

# RUIDOSO

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RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • FRIDAY, JAN. 2, 2004 • OUR 57TH YEAR, NO. 64 • 50 CENTS

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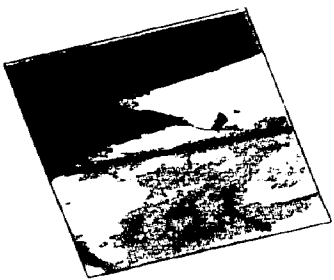
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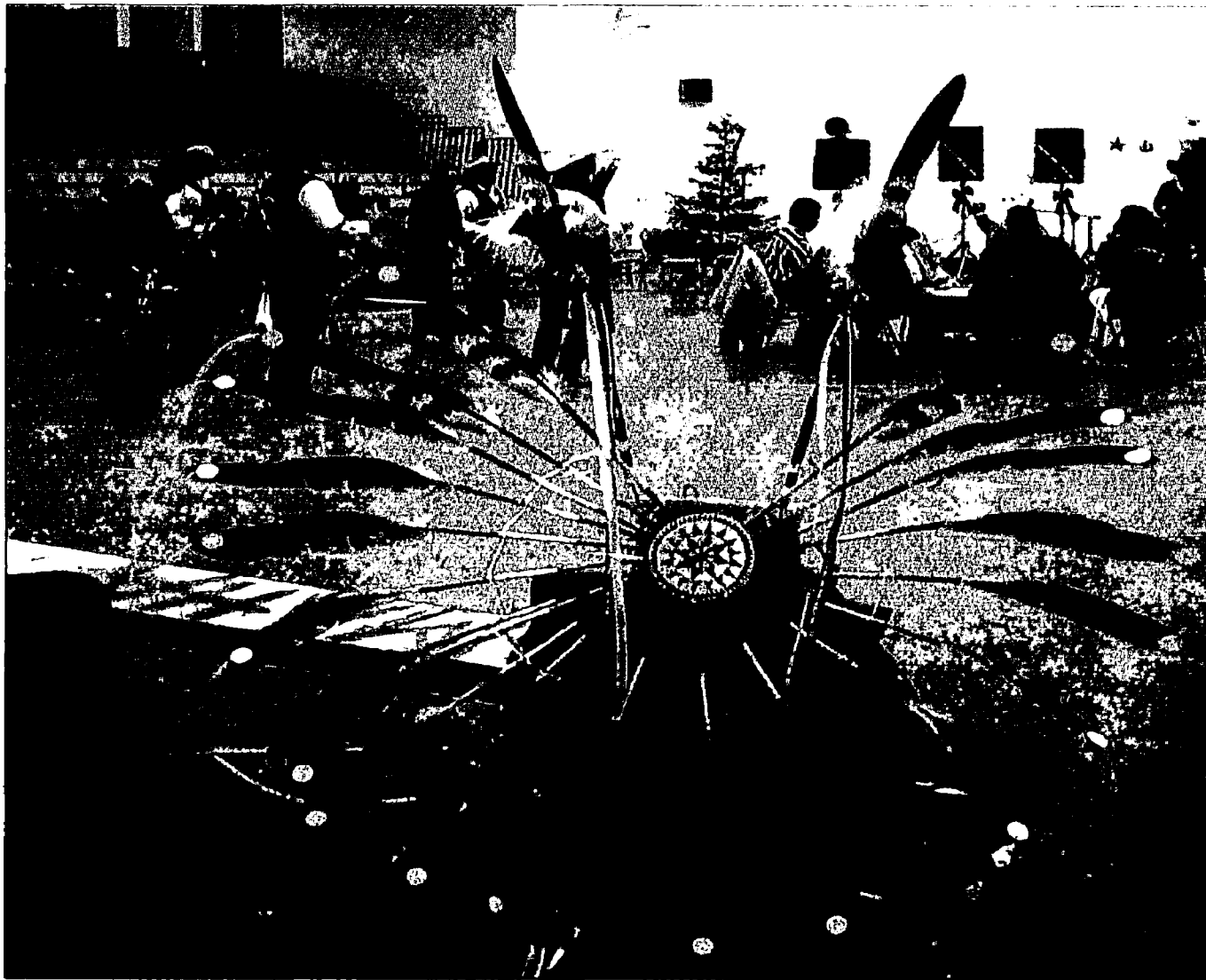
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## DANCE OF HONOR



DIANNE STALLINGS STAFF

**A headdress** frames dancers at the Mescalero Apache Holiday Contest Pow wow performing the sacred Gourd Dance, dedicated to veterans and military personnel spread across the world. The dance started the two-day event Friday sponsored by the Yellow Plume Mescalero Holiday Committee.

## Expert says state water plan may miss point

Watershed group chief: More water rights exist than water

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

New Mexico's first state water plan was announced earlier this month by the Interstate Stream Commission in time to meet an end-of-December deadline set by Gov. Bill Richardson.

Some of the recommendations contained in the plan mirror remarks by water activists in Lincoln County. They include metering domestic wells, inventorying existing water wells and measuring surface and ground water uses. Information for the plan was gathered from public meetings in 29 communities throughout the state from July through September.

But Rick Warnock, president of the Sacramento Mountains Watershed Restoration Corporation, said Tuesday that while he still is reviewing the plan, his "gut feeling" is that state officials missed the main point. The state has over-appropriated water rights. In other words, more rights exist than water. For political and economic reasons, public officials are afraid to take steps to change New Mexico's outdated water law, he contended.

In a statement the Stream Commission issued Dec. 17, members said the state water plan "doesn't attempt to identify and resolve region-specific water management issues, because resolution of those issues must include local decision-makers. Still, the sheer number and variety of issues discussed within the plan demonstrate the complexity of New Mexico's water situation. What at first glance may appear to be a single issue often reveals a web of interrelated matters, which are in turn part of or affected by other issues."

A few of the recommendations contained in the plan include:

- More metering of irrigation wells and private domestic wells

See **PLAN**, page 3A

## Blackout shows readiness need

■ A Red Cross official shared tips on what to do in the future.

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Cold weather and an unexpected and lengthy power outage delivered a tough message last weekend to some Lincoln County residents.

Be prepared. Steve Olson, manager of the county office of the American Red Cross, offered some easy things that people can do to prepare their families for the unexpected, such as the massive blackout Sunday.

His top safety tip is never use candles as a light source. "Only use a flashlight for emergency lighting," Olson said.

"Turn off electrical equipment you were using when the power went out. Avoid opening the refrigerator or freezer door. Don't run a generator inside a home or garage."

"If you use a generator, connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator. Don't connect a generator to a home's electrical

See **READY**, page 2A

## Water, growth issues dominate village headlines in 2003

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Water and whether Ruidoso can produce enough to support some major developments dominated the dialogue in the village in 2003.

From coffee houses to favorite breakfast joints, people returned to the topics over and over as precipitation dwindled, trees died, the temperature soared and new plans for condominiums, stores and houses were submitted.

Village councilors and consultants focused on a comprehensive master

plan and a 40-year water plan for the village's future. Both still finished as the year ended.

But perhaps the most significant action of the year was approval in September of impact fees on all new construction, estimated to be about \$4,046 for a new home. The fees cover the newly created demand on infrastructure, including roads and water.

In the unincorporated portions of Lincoln County, county commissioners faced a new challenge — how to deal

with large subdivisions that fly under the regulation radar by offering lots of 140 acres or more — or on the other end of the spectrum, a proliferation of small subdivisions consisting of only a few lots — yet both could impact roads, water and other services.

They also talked about better tracking of mobile homes, which one official claimed had doubled in numbers in two years. By the end of 2003, no new controls were offered on either problem.

Over the past year, commissioners faced a growing number of lawsuits dealing with accusations by former or current inmates that they failed to receive proper medical treatment, were sexually assaulted or were otherwise mistreated at the county jail in Carrizozo, managed by a private company.

They discussed but didn't act on new requirements for community water systems for development that are eligible for more than four domestic wells. They resisted state pressure to pass an ordinance that would enroll the county in

See **2003**, page 3A

## Breakthroughs make plant removal easier

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Removing juniper trees used to be something only farmers tackled. The hardest chore a homeowner faced was pulling weeds.

But when communities across the West faced catastrophic wild fires, an industry sprouted to provide easier and technologically more sophisticated methods of removing trees from large pastures to residential lots.

"As Ruidoso officials and homeowners have seen, vegetation has a lot of implications," said weed specialist Sally Canning, owner of DeVeg Management Group, a licensed vegetation removal and processing business. "It can burn down homes. It can contaminate water. It can poi-

son animals or children.

"Some plants in the Southwest can ruin a nice picnic. They have adapted intense aromatic chemicals, spines, stickers, poisons, even carcinogens (cancer causing agents). Russian knapweed (a European perennial) is trying to establish itself in Lincoln County and it's a well-known carcinogen."

Drought often creates prime conditions for opportunistic invaders, said Canning, who has 25 years of weed-control experience.

"They live more in soil that is depleted in nutrition, like jimson weed (Sacred Datura, a member of the potato family that is poisonous to livestock and humans)," Canning said. "Piñon and juniper love to move in where grazing has been removed or mismanaged."

See **WEEDS**, page 3A



COURTESY SALLY CANNING

Bringing in heavy equipment like this excavator has made the removal of large nuisance plants an easier task.

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# Consultants detail village's water-saving steps

## New water lines, backwash basins among measures

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

To cut losses from leaks, the village of Ruidoso spent \$3.6 million in the last few years replacing more than 15 miles of aging and undersized water lines.

That's just one of the steps by the village to conserve water and protect the area's future supply, say consultants Dennis Brand and Roger Peery.

They presented a summary of actions by the village council and the water department during a recent meeting on the future of the area's water supply.

Ruidoso's water comes from three sources, they said — four wells at North Fork; surface water when available and two wells in Eagle

Creek; Alto Lake Reservoir and its two wells; surface water from the Rio Ruidoso and water from the river diverted into the Grindstone Lake Reservoir; and the Cherokee and Hollywood wells at the south-east end of the village.

The Grindstone dam and reservoir was built in the late 1980s. A diversion structure was installed on the Ruidoso River in 1985, followed by a diversion pipeline to Grindstone. The water treatment plant there, the city's fourth, went up about 1995 with a pumping capacity of 2 million gallons per day, Brand said.

The Hollywood well was relocated in the mid-1980s, and reconstructed with the Big Dragon Booster Station in 2002. The Little Dragon Booster Station was reconstructed in 1998. The pumping capacity of that system is 1 million gallons per day, he said.

The Cherokee Well, pipelines, the Pinecliff storage tank, the Hell-hole Booster Tank and the Camelot tanks were put in place in the early

1970s and were re-equipped in 2002 with a pumping capacity of half a million gallons per day.

In the Eagle Creek/Alto system, a raw water diversion, pipeline and Alto Lake were created in 1973. A treatment plant, the village's third, was situated above the lake in 1979. The North Fork wells were drilled in 1983 and the Brown and Green wells along Eagle Creek in 1979. Lake wells were added in 2000. The pumping capacity of that system is 2.2 million gallons per day, Brand said.

"We could get more, but it would take a lot of operator attention to do it," he said.

Improvements since 1996 were aimed at creating control, flexibility and conservation in the system, to rehabilitate the aging infrastructure, to produce more water, and to reduce water losses in the system.

The village before 1996 was experiencing a difference of 50 percent between water produced and metered. That figure now is down to 38 percent, he said.

**"We could get more, but it would take a lot of operator attention to do it."**

Dennis Brand  
village water consultant

To improve control, flexibility and conservation, the Dragon booster stations were rebuilt in 1998 and 2002, a remote monitoring system was instituted and is being expanded; joints are being sealed in Grindstone Dam, the Eagle Creek diversion structure was repaired last year and the Eagle Creek/State Route 48

pipeline is scheduled for reconstruction this year.

To save water, backwash decant basins were constructed at Grindstone, along with a pumpback system for leakage for a combined savings of 535 acre-feet of water per year. An acre-foot equates to 325,800 gallons.

The intake structure at Alto Lake was built for an estimated saving of 20 acre-feet per year once the lake is refilled. An Eagle Creek pipeline bypass will allow the village to settle out sediment from muddy water and then use the water for a savings of 10 acre-feet per year.

Decant basins at the Alto water treatment plans should save 30 acre-feet per year, Brand said.

During 2002 and 2003, pumps and motors were replaced on six wells, filters were rehabilitated and equipment replaced at the Alto treatment plant, and Alto Lake was redredged and the intake rehabilitated, he said.

To produce more water, the North Fork well No. 4 was deepened and new equipment was installed in 2002. Plans call for a new well to backup and augment the Cherokee Well. The Ruidoso High School well is intended as backup and to augment the Hollywood Well, and consultants are trying to identify other potential existing wells or promising sites.

## READY: Candles too big a fire hazard

FROM PAGE 1A

system."

Keep a battery-operated radio for update information, which local officials hope will be available before another crisis and local radio stations carry through on plans to acquire generators.

To prepare for a blackout, which could occur not only from power equipment problems, but from snow and ice storms, and from wildfires, assemble the essentials ahead of time and keep them in a place where they are accessible to all family members. The list should include several flashlights and extra batteries, a portable radio and extra batteries, at least one gallon of water per person, and if you have small pets, a small supply of pet food.

Other suggestions include:

- Keep your car gas tank at least half full because gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.

- If the home telephone system requires electricity to work, plan for alternate communication, such as a standard telephone handset or cellular telephone.

- Homeowners with an electric garage opener should

find out where the manual release lever is located and practice using it. Be sure to keep a key to your house with you in case the garage door won't open.

- If using a computer, keep files and operating systems backed up regularly. Consider buying an uninterruptible power supply to allow a safe shutdown of the computer.

- Medication that requires refrigeration can be kept in a closed refrigerator for several hours without a problem.

Appliances and other electronic devices being used when a blackout happens should be turned off or disconnected because a surge or spike may occur when power comes back on and damage equipment, Olson said.

Leave one light on to signal when the power returns, he said. Don't call the 911 emergency number unless there is a life-threatening emergency.

Be aware that traffic signals stop working with a power outage, which can create congestion and increase the possibility of a traffic accident. Treat all intersections as four-way stops.

Layer clothing if it's cold outside. Never burn charcoal for heating or cooking indoors.

Never use an oven as a source of heat. If the power will be out for a prolonged period, plan to go to another location that has heat.

Olson also suggested some precautions for cold weather and winter storms that include ensuring each family member has a warm coat, gloves or mittens, hat and water-resistant boots.

Assemble a disaster supplies kit that contains first aid items and essential medications, a corded non-electric telephone, extra blankets, a battery-powered National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration radio, flashlights and extra batteries, canned food and can opener, granola bars, bottled water and extra clothing.

Learn what Winter Storm Watches and Warnings mean. A watch signals that a winter storm is possible in your area. A warning means a winter storm is headed your way, Olson said. A blizzard warning means strong winds, blinding wind-driven snow and dangerous wind chills are expected and shelter should be sought immediately, Olson said.

When a warning is issued, keep checking for updates and

avoid any unnecessary travel. Stay indoors during the storm. If going outside is necessary, layer clothing, wear hats and gloves. Mouths should be covered to protect lungs.

As the wind increases, heat is carried away from a person's body at an accelerated rate, driving down the body temperature. Be careful on snowy, icy sidewalks, he said.

Avoid traveling by car, but if that's a necessity, keep emergency supplies in the trunk. Keep the gas tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing. Let someone know your destination, your route and when you expect to arrive.

If you get stuck, stay with your car, Olson said. Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antennae for rescuers to see. Start the car and use the heater for about 10 minutes every hour. Keep the exhaust pipe clear so fumes don't back up into the car. Leave the overhead light on when the engine is running so that people inside can be seen.

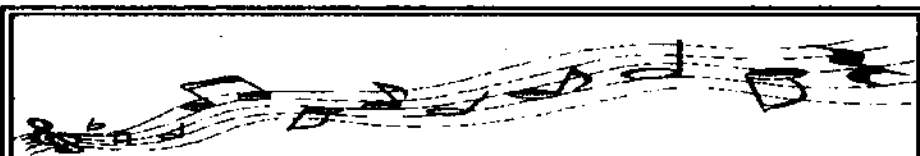
While sitting, keep moving arms and legs to maintain circulation and to stay warm. Keep one window away from the blowing wind slightly open to allow air inside.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Christmas tree recycling available

Recycle Christmas trees by bringing them to School House Park and dropping them into the corral. Please remove all

tinsel. Come back between 9 a.m. and noon Jan. 17 for free mulch — good for walking paths, pet pens and other uses. For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 257-5030.



### Holiday Blues

It is not your imagination. The blahs are a sign of the season. If you get the blues as the leaves fall and winter is approaching, don't worry. The shorter days decrease the amount of daylight and throws off your internal clock. When this happens, the level of serotonin (your feel good hormone) drops. Sadness, especially for those people who have experienced any type of loss is not uncommon this time of the year. Depression doesn't take a vacation during the holiday time. Clinical depression often increases during this period.

#### Some signs to watch for are:

- sleep disturbance
- changes in appetite
- feelings of hopelessness or helplessness
- decreased energy
- lack of joy in anything or even suicidal thoughts
- poor concentration or negative thoughts

If you have signs of clinical depression, give yourself the gift of seeking professional help this time of the year. Stop the blues and call us now.

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## US 70 Activities Underway In January 2004

Shoulder and lane closures will continue along the 38-mile project corridor through the month of January. Finish grading, & paving will continue in Sections B, C, D & F. Excavation, drainage, wall & bridgework will continue in sections B & C. Grading, wall and paving work will continue in sections E & F. Various lane shifts, detours and roadway re-striping will occur as the work progresses, including opening the roadway to 4 lanes in Section D.

Please allow an extra 20-30 minutes in your travel schedule to accommodate general construction activities.

Blasting will become more frequent on weekdays (Mon-Fri), in Section B MP 272-275 located West of Glencoe/East of Fox Cave and MP 267-270, located East of the Rio Ruidoso Bridge. Lane closures will begin at 12 pm lasting up to one hour.

SBC & NMDOT wish everyone a safe & happy Holiday Season, and a prosperous New Year. Please celebrate responsibly, drive carefully and enjoy the Holidays!

**Toll Free Hotline: 1-866-653-4069**      **Website: www.us70hondovalley.com**

**January Calendar of Events**  
US 70 Hondo Valley Citizens Task Force Meeting  
Hiatus

**For information call Mary Ann Wootton, SBC Community Relations Liaison toll free at 1-866-653-4069 or main office 505-653-4396.**

## RUIDOSO NEWS

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## PLAN: Local ideas make cut-

FROM PAGE 1A

- Exploring tax incentives, rebates and other financial incentives to encourage the conservation of water
- Creating a data base of state water resource and water rights information
- Ensuring that land use decisions are consistent with available water supplies
- Protecting endangered species
- Completing water rights adjudications throughout the state
- Working with research groups on demonstration projects such as desalinization and watershed restoration
- Creating a "water banking" system to allow temporary reallocation of water
- Preparing water budgets for the state's major river basins and underground water systems.

Frank Potter, who serves on Ruidoso's water task force, said a regional water plan would be the most beneficial way to share existing water and to ensure that existing rights and supplies aren't exceeded. A state plan can't change the existing situation, he said.

Warnock said members of his non-profit, private organization fear through over-appropriation, the state is "drying up our mountains and that's one of things we're fighting against."

He referenced Oliver Wendell Holmes, who said laws should never be set in stone.

"But in New Mexico, everyone is afraid to look at water laws as outdated and antiquated," Warnock said. "We need a better water plan and a stronger state engineer willing to tackle these tough issues. In my dealings with that office, they are open to these ideas, but underfunded and caught between a rock and a hard place because of the political thing."

"This probably is the toughest political problem. It's my opinion that people have their heads buried in the sand. We need to find water before we continue building."

Even without a drought, "We live in a desert and in arid conditions," he said.

The SMWRC is trying to protect private property and to "get people in New Mexico to really face the tough issues," Warnock said. "We have our recommendation. We're not saying it's perfect, but it is the proper way to get an open dialogue. We don't take sides politically, but we're telling the people of New Mexico if they think we have problems now - just wait."

The Ruidoso Village Council is within a few weeks of giving the public a look at the draft of a 40-year water plan being prepared for submission to the State Engineer's office. Several public meetings on the plan were promised by village councilors.

## 2003: Ski Run Fire only major blaze

FROM PAGE 1A

the National Flood Insurance program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Back in Ruidoso, used car lots gave members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and village council a collective headache, as did the subjects of how to handle ham radio antennae, commercial cellular towers and whether churches should be classified as conditional uses in all zoning districts.

They were, despite some complaints, after planners pointed to the dwindling roster of commercial property remaining along the village's two major roads, and to the special impact a church may have in a commercial or residential zone.

Planners also cracked down on a used-car dealer who failed to follow through on requirements attached to approval of his lot in July.

Although existing policy declares the co-location of cellular equipment on tower as desirable, planners realized that also meant higher towers to accommodate signals. They found themselves approving more, but shorter structures to be less intrusive. The planning staff currently is researching a new approach that could require camouflaged towers.

Ham operators didn't win the whole enchilada, but they walked away with some concessions after months of debate over whether they should be regulated at all.

Planners also took aim at metal building illegally constructed against village rules, promising that don't want to hear any more excuses and warning that structures could be ordered removed or covered with a different facade.

More consistency in the enforcement of sign regulations was urged by several different individuals at village council and planning and zoning meetings. But near the end of the year, rules overruled common sense as apparently one official in the planning department insisted that a historic sign of a defunct business be repainted. Calling the action a "mistake," the department director promised to come back with wording to allow exemptions to the mandatory removal of signs within 30 days after a business ceases, in cases that obviously deserve them.

He's also working on wording to allow temporary signs for special events, after receiving a complaint from Ruidoso Noon Lions Club that uneven enforcement negatively impacted attendance at one of the organization's events.

In March, plans were announced for a \$50 million

complex to include condominiums, retail stores, offices and, to appeal to village officials and current residents, a riverwalk and multiple-floor parking garage.

By October, the developers of the land that straddles the Ruidoso River and now includes the Tall Pines RV Park, won rezoning for a planned development project. But they still must submit a specific site plan and other details before asking for final approval of the project.

On a smaller scale, a subdivision where about 20 cabins share wells, septic systems and common green space won praise from village planners as a model approach.

Officials with a company hoping to build a La Quint Hotel on a mid-town lot sued the village two months ago after being denied by the planning board and after the village council upheld that appointed board's decision.

Developers first tried to win approval in April with more than 60 units in a four-floor building. But even after downsizing to 55 rooms and three floors, they couldn't convince planners their project would work. Village staff pointed to the lack of a safe walkway for pedestrian traffic, an inadequate street to serve the site and too much development for a 1.4 acre site.

Members of a Lutheran church also struck out trying to have a 9 p.m. curfew lifted from an outdoor pavilion they want to build. They shouted restriction of religious freedom, but planners countered that they could practice their religion as late and long as they wanted, if they just don't do it outside where neighbor could be disturbed.

While planning officials wor-

ried about not having enough water for development, they also worried about too much water in the form of storm runoff. A re-reading of village rules showed them that all new runoff generated by new development must be contained on site, and that could be a major obstacle for some projects.

In an attempt to prevent the village from becoming a sea of asphalt, planners also vowed to stick to requirements for islands of landscaping in parking lots, although they have capitulated in the past on some projects.

Village councilors moved ahead with testing along the Ruidoso River to show that contamination from phosphorous isn't restricted to areas below the regional waste water treatment plant the village shares with the city of Ruidoso Downs. Officials with both municipalities hope to avoid spending millions of dollars to revamp the plant by eliminating or reducing some of the upstream sources.

New business came to town as a Bealls department store opened in time for Christmas shopping and a non-profit community radio station went on the air on Halloween night.

As the year wound to a close, village forestry officials were working on public land to reduce the risk of wild fire and restore the watershed, and working through cost-share programs with private land owners to do the same.

Only one major blaze, The Ski Run Fire, flared in the area in 2003, burning 271 acres. Starting on Oct. 27, it was driven by the wind up steep mountain terrain and threatened homes the first night, but after a week and \$1 million of effort, was declared 100 percent contained.

## CHRISTMAS GOODIES



COURTESY POLLY E. CHAVEZ

Santa Claus offers a healthy snack to a Carrizozo child before Christmas in Carrizozo's Spencer Park, to the delight of the child's mother. The event, sponsored by the Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department, allowed Santa to give his reindeer the day off, as he was brought into town on a fire truck.

## WEEDS: Herbicides, equipment help

FROM PAGE 1A

Management of these nuisance plants started with hand tools and hard labor.

"Then we found a variety of herbicides to do the work for us," she said.

But a new form of integrated management is moving into modern mechanical removal with bulldozers, chipper/mulchers and extractors.

"We can take one acre of piñon juniper and process on site within one hour," Canning said.

Herbicides still remain an effective tool and recently were allowed by the U.S. Forest Services, she said, adding that she presented a program for that agency in Arizona.

"It used to be that the first thing you did in the field was fire up a chain saw," Canning said. "The first thing we do in the field now is fire up our laptops, our GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) and wind calibrator."

A demonstration of the mechanical tools is planned for late February. Contact Canning at (505) 653-0733 for more information.



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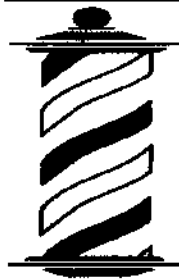
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& Personal Injury

# RUIDOSO NEWS OPINION

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FRIDAY, JAN. 2, 2004

## RUIDOSO NEWS

Dave Price, general manager  
Wes Schwengels, editor

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at 104 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, New Mexico

### OUR OPINION

## Ruidoso reveals its messy little secret

Where was the back-up when the lights went out?

It takes a mess to highlight a problem, and one of Ruidoso's desperate problems was brought home — most dark and cold in all its messiness — last Sunday night.

During the village's biggest winter holiday period, electric power went out, and stayed out for hours — a bit under five hours if you were lucky; up to 13 if you were not. Temperatures dropped to single digits.

The biggest problem, most people agree, was a lack of communication. Police department phones didn't operate for a time; no radio station was on the air, despite earlier commitments to do so; neither gasoline pumps

nor restaurants could operate.

It turned out that the nearest available food and fuel was at the Casino Apache Travel Center, a couple of miles west of Ruidoso on U.S. 70. It was open and operating — but nobody knew that.

Those with radio scanners could track, to a degree, what was going on. It was obvious that local police were operating smoothly, helping people, putting up stop signs where signal lights had been used. But they couldn't feed the hungry tourists or warm the cold houses.

A priority for every business is simply stated: Back-up generators, please.

## Indubitably, undoubtably, there's a word for it

An overheard comment in the newspaper office this week conveyed the information that somebody out there absolutely is appalled



MOUNTAIN  
SIDES  
KEITH GREEN

by the use of the word "cocktail." Presumably the first half of the word was the killer for that individual, or maybe the last.

But it truly demonstrates the power of words, for good or bad, even if Webster's New World Dictionary, third college edition, simply lists it variously as an alcohol-fruit juice mix, or a non-alcoholic pre-dinner drink. To get to the root of that word, however, we would have to go to the most definitive of all English dictionaries, the Oxford English Dictionary, or OED.

I confess I've never owned or even consulted the OED — after all, it's published currently in something like 20 volumes, plus supplements, with a list price of about \$3,000.

Perhaps that price isn't so bad, considering the time spent in researching it and writing it — 71 years from the beginning to the printing of the first complete dictionary in 1928.

I gleaned that bit of information from my favorite Christmas present, a newly published book about the making of the OED, titled *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary*, by Simon Winchester (260pp; Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2003).

That 1928 edition, Winchester wrote, contained 414,825 words printed on 15,490 pages. It listed all the words thousands of readers and dozens of editors were able to find, research, define and and trace to the first use — complete with in-context examples of the use of every word, with the first reference, obsolete or not, and all its variants.

No wonder it took decade after decade of volunteers to provide the millions of half-sheets of information prepared (all by hand) to produce that first dictionary; no computers, no sorting machines, just eyes and brains and much, much time.

But the most distinctive fact about that effort is that it was produced, not to establish a standard of the language (as the French and Italians tried to do), but to hold a mirror up to the language as it was used — bottom-up, not top down.

That means it's a task never to be finished, because new words are being created and put to use every day.

Chris Mulqueen, who catalogs books at the Ruidoso Public Library, says there's no OED in the stacks.

But there is a way out: The world's most complete dictionary is now available on the Internet. I got there with the Google search program, and found that unlimited access is available to us in North and South America, for just \$295 per year, or \$29.95 per month.

For wordaholics (is that in the OED?) like me, it's a bargain.

But I haven't paid up yet, so I can't learn nearly all I'd like to know about *cocktail*.

