

RUIDOSO NEWS

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Martin: Give rural FDs support

Emergency services coordinator says volunteers need money and water

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Lincoln County's fire protection system is functioning, but is in need of greater support and attention from the government and the community, according to an assessment by the county's emergency services coordinator.

Bill Martin said he will return next month with specific recommendations,

but he offered some general observations on the condition of the rural volunteer fire departments. They included the need for more money, for more community support and for enticements to bring in younger volunteers.

In his past 18 months as emergency services coordinator, Martin said more and more of his time has been focused on the rural fire departments.

"We've made some tremendous strides

in fire protection in this county. We've made some adjustments in how things are done and have increased the capability of personnel, as well as the apparatus equipment procedures," he said. "In that time, we also had several major fires and incidents we have responded to and I have to tell you, I stand proud and very pleased with these volunteer fire departments.

"They are out there 24 hours a day

without any remuneration and in some cases without praise or recognition. They put a lot of personal endeavor into this."

The departments receive money – inadequate amounts – from the State Fire Protection Fund through the State Fire Marshal's Office, he said. The money is generated from a surcharge on insurance premiums. But in the last decade, the state has redirected a sizable portion

See **FIRE**, page 5A



DIANNE STALLINGS/STAFF

Jody Keyes, left, is joined by volunteer coordinator Margie Berger, center, and blood drive organizer Mary Young in admiring the award received from the United Blood Services for the hospital auxiliary's success effort.

An award from United Blood Services says Ruidoso's Pink Ladies are

Good to the last drop

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Sitting with the first paid volunteer coordinator for the Lincoln County Medical Center Wednesday, Mary Young and Jody Keyes admired the award the hospital auxiliary received for its successful blood drives.

Young handles the drive events during the winter at the gateway Church

of Christ, while the regular chairman is out of town for the season.

The auxiliary, affectionately called the Pink Ladies by locals because of the pink uniforms worn by members, was selected by United Blood Services for staging the best 2003 community blood drive in the 14 communities served by the Services' Roswell office.

"This is an honor our whole community can be proud of, as it could not

have happened without all of their support," Berger said. "It takes 250 pints of blood a day to ensure enough is available for the 42 hospitals supplied by United Blood Services in New Mexico and the Four Corners area."

The second honor given to the Ruidoso community was a Life Sustaining Members recognition, awarded to blood drives that collect 250

See **AWARD**, page 2A

Commissioners weigh historical significance of street name changes

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Street names in areas of historical significance in Lincoln County should not be changed to avoid duplications in other places, some county commissioners contend.

At a meeting last week, Commissioner Maury St. John questioned why names of some streets in the county at historic Fort Stanton were being changed as part of the rural addressing project for the Enhanced 911 emergency calling program.

"Are they being changed because they're a duplicate of streets in Ruidoso?" she asked.

"They're duplicates of street (names) somewhere in the county," county manager Tom Stewart replied. "It may be Ruidoso."

If that's the case, the process is turned around, St. John said.

"The ones at Fort Stanton were there a long

time before the ones in Ruidoso were there, and how are we coming up with changing them," she said. "I know we don't want any duplications (because of possible confusion responding to an

emergency call). But I don't understand how a street in Fort Stanton would conflict with one in Ruidoso."

Stewart said it happens often with emergency dispatchers.

"There are confusing times and this is an effort to try to get it straight," he said. "If you don't want to rename these, I'll bring in the (E911 renaming) committee to discuss it with you."

St. John said if people in the area don't mind, she doesn't object to the new names proposed.

"We contact the people who live on the street and try to come up with a new name," the manager said.

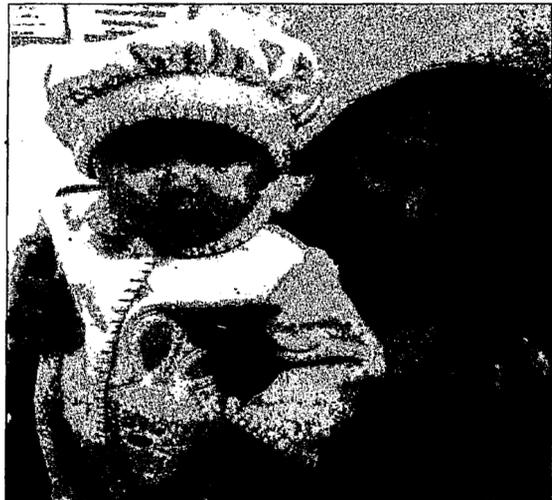
But after checking the paperwork, he pointed out that since the changes are taking place within the historic fort complex, only Nick Skogland, the caretaker of the state-owned

See **STREETS**, page 2A

"If you don't want to rename these, I'll bring in the (E911 renaming) committee to discuss it with you."

Tom Stewart
Lincoln County manager

BEAUTIFUL BABY



DIANNE STALLINGS/STAFF

Estrella Sedillo, 8 months, received plenty of flattery from visitors to the waiting room at the Lincoln County Medical Center. Mother Isela Sedillo beamed as one person after another stopped to talk to her daughter.

Televised village council meetings could return

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Some residents want to keep up with municipal issues and watch Ruidoso officials in action, but can't attend the village council evening meetings.

But they soon may be able to tune into the community channel and see the spectacle on air. Village councilors Tuesday asked their staff to look into the cost of televising the meetings.

Councilor Bob Sterchi said he was approached about returning to television as another way of reaching constituents. About two years have passed since the practice was stopped, he said.

Angel Shaw, who previously worked with Trident Media, said that company filmed the sessions and broadcast them the next day, and

was working with Charter Communications as a community service. However, when Charter went through a financial reconstruction, the arrangement was not renewed.

She said a grant was never involved and suggested the council check on what the charge would be under new rates. Previously, the cost was about \$150 per meeting, Sterchi recalled.

Councilor Ron Hardeman asked village manager Lorri McKnight to collect firm figures and put the discussion item on the council's agenda for its next meeting.

"It was a community service," he said, but added with a smile that, "I can't believe that some people have nothing better to do than watch (the meetings)."

