
B. Rename Henderson Drive in Valley Heights Subdivision.
C. Rename duplicate street name of Lincoln in Capitan North Subdivision.
D. Rename Ray Road in Highland View and North Ridge Subdivisions.
E. Rename streets in Capitan North Subdivision, Unit Two.
F. Name streets in A.N. Funnels Subdivision.
G. Name A005, unofficially known as Schlarr Road.
V. Adjournment

2637 1T(2)25

LEGAL NOTICE DEADLINE 1:00 P.M. Monday for Wednesday 1:00 P.M. Wednesday for Friday

600 LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

Upper Canyon Storage Unit #12. Household & Misc Items. Last known owner: Eric Lambertson. 1501 Tijeras NE, Apt# 324E, Albuquerque, NM 87105. LIEN SALE WILL BE HELD: Date: March 15, 2000. Time: 10:00 a.m. Location: Upper Canyon Storage 711 Wilson Ruidoso, NM 88345 2638 2T(2)25(3)1

LEGAL NOTICE

Lincoln County Medical Center COMMUNITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING will meet on Monday February 28, 2000 at 8:00 p.m. in the Hospital Conference Room. The Agenda will be available at the Administrator's Office on Friday, February 25, 2000. 2638 2T(2)25

LEGAL NOTICE

THE LINCOLN COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY will hold its combined precinct and county conventions for the purpose of electing twelve (12) delegates to the state pre-primary convention as follows: Tuesday, March 2, 2000 8:30 P.M. Cree Meadows County Club 301 Country Club Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345. The state convention will be held in Albuquerque on March 11, 2000. For further information, call Chay Fernick, Chair, 258-9090. 2596 2T(2)11,25

LEGAL NOTICE

PROPOSAL FOR PROPOSAL. Proposals will be received until 4:00 p.m. on March 14, 2000 for supplying Ruidoso Municipal School District with Food Service Management during the school year of 2000-01, with options for renewal of the contract not exceed four additional years, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005. Sealed proposals subject to all the conditions and specifications set forth by district, USDA Guidelines, and the State Department Student Nutrition Unit must be received in the office of Mike Gladden, Superintendent, and shall be marked on the envelope "Proposal for Food Service Management". In accepting proposals, Ruidoso Municipal School District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any formalities in order to take the action, which it deems to be in the best interest of the district. 2639 3T(2)25(3)3,10

600 LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Lincoln County Public Land Use Advisory Council will hold their regular meeting on Thursday, March 2, 2000. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse in Carrizozo. Copies of the agenda for the meeting will be available at the office of the County Manager 24 hours prior to said meeting. 2617 4T(2)16,18,23,25

LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sun Valley Sanitation District, Lincoln County, New Mexico, calls for sealed bids to drill a water well, possibly to 1000 feet or deeper, replacing our well #3 (H-756) in Little Creek Estates. Interested bidders may secure a copy of the specifications from Sun Valley Sanitation District, P.O. Box 151, Alto, New Mexico, or by calling John Fulle at 505-336-4867 or Curt Wheaton at 505-336-8176. Sealed bids must be received by Sun Valley Sanitation District no later than March 27, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. local time, at which time the bids will be opened at the Bonito Fire Station. Any bids received after closing time will be returned unopened. Sun Valley Sanitation District reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive all formalities as allowed by the State of New Mexico procurement code. All Proposal specifications can be obtained from the Ruidoso Schools-Administration Office, 200 Horton Circle, Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345 or by calling the Business Office at (505) 257-4051. Proposals should be received by 4:00 p.m. March 14, at 200 Horton Circle, Ruidoso, NM 88345. In accepting proposals, Ruidoso Municipal School District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any formalities in order to take the action, which it deems to be in the best interest of the district. Alternate proposals will not be considered. 2635 4T (2)25(3)1,3,8

LEGAL NOTICE

By Order of the Board of Directors, J. J. Steele, Secretary Sun Valley Sanitation District 2629 3T(2)25(3)3,10

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IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR EXPERIENCED HOSTESS, LINE COOKS AND WAIT STAFF! (available to work weekends, holidays) Please apply in person or send resume to: Che Bellal 2823 Sudderth Ruidoso, NM 88345 257-7540

Planning Director, Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Apps accepted until 4:00 pm Tuesday, February 29, 2000. Complete job desc. and apps at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345. 258-4343. FAX 258-5361. EEOE

HERBALIFE. Jesse & Liz Hofacker Herbalife Supervisor Call 257-3921 for product or business opportunity 1-800-301-3869

WANTED TO BUY ANY TYPE OF ANTIQUES & GOOD USED FURNITURE WE PAY CASH for 1 piece or household Call any time - 336-8116

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Planning Director, Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Apps accepted until 4:00 pm Tuesday, February 29, 2000. Complete job desc. and apps at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345. 258-4343. FAX 258-5361. EEOE

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By Order of the Board of Directors, J. J. Steele, Secretary Sun Valley Sanitation District 2629 3T(2)25(3)3,10

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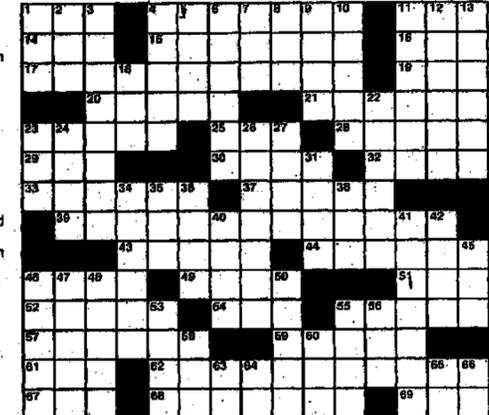
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N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0715

ACROSS 1 Top piece of a two-piece 4 Italian seaport 11 Timber wood 14 "Alley" 15 Zoom-in shot 16 Chinese principle 17 Sex determinant 19 --- rampage 20 Ready to go 21 Taste test label 22 200 milligrams, to a jeweler 23 Funnymen 24 --- in the world 25 Spinks defector, 1978 30 Parallel bar exercises 32 Not nude 33 Complicated situations 37 Debussy contemporary 39 Treasure hunter's declaration 43 Pen 44 Part-colored 45 Quite the expert 49 Having conflicting allegiances 51 --- du Diable 52 Kind of fool 54 Wood splitter 55 Quite the expert 57 For adults only 59 Tickle one's fancy 61 Play (with) 62 Twenty-somethings



Puzzle by Frank Longo

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

JANE BOTCH GLAD ABOY EARLY REBA BLUEPERIOD IVAN SENSOR CUESTICK BESET OLSEN OCHS AND BALKED WHITEFORD BRONCO LOVELL HAS BORG LYSOL NEXUS SHAPE ALICE PAGANINI RUGGED ALAI REDHOT MAMA NEIN ISAAC ARMY SYNE STYLE CPAS

DOWN 1 Word with band or sand 2 Dutton's sitcom role 3 "Art is long, life is short," e.g. 4 Astronaut Carpenter 5 Soprano Gluck 6 Blotto 7 Suffix with lion 8 Rock's Speedwagon 9 Feeling the effects of Novocaine 10 "Don Giovanni," for one 11 Like Schoenberg's music 12 Bullock of "Speed" 13 Took in, in a way 14 Genetic stuff 22 Say "yes" to 23 Auto shaft, slangily 24 "Family Ties" boy 25 Anonymous man 27 Moonfish 31 Fruit/tree connector 34 Deemed appropriate 35 Miscalculate 36 "In Living Color" segment 38 Prefix with propyl 40 Greek portico 41 Salad dressing ingredient 42 Boob tube, in Britain: Var. 45 Hankering 46 Bandleader Les 47 Revolted 48 Not neat at the ends 50 More imminent 53 Pioneer in Cubism 55 Fido and friends 56 "---- recall..." 58 Take out 60 "Buddenbrooks" novelist Thomas 63 Surfing site 64 Pig bird 65 Opposite SSW 66 Classic Jaguar

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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Kathy Jo Sollars 648-4253
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Feature of the Week!
SECLUDED MOUNTAIN CABIN
 Two bedroom, 1 bath, all on one level. Cabin on 3.25 acres. Great views of Sierra Blanca and the Capitans plus a creek! Fenced and gated for horses, including a corral. All for only \$82,000.

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LOTS OF SQUARE FOOTAGE in this 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo. Approximately 1350 square feet, nice built-in fireplace, nicely furnished, easy access in central location. Plenty of room to stretch out. \$52,000

PERFECT VACATION RETREAT WITH VIEWS over the Ruidoso Valley. Two bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath mobile home in great neighborhood. Fully furnished, wrap around deck, pitched roof and possible owner finance. \$62,500

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OF SIERRA BLANCA! This property is very nicely fully furnished with a new septic, new paint and overall update. Owner is very motivated. Please call us. This property is listed at only \$54,000.

LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION! This lovely mountain home has easy access, no steps, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, built-in fireplace, and so much more. Well worth looking at, only \$149,500.

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'98 SUBARU FORESTER **'98 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE** **'97 LINCOLN TOWN CAR** **'98 FORD EXPEDITION**

4 d, 4x4, auto, new vehicle warranty. **0 down/\$299 mo.** 4 d, 4x4, remaining factory warranty, CD, power windows & locks. **0 down/\$335 mo.** V-8, auto, leather, fully loaded. **was \$22,500 NOW \$18,995** XL, dual A/C, leather, cassette, 6 disk changer, fully loaded. **\$26,695**

'97 FORD F150 1/2 TON **'96 FORD EXPLORER XLT** **'99 FORD RANGER SC 4X4** **'97 GMC 3/4 TON**

Air, cassette, one owner. **\$9,997** 4x4, 4 dr, V-6, auto, cassette, low miles. **0 down/\$295 mo.** Fair side, V-6, CD, custom wheels. **was \$20,875 NOW \$18,775** Flatbed, low miles, like new. **\$13,995**

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Are you part of a non-profit community organization or club? If so, we want to add your organization or club to the Ruidoso News Web site. It's easy and it's quick!

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March 1, 2000

Ruidoso
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Fishing report

For fly fishing - Many local and weekend residents of Ruidoso are not familiar with a very real and very large problem regarding the stocking of trout in our local streams and lakes. A very serious disease has been detected in two of three New Mexico fish hatcheries. It is a waterborne parasite that enters the fish in the fry stage. The parasite attacks the fish in such a way that the cartilage that forms the skull of the fish does not knit closed. As the fish grows, pressure is then applied to the fish's brain due to the soft skull. It will be at least a year, maybe two, before the hatcheries can be disinfected and a new batch of stocker fish raised. With this situation facing us, I call on each fisherman to practice catch and release in the entire Ruidoso watershed.

RIO RUIDOSO: Not much change from previous reports. With the decreased water flow in the river, fishing above the Carrizo Creek confluence is almost non-existent. The best fly selections this past week have been green rock worms, bead head pheasant tail nymphs or bead head prince nymphs.

BONITO CREEK: Wait for water on the South Fork. The fishing is very limited, although lots of pocket water fishing and lots of natural beauty are here to enjoy. The fish are not picky on the South Fork, so grab the best of what your fly box holds and toss it. If you pack it in, pack it out. Remember, there are no trash cans in the middle of the forest.

LAKE Mescalero: The lake level is down, but is fishing well late afternoon and evening. Dry flies that have been working are parachute Adams, Hendricksons, mosquito's and midges. Place a dropper fly behind your dry fly and see what happens. Prop flies with a bubble rig have been doing well for the spin casters. Remember to purchase your day pass at the reception desk at the Inn.

Practice catch and release wherever and whenever you can.
 Tight lines to all in 2000.
 Check out our Web site at www.fly-etc.com
 Jim Shoop, Fly's Etc.

Chiefs close out season with loss in Hagerman

BY KAREN BOEHLER
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

Mescalero's Chiefs (3-20, 0-6) had a tough season closer against Hagerman Tuesday, falling 93-30 to the Bobcats in the District 6A tournament.

But coach coach Christie LaPaz said there was a good reason for the big loss.

"We didn't practice for a week because of the (community) gym being in use," said LaPaz. "That hurt quite a bit."

The Chiefs' top two scorers, Tony Chimal and Phillip Pike, only managed seven points each. As a team, the Chiefs only managed two points in the first quarter and five in the second. But the second half, after the team had warmed up, they did better, staying close to the Cats.

Despite the rough season, LaPaz said he was proud of the effort put forth by his young team.

"It was a tough year, but I'm glad the boys didn't quit, hung in there," he said. "I'm proud of the boys. They did a good job considering what we had. We were beat by a lot of points a lot of times, but that comes with a lack of experience."

LaPaz was also pleased his team didn't quit after their big man, Josh Davis, transferred to Tularosa during the Christmas holidays.

With only one senior on the team, LaPaz is hopeful the bulk of the young squad will return next year, giving them a more experienced team to start with. LaPaz said he's also hopeful a new practice gym for the high school will be completed, giving both the boys and girls squads more time to practice without competing for time in the community gym.

On Deck

March Madness tournament
 The fourth annual March Madness mens 6-foot and under plus one basketball tournament will be held March 10-12 in Mescalero. The first 16 teams to register will play. The entry fee is \$175, with a non-refundable \$100 deposit, due no later than March 3. Prizes will be awarded to the top four teams. Awards will be given for most valuable player, most 3-point shots, hustle, most points and sportsmanship. Two players per team will be picked for the all-tournament squad. For more information, call Abraham or Gina Chee at 257-7497.