### LETTERS POLICY

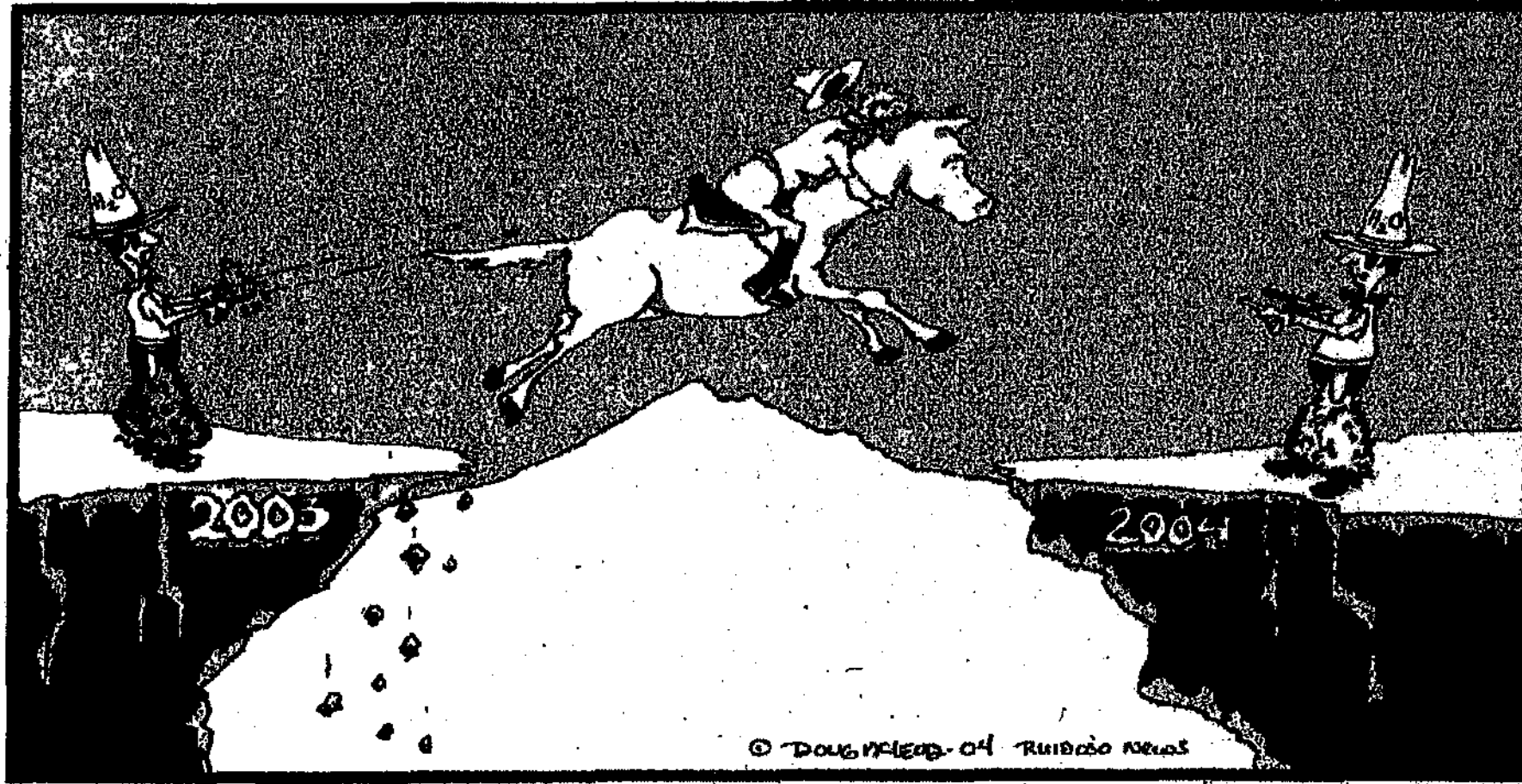
The *Ruidoso News* encourages letters to the editor, especially about local topics and issues. Each letter must be signed and must include the writer's daytime telephone number and mail address. The phone number and mailing address will not be printed; the hometown will be. The telephone number will be used to verify authorship.

No letter will be printed without the writer's name. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length, of public interest, and free of libel; edit-

ing will be for length, grammar or spelling. Shorter letters are preferred and generally receive greater readership. The *Ruidoso News* reserves the right to reject any letter.

Longer by-lined "Guest Commentary" articles will be considered; call the editor at (505) 257-4001.

Letters may be delivered to the *Ruidoso News* office at 104 Park Avenue, mailed to P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355; faxed to 257-7053; or sent by e-mail to letters@ruidosonews.com.



### YOUR OPINION

## Private water well users: Time to unite

To the editor:

In reference to "Locals target control of wells," *Ruidoso News* Dec. 24: The only people targeting control of local wells are a few select whining citizens and Ruidoso's power-trip ... council.

I have but one question for you, council: When exactly did your authority become higher than our state Legislature? Private well means just that, "private well" — none of your business! The private well owner answers to the state Legislature and the state engineer's office, not to local city councils.

Is councilor Deborah Marcum-Byars a qualified water expert? I was just curious, since Byars stated that 3.0 acre foot of water a year is too much for a private well owner. Does councilor Ron Hardeman have a law degree? I was just curious, since Hardeman decided to dictate that citizens get their private wells metered. Some private well owners have large families with several children and many relatives visiting throughout the year, thus needing those 3.0 acre-feet of water.

We private-well owners have paid for our water. We paid for the water that we use getting our water well drilled and plumbed in. The only difference is that well owners pay initially for their water by getting our well drilled while citizens on city water pay for it monthly. In no way is the private-well owner's water free of charge.

A 900-foot well will cost you in the neighborhood of \$24,000 by the time you get water from the well to your faucet. You councilors are acting like dictators for the wealthy developer rather than the representatives of all citizens that you were elected to be. You councilors let the golf courses waste millions of gallons of water a year on the greens, even in drought conditions. I would venture to say that the Links golf course uses more than three times the water in a year than all the private well owners combined, not to mention all the other golf courses.

Have you threatened to take away any of the golf courses' water or meter their wells? Does the Hawthorn have a metered water well? The Hawthorn sure keeps the grounds looking nice, all the while keeping the swimming pool filled. How much water will the new condo project and all the new subdivisions you keep approving use in a year's time?

I find it ironic that when councilors are talking about new development we have a "good water outlook," but when you are discussing private wells we are in a severe drought. I have an idea: how about you councilors take some responsibility for

your actions and quit blowing our tax money on property that we do not need, like the new town square. That same \$1.2 million could have been put toward buying water. I guess we can all gather at the new glorious square when the water runs dry and blame it on the private-well owners for being so wasteful. You councilors alone are totally responsible for our water shortage, not the drought or the private well owners. Drought conditions should have been anticipated in our city growth plan years ago, thus making you and former councilors responsible.

To all private-well owners in Lincoln County, the time has come to unite as one and seek legal counsel. Private-well owners have defended their water rights successfully in the past and it is now time to do so again.

Terry McMaster  
Alto

### Senior Olympians succeed

To the editor:

New Mexico Senior Olympics released the official results last month of

the 2003 state meet held in Las Cruces in August. The 38 seniors who participated for Lincoln County did very well.

They earned 59 medals and 28 ribbons in the 10 sports they entered, including 22 gold medals. This was a record for Lincoln County.

County residents age 50-plus are invited to participate in the 26 sports and activities conducted annually in the county and at the state meet, and every other year at the national games.

Senior Olympics is dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyles through education, fitness, and sport.

Lincoln County Senior Olympics would like to recognize the financial support of Wells Fargo Bank, the Links at Sierra Blanca, and Circle J Restaurant. Seniors, check this activity out by talking to me, the local coordinator, at 257-3193 in Ruidoso. Competition comes up again in April and May for the county, in August for the state meet, and in 2005 for the next national in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Bart Young  
Ruidoso

### STREET TALK

QUESTION: What did you do when the power went off on Sunday evening?



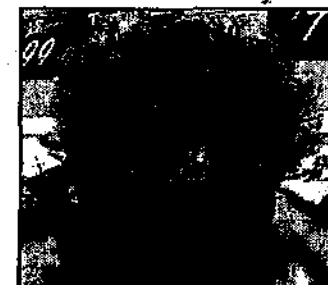
"I had a picnic on the floor in the living room, in front of the fireplace and roasted marshmallows and made S'Mores."

Nancy Shaver  
Ruidoso



"I hooked up a TV to a car battery and watched TV because the cable wasn't working."

Keith Long  
Ruidoso



"Our house is all electric and gas so we froze to death, went to bed and didn't have dinner."

Shirley Kostka  
Ruidoso



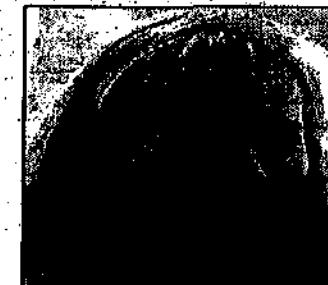
"No change, because my furnace has been out for two weeks. We made a fire and lit oil lamps and candles. We're still Y2K-compliant."

Cindy Martinez  
Capitan



"My husband built a big fire and he told my two sons stories about when he was a boy, and we just hung out."

Mary Ellen Johnson  
Austin, Texas/Ruidoso



"Friends and I played cards by candlelight in front of the fireplace and had a lovely night."

Tammy Harper  
Arlington, Texas

### OUR RIGHT TO KNOW

#### The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF



# Missing Ruidoso man may be in UNM hospital

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A Ruidoso man was reported missing earlier this week, but officials with the New Mexico State Police said Wednesday he may be a patient at the University of New Mexico Hospital in Albuquerque.

John Thompson McCleary, 69, returned from Salt Lake City, Utah, on Southwest flight 2615 at 12:42 p.m., on Sunday. His luggage and vehicle were picked up from the Albuquerque International Airport.

But McCleary apparently never arrived at his home on

Lupine Loop in Ruidoso, according to the state police. He was to call his daughter when he returned, which probably would have fallen within the time of a massive power outage Sunday. When his daughter didn't hear from him, she reported him missing. Law enforcement authorities initially thought McCleary may have decided to stay in Alamogordo or some other location that offered electricity.

However, he was scheduled to close on the sale of his house on Lupine Loop Monday, and failed to meet with the real estate agent, state police said. He had another appointment

Tuesday to buy a condominium in the Pinon Park development, but never showed up.

McCleary is described as 5 feet, 8 inches tall, 150 pounds with green eyes and salt and pepper hair. He was driving a white 1996 Ford Ranger pickup with New Mexico license plate DKY812.

By late Wednesday, officers were checking out the possibility that McCleary was in the hospital in Albuquerque. However, pending a final confirmation, anyone with information about McCleary since he left the airport is asked to call the state police at (505) 437-1313 or (505) 258-0067.

## STAR SPEAKER



COURTESY JOHN T. SODEN

Rense Taylor and Joe Bologna stopped by a Business After Hours event last month at the Spencer Theater to promote their show, "It Had to Be You," which was also at the theater Dec. 13.

## U.S. 70 West crews on hold until spring

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Road crews from J.R. Hale Contracting will return to Ruidoso in spring to finish up work on the U.S. 70 from the State Route 48 intersection west.

Projects to finish include the final layers of pavement, installing rip rap to prevent erosion in the drainage way adjacent to the highway, replacing right-of-way fencing and installing safety

guard rails.

Officials with the company on their way out of town for the holidays thanked residents and visitors to Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs and the Mescalero Apache Reservation for their patience during the expansion of U.S. 70.

They listed improvements already completed as more efficient drainage ways and culverts, new sidewalks and safer traffic flow at the "Y" intersection.

## Bonito FD to get new truck from grant

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Bonito Volunteer Fire Department will receive a new quick-attack fire vehicle as part of a \$5 million allocation to 47 fire departments in New Mexico by Gov. Bill Richardson.

The governor announced Tuesday that the departments will receive new fire trucks, fulfilling his pledge in July to help community fire department improve their capabilities.

The new trucks will provide critically needed resources to fight many kind of fires, particularly those in urban-wild land interface areas, he said.

Among Lincoln County's neighbors, the Jack Rabbit Flats Fire Department in Otero County will receive a new water tender, fire truck and the Sunspot department a quick attack truck. In Chaves County, the Duncan department was selected for an award, and in Torrance County, the McIntosh department.

"I am proud of our fire fighters," Richardson said. "They are courageous men and women who risk their lives to keep our communities and our citizens

safe. I am committed to giving them the best tools to do their jobs."

Last summer, the governor allocated \$5 million in federal tax relief money to buy urgently needed fire fighting equipment and vehicles. Specific grants were awarded based on applications sent in by departments to replace old and inadequate equipment. The applications were evaluated and money allocated by the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resource Department's Forestry Division in coordination with the State Fire Marshal.

The money will purchase 29, 2000-gallon water tanker trucks and 18 quick attack vehicles.

Carl Bartley, president of City Bank of New Mexico in Ruidoso, heads the Bonito Department in Lincoln County. The Ranches of Sonterra substation of the department recently added to its equipment a \$176,000, 4-wheel drive American La France wild land-urban interface Class A pumper, designed to fight structure and wild fires. The department is paying for the new engine through a low-interest loan and donations.

## Dog alerts woman to fire

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The constant barking of 2-year-old Taji was unusual for the Rottweiler, owner Cindy Propsner said.

Tired from working all day Sunday, Propsner just wanted the dog to be quiet. She figured Taji must have seen a deer. But then Propsner noticed the hair on the dog's back was bristled and the intensity of the barking increased.

The Loma Grande homeowner decided she better take the time to investigate and as she looked out toward a slope behind her house, she saw flames leap into the air.

"I called the Bonito

(Volunteer) Fire Department. They came out and found that a neighbor had dumped some ashes," Propsner said. "I'm really happy the dog kept barking at the fire. It was up to the shed already. It could have burned both places down. I could have lost my home and my other pets."

"I want people to know that Rottweilers are wonderful animals. A lot of people consider it a bad breed, but she's sweet, not aggressive and I really love her."

The neighbor, whose guardian was away at the time, suffers from a chronic illness and was unaware of the danger of her actions, Propsner said.

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*For those of you who do not know, our dad, Joe D. Madley, died on Aug. 8, 2002. It was our father's wishes that everything be done in a quiet & simple matter.*

*We feel bound to acknowledge the passing of our father & know he will be having Christmas with us still.*

*Again, our family business thanks you & wishes you a Blessed and Safe Holiday. Come & visit Ruidoso T-Shirt Co. (next to Candle Power)!*

*Thank You, Mickey Apodaca*

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**RUIDOSO NEWS**

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On January 16th, Covenant Heart Institute will sponsor its Cardiology Clinic at Southern New Mexico Medical Association, 208 Porro Drive, Hamid Feroze, M.D., of Covenant Heart Institute, will see patients on Friday, January 16, beginning at 9:00 a.m. For an appointment, please call 1-877-60HEART (877-604-3278).

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# BUSINESS

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FRIDAY, JAN. 2, 2004

## Tips from a businesswoman

Since this is the first paper of 2004, I wanted to address some customer service tips for businesses or organizations for any season, not just the peaks or holidays. I got these tips from local business woman, Nancy Mitchell, at Mitchell's Jewelry. Nancy and her staff actively participate in each tip. If you don't believe me, walk into her store and see for yourself. It is a positive environment that customers can spot immediately.



Chamber Chatter

BY BRAD TREPTOW

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RUIDOSO VALLEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Smile, be courteous and friendly, have an undying willingness to help every customer, and display an unending knowledge for your job. Answer questions and if you don't have the answer, get it or direct the customer to the resource for that particular answer. Solve any problem that arises, but don't be caught in the traditional answers. Be creative.

Do what you can to satisfy an unhappy customer, and no matter what, follow up. It doesn't mean that just because they left

your business or organization that you couldn't or shouldn't follow up with them. The further you go to satisfy that customer the less likely they will look to your competitor for answers.

Never, under any circumstances, argue with a customer. Instead, be a good listener and come to an agreement on what you can do for that customer instead of what you cannot. Always greet every customer and make them all feel comfortable and welcome. Treat them as if they are guests in your own home.

All of this sounds as if it should be second nature, but it isn't. It is an attitude and that attitude can and must be learned. The best providers of superb customer service have the best attitudes. Plus, when you are the recipient of great service, you leave with an awesome feeling of satisfaction.

We all have our own idea of what great service is. We need to focus on achieving and exceeding our customer's expectations of that service, not ours. Use these tips and apply them throughout the next year and I'll bet you'll be well on your way to exceed any past revenue figures. Have a profitable New Year!

Next week's column: "Reinvest in your own business."

Brad Treptow can be reached via email at [brad@ruidoso.net](mailto:brad@ruidoso.net).

## Real estate update

### Existing-home sales slip

■ The West leads valuation with a November median cost of \$232,000.

WASHINGTON — The market for existing single-family home sales slipped in November from record sales levels in recent months but is maintaining a historically high pace, according to the National Association of Realtors, headquartered here.

Existing-home sales declined 4.6 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.06 million units in November from a pace of 6.35 million units in October, and was the fifth highest pace on record. Last month's sales activity was 6.9 percent above the 5.67-million unit level in November 2002.

David Lereah, NAR's chief economist, said 2003 easily will be the high-water mark for the housing sector. "The last five months have been the strongest on record for existing-home sales. Although sales in November were off from recent peaks, last month's pace is a very respectable number," he said. "The market is being driven by low interest rates, a growing job market and a rising number of households. We will continue to see strong sales going forward, with 2004 likely to be the second-best year on record."

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage was 5.93 percent in November, down slightly from 5.95 percent in October; it was 6.07 percent in November 2002. "For all of 2003, the average fixed-mortgage interest rate was about 5.8 percent, the lowest since Freddie Mac began tracking mortgage rates in 1971," Lereah said.

NAR President Walt McDonald, broker-owner of Walt McDonald Real Estate in Riverside, Calif., said low interest rates also will predominate in 2004. "With very low inflation, we expect fixed-mortgage

interest rates to increase only modestly — about half of a percentage point over the next year — which will maintain favorable housing affordability conditions in most of the country," he said. "This is good news for first-time buyers who may need a little more time to save for a down payment and closing costs."

The national median existing-home price was \$170,900 in November, up 5.9 percent from November 2002 when the median price was \$161,400. The median is a typical market price where half of the homes sold for more and half sold for less.

Housing inventory levels at the end of November rose 2.8 percent from October to a total of 2.53 million existing homes available for sale, which represents a 5.0-month supply at the current sales pace.

Regionally, existing-homes in the West eased by 2.4 percent to an annual rate of 1.64 million units in November, but was 9.3 percent higher than November 2002. The median existing-home price in the West was \$232,000, up 7.5 percent from the same month a year earlier.

Existing-home sales in the Northeast slipped 4.1 percent in November to a pace of 700,000 units, but were 6.1 percent higher than a year ago. The median existing-home price in the Northeast was \$194,600, up 13.1 percent from November 2002.

The home resale pace in the South declined 5.1 percent in November to an annual rate of 2.44 million units, but was 8.0 percent above November 2002. The median price of an existing home in the South was \$156,000, which was 4.1 percent higher than a year ago.

Existing-home sales in the Midwest fell 6.6 percent in November to an annual rate of 1.27 million units, but were 1.6 percent above a year ago. The median price in the Midwest was \$143,500, up 3.5 percent from November 2002.

## More jobs reported in state during '03

BY KEITH GREEN  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Employment in New Mexico showed year-over-year growth during the 12 months ending in October, with the state Department of Labor touting a gain of 12,000 jobs in its preliminary report, a 1.6 percent gain.

October is the last available period reported by the department, but it showed New Mexico ranking 5th in the nation for non-farm job growth in the prior 12 months.

At the same time, Lincoln County reported a labor force of 8,438, with 846 unemployed, for a jobless rate of 4.1 percent in preliminary estimates. There were 315 unemployed in September, or 3.7 percent. In October 2002, unemployment stood at 3.4 percent. That ranked the county as 7th lowest in unemployment, the same ranking it had a year earlier.

The lowest rate was Roosevelt County, at 2.7 percent. All but the Santa Fe Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), with 3.4 percent unemployment, were agriculture-based counties.

The state unemployment rate stood at 6.1 percent in October, a tad higher than the national average of 6 percent.

The Las Cruces MSA had the greatest rate of over-the-year job growth in the state, at 3 percent for the year ending in October.

Albuquerque's MSA added 5,100 jobs, but percentage-wise the gain was 1.4 percent. Santa Fe MSA, which includes Los Alamos, had a job growth rate of 1.3 percent for the period.

The Department of Labor said average weekly earnings, by job sector, stacked up this way:

Natural resources and mining, \$761.67; construction, \$607.62; wholesale trade, \$513.81; manufacturing, \$508.47; financial activities, \$503.68; and retail trade, \$328.81.

And, the department said, government, state, local and national, continues as the largest employer in the state, at 194,300, but no average wages were listed.

## HOMEBUILDERS CELEBRATE



COURTESY LINCOLN COUNTY HOMEBUILDERS ASSOCIATION

Lincoln County Homebuilders Association members presented awards and installed new officers for 2004 at a recent Christmas party. Left to right, Al Radke, vice president; Bill Cornelius, builder director; Don Huband, president; Cindy Lynch, secretary/treasurer; Bob Dolgener, builder director; Mike Buechter, past president; Mark Christiansen, builder director; Rosalyn Robinson, associate director; Marty Martel, associate director; and Chad Evans, associate director. Robinson was named Associate of the Year. The award for Builder of the Year was given to Bill Cornelius.

## Commercial property outlook brightens

Third-quarter 2003 results raise optimism for two years ahead

WASHINGTON — Occupancy rates in the office, retail, warehouse and multifamily real estate markets can be expected to improve gradually over the next two years, according to the National Association of Realtors' Commercial Real Estate Quarterly.

David Lereah, NAR's chief economist, said a number of indicators provide an optimistic outlook for the major commercial market sectors. "A strong improvement in gross domestic product, a jump in consumer spending, and an improved business climate that includes rising business spending and higher corporate profits support a turnaround in commercial real estate," he said. "All the economic cylinders will be at full steam in 2004."

The NAR analysis covers a wide range of statistics and market rankings for the major commercial sectors in 54 markets tracked, including the office, retail, warehouse and multifamily markets, as well as market sector forecasts. It is produced with data provided by Property & Portfolio Research.

All commercial market sectors showed net positive absorption of space in the third quarter, which includes leasing of new space coming on the market as well as space in

existing properties.

Employment gains helped the office market, retail benefited from the rise in consumer spending, warehouse space enjoyed higher demand from rising inventories and strong household formation increased the demand for multifamily housing.

NAR President Walt McDonald, of Riverside, Calif., said the best news is the recovery in the job market. "We should be adding more than 2 million jobs over the next year, and that will directly feed demand for commercial real estate space," he said. "In addition, a weak dollar overseas will boost exports and help the manufacturing sector, which had been the hardest-hit sector of the U.S. economy."

Net absorption of office space is projected to rise to 101.8 million square feet next year from only 32.0 million in 2003. Office vacancy rates in the 54 markets tracked should decline to 16.8 percent in 2004 from an estimated 17.9 percent this year. Average office rents are expected to rise 0.2 percent next year and 4.4 percent in 2005 after dropping 6.4 percent this year.

In the retail sector, net absorption is forecast at 109.1 million square feet for 2004

after reaching an estimated 85.9 million this year. The average vacancy rate for retail space in the 54 metro markets is projected to drop to 12.0 percent next year compared with 12.7 percent for 2003. Retail rents should rise by 1.8 percent in 2004 and 1.4 percent in 2005 after rising only 0.3 percent this year.

Warehouse net absorption is projected at 98.3 million square feet in 2004, up from an expected 70.6 million this year, while the national vacancy rate is expected to drop to 9.6 percent next year from 10.5 percent in 2003. After declining an average of 3.3 percent this year, warehouse rents are seen to slip another 0.6 percent in 2004.

Rents are projected to increase 2.0 percent in 2005 with net absorption of warehouse space forecast to rise to 124.2 million square feet.

The apartment rental market — multifamily housing — should experience a net absorption of 155,300 units next year, up from 118,200 projected for 2003. The average vacancy rate is expected to drop to 6.8 percent in 2004 from 7.2 percent this year, with average rent forecast to hold even in 2004 before rising 2.4 percent in 2005 following a decline of 2.5 percent this year.

## Focus on Agriculture

### U.S. farmers ready to help Iraqi counterparts

BY TRACY TAYLOR GRONDINE  
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU

They were three simple words we will never forget. "We got him," uttered U.S. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer on a recent Sunday morning in a news conference in Iraq. And even though half a world away, Americans felt the huge impact of that mere sentence and rejoiced.

The U.S. agriculture community, too, happily shared in the observance. Not only because thousands of sons and daughters, husbands and wives from American farm families serving in Iraq might all the sooner be coming home, but because it is a major step in stabilizing Iraq's own agriculture industry.

For nearly 30 years Iraq's farming sector has felt the pangs of impoverishment because much of the country's

resources were diverted away from agriculture toward expansion of the oil sector. Until that point, Iraq had a rich and vibrant agricultural heritage. As late as the early 1980s, Iraq's agriculture industry employed more than half of the country's total workforce, but because of the growing oil industry the country's agriculture gross domestic product remained at only 7.5 percent. Now, sadly, all of Iraq's regions depend on food imports.

Since the war with Iraq began, the Agriculture Department has been working with other U.S. agencies to rebuild Iraq's agriculture sector, based on a market-driven economy. USDA is also working toward the revitalization of Iraq's agriculture ministry.

Further, through numerous food donation programs, U.S. farmers are feeding Iraqi citi-

zens who otherwise might not eat. Millions of tons of wheat, rye and other U.S. commodities have been sent to Iraq, and millions more will be sent before the effort is complete.

So why, critics ask, does the U.S. agriculture sector concern itself with the predicament of Iraqi farmers? Simple. Although separated by oceans, cultures and many times politics, the plight of the farmer will always be understood and most of the time sympathized with by other farmers.

Farming is the pleasure of seeing your crop through fruition and it is gratification of being able to feed your own. Negated of that privilege, Iraqi farmers, through no fault of their own, have been forced to stand back and watch their countrymen scramble for food.

Americans may not easily understand this dilemma.

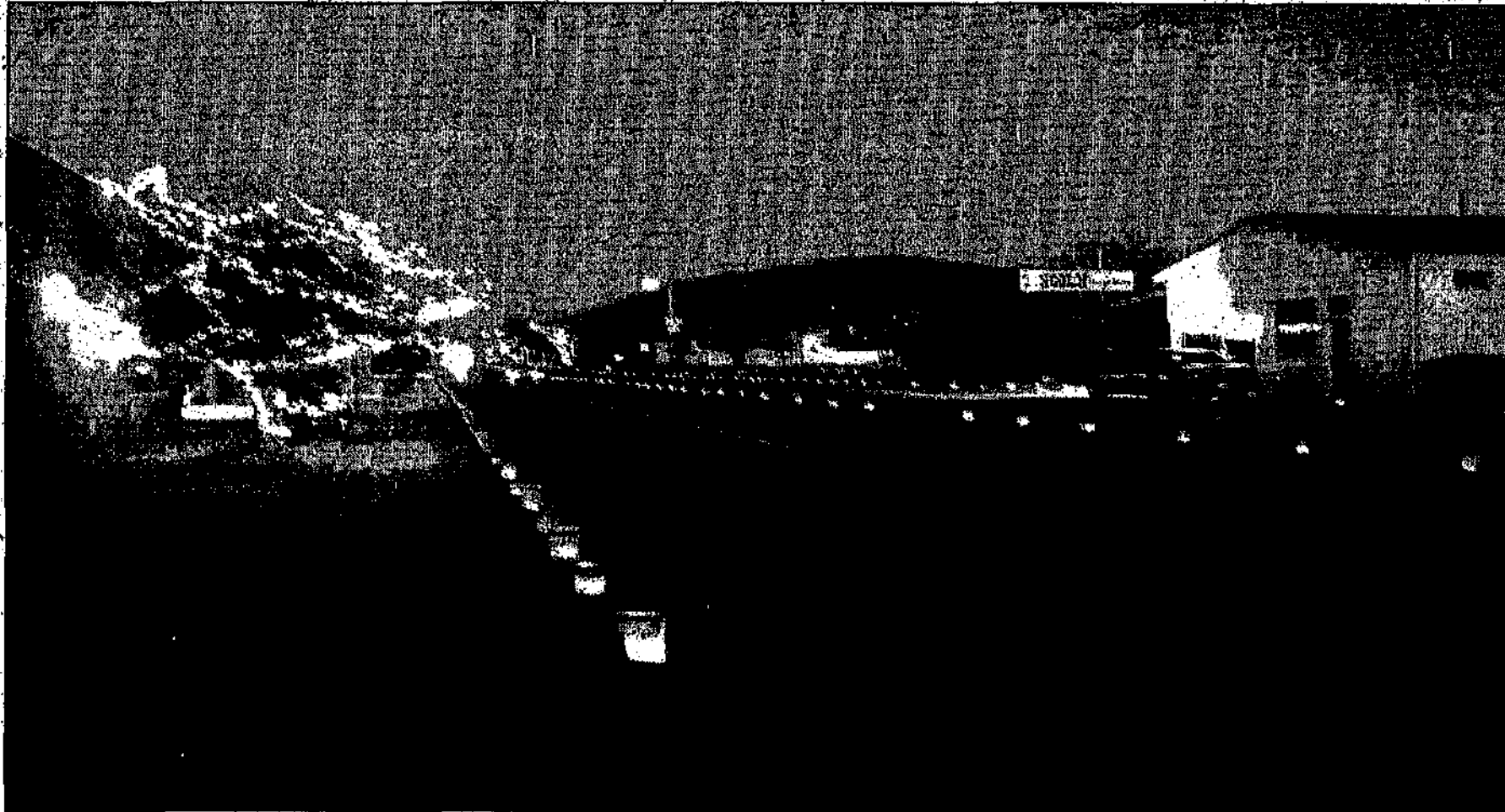
After all, the United States has the safest, most abundant and most affordable food supply in the world. And while millions of U.S. citizens do go without food, Americans feel safe and reassured in knowing that because of our great democracy and the solid foundation on which it is built, a U.S. farmer will never be restricted from raising food for the American dinner table.

The capture of Saddam Hussein was a giant step toward stabilizing Iraq's economy and, importantly, its agriculture industry. In the meantime, until Iraqi farmers are able to feed their country's citizens, U.S. farmers stand ready to help.

Tracy Taylor Grondine is a director of news services for American Farm Bureau Federation.



## LIGHTING THE WAY



Carrizozo's annual luminaria display lit up the streets on Christmas Eve. More than 5,000 bags were placed along the highways and roads running through the town.

PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

## DOWNS POLICE

## Repeat DWI

Ruidoso Downs police arrested Matthew Dille, 43, of Ruidoso Downs, charging him with third-offense driving under the influence of intoxicating beverages at 1:19 a.m. Dec. 21. He was transported to Lincoln County Detention Center.

## Beer stolen

The clerk of Circle K, 601 West Highway 70, reported to police that two Hispanic males in their teens walked into the store at 1 a.m. Dec. 21, then left, running, with "some beer," according to the police report.

They left in a light blue car. Officers were unable to locate them.

## Gun missing

A Ruidoso Downs resident reported to police Dec. 19 that he was missing a 9 mm gun, and that possibly it had been taken from his vehicle in the parking lot of Circle K, 601 West Highway 70.

## Cell phone mobile

A Ruidoso resident told police his cell phone was missing Dec. 16 and that he might have lost it at Wal-Mart. The value was not known.

## D.A.'s office warns of 'police almanac' fraud

The Office of the District Attorney for Otero and Lincoln counties has issued a fraud warning concerning unknown individuals soliciting funds for advertising in the "State Police Almanac."

The caller is contacting businesses and homes by telephone requesting donations to purchase advertising in the amount of \$95 for one year and \$125 for two years.

A representative from the New Mexico State Police said there are no solicitations being conducted on their behalf and they do not solicit donations of any kind.

Complaints received by the District Attorney's Office indicate that the caller's telephone number

on called ID is blocked. The caller also states that if the person does not donate, then the next day or two he or she will receive an envelope via UPS requiring \$95 in COD charges.

The District Attorney's Office recommends that anyone contacted by a solicitor for donations of this type should simply hang up the telephone. Should they receive a delivery not requested, they should simply refuse to accept it.

Residents are urged to contact Investigator John Stubbe of the office of the District Attorney in reference to any solicitations of this type at (505) 437-3640, extension 26.

## Plans firming up for new LCSWA site

BY DUANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Preliminary plans call for passive solar heating and a fence of baled and stuccoed tires at the new Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority recycling complex.

Operations superintendent for the garbage collection coalition said the complex will be built on five acres at the eastern edge of Ruidoso Downs on recently annexed property.

Another two acres of the tract is being offered on long-term lease to the Humane Society of Lincoln County for a new animal shelter. The remaining 12.89 acres will be sold to generate money to offset the \$800,000 cost of the property purchase.

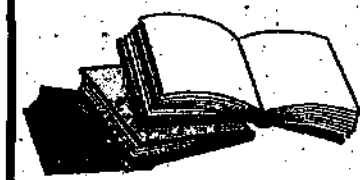
"The board authorized me to

move ahead (with finding a buyer)," Ingie said. "We've got several potential buyers. An assisted living groups is one, but we're not releasing names at this point."

The baled tires should create an effective sound barrier, but all of the operations will be enclosed, Ingie said. Above the tire layer will be chain link with three-strand barbed wire, she said.

"With everything enclosed, there won't be blowing trash," she said.

Although Ruidoso Downs is a member of the authority, officials there urged the garbage collection coalition of the county and its municipalities to find a more isolated location than the existing compound on Second Street. That operation is surrounded by private homes.



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## FUNERALS DEATHS

## Jalen Allen

Graveside services for Jalen Kyle Allen, infant daughter of Jonathan Allen and Samantha Ward, were Wednesday at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Ruidoso.

Jalen died Monday, Dec. 29, 2003, in Ruidoso.

Survivors include her parents; brothers Austin Tyler Allen and Gavyn Zachary Allen; grandparents James and Helen Ward and Patricia Allen; great-grandparents Lucille Garner, R.J. and Mary Murray and Sue Ward.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso, 257-7303.

## Marcelina Gutierrez

A rosary for Marcelina B. Gutierrez, 90, of Carrizozo, will be held at 7 p.m. today at Santa Rita Catholic Church in Carrizozo, where the funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 3, with burial to follow at Santa Rita Catholic Cemetery.

Mrs. Gutierrez died peacefully on Saturday, Dec. 27, 2003, at Sunrise Hospital in Las Vegas, Nev.

She was born on Nov. 28, 1913, in Lincoln, to Juan and Quirian (Mirabal) Beltran.

She lived all her life in Carrizozo.

Mrs. Gutierrez was a thoughtful, caring and loving

wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend. She had a beautiful smile and a delightful sense of humor. She was greatly loved by all of her family and will be very deeply missed.



Marcelina Gutierrez

She is preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Jerry Beltran Sr.; a sister-in-law, Juanita Beltran, and her husband, Luciano Gutierrez; her first husband, Benito T. Chavez; a daughter, Barbara

(Chavez) Brusuelas, of Las Vegas, Nev.; grandchildren David C. and his wife, Maria Baca, Alfred C. Baca and Rachel Baca, all of New Mexico, Ernest and James Melon of Arizona, Veronica Baca Bernal and her husband, Joseph Bernal, of Ohio, Delia M. Sanchez of Texas; great-grandchildren Kathy and Jessica Silva, Victoria, Dominique, Alexandria Baca and Eric and Albert Silva, all of New Mexico; and several dear nephews, nieces and cousins from Carrizozo and surrounding areas.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso, 257-7303.

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SAT SUN (12:00) (PG13)

mona lisa smile  
DAILY (3:45) 6:40 8:25  
SAT SUN (12:45) (PG13)

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN  
DAILY (4:30) 7:15 9:45  
SAT SUN (12:00) (PG) NO PASS

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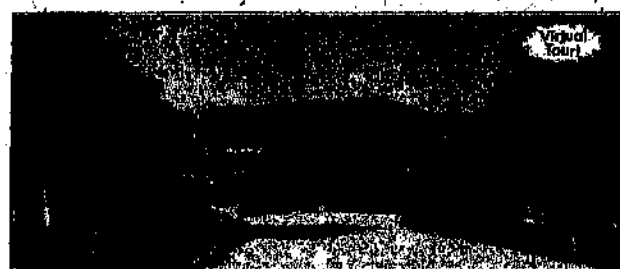
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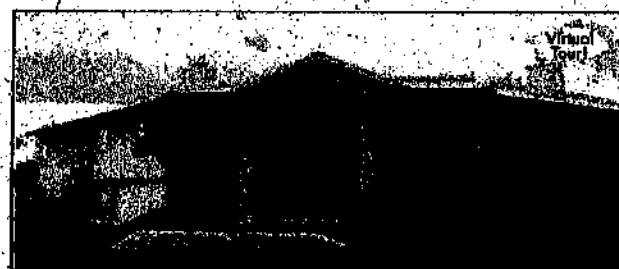
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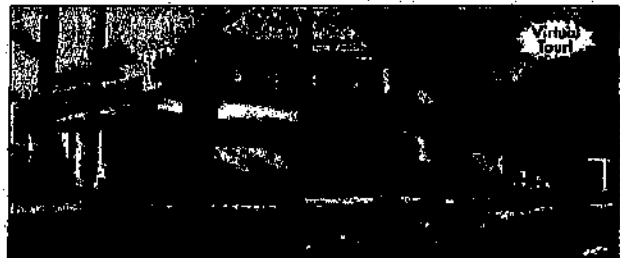
**BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED HOME** Fantastic views of Nogal Peak & Capitans. Freshly painted exterior, gilded roof & paved drive. Extra large rooms & large deck. Full golf membership. \$625,000. #10059



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**SUPERB CUSTOM BUILT HOME** Golf membership in Alto Village. Beautifully landscaped, easy access w/wooded view. One level. Vaulted ceilings, light open floor plan w/4 Br & 3 Ba. Triple garage \$475,000. #94861



**HUGE REDUCTION - NEW CONSTRUCTION** One of the best views in Alto. 3800 Sq Ft, full golf membership. A must to see! \$449,500. #98451



**BEAUTIFUL** Custom home on golf course. Very unique. Beautiful views from this full golf membership home. \$448,000. #95732



**GORGEOUS HOME ON RIO BONITO** Six plus acres, 3 Br, 3 Ba, large great room & game room. Pergo floors, plantation shutters, double detached garage, workshop & storage. \$444,000. #10249



**VARIOUS LOTS, 5 CABINS & 1 TRAILER** Will sell 5 cabins & trailer & vacant lots for \$440,000 or 2 cabins on L8 & W 1/2 L7, on the Rio Ruidoso, for \$150,000. #10287



**BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH HOME** on Deer Park Drive. Full golf membership, drive your golf cart to the club. Gorgeous views from the deck. A wonderful location. \$425,000. #10313



**BEAUTIFUL ONE LEVEL Santa Fe style** home, 3 Br, 3 3/4 Ba, saltillo tile floors, 10 ft ceilings, kiva fireplace, wood ceilings, Pella windows & doors, granite tile in kitchen, A/C. Owner/Agent \$420,000. #99785



**CLASSY HOME** Light & open, 2 living areas, 3 Br, 2 3/4 Ba, dbl garage. Full golf membership. \$415,000. #10025



**BEAUTIFULLY FINISHED STUCCO HOME** 2 Master suites, super floor plan & full golf membership. Great Sierra Blanca views from living room, kitchen & master bedroom. Furnishings being sold separate. \$327,500. #10341



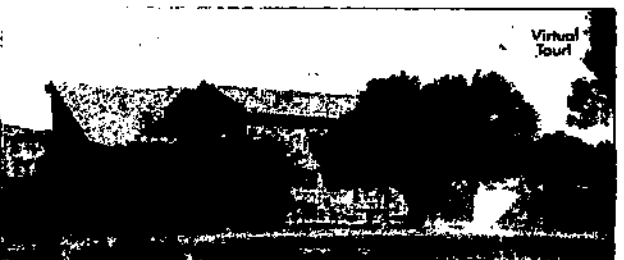
**OUTSTANDING CUSTOM HOME** Under construction. 2.3 acres, to finish 1/04. 3 Br, 2 Ba, 2 car garage, cherry wood floors, custom doors, cabinets & marble counter tops. FP, porches & horses ok. \$310,000. #10481



**GREAT LOCATION ON 16TH FAIRWAY** 3 Br, 1 Full Ba, 1 (3/4) Ba & 1 (1/2) Ba. On 16th Fairway w/full golf membership. Needs some work. Open floor plan w/lots of potential. Being sold "as is". \$265,000. #99687



**BEAUTIFUL 3 LEVEL DREAM HOME** Large lot across from Links Golf Course! 4 Br, 3 Ba with fantastic views from 2 levels of decks. Knotty pine, stone, glass, tile & recent carpet. \$249,500. #10121



**WONDERFUL SECLUDED LOCATION** View of Sierra Blanca. 3 acres, neat cabin with lots of charm. Wood interior, custom wood plantation shutters, new roof & much more. \$225,000. #98899



**NEW CONSTRUCTION** Open floor plan, cactus pine accented vaulted ceiling, fireplace. Covered deck w/Sierra Blanca view, uncovered deck, 2 car garage. Pick your own colors! \$224,900. #10159



**ALTO DELIGHT WITH EASY ACCESS** 3 Br, 2 Ba, double garage. All 1 level, hot tub, covered patio & view of Sierra Blanca. Sunny, warm & easy, low maintenance. Social membership. \$209,900. #98685



**CUTE CHALET TUCKED IN THE TREES** Vaulted ceiling in living & master Br, cedar fenced, dog run & huge decks. Oak cabinets, water softener, \$2,000, carpet allowance: \$5K less without furniture. \$187,500. #10403



**DOWN TOWN CAPITAN** Shop or home, excellent location. Currently in use as shop & museum. Great possibilities. Smoke Bear home town. \$180,000. #99345



**BEAUTIFUL 5 ACRES** Charming farm/ranch style home with quiet seclusion. Double carport & double garage, 3 Br, 2 Ba, deck, shed, views of Capitans & valley. \$177,500. #10239



**UPPER CANYON TREASURE** 2 Br, 2 Ba main house w/beautiful rock fireplace & sun room. Guest cottage, 1 Br, 1 Ba & kitchen, perfect for guests. Wonderful Ponderosa pines. \$175,000. #99819



**WELL KEPT ONE LEVEL HOME** 3 Br, 1 3/4 Ba, corner lot, paved drive, court yard, brick exterior. Golf membership. Furnished. Nice Alto home for under \$200K. \$173,000. #99485



**NICE REMODELED HOME IN CAPITAN** with country charm, large detached garage-shop. City water, tongue & groove pine in living room & master Br. \$165,000. #99039



**MINI RANCH W/PINE FLOORS** Pine walls, mt charm. Decks, perennial gardens & dbl carport. Workshop, tack house & barn. Hay barn, 2 wells & log fenced drive. Completely fenced. \$153,900. #99093



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# SPORTS

FRIDAY, JAN. 2, 2004

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PAGE 1B

## NEW YEAR'S TREAT

Ruidoso, Capitan teams claim trophies at holiday tourneys

Lady Tigers first in junior varsity bracket

BY TODD FUQUA  
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

ROSWELL — Capitan Lady Tiger coach Sherry Gowen may not have been in the bracket she would have liked at the Goddard Holiday basketball tournament this week, but it's hard to argue with three decisive wins and a championship trophy.

Besides, these were three games Capitan needed, after spending the better part of three weeks with no games.

"Any kind of experience is good for us," Gowen said. "This tournament helps us with confidence and helps us just to get out and play a game."

The Lady Tigers got back into the groove in a big way, defeating the Goddard junior varsity 56-31 on Tuesday, then defeating the Lady Rocket C team, 59-38, for the JV bracket championship on New Year's Eve.

Capitan (5-2) got their wins with lots of muscle, pounding the ball in to posts Jessica Becker and Kelsey Stierwalt against overmatched opponents.

Becker led the team in each game with 13 and 29 points, and hauled in a game-high 13 rebounds on Wednesday.

As a team, Capitan out-rebounded Goddard 51-28.

Becker did a lot of her damage in limited playing time, as Gowen continuously made wholesale substitutions in each game to give her younger players more experience.

"I try to keep all the kids together that will graduate together," Gowen said. "I can



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Capitan guard Raylyne Stanbrough, right, goes up for a layup as Goddard C-team player Kamrea Novak defends during the Lady Tigers' junior varsity championship win in the Goddard Holiday tournament in Roswell Wednesday.

sub them in there one at a time, but I have to get them to start clicking as a team."

Of course, it wasn't all about bringing the ball up and giving it to the girl everyone in Capitan calls "Bruiser;" the Lady Tiger defense gave

Goddard fits all day long.

Capitan's press forced 37 Lady Rocket turnovers in the game, many of which were converted on the other end into points or Goddard fouls. The

See CAPITAN, page 3B

Ruidoso girls earn two wins

BY TODD FUQUA  
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

ROSWELL — Considering the Ruidoso girls basketball team hasn't had much success at the Goddard Holiday Tournament in the past, their consolation championship win over Elida Wednesday was something to crow about.

The Lady Warriors (6-7) got their turnovers under control and got their half-court offense running well enough to take a 49-40 win in the final game.

Coupled with the Ruidoso junior varsity's consolation championship in the JV bracket — a 43-40 win over Elida's JV — the Lady Warriors' varsity showing was made all the sweeter.

The Lady Tigers opened with a pressing defense that flustered Ruidoso a bit in the beginning, causing many unforced errors and turnovers which they turned into a slim 13-11 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The only reason it was that close was a 3-pointer by Allison Rigsby with 18 seconds left.

"We started off slow because of turnovers," said Ruidoso coach Greg Marez. "We kind of cleared it up a little bit, but we still had quite a few."

The Lady Warriors tied the game at 13-all after four scoreless minutes in the second quarter on a layup by Dusti Franklin, then took the lead on a trey by Clarissa Silva.

Elida was able to tie the game at 23-all with 6:08 left in the third quarter when Samantha Southard hit one from beyond the arc, but Silva again gave her team the lead shortly thereafter with a jumper.

The Lady Warriors controlled the game from then on, slowing down the tempo and keeping Elida from running the floor, even with a Lady Tiger surge near the end.

"They were running a zone offense against us, and we didn't pick up the adjustment," Marez said of Elida's 8-2 mini-run in the fourth quarter. "That's what hurt us. They made good shots on us."

The Lady Warriors responded with a 7-0 run of their own

Wednesday, Dec. 31  
Consolation Championship  
Lady Warriors 49, Lady Tigers 40  
Ruidoso (49)  
Allison Rigsby 1 4-6 7, Lynette Woodward 0 0-0 0, Samantha Serna 1 0-0 2, Clarissa Silva 4 3-5 12, Jessica Gibson 0 4-6 4, Vicki Celusniak 2 0-0 4, Christine Brown 4 2-4 10, Dusti Franklin 1 2-2 4, Beth Robinson 3 0-3 6. Totals: 47 15-26 49.  
Elida (40)  
Lindsey Ward 0 0-0 0, Alicia Smith 0 0-0 0, Casey Ford 1 0-2 2, Kelsia Chenault 3 1-2 7, Samantha Southard 5 0-1 12, Kodi Armitage 3 2-2 9, Hallee Best 1 0-0 2, Amber Griffin 0 0-0 0, Adrienne Coe 2 0-0 4, Janice Taylor 0 0-0 0, Shalle Anthony 2 0-0 4. Totals: 17 3-5 40.  
Ruidoso 11 10 11 17 — 49  
Elida 13 5 9 13 — 40  
3-point goals — Rui 2 (Rigsby, Silva), Eli 3 (Southard 2, Armitage).  
Total fouls — Rui 14, Eli 16.  
Technical fouls — Eli (Best).

See RUIDOSO, page 2B

## Warrior cagers finish third at Silver Colt Classic

BY TODD FUQUA  
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

A day after dropping a big decision to the Colt Classic hosts, the Ruidoso Warrior basketball team defeated El Paso Eastwood Wednesday, 61-56, to claim third place in the tournament.

"We played really well today," said Ruidoso coach Billy Page. "We were more conservative and got the ball inside to get their post players in foul trouble. We were getting more inside shots and layups, and were pretty solid offensively."

Patrick Valliant led the Warriors (4-5) with 20 points, while Auston Beier had 12 points. Valliant is able to score inside, but did a lot of damage from outside with three 3-pointers.

"Eastwood didn't know how to match up when he would do that," Page said. "They wouldn't come out and guard him, so he had the wide open shot. Garrett Born had the same opportunities."

Ruidoso didn't really take control until the second half, as Eastwood had the lead at half-time. There were several lead changes in the third quarter before the Warrior defense was able to do its job in the final period.

Ruidoso's 71-59 loss Tuesday to Silver High wasn't as bad as the final score looked. The Warriors were actually leading 31-29 at the break, but a cold-shooting third quarter

did them in.

"We only scored five points," Page said. "We got back to where we wanted to be in the fourth, scoring 23, but it was too little too late."

Beier and Chance Hooper each had 12 points to lead the Warriors in a game that was defined by Silver's physical prowess inside.

"They're not that big, just really

strong," Page said of the Colts. They're going to beat you up and score inside."

Still, the game was good experience for a Ruidoso team that will be in Tularosa tonight for a 7:30 p.m. game.

"This tournament prepares us pretty well, our game (Tuesday) was a lot like it will be against Tulie," Page said. "It's a hostile environment, and they really love their basketball."

Ruidoso opened the season with a big 72-47 victory over the Wildcats, but Page cautioned Tularosa will be a different team tonight.

"We have to be mentally prepared for this," Page said. "We just hope to come out with a 'W.'"



MATT MILLER/SILVER CITY SUN-NEWS

Ruidoso post Chance Hooper, far left, looks to take a shot against the Silver High defense during the Warriors' semifinal loss to the Colts Tuesday at the Colt Classic in Silver City. Preparing for the possible rebound is Ruidoso teammate Cody Small.

## side line

### Ski Report

Ski Apache  
Ski Apache is open daily. Lifts operate from 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Expect to find great conditions on all open trails. Snowmaking continues each night. Chair No. 8 will open soon.  
New snow past week: 1 inch  
Weather at report time: Partly cloudy  
Road at report time: Clear  
Midway depth: 14-22 inches on open slopes  
Surface conditions: Machine groomed  
Skiing conditions: All open trails are good  
Trails open: Capitan (both sides), Deep Freeze, Top Knotch, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Lower Sierra Blanca Trail, Lower Moonshine, Easy Street, Chair 5  
Beginning Slope and Kiddle Korral  
Lifts open: Chairs 2-5 and 7, two surface lifts. The Gondola is open daily for sightseers.  
Snowmaking past 24 hours: Yes  
Forecast: Mostly cloudy with a chance of snow  
The \$200 weekday season pass is back. Enjoy the convenience of renting on the mountain. Lots of new skis and snowboards are available at Ski Apache.

### Prep Results

Tuesday, Dec. 30  
Boys Basketball  
Colt Classic at Silver City  
Silver 71, Ruidoso 59  
Girls Basketball  
Goddard Holiday Tournament at Roswell  
Varsity  
Ruidoso 43, West Las Vegas 34.  
Junior Varsity  
Ruidoso JV 56, Loving 27.  
Capitan 59, Goddard JV 31  
Wednesday, Dec. 31  
Boys Basketball  
Colt Classic at Silver City  
3rd place  
Ruidoso 61, El Paso Eastwood 56  
Girls Basketball  
Goddard Holiday Tournament at Roswell  
Varsity 5th place  
Ruidoso 49, Elida 40  
Junior Varsity Championship  
Capitan 59, Goddard C 38  
Junior Varsity 5th place  
Ruidoso 43, Elida 40

### Preps on Tap

Friday, Jan. 2  
Boys Basketball  
Ruidoso at Tularosa, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 3  
Boys Basketball  
Dexter at Capitan, 7:30 p.m.  
Girls Basketball  
Dexter at Capitan, 6 p.m.  
Monday, Jan. 5  
Boys Basketball  
Hondo at Capitan JV, 7 p.m.  
Girls Basketball  
Hondo at Capitan JV, 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 6  
Boys Basketball  
Socorro at Ruidoso, 7:30 p.m.  
Girls Basketball  
Hondo at Vaughn, 7 p.m.  
Wrestling  
Ruidoso at Roswell dual, 5:30 p.m.

### On Deck

Youth hoops season to start  
Sign ups for the upcoming 5th-8th-grade boys and girls basketball season are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 7 from 6-8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 10th from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and Wednesday, Jan. 14 from 6-8 p.m. Sign-ups will be held at the Ruidoso Middle School gym. Cost is \$30 per player and \$10 for each additional sibling. Coaches, referees and volunteers are needed. For more information, call J.Y. Cadena at 378-4575.

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# Capitan boys hope to keep hot season start going against Dexter Saturday

BY MARTY RACINE  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Capitan has a tiger by the tail this young basketball season, sprinting to a 4-1 record heading into Saturday's home showdown with Dexter (approximately 7:30 p.m. following the junior varsity and Lady Tiger games).

But for a one-point overtime loss at Hagerman, the Tigers would be undefeated. "That's one we'd like to have back," said Tiger head coach Royce Brown.

He continued, however, that the loss might have benefited his club in the long run. "That kept us from having the big head, because we had been having pretty good success.

Hopefully it made us a little bit hungry. We realize we've got to play every game."

Dexter could pose their toughest test to date. The Demons won the Roadrunner Tournament in which the Tigers placed third after that heartbreaking 51-50 loss.

"They're tough, they're solid," Brown said of the Demons. "They've got a lot of seniors that have played and come up through the system. And Tommy Sanchez, the coach, has been there a while. This game will help us evaluate where we are."

Dexter can beat you several ways, Brown said. "They're not just one-dimensional. Tommy likes to press you and get up and down the floor a little bit, but he's real disciplined in

the halfcourt offense. They can score from outside but also they have the ability to post you up inside."

The halfcourt game has been Capitan's work-in-progress this year. With the Tigers' height (four players are 6-4 or taller), Capitan can control the boards for offensive put-backs or to trigger their running game. When forced to work the ball, the Tigers have not always been patient, Brown said.

"We need to get better with our spacing and our offensive execution. Our recognition in our halfcourt needs to improve, making sure we're not rushing things, getting too impatient. There's no shot clock in high school, so we could run the thing all day until we get a good shot. That's what we're looking for, to make the

extra pass and get a really good shot."

Individually, Brown likes the improvement he sees in his players: Sheldon Moor, as expected, leads the team in scoring, rebounding and assists. And 6-5 sophomore Josh Castaneda, Brown said, is coming along.

"He's our second leading scorer and second-leading rebounder. We look for him inside, and he's got the ability to score inside when he gets it," Brown said. "He's pretty quick with his feet, and pretty good with his post moves overall."

Brown is getting production down the line, Drew Haynes shares ball-handling duties and is counted on defensively. "He's looking for his shot a little more now," said his coach.

"He's been a little more aggressive."

Elliott Taylor, Brown hopes, will begin hitting shots in the halfcourt. "He's got the ability to score, and he's got that mentality. He rushes things sometimes. He needs to recognize what we're looking for and get shots in the flow of the offense."

Tommy Aldaz, Robbie Burchette and Chance Huddleston are playing key roles, doing the little things, especially defensively, that win games. "They don't show up in the boxscore but they definitely make things go," Brown said.

"It's definitely a team effort. As long as we keep that focus and keep after each other in practice, we'll keep getting better. I expect us to compete at a high level every night."

## RUIDOSO: A good day all around for Lady Warrior teams

FROM PAGE 1B

after they began controlling the tempo to put the game away.

Silva led Ruidoso with 12 points, while Christine Brown put in 10. Southard was the top Lady Tiger with 12 points on two 3-point goals.

Ruidoso 45, West Las Vegas 34

On Tuesday, the Lady Warriors rebounded from their opening-round loss to Moriarty with a fairly decisive decision against West Las Vegas in the consolation side of the bracket.

Silva poured in 17 points for Ruidoso, shooting all three of her team's treys in the game.

The Lady Dons made a comeback in the second half, mainly on the strength of their outside game. West Las Vegas

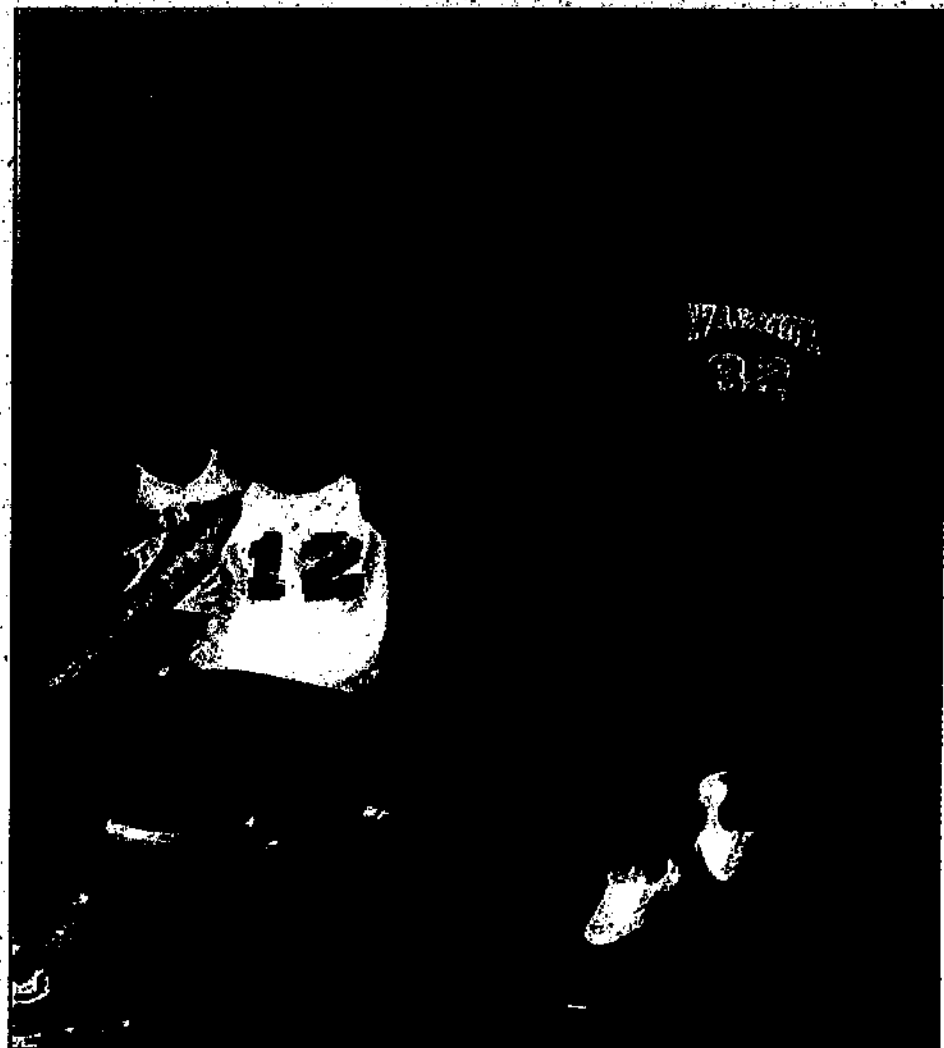
had six 3-pointers, getting three from Vera Jo Bustos. But their comeback wasn't enough in the end.

Ruidoso now has a long lay-off until Jan. 9, when Tularosa comes to town for a 7:30 p.m. contest.



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Ruidoso guard Clarissa Silva (14) tries to drive past Elida players Samantha Southard (15) and Keisha Chenault as Lady Warrior teammate Dusti Franklin looks on Wednesday in the consolation championship of the Goddard Holiday Tournament in Roswell.