A televised meeting would accommodate those with infirmities that prevent them from attending the sessions, he added.

Judge declares mistrial in Gallegos drug case

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A mistrial was declared about 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the drug possession trial of a former state probation officer.

A spokesman for the 12th Judicial District Court in Carrizozo, the county seat of Lincoln County, said the trial of Leonard Gallegos that started in the morning ended by mutual agreement after a request by the defense.

The issue had nothing to do with the behavior of assistant district attorney William Kinselli, the spokesman said. The action will start the clock

running on another six month period to bring Gallegos to trial.

Gallegos, 49, was charged with cocaine possession after Carrizozo police reported that he was found May 31, 2003, in a residence there with 47-year-old probationer Rito Samora.

Gallegos was employed by the New Mexico Corrections Department to supervise parole and probationers, according to information from Carrizozo Police Chief Angelo Vega at the time of the arrest.

Possession of a controlled substance is a 4th-degree felony.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Mescalero award ceremony moves

The site of an award ceremony today recognizing Mescalero as a Firewise Community was changed to the Mescalero Inn on Carrizo Canyon Road.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. with President Mark R. Chino accepting the award.

Local GOP to meet

The Lincoln County Republicans will have their regular monthly meeting Tuesday, Feb. 3, at K-Bob's Restaurant.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m. followed by the program at 7 p.m. Our guest speaker for this meeting will be Lincoln County Manager Tom Stewart.

The public is welcome to attend.

Valentine's dance

The community is invited to a Valentine's Dinner Dance sponsored by the First Christian Church from 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Friday, February 13, at Cree Meadows Country Club.

Dinner will be served between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and the Graham Brothers will provide music for dancing and listening after dinner until 11:30 p.m. Door prizes will be given away throughout the evening.

Tickets for the dinner and dance are \$20 each, and are available at First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Road. For information, call the church, 258-4250.

STREETS: Commissioners hesitant to change Fort Stanton names

FROM PAGE 1A

property, was contacted.

Commissioner Earl Hobbs said the oldest names should have priority. St. John agreed. Hobbs said he considers streets at Fort Stanton to have historic value.

Connie Stone, who handles the renaming effort, explained that she spoke with Skogland about street name duplication. Skogland looked at historic records or used names of important people stationed at the fort in coming up with alternatives.

Changes he proposed were Sierra Blanca Drive to Gen. Pershing Road, Lincoln Drive to Kit Carson Trail, First Street to William Bonney

Road, Second Street to Pappy Grayden Way and Rio Bonito Drive to Whiskey Trail. The names reflect the history of the fort, which is proposed to possibly become a living museum and education center. Hobbs said the new names are colorful and he doesn't oppose them.

St. John said Skogland has no authority. He is only the property manager. But Stone said he conferred with state officials.

The proposed name changes were pulled from the agenda to allow the Fort Stanton Development Commission to determine if the existing names have historical significance.

Stone pointed out that the

county has four or five Sierra Blanca streets and several First, Second and Third streets.

"I doubt any place in Lincoln County is older than Fort Stanton," Hobbs said.

Stone agreed, but said village officials in Capitan and Ruidoso won't change the names in their municipalities.

"So because the village will not make an effort to change, we have to lose the names in a historic district?" Hobbs asked.

"Technically, yes," Stone responded. Fort Stanton and Capitan have the same telephone prefix. Capitan, Fort Stanton and Ruidoso all have First, Second and Third streets. Village officials refuse to budge. Capitan officials say

their names have been in place since 1903, but the fort dates to 1855, Stone said.

"I agree with you. I'd like to keep Arabela (Street) in Arabela and White Oaks in White Oaks, but they won't agree. I'm just an employee trying to do my job," she said.

Stewart told commissioners he's tried without success too.

"I don't see why the county should make every accommodation," Hobbs said.

But Stewart said when a village has 100 people living on First Street, officials are not going to change for a street in Fort Stanton with two or three people.

Commissioner Leo Martinez said he's not interested in "getting into a big ping-

pong contest with the villages." He proposed leaving the Fort Stanton names in place.

That would set a precedent, making it more difficult to change any names in the future, Stewart countered.

Chairman Rex Wilson asked Stone and Stewart to determine the establishment dates for each of the streets in the different communities.

"They may not be that historical at Fort Stanton," he said.

Stewart said 250 street name changes "are in the hopper," and told commissioners a lot of time is being spent on the issue.

Commissioners approved an undisputed change from Allen Alley to Hines Draw.

AWARD: Hospital auxiliary tickled pink

FROM PAGE 1A

pints or more in one year's time.

"Because of the excellent participation by our community, Ruidoso was also designated as being 100 Percent Achievers. We set a goal of collecting 250 pints of blood for the year and accomplished this," Berger said.

The next blood drive is scheduled for Feb. 26-27 at Gateway Church of Christ on Sudderth Drive.

Young pointed out that Berger is the first "hired" volunteer coordinator, which relieves the president of the auxiliary from daily duty at the renovated gift shop in the hospital.

"Last year, the LCMC Board and (administrator) James Gibson decided the auxiliary needed a staff person to assist them in coordinating all of their many activities," Berger said. "In November 2003, I was hired for the position. My duties include helping to manage the Thrift Shop and the gift

shop. I also will be recruiting new members and helping in the coordination of the other auxiliary activities."

A native of New Mexico, Berger grew up in Albuquerque and was hired eight years ago by Presbyterian Healthcare Services, which manages the hospital in Ruidoso for the Lincoln County Commission. She spent most of her time as the forms and printing buyer in the purchasing department.

She also was senior secretary to the chaplains at Presbyterian Hospital for several months before moving to Ruidoso in the fall of 2002 with

her husband, William Berger, a contractor. Married for 32 years and the parents of two grown children, the couple has owned a construction company since 1986. Berger assists her husband as office manager in that business.

"Since I have been in this position, I have come to love and appreciate the auxiliaries," Berger said. "They are a dedicated group of volunteers who put their hearts and souls into serving LCMC. I look forward to 2004, and the challenges that face us. I am excited to be able to be part of such a great group of people."