Senior Olympics host workshop
 The New Mexico Senior Olympics is hosting a shuffleboard workshop from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday at the Yucca Recreation Center in Roswell. The workshop is for adults 50 years old or older who would like to learn or advance their skills at the sport of shuffleboard. Topics include technique, game terminology, strategy, scoring rules, shots and the laws of physics, offense and defense and singles and doubles games. There is no cost or pre-registration. For more information, call Mandy Owens at (505) 623-5777.

Senior Olympics sports training clinic
 The New Mexico Senior Olympics is hosting a sports training clinic from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Roswell High School and the Yucca Recreation Center in Roswell. Sports to be covered include: pool, walking, bowling, swimming, basketball free throw, volleyball, line dance, fitness throw, shot, discus, javelin, air gun, badminton, soccer kick, horseshoes, table tennis, shuffleboard, fitness walk, softball throw and fun event relays. There is no cost or pre-registration. For more information, call Mandy Owens at (505) 623-5777.

Youth basketball tournament
 North American Youth Sports will hold its annual spring youth basketball tournament April 14-16 at Del Norte High School in Albuquerque. The tournament will feature 10 brackets for both boys and girls, from grades five through 12. All grades are based on the grade in which a student is currently enrolled. The entry fee is \$90 per team and guarantees each team a minimum of two games. There will be awards presented in each bracket. Entry deadline is March 24. For more information or a registration form, call Harry Evans at (888) 629-2275.

December
35 Looking Back

Feb. 24, 1950

Ruidoso men join Southwest boosters to plan strategy

Walt Crosby, local director, Lloyd P. Bloodworth, Carmon Phillips, Nolan Hart, Bill Hart, Ezell Clarke, Joe Dryden, Jack Hull, were the Ruidoso men present in El Paso Tuesday night, February 14th, when nearly 150 enthusiastic delegates from West Texas and New Mexico formally set up an organization to "boost" the Southwest, and named Mayor Carl De Bord of Deming, N.M., as president...

Feb. 26, 1960

Mechern announces for governor in Ruidoso

Former Governor Edwin L. Mechern told some 200 banqueting Republicans in Ruidoso at Navajo Lodge Hotel Monday evening...that he would be a candidate for governor on the G.O.P ticket. HE ended his announcement with this statement: "The only salvation for New Mexico is the Republican Party!" His final jab at the (John) Burroughs Administration drew thundering applause...

Helping to stage the gathering here, which was postponed from late 1949 due to inclement weather, was H. H. Shire, Lincoln County central committee chairman, W. Scott Campbell, Alice Halladay, and several...candidates for office.

Feb. 27, 1970

Dallas Cowboy exhibition game ticket sales under way

Roger Staubach, Dallas Cowboy crowd-pleasing quarterback, will be in Ruidoso to don a basketball suit to play in the annual Ruidoso News Sports Fund Drive game against the Ruidoso Indians. The game, a part of the "Dallas Cowboys' Days" in Ruidoso, will be held Saturday, March 21, at 8 p.m. in the Warrior gym. Advance tickets...went on sale last week.

Feb. 28, 1980

The Silver Lining by Daniel Agnew Storm

On the twenty-second of February, it was good to see the stars and stripes floating proudly through the town along the way, in honor of the birthday of the Father of Our Country. All through the day our hearts were cheered and uplifted by "our own Red, White and Blue"—to borrow a few lines from the song we used to sing in the first grade in Juneau, Alaska.

Then, through the shades of even-tide came Bones Wright in his pickup, collecting the flags, after their work of honor and inspiration, to be laid by until another day of celebration...

We are grateful to the Lions Club for their acts of patriotism and honor. And thanks, Bones, for your good work with the flags, and in many other ways...

Feb. 26, 1990

Miller announces his retirement

Sid Miller announced his retirement as superintendent of Ruidoso Municipal Schools effective June 30.

Miller has a total 32 years experience in education, 27 years in Ruidoso as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent.

Miller was superintendent for seven years, after one year as assistant superintendent.



After a day of skiing, a retreat group is ready for dinner, and later fellowship, at Shepherd of the Hills.

James Kavelage/Ruidoso News

Ruidoso's Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church puts its youth ministry on the (ski) run

Retreat to the mountain, for the good of the soul

BY JAMES KAVELAGE
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

It's a church retreat that includes a visit a little closer to the heavens—on a mountain.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Ruidoso provides the accommodations for groups to spend three to six days on a Ski Retreat.

The groups are typically youth, though occasionally an adult group will visit for the winter fun and spiritual togetherness, according to Pastor Kevin Krohn.

"It's a retreat ministry. The kids have a good time and learn more about their common faith."

The Ski Retreat concept, which several Ruidoso churches offer, is a natural, Krohn said.

He said he feels the resort nature of the area, coupled with Ski Apache, creates the atmosphere for such a ministry.

"The church is meeting the needs of its congregation and even members of other congregations. When you're in a specific area, make the most of the opportunity," Krohn said.

"It's been part of the congregation since they were organized. The church itself was even built with that in mind. People will sometimes say your church has bathrooms and showers. And the kitchen cabinets are all labeled."

Groups have access to food preparation facilities, hot showers, and sleeping areas at the Hull Road Lutheran Church. Sleeping does require air mattresses and sleeping bags on the floor of the church's fellowship hall, though plans are being developed to construct a retreat complex on property adjacent to the church.

"Sometimes the retreat group is divided. The guys were in here, the gals were in there," Krohn said, pointing to the fellowship hall and church proper. "The councilors slept in between, in the narthex."

Most of the retreat groups are junior or senior high schoolers, though sometimes it's an adult gathering. The participants are often from other Lutheran congregations, but sometimes other church denominations or organizations come to Shepherd of the Hills for the retreat.

Over the Jan. 21 - 23 weekend a group from Vista Isleta Methodist Church in El Paso was part of the ski retreat.

Members of Shepherd of the Hills wouldn't have it any other way, said Krohn.

"It's part of this congregation," he said. "Through the years the congregation is used to seeing sleeping bags, and on any given Sunday there is a group just kind of pushing stuff aside."

Retreat participants are involved in more than hitting the slopes.

Ice-breaker activities let shy kids feel part of the group.

Bible studies, devotions, and services are also a part of the three- to six-day retreats.

"They get free time too. They need that time, and it helps them to get to know each other," Krohn said.

"It is definitely a ministry. With the number of factors that our youth are faced with, it's a different world now. Spiritually we need to be concerned for their well being, for their upbringing—to most definitely give them that reflection of a retreat that they went on, that their faith was built up. It's a very impressionable

time for these kids."

The pastor said motivating youth is sometimes difficult, but the ski retreat ministry is one approach that has worked.

The strength of any youth ministry, Krohn believes, is giving youth the opportunity to meet other youth.

He said a number of retreats the past two years have brought together groups from two different home locations.

"Kids are bashful, but at the same time when they do get to know them they want to continue to meet with them," Krohn said. "They reflect off each other's faith too."

Christmas, Martin Luther King weekend, Presidents Day weekend and spring break are normally the busiest times for the retreats.

The groups are typically 12 to 55 in size, including adult councilors. Shepherd of the Hills members often get involved.

Krohn commends the adults who take time to relate with the youth.

"The kids are looking for older Christians to pattern their own faith after."

Most of the groups come from Texas locations, though Shepherd has seen retreat participants from as far away as Michigan.

Word of the retreat ministry is

delivered through various regional church publications and newsletters. Lutheran Church Missouri Synod conventions and conferences also help pass the message.

And word-of-mouth works well, Krohn said. "When one group has had a good time, then another group will ask 'where did you stay again' and it grows from there."

"We don't offer as much for our kids as we could," Krohn said of many churches. "I think that definitely the kids are the heartbeat of the Church, presently, as well as for the future. We need to be very concerned about their spiritual welfare, and this has tremendous potential. I continue to encourage other congregations, where ever they are."

The pastor said reaching out to youth is what it is all about. "They struggle in their own faith just as adults. But we can help them, just as Christ got away for a while with his own disciples and retreated to various areas."



This ski retreat group from churches along the Pecos River return to Ruidoso's Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church from a Saturday visit to Ski Apache.

James Kavelage/Ruidoso News

Friends celebrate John West's gift for living at White Oaks

The White Oaks schoolhouse was overflowing with family and friends of John West for a memorial gathering.

There was laughter, there were tears as everyone had a story to tell about John. He was one of Lincoln County's characters. As some put it in the many testimonials to John, he was "a whirlwind, a rascal, a curmudgeon or a Teddy bear, and he could be a pussy cat." He loved to argue, had respect for his fellow man and was interested in his surroundings and wanted you to be also.

LINCOLN TRAILS



ROSALEE DUNLAP
Ruidoso News

He was interested in the arts, music, history, and people. His one-of-a-kind jewelry was so beautiful, and was John's

trademark.

Music was rendered by Patti Brimberry on her violin, his brother Archie West singing "Cowboy Jack," Marcella Garcia, Clyde and Nancy Moneyhun ... Al Ariaga with his haunting music on the wooden flute ended the services.

As someone said, "It was a Lincoln County event." He was probably with Walter Henn having a great time watching over all of us that day.

The Sanchez family wants to thank all those who gave support, food and flowers when their father Henry passed away. They received some flowers without identification. Those who did not get a "thank you," this is the reason. One was a lovely plant.

Fort Sumner people were so fortunate that their town didn't burn in the recent grass fire. A 600-acre

fire near the town last fall seems to have created a firebreak for them. The loss of livestock and wildlife will not be known for several days.

The BLM had done a small controlled burn at Government Springs about five miles west of Lincoln. There are more scheduled as the weather and wind permits.

The Lincoln Preservation Board met last week. Tim Kreager, BLM, Roswell, gave a presentation of the memorandum of understanding the people of Lincoln can participate in for fire control. It will not be ready until September, but it is a start. The people who sign...will be able to get help and suggestions for brush and tree removal on their property.

Lincoln County Historical Society members met at the archives in Carrizozo Saturday morning for a preview of a software program to

help catalog and back up their files, photos and other material. Mary Weaver presented the program, explaining the software program.

Members were to have a hands-on session Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning to learn how to use the software.

Carol Wilson of Ancho presented the program "Preserving your Photos" for the Lincoln County Historical Society last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Hoover celebrated their eleventh wedding anniversary Sunday at the Silver Dollar in Tinnie. Those present were Nora Henn, Junior and Kathy Dean, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dunlap.

Mrs. Dewayne Seals and daughter Rebecca of Texhoma, Texas, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Beckley, this week. Her brother and family were expected in on Tuesday.



Worship at the church of your choice!

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Apache Indian Assembly of God
Mescalero, 671-4747. Donald Peters, pastor. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday services; 7 p.m.

First Assembly of God
El Paso Road, Ruidoso. Rev. Bill Lenard, Pastor. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday morning worship 10:45 a.m. (includes children's church); Sunday evening praise 6 p.m.; Wednesday family night 7 p.m.

BAPTIST

Bent Tree Baptist Church of Alto
Sunday 9 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday 6 p.m. Mile marker 1, Hwy 250, 3/4 mi. up Airport Rd. Rev. James Crowder, 336-4080.

First Baptist Church
Carrizozo, Hayden Smith, Pastor. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m., 7:15 p.m.; Church training 6:30 p.m. Sunday

First Baptist Church
420 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso, (505) 257-2081. Tim Gilliland, Pastor. Sunday: 6:30 a.m. Contemporary Praise and Worship Service; 9:30 a.m. Commensal Breakfast; 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Study; 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service; 5 p.m. Adult and Children Discipleship classes. Youth Power Hour; 6 p.m. Worship Service/Bible Study. Monday: Ladies' Noon Bible Study, Fellowship Hall. Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Youth and Children's activities.

First Baptist Church
Ruidoso Downs, Randy Widener, Pastor. Sunday: Worship hour 11 a.m.; Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Evening worship: 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer meeting 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church
Thrive, Bill Jones, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m.

Iglesia Bautista Vida Nueva
420 Mechem Drive. (Sunshine Classroom) Rarion Robledo, Pastor. Cuido de Predicacion 3 p.m.

Mescalero Baptist Mission
Mescalero. Sunday: Sunday school 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m., 7:15 p.m.; Training union 6:30 p.m. Wednesday services 6:30 p.m.

Ruidoso Baptist Church
126 Church Drive, Palmer Gateway. Wayne Joyce, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.

Trinity Southern Baptist Church
(south on Highway 46) M. Captain Rd. 354-2044. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.; Stonecroft: Friendship Bible Coffee; Wed. 9:30-11 a.m.; Awana: Wed. 6-8 p.m. (6 yrs. through 5th grade); Thurs. 7 p.m. Body-Life Fellowship.