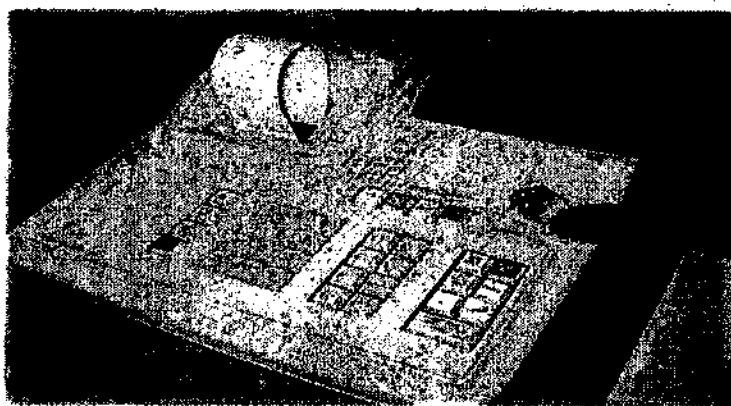


TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Christine Brown, right, goes up for two of her 10 points in Wednesday's consolation championship game against Elida in the Goddard Holiday Tournament at Roswell. Defending on the play is Lady Tiger Casey Ford.

Tuesday, Dec. 30  
Lady Warriors 45, Lady Dons 34  
West Las Vegas (34)  
Dominique Monroya 12-15, Vera Jo Bustos 2-4-8, Veria Trujillo 2-0-0, Melissa Martinez 1-0-0, Z. Marie Aragon 2-1-3, Sarah Spies 0-0-0, Santana Gonzalez 2-2-6, Totals: 12-7-22-34  
Ruidoso (45)  
Clarissa Silva 17-10-11, Lynette Woodward 1-0-0, Samantha Southard 0-2-0, Chelsea Silva 5-4-17, Shaelee Black 1-0-0, Vicki Calusnak 0-0-0, Christine Brown 4-0-2, Dusti Franklin 13-4-6, Beth Robinson 4-1-3, Totals: 16-10-18-45  
West Las Vegas 11-6-18-7-34  
Ruidoso 17-10-11-7-45  
3-point goals — WLV 6 (Bustos 3, Trujillo 2, Monroya 1), RU 3 (Silva 3)  
Total fouls — WLV 16, RU 17

## WOE TO THE FORGOTTEN ONES.



As winter begins in the Sacramento Mountains, an annual tragedy unfolds. Too many victims suffer from a local seasonal affective disorder... without the warm, caring touch of affectionate cashiers and merchants, far too many of Ruidoso's cash registers suffer from inattention and inactivity. Lethargic registers lose the energy and drive they need to perform up to expectations for their owners, and they spiral into wintertime depression. You can help. Advertising in the *Ruidoso News* throughout the winter will keep drawers opening and closing in a repetitious, isometric exercise that keeps even the most sorrow-prone register smiling, no matter how far down the temperature plunges outside. People eat, drink, shop and have fun in Ruidoso, hot or cold. Advertising in the *Ruidoso News* ensures that YOUR register will be one of those that stays busy throughout the entire year. Act now to save your register, before it's too late. Call 257-4001 today. Your *Ruidoso News* advertising consultant will visit you right away to plan the affordable and effective winter advertising program that's right for you, and for your cash register. Don't you owe it to your faithful, digital companion? Of course you do.



# Solid Utah State team wins battle of the Aggies

BY FELIX CHAVEZ  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

LOGAN, Utah — The Utah State Aggies have shown all season they are an efficient basketball team on offense.

Tuesday night was no different as the UtAgs shot 61 percent on 25 of 41 shooting in a 73-57 win against New Mexico State in the championship of the Utah State Tournament at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum in front of 7,122 fans.

"Utah State is very efficient," NMSU senior wing Kelsey Crooks said. "They run the offense well and get some good shots."

Utah State, which was shooting 50.8 percent from the field and 76 percent from the free throw line entering Tuesday's game, pounded the ball inside as well, hurting NMSU for sev-

eral layins or trips to the free throw line.

Forwards Mike Ahmad, Nate Harris, Spencer Nelson and John Neil combined for 48 points.

Utah State also outscored New Mexico State 20-6 at the free-throw line and finished with 23 assists and just 12 turnovers. Nelson had a game-high 10 assists.

"Utah State is very physical," NMSU coach Lou Henson said. "They have very good inside players, and offensively, they just do things so well."

The UtAgs, which led 40-27 at half, scored the first six points of the half and 11 of the first 15 to lead 51-31, the team's biggest lead of the night.

Ahmad was huge for Utah State. The 6-foot-9 senior scored nine of the team's first 11. He finished with 20 points on 8 of 11 shooting.

"Utah State has a variety of people it can go to and they do it," Henson said.

New Mexico State played evenly the rest of the half, but never pulled closer than 12 points, 61-49, with 8:02 left in the game.

Forward James Moore led NMSU on the night with 15 points, 11 in the second half. Duane John had 14 and Detruis Roberson added nine.

Utah State also hurt the visitors on the boards, securing a 29-15 advantage, led by Nelson with nine.

"We were definitely hurt on the boards," said Crooks, who had seven points and four assists. "We have to improve on the boards in time for conference."

Precision basketball was the key for Utah State in the first half. The UtAgs made 13 of 23 from the field, 12 of 16 free throws had 12 assists and

outrebounded New Mexico State 21-7 to lead 40-27. The Aggies never made it to the free throw in the first half and shot just seven for the game, making six.

The UtAgs like to go inside and in the first half they went to their strength. Ahmad, Harris, Nelson and Neil combined for 27 points.

Utah State passed the ball efficiently as it was patient for much of the half.

New Mexico State hung in early on and trailed just 23-17 with 9:34 left in the first half after a Roberson 3-point-er.

But Utah State went on an 8-0 run to go up 31-17 as NMSU went scoreless for 4:26.

New Mexico State managed to get back within 10 after back-to-back treys from Roberson and John.

But the UtAgs scored the final

three points of the half to lead by 13.

Ahmad's nine led Utah State in the opening half, while John's seven points led New Mexico State. Moore, NMSU's second-leading scorer, scored just four points on 2 of 5 shooting. He scored the squad's first two baskets of the first half, but didn't score over the final 17:18 of the half.

The UtAgs went to a zone defense in the first half and that bothered NMSU at times.

"We didn't attack the zone as well we can," Henson said. "Utah State has to be given credit. They have a good ball club."

New Mexico State (6-5) is off until Jan. 10 when it visits North Texas to begin Sun Belt play.

Felix Chavez is a sports writer for the Las Cruces Sun-News, a sister paper to the Ruidoso News.

## UNM women continue to dominate NMSU

BY JAMES STALEY  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

LAS CRUCES — Leave it to a native New Mexican to make the New Mexico State-New Mexico women's basketball rivalry personal.

Lobo senior post Melissa Forest logged her third-consecutive double-double with 20 points and a career-high 16 rebounds against the Aggies. The rest of Forest's UNM teammates followed her dominating lead as the Lobos smashed NMSU 68-44 on Tuesday night at the Pan American Center.

UNM improved to 7-4 while NMSU skidded to 6-5.

"I think it's kind of a senior thing," UNM coach Don Flanagan said of Forest's performance. "She's always been

good for us but she's never been the go-to player. And with the New Mexico kids — a lot of times they play like this in this series."

Forest, who graduated from Hobbs High, also had a double-double (16 points, 10 rebounds) when UNM clobbered NMSU 62-39 on Dec. 14 in Albuquerque. Like the rest of the Lobos, Forest's high field goal percentage benefited from a glut of layups. UNM netted 28 points in the paint compared to just six for the Aggies.

The Lobos were able to scatter NMSU's small but quick defense through most of the evening. It led to a lot of one-on-one opportunities for UNM's taller post players. Lobo guards also got their share of point-blank buckets thanks to exact

cuts to the hoop.

"(NMSU is) quick and aggressive. We had to spread them out so we could make the most of our size with isolation situations," Flanagan said.

UNM had great balance on offense. Ten Lobos scored. Besides Forest Jenny Shettlers notched 11 while Lindsey Arndt and Mandi Moore tossed in eight apiece.

Balance was part of the problem for NMSU, which shot a frigid 26 percent for the contest. Three Aggies — Princess Moore, Keaira Moore and Sinnammon Garrett — were the only NMSU players who could score more than a free throw and they shot just 32 percent from the floor.

Princess Moore paced NMSU with 16 points and

seven rebounds. Garrett hit for 14 and Keaira Moore had 12.

NMSU coach Darin Spence and the rest of the Aggie players remained in the locker room and did not speak to the media.

The game was actually close for most of the first half. The Aggies erased separate Lobo leads of seven and nine points in the opening 20 minutes.

Keaira Moore drilled a 3-point shot with 5:15 to play to pull NMSU to within three, 23-20.

But Forest wouldn't have it. She scored 10 points as the Lobos scored 12 unanswered points and never looked back again.

James Staley is a reporter for the Las Cruces Sun-News, a sister paper to the Ruidoso News.

## CAPTAN: A championship does the team good

FROM PAGE 1B

Lady Tigers shot only 50 percent at the free-throw line in the game, but their in-your-face style of play wore the Lady Rockets down in the end.

Amanda McCracken was the only Lady Rocket in double figures, scoring 16 points.

Gowen would like to have been in the varsity side of the bracket, but is grateful for the playing time, given that the Lady Tigers host Dexter Saturday in a 6 p.m. game.

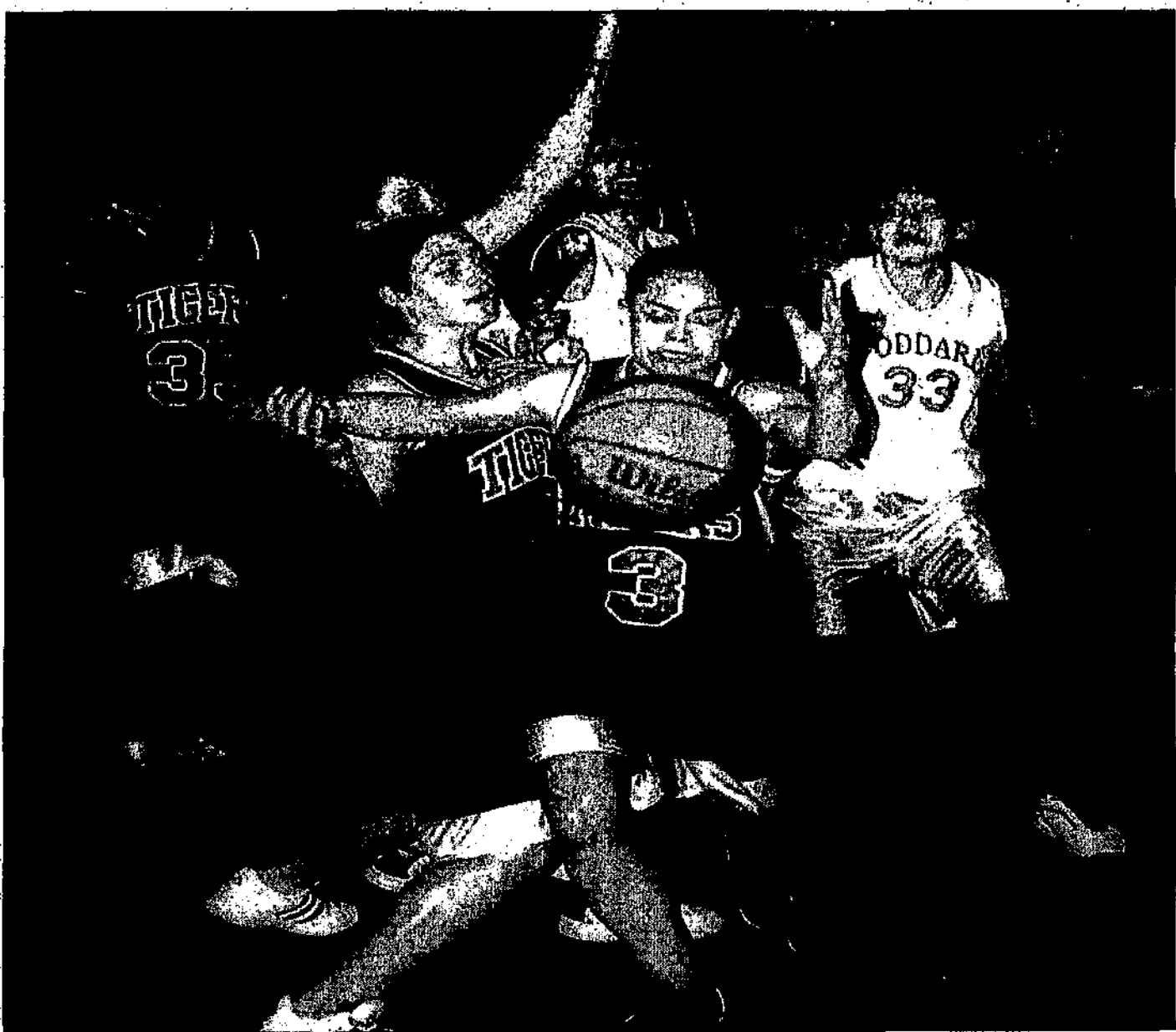
"Having these three games under our belts helps us," Gowen said. "It was either this or not have the three games."

"Dexter is always a good team, and they will get their shots," she added. "We just have to make sure we get the rebounds and they don't get their second or third tries."

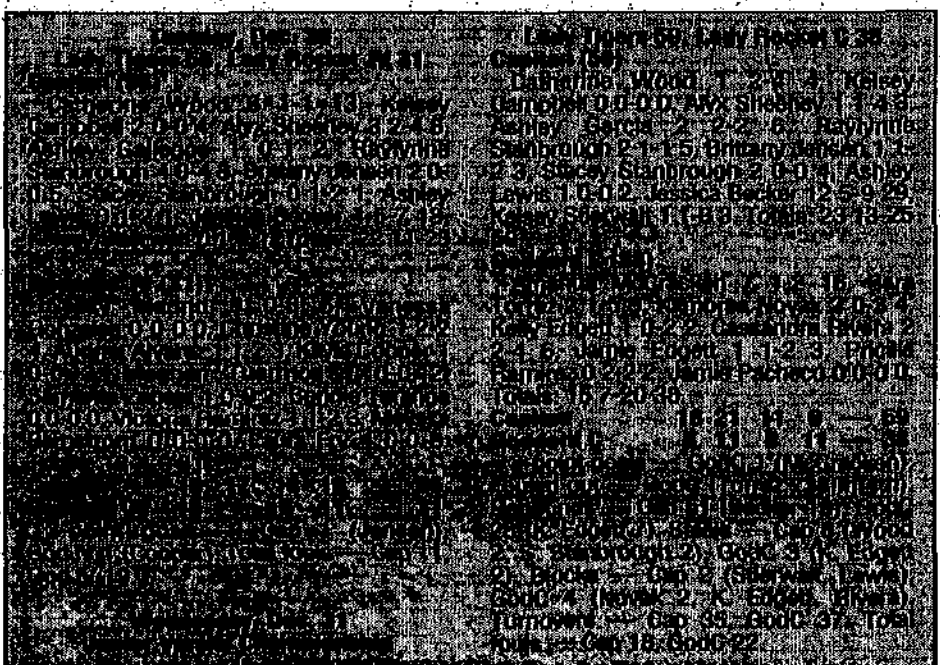
Capitan 56, Goddard JV 31

The Lady Tigers spread the scoring around a bit more on Tuesday, as Catherine Wood added 13 points of her own to match Becker in a sound drubbing of the Lady Rocket junior varsity.

The two teams were actually tied at 10-all after one quarter, but Capitan's defense and running offense took hold in the second quarter, as the Lady Tigers outscored their opponents 17-4 to take a 27-14 lead at the half.



The ball is mine! Capitan's Catherine Wood (3) has the steely-eyed look of grim determination on her face as she battles teammate Kelsey Campbell (4) for a rebound during the Lady Tigers' championship win over the Goddard C team in the junior varsity bracket of the Goddard Holiday Tournament Wednesday in Roswell. Looking on is Capitan's Kelsey Stierwalt (35) and Goddard's Cassandra Rivera (33).



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## Greyhounds maul Panhandle

PORTALES — Eastern New Mexico University's Travazz Buckley scored 17 points and pulled in 11 rebounds to help the Greyhounds destroy the Oklahoma Panhandle State University Aggies 92-52 here Wednesday.

ENMU's Jamaal Hunnicutt added 17 points and nine boards of his own in the win, which bettered the Hounds' record to 7-3. OPSU dropped to 0-10.

Buckley was 8 of 12 from the floor and made his only free throw attempt. He has averaged a double-double, with 17.3 points and 10.7 rebounds, since becoming eligible three games ago on Dec. 13.

The Greyhounds built a 41-23 lead by halftime, despite 15 first-half turnovers. Hunnicutt put in 18 of his points in the first half.

The two teams also met on Dec. 18 with similar results. The Aggies carry just six players, but that didn't help coach Earl Trice, who resigned from the team Tuesday. Rick Thomas was named OPSU's interim head coach Tuesday and led his team for the first time against ENMU.

The win was an easy one for the Hounds, as they led by more than 20 for nearly the entire second half.

Four Greyhounds scored in double figures. Following Buckley and Hunnicutt were Kennis Green with 16 and Irshaun Pinckney with 12.

ENMU achieved a 66-31 rebounding edge and combined for 29 assists on 41 baskets. Point guard Brent Cooper led the team with seven assists.

Eastern shot 52.6 percent for the game and went eight of nine from the charity stripe.

The Hounds next play a Lone Star Conference crossover game against Southeastern Oklahoma State Saturday in Portales. Game time is 4 p.m. Crossover games do not count in LSC divisional standings.

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Remember to attend your local house of worship regularly this year. There is no better reminder of the Christmas season.

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to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass, St. Jude Thaddeus, San  
Patricio: 8 a.m.

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

**St. Joseph's Apache Mission** Mescalero. Father  
Larry Gosselin, OFM. Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe** Bent. Father Larry  
Gosselin. Saturday Mass: 6 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8  
a.m.

### CHRISTIAN

**Christian Community Church** 127 Rio Corner  
W/Eagle, Mid-town. 9-11 Sunday Services/Praise &  
Worship. For more information call: 378-7076

**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.;

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Gateway Church of Christ** 415 Sudderth, Ruidoso,  
257-4381. Jimmy Sportsman, Minister. Sunday  
Morning worship: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday-Bible Class:  
11:00 a.m.; Mid-Week Service Wed. 6:30 p.m.

### CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LDS

**Church of Jesus Christ LDS Ruidoso Branch**,  
North on Hwy. 48, between Ruidoso and Capitán,  
Branch President: Les Nielson. 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. Wayne King, President. 505-434-0622.  
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 Mount** (21 Mescalero  
Trail, Ruidoso, 7: Ron Thompson, Team Leader.  
Sunday Eucharist Rite I: 8:00 a.m.; Rite II - 10:30 a.m.,  
nursery available for the 10:30 service; Sunday School:  
10:30; Youth Group (JOK, CIA) 1:30-3:30;  
Wednesday: Daughters of King at noon; Eucharist &  
healing: 3:30 p.m.; Choir practice: 7:00 p.m.

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

**St. Anne's Episcopal Chapel** in Glencoe. Sunday:  
Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m.

### FULL GOSPEL

**Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship Int'l.**  
K-Bo's Hwy. 70 in Ruidoso. Dinner at six  
Mondays, Special Priced Menu. Women Welcome!  
Ron Rice. 354-0255, e-mail: rgbrf@ruidoso-  
online.com

**Mission Fountain of Living Water** 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, 257-3871. Sunday: Public Talk 1:30 p.m.;  
Watchtower Study: 2:20 p.m. Monday: Book Study  
7:30 p.m. Tuesday: Theocracy Ministry School 7:30  
p.m.; Service Meeting 8:20 p.m.

**Congregación Hispana de los Testigos de Jehová**  
106 Alpine Village Road, 258-3659, 336-7076.  
Dom. Reunión Pública 10:00 a.m.; Estudio de la  
Atalaya 10:50 p.m.; Mart. Escuela del Ministerio  
Teocrático 7 p.m.; Reunión de servicio 7:50 p.m.;  
Mier. Estudio de libro 7:00 p.m.

### LUTHERAN

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**  
1120 Hill Road, 258-4191, 257-5296. Pastor: Ed  
Kohn. Pastor. Sunday: Worship 8:30 a.m. (May-  
Oct.), 10:30 a.m.; Sun. School & Adult Bible Class  
9:30 a.m.; Thurs. Eve. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m., call for  
location.

### METHODIST

**Community United Methodist Church** Junction  
Road, behind Wells Fargo Bank, Bob Sawyer,  
Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship:  
8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

### PENTECOSTAL

**Apollonio Pentecostal Assembly**, Eternal Life  
Ministries, Minister: Harry A. Payton, call for your  
personal Home Bible study: 430-9540, (Web page)  
http://www.DominionOfChrist.com

**The Apostles of Lincoln County**, UPC Remax  
Center, 1009 Mechem Dr., Unit #1. Pastor Art Dunn.  
Sunday afternoon, 4:30 PM, Adult, children's & youth  
classes, Wednesday evening, 7:00 PM, Bible Study.

### PRESBYTERIAN

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

### MOUNTAIN MINISTRY PARK COMMUNITY UNITED

**Presbyterian Church** Ancho, Reverend Scott King.  
Sunday worship: 9 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.;  
Corona Presbyterian Church Reverend Scott King.  
Sunday: Church School, 10 a.m.; 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 Schut, Pastor.  
Sunday: Church school 9:30 a.m.; worship 10:30 a.m.;  
Mon. Junior high youth 6:30 p.m. Wed. high school  
meeting 7 p.m.; Thurs. Kikis Club (grades 1-5) 3:30.

### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

**Ruidoso Seventh Day Adventist** 207 Parkway, Agua  
Fria, Ruidoso Downs, 378-4161. Pastor: Ed  
Robertson. 505-439-0760; Assoc. Pastor: Wilbur  
Morrow 622-1206. Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30  
a.m.; Church service: 11 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer  
meeting 7 p.m.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

**Sacramento Mountain Unitarian Universalist**  
Church, meeting in members' homes. Call 258-  
1881, www.stmoun.com

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**Abundant Life Family Church** 2810 Sudderth Drive,  
Suite 210, 257-1188. Mark Gentry, pastor. Sunday  
worship 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible study 7 p.m.

**American Missionary Fellowship** Rick Smith, 682-  
2999. Monday: Women's Bible study 6:30 p.m. at  
Schlotzky's Deli. Tuesday: Ruidoso men's Bible study  
noon at Plaza del Mesquero Drive, Wednesday (Sept.  
through May) Captain Iz. High and St. High Youth  
Groups 6:30 p.m. at Christ Community Fellowship. E-  
mail: RickS@americanmissionary.org

**Calvary Chapel** 127 Vision, next to Cable Co., 257-  
5915. Pastor John Marshall. Sunday worship 9:30 a.m.;  
Wednesday: Mid-week bible study 7:00 p.m.

**Class of the Oracle** Community Christiana, Ruidoso  
204 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345 (505) 257-  
6075. Pastor: Carlos & Gaby Carrion. Marías -

### ORACLEON 6:00 pm; Jueves - Servicio General 6:00

pm; Sábado - Kid-in-Revival 11:00 am; Domingo  
Servicio General 11:00 am "All Services are  
Bilingual" - Translators Available

**Christ Church in the Downs** Ruidoso Downs, 378-  
8464, Al and Marty Lane, Pastors. Sunday: 8:00 Sun  
a.m., 10:45 a.m. Children's ministries concurrent  
with late Sunday Services. Sat. outreach at 1pm, at  
church. Thursday: 7 p.m.

**Cornerstone Church** Cornerstone Square, 613  
Sudderth Drive, 257-9265. John & Joy Wynn,  
Pastors. Sunday School, 9:45. Church, 10:30 a.m.;  
6:30 p.m. with Children's Church Sun. Eve.  
Handicap Services 11 a.m. Wed. Leadership Class 6  
p.m. & Prayer 7 p.m. Wed. Bible Study Adult 7 p.m.  
Thurs. and Youth, Thurs. 7 p.m.

**Cowboy Church** Noon Sundays at the Glencoe Rural  
Events Center. Everyone welcome. Preacher Buster  
Reed of Amarillo, Call 378-4840 for more info.

**Grace Harvest Church** Gavilan Canyon Rd, 336-  
4213. Sun. morning prayer 8:30 a.m.; Sunday school  
9 a.m.; service 10 a.m.

**Iglesia Bautista "Vida Eterna"** Pastor Rev. Ramon  
Robledo, 207 East Circle, Ruidoso Downs, NM  
88346, 361 E. Hwy. 70, (505) 378-8108. Email:  
rrobledo@earthlink.net

**Miracle Life Ministry Center** Ron Rice &  
Catherine Callahan, Ministers Available 24 hours for  
healing prayer. 354-0255 e-mail: miraclelife@rui-  
doso-online.com

**Peace Chapel Interdenominational (U.I.C.)**  
Alto North, 336-7075. Jeanette Price, Pastor. Morning  
chapel 6:50 a.m. (Sept. - June); Sun. Service: 11 a.m.

**Raceback Chapel**  
Horseman's Entrance, Hwy 70, 505-378-7264.  
Chaplain Darrell Winter. Services 10:30 am to 11:15  
am. Enjoy the music & old hymns with friendly people.

### NON-SECTARIAN

**Spiritual Awareness Study Group**. Minister: George  
N. Brown, Ph.D. U.I.C. Sundays 1 p.m. - 257-1569

## CAPTAN & LINCOLN CHURCHES

### BAPTIST

**Trinity Southern Baptist Church** (south on Highway 48) Mt. Capitán Rd. 354-  
2044. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.; AWANA-Sunday 4-6 p.m.

**Mountain Baptist Church**  
Pastor: W.G. Carter. Sunday School: 10 AM.  
Sunday Worship - 11 AM & 6 PM. Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:15 PM  
(Next to BBQ Place on Hwy 380) Capitán, NM (505) 378-6134

### CATHOLIC

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**  
Capitán, 354-9122. Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.; Monday  
Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Capitán - Highway 48**. Les Earwood, Minister. Sunday Bible study: 10 a.m.;  
Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 6 p.m.

### EPISCOPAL

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

### FOUR SQUARE

**Capitán Four Square Church** Highway 48, Capitán. Harold W. Perry, Pastor. Sunday

School: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.

### METHODIST

**Capitán United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Johanna Anderson and the congregation of Capitán 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 12:30. White Oaks and Third  
in Capitán. 505-648-2846.

### NAZARENE

**Angus Church of the Nazarene** Angus, 12 miles north of Ruidoso on Hwy. 48,  
336-8032. Rick Hutchison Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning  
Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer  
Meeting, 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Youth Worship, 6:00 p.m.

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**Christ Community Fellowship** Capitán, Highway 380 West, 354-2458. Ed  
Vinson, Pastor. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.

### QUAKER WORSHIP GROUP

- Lincoln. Religious Society of  
Friends, silent meeting. Old Lincoln Church, Lincoln, 10 am. 305-653-4951

## ASSEMBLY OF GOD

**The Word of Life Church**  
Rev. Chuck Fulton, pastor/548-2339; 711 'E' Ave., Carrizozo, NM. Affiliated  
with Evangelistic Assembly Church. Sunday 7:00 pm.

### BAPTIST

**First Baptist Church**  
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

### CATHOLIC

**Santa Rita Catholic Church**  
648-2853. Father Dave Bergs, Pastor. Saturday Mass: 6:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass:  
10:30 a.m.; Tuesday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Perry Zionville**, minister. Avé. C at 12th, Carrizozo, NM. Sunday School 10:00  
am; Worship Service 11:00 am; Evening Worship 1:15 pm; Wednesday Bible  
Study 7:00 pm.

## EPISCOPAL

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

### METHODIST

**United Methodist Church Parish**  
Trinity - 1000 D. Ave. 648-2893/648-2846. Carrizozo, Johanna Anderson, pas-  
tor. Sunday school 10:00 a.m.; Sunday worship 11:00 a.m. Choir Practice  
(Thurs.) 6:30 pm; United Methodist Women Every 3rd Wed. 1:00 pm  
Fellowship Dinner 4th Sun. of month 12:30 pm.



# LINCOLN COUNTY

FRIDAY, JAN. 2, 2004

CALL US: WES SCHWENGELS, EDITOR • 257-4001 • WESS@RUIDOSONWS.COM

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## HIGH LIGHTS



Luminaria lighting took some rooftop work in some places of Carrizozo on Christmas Eve. Approximately 5,000 luminarias glowed along the streets of Carrizozo over the holiday.

PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

## Carrizozo motel gets new ownership, look

BY JULIE CARTER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The former Crossroads Motel near the intersection of Highways 380 and 54 in Carrizozo has a new owner and is under major renovation. Targeted to open Feb. 1, the business is now called the Chaparral Motel.

Joe Lopez of San Diego County, Calif., has been coming to this part of the Southwest since he was a child. With relatives in El Paso, Lopez always thought he'd eventually buy property there and make it home.

As time passed and El Paso grew, it became bigger and busier than he was comfortable with and he began looking beyond

for that special spot to call a retirement getaway. "Although I don't think I'll ever completely retire, I would like a place to come to for the quiet and peace."

An advertisement in a paper for Wind Mill Ranches brought him to Lincoln County about a year ago and he became a property owner. With access to a city and airports not that far away, and a ski area to feed his enjoyment of the sport, Lincoln County filled the bill.

A regular buyer of real estate and businesses, Lopez said he began making an offer on the Crossroads last July. Closing the deal in mid-November, he immediately began renovations. With new carpets, drapes, counters, tubs and furniture, as well as new paint inside and out, the 22-room motel is getting closer to ready for opening day.

Marilyn Renz, a friend and acquaintance of Lopez from the same area in California, will be the full-time manager for the

Chaparral

Lopez is retired from the San Diego Sheriff's Department, where his wife, Maureen, is also employed as a detective.

"She still has 10 years to go before retirement," said Lopez, "so I will be commuting between there and here for sometime yet." Lopez has a grown daughter, Michelle, 28, and a 3-year-old daughter, Jacqueline.