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CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS

Notice of Open House and Public Meeting
Regarding your input on
The City of Ruidoso Downs Comprehensive Plan

On Thursday, February 5, 2004 from 6:00 p.m. to 8 p.m., the City of Ruidoso Downs will hold the 2nd of 3 public meetings at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Citizens Center (located in the All-American Park, across US Hwy 70 from City Hall) to obtain community input about the city's comprehensive plan. The doors will be opened at 5:30 PM to view some ideas that have already been brought forward to the City government. All citizens and business owners in the City of Ruidoso Downs are invited and encouraged to attend. A special invitation is extended to all of our new residents in Agua Fria and along US highway 70 East.

A comprehensive plan is a general policy guide for the City concerning the physical development of Ruidoso Downs over the next twenty or thirty years. It analyzes current conditions, determines future needs, and sets goals, objectives and strategies in such areas as land use, roads, infrastructure, housing and economic development.

Using a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant from the State of New Mexico, the City has hired Sites Southwest LLC, a planning consulting firm and ASCG, Inc., an engineering consulting firm, to undertake the technical planning work. The project will take approximately six to eight months to complete.

Participants at the public meeting will have the opportunity to give input and vote about what the comprehensive plan should address, including:

- What are the most important issues facing the community?
- What aspects of the community need to be changed? Preserved? Improved?
- What should the City of Ruidoso Downs look like in five, ten or twenty years?

The input received at this meeting will help shape the recommendations of the plan and consequently, the future of our fine City. Completion and approval of the plan will help the City of Ruidoso Downs obtain additional state and federal grants for improvement projects for years to come.

Refreshments will be served. For more information about the comprehensive plan or the upcoming public meeting, please call John Waters, City Administrator, at 378-4422.

"Positive Change for a Progressive City"

RUIDOSO NEWS

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OUR OPINION

Where is the interest in a municipal election?

Ruidoso voters will have little choice on March 2

Once upon a time, in the not-too-distant millennium past, when a Ruidoso village election came along you could count on many, sometimes dozens, of candidates for the right to fill those open council seats.

Not anymore. With three council seats open (two incumbents, Frank Cummins and Ron Anderson chose not to seek re-election), a grand total of four people signed up by the Jan. 6 filing deadline.

A fifth later signed as a write-in candidate. Thank you, Greg G. Kotila, for giving a bit of an option for the voters in the

March 2 municipal election. Bob Sterchi will be there for re-election. Others are Angel C. Shaw, Donald A. Williams and Michele P. Rebstock. We have no doubt that they are good people who want to serve.

But when our voters have so little choice, it seems there is not much of a reason to go to the polls on election day.

At a time when voter apathy in Ruidoso continues its downward spiral, it's too bad that so few presumed community "leaders" express any interest in public service.

It makes one yearn for the good old days, when local elections meant competition.

Standby—the Democrats are schmoozing Tuesday

Duck, everybody — the presidential political activists are on their way. Maybe Governor Bill had that in mind when he cozened the state's Democratic Party into changing the game from a June primary election to a much earlier Iowa-style caucus.



MOUNTAIN ASIDES
 KEITH GREEN

Next Tuesday's Democratic party caucuses (cauci? cauae?), as best we can determine, are the first ever in New Mexico, most noted for its attitude of "we always do it like it's always been done." Not this year.

So, when the party faithful gather to schmooze among themselves at, among other places around the state, the Ruidoso Convention Center, we'll be seeing something new — or old perhaps, harking back to the New England Town Meetings, where everybody had a say in deciding every issue that came along.

We really don't expect any of the Demo Presidential Seven to show up at our convention center. Lincoln County is among the two or three most Republican, most conservative counties in the state. They will be beating the bushes in places like Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Cruces. Every one of them would like to have our 37 electoral votes, or at least the lion's share of them. After all, New Mexico did (barely) go for Al Gore four years ago.

It will be interesting to see how many of our county's 3,829 registered Democrats gather for the caucus. They'll be, presumably, comparing the candidates among themselves before casting paper ballots to help select delegates and four alternates to the national party convention — to be chaired, you may recall, by Governor Bill.

On the caucus ballot will be Joe Lieberman, John Edwards, Richard Gephardt, John Kerry, Wesley Clark, Howard Dean, Dennis Kucinich, and somebody named Fern Penna.

Gephardt has dropped out of the race, but that's the way it goes in politics; the Missourian didn't

gain anything in the neighboring Iowa caucuses.

From the spin rooms of the New Hampshire primary this week, we get the impression that the current mantra is "pick the candidate most likely to beat President Bush." New Hampshireites and Hawkeyes seem to think that's John Kerry. The others seem to think it's them, not him.

They do seem universal in despising President Bush, whom we suspect isn't exactly despised all over the country. (But we do recall that some letters to the editor in these pages over the past year haven't been very easy on the man who brought Iraq into our living rooms. Some people here about do despise him, like those pesky New Englanders.)

It seems in some way that New Mexico's Democrats are harking back to an earlier era, when "smoke-filled back rooms" were where the political decisions were made — back when Will Rogers could say, with considerable truth and humor, that, "I am a member of no organized political party. I am a Democrat."