BAHA'I FAITH

Baha'i Faith
Meeting in members' homes. 257-2987 or 336-7739

CATHOLIC

St. Eleanor Catholic Church
Ruidoso, 257-2330. Reverend Al Galvan, Sacrament of Penance: Sat. 4:30 p.m. or by appointment; Saturday Mass: 6 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 10 a.m. (English), 11:30 a.m. (Bilingual); Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 4:30 p.m. Sunday Mass. St. Jude Thaddeus, San Patricio: 8 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Captain, 354-9102. Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.; Monday

Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Santa Rita Catholic Church
Carrizozo, 648-2853. Father Dave Berg, Pastor. Saturday Mass: 6:30 a.m.; Sunday Mass: 11 a.m.; Tuesday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.

St. Theresa Catholic Church
Corona. Sunday Mass: 6 p.m.

St. Joseph Apache Mission
Mescalero, Father Tom Herbst, Pastor. Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Bent. Father Tom Herbst, Pastor. Saturday Mass: 6 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Hull and Gavilan Canyon Road. Rev. James M. Smith, Pastor. Sunday School, K-12/Adult: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Chancel Choir: Wednesday 7 p.m.

Church of Christ
Captain - Highway 48, Las Earwood, Minister. Sunday Bible study: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.

Gateway Church of Christ
415 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-4381. Jimmy Spozaman, Minister. Sunday Bible study: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ
Ruidoso Branch, North on Hwy. 46, between Ruidoso and Captain, Joe

Church of Jesus Christ
Ruidoso Branch, North on Hwy. 46, between Ruidoso and Captain, Joe

Magli, 336-4359. Sunday schedule: Sacrament starts at 10 a.m.; Sunday School: Priesthood and Relief Society.

Church of Jesus Christ LDS
Mescalero Branch, 671-4630. Wray Scullidgieri, President, 671-9506. Sunday: Sacrament meeting 10 a.m.; Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m.; Priesthood Relief Soc. & Young Women, 12:10 a.m.

EPISCOPAL

Episcopal Church of the Holy Moment
121 Mescalero Trail, Ruidoso. Father John W. Parris, Rector. Sunday Eucharist: 8 & 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Daughters of King: noon. Eucharist & healing: 5:30 p.m.; Choir practice: 7 p.m.

Episcopal Chapel of San Juan
Lincoln. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.

St. Anne's Episcopal Chapel
Gavilan, Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.

St. Matthias Episcopal Chapel
Carrizozo, 6th & E Street. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.

FOUR SQUARE

Captain Four Square Church
Highway 48, Captain, Harold W. Perry, Pastor. Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.

Mission Fountain of Living Water
San Patricio, Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Evening services: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.

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San Patricio, Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Evening services: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.

Jehovah's Witnesses

Ruidoso - Kingdom Hall
106 Alpine Village Road, 258-3659, 257-3671. Sunday: Public Talk 10 a.m.; Watchtowers 10:50 a.m.; Monday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.; Thursday Ministry School 7:30 p.m.; Services Meet 8:20 p.m.

Congregation Hispana
de los Hermanos de Jehova
106 Alpine Village Road, 258-3659, 257-3671. Sunday: Public Talk 10 a.m.; Watchtowers 10:50 a.m.; Monday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.; Thursday Ministry School 7:30 p.m.; Services Meet 8:20 p.m.

Shepherd of the Hills
1120 Hill Road, 258-4191, 257-5276. Kevin L. Krohn, Pastor. Sunday: Worship 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Third Sunday Evening Bible Study, 5:30 p.m., call for location.

Methodist
Community United
Methodist Church
junction Road, behind Daylight Donuts, Harry Rice, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:55 a.m.

Methodist
Methodist Church
Pastor Tom Woodward and the congregation of Captain United Methodist Church welcome Lincoln County residents and visitors alike to attend Bible study Sunday morning at 8:30, followed by worship service at 9:10. Communion is offered during worship on the first Sunday of every month, and a potluck luncheon is served the third Sunday at

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(1230, White Oaks and Third in Captain, 505-648-2846.

United Methodist Church
Trinity - Carrizozo, Ron Woodward, Pastor. Sunday school 10:00 a.m.; Sunday worship 11:10 a.m.

PENTECOSTAL

Spirit of Life Apostolic
Pentecostal Tabernacle
Lincoln Ave., Captain, 257-6864. Allen M. Miller, Pastor. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.; Tuesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Angels Church of the Nazarene
Arroyo, 12 miles north of Ruidoso on Hwy. 48, 336-8032. Charles Hill, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Wed. fellowship: 6:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
101 Sutton Drive (Nob Hill), Ruidoso, 257-2220. Cathy E. Caudle, Pastor. Sunday: Church school 9:45 a.m.; worship 11 a.m. Potluck fellowship after worship the third Sunday of every month.

Mountaineer Ministry
United Presbyterian Church
Arroyo, Reverend Scott King, Sunday worship: 9 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Corona Presbyterian Church
Reverend Scott King, Worship 11 a.m.

Nogal Presbyterian Church
Reverend Bill Sebring, Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.

REFORMED CHURCH

Mescalero Reformed
Mescalero, Bob Schan, Pastor. Sunday: Church school 9:30 a.m.; worship 10:30 a.m. Pastor's office hours 6:30 p.m. Wed. high school meeting 7 p.m. Thurs. Kids Club (grades 1-5) 9:30.

Seventh Day Adventist
207 Parkway, Agua Fria, Ruidoso Downs, 378-4161. Pastor Rick Lytle 443-1904. Assoc. Pastor Wilburn Morrow 622-1206. Saturday Sabbath school 9:30 a.m.; Church services: 11 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer meeting 7 p.m.

Abundant Life Family Church
2810 Sudderth Drive, Suite 210, 257-4188, Mark Gentry, pastor. Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. Thursday Bible study 7 p.m.

American Missionary Fellowship
Rick Smith, 682-2503. Monday: Women's Bible study 6:30 p.m. Tuesday: Ruidoso men's Bible study room at Pizza Hut, Mechem Drive. Wednesday: Women's Bible study 6:30 p.m. Schlotzsky's Deli, Captain J. High and Sr. High Youth Groups 6:30 p.m. at Chris Community Fellowship.

Calvary Chapel
433 Sudderth Drive in the Gateway Center, 257-5915. Pastor John Marshall. Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Mid-week bible study 7 p.m.

Centro Cristiano Casa de Oraciones
2818 Sudderth (Pinecroft Square), Ruidoso, 257-6142. Pastor Carlos

Carrison. Reunion General Jueves 6:00 p.m.; Domingo 10:45 a.m. Club Aniversario Sabado 1:00 a.m. (info).

Christ Church in the Islands
Ruidoso Downs, 378-8164. Al and Mary Lane, Pastors. Sunday: Children's ministry commencing with Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.; worship 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.; Thursday: services 7 p.m.

Christ Community Fellowship
Captain, 378-3900. Ed Vinson, Pastor. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.

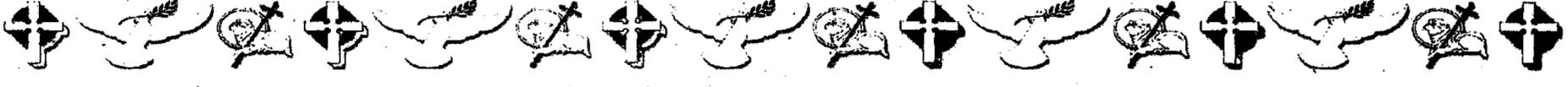
Cornerstone Church
Cornerstone Square, 613 Sudderth Drive, 257-9245. B.A. Thurman, Pastor. Sunday services: Adult and children's Church, 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study Adult and Youth, Wednesday: 7 p.m.

Corway Church
Moon Sundays at the Glencoe Rural Groves Center. Everyone welcome. Proctor Pastor Head of Arroyo. Call 378-4840 for more info.

Grace Harvest Church
Gavilan Canyon Road, 336-4213. Sunday: morning prayer: 8:30 a.m.; Sunday school 9 a.m.; services 10 a.m.

Living Word Church
441 Mechem, 257-3470. Pastors: Terry and Suzanne Lewis. Sunday: Renewal services Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday: Introductory prayer noon; mid-week services 7 p.m.

Pace Chapel
International (IUC)
Alto North, 336-7075. Jeanne Price, Pastor. Morning chapel: 6:50 a.m. (Sept. - June); Sunday Service: 11 a.m.



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 Business writer James Kalvelage
 Phone: 505-257-4001

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Orthopedic surgeon settles in Ruidoso

A new orthopedic surgeon, specializing in joint replacement, has added his services to the Ruidoso area medical profession.

Richard A. Bergarud, M.D. has established an office at 304 Suddeth Drive. Bergarud had practiced in Hobbs.

"I saw the need for services here," Bergarud said. "And it's a lovely area, a beautiful area."

Bergarud attended the University of Illinois Medical School in Chicago. His internship and residence were at U.C.L.A. He also practiced for 15 years in Florida.

Bergarud's practice deals with bone and joint problems, specializing in joint replacement.

Mortgage firm moves to close-in location

Ruidoso Mortgage, formerly located at 1011 Mechem Drive, has moved to 601 Mechem Drive.

President Sherrie Larkey said the need for more space prompted the relocation.

"I believe the location is much better. The parking is excellent at the new location."

Larkey said her six-employee staff will continue a commitment of striving to get the job done.

"This summer, because of the new location, we are looking to prequalify borrowers on weekends," Larkey said. She anticipated that by the end of school in May, Saturday hours will be included in the mortgage office's hours.

TNMP honors Charlie Moore

FORT WORTH, Texas — At its annual employee awards ceremony, Texas-New Mexico Power Company honored 14 employees for their significant achievements in 1999 and for their dedication to make a difference to TNMP, its customers and shareholders.

For the first time, TNMP also recognized two employees with Volunteer of the Year awards. Winners were Charlie Moore of Ruidoso, N.M., and Hal Sontag of Silver City, N.M.

"We're proud to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the employees receiving MAD awards," said TNMP Chairman and CEO Kevern Joyce. "The quality of our volunteer award nominations was such that we were unable to narrow the choice down to one, which is why we have two recipients for this inaugural presentation."

Moore was responsible for initiating a program at Ruidoso High School for "at risk" youths using his own love of building and racing cars. He secured funds from TNMP's Customer Connection grant program, a matching donation from TNMP's Employee/Retiree Volunteer Program and school district funding.

Moore matched those dollars with more than 150 volunteer hours to assist students in building a street stock car and establishing the Ruidoso High School Motorsports Club. He also received a MAD award for this achievement prior to the Volunteer award program's creation.

Sontag was honored for his 30-plus years of leadership in

the Boy Scouts of America. He dedicates approximately 100 hours each month to guiding, teaching and motivating youngsters through scouting.

Individual winners of the MAD award were Leonard Crosson, West Columbia, Texas; Clayton Greer and Kenneth Houston, Texas City, Texas; James Hunt, Fort Worth, Texas; Mike Laurence, Fort Stockton, Texas; Charlie Moore, Ruidoso; and Keith Nix, Silver City.

Team honors went to the "Smart Jobs Team" of Daniel Nelson, Fort Worth; David Anderson, Texas City; and John O'Loughlin, Silver City; and a Brazo (West Columbia) Operations team of David Schuerg, Scott Hargrave and T.J. Martin.

The Making a Difference award is part of TNMP's overall recognition program. The award formally recognizes significant achievements that go well beyond the boundaries of an employee's normal work expectations. Achievements fall within four general categories: creativity/change, customer advocacy, going above and beyond, and impact.

TNMP's new Volunteer of the Year award was created as a direct extension of its Employee/Retiree Volunteer Program, which was instituted in 1998.

Texas-New Mexico Power Company provides community-based electric service to 85 cities and more than 233,000 customers in Texas and New Mexico. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of TNP Enterprises Inc. (NYSE: TNP).

"...(W)hether from a metropolitan area, or tourism or farm area, even though we have different economies, we have a lot of the same problems."



Cynthia Clayton of Condotel and Leadership New Mexico

State input provides local solutions

BY JAMES KALVELAGE
 RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A Ruidoso small-business owner has visions for the future of New Mexico and the Ruidoso area, as a member of Leadership New Mexico.

Cynthia M. Clayton, president of Condotel Corporation, wants New Mexico to become a state in the top 10 percent of the country for health care, education and economic opportunities. The vision includes ranking the Land of Enchantment in the bottom 10 percent for crime, poverty and teenage pregnancy.

Leadership New Mexico, founded in 1995, provides team members from around the state with a forum to identify issues, share ideas and bring back to their communities possible solutions.

"The one thing that surprises all, or most all of us, whether from a metropolitan area, or tourism or farm area, even though we have different economies, we have a lot of the same problems," Clayton said.

Some of the issues are, however, especially germane to Southeastern New Mexico. Clayton believed health care was one of the statewide issues that particularly needs attention in the Ruidoso area. She pointed to the non-industrial, smaller business nature of Ruidoso as leaving many without health insurance coverage.

"I don't know the solution to that, but it needs to be addressed. And it won't be a simple solution," Clay-

ton said health care issues go beyond New Mexico, and need even nationwide addressing.

Her favorite topic for Leadership New Mexico is economic development. And Clayton is quick to say more needs to be done, both statewide and locally.

"It surprised me, because the governor, in his State of the State address, mentioned it. But there's only \$400,000 in the state budget for economic development."

Personally, Clayton thinks decreasing New Mexico's income tax rate would improve economic development efforts. And increasing economic development, efforts would boost revenues to the state.

Clayton, who is also on the Village of Ruidoso Economic Development Committee, would like a "solid package" put together locally.