Drawn to the friendly people and the wide open spaces, Lopez is very enthusiastic about becoming part of the community in Carrizozo. He has also purchased the former Tastee Freeze and has a couple of options for business there.

His first plan is to lease the building/restaurant facility out to an interested party. If that doesn't work, he will utilize the building himself as a coffee and donut shop with very early morning hours to serve commuters and local office clientele.

## Ranchers laud U.S. cattle safeguards

BY JULIE CARTER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

A statement issued recently by the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association and the New Mexico Beef Council regarding the USDA's announcement of the suspected BSE in a dairy cow in the state of Washington offered reassurance to consumers.

"While this single case is unfortunate, systems have been created over the past 15 years to prevent this disease from spreading and affecting either animal health or public health," said NMCGA President Don L. "Bebo" Lee of Alamogordo. "This week's announcement demonstrates that the safety efforts put in place by the USDA are working to protect consumers."

Lincoln County rancher Stirling Spencer agrees with the reported success of the abundance of cautions in place. "The USDA and other ag affiliates have studied this possibility and their efforts will minimize the effects and show the consumer that the U.S. still has the safest meat supply in the world."

Spencer went on to say, "New Mexico should be especially proud of the safety systems in place in this state. Cattlemen here don't duck the issues. They take them head on and deal with them. I have good faith in our safety precautions."

Anne Ferguson of the Black Hills Ranch west of Carrizozo is a member of the National Beef Board. "I think this was a big wake-up call for us all," she said.

The day of the announcement from the USDA, Ferguson was included in a conference call from the N.M. Beef Council. "They immediately knew they had to step up procedures to build and maintain consumer confidence. The current television ad running featuring the Rex Wilson family of Carrizozo will run more often and another ad is being planned for release ahead of schedule."

Ferguson's son, Matt Ferguson, ranches north of Carrizozo and sits on the state Farm Bureau board. Matt calls his view either pessimistic or realistic, but recalls the media propaganda decimation of the beef industry over cholesterol some years back. "It took 10 years to overcome bad information. People in general are so far removed from agriculture they are easily scared."

Like Spencer, Ferguson feels New Mexico is in the best hands possible with the N.M. Beef Council, NMCGA, Farm Bureau, the N.M. Livestock Board and other entities that continue to keep in place checks and balances that assure consumers of the safety of eating beef.

"This is a call to action for us all," says Ferguson who added that he hopes this leads to more direct marketing of beef. "Consumers will then know where and who their beef came from; taking all those variables we have no control over out of the middle."

Americans can be confident of the safety of U.S. beef, officials say, for a number of reasons:

- The BSE agent is not found in muscle meat like steaks and roasts. It is found in central nervous system tissue such as brain and spinal cord.

- The only way BSE is known to spread is through contaminated feed. In 1997 the FDA instituted a ban on feeding ruminant-derived meat and bone meal supplements to cattle. This is a firewall that prevents the spread of BSE to other animals if it were present in the U.S.

- All U.S. cattle are inspected by a USDA inspector or veterinarian before going to slaughter. Animals with any signs of neurological disorder are tested for BSE.

- The U.S. has banned imports of cattle and bovine products from countries with BSE since 1989.

- The U.S. has had and continues to have the safest food supply in the world.

As of Dec. 1, 2003, only 153 people world wide have ever contracted the human form of BSE (Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease). Of those, 143 were from the United Kingdom, six from France, and one each from Canada, Ireland, Italy, and the U.S. According to the Center for Disease Control, the U.S. case was reported in a patient who lived in the U.K. before moving to the U.S.

Gregg Doud, an economist with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association said three days after the U.S. BSE announcement that "the United States could lose at least \$6 billion a year in exports and sagging domestic prices to the BSE diagnosis."

Lincoln County has a strong agricultural financial base. Ranchers here wait next to the consumers to see where this curveball they've been thrown will land.

## A look back, and a hopeful look ahead to 2004

There has been a long standing saying around here about this time of year that goes something along the lines of: "We'll just get this year over with so we can start on next year."

That thought has been somewhat of a slogan for ranching in general the past decade. The accompanying theme song has been a forlorn rendition of "Waiting on a rain," with a chorus of "maybe it'll get better before it gets worse."

This seems to be the popular time to spend some time in reflection and then move on to

resolutions. Reflections are often repeats of redundant attempts to move forward when everything except your will power is pushing you back.

Without repeating the maudlin moods of months past with drought-forced cattle sales and additional costs for TB testing prior to shipping, I'd like to tear out a few pages of 2003.

I'll give those pages a once over glance for any lesson I might want to record and get my thoughts focused on 2004.

This column began as a guest column early last year with an esteemed life long resident of Lincoln County, Johnson Stearns, telling of life in early county days. His bottom line for the story was that in all the changes that have come and gone in 75 years, the way the sun rises and sets has not.

Matt Ferguson delightfully told of fixing pipeline leaks and other assorted ranch jobs that

have little or no dignity. His daughter brought it all into perspective for him when she let him know "how lucky he was because he got to play in the mud whenever he wanted to."

Welda Grider shared a couple stories of ranch living. One was about the nuances of hired cowboys and their ongoing antics, the other of raising children to be the good help on the ranch you need them to be. Getting kicked in the shins by a calf or run over by a cow in the alley is all part of the Ranch Kid 101 classes.

Ronnie Merritt of Yesso gave us a four-part history of his family's origins in the county and ranching with vivid word pictorials of a pioneer past that is a treasure to this country and to its people.

I have shared with you the memories of my simple childhood growing up on a ranch in Colorado, of the struggles and blessings of living so very rural and the uniqueness of the people who live off the land.

We've talked about cowboy cuisine, cowboy manners, and the cowboy's wife and her jobs.

I shared my heart with you over the death of a friend who epitomized the way cowboy life used to be, I laughed at myself, and with you, over dirty ranch pick-ups in town carwashes and the evolution of the "hunters of wild game."

It's been fun for me to share my back-porch thoughts with you. I'm sure 2004 will bring new stories with new issues and new events. It could start any time now.

I have learned one thing: Turning the page of the calendar doesn't change a thing. It's a ceremony we put way to much stock in for the hope of things to be different. What has begun within each of us today will be seed for tomorrow — no matter what the calendar says.

May your year be blessed with all that you need and most of what you want.

Julie can be reached for comment at [jcarter@tularosa.net](mailto:jcarter@tularosa.net)

## Conservation districts make film on weeds

BY JULIE CARTER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts has produced its first-ever documentary. The film is called "The Natural Thief" and is about the predatory nature of the salt cedar and Russian olive trees.

It will air the week of Jan. 5 on PBS stations KNME-Albuquerque, KENW-Portales and KRWG-Las Cruces. On Jan. 10 it will run on KOAT-Albuquerque at 4:30 p.m.

**The New Shop**  
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# Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

**Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis**

**Jumbles:** LILAC BASSO AUTHOR BEHALF  
**Answer:** Why the shy wife wanted to go home from the party — SHE WAS "BASH" FULL



# No end seems near for Capitan-LCSWA landfill dispute

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

She tried, but Debra Ingle said Tuesday it looks like more mediation and attorney fees lie ahead for the village of Capitan and the solid waste coalition that are locked in a dispute over the future responsibility for a landfill.

Capitan operated a regular landfill. The authority ran a debris landfill, which fell under less restrictive closure rules.

Last month, former authority manager Joe Lewandowski, now a consultant, explained that Capitan was given a landfill closure plan by a Dr. Bernie Reimann, a biologist, but the village officials didn't follow through.

"They had the paperwork

## Underwood to work as LCSWA lobbyist

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Attorney and lobbyist H. John Underwood signed on to represent another client at the January session of the state Legislature.

Underwood is the Ruidoso village attorney and a former state representative, who ran as a Democrat. He is a registered lobbyist for the village and earlier this month was hired for a second year by the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority.

The contract was approved for \$10,000 for the 30-day short session of the legislature, which will deal nearly exclusively with money issues.

Last year, Underwood worked on securing \$97,000 for the authority with the money to be used for the new recycling headquarters of the garbage collection coalition that consists of the county and its five municipalities.

This year, operations superintendent Debra Ingle said the board is asking the state for \$100,000. The project, to be built on five acres in eastern Ruidoso Downs off U.S. 70, is planned for four phases of development, she said.

done, but not the actual work," he said.

The authority was sited in 1996 on another piece of land near the landfill area on the outskirts of Capitan.

"They decided rather than to mess with it, to close it," he said. "In the meantime, the regulations had changed. Capitan was closing its portion on one set of regulations in 1995, but it wasn't done properly, so the state Environment

Department combined, both together to become one landfill and they had to go by stricter regulations."

He agreed that both sides made mistakes.

"The issue is that Capitan failed to do the closure, but the Authority always had been involved with that landfill in some form," Lewandowski said. "So there was no follow through when I left and Dr. Reimann stopped his thing and

the mayor was gone. Now both sides are paying the bill."

Capitan's portion amounts to 39 percent and the authority's to 61 percent, under a proposed division of the cost, he said. Both entities will be responsible for 25 years of monitoring before the state will give final closure.

"My recommendation (at an authority meeting earlier this month which Capitan Mayor Steve Sederwall attended) was

for representatives from both sides to sit down in mid-January to try to resolve this issue and quit spending our money on attorneys," Ingle said. "But I received no response, so it looks like we will continue to work on this through them (lawyers)."

Under a post-closure plan, Capitan was supposed to keep covering the old landfill and to submit reports annually, but no documentation can be found

that those things were done, she said.

"This is a high expense item," she said. "We (the authority) were just a C and D (debris) landfill, and monitoring wasn't required (as it is with landfills where garbage is buried). Hopefully, we can resolve this with minimum expense to both sides."

Sederwall was out of his office until next week and unavailable for comment.

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## CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK

by  
Dr. Jack V.  
Waters  
Chiropractic  
Physician



### START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT

Happy New Year! It's time to set resolutions to improve your daily activities and health. What better way to start on your goals than seeing a chiropractor to get in proper spinal alignment. The headaches, leg pains and backaches you had last year can most likely be improved or eliminated by the professional hands-on care of a Doctor of Chiropractic.

If you have not seen a chiropractor, visit a couple in your area. Read their literature and ask questions. You want to go to a doctor who makes you comfortable. Ask friends and neighbors to suggest chiropractors to call. This will make you feel more at ease.

Chiropractors have many years of education before joining a practice or starting their own. They also continue to attend educational seminars and training sessions. Chiropractors are known for a high degree of success treating back, neck, shoulder and leg pains, as well as whiplash problems. Begin the New Year on the right track and call a chiropractor today.

Presented as a public service  
to the community by  
**Dr. Jack V. Waters**  
257-2626

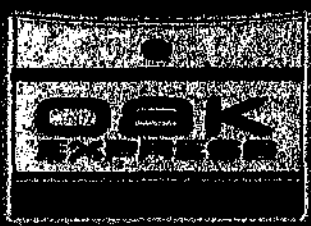
DIPLOMATE AMERICAN BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC  
ORTHOPEDISTS, CERTIFIED CHIROPRACTIC  
SPORTS PHYSICIAN, BOARD ELIGIBLE  
CHIROPRACTIC NEUROLOGIST

206 Park Dr. • Ruidoso  
M-F 9-5 A.M., W 8-30 A.M.-NOON  
1:30-5 P.M., FR 8:30-NOON

NEW PATIENTS ACCEPTED —  
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
PROVIDER FOR MEDICARE, PRESBYTERIAN,  
BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD



**FIRST TIME EVER OFFER... ENDS TUES JAN. 6TH!  
From The Furniture Row Companies!**



**FINAL DAYS**

**NO INTEREST until JAN. 2007!**

**(That's 3 Years with NO Interest Payments!)**

**Plus... NO Down Payment Required (Not Even The Sales Tax!)**

Here Are Just A Few Examples Of The Hundreds Of Outstanding Values Available Right Now!

**Wellington 5 PC. Room Group  
100% Genuine Italian Leather**

SOFA ONLY...  
**\$778**



**SAVE \$133!**

When You Buy This 5 PC.  
Sofa, Oversized Chair,  
Coffee and 2 End Tables!

**5 PC. ROOM GROUP ONLY...**

**\$1837**

**Espresso  
4 PIECE HOME  
THEATER WALL**

Steak Espresso finish in a  
clean contemporary design.  
Features brushed aluminum  
hardware with lighted piers for  
plenty of component and  
media storage or for your display  
items. Accommodates  
most big screen TVs.  
86" x 116" W x 22" D x 69" H.



**4 PC. HOME THEATER WALL ONLY...**

**\$597**

**\$597**

**Orchard  
5 PC. Bedroom Group**



3 PC. Queen  
Bed Only... **\$576**

**BEDROOM  
expressions**

**SAVE \$121**

When You Buy This  
Dresser, Mirror and  
3 PC. Queen Bed

**5 PC. BEDROOM GROUP ONLY...**

**\$1677**

**Commercial Mattress  
OVERSTOCK BLOW-OUT!**  
**650 Coils!**

Twin Size Set...  
**\$178**  
Full Size Set...  
**\$228**  
King Size Set...  
**\$384**



**Our  
Commercial FIRM  
MATTRESS**

Is for those folks who want  
support and lasting comfort from  
a quality mattress set, without the  
expensive price tag. We make our  
mattresses ourselves, that way we  
can make them more affordable to you.



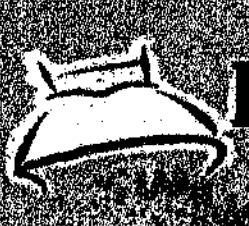
**FOR A  
LIMITED TIME  
ONLY!**

**2 PC. QUEEN SET  
\$267**

**Special Hours For the FINAL DAYS OF THIS OUTSTANDING OFFER!**

**NEW YEAR'S DAY! JAN. 1st... 9-9PM! - FRI JAN. 2nd & SAT JAN. 3rd... 9-9PM**

**SUN JAN. 4th... NOON-6PM - MON JAN. 5th... 10-9PM - FINAL DAY! TUES JAN. 6th... 10-9PM!**



**BEDROOM  
expressions**



**4 GREAT STORES.  
100'S OF  
GREAT VALUES.**

**In The Las Cruces, NM Furniture Row  
960 N. Telshor Blvd. (1 Mile North of the Mall)**

**Sofa Mart-505.532.6606 • Oak Express/Bedroom Expressions-505.522.6152  
Denver Mattress Co.-505.521.7575**



**200%  
PRICE GUARANTEE**  
If within 30 days of your  
purchase, you find the  
identical item for less at  
any local store, we'll refund  
200% of the difference!

\*\$3000 minimum purchase on your Furniture Row express money Card; subject to credit approval. Minimum monthly payments required. Finance Charges will not be imposed on these purchases during the 36 months promotional period if your Account is kept current. The variable Standard Rate APR is Prime Rate + 14.9 percentage points (Minimum 22.9% as of 1/1/2004). For Accounts not kept current, the variable Default Rate APR of Prime Rate + 19.9 percentage points (Minimum 26.9% as of 1/1/2004) will be applied to all balances. Minimum Finance charge \$2.00. Certain rules apply to the allocation of payments and Finance Charges on your promotional purchase if you make more than one purchase on your Furniture Row express money Card. Call 1-800-867-4310 or visit our website for information. Some advertised items may not be displayed at every store but are available from our Distribution Center. In the event of an advertised merchandise shortage, we will honor the advertised price with the exception of limited quantity Special Purchase merchandise. Every effort has been made to avoid copy & typographical errors but occasionally errors may occur. We regret any inconvenience this may cause for our valued customers, however we cannot be held liable for such errors.



**BY MAIL:** Ruidoso News Classifieds, P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355-0128  
**BY PHONE:** (with Visa or MasterCard) 505-257-4001  
**BY FAX:** (with Visa or MasterCard) 505-257-7053  
**BY EMAIL:** (with Visa or MasterCard) classifieds@ruidosonews.com OR legal@ruidosonews.com  
**WALK IN:** (8 AM - 5 PM, Mon. - Fri.) 104 Park Ave., Ruidoso

**257-4001**

Email your ad to:  
 classifieds@ruidosonews.com  
 OR legal@ruidosonews.com

**PRICE PER ISSUE**

Classified Line Ads are \$7.24 (including tax) for the first 20 words. Call 257-4001 for additional price quotes and Classified Display rates. All classified line ads must be pre-paid prior to publication.

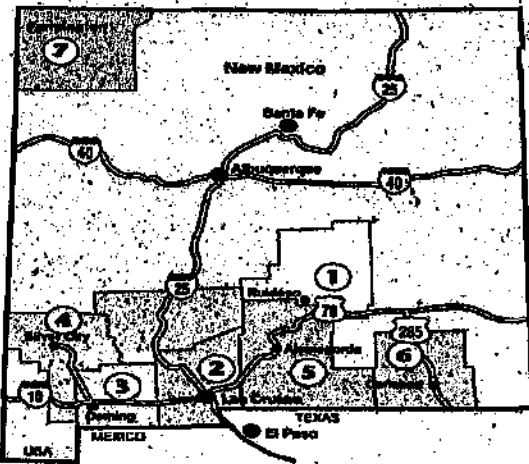
**DEADLINES**

Line Ads: 4 PM Monday for Wednesday  
 4 PM Wednesday for Friday  
 Legal Ads: 4 PM Friday for Wednesday  
 4 PM Tuesday for Friday

**CORRECTION POLICY**

Check your ad promptly for accuracy. Claims for errors must be received by The Ruidoso News within 24 hours of the first publication date. Cancellation Policy: No cash refunds or charge card credit. The Ruidoso News reserves the right to edit, categorize or refuse classified ads due to inappropriate content.

You can reach over  
 365,000 readers with one call.



We Can Place  
 Your Ad In  
 Any Of Our  
 New Mexico  
 Newspapers

1. Ruidoso News
2. Las Cruces Sun-News
3. Deming Headlight
4. Silver City Sun-News
5. Alamogordo Daily News
6. Carlsbad Current Argus
7. Farmington Daily Times

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**RENT  
 YOUR  
 RENTAL!**

Run Your Rental Ad  
 for only  
**\$20.00**  
 until it rents.

No refunds. No copy changes allowed.  
 Private party only. Limit one ad per household per month.  
 All ads run in categories 105-108.  
 Offer good for all ads started before 3/1/2004.

**CLASSIFICATIONS**

- Real Estate 100-190
- Employment 200-270
- Announcements 272-280
- Pets/Animals & Livestock 290-298
- Financial/Business 302-320
- Merchandise for Sale 400-499
- Service Directory 501-599
- Transportation 600-694
- Legal Notices 686

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**\*PUBLISHERS NOTICE:**  
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin; or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

**100 REAL ESTATE**

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll free 1-800-424-8590.

**100 REAL ESTATE**

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED SOUTHWEST HOME ON 5 ACRES ALONG THE BEAUTIFUL RIO BONITO. ADDITIONAL 6+ ACRES ARE AVAILABLE. HOUSE HAS VIGAS, WOOD CEILING, IN-FLOOR HEATING, 2 COURTYARDS, 11 OLD MEXICAN DOORS. A VIRTUAL TOUR IS AVAILABLE. \$695,000. CALL 505-336-4781.

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**STAR REALTY**  
 BUYER AGENT REPRESENTATIVES  
 Why risk a possible conflict of interest? Call us to be your Buyer Representative. We will get you the results YOU DESERVE!  
 Lynn Starr - 257-4274  
 Woody Woodfin - 258-5889  
 Raynell Stamper - 259-2122  
 Richard Elmore - 336-7463  
 378 Main St., Ruidoso, NM  
 257-4274 • starrealty.com

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED SOUTHWEST HOME ON 5 ACRES ALONG THE BEAUTIFUL RIO BONITO. ADDITIONAL 6+ ACRES ARE AVAILABLE. HOUSE HAS VIGAS, WOOD CEILING, IN-FLOOR HEATING, 2 COURTYARDS, 11 OLD MEXICAN DOORS. A VIRTUAL TOUR IS AVAILABLE. \$695,000. CALL 505-336-4781.

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

HOME FOR sale. 4Bd/1.5Bath, 946sq.ft. 2 lots, great location & charm. Ruidoso Downs across from track. \$109,000. 505-378-4515, 505-430-8967

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**RUIDOSO HOMES**  
 • CAVCO 32x80! Beautiful home with huge family room, country kitchen, fireplace, etc. Full cold weather package, 2x6, and more. This home is loaded with options! \$72,500.  
 • JUST ARRIVED: New Champion 3 Br, 2 Ba doublewide. Hardi panel siding, corner windows, etc. One only at \$32,900.  
 • ONE CAVCO LEFT at 2003 pricing. 3 Br, 2 Ba, tape & texture, 2x6, upgrades all over! One week only for \$38,800.  
 We still have two 2003 Champions for sale at dealer cost. Both 3 Br, 2 Ba, 2x6, 30lb roof load, cold weather package, etc. One 28x56 for \$50,000 and 32x64 for \$52,000.  
 All the above prices include normal delivery and setup.  
 Remember, Ruidoso Down's lower sales tax!  
 We will be closed on New Year's Day only.  
 Have a Happy New Year!

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**WE TAKE TRADES!**  
 Phone: (505) 378-8064 • Fax: (505) 378-5234  
 655 Hwy 70 W • Ruidoso Downs

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**DON'T WORRY... WE HAVE RENTALS!**  
**HOUSES:**  
 243 YELLOW PINE - Unfurnished 3BDR / 1 3/4 BATH w/ game room + w/d hookups. \$900 + utilities. No smoking. Fenced yard, pets allowed. w/owner approval. On Market, month to month.  
 325 ESCALANTE - Unfurnished 3BDR/2BATH. \$750 + utilities.  
 50 JUNIPER SPRINGS RD - 1BDR + loft, 1 BATH. On 5 acres. \$700 + utilities.  
 203 VALLEY VIEW DR - Unfurnished 3 BDR / 2 BA w/ 1-car carport. \$800 + utilities.

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**120 ROSWELL** - Unfurnished, 3 BDR / 2 BATH. \$675 + utilities.  
**APARTMENTS:**  
**WOODLAND RIDGE APTS. #6** - Unfurnished 2BDR / 1BATH. \$650, includes utilities.  
**WOODLAND RIDGE APTS. #5** - Unfurnished 2BDR / 1BATH. \$550, includes utilities.  
 Casey D. Widener, Lic. #37185  
 Property Manager  
**Prudential**  
 Lynch Realty  
 257-4011 • 800-830-4597

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**Century 21**  
 Aspen Real Estate  
 Are you looking to buy or sell real estate? Do it right. See our ad on the back page of section A!  
 257-9057

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**JOSEPH A. ZAGONE**  
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 email: JoeZagone@century21.com  
 Call 808-0282  
 Lifetime Area Resident • 24 Years RUIDOSO Area Real Estate Experience

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**HORSE PROPERTY WITH VIEWS**  
 Five acres with large modern home, sitting floors, tall vaulted ceilings, fenced, 2000 Sq Ft barn (4 stalls). Beautiful steel framed house, Jacuzzi tub. \$299,000. #99111  
 Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

**Let's go hunting... We grew up in these woods.**  
 Home Hunters Realty  
 808-0607

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**MOUNTAIN MUST!** Neat, clean, 2 bedroom, 1.75 bath with lots of personality. Level entry, lots of storage, close to town. \$89,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**UPPER CANYON TREASURE**  
 2 Br, 2 Ba main house w/beautiful rock fireplace & sun room. Guest cottage, 1 Br, 1 Ba & kitchen, perfect for guests. Wonderful Ponderosa pines. \$175,000. #99919  
 Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**RUIDOSO REAL ESTATE CONNECTION**  
 257-8700  
 Rhonda Romack cell: 937-3000  
 Eddy Gibson cell: 808-1074  
 Morris "Huck" Huckleba cell: 808-0296  
 159 Mescaero Trail #5 • Ruidoso, NM 88345  
 www.realtyruidoso.com  
 "Always make the right connection!"

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN CABIN WITH LOG SIDING INTERIOR HAS LOG AND PINE WALLS, LARGE ROCK FIREPLACE WITH NEW CARPET, EXTRA LARGE LOT, ALMOST AN ACRE IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD #9775 \$199,000**

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**ONE OF THE CLEANEST AND NEATEST HOMES IN THE RANCHES OF RUIDOSO VALLEY. GREAT LOCATION AND SITUATION. THIS IS A MUST TO SEE. OWNER MOTIVATED. WATER SOFTENER AND METAL ROOF. FURNITURE IS NEGOTIABLE. #R10320 \$125,500**

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**BEAUTIFUL CEDAR CREEK**  
 3 Br, 1 Ba, fixer upper, lots of decks, vaulted ceilings, fans in bedrooms, nice fireplace. Drive to convenient back door! adobe national forest. \$157,500. #10211  
 Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**QUIET AREA**  
 Nice mobile, 1978, fully furnished, covered deck & carport. Lots of trees. \$44,900. #99913  
 Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

**RECENTLY REMODELED HOME FULLY FURNISHED WITH A FENCED YARD IN A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD. MASTER BED DECK IN BEDROOM DOES NOT GO WITH IT. #10216 \$235,000**

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**NEED EXTRA ROOM?** See this neat, clean manufactured home with 30' x 40' shop located on 1.52 acres. Views of Capitol Mountain and Sierra Blanca. Located off of US Highway 380. \$98,500

**100 REAL ESTATE**

**VIEW OF SIERRA BLANCA.** Log sided, 3/2 home with river rock fireplace in kitchen and lava fireplace in living room. Wrap around covered decks, carport and hot tub. Includes 1/1 guest home on .50 acre lot. \$189,000

**TALL PINES REALTY**  
 2704 Sudderth • 257-7786 • 800-257-7786  
 www.tallpinesrealty.net

**JOHNNY MOBLEY** 258-4818 Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
**MARK MOBLEY** 336-2725 Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
**PAT BROWN** 257-7416 Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
**ANN JONES** 808-1495 Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
**JOE GRABER** 505-463-1941 430-8236  
**MAEK KIZER** 257-1856 808-0211  
**DONNA MOBLEY** 257-7786 808-0070  
**PRISCILLA VALDEZ** 313-2698  
 See Hobbs Español

**BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN CHALET ON ALMOST 10 ACRES.** Awesome views, both Sierra Blanca and Capitán. 4 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, great decks and patios, tile floors, remodeled with new appliances, exceptional master suite, about 1-1/2 acres fenced, horses allowed. \$550,000

**TWO LARGE DECKS** and a covered front deck. This home is one level with a large workshop under the house. A nice built in fireplace. New roof. This home is a GREAT buy!! Check it out! \$112,000

**OLDER CABIN WITH CHARACTER!** Open floor plan, great for second home, rental, or full time living. 4 bedroom, 2 bath with a MUST see rock fireplace! 2 decks to sit and admire Sierra Blanca!! \$179,000

**LOVELY CLEAN WELL KEPT HOME** in excellent condition. Great Sierra Blanca View. Refrigerated air, new dishwasher. Room for horses. Price REDUCED \$79,000

**VERY NICE MODULAR HOME ON LARGE LOT** with great Capitán views, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large bay window in dining area, covered and uncovered decks, lots of wildlife and located on a cul-de-sac. Price Reduced!! \$110,000

**QUALITY BUILT BY OWNER IN 1995.** Huge, open living, dining & kitchen area, patio/game room, Sierra Blanca views, 3 car garage/workshop, huge master, island kitchen. Owner/agent. \$239,500 with an Alto social membership.

*In our December 20, 2003 ad, the picture of the house shown is located on Convent and is NOT the Bank Repossession which is located on LL Davis. We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused anyone.*

257-4228 **Bill Pippin** REALTOR 800-489-9289

**BEAUTIFUL WOODED LOT.** Mostly level with lots of wildlife, over .50 acre to build that perfect mountain cabin. Just outside village limits. \$16,000

**A HOME FOR YOUR HORSE.** Located on two, fully fenced lots with easy access. Older, 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath mobile in need of TLC, plus barn with tack room, stall, hay storage and an area for apartment or office. \$65,000.

**WONDERFUL MOUNTAIN CABINI** Neat, clean, 2 bedroom, 1.75 bath with lots of personality. Level entry, lots of personality. Close to town. \$89,000

**PERFECT LOCATION FOR HOME/OFFICE.** Fixer upper, 1550 sq.ft., 3 bedroom, 1 bath home zoned neighborhood commercial. Located on four lots with room for parking. Easy year round access. \$75,000

**MOBILE HOME LOT** with view of Sierra Blanca close to Grindstone Lake. City water available, double or single wide allowed or build your dream home. \$15,000

**PRICE REDUCED. MOTIVATED SELLER.** Remodeled, 1821 sq.ft., 3/2 manufactured home, great floor plan with office and lots of storage. Located on 1.064 acres with a place for horses, chickens, fruit trees and gardens. \$99,895.

**LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!** Older, 2 bedroom, 1 bath mobile with covered carport and deck. Large lot on Meander Drive with south exposure and a great workshop, storage area and place to park your RV. \$65,000

**DEVELOP YOUR DREAMS.** Multiple use, commercially zoned, recently annexed with city utilities available. 2.76 acres, older, well maintained 3/1 home with separate hobby/workshop and large metal building to accommodate 2 RV's. \$298,000. Additional creek lot with well available with package.