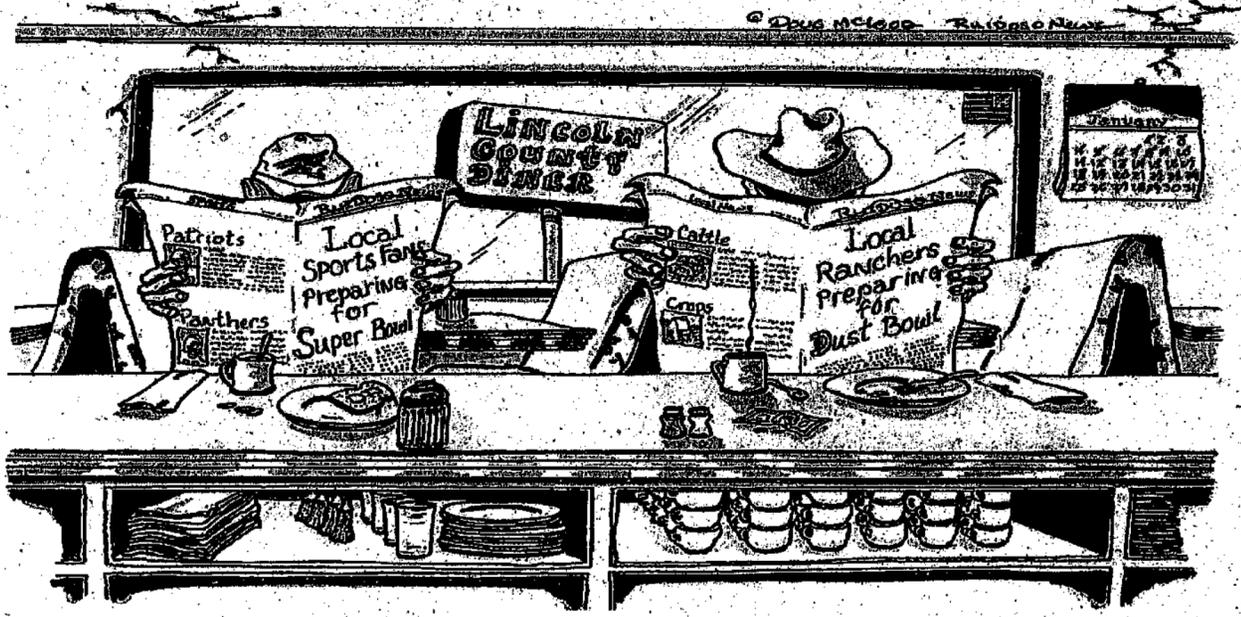
Then maybe our Democrats have the right, relaxed attitude: Their caucus runs only from noon to 7 p.m., unlike the endless June primary, when Republicans and everybody else get to vote.

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; editing 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 88855; faxed to 257-7053; or sent by e-mail to letters@ruidosonews.com.



YOUR OPINION

More police presence in Midtown, please

To the editor:

I am employed at one of the many businesses in the Midtown area and have recently noticed the lack of police officers patrolling the area for speeding vehicles.

Ruidoso has many year-round tourist attractions and I believe it should be a

high priority of the Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs Police Departments to strictly enforce the 25 mph speed limit. It should also be a high priority for those of us who reside in Ruidoso to enforce the speed limit upon ourselves and be more cautious of pedestrians and of other motorists.

Many locals and tourists shop or eat in the mid-town area and their safety, walking or driving, should never come into question. There have been too many accidents in the Midtown area and it would be a tragedy to have any more.

Chelsea Bishop
 Ruidoso

GUEST COMMENTARY

The village is handling Rio Ruidoso water flow correctly

BY DICK WISNER
 PRESIDENT, RUIDOSO RIVER ASSOCIATION

As Ronald Reagan once said, "Facts are stubborn things." The ever-present danger of Al Junge's never-ending musings printed in the *Ruidoso News* is that there might be somebody out there who thinks he knows what he's talking about. Since we apparently must suffer Mr. Junge, the following facts might give some folks a better understanding of how the Grindstone Diversion system works.

First of all, will somebody please tell the Wizard of Oz that we are in a multi-year drought and not just a "dry spell" and that the minuscule amount of water flowing down the river is directly related to that fact. It is also a fact that, absent natural snow, snow-making activities at Ski Apache this winter have been massive, a big draw on water at the wellhead, but still an acceptable trade-off for a tourist town.

For all of those who are depending on the Rio Ruidoso in a drought, which includes those who built Grindstone Dam with no other source of water in mind, please be advised that it can, and has, run dry upon occasion.

Contrary to what Mr. Junge may fantasize, the Rio Ruidoso is not the village's toy and it does not own all of the water that passes by. The amount of water that the village can divert into Grindstone Lake is limited to the amount of "water rights" that the Village has on the river, which is set by the Office of the State Engineer.

The fact that Mr. Junge doesn't understand this is mind-boggling. That current base amount is 478 acre-feet per year (plus various effluent credits) on a five-year basis. Once that amount has been withdrawn, the village has to close its "diversion gate" and can take no more, even if, under Mr. Junge's dreaded scenario, it is destined to end up in Texas. Given this reality, the waterworks must "manage" this diversion over the course of the year.

Rio Ruidoso water has never, as Mr. Junge incorrectly asserts, "normally

"... we are in a multi-year drought...not just a 'dry spell'."

Dick Wisner
 River Association president

flowed unimpeded into Grindstone Lake.

The most asinine (defined as an inexcusable failure to exercise intelligence or sound judgment) of Mr. Junge's statements is that "controlling the diversion of water into the lake when the Ruidoso River is running high and stopping the diversion when the Ruidoso River is low defeats the Grindstone plan for a water depository."

One supposes that the world according to Mr. Junge would choose to dry the river up by taking water when the flow is low (like now), rather than taking advantage of high flows, like spring runoff or during the summer monsoons. This point is actually moot now — there is no water in the river to take.

If Grindstone Lake is now dry, as Mr. Junge attests, I would invite him to walk across it. Although the lake is "alarmingly" low by historical standards (and appears even lower because of its conical

shape), as of today (Jan. 28) it is still holding 810 acre feet of water, which translates into roughly 12 months of water use at the current rate.

Mr. Junge blames the whole "misadventure" on an "...administration that was convinced by a local river group that fishing in the river would be improved by reducing the flow of water into the lake, which would increase the level of the water in the river."

What the Ruidoso River Association actually successfully argued was that the Ruidoso River was the town's golden goose and that it would be masochistic to dry it up if we didn't have to ("It's the economy, stupid!"). The association convinced the administration that this could be accomplished by taking its rights out when the flows were high and leaving the river to its own fate when flows were low.