"The Village of Ruidoso currently does not have a line item for economic development. A lot of information has not been gathered here." She hopes information at Leadership New Mexico brainstorming sessions will bring home some solid pursuits for economic development in the area.

The education front is a category Clayton thinks will require statewide attention.

"The poverty rate and level of education are in direct correlation. Therefore, increasing educational levels will decrease poverty levels." Leadership New Mexico ses-

sions are designed to address the pressing issues facing the state, according to an outline of the program. It provides participants opportunities throughout the year to share ideas and engage in discussion that will enhance their understanding of New Mexico's major challenges.

"It gives us an in-depth view of the issue," Clayton said. She pointed to the November session, that dealt with health care.

"We heard from the cabinet secretary, who gave us his side. And from health care providers we go their side. Then private physicians. By the time we left, I realized it was a dynamic issue."

The 41-member Leadership New Mexico class meets every other month, over a two-day period, at various host communities around the state. Members, who are nominated locally, participate for one year.

In addition to involvement on the Leadership New Mexico team, Clayton is the secretary of the Village of Ruidoso Economic Development Committee. She is also active with the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Tourism Association of New Mexico and the Billy the Kid National Scenic Byway.

Clayton defines leadership as the ability to inspire and empower others to accomplish goals, not only for the benefit of the community, but individual goals as well.

EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

What does the lender really need to know for a home loan?

BY ROSALYN ROBINSON
 PIONEER SAVINGS BANK LOAN OFFICER

Lenders, whether a bank, savings and loan, or mortgage company, all have to respond to investors, secondary market issues, and/or government regulations. If the program is insured by a government agency (FNMA, FHA, VA), you might see that requirements are set by that particular agency, combined with that of the financial institution.

If the loan is financed in-house, then the documentation requirements might be lessened somewhat, yet criteria might be stricter, since the lending institution is taking the full exposure of the obligation.

Minimally, expect the following documentation requirements when applying for a conventional real estate loan:

- Residential Loan Application (lender to provide for completion).
- Authorization to Release Credit Information (lender to provide for signature).
- Two months' bank state-

ments.

- Two years' personal federal tax returns (if self-employed).
- Two years' W2s plus current pay stub (if receiving wages).
- Award letter (if retirement funds, social security or VA benefits are a factor).

If credit issues exist on your credit report, you can save time by providing evidence of satisfaction with a written explanation about those issues.

You will find lenders who offer "no doc, low doc, or no income verification" programs. Higher interest rates, increased loan points and higher closing costs are generally charged for these programs.

The more complete you have your house in order, and can readily provide the requested information, the smoother your transaction.

It's early in the year, and you are getting data together for your accountant—start now!

Will the U. S. economy finally slow down?

BY SUNG WON SOHN
 CHIEF ECONOMIST, WELLS FARGO

▶ MARKET GLANCE

As we start to get the first whiffs of data for the year 2000, it is becoming less clear whether or not the long-anticipated economic slowdown is finally in sight. Most components of GDP look healthy, maybe too healthy for markets worried that rampant growth may lead to creeping inflation. Tight job markets are raising consumer confidence. A low average cost of capital is continuing to fuel investment spending. Surging global demands are lifting exports and low inventory levels guarantee that production will keep rising to meet them.

The main way that growth can potentially slow is if consumers react soon to financial tightening—either through a larger than expected dip in new housing purchases or through less spending as the wealth effect dissipates.

The housing market is often the first place where signs of economic slowing appear. Rising fixed mortgage rates did not deter buyers last year because income growth was solid. Also, lenders did a good job selling the virtues of adjustable rate mortgages, which were priced well under fixed rates. But now that the Fed is more aggressive in raising short-term rates, that option will not be so lucrative. Even if long-term interest rates stabilize near current levels, they will still be higher than

anytime since 1994. That has already started to put a small dent into demand. A low inventory of new homes will keep building activity solid early in the year. Do not expect a major impact on GDP soon. A more significant fall off could come in the second half.

A weaker housing market's larger effect may be on measured inflation. The core Consumer Price Index has been held down by the way in which its large housing component is measured—based on rental value. While housing prices accelerated during the construction boom, rental rates did not. A surge of entry-level buyers removed the demand for rental housing. Now that housing affordability is falling, the share of ownership will no longer rise. Rental demand will resume and the core CPI will lose one more factor that drove it lower.

Likewise, overall personal consumption will only slow with time. Cautions in equity wealth have become common, but that has had little effect on spending, for rarely does the broad market dip for more than a quarter. Roughly speaking, consumers base any excess spending growth above underlying income growth on two years of stock market gains. There is plenty in the pipeline to cause excess spending the rest of this year. If the market corrects by 10 percent by mid-year and grows in

line with income thereafter, the wealth effect will be neutralized—but not until a year from now. That is too late to prevent rising inflation.

Interest rates: Who is in charge?

The economy is being simultaneously stimulated and braked. Interest rates have risen during the last year, but the stock market has risen as well. By failing to counteract this source of stimulus early, the Federal Reserve has put itself into the role of following the markets rather than leading them. Short-term interest rates must be set with an eye to what bonds, the stock market and the dollar have done. The Fed Funds Target is the swing factor guiding the economy, and potentially could start moving widely again after a fairly steady spell.

The bond market is hardly in charge now that the U.S. Treasury complicated matters by essentially eliminating the 30-year bond as the benchmark issue. Moreover, the markets expect the Fed to confirm their expectations.

If the Fed does not raise short rates at least two more times, both bond yields and stocks might rise, providing more restraint and stimulus. But if it does raise them and tech stocks retreat, the seeds of recession may be sown. The real economy responds with long, variable lags. Is the Fed really capable of steering anymore?

Climate impact probed

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A framework developed for assessing regional climate change may help scientists, stakeholders and government policy makers address the uncertainty and ambiguity of how predicted global changes will affect regions, and how regional and local decisions can mitigate or exacerbate problems, according to a Penn State geographer.

"Scale matters and global change is the sum of the actions that take place on national regional and local levels," says Dr. C. Gregory Knight, professor of geography.

Integrated Regional Assessment looks at the problems caused by climate change from an interdisciplinary viewpoint and translates global information to regional and local scales. The framework for integrated regional assessment considers human activities that force climate change, climate change that impacts the economy, a changing economy that elicits responses, and

the responses that drive human activities.

Researchers view these four spheres of influence on the global, regional and even local levels.

"The example of energy production and water consumption in the Middle Atlantic states is a good one," Knight told attendees Feb. 18 at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

"The implications of burning coal for electrical generation and creating carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas are not simple"

The human activity involved is coal use in power plants and the use of large amounts of water for cooling the plants. The plants produce large amounts of green house gases.

"The collective impact of power plants is their contribution to greenhouse gases which would cause warmer and wetter or warmer and dryer conditions," says Knight.

ENGAGEMENTS WEDDINGS

McEntire/Brown wedding set Sept. 2

Mr. and Mrs. William T. McEntire of Capitan have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kenni Dean McEntire, to Travis James Brown.

A wedding in Ruidoso is planned for Sept. 2.

The bride's parents, Billy and Tery McEntire, formerly lived in Wimberley, Texas.

Kenni is a graduate of Wimberley High School and now lives in Ruidoso, where she attends Eastern New Mexico University.

The groom is the son of Michael J. Brown of San Marcos, Texas, and Mrs. Vicki Nicols of Wimberley.

Travis also is a graduate of Wimberley High School and now serves with the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve-El



Kenni Dean McEntire and Travis James Brown

Paso. He also lives in Ruidoso and attends Eastern

New Mexico University.

Cochran/Shaw plan for March wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell W. Cochran of Spring, Texas, have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kelly Shea, to Jason Wright Shaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Shaw of Ruidoso.

The bride to be is a graduate of Sam Houston State University and now is employed as a teacher for the Alief Independent School District in the Houston, Texas, area.

Jason, a graduate of New Mexico State University, is employed by Sterling McCall Toyota.

A March 11 wedding is planned at the Spring Woods United Methodist



Jason Wright Shaw and Kelly Shea Cochran

Church in Houston, Texas.

L. C. M. C. BIRTHS

New births at Lincoln County Medical Center have been reported as follows by the hospital:

Jan. 17, 2000 — A daughter, Gisselle Villarreal, to Araceli and Raul Villarreal, 76 lb., 7.7 oz., 19 3/4" long.

Jan. 18 — A daughter, Alexis Taylor Rushing, to Wendy and Grady Rushing, 8 lb., 9.1 oz., 22" long.

Jan. 23 — A son, Stephen Wayne Ellison, to Wayne and Lou Ann Ellison, 7 lb., 9.9 oz., 21" long.

Jan. 24 — A daughter, Madeleine Julia Sagui, to Catherine and Rhett Sagui, 6

lb., 7 oz., 19 1/2" long.

Jan. 27 — A son, thomas Isaac James Fox, to Carol Lynn Eyans, 8 lb., 1.3 oz., 20" long.

Jan. 30 — A son, Adrian Bastardo, to Armida and Cruz Bastardo, 8 lb., 13.5 oz., 21 1/2" long.

Jan. 31 — A daughter, Jaylen Ariana Korney, to Crystal Lasky, 7 lb., 4 oz., 19" long.

Feb. 2 — A daughter, Dakota Renee Stanfill, to Cynthia and Larry Stanfill, 7 lb., 4.5 oz., 19" long.

Feb. 5 — A daughter, Samantha Raeann Poncho, to

Kaylynn Begay, 7 lb., 3.4 oz., 19" long.

Feb. 8 — A son, Tobias Malachi Filip, to Amy Filip, 8 lb., 9.4 oz., 20" long.

Feb. 8 — A son, Justin David Miller, to Diane Miller, 8 lb., 2.4 oz., 20 1/2" long.

Feb. 14 — A son, Levi Riley Beaty, to Delana and Lester Beaty, 7 lb., 1.4 oz., 19 3/4" long.

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Capitan Municipal Election 2000
Precinct Three
February 8, 2000

Two four year Trustee Positions are up for the March 7, 2000 Election, Precinct Three. The persons seeking these two positions are:

John D. Whitaker.
George W. Tippin
Marcelyn V. Shamblyn
Alfred Leroy Montes

The election for Precinct 3 will be held at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds at 101 West Fifth from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Early voting for Precinct 3 will begin on February 16, 2000 at Capitan Village Hall, 114 Lincoln Ave. The hours for early voting will be the regular Village Hall hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The following individuals will serve as precinct board:

Presiding Judge Bertie Beavers
Election Judge/Absentee/Early ... Jane Livingston
Election Judge/Absentee/Early ... Kathleen Phillips
Election Clerk/Absentee/Early ... Darralene Stewart
Election Clerk/Absentee/Early ... Edith Dobbins
Alternate Lori Roberts
Alternate Barbara Sanchez

Election School will be held on February 29, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. in Ruidoso, New Mexico at the Ruidoso Civic Center.

/s/ Kathryn R. Griffin
Village Clerk
Capitan Village Hall

VAMOS!

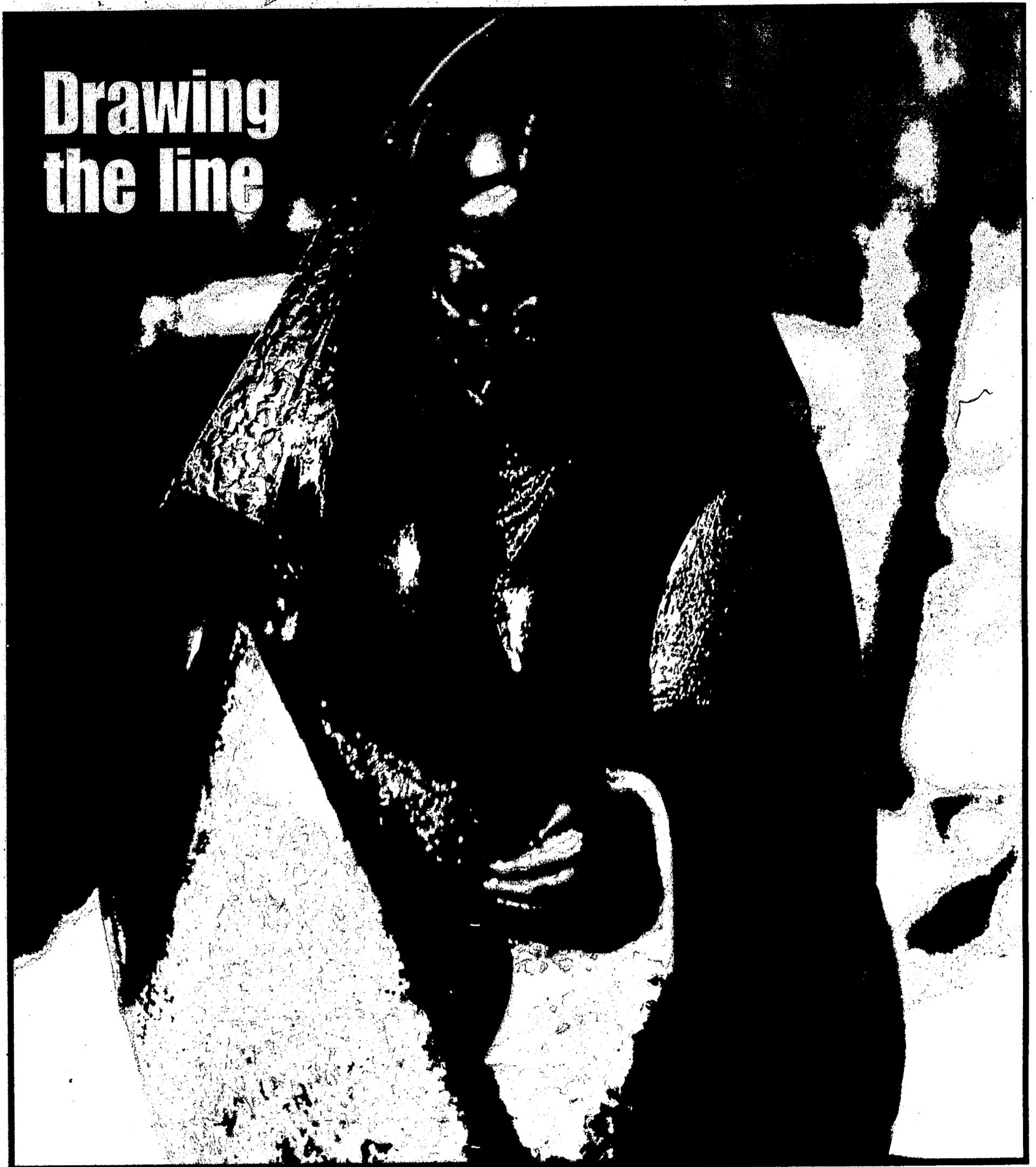
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT IN LINCOLN COUNTY