**OWNER HAS RELOCATED** and needs to sell! 1999, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, manufactured home with tape and textured walls, open floor plan, fireplace, Sierra Blanca view from front deck. \$98,500



**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**  
**NEW! READY NOW!** 3Bd/3Ba, 2 car garage, log siding, stucco, tile, carpet, asphalt drive. Facing Southeast, 309 Crown Dr. Camelot, \$198,000. By Owner. 257-6642

**OVER 1800 SQ. FT.** house on 5 lots, plus attached garage, private well, natural gas, fireplace insert with blower, large back deck. Easy access in Alto Cafe area. Asking \$82,500. Call Jerry 937-0703, 258-3379, or 258-3614

**102 CONDOS FOR SALE**  
**LARGE ALTO** Alps Condo, 3Bd/2Ba, fireplace, decks front & rear, fully furnished & ready to move into. Completely remodeled and close to everything for only \$123,000. Call Chris @ 258-5833 #98739

**103 MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE**  
**1998 SPIRIT** "16x84" Nice!! 3/2. Front kitchen, fireplace, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, mountain insulation, W/D, in park. Can be moved. Reduced \$13,700. 937-1547.

**3 BD, 2 Ba, 2000 model** double wide in Rancho Ruidoso. Furnished. Flat lot. Two decks and many extras. \$79,500. Call 258-0059.

**PRICE REDUCED.** 5/3 manufactured home on permanent foundation. Built in fireplace, wood flooring, front & back deck. Quiet wooded lot. \$133,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**104 CABINS FOR SALE**  
**COZY CABIN,** perfect location, 2/1 plus loft, log siding, knotty pine, fireplace, covered & uncovered decks. 118 Sonora, Cedar Creek. 254-947-5916

**105 HOUSES FOR RENT**  
**1 BEDROOM** trailer. Unfurnished. \$300 plus utilities. \$100 deposit. 419 Second St. 1 Bedroom A-Frame. Pk. OK. \$350 plus utilities. \$100 deposit. 228 Fourth St. 630-2715.

**2BD/1BA, \$675/PER** month, level access, central location. References & deposit required. Call Joe 808-0282

**3BD/2BA, FURNISHED,** modified "A" frame, bills paid, T.V., closed in, long term. Call (808)894-4598

**HOUSES AND APARTMENT** with all bills paid. Please call 258-2212

**PROPERTY FOR** rent. Small unfurnished. 2Bd/2Ba. \$650/per month. Maximum occupancy two. Call 258-4129

**106 CONDOS FOR RENT**  
**1BD/1BA, FURNISHED** FP, king size bed, \$595 +electric & gas. Wayland @ 258-5833 or 937-2811

**2 BDR / 2 1/2 bath** condo close by the Links Golf Course. Furnished or unfurnished - Available August 1. \$700 plus utilities. Call Donna - Casas de Ruidoso 257-7577

**2 BDR / 2Ba, condo** at Champions Run - Ruidoso Downs - unfurnished - \$800/per month, refurnished, with new paint, tile. Available NOW! Call Donna - Casas de Ruidoso 257-7577

**CONDO FOR** rent. 2Bd/2Ba, furnished, no pets, non smoking, \$700/per month. Whispering Bluffs Condos. Call 915-525-0778

**REMODELED 3BD** /2.5Ba, indoor hot-tub, long term lease available, fully furnished including cable TV, private entrance, huge deck w/gorgeous view of Sierra Blanca. \$900 plus gas +\$500 deposit. 257-6507

**107 APARTMENTS FOR RENT**  
**2 BD, 1 1/2 Ba,** on river at 408 Walnut, \$600/month plus utilities. Call Sandy at All American Realty 257-8444

**2 BD, 1 Ba, apartment,** \$600/month. All bills paid. 2Bd/1Ba house, \$600/plus utilities. Call 937-3059

**308 CARTERS Lane** - 1BR/1Ba, unfurnished, large rooms, covered parking. \$450.00 a month. \$350 deposit, gas/water paid. No pets 257-6605

**EXTRA NICE,** large furnished, 1Bdrn apartment, big yard, water paid, you pay gas & electric. Great location on Hwy 69. No pets. \$450mo. Call 808-0213 or 257-1856

**FURNISHED** and unfurnished 1 & 2 bedroom apartments; bills paid. No pets. 258-3111

**LARGE UNFURNISHED,** 1Bd apartment, \$450 plus deposit. Limit two people. No pets. 378-4661

**NICEST TWO Bedroom,** one bath apartment in town. Cathedral ceilings, washer/dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove included. Gas heat/hot water. "LOW UTILITIES." 915-433-9410 for details.

**107 APARTMENTS FOR RENT**  
**NOW AVAILABLE** wheel chair accessible 2BD apartment. Certain income restrictions apply. Call Camelot Place Apartments 257-5897, TTD 1-800-659-8331. Equal Housing Opportunity.

**NOW TAKING** applications; 1, 2, 3 Bedroom apartments. Certain income restrictions apply. Call Camelot Place Apartments 257-5897, TTD 1-800-659-8331. Equal Housing Opportunity.

**RECENTLY REMODELED** duplex apartment, new carpet, kitchen, etc. W/D hookup. 2Bd/1Ba, quiet pleasant area w/nice view & easy access. Picnic area & playground for kids. \$600/per month. Call 257-2042

**3BR/2BATH, NICE,** River frontage, Willow Mobile Park, NORTH SIDE OF RIVER. Also 2BR/1Ba, 200 Frieden Bloom. 378-7099 or 1-915-626-8328

**108 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**109 REAL ESTATE**  
**NOGAL CANYON-** 40 pristine acres sided by National Forest. Has been divided into 4 tracts. Beautiful views, secluded, wildlife. \$135,000 owner may carry. Stevens RE 1-888-556-1949 or 505-630-9900

**110 REAL ESTATE**  
**ALTO NORTH,** 1+ acre, off Hwy. 48 just passed mile marker 11, right on Sierra St. sign on property, all utilities, low taxes, lots of trees. 254-848-2188

**111 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**112 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**113 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**114 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**115 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**116 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**117 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**118 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**119 ACREAGE**  
**23 ACRES** with well at ready in place. 3.3 acres of water rights for irrigation. US Highway 380 frontage, could be used as residential or commercial. \$165,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**120 ACREAGE**  
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**108 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT**  
**CAPITAN, LATE model** 16x80, picturesque views, partially furnished, references required; must be clean \$475/month, \$300 deposit. 336-4549, 937-2471

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**NOGAL CANYON-** 40 pristine acres sided by National Forest. Has been divided into 4 tracts. Beautiful views, secluded, wildlife. \$135,000 owner may carry. Stevens RE 1-888-556-1949 or 505-630-9900

**109 REAL ESTATE**  
**ALTO NORTH,** 1+ acre, off Hwy. 48 just passed mile marker 11, right on Sierra St. sign on property, all utilities, low taxes, lots of trees. 254-848-2188

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**100 REAL ESTATE**  
**COLDWELL BANKER'S** SDC, Realtors 307 Mechem Ruidoso, NM 88345 coldwellbanker@ruidosoresearch.com (505) 257-5111 (800) 626-9213

**OPEN THE DOOR TO NEW POSSIBILITIES IN MOUNTAIN LIVING!**

**THESE UNITS SELL FAST!** Charming 2 br. condo at Pepper Tree Place. Yes! It has a Sierra Blanca view from this great deck. Garage too! Fireplace has gas logs. Perfect for the price! \$122,000. #10440.

**WELL KEPT CLEAN** Well kept 4 bdrn., 2 bath clean double wide on one acre, close to town. Fully furn. Two-car detached garage w/2nd storage area. You need to see this one. \$138,850. #10226.

**LOOK NO FURTHER!** 3 bdrn. walk-out home. Open liv. rm. w/epic log FP, sunny kiln white floors. Fenced yard w/ig. deck, 2 stg. bldgs. Covered front porch w/great views. Paved driveway. don't wait! \$167,900. #10409.

**RUSTIC LOG CABIN IN THE WOODS** 3 bdrms., 2 baths, new carpet and blinds recently installed, secluded area; knotty pine charm and Ruidoso character galore! Ready to go, surrounded by fabulous fall foliage! \$199,500. #99507.

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**111 ACREAGE**

**RUIDOSO AREA**  
New Mexico, 140 acres only \$49,900. Adjacent to National Forest. Elk, deer, small game. Abutting Ranch Preserve for added permanent open space. Great Sportman area. Absolutely beautiful setting & land. Remote & private but w/ year round road access and still an EZ drive to exciting Ruidoso. Best Financing Ever! 877-870-5015

**VACANT 4.75 ACRE PARCEL CEDAR CREEK AREA. GREAT VIEWS. NEAR LINCOLN NATIONAL PARK. THREE MILES FROM DOWNTOWN RUIDOSO. \$50K. CALL PAUL 1-817-281-4121.**

**112 LOTS FOR SALE**

**CREE MEADOWS GOLF COURSE.** One of the few available, beautiful building lot with city utilities available and easy year round access. \$35,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**LIQUIDATION SALE** on Builders lots, 10 view lots in Ruidoso and Alto Area. Call 378-4800.

**MOBILE HOME LOT** with view of Sierra Blanca close to Grindstone Lake. City water available, double or single wide allowed or build your dream home. \$15,000. BILL PIPPIN REAL ESTATE 257-4228

**113 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**

**BAR-LAND, BUILDING,** equipment in desirable location. Established and ready to open. Some financing may be available. Owner lic. RE Broker 505 937-3865

**SHOPPING CENTER** for sale. 100% Occupancy. Located in Ruidoso, NM. Call 258-8227.

**SOLID ESTABLISHED** business with approx. 84% profit. Includes land and building with room to grow and operate more than one business from location. Perfect for a couple. Stevens RE 1-888-556-1349 or 505 630-9900

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

**RUIDOSO REALTY GROUP LLC**  
Ellie Weinreb - Broker  
selling New Mexico for 20 years.  
Check Out My Web Site for the Recipe of the Month!

**Have A Happy New Year**  
NEXT YEAR in this lovely Alto home. Separated master, for privacy when the whole crew comes. Only \$278,000. Hey - this would make a great night, when you're not there to enjoy the wonderful big rock fireplace.

**CHARMING COUNTRY HOME in**

Deer Park Woods. Four bedrooms, furnished. Newer carpet and tile floors. Don't forget to check out the hot tub. \$295,000. Owner/Agent.

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

**RE/MAX**  
Outstanding Agents.  
Outstanding Results.  
RE/MAX of Ruidoso  
1009 Mechem • Ruidoso, NM 88345  
258-5833 • 800-657-8370  
www.ruidoso-realtors.com

**BIG PRICE REDUCTION** on mobile with add-on. Entire house remodeled w/ top of the line appliances, tile, wood, fireplace. 2 large fenced areas, 2 new sheds w/ wood floors. \$69,000. Call Allyson for more details. #99203

**VERY WELL KEPT HOME, 3 BR, 2-1/2 BA,** huge kitchen with lots of counter space. Large downstairs room could be game room or mother-in-law apartment. 3 decks & fenced backyard. \$182,000. Call Chris to see. #10005

**WELL-ESTABLISHED BBQ in Capitán.** Business only, plus all equipment and inventory. Owners will stay to train. Well-known as the Best Little BBQ Place in town. \$45,000. Call Marcia. #97198

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**115 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY (RENT)**

**2 SMALL offices** in good location. \$425. & \$450. plus electric. Wayland @ 258-5833 or 937-2811

**OFFICE SPACE** for rent. The Attic Complex, 1031 Mechem, 750 sq. ft. with lots of windows, ceiling fans, swamp cooler. \$750. per month plus gas. & select mini. 1 year lease. Call: Cassa De Ruidoso, Inc. 257-7577

**116 STORAGE UNIT**

**AA STORAGE Vacancy**  
Most All Sizes Storage Units Very Secure and Private! On premise Manager Compare Rates  
On Hwy. 70 Across from Ford Co. 378-7030

**FORTRESS/CAMELOT** Mini Storage  
Several sizes available NOW  
Call Don: 937-2220 257-0313

**101 VACATION RENTALS**

**JAN. 2-JAN. 9, 2 bdrm.** 2.5 bath Condo, sleeps 6. Mountain Views. Hot tub, swimming pool, exercise room, Racquetball, tennis. By the week or nightly. \$125/night. 505-937-3865

**AN ESTABLISHED** Ruidoso company is looking for salespeople. Must be presentable, hardworking, friendly, and work well with the public. The knowledge of, or desire to learn about gourmet foods and wines is a plus! Please send resume to PO Box 1611, Ruidoso, NM 88355.

**FULL TIME night auditor.** Inquire at Swiss Chaiot, 1451 Mechem.

**GN/LPN/RN - FULL** and part time positions available for new Mescalero Care Center. Apply at Mescalero Care Center, 454 Lipan Ave., Mescalero. 464-4802

**HAMPTON INN** is looking for all positions. Call 378-4708

**101 HOUSES FOR SALE**

**601 Mechem Dr. St. 2** Ruidoso, NM 88345  
1-877-505-2333 • 505 630-3100  
505-630-3101 (cell)  
ellie@ruidosorealty.com

**2704 Sudderth** • 257-7786 • 800-257-7786  
www.talpinerealty.net

**3 Bedroom, 1 bath,** unfurnished house, all one level, washer/dryer. No Pets. \$650 per month plus utilities.

**2 Bedroom, 2 Bath** unfurnished condo at Champion Run. \$650 per month plus electricity. Water and Cable paid. Available January 06, 2004.

**We now have Nightly Rentals Available.** PLEASE call us for your short term rental needs.  
Donna Mobley  
Tall Pines Realty  
Lic. # 31476

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**200 HELP WANTED**

**HELP WANTED** Dishwasher, Kokopelli Club (in Alto), 201 High Mesa Rd. Apply in person. Hours 10-6.

**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS** for 2003-2004 School year. Bus Driver Positions. Great hours; perfect for retirees or stay-at-home Moms. Starting \$10.00/hr. Call 378-5410. Please leave message.

**LOOKING FOR Bar Tenders, Security, Cocktail waitress, & short order cook.** For application info Call 937-4327

**Mescalero Tribal Human Services/Substance Abuse Program** is accepting applications and/or resumes for 1-Clinical Supervisor, 1-Licensed Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselor, and a Family Therapist. If interested, submit application and/or resume to:

Mescalero Tribal Human Services  
P.O. Box 228  
Mescalero, NM 88340  
Attn: Executive Director

Resumes will be accepted until January 5, 2004. Salary dependent upon experience.

**READY TO get ahead?** Ready to change careers? Prudential Lynch Realty is looking for that special go-getter. License required. Training available. Call 257-4011, Gary Lynch.

**200 HELP WANTED**

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**300 HELP WANTED**

**BUSINESS OFFICE MANAGER** needed at the Ruidoso Care Center. Applicant must have previous experience in Medicare/Medicaid billing, knowledge of Excel & Quicken, & must have strong AR & AP skills. Applicant must also be detail oriented and self-motivated. All qualified applicants should submit application at 200 Resort Dr., or direct questions to the Human Resources Department at 257-9071. Applications will be accepted until qualified applicant has been accepted.

**300 HELP WANTED**

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**CRAWFORD**  
AUTO PLAZA

An **OASIS** for **LOW PRICES**

**OPEN NEW YEAR'S DAY!**  
10 AM - 7 PM

**LOW PAYMENTS and LOW PRICES**

**2004 Pontiac Sunfire Sport**



- 140 HP Ecotech Engine
- Power Steering
- Tilt Steering
- AM/FM CD Stereo
- Air Conditioning
- Stk #P241258

MSRP \$11,427  
Crawfordable Discount \$430  
Selling Price **\$10,997**

**\$147\*\*** PER MO.

**2004 Pontiac Vibe**



- Remote Keyless Entry
- Power Windows & Locks
- Cruise Control
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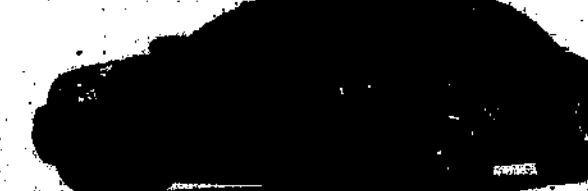
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## LEGAL NOTICES

of the Planning Administrator of the Village of Ruidoso and will be available for public review Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

The Public Hearing will be held at the Ruidoso Administration Center, 313 Cree Meadows Drive, Ruidoso, New Mexico.

By Order of the Planning & Zoning Commission

/s/ Tim Vega  
Planning and Zoning

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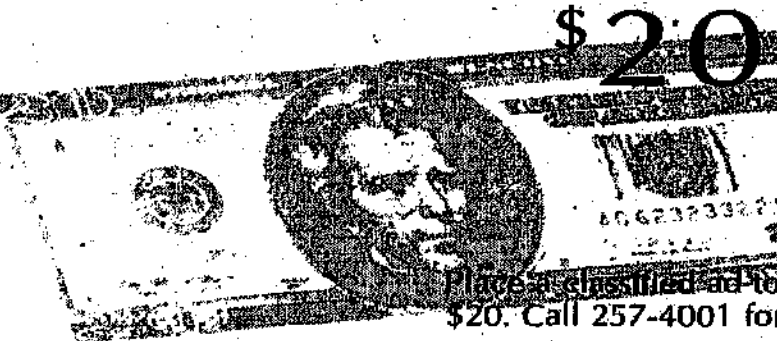
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# ¡VÁMONOS!



## Snow business

story • page 3



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TODD FUQUA/STAFF

*Recreational skiers fly down the face of the Capitan Chair run at Ski Apache recently. More than 4,000 skiers have been visiting Ski Apache daily, and snow-making and cold conditions have 11 slopes open, seven lifts and the Gondola for sightseers. Turn to page 3 for more information on the Mescalero Apache-owned ski resort.*

## ¡VÁMONOS!

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## GOING OUT

# Limited snow not keeping skiers away

BY SANDY SUGGITT  
VAMOS EDITOR

Skiing is great at Ski Apache now, said Riker Davis, marketing director, with 13 slopes open as of press time Wednesday and midway depth at 14-22 inches on all of those.

Snowmaking has continued each night and Davis said Chair 8 opened Thursday, adding Elk Ridge and Bull Run slopes.

"Business is really healthy," Davis said. "The mountain is holding up, considering the amount of traffic; the slopes are holding up, considering the holiday crowds."

As of Wednesday, both sides of Capitan were open, as well as Deep Freeze, Top Knotch, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Lower Sierra Blanca Trail, Lower Moonshine, Easy Street, Chair 5 Beginning Slope and Kiddie Korral.

Two surface lifts and chairs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 are open, and the Gondola is open for sightseers. (Lifts operate from 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m. daily.)

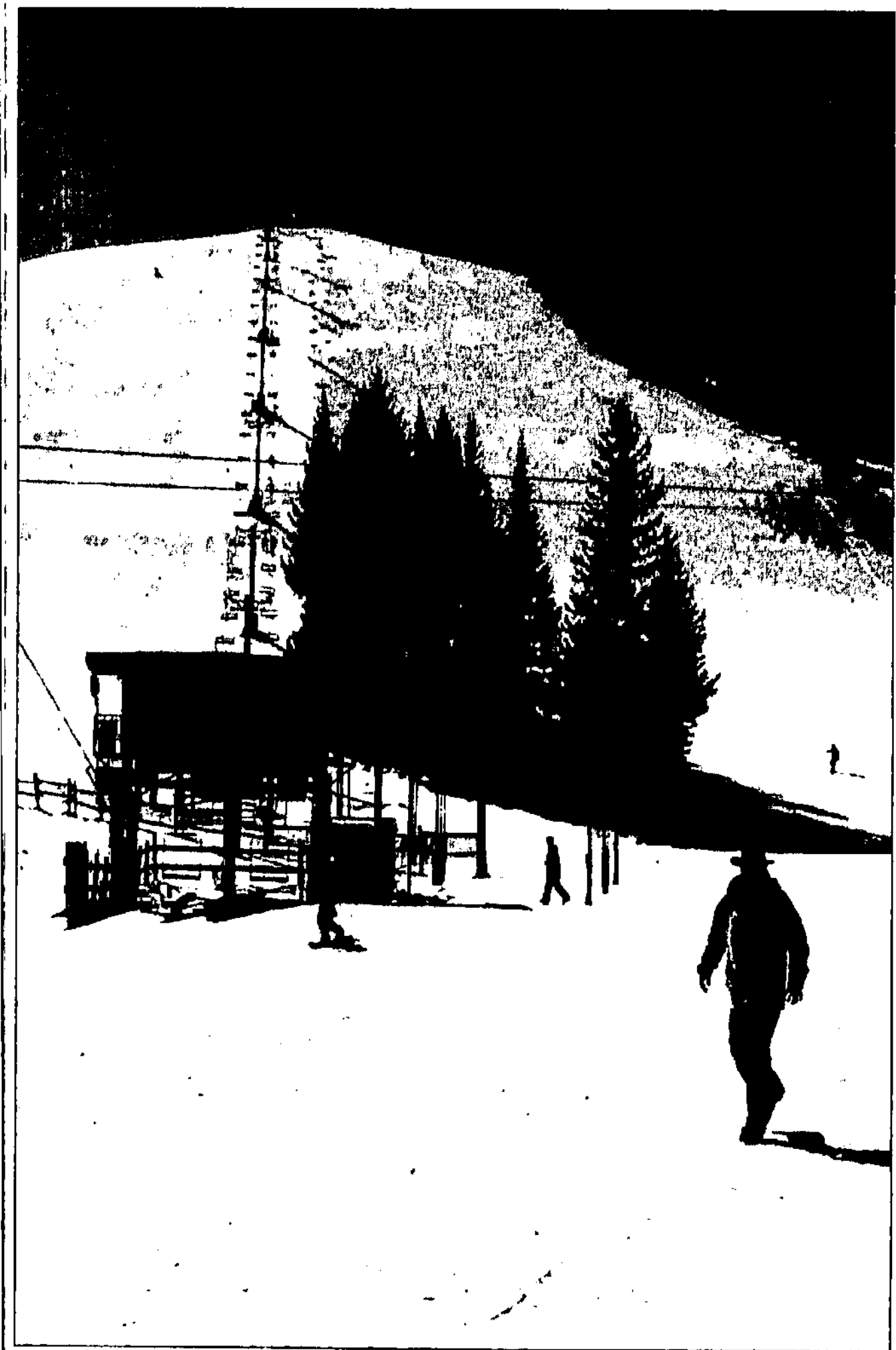
Riker said that even though the terrain is limited compared to last year at this

time, people were having a great time and leaving happy, "gauged by extensions on (ski) rentals. There are more extensions on rentals than requests for refunds, so we know we're doing well," he said.

For children ages 4-6, there's the Kiddie Korral, in a separate area and staffed by instructors trained to work with little ones. More than 120 instructors teach all other levels. The "Snowsports Package" allows people to take skiing lessons and snowboarding lessons (on different days), with lift tickets and rental equipment for \$140. (For Ski School reservations, call 336-4356.) The Sport Shop now has 350 rental snowboards.

"Skiing is honestly great on all the open trails," Riker said. "Everything gets groomed every morning. We had a couple really cold days so the Sports Shop was busy, especially today and the day before."

For more information on Ski Apache, visit [www.skiapache.com](http://www.skiapache.com), call 257-9001 for a 24-hour ski report or e-mail to [info@skiapache.com](mailto:info@skiapache.com).



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

*While Mother Nature has not been overly generous with the snow so far this season, man-made snow is keeping the slopes at Ski Apache brimming.*

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Monday, Jan. 5

## Community center meet

The Community Center County Task Force will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, at the Capitan School cafeteria.

## Video presentation

A free video presentation on the Divine Teachings of Light and Sound, as presented by Sri Gary Olsen, Living Master of MasterPath, will be at 6:30 p.m. at 221 High Loop drive. For information, call 257-9717.

## Wednesday, Jan. 7

## Book review

Ruidoso Book Review & Discussion Group will meet at 10 a.m. on the lower level of the Ruidoso Public Library. Frankie Jarrell, former editor of the *Ruidoso News*, will review *Clearwater, N.M.* The public is invited.

## Thursday, Jan. 8

## Leadership Lincoln

Leadership Lincoln reminder: Economic Development and Lincoln County History.

## Coming soon

## Dinner theater

Dinner theater show at Mountain Annie's: "The Originals" present "Have Your Cake and Eat It Too!" by Glenn and Suzanne Zoch with music by Charles Clary Jan. 10, with a buffet at 7 p.m. and the show at 8 p.m. Reservations are required (call 257-7982).

## Line dancing

Free line dancing at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Center, 9:30-1:30 a.m. (closed Jan. 19).

## '42' tournament

Ruidoso Downs Senior Center 42 tournament will be 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15.

## Garrett benefit

Ann Garrett benefit dance from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 at the Ruidoso Convention Center, with salsa, country western, rock and roll music performed by Chamuco, Kiko, Gus, DJ Pete, Bronson and Mike. Tickets are \$10 donations and monies are to benefit Ann Garrett, who works at Foxworth-Galbraith, who has cancer.

## Shuffleboard tourney

Ruidoso Downs Senior

Center shuffleboard tournament will be 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22.

## '42' tournament

Ruidoso Downs Senior Center 42 tournament will be 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29.

## Pool contest

Ruidoso Downs Senior Center pool tournament will be 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30.

## Spencer show

"Singin' in the Rain" at the Spencer.

"Singin' in the Rain," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Spencer Theater in Alto. Tickets are \$36 and \$39 for the matinee, \$42 and \$45 for the evening show. Call 336-4800.

## Rides in Alamogordo

The Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring rides from Bennett's Amusements Inc. for a weekend of family fun.

Bennett's Amusements Inc. will be at the Otero County Fairgrounds Feb. 19-22. Amusements open at 6 p.m., weather permitting, on Thursday and Friday, February 19-20, and 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, February 21-22.

For more information, call (505) 437-6120.

## Call to performing artists

"Out of the Ordinary," A Performance Event Showcasing Outstanding New Mexico Artists with Disabilities, seeks New Mexico musicians, dancers, poets, comedians, etc., with disabilities, interested in presenting their work should contact Larry Lorenzo at (505) 980-2286 or Deborah Mashibini at the North Fourth Art Center (505) 345-2872; extension 18 (or e-mail: info@vsartsnm.org).

The performance will be at the Small Theatre at the Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12. Audition deadline is Jan. 16.

These and other statewide opportunities are made possible in part by New Mexico Arts, a Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts; and through funding provided by the central office of VSA arts, under an award from the U.S. Department of Education.

Please visit [www.vsartsnm.org](http://www.vsartsnm.org) for more information.

## Call for artists

"The Terrain" is the subject of an upcoming Regional Juried Landscape Exhibition at the Las Cruces Museum of Fine Art.

The exhibition will showcase artworks that celebrate, evoke imagery of, and/or depict the desert landscape of New Mexico, Arizona, West Texas and

Chihuahua, Mexico.

Submissions from artists who live and work within this geographic area will be accepted from Feb. 2-27. The show will be on display in the museum's main gallery from June 4-Aug. 21, 2004.

Submission categories include large- and small-scale two-dimensional media, sculpture and installations. Artists must be at least 21 years of age and live and work in the specified geographic region. All submissions must be original artwork executed within the past two years (2002 or later) and must not have been previously exhibited. All exhibited works are required to be priced for sale.

The entry fee is \$25 to submit up to four slide images for consideration. Museum commission on sales is 30 percent. Notification of accepted entries will be made by April 16, 2004.

Entry forms are available from the museum, 490 N. Water St., Las Cruces, NM 88011, or online at [www.lascruces-culture.org](http://www.lascruces-culture.org).

## Muñez at El Paso museum

"Stories Your Mother Never Told You: Celia Alvarez Muñoz 1982-2002" is on view at the El Paso Museum of Art through Jan. 11, 2004.

For more information, call the El Paso Museum of Art, One Arts Festival Plaza, (915) 532-1707, or [www.elpasoartmuseum.org](http://www.elpasoartmuseum.org).

# Arts council drive needs more support

## From the Arts Council

by Mary Lea Lane  
Ruidoso Arts Coordinator



The New Year is upon us, and with it will come a major change in the arts offerings in the Ruidoso area.

After many years as the Ruidoso Arts Commission — a commission

appointed by the Mayor and largely funded by the Village of Ruidoso — we are fulfilling a request from the Village to become an independent charitable organization. The new organization is the Ruidoso Regional Council for the Arts (RRCA).

How does a village commission become an independent charitable organization? The first step was to file Articles of Incorporation. Then we filed and received

our 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service, meaning that all gifts to the RRCA are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

We also registered as a charitable organization with the State of New Mexico, allowing us to solicit for donations. With all documents properly filed, we began our first-ever membership drive in November.

The budget of the new RRCA includes income from a grant from New Mexico Arts plus a large portion from the good people of our Ruidoso, Lincoln County, and Mescalero service area. One of the requirements to be a tax-exempt charitable organization with the IRS is to receive broad support from the citizens — thus our membership drive.

Well, folks, it isn't happening!

At this time, only 64 memberships have been received—only about one-fourth of the total gifts needed in order to keep this organization alive.

We need the help of each one of you!

We need generous support from the citizens who own second homes in the area

to help make this an ever-more charming area, one in which the arts add a civilizing touch.

We need the artists — both visual and performing — to support us. We are the only organization in the area dedicated to developing *all* of the arts.

We need businesses—especially those in Midtown where so much effort has been placed in past years towards increasing foot traffic and adding to its ambience.

We need the support of the galleries who have been a part of the highly successful Art After Hours Gallery Walk project.

We need lodge owners to become members, so that we can continue to work towards building cultural tourism, including week-long workshops in the Cultural Arts Center being developed.

And we need the support of local professionals and families who will benefit from a community with good, affordable, family oriented arts activities and events.

Until this time, we have been able to offer arts services and events free to the

general public, adding a much-needed arts element here — one designed especially for all ages and family groups to enjoy. These have included "The Great Bear Hunt"; gallery walks; concerts-in-the-park; art exhibits in the Public Library, Village Hall, and Senior Center; outdoor sculpture exhibits; and performing arts on the streets of Midtown.