I am delighted to say that, despite the continuing drought that has somehow eluded Mr. Junge, the village council's "misadventure" has enabled the village to eat its cake and have it too — the river has remained as healthy as possible and the Grindstone Reservoir has served its purpose admirably, particularly last summer when we had no monsoons and the North Fork wells failed.

STREET TALK

QUESTION: Do you support Gov. Richardson's proposal to eliminate the gross receipts tax on groceries? Where would you suggest the revenues come from?



"Absolutely. Tax smokers and people who use alcohol or increase taxes on automobiles."
 Carol Olson
 Ruidoso



"Yes. Raise corporate taxes."
 Cindy Parkinson
 Ruidoso



"I support it. Alcohol."
 Patricia Rodriguez
 Ruidoso Downs

SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

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.

FIRE: Volunteers need support

FROM PAGE 1A

of that money to other state programs, Martin said.

As a result, rural volunteer fire departments don't have enough money to do the job, he told county commissioners.

"I understand the governor and Public Regulation Commission and the State Fire Marshal are trying to rectify (that situation)," he said. "I want everyone to understand fire protection is very costly."

To outfit one volunteer could cost \$4,000. Add to that fire engines that run \$75,000 and fire stations that cost as much as \$150,000. On top of that are insurance costs and other equipment, he said.

But because the departments receive the state money, state officials don't want them soliciting for monetary support from the community, he said.

Locally, the Bonito Volunteer Fire Department is the exception. Members formed a IRS-recognized non-profit group as an auxiliary that can tap into donations from a group of homeowners who tend to be well-off, he said. But most of the departments are left to fend

for themselves and are finding it more difficult to do job effectively, Martin said.

They face the additional problem of finding water to fight fires and the daunting reality of expensive homes and businesses being built in wild land interface areas, he said. It's time for the

commission to take a close look at fire protection in rural areas, he said.

"If we get a big fire started in any one of the interface areas and if we have a wind blowing and the right conditions, we may lose homes and kill people," Martin said. "And I want that to be understood. We are limited by resources, water and communications, and the availability of people to get up to a fire."

He proposed consideration of code enforcement at a local level, and noted that currently, the State Fire Marshal handles commercial inspections throughout the state sporadically and with little communication with his office on what they find, on safety issues or corrective measures, Martin said.

"We have to rely on the (state) and their whim to do inspections," he said. "I have no enforcement capacity and

the fire departments don't."

Volunteers also need to see that they are appreciated by their communities and the commission, he said. "The volunteers feel they are getting no support out of their county commissioners and I think that's terrible," Martin said.

Commission Chairman Rex Wilson contended the board has shown support by hiring Martin and by installing a new communications tower in Honda Valley.

Jerry Mulligan with the Glencoe-Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department told commissioners two of their major problems are lack of water sources for fire fighting and lack of young volunteers. He reminded commissioners that he urged them to require new subdivisions to set aside water for fire fighting, but no mandate was approved.

"Take a look at the age of most volunteers in the departments," Mulligan said. "Many are older than I and I'm not a youngster. We need to bring in young blood and one of the ways is to allow them a way to get health insurance for their families."

Wilson aid at one time, fire fighters were allowed entry into the county's insurance plan and he said the board will look again at that possibility.

Martin ended by saying he would like to paint a picture that all is well in Lincoln County's fire protection, "but I can't do that."

Backing fire department could mean better rates

Volunteer outfits usually get the worst insurance ratings because of a lack of supplies, Bill Martin says

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Residents in Lincoln County have more at stake than effective fire protection in supporting volunteer fire departments. The better the fire protection system, the less they may pay for fire insurance.

A surcharge on their premiums generates the money for the State Fire Protection Fund, the source for monetary support of rural fire departments.

Bill Martin, county emergency services coordinator, said last week that communities are rated from one to 10, with 10 being the worst, resulting in the highest premiums.

"Most of the volunteer departments, because of equipment and water supply questions, get between an 8 or 9," Martin told county commissioners. "One of ours is a seven. Ruidoso (with a paid municipal department) is only a six and so is Capitan."

The lower the rating, the more money a department receives from

the state, but without money, the departments can't lower their ratings, he said, calling the system convoluted.

Commissioner Leo Martinez encouraged volunteer departments to follow the lead of the Bonito Volunteer Fire Department in establishing a tax-exempt non-profit auxiliary that can solicit community support. But Martin said some of the departments cover areas of sparse population and would have no monetary base from which to draw. He said the municipal departments in Capitan, Carrizozo and Corona are a great help covering areas with insufficient population to generate a volunteer fire fighting team.

Martinez said even bake sales could help.

Martin noted that Chaves County celebrates a day of recognition for its fire departments, but when a celebration was staged locally a year ago, not one county official attended.

Agreeing that more attention should be focused on the rural fire departments, Martinez said, "It's a tough business when you're not paying someone who is protecting your life."

RPD: Trucks bought out-of-state a better deal

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A lease-purchase approach to acquiring new patrol cars will put the vehicles specifically designed for heavy duty on the street faster with better equipment and professional installation, a Ruidoso Police Department official contended Tuesday.

Village Councilor Bob Sterchi questioned why the three, 4-wheel drive sports utility vehicles were not purchased locally and bought outright, instead of paying a finance charge to an out-of-state company.

Karen Jones, who handled the deal, said she researched the process for the department and found the average life span of a patrol car is three years. The department needs new vehicles urgently, yet hasn't been able to buy outright because of limited village capital outlay money. "I applaud Karen for her resourcefulness to find the best use of the money we have," village manager Lorri McKnight said.

Councilors voted 4-1 to approve the lease-purchase, with Sterchi voting against the

motion. He asked Jones and McKnight to explore low interest loans from the New Mexico Finance Authority as possibly a more cost effective approach for future purchases.

The actual cost of the Ford Explorer is \$32,710. The lease purchase amount per year comes to \$12,221.81 per vehicle for a total of \$36,665.43 after the full three years. At that time, the village can purchase each Explorer for \$1. The difference for the entire package is about \$12,000.