Spencer Theater
names new
executive
director

page 8D

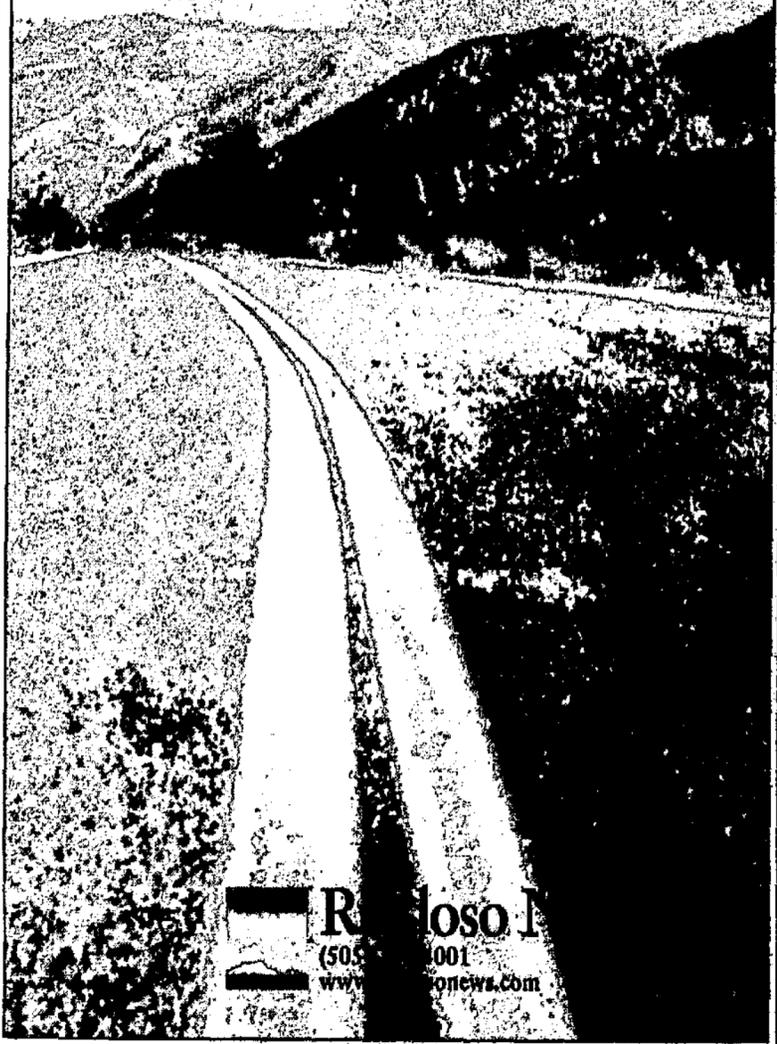
Drawing the line



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ON THE COVER



Courtesy

"FIRST BORN" IS A SCULPTURE BY VIRGIL STEPHENS. The artist has expanded his medium from pencil to clay. His studio includes the Internet. For more about this cowboy/musician/artist, please see page 3D.

further inside

- ▼ The Arts
 - Drawing the line 3D
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- ▼ Going Out
 - Spencer Theater announces new director 8D
 - What's Happening 9D
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 - Fred Waite, the Erudite Regulator 10D
- ▼ Funny Bone
 - A battle of wits with kitchen appliances 12D

vámonos staff



Sandy Suggitt,
Vámonos editor



Ana Anglada,
production mgr.



Lee Walstad,
high school intern

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 Sandy Suggitt, Vámonos! editor, P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355, or call 505.257.4001.



The Arts



Sandy Suggitt

ARTIST VIRGIL STEPHENS returned to his love of pencil drawings and never looked back.

Drawing the line

by Sandy Suggitt
VAMONOS EDITOR

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS to happen to Virgil Stephens was to get laid off from work in the copper and turquoise mines in Globe, Arizona. It forced him to get creative about the way he made his living.

See DRAWING, page 40

THE ARTS

DRAWING

Continued from page 3D



Sandy Suggitt

ABOUT SEVEN years ago, Stephens began exploring sculpting.

The plant shut down in 1982 and by 1984 he'd won Artist of the Year at the Rodeo of Rodeos of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (he also won that title in 1987 and was the only artist selected twice at that point).

Stephens learned sign painting in Phoenix to support his family after the mines closed. Weekends, to make a little extra money, he started showing his work at mall shows in Phoenix, Mesa, Chandler and Tempe.

"I saw some terrible art work in the malls (mall art shows) and I thought I could do better than that," he said.

Soon after that he was making more money selling his pencil drawings than he was as a journeyman sign maker, so when computerized signs came out and he was learning yet another skill, he quit his job

and moved his family to Lincoln County in 1992.

"I left so I could own my own mountain top," he said of the land near Nogal they settled in and named, in a rather tongue-in-cheek fashion, "Notevena Ranch."

Stephens started out doodling with a number-two pencil in school and entered a few contests in high school, but never won. Later, he drew after work at the kitchen table, and as he began selling his drawings, he studied great oil paintings and learned how to bring viewers right into the picture and hold their attention with contrasts of light and dark.

His realistic drawings are based on the scenes he grew up with on his father's ranch in Arizona, as well as on his four children. In fact, he said, he started out doing "cutesy stuff" when his children were little, and



Sandy Suggitt

THE PENCIL DRAWING "Forever Young" is part of a series.

sold out. Stephens also uses photographs and sometimes hires a rodeo photographer and uses the prints for his drawings.

"I can't sketch, I don't know how, so it takes forever and ever. I can't do anything quick," Stephens said. "I never took art classes. I never intended to be an artist."

"My momma saw some talent so she pushed me into music and my daddy raised me as a cowboy," he said.

A rancher's son, Stephens attended Mesa Community College in Arizona, writing music for symphonies and orchestrating charts. Then he became a professional jazz musician and traveled with jazz bands between Arizona and San Francisco and to Paris, London and Amsterdam — when he was only 18.

His music landed him a job as church pianist — and his wife, Emily, who attended that church. (Stephens still plays keyboards and drums and is trying to get a Christian blues band started.)

Stephens explains the switch from drawing to music and, later, to sculpture, as just part of the creative personality wanting to explore other areas.

Sometimes in his pencil drawings Stephens entertains himself by hiding "critters" — animals, an eyeball, or a pie in the landscapes. In the larger landscapes, he hides a nut and a bolt, separately.

"You don't cover much ground with a sharp pencil," he said, gesturing at a large drawing he was working on and the incongruous objects nestling in it. "It adds more interest to it (to hide critters)."

"I had people betting on the number of critters in a drawing. One man got up to 38," Stephens said. "I never did tell him there was only five worms sitting on a light bulb."

About seven years ago Stephens started working on sculpture, learning from another sculptor. At first his sculptures were realistic, as are his drawings, but soon they proved to have a life of their own.

"Actually I was bored with it (realism), so I put away the calipers and my scale drawings and just started slapping clay and working with form," he said. "It just kind of flows into some kind of form. I always have an idea where I'm going with it, but what I'll end up with I have no idea. I like that. It's new territory, you might say."

He still does about 90 percent pencil drawings and only 10 percent sculptures, but the sculpture buyers are catching up with the drawing buyers, so that may change.

"Primarily I do pencil drawings and secondarily sculpture and pastels," he said. "Every once in a while I'll get a wild hair and do some oils."

Stephens' gallery is his web site, and that's where he does most of his business, apart from shows he does in Arizona, New Mexico and Michigan. His wife, Emily, frames the drawings and prints and travels around to the shows with him.

More than 50 limited-edition prints of his pencil drawings and some of his bronze sculptures can be seen on his web site at www.notevena.com, or call 354-3352.

EYE ON THE ARTS

Adobe, The

2905 Sudderth Drive, 257-5795, 257-4489 (residence). Upscale and unusual silver jewelry, metal works, accessories, paintings, pottery, hardwood items by local artisans and crafters.

Art and Artifact

107 S. Lincoln Ave., Capitan, 354-2316. A contemporary gallery featuring fine art and rare, unusual objects for collectors. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, or by appointment.

Bellas Artes Gallery

No. 15 Jira Plaza, 700 Mechem, (877) 630-8606. Featuring the sophisticated art of Manuel Lopez Cia.

Benson Fine Art

Off Hwy. 70, San Patricio, 653-4081. Now open in its new location in San Patricio, call 653-4081.

California Colors

201 Country Club Rd., Ruidoso, 257-9011. Barbara Delhi-Westbrook is the artist in residence of this gallery of art.

Cruces Art Bronze

524 Sudderth, 257-7186. Foundry, gallery and jewelry. Specializing in custom bronze casting, bronze sculpture, alabaster, and more. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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. to 5 p.m., Monday - Saturday.

Fruit of the Trees

Hwy 380 bet. mile marker 95 and 96, 653-4699. Artist Paula Wilson and bookbinder Beverly Wilson showcase their hand-made paper, blank journals and multiple products - all with paper. Turn north at the sign on Hwy. 380 between mile marker 95 and 96, follow the drive and signs to the studio.

Gail's Frame of Mind

1204 Mechem, Ruidoso, 258-9071. Featuring exclusively "Ruidoso's Winter Moon" and Sierra Blanca Art and Lincoln County artists. Originals by Gaylon Gillem, Isz, Joyce Jones, Bernice Lnadrum, Marcia Bizeau and Bear Tiewis, Rick Hall, and others. Open Mon.-Fri, 10-5 and Sat., 10-2.

G.D. Garrett Fine Art

2306 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, 257-7695 or 257-6977. Featuring original art and prints by local artist Gary Garrett. Originals and prints of Sierra Blanca and local wildlife.

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. Open Thursday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hurd-La Rinconada Gallery

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

Michael Hurd's latest works plus works by Peter Hurd, Henriette Wyeth Hurd, Andrew Wyeth, Jamie Wyeth, Carol Hurd Rogers and Peter de la Fuente. Works can be viewed Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and by appointment on Sunday.

The Kenyon Thomas Gallery

546 Sudderth, 257-1056. Pottery and pastels by Kenyon Thomas, fine weavings by Marcia Thomas. Call for gallery hours.

Lorene & Larry's Frame & Art

268 Main Rd. Capitan, 354-2605. Original art, watercolor painting, Southwestern prints and custom design furniture by Larry.

J. Mauritsen Studio

501-B Carrizo Canyon Rd., 257-6348. Freestyle sculptures. Stone and burled wood. Also works by Apache sculptor Jordan Torres. Always open.

McMahon Fine Art

No. 7 Jira Plaza, 700 Mechem, 257-9102. Tom McMahon features internationally acclaimed artists in a variety of media. American paintings and works on paper, 18th to 20th centuries.

The Montano Store

Hwy. 380, Lincoln, 653-4372. Featuring the newly renovated store and temporary exhibits highlighting the Montano family, Hispanic contributions to the area and adobe architecture. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday to Sunday. Admission fee included in the \$7 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, Suanne Wamsley and more. Handmade artifacts, pottery, kachinas and rugs. Open seven days, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nogal Store & Gallery

Highway 37, Nogal. Featuring the works of Nogal and Lincoln County area artists and craftsmen. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday - 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. Call for hours.

Rio Street Gallery

Located in Midtown at 111 Rio St., Ruidoso, 257-6944. Original fine art in a variety of media by nationally acclaimed artists. Gallery hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Roswell Fine Arts League/N.M. Miniature Arts

Society

107 E. 5th St., Roswell, 623-5263

A co-op gallery that is open from noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday - Saturday, and has a reception for artists the second Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

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, where you can meet the artist and watch as a creation unfolds before your eyes. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday - Sunday.

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 - Sunday, or by appt.