Won't you help with a generous gift? Suggested membership levels begin at \$50, and continue at \$100; \$250; \$500; \$1,000; \$2,500; and \$5,000. Those who join early will receive a lapel pin sporting the new logo. And although all membership benefits have not yet been determined, each activity and event of the RRCA will be studied in order to develop membership benefits. These benefits will help both artist and audience members alike.

Please join this growing organization by sending your membership gift to: Ruidoso Regional Council for the Arts, 1096 Mechem Drive No. G12, Ruidoso, NM 88345. For more information, please call (505) 258-4613.



ART, CRAFT & SUCH

# Start the new year with a little trivia

## Art, Craft and Such

Practical, creative ways to include fun in everyday living  
by Polly E. Chavez



This column is a fun quiz about general information. The answers are at the bottom of the column. Place your hand over the answers, then test your intelligence. The quiz can also provide material for games at your

next potluck gathering. Those who will soon be returning to school after the holiday break can brush up on "book learning."

1. What was the name of the barber of Seville?
2. What is the name for the decorative knob found at the top of a lamp?
3. A misogynist hates (a) heights (b) women (c) crowds.
4. How did the cantaloupe get its name?
5. The Paleolithic age is more commonly known as the \_\_\_\_\_ age.
6. A funambulist is (a) a military expert (b) a tightrope walker (c) a pleasure seeker.
7. In what sport is the Stanley Cup a prize?
8. Who called for "his fiddlers three"?

9. What month in the year has the longest name?
10. What frightened Little Miss Muffet?
11. How many humps does a dromedary have?
12. True or false: A horned toad is a really a lizard.
13. How many days has January?
14. An airplane's garage is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Write 102 in Roman numerals.
16. Whose picture appears on a one-dollar bill?
17. What state in the contiguous U.S. has the longest coastline?
18. True or false: Rice is grown underwater.
19. To what does the Dewey Decimal System refer?
20. Three bones called the hammer, the anvil and the stirrup are located in (a) the elbow (b) the ear (c) the foot
21. The Capital of Texas is \_\_\_\_\_.
22. In multiplication, the answer is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
23. True or false: The author of Robin Hood is unknown.

ANSWERS: (1) Figaro (2) the finial (3) women (4) From Cantalupo, Italy, where it was first grown (5) stone (6) a tightrope walker (7) hockey (8) Old King Cole (9) September (10) a spider (11) one (12) true (13) 31 (14) hangar (15) CII (16) Washington's (17) Florida (18) true (19) book classification (20) ear (21) Austin (22) product (23) true

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## THIS WEEK'S MOVIES



COURTESY

### Lord of the Rings: Return of the King

Action/Adventure, Science Fiction/Fantasy and Drama, 3 hrs. 30 min. Rated PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and frightening images. The third of the trilogy. As the shadow of Mordor grows across the land, Aragorn is revealed as the hidden heir to the ancient kings. Gandalf miraculously returns and defeats the evil wizard, Saruman. Sam leaves his master for the dead after a battle with the giant spider, Shelob, but Frodo is still alive in the hands of the Orcs. And while the armies of the Dark Lord are massing—and the one ring comes ever closer to the Cracks of Doom.

Starring: Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Ian McKellen, Viggo Mortensen, John Rhys-Davies  
Directed by: Peter Jackson  
Produced by: Fran Walsh, Barrie M. Osborne, Peter Jackson, Tim Sanders  
Showtimes: Noon, 4 p.m., 8 p.m.

### Mona Lisa Smile

Drama, Historical, 2 hrs. 05 min. Rated PG-13 for sexual content and thematic issues. 1953 America was a time ripe for change for women and when Katherine Ann Willis (Julia Roberts) arrives to teach Art History at Wellesley College, she finds the institution drowning in outdated mores. While the nation struggles with the fears that accompany a shifting political culture, the powers that be at Wellesley seem to want to re-corse the women who had been the backbone of the World War II workforce just a few years earlier. A passionate educator, Katherine takes on the establishment and in doing so, deeply affects her students who in turn lead her to alter the course of her life forever.

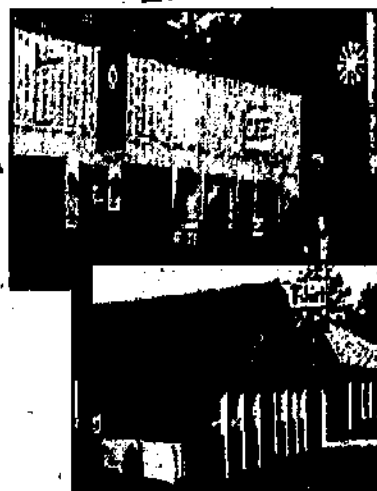
### Steve Martin in Cheaper By The Dozen

Starring: Julia Roberts, Julia Stiles, Kirsten Dunst, Juliet Stevenson, Maggie Gyllenhaal  
Directed by: Mike Newell  
Produced by: Elaine Goldsmith, Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas, Paul Schiff, Deborah Schindler  
Showtimes: 12:45 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:40 p.m., 9:25 p.m.

### Cheaper by the Dozen

Comedy and Kids/Family  
Rated PG for language and some thematic elements. When Tom Baker (Martin) gets a job offer to coach football at Northwestern University in Chicago, he and his wife,

Mary (Hunt), move to the big city, which is a big change for them and their 12 children, who range from preschool-age twins Kyle and Nigel all the way up to 22-year-old Anne (Perabo) who has already left home. With the recent publication of her long-in-the-works book, Mary feels demands outside the home taking away as much time as Tom's new job does, so the two are forced to try to find new ways of parenting their massive tribe, but they find their parenting styles aren't always completely compatible. Starring: Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Hilary Duff, Piper Perabo, Tom Welling  
Directed by: Shawn Levy  
Produced by: Robert Simonds, Ben Myron, Chris Columbus, Michael Barnathan  
Showtimes: Noon, 2:10 p.m., 4:50 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 9:25 p.m.



## RUIDOSO T-SHIRT CO. & THE T-SHIRT OUTLET

would like to thank all of our local and visiting customers for their loyal patronage for the last 18 years.

My family has decided to close one of our stores, The T-Shirt Outlet, until hopefully sometime mid-January due to the continued need for the loving care of our terminally ill mother, Muriel Medley, over the Christmas Holidays.

For those of you who do not know, our dad, Joe D. Medley, died on Aug. 8, 2002. It was our father's wishes that everything be done in a quiet & simple matter.

We feel bound to acknowledge the passing of our father & know he will be having Christmas with us still.

Again, our family business thanks you & wishes you a Blessed and Safe Holiday. Come & visit Ruidoso T-Shirt Co. (next to Candle Power)!



Thank You,  
Mickey Apodaca



# Some different fare at lunchtime.

## Care for a spot of tea? Ruidoso's Hummingbird is ready to serve

BY SANDY SUGGITT  
VAMONOS EDITOR

**C**alla lily sandwiches, apricot preserves, scones, cucumber sandwiches on dark pumpernickel, tortilla roll-ups with ham and Swiss cheese, green chile turkey corn chowder, pimiento roll-up, a huge selection of teas ...

Hungry yet? These are a few of the special ingredients for a special service that started this fall in Ruidoso: Afternoon Tea at the Hummingbird Tearoom, 2306 Sudderth Drive in Village Plaza.

Owner Debbie Garrett did plenty of research on the time-honored tradition of Afternoon Tea before she started offering it — on the Internet and talking with friends from Scotland and England. She discovered that, contrary to many people's ideas, Afternoon Tea is in the afternoon, while High Tea is basically supper, about 6 p.m.

"We do the traditional set-up with the three-tiered serving trays," Garrett said. "It's unique for Ruidoso right now. I think that's what people enjoy so much — the pampering, individual treatment ... We design each tea individually for each guest, taking into consideration everyone's preferences. We like to make it unique for every time you visit."

Garrett's Afternoon Tea is served from 3-4:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, by reservation only. Although reservations for small parties only need be made by mid-morning of the desired day, she needs 24 hours notice for large parties so she can shop for them, she said.

The smallest party she'll serve? A party of one.

"I will stay for any number that comes in — groups of one or more. Come by yourself and bring your book and munch out and read all afternoon," she said. "We love having the little

See TEA, page 7.



PHOTOS BY SANDY SUGGITT

Debbie Garrett, above, owner of the Hummingbird Tearoom, stands in front of the new tea cart she uses for her Afternoon Teas.

At left, a tea party Wednesday pampered guests with finger foods and pastries.



## ENTERTAINMENT

## ...and nighttime

## La Cave is French for weekend fun

BY SANDY SUGGITT  
VAMONOS EDITOR

Another kind of rare divertissement for Lincoln County is offered farther up the street by Richard Girot's Le Bistro at 2800 Sudderth Drive. This is "La Cave," hidden away in the cellar of the restaurant with an entranceway on the outside of the building.

From 8-11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Girot opens La Cave, providing a place for customers to enjoy live music by local performers while sipping a glass of wine or a

beer before or after their meals.

The atmosphere is warm and cozy, with a bar, three couches, six easy chairs and several tables for small parties — enough room for 40-45 music lovers.

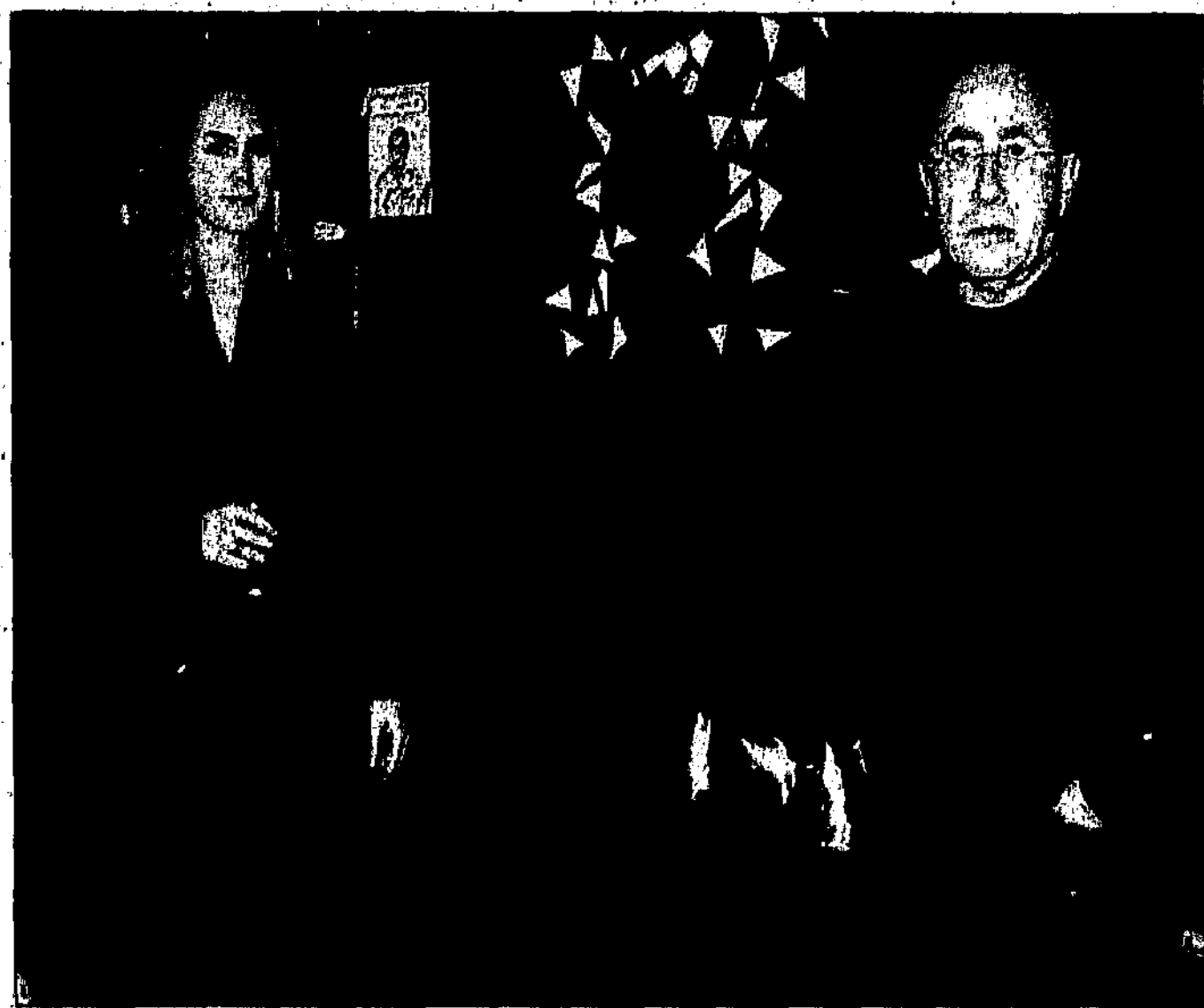
He serves appetizers and light meals in La Cave, he said, but large meals are too difficult for the staff to manage because the stairs from the kitchen are narrow and steep.

Girot opened Le Bistro six years ago, and La Cave a year later. The building that houses Le Bistro was formerly a liquor store. La Cave was its liquor storage room,

Girot said, and "absolutely a mess," but he enjoyed cleaning it up and furnishing it.

"I did it because I like music," Girot said. "People before or after dinner come here and spend two or three hours listening to music."

Art is on most of the walls. One of them displays small, whimsical paintings of local customers by Vicki Nutter. Girot points



SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

*Bartender Joni Stettheimer and owner of Le Bistro and La Cave, Richard Girot, are pleased to use the basement of the restaurant for weekend music sessions and a tapas bar. Vicki Nutter's paintings of La Cave's patrons adorn the wall next to the cozy fireplace.*

out the portraits of former mayor Robert Donaldson and other local patrons of La Cave.

Girot rotates the musicians who perform at La Cave, and sometimes groups of "very good musicians" come for jam sessions.

"People from Houston came last week and said 'We don't have this quality of music,'" Girot said, adding that often the music is "fabulous."

He entertains a lot of private parties in La Cave and is willing to have theatrical performances there.

La Cave is only open on Fridays and

Saturdays, from 8-11 p.m., but Le Bistro serves French country cuisine from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5:30-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 257-0132.



SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

*Richard Girot, owner of Le Bistro, pours wine behind the bar of La Cave, the site of musical performances and jam sessions by some of the best local musicians.*



## TEA: Variety is the spice of lunch at the Hummingbird

Continued from page 6

groups."

"It can be really intimate and everyone will have a grand time," chimed in her assistant, Christy Wilkinson, who is just as enthusiastic as Garrett. "The only thing we don't do is wipe your face."

Pampering the guests is what Garrett and her staff enjoy, she said.

So far, the largest group she's had was the Red

Hatters, a group of 25. During warmer weather, the tea parties can be held out on the patio, but the rest of the time, they're set up in the main dining room.

Some people have enjoyed Afternoon Tea several times, which keeps Garrett on her toes to come up with different kinds of finger sandwiches and other delectables.

"The reason for doing it is it gives us variety from the menu — something we can play with," Garrett said.

Drinking tea is not mandatory, she added, although

she has a great selection of teas.

"The whole purpose is to come in here and have a nice, fun, relaxing afternoon."

To make a reservation for Afternoon Tea, call the Hummingbird Tearoom at 257-5100. Afternoon Tea is served from 3-4:30 p.m. (Garrett said it's all right for guests to make reservations for 4:30 p.m.) Wednesday through Saturday. The restaurant's regular hours for lunches are 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.



## PAST TENSE

# The Reno Brothers go down in history

## Past Tense

by Drew Comber

Historian, The Hubbard Museum of the American West

A number of historians, this one includ-



ed, have stated over the years that the first peacetime train and bank robberies in America were committed by the James/Younger Gang. And that is true - about the banks, at least. And while they certainly did perfect the "art" of train robbing, the men of the James/Younger Gang were definitely not the first. That dubious honor goes to the Reno Brothers of Indiana.

### Beginnings

The Renos were a family of long-standing in Indiana. The first Renos had arrived way back in 1813. In 1837, Frank Reno was born, followed by John in 1838; Simeon (Sim) in 1843, Clint in 1847; William in 1848 and a girl named Laura, born in 1851.

The older Renos seem to have been bad apples right from the beginning. They resented the religious upbringing they had been "subjected" to; and didn't much care for school either. Well, most kids don't care for school, but in the case of the Renos, it appears that they didn't care for any authority symbols.

Frank and John started their criminal careers before they were even in their teens, bilking travelers in the area with crooked card games. At the tender age of 11, John stole a horse, went to Louisville, Ky., for a year, returned, robbed his own parents and left for parts unknown. He ultimately returned and was (more or less) forgiven, although he should not have been.

In 1851, a series of deliberately set fires began in the Rockford, Indiana, area, and the consensus was that the Renos were responsible. In 1858, the parents of the Reno brothers were divorced, and John would later claim that was the reason for the criminal behavior of he and his brothers. It seems that even back then people were trying to make excuses for breaking the law to avoid the consequences of their own actions. Today, he probably would have blamed it on TV... the weasel.

During the Civil War, the Renos made a good living off of "bounty jumping." This was the practice of getting someone else to

answer the call of the military draft for you. In those days, the military didn't particularly care which citizen it drafted, just so long as someone showed up. Consequently, wealthy draftees would pay others to take their places. The Renos accepted the money for doing this, reported to the military and promptly deserted so that they could do it again.

### May 5, 1865

It was just after Lee's surrender that it happened. On May 5, 1865, the Ohio and Mississippi train was robbed by "person or persons unknown," generally considered to be the Reno brothers. There is a possibility that this robbery was committed by Southern troops who did not know that the war was over. However, on October 6, 1866, there was no doubt that the Renos were responsible for robbing the Ohio and Mississippi that left Seymour, Indiana, at about 6:30 in the evening.

(Now here's a weird anecdote: The film "Love Me Tender," which was Elvis's first movie, was about some brothers by the name of "Reno" who, as Confederate soldiers, mistakenly rob a Union train, oblivious of the war's end. They are then pursued by "Charlie Siringo" who gets them to go straight, but not before Elvis, as "Clint," gets killed. Seems to have been a garbling of the real Reno brothers' story... In fact, the working title of the film was "The Reno Brothers.")

At any rate, the Reno Gang did pretty well on this haul, escaping with more than \$10,000 in gold coin. But they were almost undone by their own greed. There was a large safe that they could not open, and after beating the express messenger into unconsciousness, they rolled the safe off the train. They were still trying to open it when men on handcars came rolling up the track looking for them. The Reno Gang, which now included several non-family members, fled into the darkness. But not before they were recognized by a man named George Kinney.

One thing that the Renos did not know was that the express car they robbed was under the protection of the Pinkerton Detective Agency - which was the equivalent of the FBI in those days.

Lawmen were hampered by jurisdictional problems that arose with county and state lines in the pursuit of outlaws, but the Pinkertons didn't care at all about boundaries. They intended to get their quarry - regardless of where the outlaw tried to conceal himself. Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid are good examples of the Pinkertons' determination. They followed

them all the way to South America.

In no time, local officers arrested John and Sim Reno, as well as gang member Frank Sparks.

Many outlaws of the Old West had good, redeeming, sometimes even endearing traits. This cannot be said of the Renos. What they did next illustrates this dramatically. It was something that Jesse James, Butch Cassidy, or any of the others would never dream of... A week or so after the arrest of the Renos and Sparks, they were released on bond. A few nights later, George Kinney, the eyewitness, answered a knock at his door and was shot dead by "person or persons unknown." Of course, everyone knew who it was, even if they couldn't prove it.

Without a witness, there was no more case against them.

### Citizens' justice

At about the same time, three men were arrested for the robbery, rape and murder of a young woman in Jackson County. This had nothing to do with the Renos, but with all the stories about the Renos, and now this, well, the citizens had had enough.

On the night of March 30, 1867, the two men who had confessed to the murder (the other was not involved) were removed from the jail by about 300 armed men and lynched. The Renos should have seen the writing on the wall, but they didn't.

In 1868, John Reno, the brains of the gang, was arrested and sentenced to 25 years in prison for a robbery committed four years earlier. As it worked out, he was the lucky one.

Frank took the reins of leadership and on February 18, 1868, the gang robbed the Harrison County Treasury Office in Magnolia, making off with \$14,000. However, William Pinkerton himself tracked them down to a house in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where most of the money was recovered and Frank Reno, in the company of gang members Miles Ogle, Albert Perkins and Michael Rogers, were taken into custody.

But not for long. On April 1, 1868, they tunneled out of the jail in Sidney. Over the hole, in chalk, were the words "April Fool."

On May 22, 1868, the Reno Gang robbed another train at Marshfield, Indiana, making off with a whopping \$96,000. The gang then split up and went into hiding. Frank, along with Charlie Anderson, Albert Perkins, Mike Rogers and Miles Ogle headed for Detroit, and then crossed into Canada. William and Sim Reno hid out in Indianapolis, where they could indulge their penchant for gambling. They didn't

know it, but fate was closing in...

### Another wake-up call

Meanwhile, other members of the gang robbed still another train. After a pursuit that ended with a wild gun battle, three of the bandits were ultimately captured. Then, about 10 days after the robbery, as lawmen were transporting the trio by train to the county jail, a man waving a red lantern flagged the train down. Again, it was the vigilantes, and again, the bandits never reached their appointed destination, winding up on the end of a tree limb instead. A few nights later, as three more bandits who had fallen into the lawmen's hands were being transported by wagon (they were afraid that another incident like the one on the train would occur) they were stopped by a mob and met the same fate. In less than a week, six of the Reno gang had been lynched.

And about a week after that, Sim and William Reno were arrested in Indianapolis. After poor Laura Reno had begged the governor not to let her brothers be lynched, the militia was called out and escorted the brothers to the place that was serving as the

Continued on page 9



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*Missing something? If your favorite eats aren't listed herein, or if a certain restaurant's hours of operation aren't listed, be sure to tell the restaurant owner or manager. Basic listings are free. To add or update a listing, or to add bold lettering, additional information or a logo, call 257-4001 or fax Vamonos! at 257-7053.*

## GOMBER: People got tired of the Reno Gang in a hurry

Continued from page 8

county jail at New Albany.

In August of 1868, the Pinkertons prevailed on the police of wild and woolly Windsor, Canada, to arrest Frank Reno, Charlie Anderson and Albert Perkins, but when the extradition papers never appeared, the trio was released — much to the dismay of the Pinkertons.

### International incidents and other unpleasantness

Finally, the problem of the Renos resulted in an international incident when Allan Pinkerton contacted his old Civil War pal William Seward, who also happened to be Secretary of State. When the U.S. finally sent a Letter of Assurance to the Queen's Council in London, Frank Reno and Charlie Anderson were released into the custody of Allan Pinkerton. On October 29, the pair

was lodged in the New Albany jail.

Everyone assured everyone else, just as our government had assured Queen Victoria of England, that the prisoners were safe from vigilantes...

On the night of December 11, 1868, a large group of vigilantes arrived in New Albany via a special train that ran with no running lights and no bell or whistle. They arrived in New Albany around 3 in the morning of December 12.

The vigilantes were well organized. Many wore their jackets and coats inside out with numbers chalked on them. The man with the number "1" on his back began the march of these hundred or so vigilantes to the jail with the words "Salus Populi Suprema Lex" which is Latin for "The Will of the People is the Supreme Law."

Hey, I never said they weren't pompous...

When the mob crashed through the front doors of the jail, the Sheriff was shot in the arm and another jailer was threatened with the same fate planned for the prisoners (obviously, they truly meant business) should he resist. Needless to say, the fellow didn't, and the fate of each man in each cell (they were all in separate cells) was sealed.

Frank Reno was first. With a pre-knotted noose thrown around his neck and its other end tied to an iron pillar next to the stairway, Frank was pushed off the landing. Next was William, who was hanged beside, and in the same fashion, as was his older brother. Last was Sim, who put up a tremendous struggle before he was hoisted aloft in the southwest corner of the jail, his feet just touching the ground. Sim took an entire half hour to strangle to death. Finally, there was only Charlie Anderson left and he had to be hanged twice when the rope

snapped on the first attempt. One of the grimmer facts about lynching is that the victim almost always strangles to death.

There was much debate in Indiana for quite some time after that as to the merit — or lack thereof — in the actions of the vigilantes. Of course, for the Reno brothers the argument was strictly academic.

Ultimately, they would be overshadowed by the more colorful and glamorous Jesse James, Butch Cassidy, and numerous others. But it was the Reno brothers who first robbed a train in this country. Perhaps if they had not met the ignoble end that they did, they would be more remembered, but it's hard to say.

History is fickle like that.

Sources: The Reno Gang's Reign of Terror by William Bell; The Encyclopedia of Western Outlaws and Lawmen by Leon Metz.



## FUNNY BONE

# Wearing a bra is easy, writing about it is hard

## Dave's World

by Dave Barry  
Tribune Media Services



As a professional newspaper columnist with both medical AND dental benefits, I receive many letters from people who would like to get into my line of work.

"Dear Dave," they write. "I'm sick of my boring dead-

end job as a (lawyer, teacher, office worker, President). How do I develop the skills I need to obtain a job like yours, where you have an opportunity to make a difference, even though you never actually do?"

OK, then: Today I'm going to take you "behind the scenes" here at Dave Barry Inc., and reveal, step-by-step, exactly how I write a column:

Step One is to come up with a topic. I'm always thinking about possible topics, from the moment my alarm goes off at 6 a.m., through the moment I actually get out of the bed, at around 10:15. During that period, I take a series of decompression naps while monitoring the morning TV news shows to

find out what the news is.

Unfortunately, the morning news shows no longer show the news: They're too busy showing the crowd of people who stand around outside the TV studio for hours on end waving at the camera and holding signs that say: "Hi!"

Evidently these people are too stupid to operate telephones, and this is the only way they have to communicate with their families or ward attendants back home. Sometimes the TV personalities go outside; I always hope that they'll point firearms at the sign-holders and yell, "GO HOME," but instead they ask the sign-holders where they're from.

The fascinating answers never fail to amaze and delight everybody ("Ohio?? Great!!"). So I have no column topic when I emerge from the bedroom to fix myself a hearty breakfast of coffee with extra coffee.

My next step is to look through the daily newspaper, which I have found to be an invaluable and amazingly rich source of advertisements for women's underwear. Every other page has an ad featuring female models in lingerie; you get the impression, from newspapers, that at least 80 percent of the Gross National Product is brassieres.

Why? Do women really need to be sold on the concept of underwear? Do they smack their foreheads and go, "THAT'S what I need! Something under my clothing!"? But you can't write a professional column about women's underwear. You need a topic with

some "meat" to it, such as the U.S. Trade Deficit, which is an important issue that the newspaper often puts next to the brassiere ads.

And so, with this topic in mind, I head for my home office, which is an area that I would estimate, for tax purposes, covers 94 percent of the total square footage of my home. I work at home because, as a professional writer, I find that a solitary environment enables me, whenever the muse strikes, to clip my toenails.

This particular muse strikes more often than a French labor union. I'll be pondering the Trade Deficit, and I'll glance at my toenails and think, "Hey! Those babies have grown at LEAST three thousandths of an inch since I last clipped them!" So I grab the clippers, which I always keep handy, and soon I'm hard at work.

All your top writers do this. If you don't believe me, go up to, say, Norman Mailer, and have some friends hold him down while you remove his shoes and socks. If his toenails aren't trimmed to the base, I'll pay you \$10. I'll need color photographs. Another reason why creative individuals prefer to work at home, as opposed to an office, is that when you need to scratch yourself, you don't have to sneak behind the copying machine and settle for a hasty grope.

At home, you can rear back and assault the affected region with both hands, or, if you want, gardening implements. But you cannot

scratch yourself forever. You are not a professional baseball player; you are a newspaper columnist, and sooner or later you have to "knuckle down" and get to work on the task at hand, which is: lunch.

After lunch, it's time to get back to thinking about the Trade Deficit. The key, with a complex issue like this, is: research. A professional newspaper column has to be 800 words long, which is why I cannot say it enough: research, research, research. Among the questions that need to be answered are: What, exactly, IS the "Trade Deficit"?

For this kind of technical detail, I get on the telephone to my Research Assistant, Judi Smith, who is a wealth of information. "Judi," I say, "How come there are so many newspaper ads for women's underwear?"

"I think because men like to look at women in brassieres," she replies.

My wife, who also works at home and is listening to this discussion, notes: "All those ads look the same." Both my wife and Judi agree that nobody ever buys a bra from an ad. It frankly makes me wonder if this could be a contributing factor to the Trade Deficit. Somebody should think about this. I'd do it, but these toenails are not getting any shorter.

Dave Barry is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132.