But Jones said the village will receive much more with the arrangement, including a vehicle designed for severe duty and wired by professionals, instead of piecing together equipment. Each one will have special shocks, armored shatter-resistant glass, a battery protection packet and an anti-theft device.

"In the past, we've bought regular passenger vehicles and added \$8,000 in equipment with different people working on it," Jones said. Equipment would be moved from one vehicle to another and shorts in the wiring frequently occurred.

The current fleet ranges from 1995 models to two, 2001 vehicles, all with more than 125,000

miles on them.

"We're putting more money into fixing patrol cars than they are worth," Jones said. "We can get three on the street with a lease purchase."

David Campbell representing Joe Cooper Ford, said he is a law enforcement officer and specializes in lease purchases of police vehicles. The company sold 1,000 police cars last year, he said.

The local dealer didn't bid the same vehicle, Campbell contended. Jones added that no local dealer builds police cars.

Sterchi said he prefers to deal locally, if possible, and asked about how the vehicles will be serviced by a company in Oklahoma. Campbell said the local dealer could handle the job.

The vehicles will be delivered in 10 to 12 weeks, which is about how long it would take to arrange financing, if the council rejected the lease-purchase, McKnight said.

"We're talking six months if we wait and we'd have to come up with some financing no matter who we bought from," said Councilor Ron Anderson. Approval was contingent on review of the lease-purchase by the village attorney.

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Borrowing can be useful

Borrowing money for anything, especially a small business, can be a frustrating experience if you're not fully prepared. You may confuse yourself with sounds of Yogi Berra, "you have to prove you don't need it before someone will lend it to you."

Small business owners typically embrace risk. However, most lenders do not and these perspectives usually collide during the loan process. There are two traditional ways small business owners pursue loans, start-up operations and expansion opportunities.



Chamber Chatter
BY BRAD TREPTOW

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RUIDOSO VALLEY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Start-up businesses are the riskiest for lenders. A substantial commitment on the business owner's part must be shown to the lender. Also, projected cash flow must be realistic and strong enough to support any debt service. With regard to expansion and growth opportunities, small business owners should only borrow money when it will improve the business's profitability. However, if borrowing money to purchase equipment, don't finance a term longer than the useful life of what's being purchased.

There are two rules of thumb when borrowing money that should never be an option. The first is financing cash flow - it magnifies the problem - and the second is financing advertising schedules and promotions. That stunts cash flow.

If a business can't pay its bills, borrowing money for that purpose won't help. The business must identify and eliminate the root causes as well as implement safeguards to prevent any recurrence of that problem before warranting credibility from the lending community. In terms of financing advertising, the debt service remains after the short term effects.

Borrowing money for a growing business is a great indicator of a healthy economy and these tips are intended to be helpful to eliminate any potential frustrations while experiencing this process.

Next week's column: "Growth opportunities in Lincoln County."

Brad Treptow can be reached via e-mail at brad@ruidoso.net.

Economy and the Markets

Productivity a key factor

BY SCOTT ANDERSON
WELLS FARGO AND COMPANY

Productivity will be a major swing factor in the outlook. Technological innovation largely drives productivity in the long-term, but there is also a cyclical component.

Productivity tends to slow when a recession commences as output is slashed faster than workers are laid-off and rise in a recovery as output accelerates faster than workers are rehired. Historically, productivity has gone through several high and low growth phases that can last decades due to technological innovations.

The U.S. appears to be in one of those high-growth phases now. Why is productivity so important? Another year of strong productivity growth would mean rising corporate profits and stock prices, and the continuation of low inflation and interest rates. The only negative would be the continuation of sluggish job creation.

Still, all good things must come to an end. We expect productivity growth to slow by half this year. The cyclical boost to productivity should fade, leaving only the portion attributable to technical innovation. Non-farm productivity rose nearly four times faster than its average since 1990 in the third quarter and 6.7 times faster than its average in the '70s and '80s. Productivity in the durable-goods sector rose even faster. Clearly such productivity growth is not sustainable.

If productivity were to fall too much, you could see inflation and interest rates on the rise, earnings growth and stock prices tumble, and the Fed suddenly off the fence.

Bonds: Investors happy

Recent reports of declining core price inflation, and a weak employment report in December have breathed new life into the bond market rally. Fears about the weak dollar and rising current account and budget deficits sparking inflation have faded for now, and the lack

of employment growth negates the need for the Fed to launch a preemptive strike.

Foreign capital inflows have recovered a bit from their September low. The Treasury recently revised up previously released inflow figures. Ten-year Treasury rates are currently near their September low and have barely budged in six months.

We believe the bond market rally is on its final legs. Once stronger employment growth materializes, bond yields will rise. This could happen as soon as February, when the BLS releases its 2003 benchmark revisions to the payroll employment survey.

Stocks: Tougher gains

First-quarter earnings season is well underway, and so far the numbers have not disappointed. Still, there is plenty of evidence to suggest that stock gains will not match last year's torrid pace. Increased hiring and possibly rising labor costs is likely.

The easiest gains that occur in the earliest stages of a bull market have already been made. In good years, actual earnings just match analyst expectations. Today, the gap between actual earnings and analyst predictions has closed, suggesting that the period of outsized stock market gains has passed.

Traditional P/E measures using expected future earnings also suggest that current stock valuations are far from cheap and getting more expensive. Only on a relative basis, compared to Treasuries, do stocks continue to look attractive at these levels. The Fed stock valuation model suggests that the stock market remains more than 20 percent undervalued.

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Johnny Vasquez demonstrates the effectiveness of the spray he uses in his "waterless car wash" at 124 Vision Drive. He's found the service, despite the price, has found new acceptance in Ruidoso in light of the area's continuing drought and water problems.



DIANNE STALLINGS/STAFF

Now: A waterless car wash

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The first time a salesman approached him about a waterless car wash, Johnny Vasquez was too busy to listen.

He was working in his auto body shop in Alamogordo when the distributor for No-Wet stopped by. But after Vasquez brushed him off, the man returned 35 minutes later with a previously mud-spotted pickup truck that literally was shining clean.