The Tree's House

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

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

Unique Creations

Nogal Mesa, 354-3500 354-4203.

Creative expressions by Sandy Hartley include fiber art furniture, etched and stained glass, original macrome headboards, wall hangings etc. Open by appointment for interior consultation, commissions and gift items.

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.

White Mtn. Pottery Gallery

2328 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, 257-3644.

Established in 1975 and featuring a collection of talented clay artists, it offers tableware, lamps and accessories by local and nationally known potters. 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 Heymann 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. to 5 p.m.

Local potter finds notoriety with recent magazine article

Ruidoso potter Larry Davidson is featured in the January issue of the national magazine "Ceramics Monthly."

The article sparked immediate interest in his work, Davidson said.

"I've had collectors and other buyers from all over contacting me, many of them through our new Web site," he said. After years of digging in the southern New Mexican dirt, it's nice to get a little recognition.

Davidson's work is unusual because he is involved in so many of the stages of production, and because he uses native New Mexican materials at every opportunity.

Unlike most potters who buy commercially prepared clay, Davidson makes his own from volcanic rock that he collects in the nearby Capitan Mountains. He creates his own glazes from volcanic ash, sand and from rock dug in abandoned quarries.

His clay-making process makes use of gravity, dehydration and plain old physical labor.

"I'm about as low-tech as you can get," he said, laughing. "But I've got the method down, so I've got clay being made almost all the time." Clay-making goes on from May until November, with each batch yielding about 1,000 pounds.

Most potters fire their work in electric or gas kilns; Davidson's pottery is wood-fired in a kiln that he designed and built from bricks salvaged from a Phelps Dodge refinery near Deming. He even cuts some of the wood himself.

Davidson is modest about the amount of work that goes into each cup, bowl, vase or jar.

"Potters like to make things, so I enjoy making the equipment and the clay almost as much as I enjoy making pots," he said. "By using native New Mexican materials as much as possible, I can create something regional that really can't be duplicated."

His work can be seen locally at White Mountain Pottery, in the museum store at the Roswell Museum and Art Center and on the Web at littlecreekpottery.com.

Capitan third graders make cachet envelopes available

Smokey's Stampers, the third-grade classes at Capitan Elementary School have made two cachet envelopes.

This year the design is one of Smokey and a mountain scene. Friends of Smokey-Capitan has supported this group.

Cachets are available for \$5 from Smokey's Stampers, box 545, Capitan, N.M., 88316.

Three more cancellations will be issued in May, August and October.

Those who would like a cancellation can send a self-addressed, stamped envelope of postcard to Postmaster, Capitan, N.M., 88316-998.

Washington, D.C., gave special permission for these four cancellations to run 90 days each instead of 30 days. The cachet envelope will be the same for each cancellation. The envelope is stamped with the 20 cents Smokey stamp and four different 13 cents quilt stamps.

Statewide art competition set

The Art in Public Places Program of New Mexico Arts invites artists to apply to the following public art competitions.

One is a 2d/3d interior piece to be placed at the new Game and Fish building in Santa Fe. The other is a 3d exterior piece to be displayed at The New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in the grassy area to the south of Macey Center in Socorro. Artists are encouraged to apply by requesting a prospectus for each project under consideration. The deadline for the first competition, a three or two dimensional piece to be placed inside the new Game and Fish building in Santa Fe, is March 9. The second deadline, for the exterior three dimensional piece to be placed at the grassy area to the south of Macey Center in Socorro, is April 4. For more information call 1-800-879-4278 or 505/827-6490.



Casino Deck Restaurant

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

Price Range: \$\$
 Phone: 257-5141, ext. 7858
 Address: Inn of the Mountain Gods
 Carrizo Canyon Road
 Mescalero
 Hours: Breakfast 7-10:30 a.m.
 Lunch, Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
 Lunch, Sat. & Sun. noon-3:30 p.m.
 Dinner, Sun.-Thurs. 5-9:30 p.m.
 Dinner, Fri.-Sat. 5-11:30 p.m.



Cattle Baron

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

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



Farley's Food Fun & Pub

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

Price Range: \$-\$\$
 Phone: 258-5676
 Address: 1200 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso
 Hours: The restaurant opens at
 11:30 a.m. 7 days a week



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 7 days a week from 6 a.m.

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

La Lorraine

Located in midtown Ruidoso, the inviting exterior of La Lorraine restaurant promises a memorable and exquisite dining experience inside. Low chandelier lighting, softly draped ceilings, lush flower arrangements and soothing music is merely an introduction to a dining experience fulfilled by meticulous service and unforgettable gourmet menu items including Salmon, Steaks, Veal Chop, Rack of Lamb,

and Duck to name a few. The meals are enhanced by an excellent wine list including vintage bordeauxs.

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

Phone: 257-2954

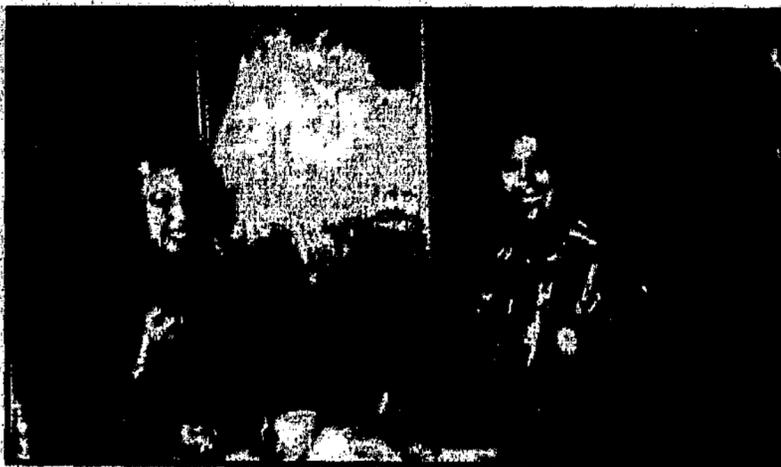
Address: ... 2523 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso

Hours: ... Lunch & Dinner Wed.-Sat.

11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Dinner Monday-Thursday 5:30-9 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 5:30-9:30 p.m.



Little Nellies

Home-style southwestern Mexican cooking can now be found in the heart of Ruidoso. Little Nellie's has been featured in *Gourmet* and *Sunset* magazines and was voted best southwestern Mexican food 3 years running in Las Cruces, NM by the "People's Choice" feature in the *Sun News*. Little Nellie's cordially invites you and your family to sample our family's cooking tradition.

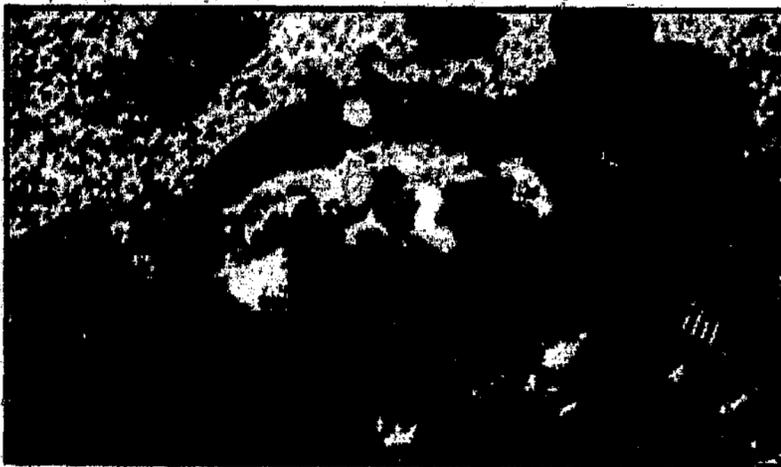
Price Range: \$-\$\$

Phone: 630-0911

Address: 101 Vision St.

"at the Circle"

Hours: 7 days a week



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 in Ruidoso

Hours: Open from 11:00 a.m.



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

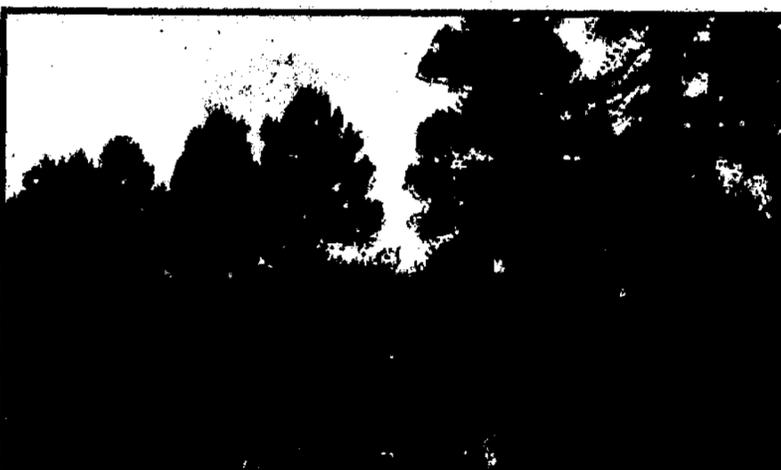
Address: 212 Metz Dr.

in Innsbrook Village, Ruidoso

Hours: Lunch 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.;

Dinner 5-10 p.m.;

(Closed Mondays)



dining guide

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

Paid Advertising

GOING OUT



The Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts

Courtesy Spencer Theater

Spencer Theater board names new executive director

The six-month search for a new executive director at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts ended Wednesday with the naming of interim director Charles Centilli to the position.

Centilli, the non profit theater's director of business affairs since before its opening in the fall of 1997, has served in the position since July 1999.

The announcement was made by the theater's board of trustees.

A 20-year veteran of theater operations, Centilli immediately assumed the appointment.

While discussing the selection, the 11 member board expressed confidence in Centilli's proven skills managing the \$22-million facility for the past six months. During that time, he continued operations within budget, while also bolstering current programming and booking a summer season full



Courtesy Spencer Theater
Charles Centilli

of world-class performances, among other successes.

As business director, Centilli has managed all business affairs including the 514-seat facility's multi-million dollar annual budget.

No changes will be made to current theater operations, Centilli said.

The hall is one of the few in the country presenting performances year-round, and will continue to do so with its staff of finance, operations, marketing and box office personnel.

Prior to joining the Spencer in 1996, Centilli served as business manager of the University of Texas Performing Arts Center in Austin, Texas, where he gained 16 years of experience in finance and arts management.

A Texas native, he holds a degree in finance from the University of Texas.

"Svirka" to bring flavor of Europe to New Mexico Tech

One of the benefits of attending Performing Arts Series (PAS) events at New Mexico Tech is the opportunity to sample a variety of cultures through music, song, and dance.

As such, "Svirka," a Balkan women's chorus, will bring to town the exotic flavor of Eastern Europe in a PAS concert beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 4, at New Mexico Tech's Macey Center in Socorro.

The Albuquerque-based group is comprised of 13 women who have been singing together since 1979. Drawn to the strength and vitality of the music, the group draws its material from Bulgaria, the former Yugoslavia, Hungary, Greece, Macedonia, Albania, Russian, and Gypsy communities.

Svirka will be joined on stage by a professional dancer known as "Travis," who has danced and taught internationally. "This is a really special treat, and totally unexpected," said Ronna Kalish, PAS director.

A subset of Svirka, a trio called "The Earth Angels," also will perform several songs of a more contemporary nature, Kalish said.

"Svirka is a really delightful group that has been around for a long time," said Kalish.

Indeed, since group members have been singing together for more than 20 years, they share a closeness that lends a special harmony to their arrangements.

Dressed in colorful costumes, the women sing bold work songs and touching, often humorous, love songs. The exotic sounds of the balalaika, tamboura, tupan, and other instruments indigenous to Balkan cultures weave through the many voices.

"They really focus on music from the Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Russia and have played all over New Mexico and in regional festivals," said Kalish. "this is a chance for those steeped in the rich culture of the Southwest to experience something entirely different."

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for people 65 and over, and \$4 for those 17 and under. Tickets are available in Socorro at:

New Mexico Tech Bookstore; New Mexico Tech Cashier's Window, Brown Hall; Brownbill's Western Wear, 11 Manzanares, Video Tyme, 105 Bullock; Video Shack, 419 California; Ronna Kalish, PAS director, (505) 835-5688 or rkalish@admin.nmt.edu

The New Mexico Tech Performing Arts Series is funded in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Office of Cultural Affairs. New Mexico Tech provides major underwriting for the series.

Movies

Friday, Feb. 25

"Ranchwomen of New Mexico"

A traveling exhibit of photographs by Ann Bromberg. Opening reception 5:30-7 p.m. at the Roswell Museum and Art Center, at 11th and Main Streets in Roswell. Continues through July 16.

Gregory Popovich's Pet Circus

7:30 p.m. at Macey Center on the New Mexico Tech campus in Socorro. Housecats as circus performers. Tickets are \$12/\$10/\$8.

Smart Strategies Sales Motivation and Results Training

7-8:30 p.m. in the public meeting room at Ruidoso High School. The topic is 12 powerful life principles.

Saturday, Feb. 26

Kid's Club

11 a.m. at 2814 Sudderth Drive. For children 3 to twelve-years-old. Games, prizes, snacks. Transportation can be provided. 378-1113.