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Art and Artifact • 107 S. Lincoln • Capitan • 354-2316

Benson Fine Art • Off Hwy. 70 • San Patricio • 653-4081

California Colors Art Gallery • 201 Country Club Drive • 257-1964

The Camel House • 1690 Hwy 70 East • Ruidoso Downs • 378-7065

Candyce Garrett Granite Sculpture • 2101 Sudderth • 257-4288

Classic Bronze Foundry • 610 E. Hwy 70 • Ruidoso Downs • 378-1417

Covered Wagon Collectibles • 2524 Sudderth • 257-3471

Crucis Art Bronze Foundry & Gallery • 524 Sudderth • 257-7186

Earthly Greens & Ran La Roca Glass • Lincoln, NM • April 1 - Oct. 31, 10-5, 7 Days • Nov. 1 - March 31, By Appointment • 800-386-7258

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Fruit of the Trees Gallery • Hwy 380 in Lincoln • 653-4699

Galleria West • 2538 Sudderth • 257-4560

GD Garrett Fine Art • 2306 Sudderth • 257-7695

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Many Moons Gallery • 2501 Sudderth • 630-9201

McGary's Studios • 2002 Sudderth • 257-1000

McMahon Fine Art • 700 Mechem • 257-9102

Misha's Art • 2206 Sudderth • 257-1561

Mountain Arts Gallery • 2530 Sudderth • 257-9748

One Of A Kind • 2206 Sudderth • 257-0678 • Open May through October

Phoenix Galleries • 610 Hwy 70 E. • Ruidoso Downs • 378-1438

Picture This Gallery • 2621 Sudderth • 630-0003

Pinon Pottery • 3 miles east of Wal-Mart on Hwy 70 • Ruidoso Downs • 378-4270 • (800) 378-4275

Rainwaters • 2313 Sudderth • 257-08727 • Gifts, jewelry, candles & collectibles

The Ruidoso Store • 421 Sudderth • 257-5077

Sonya Smith Galleries (formerly Creative Decor Gallery) • 1803 Sudderth • 257-1449

Studio-W • 1311 Mechem • 258-1117

White Mountain Pottery • 2328 Sudderth • 257-3644 • Tableware, lamps & accessories

White Oaks Pottery • 4 mi. NE

of White Oak Township • Ivy Heymann • 648-2985 • Open 10 am - 5 pm, Closed on Thursday



Winter Moon Gallery • 2701 Sudderth • 257-2585 • Affordable posters, prints & gifts

ZW's Gallery • Hwy 38 W, MM 4.75 (the road to Nogal) • 354-4263

The Zuni • 2621 Sudderth • (800) 275-4908 • 257-2440

To add or update a listing, or to add bold lettering, additional information or a logo, call 257-4001 or fax Vamonos! at 257-7053.

# Johnson featured at Hubbard Museum

The Hubbard Museum of the American West will be host to a pastel workshop for adults by Michael Chesley Johnson of Timberon from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7.

Chesley's work will be on display at the Hubbard Museum in Ruidoso Downs beginning Jan. 9, kicking off the museum's new Local Artist Corner. The exhibition will continue through Feb. 22. (An opening reception and gallery talk will be from 5:30-7 p.m. Jan. 8.)

Johnson's passion is painting landscapes, many of which are created en plein aire. He has studied with a number of notable pastel artists, including local Ann Templeton. Chesley is represented at McMahon Fine Arts in Ruidoso, Benson Fine Art in San Patricio, Suesnos Fine Art in Cloudcroft and

Ago Gallery in Ouray, Colo.

Johnson has taught workshops both from his home in Timberon, and throughout southern New Mexico and the United States. As one workshop attendee attested, "Besides the subtleties, I gained much practical knowledge in pastel materials and techniques that I am putting to use. It was truly an immersion workshop."

This introductory course is ideal for adults who want to explore the medium of pastels. Previous experience in drawing is desirable, but not required. All levels of experience are welcome.

The workshop will be held at The Hubbard Museum of the American West, 841 Highway 70 West in Ruidoso Downs. The fee for the workshop is \$40 person, plus a \$30 materials fee. Please bring a sack

lunch. Participants must pre-register and pre-pay for this workshop. The deadline to register is Friday, Jan. 23. Space is limited; a maximum of 10 students is allowed. For more information on the workshop and registration, call Elizabeth Becker at 378-4142.

For more information about Johnson's work, visit his Web site at [www.MichaelChesleyJohnson.com](http://www.MichaelChesleyJohnson.com).



COURTESY MICHAEL CHESLEY JOHNSON

Two of Johnson's works are shown above: "Bluff Springs," left, and "Carissa Springs No. 2," right.

The ranching  
community of Ruidoso,  
was originally called  
Dowlin's Mill.

JAN 24 @ 2 & 8



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PHOTOS BY MORGAN SWITZER/STAFF

*Ann Reveley, above at left, chairman of the Sponsor Party, is shown with Angel Shaw, who was in charge of publicity for the Festival of Lights. Below left is Bill Brogan, co-chairman of the Parade of Lights Committee, presenting Laura Reynolds of Print Write Now with the award for Most Luminous Entry (nonfloat). Below middle, Bruce Timson, co-chair of the Festival of Lights, presents T.E. Arrington with the award for the most Luminous Home.*

# Festival finale

The Festival of Lights lit up the town and spread out the events from the Parade of Lights, Dec. 5, through the new Holiday Happening Dec. 13, with other holiday events around town and around the county throughout December. The

culmination of the Festival of Lights was the Sponsor Party at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts Dec. 18, honoring sponsors and presenting awards to winners of the Parade of Lights and the Residential and Business Lighting Contest.



*Doug Babcock, left, accepts the award for Pine Top Rod and Custom Club's float, which won Most Luminous Float (nonprofit or individual) and Judges' Choice Award for embodying the spirit of the Festival of Lights and the Parade of Lights. With him are his daughter, Aimee Babcock, and Bill Brogan, co-chair of the Parade of Lights Committee. Below, Festival of Lights Chairman Jules Videau and Kathleen McDonald, Chairman of the Residential and Business Lighting Contest, present awards.*





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### LIVE YOUR DREAMS IN THIS AMAZING ALTO HOME ON 7.4 ACRES.

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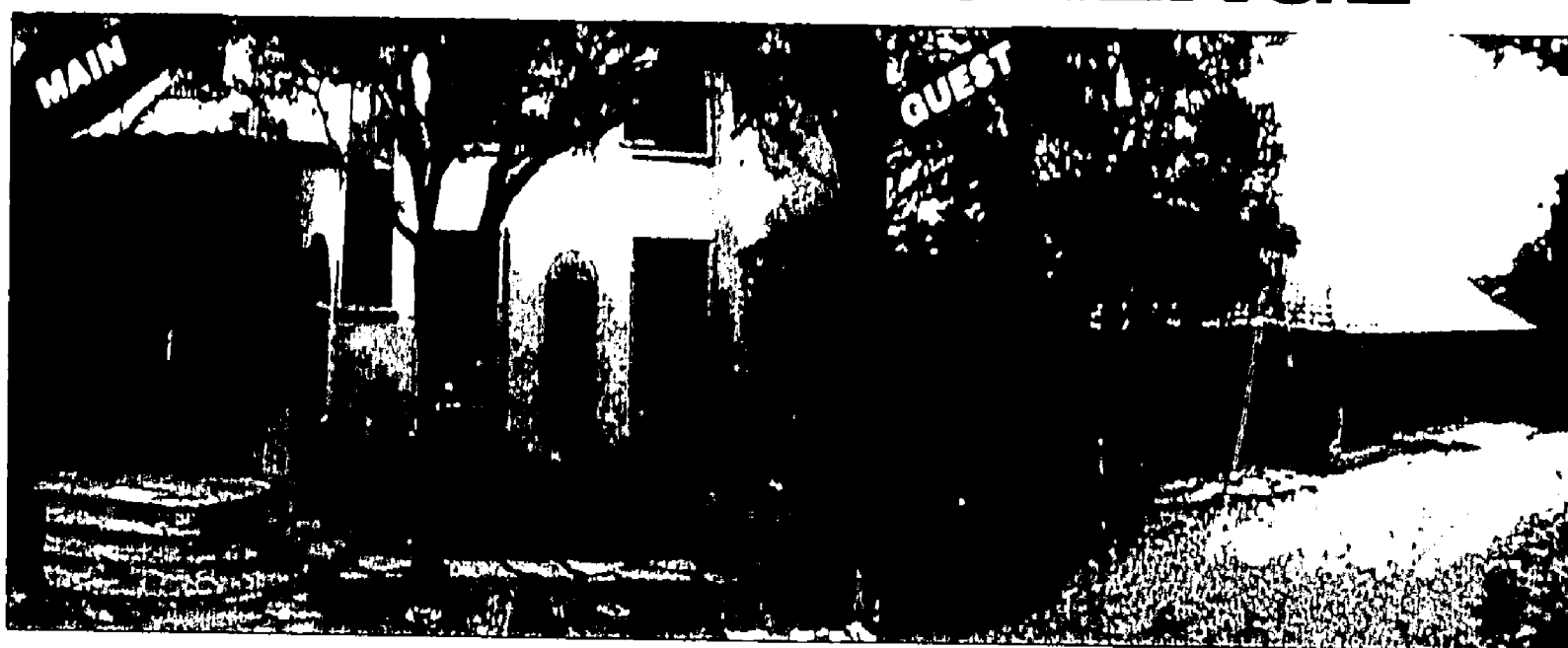
Ask for special features sheet.

Main home \$1,950,000 #98441

Guest house \$650,000 #98629

Offered together at \$2,575,000.

Qualified buyers only.



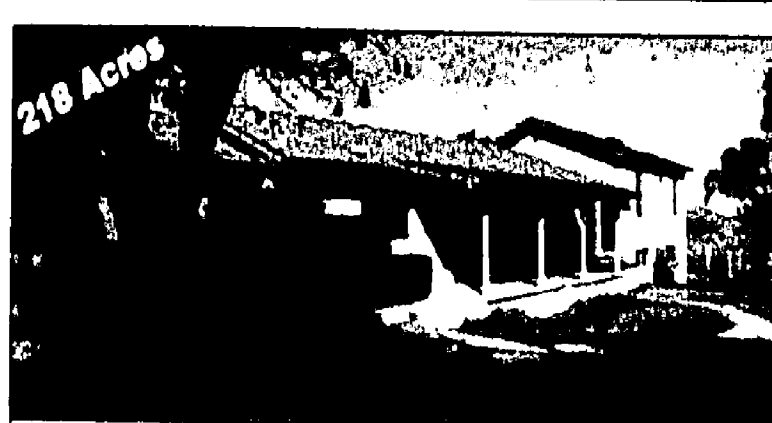
#### MAIN COMPLEX OF THE ENCHANTMENT RANCH

This artistic home and studio are tasteful, secluded, and beautiful. Courtyard, waterfalls, and ponds provide a fantastic ambiance on five acres. Custom antique features throughout. \$480,000 #10301



#### STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL "ENCHANTMENT RANCH"

This exquisite complex is perfectly placed on 17.35 acres. Serene setting. Amazing main house, artistic in every way, accented by courtyard w/ water fall & ponds. Charming studio guest house and caretaker's quarters, too. Call for pkg. Qualified buyers only. \$799,500 #97950



#### 218 ACRE SPREAD IN THE HONDO VALLEY

Impressive, well kept 5 br home with lovely views. Livestock pens. Large shed and barn. Multi-purpose areas for horses and cattle. As the Cartwrights would say, "BONANZA" \$470,000 #10296

## HOMES ON THE RIVER & UPPER CANYON



#### SPECTACULAR TERRITORIAL HOME ON THE BONITO

This tasteful Southwest home is desirable in every way. The 5 acres w/ river frontage is the perfect setting for this spacious home w/ 4 fireplaces, 18 ft ceilings and a 3-car garage. Many extras - a must see! \$498,000 #98838



#### THE "IDYLIC CABIN IN THE WOODS"

Great upper canyon retreat. Compact and cute, cute, cute! can sleep up to 8! Wood flooring. Wonderful lot and the perfect deck for enjoying the tall pines and fresh air! \$139,500 #10229



#### GRAND HOME W/ PRIME RIVER FRONTAGE!

1.37 acres on the river in town. This 4 br home has approx 8000 sq ft. Prestigious and perfect for entertaining. Possible B&B! 3 fireplaces, 3 garages & domestic well too! Wonderful home \$899,000 #98802



# ALTO LAKES GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB HOMES



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**ELEGANT ADOBE HOME W/ AMAZING PLAN**  
 that includes an 8'x70' indoor California lap pool & observation tower. Fabulous views! Charming brick floors, boveda ceilings, and Kiva fireplaces. Furnished too! **\$1,450,000 #99254**



**SPACIOUS 4 BR CEDAR HOME ON 1 ACRE**  
 You'll appreciate the quality construction in this full golf Alto home. Great master suite w/ whirlpool, custom kitchen, vaulted ceilings and extra large family room. Beautiful redwood decks too! **\$420,000 #98881**



**SECLUDED ALTO HOME ON CUL-DE-SAC**  
 What a beautiful location for this 3 br home! This well-kept home has multiple decks for enjoying the mt. air. Full membership and great hot tub room too! **\$285,000 #99615**



**DEER PARK BEAUTY ON LEVEL LOT IN TALL PINES**  
 This full golf home is perfectly placed on a quiet cul-de-sac. You'll love the open kitchen/family area, wet bar, and wonderful windows! Reduced to **\$339,900! #97058**



**ALTO BEAUTY ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> FAIRWAY!**  
 This wonderful full golf home is situated on 1.5 lots in the tall pines of Alto. Beautiful rock accents inside & out. Expansive windows, vaulted ceilings & beautiful wood create an elegant mountain home. Large master with its own cozy fireplace. **\$314,900 #10264**

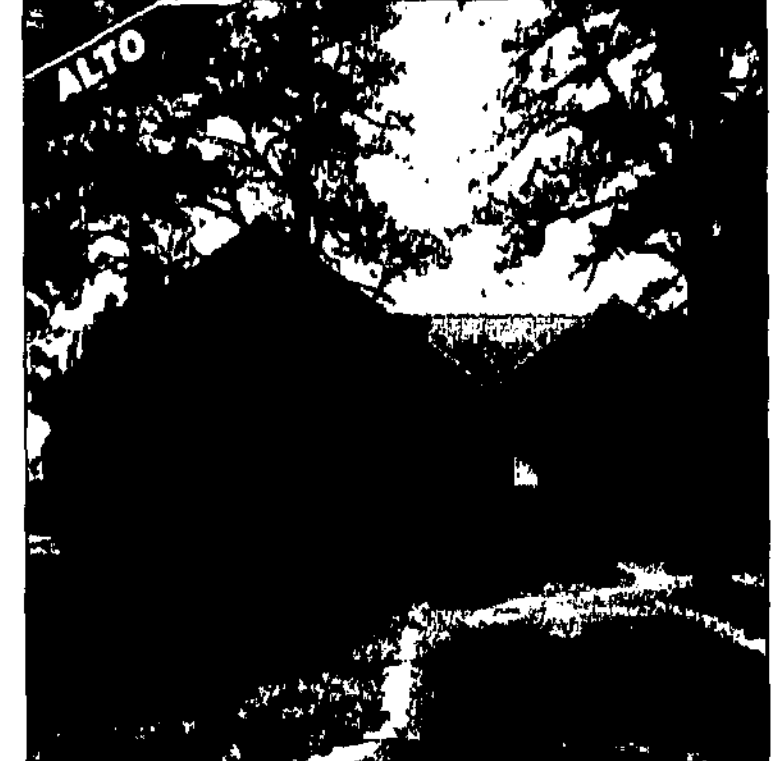
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**ELEGANT ALTO RESIDENCE ON SECLUDED CUL-DE-SAC**  
 Exquisite rock work accents this sophisticated mountain home with extraordinary floor plan. Open concept plan with beautiful patios - perfect for entertaining. Spacious master suite and bath. Cheerful sun room for reading or passing a peaceful afternoon deer watching. **\$449,500 #96311**



**ELEGANT DEER PARK HOME W/ COURTYARD!**  
 This full membership 5 br home, built in 1999 has a wonderful plan which is beautifully executed. 12' ceilings. One level, 3 car garage. Fabulous courtyard for enjoying amazing New Mexico days. **\$599,900. #99951**



**FABULOUS CUSTOM ALTO HOME ON CORNER LOT**  
 This Deer Park 3 Br. has a study & a family game room, 3 car garage, wet bar, charming upscaled kitchen. Full golf, beautiful fenced yard adjacent to back deck - perfect for entertaining. One owner. **\$489,000. #10269**

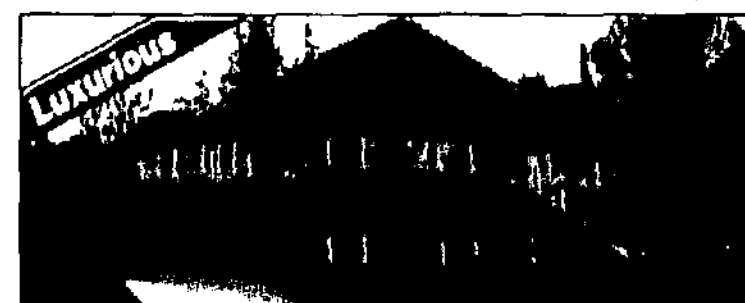


**SPACIOUS AND ELEGANT!**  
 This full golf Alto townhome has two master bedrooms and nice views too. Tasteful furnishings and window treatments. Gerard metal roof. Pamper yourself with this luxurious unit. **\$399,500. #99143**

## GREAT VIEW HOMES



**LIVE IN ULTIMATE LUXURY ON 6 ACRES**  
 Dynamic views in every direction are yours from this fabulous 4 br custom home. Gourmet kitchen. Amazing master suite. Exquisite interior will make your every day a pampered experience. **\$789,500 #96520**



**AMAZING VIEW HOME WITH ELEGANT INTERIOR**  
 This luxurious 4 br home is the epitome of Southwest elegance. Beautifully furnished. Gourmet kitchen. Open concept living area. Fabulous decks. Great bar and game room. Upgraded features throughout. **\$599,500 #99886**



**AMAZING VIEWS OF SIERRA BLANCA!**  
 A wonderful home, perfectly placed and accented with exquisite architectural antiques. A virtually maintenance-free exterior. Fabulous plan. Picture perfect deck for enjoying our mountain climate. A must see! **\$469,000. #98538**

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**GREAT ONE LEVEL HOME UNDER \$110,000!**

Fabulous trees and beautiful French doors highlight this open concept home with great porches. Nice plan... and located near The Links golf course. Garage too! \$105,900. #10183



**FABULOUS MOUNTAIN HOME ON QUIET CUL-DE-SAC**

This beautiful home w/ white pine interior is tucked amidst the tall pines in the heart of town. Impeccable condition. Adjacent lot available. Fabulous setting. Great room can be converted back to lap pool, easily. Unique & desirable. \$299,500. #98267



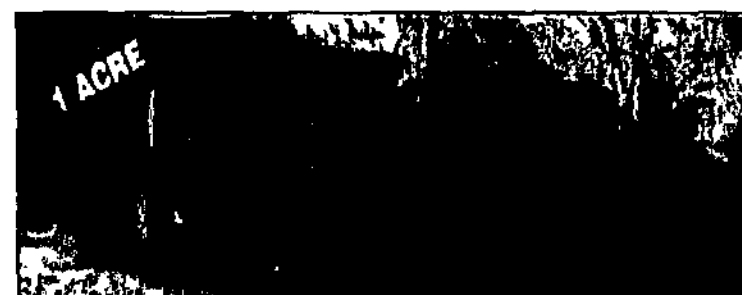
**QUALITY, PRESTIGIOUS CUSTOM-BUILT HOME**

You'll love this one-level stucco beauty on a picture-perfect lot. Tile roof and professional landscaping complete this wonderful home. Great patios. 2 fireplaces and Sierra Blanca view, too! \$419,500. #98862



**GREAT 3 BR. IN THE DOWNS**

You'll love the fantastic view of Ruidoso Downs from this home. 3 baths are a bonus. Proximity to track is an excellent feature for horse enthusiasts, but you don't have to be one to love this house! \$118,500. #10095



**SECLUSION IN THE HEART OF TOWN!**

Great views from this one level with spacious living and dining area! Situated on approx. 1 ac. featuring an English brick and beamed kitchen. 3 bay windows for watching the deer. Large deck and carport too! \$169,500. #99924



**4 BR. IN THE TALL, COOL PINES!**

A corner lot is the perfect place for this great 4 br. plan w/ living & family room. Garage and furnished too! Just bring your suitcase and start to enjoy mountain living. \$249,000. #99421



**A REAL BARGAIN AND SB VIEWS TOO!**

Value and views are both yours in this spacious 5 Br. 3 Ba contemporary beauty. Upstairs den, 2 car garage, and additional workshop make this a spacious plan you'll love. Check out the \$ per sq. ft.! \$275,000. #98356



**SIERRA BLANCA VIEW!**

Charming 1 level, stucco, 4 bedroom home. Corner lot, water well. Covered patio for entertaining & sunroom too! A must see!! \$234,000. #99222



**GREAT HOME WITH CREEK FRONTAGE!**

You'll love the setting of this desirable home with oak floors, expansive windows, and vaulted ceilings. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac. Great setting, garage, and covered deck. A must see! \$264,000. #10021



**CHARMING ONE LEVEL ON CORNER LOT!**

Practicality and charm are yours in this 4 Br. home located in a nice neighborhood close to town. Living room w/ fireplace insert, and den w/ wet bar. Convenient one level. Carport too! \$168,500. #99683



**OUTSTANDING SIERRA BLANCA VIEW HOME**

This well-arranged 4 br. home is situated on a great corner lot, and has 2 master suites. Wonderful decks. Living and den areas. Partially fenced. A very appealing home! \$395,000. #99821



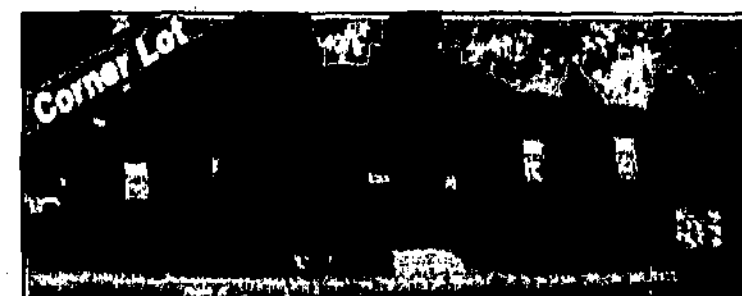
**EXCITING HOME AT AN AMAZING PRICE PER SQ.FT.!**

This 4 br. home is in beautiful condition, and has a living area plus a den/library. 3 car garage & great Sierra Blanca view!! Master w/ adjacent hot tub area. Very nice. \$359,000. #10049



**GREAT VIEW HOME ON .99 ACRES!**

You'll love the location of this unique home in Indian Hills. Nicely remodeled. New windows too. Large decks, lofty ceilings, dog run, and workshop too. \$216,500. #99430



**CHARMING HOME WITH EXCEPTIONAL PLAN!**

On a great corner lot in the heart of town is this wonderful 3 br. home with easy level access. Lots of storage. Great deck! RV parking... just an exceptional setup! Must see. \$249,500. #10358



**CHARMING STUCCO WITH COURTYARD UNDER \$300,000**

New Mexico living made easy and stylish. This 3200 sq.ft. beauty features an appealing courtyard, 3 fireplaces and a rustic ambiance that defines New Mexico chic. \$299,999. #94151



**GREAT CONDO IN WHITE MOUNTAIN**

This 2 Br. condo is located in a really scenic area close to The Links golf course, and walking path surrounding it. Furnished and under \$100K! Close to dining and shopping... won't last long! \$98,500. #10079

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# SPECTACULAR HOMES WITH ACREAGE

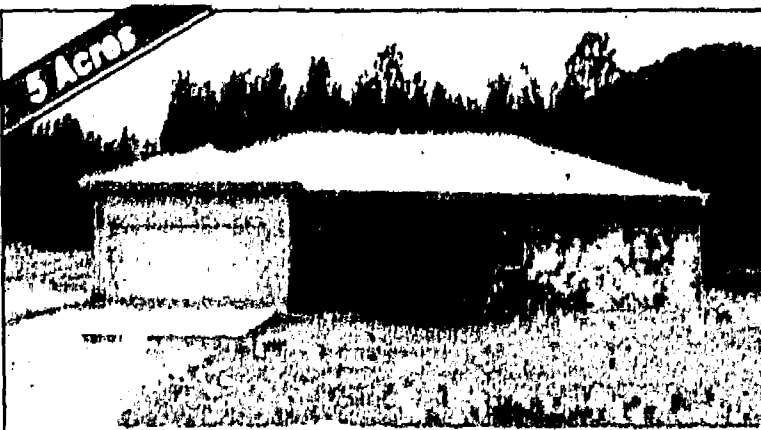
## ELEGANT MOUNTAIN HOME ON 61 ACRES

Live beautifully in this custom oak and Tennessee limestone home with commanding views in every direction. Gourmet kitchen. lofty ceilings. Tasteful in every way. Luxurious New Mexico home for you and the horses too. Qualified buyers only. \$1,975,000. #98232



## HORSE RANCH WITH SPACIOUS HOME ON 6.3 ACRES!

This sprawling Rancho Ruidoso home has beautiful mountain views, and is only 30 minutes to track! Has great facilities to breed, foal, and raise your winners! Apartment for guests or help. Adjacent acreage available too! \$675,000. #92024



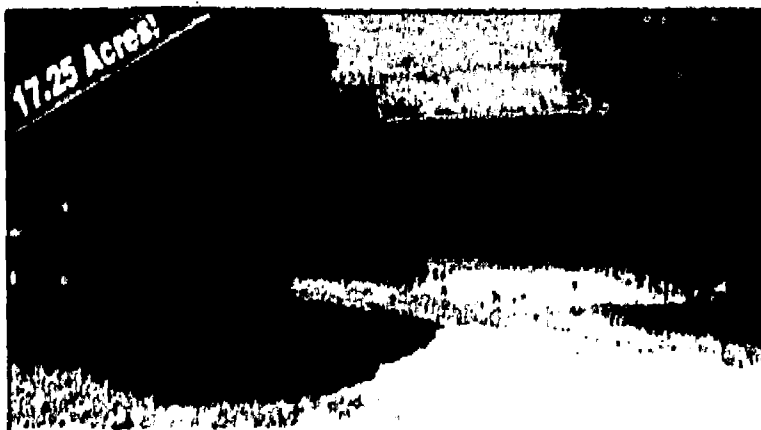
## EXCEPTIONAL STUCCO HOME ON ACREAGE

This attractive one-level home on approx. 5.13 acres in Shangri-la has it all - a serene setting and a great floor plan! 4th bedroom can be a study. Lusciously large master suite is the perfect retreat after a long day. This home is a must see! \$389,000. #97590



## SPECTACULAR CUSTOM HOME IN SONTERRA!

Over 5000 sq ft of luxury and style. 3 fireplaces, big views, and fully furnished too! Upscaled kitchen of course! 3 car garage. On over 5 acres! \$799,950. #99380



## SECLUSION, COUNTRY CHARM AND ACREAGE TOO!

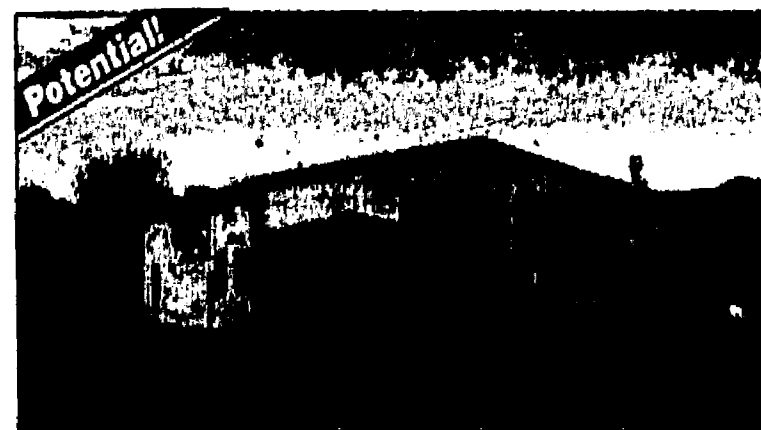
This horse property is ready to go. Approx. 17.25 acres w/ great views. Old West style barn, w/ pipe ruins, tack room, and 3-bay workshop. Fenced! Nice home too. \$495,000. #93526

# COMMERCIAL



## 1.53 ACRES COMMERCIAL IN THE HEART OF TOWN

Now operating as the Blue Spruce RV Park. 24 RV spaces with individual meters. 3 additional rentals. Walk to downtown or Rio Ruidoso. Great potential \$695,000. #99072



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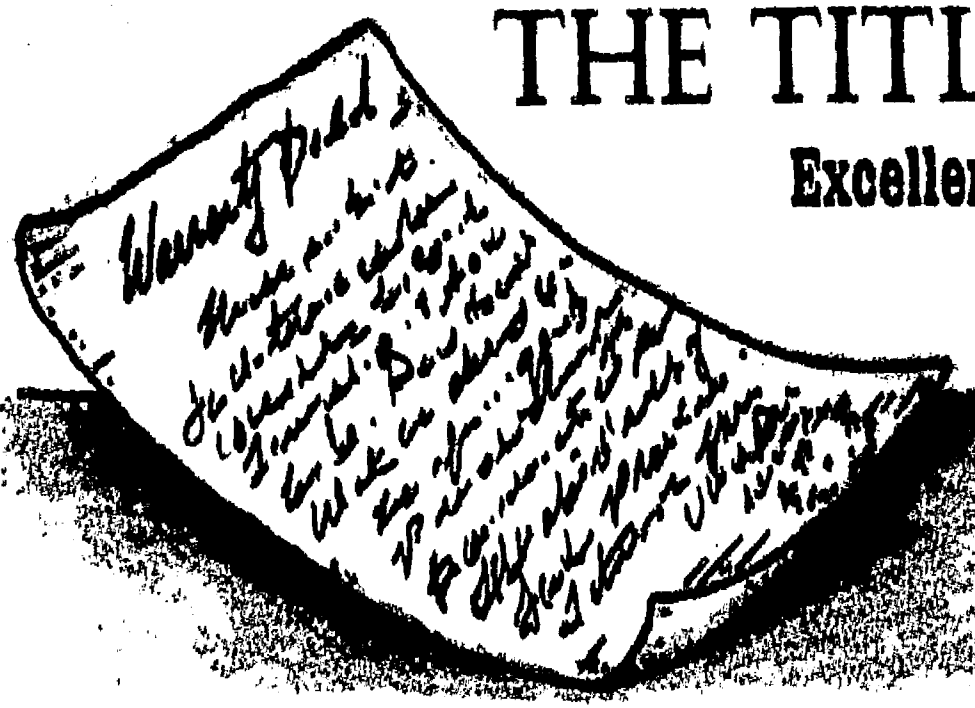
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