"He did it in 25 to 30 minutes without a drop of water," Vasquez said.

When he moved to Ruidoso in 1998, he tried to introduce the concept locally, but many people said it was too expensive.

That was before a multi-year drought brought near paranoia about the future water supply in Ruidoso.

Now paying \$40 for a car wash, waxing, polishing and sealing process that doesn't use water and lasts three months sounds pretty good, Vasquez said. Most of the customers who use the service once, return

again, he said.

Sixteen ounces of No-Wet will save up to 1,500 gallons of water, Vasquez said.

"After the initial process, subsequent washes will use less than 10 gallons of water," he said. "This liquid sprays on and wipes off in one step with no hose, no buckets, no water at all. It has no silicones, no abrasives and contains ultraviolet protectants."

Vasquez, who's been in the auto body business for 24 years, said the process is perfect for a water-conscious village. An independent distributor of No-Wet, he said the spray works on any non-porous surface.

Unlike regular washing jobs, interruptions won't harm the process of cleaning. No-Wet contains 17 major ingredients, plus Carnauba wax and polishing agents, he said.

"Being a natural plant by-product that will not react with any paint, Carnauba provides a very hard film over a car's surface to protect against airborne contaminants such as acid rain residue, catalytic

converter omission, bug tar, road grime, salt and bird droppings," he said. In Ruidoso, it also would provide protection from selenite granules blown by the wind from White Sands National Monument, a frequent occurrence around March and November.

According to literature on No-Wet, when the formula is sprayed over a soiled area, it encapsulates and emulsifies the dirt particles, lifting them off the surface, eliminating scratching. They then can be removed with a swipe of a clean terry cloth.

Exterior cleaning runs from \$39.95 for two-door vehicles to \$149.95 for large motor homes. Interior cleaning is priced separately. Rinse and dry services offered after the initial procedure run from \$8.95 for cars to \$49.95 for a 15-passenger van, with interior cleaning separate.

To set up an appointment or arrange a brief demonstration, call Vasquez at J. Vasquez Customs, (505) 257-8883. His shop is located at 124 Vision Drive in Ruidoso.

Existing-home sales in 2003 set new record

WASHINGTON - Existing single-family home sales jumped from November to December while overall sales in 2003 easily surpassed the previous record in 2002, according to the National Association of Realtors. There were a total of 6,100,000 existing-home sales in 2003, up 9.6 percent from the previous record of 5,566,000 in 2002. NAR began tracking the sales series in 1968.

Existing-home sales increased 6.9 percent in December to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.47

million units from a level of 6.05 million units in November. Last month's sales activity was 8.9 percent higher than the 5.94-million unit level in December 2002 and was second only to a record 6.68 million-unit pace in September 2003.

David Lereah, NAR's chief economist, said the housing market continues to offer surprises. "A decline in November seemed to indicate a more sustainable pace, but the rebound in December shows there's still a lot of life in this market," he said.

Travelodge wins awards

Ruidoso's Travelodge, near the "Y" on U.S. 70, was found to be the "most improved" unit in the national chain in 2003, and its manager, Tejas Ganjawala, was named "operator of the year" for the Southwest.

Both Travelodge awards came during a company convention in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., last November.

Ganjawala, a native of India who came to Ruidoso from Canada as manager and partner at the local

motel in 2001, said upon arrival he surveyed the property and immediately launched a \$200,000-plus renovation.

The other target for improvement, he said, was in customer service. The result has been a marked improvement in repeat business.

"Word of mouth," he said, "is the very best kind of advertising."

What to do for a follow-up to the national award?

"Continue to improve our service," he said.

Focus on Agriculture

37 days' work will feed a family for a year

BY CYNDIE SIREKIS
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU

Who among us would disagree with the statement that "food is important"? It's safe to say that food ranks right up there with air and water in terms of its significance in sustaining us.

Unfortunately, although most Americans eat every day, they don't give a second thought to the affordability of their food supply, a key point that is addressed by Food Check-Out Day.

On average, Americans spend only about 10 percent of their disposable income on food. Several years ago, the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee developed a way to illustrate how long Americans work each year to earn their daily bread. Using USDA statistics on

food costs, the AFB Women's Committee determined that it takes only about 37 days for the average American to earn enough to buy their groceries for the entire year.

To commemorate this food bounty, the AFB Women's Committee, many state Farm Bureau Women's Committee members and other Farm Bureau volunteers will donate food to local Ronald McDonald Houses across the country on Feb. 5.

The houses offer families of seriously ill children a place to stay and something to eat for little or no cost. These families are often far from home, but are able to stay in a Ronald McDonald House while their child recovers in the hospital. A warm bed and a full pantry contribute to that recovery.

It's noteworthy that most

Americans do not have to be concerned about their food supply. Food becomes important only when it is scarce. "As Americans, it's all too easy for us to take our quality of life for granted," says AFBF President Bob Stallman.

"It's appropriate to take the time to recognize the contributions that America's food producers give to our society." America's farmers and ranchers provide the safest, most abundant and most affordable food supply in the world. And they receive a small price for their effort. "Today, the American farmers who produce our food receive only about 21 cents of every dollar that is spent to buy it," says Stallman.

"American consumers enjoy the lowest food bills in the world, thanks largely to our bountiful, safe and afford-

able food supply," says AFBF Women's Committee Chair, man Terry Gilbert of Kentucky. "That is truly something we should all be grateful for."

Due also to our increased standards of living, America's food is becoming even more affordable. In 1970, Food Check-Out Day would have been a full two weeks later - Feb. 20.

In contrast to the 37 days it now takes Americans to earn a year's supply of food, it took them about 107 days last year to pay their federal, state and local taxes.

Thanks to the people who produce it, food remains affordable for all Americans.

Cyndie Sirekis is a director of news services for the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Missing animals raise suspicions

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

As many as 30 dogs were reported missing in Lincoln County in the last 3 1/2 months and some people fear they were swiped by a dog fighting ring.