Club Amistad

11 a.m. 2814 Sudderth Drive. Invita a todos los niños de 3 a 12 años. Tendremos: juegos, premios, snack y mucha diversion. Si necesitas transportación habla al 378-1113. Gratis.

Tuesday, Feb. 29

Duo Karudan - Piano and Violin

8 p.m. at Buchanan Hall, ENMU-Portales. (505) 562-2787.

Council Meeting

6:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

Wednesday, March 1

Ruidoso Book Review and Discussion Group

10 a.m. at First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Road. Presentation will be "The Day A Generation Died." Everyone is invited to attend.

Friday, March 3

Fort Bliss Spring Bazaar

12 p.m.-6 p.m. at the Stout Physical Center, Airport at Forrest Road, Fort Bliss, TX. Continuing through Saturday and Sunday, March 4 and 5. Jewelry, clothing, arts and crafts, and food. (915) 562-3343

Ongoing

AARP Free Tax Assistance

At the Ruidoso Senior Center, 501 Sudderth every Thursday and Friday, through April 14. 257-4565

Aspen Leaf School of Dance

A non-profit parent's organization and formerly Randall Graham School of Dance. The school offers quality dance classes

Class Reunions

Parliant High School Class of 1964-1974

Looking for alumni for class reunion to be held the weekend of July 28-30 at the Marriott Hotel in El Paso, Texas. Call Taylor Reunion Services at 800-677-7800 or send E-mail to reunions@tayforpub.com to update addresses and phone numbers.

Ruidoso High School Class of 1990

is looking for alumni for its 10 year reunion. Contact Allen Crane at (817) 685-7871 or 750 E. Midcities Blvd. #309, Euless, Tex. 76039.

from creative/pre-ballet to advanced ballet, adult ballet classes, belly dancing and boys' tap classes. Registration is on-going. 336-4896 or 354-9109.

Blood Pressure Clinic

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Ruidoso Senior Center, 501 Sudderth. 257-4565.

Bridge

At the Ruidoso Senior Center, 501 Sudderth. 257-4565.

• Party Bridge - Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., Fridays, 1 p.m.

• Duplicate Bridge - Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 1 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m.

Internet Training

Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m. at the Capitan Public Library, 106 S. Lincoln Ave., Capitan. Please call to reserve a space. (505) 3035.

Pre-School Story Hour

Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m. at the Ruidoso Public Library, 107 Kansas City Rd. (next to the Village Hall). 258-3704.

Pre-School Story Hour

Thursdays, 10-11 a.m. at the Ruidoso Public Library, 107 Kansas City Rd. (next to the Village Hall). 258-3704

Pre-School Story Time

Thursdays, 11 a.m.-noon at the Capitan Public Library. Pre-schoolers and their parents/care givers all welcome! 354-3035.

Movie Time

Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m. at the Ruidoso Public Library, 107 Kansas City Rd. (next to the Village Hall). 258-3704

High School Drama Festival

University Theatre Center at ENMU, Portales. Call (505)562-2711.

Capitan Public Library

106 S. Lincoln Ave. Free registration. Open Tuesday and Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Info and renew by phone (505) 354-3035.

• Spanish workstation available to the public. Write and learn in Spanish!

Community Action Agency of Southern New Mexico

is currently accepting applications for its weatherization program for low income, elderly, and disabled residents. If you are interested, you may get an application by writing to Weatherization Assistance Program, P.O. Drawer 2227, Roswell, NM 88202-2227 or by calling 1-800-624-1660.

Meals on Wheels

Senior Food Program

Monday-Friday, noon at the Zia Senior Center, Ruidoso Downs, in the dining hall. For the Ruidoso area. 378-4659.

Ruidoso Public Library

107 Kansas City Rd. (next to the Ruidoso Village Hall) 258-3704. Open Monday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

• Friends of the Library Book Shoppe are open 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Exhibits & Receptions

Bob Reynieron and Sam Huston

Lincoln County artists Bob Reynieron of White Oaks and Sam Huston of Carrizozo are the featured artists for February at the Eagle Ranch. The Eagle Ranch is at 7288 Highway 54/70 between Alamogordo and Tularosa and is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week. (800) 432-0999 or 434-0035.

Frederic Wise

Guest artist for February at The Gallery, 107 E. 5th St. in Roswell. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Wise does pen and ink drawings,



Courtesy Miramax

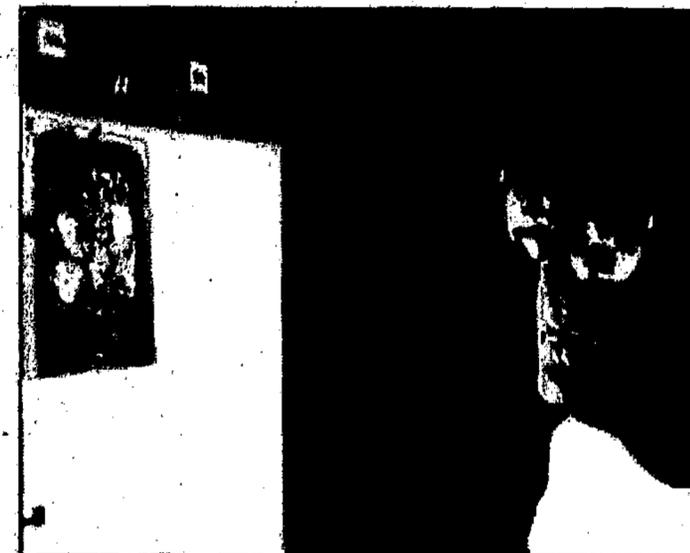
MICHAEL CAINE as Dr. Wilbur Larch in Miramax's *The Cider House Rules*.



Copyright © 2000 Columbia Pictures

Courtesy Columbia Pictures

SISTERS MADDY (Lisa Kudrow, left), EVE (Meg Ryan, center) and GEORGIA (Diane Keaton) get a hilarious surprise when they pay an unannounced visit on their father in the Columbia Pictures presentation, *Hanging Up*.



Courtesy Warner Brothers

MATTHEW PERRY as "Oz" Oseransky in Warner Brothers' *The Whole Nine Yards*.

many involving the human figure.

ENMU Art Show

Eastern New Mexico University Ruidoso Instruction Center's first art show to include all art classes for the fall semester runs through Feb. 25.

Private Art in Public Places

At the Ruidoso Library: a painting exhibition by Mescalero artist Oliver Enjady continues through Feb. 29. 258-3704.

At the Chamber of Commerce, Jesse Hofacker is displaying photography.

The Free Spirits Juried Fine & Decorative Art Show and Sale

Hubbard Museum of the American West. Works from New Mexican artists in different media. The show will run through March 19. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 378-4142.

The Cider House Rules

Drama

Rated PG-13 for mature thematic elements, sexuality, nudity, substance abuse and some violence.

Starring: Tobey Maguire, Charlize Theron, Michael Caine, Delroy Lindo and Paul Rudd Directed by Lasse Hallstrom.

Produced by Richard Gladstein.

Written by John Irving.

Distributor: Miramax Films

Synopsis Based on the best-selling novel by John Irving, it's the story of Homer Wells, a child without parents raised and mentored by his orphanage's doctor, a man named Larch. He taught Homer everything about medicine and what he could do right and wrong, but he never gave him rules to live by. When he leaves to discover the world, he has more excitement than he could ever imagine, especially when he falls in love for the first time. But when forced to make decisions that will change the course of his future, he ultimately realizes that he can't escape his past.

Hanging Up

Comedy and Drama. 1 hr. 26 min.

Rated: PG-13 for language and some sex-related material.

Starring: Meg Ryan, Diane Keaton, Lisa Kudrow, Walter Matthau, Adam Arkin.

Directed by: Diane Keaton.

Produced by: Laurence Mark and Nora Ephron.

Written by: Nora Ephron and Delia Ephron.

Distributor: Columbia Tristar

Synopsis: Three sisters - Eve, Georgia and Maddy - deal with life, love, and death on the telephone when they learn that their father, after years of wild living, intermittent affection, constant phoning and driving them crazy, is finally threatening to die.

The Whole Nine Yards

Comedy. Rated R for some sexuality/nudity and violence.

Starring: Bruce Willis, Amanda Peet, Matthew Perry, Natasha Henstridge and Michael Clarke Duncan

Directed by: Jonathan Lynn.

Produced by: Elie Samaha and Andrew Stevens.

Written by: Mitchell Kapner.

Distributor: Warner Brothers

Synopsis: Nicholas "Oz" Oseransky is a nice dentist living in suburban Montreal. His new next door neighbor, Jimmy "The Tulip" Tudeski, is a hit man hiding out from a dangerous Chicago crime family. Despite their differences, Oz and Jimmy have one thing in common: someone's trying to kill them both. For Jimmy, avoiding a couple of hired killers is child's play. But for Oz, it's a whole new ball game. To stay alive, they're going to have to stick together - Jimmy with his cunning and cold-blooded accuracy and Oz with his dental tools.

Music

Win, Place & Show

Live music by Wild Cart from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. through Sunday at 2516 Sudderth Dr.

The Quarters

Live music through Sunday. Karaoke on Mondays and Tuesdays at 2535 Sudderth Dr.

Cree Meadows Country Club

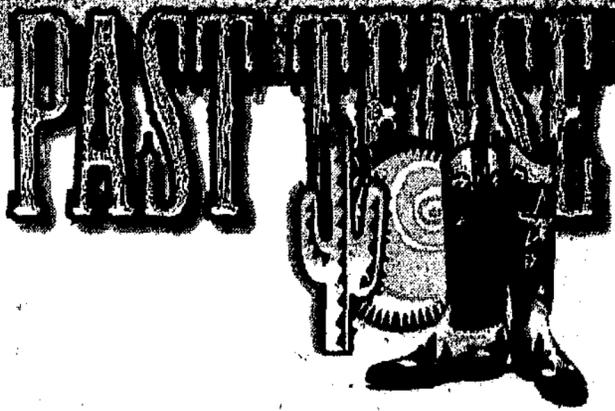
Live music every night: piano from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., dancing Wednesday through Saturday, 7 p.m.-11 p.m.

The Lighthouse

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

Hollywood Inn

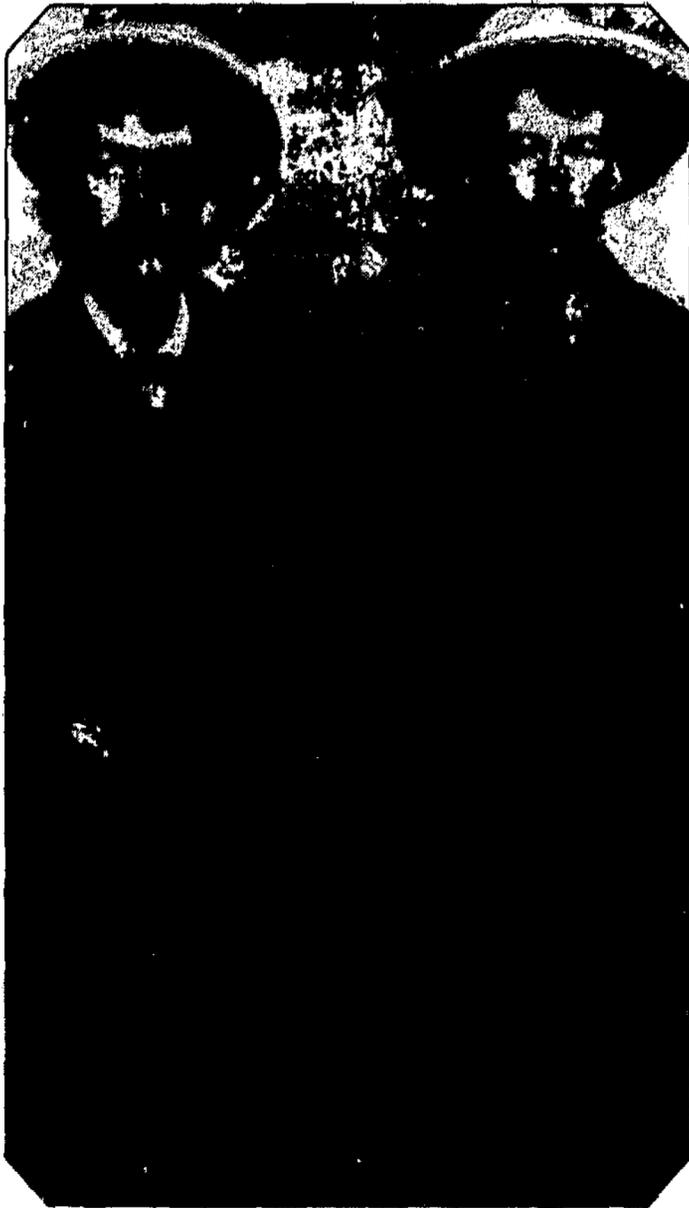
Western, Tex Mex and old rock'n roll music Friday and Saturday 9 p.m.-1 a.m. by Longhorn Band. Across from Ruidoso Ford.



Drew Gamber
HISTORIAN,
THE HUBBARD MUSEUM
OF THE AMERICAN WEST

Fred Waite, the erudite Regulator

One of the posse members belonged to that benevolent order [Masons] and Fred was sent on his way, undoubtedly relieved to be leaving Texas. Of course, had he known what was in store for him in Lincoln County, New Mexico Territory, he may have thought better of it.



REGULATORS — Fred Waite, left, and a man thought to be Henry Brown, circa 1878.

In the autumn of 1878, following the climactic battle at the McSween house in July, some of the former Regulators followed Billy the Kid down to Tascosa, Texas to dispose of some stolen stock. It is a good bet that at least some of this stolen stock came from the herds of John Chisum, a former supporter of the Regulators.

After the death of Alexander McSween, Chisum's support had begun to crumble rapidly and the Kid, at least, felt that Chisum still owed the Regulators something. Consequently, he and his cronies had, whenever possible, liberated stock from Chisum's herds.

After a few weeks spent sampling the "good life" of Tascosa, the former Regulators came to a final parting of the ways. Against the advice of their friends, Billy and his now inseparable pal, Tom O'Folliard, headed back up to Lincoln County. Neither lived more than three years, both being destined to fatally collide with Pat Garrett in the dead of night, O'Folliard in December of 1880 and Billy in July of 1881.

This left former Regulators Fred Waite, Henry Brown, and John Middleton at loose ends. Both Middleton and Brown headed for Kansas. Middleton to relative obscurity and Brown to a certain infamy. Henry Brown became the Marshal of wild and woolly Caldwell, Kansas, which he proceeded to clean up with a vengeance. The citizens even presented him with a rifle, embossed with his name and their sentiments of gratitude. Unfortunately, he used

this same rifle to stick up the bank at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, some 70 miles away. The holdup was botched and the bandits captured. That night, when a lynch mob approached the jail, Henry Brown determined that he would not be hanged. He managed to avoid that particular form of dying by rushing headlong at a man carrying a double-barreled shotgun. Henry wasn't hanged.

Beginnings

Frederick Tecumseh Waite was born September 23, 1853, at Fort Arbuckle, Indian Territory (modern Oklahoma). Fred was the eldest of the ten children born to Thomas Felcher Waite and Catherine McClure Waite. When Fred was about five years of age, the family moved north to farm along the Washita River. With them they brought Catherine's parents, Catherine and Smith Paul. Fred's grandfather, Smith, was destined to figure prominently in the future of his grandson after the Lincoln County War.

The Waite family were successful farmers and they ultimately became one of the most respected families in the Chickasaw Nation. Smith even opened a successful mercantile store and founded the town of "Smith Paul's Valley, known today as "Paul's Valley." Fred was afforded the finest education that the family could provide. Initially, he was sent away to a private school in Arkansas, and then ultimately attended Illinois Industrial University at Champaign, receiving his degree from Mound City Commercial College at St. Louis, Missouri in 1874. It is interesting to note that it was at this time that the James/Younger gang was terrorizing that area. One wonders what the youthful, future Regulator thought about these infamous bandits. Especially when you consider what the future held for young Fred.

After completing his schooling, Fred returned home where he joined the Masons. The field of conjecture is wide open where the feelings of the participants in the Lincoln County War are concerned. For that reason, I find that I say the words "It is interesting to note" quite frequently. And here I go again...

It is interesting to note that L.G. Murphy and, in fact, nearly all of the "leading lights" of the Murphy/Dolan faction (as well as the Santa Fe Ring) were active Masons. One wonders what the young Mason Fred thought of that!

On April 24, 1874, Fred's father Thomas passed away and

his mother and younger sister Irene elected to go east to Ohio. Despite the fact that the area around the Waite home was becoming increasingly prosperous, Fred decided to head for Texas in search of adventure. He found it with a vengeance.

The travels of Fred

While making his way across the Texas Panhandle, Fred was accosted by a group of riders working as an impromptu posse. They had been scouring the area for a horse thief that had been plaguing the local ranches, and when they found Fred, they figured that they had their man. He was a stranger and to them, that was as good an admission of guilt as anything. Realizing that these men fully intended to lynch him, Fred gave the Mason distress signal. Luckily for Fred, one of the posse members belonged to that benevolent order and Fred was sent on his way, undoubtedly relieved to be leaving Texas. Of course, had he known what was in store for him in Lincoln County, New Mexico Territory, he may have thought better of it.

As it turned out, Fred landed in Colorado where he stayed for quite some time before showing up in Lincoln County in 1877. Finding employment with rancher John Tunstall, Fred became friendly with a youthful cowhand who went by the name of Kid Antrim. Despite the differences in their ages (Fred was 25, and the Kid was probably around 18) the two became fast friends and planned to ranch together along the Rio Bonito. Fate, of course, had other plans for them.

Postwar years

After the dramatic conclusion to the Lincoln County War, and Fred's brief stint as a rustler with Kid Antrim, now known as Billy the Kid, Fred, as stated earlier, elected to return home to Paul's Valley. But, as is always the case, time did not stand still in his absence. Upon his return, Fred found that the area around Paul's Valley had now become known as the "Free State of Pickens," and was something of a haven for rustlers, thieves and killers, the majority of whom were Anglos. According to historian Marcus Huff, "organized law enforcement was considered a joke; jurisdiction of the Chickasaw Nation fell into the gray area between tribal courts and those of the United States in Western Arkansas. The result was a free-for-all of murder, drunkenness and mayhem."

In other words, it was exactly the kind of place that Fred's experiences in Lincoln County had pre-

pared him for. In the spring of 1881, at about the same time that his pal Billy the Kid was facing charges of murdering Sheriff Brady during the Lincoln County War, Fred was starting a new life in the Nations (Oklahoma). By the way, Fred, like Billy, was charged with the murder of Brady. And this was rightfully so — Fred had been in the corral with the ambush party that day. The warrant for Fred was returned with the words "unable to find" back in 1879.

Romance rears its ugly head

Despite the unsubstantiated (but probably true) fact that Fred had either a wife or paramour in San Patricio, in Lincoln County, he took up with Patsy, the wife of a man named James Hawkins. In 1880, a son was born to the couple. James Hawkins reaction to this has not been recorded, but is fairly easy to imagine. The boy, perhaps not coincidentally, was named "Billy." Unfortunately, Fred's love life was to become the least of his problems.

In June of 1881, a stranger, identified only as "Smith" rode into Paul's Valley leading a horse that was allegedly stolen. "Smith" was seen around town with a man named Sam Ross and two other unidentified men. They appeared to be preparing for a trip across country, and Constable Sam Paul (Fred's uncle) was notified. Deputizing a cowboy named Frank Welch, along with Tecumseh McClure (another of Fred's uncles), and Fred himself, the four-man posse started after the alleged culprits.

Later that day, Smith entered a store owned by John Wantland, and his behavior caused Wantland to suspect that his store was about to be robbed. Actually, Smith had become wary of the man that appeared to be following him, and justifiably so — it was Frank Welch.

The little posse, consisting

almost entirely of Fred and his relatives, startled Smith and his compadres the next morning at a place called Rush Creek. By now, the posse had been enlarged to about 12 men, and, splitting up, they advanced on the campsite of the suspects. As deputies Welch and McClure approached, gunfire erupted from the direction of the camp.

We will probably never know what really happened that day. All that was known at the time was that Smith was found extremely dead from a pistol shot. Now, the only two men that had advanced into the camp itself had been Sam Paul, who was armed with a shotgun, and Fred, who was armed, most incriminatingly, with a pistol. Curiously — no, weirdly is a better word — deputy Welch, when he heard the gunfire, elected, at that particular moment, to go to lunch, which indicates that there was more to the story than anyone will ever know.

Finale

As rumors began to abound that Smith, was, in fact, innocent, suspicion fell increasingly on Fred, who had gone back to being a merchant with one of his brothers. On July 5, 1882, Fred, Frank Welch and Tecumseh McClure were tossed into jail at Fort Smith, Arkansas for the murder of "one Smith, a white man whose full name is unknown." Well, it seems that the courts felt that yet another dead white man in the Indian Territory was nothing to get overly excited about, and on August 12, 1882, the case was dismissed.

Fred had finally achieved a certain normalcy in his life. He had married some time before, and his wife Mary produced a daughter, Kate, in 1883. Fred busied himself in politics and became a journalist who fought to keep the Nations closed to white settlement. In 1887, it was recorded that he was riding with the Indian

Police Force. In 1889, he was the Chickasaw Nation Speaker of the House, and he ran for the Senate in 1890.

That same year, Fred and Mary split and Mary took Katie to Minnesota with her. There is no record of the reason for the divorce, but it was only three years later, in 1893, that Attorney General Waite ran afoul of the law for the last time. Seems that Fred had been selling beer illegally from the back of a local drugstore. Fred narrowly missed prosecution for this, thanks largely to a friend who hid his kegs of beer for him.

In August of 1894, Fred Waite fell ill, and on September 24, 1894, one day after his 41st birthday, the part-Chickasaw gunman, writer and politician succumbed to pneumonia at his home at Ardmore in the Indian Territory. And in the end, he paid

"that debt which cancels all others."

— Charles Caleb Colton

Sources: *Old Habits Die Hard: A Note on Frederick T. Waite* by Marcus Huff, and *A Documentary History of the Lincoln County War* by Frederick Nolan.

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PHOTOS!

In a battle of wits with kitchen appliances, I'm toast



Dave Barry
DAVE'S WORLD
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Recently, The Washington Post printed an article explaining how the appliance manufacturers plan to drive consumers insane.

Of course they don't SAY they want to drive us insane. What they SAY they want to do is have us live in homes where "all appliances are on the Internet, sharing information" and appliances will be "smarter than most of their owners." For example, the article states, you would have a home where the dishwasher "can be turned on from the office" and the refrigerator "knows when it's out of milk" and the bathroom scale "transmits your weight to the gym."

I frankly wonder whether the appliance manufacturers, with all due respect, have been smoking crack. I mean, did they ever stop to ask themselves WHY a consumer, after loading a dishwasher, would go to the office to start it? Would there be some kind of career benefit?

YOUR BOSS: What are you doing?

YOU (tapping computer keyboard): I'm starting my dishwasher!

YOUR BOSS: That's the kind

of productivity we need around here!

YOU: Now I'm flushing the upstairs toilet!

Listen, appliance manufacturers: We don't NEED a dishwasher that we can communicate with from afar. If you want to improve our dishwashers, give us one that senses when people leave dirty dishes on the kitchen counter, and shouts at them: "PUT THOSE DISHES IN THE DISHWASHER RIGHT NOW OR I'LL LEAK ALL OVER YOUR SHOES!"

Likewise, we don't need a refrigerator that knows when it's out of milk. We already have a foolproof system for determining if we're out of milk: We ask our wife. What we could use is a refrigerator that refuses to let us open its door when it senses that we are about to consume our fourth Jell-O Pudding Snack in two hours.

As for a scale that transmits our weight to the gym: Are they NUTS? We don't want our weight transmitted to our own EYEBALLS! What if the gym decided to transmit our weight to all these other appliances on the Internet? What if, God forbid, our refrigerator found out what our weight was? We'd never get the door open again!

But here is what really concerns me about these new "smart" appliances: Even if we like the features, we won't be able to use them. We can't use the appliance features we have NOW. I have a feature-packed telephone with 43 buttons, at least 20 of which I am afraid to touch. This phone probably can communicate with the dead, but I don't know how to operate it, just as I don't know how to operate my TV, which has features out the wazooty and requires THREE remote controls. One control (44 buttons)

came with the TV; a second (39 buttons) came with the VCR; the third (37 buttons) was brought here by the cable-TV man, who apparently felt that I did not have enough buttons.

So when I want to watch TV, I'm confronted with a total of 120 buttons, identified by such helpful labels as PIP, MTS, DBS, F2, JUMP and BLANK. There are three buttons labeled POWER, but there are times — especially if my son and his friends, who are not afraid of features, have changed the settings — when I honestly cannot figure out how to turn the TV on. I stand there, holding three remote controls, pressing buttons at random, until eventually I give up and go turn on the dishwasher. It has been, literally, years since I have successfully recorded a TV show. That is how "smart" my appliances have become.

And now the appliance manufacturers want to give us even MORE features. Do you know what this means? It means that some night you'll open the door of your "smart" refrigerator, looking for a beer, and you'll hear a pleasant, cheerful voice — recorded by the same woman who informs you that Your Call Is Important when you call a business that does not wish to speak with you personally — telling you: "Your celery is limp." You will not know how your refrigerator knows this, and, what is worse, you will not know who else your refrigerator is telling about it ("Hey, Bob! I hear your celery is limp!"). And if you want to try to make the refrigerator STOP, you'll have to decipher Owner's Manual instructions written by and for nuclear physicists ("To disable the Produce Crispness Monitoring feature, enter the Command Mode, then select the Edit function, then select

Change Vegetable Defaults, then assume that Train A leaves Chicago traveling westbound at 47 miles per hour, while Train B...").

Is this the kind of future you want, consumers? Do you want appliances that are smarter than you? Of course not. Your appliances should be DUMBER than you, just like your furniture, your pets and your representatives in Congress. So I am urging you to let the appliance industry know, by phone, letter, fax and e-mail, that when it comes to "smart" appliances, you vote NO. You need to act quickly. Because while you're

reading this, your microwave oven is voting YES.

(Dave Barry is a humor columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami FL 33132. The Dave Barry-for-President campaign needs you! Check out Dave's Web site at <http://www.herald.com/dave-barry/> for secret orders.)

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