Susi Wolfe with the Carrizozo Police Department said many of the animals disappeared out of yards in county areas around Ruidoso. The owners' calls were referred to Carrizozo because the county commission no longer contracts with the shelter operated by the Humane Society of Lincoln County. A kennel for stray dogs is managed with inmate labor at the county jail and is supervised by a Carrizozo Police Department employee.

"The first report came in on Oct. 3, and I've had nearly 30 since then," Wolfe said. "Some are blind or old or lame. Others are purebred Huskies and Golden Retrievers. It's scary what someone may be doing with those dogs. They were taken out of yards or never came back after being let out in the morning. They all were family pets."

She thought the public needed to know about the risk of theft, Wolfe said. She

encouraged pet owners not to leave their animals in yards while they are gone and to watch pets when they go outside.

Several years ago, Ruidoso was targeted by a group stealing animals to be sold for laboratory testing. A few incidents also were reported of visitors stealing animals to take back with them to Mexico, where the pets were nearly impossible to track and retrieve.

But the scariest image is that the crippled and deaf or blind animals may be thrown into a dog fighting ring to be mauled or killed, Wolfe said.

Sheriff Tom Sullivan said Wolfe talked to him about the calls she received and she provided an updated list Wednesday of dogs that have disappeared. But without some leads about a suspicious car or someone unusual in a neighborhood, there's little to investigate, he said.

"I can't say the animals were taken. I don't know, but they have disappeared," Sullivan said. "It seems strange, but there is no pattern. It doesn't happen at a certain time of day, or certain neighborhood. It seems to me with all these dogs disappearing, someone would report something suspicious."

He reminded pet owners that the county and all of its municipalities have leash laws and anyone who lets a pet out to wander is violating the law as well as taking a chance that the pet will not return.

Sullivan said he's not aware of any dog fighting pits in the county, although he has heard of fighting rings elsewhere in the southeastern part of the state.

"I'm concerned about it, but there is no place to really start investigating without someone seeing something," the sheriff said. "They're disappearing into thin air."

A spokesman for the humane society shelter on Gavilan Canyon Road said dogs reported missing outside of the service areas for the society are referred to Carrizozo. Locally, only a few animals have been reported as stolen. One was later found by the owner and another turned up at the shelter, she said.

However, one woman recently related her experience after her dogs were stolen. She tracked them to Roswell, where she was able to recover two. But a third animal was badly injured from dog fighting. Several thefts of dogs from cars at local supermarkets also were reported last year.

Firefighting plane may get stationed here

Talks are under way to house the aircraft, normally here during the summer.

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The head of Aerotech may create a permanent base at Sierra Blanca Regional Airport for a single engine plane used specifically to fight forest fires in hard to reach areas.

The plane arrived about two weeks ago at the municipal airport owned by the village of Ruidoso. Attempts to reach Ted Stallings, who heads Aerotech were unsuccessful last week and he was scheduled to be out of town until late this week, according to a company spokesman. But

Barbara Luna with the State Forestry Division said the plane previously was based in Clovis and talks apparently are underway to transfer the aircraft here.

"I don't believe a decision has been made," a spokesman for the airport said Thursday. "They've talked about a lot of different arrangements" that could include splitting contract time between several entities, prioritizing flying responses or other options.

Luna said the situation is good for Lincoln County.

"I suspect if we had a fire tomorrow, it would be there to assist," she said.

Village Councilor Bob Starchi queried village manager Lorri McKnight about the

situation during a council meeting Tuesday.

McKnight said the plane is just parked at the airport for now in an arrangement where Aerotech is not paying for the space, but the support staff is available with the plane.

"When the fire season starts, we will enter into an agreement to keep it out there," she said.

Councilor Ron Anderson asked McKnight if she will try to bring in Mescalero as a partner in paying for the plane because the Mescalero Apache Tribe faces a similar forest fire threat.

McKnight said meetings are scheduled with several entities to find more partners, including the Bureau of Indian

Affairs.

"It's expensive to keep a plane there," she said.

Last year, the village paid \$56,725 to station the plane at the airport during the April through August fire season. The state forestry also paid something toward the use of the plane.

State mulling land-use policy, Downs hears

BY MARTY RACINE
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Municipal land use issues will increasingly need to conform to state regulations, Ruidoso Downs attorney Dan Bryant has warned.

Bryant told the city council last week that a task force is being formed pursuant to the statewide water plan to look at a set of statewide land use regulations.

"That will require communities," he said, "to adjust their planning provisions, their subdivision ordinances and their zoning ordinances to be sure that they conform to the state water plan and the (state's) legitimate water concerns."

Bryant has been invited to participate on the task force because he assisted on a task force a few years ago that drafted model subdivision

ordinances for counties.

"I have agreed to do that," he told the council. Bryant's address was for informational purposes only. He raised the subject, he said, to alert city officials to the change.

"Historically land use issues have been strictly local community decisions. And for the first time in my experience, the state of New Mexico is planning on proposing and adopting legislation that will apply on a statewide basis. I think it's going to be some of the most important work that communities need to look at over the next decade or so, because the costs of those regulations can be pretty expensive."

"We need to stay aware of it and stay right on top of those issues. It's going to be critical, I think."

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POLICE BRIEFS

Ruidoso

Larceny charged

Lee Edward Nanz, 29, of Ruidoso, was charged on Jan. 28 with two counts of larceny, one third-degree felony and one fourth-degree felony by Ruidoso police, after a break-in at a residence in the 100 block of Buckner Drive Jan. 1. Nanz had been arrested by Ruidoso Downs police on Jan. 24 on a warrant for probation violation out of the Ruidoso Police Department, and during a search of his room at Holiday House, 310 Sudderth Drive, he was charged with possession of controlled substances and possession of paraphernalia.

Nanz is charged with stealing a 1.5 karat blue diamond ring valued at \$4,500, \$250 in bills and \$150 in coins. The ring is at Golden West Pawnshop under a police hold, the report

states.

Scanner stolen

On Jan. 26, a resident reported a Radio Shack 200-channel scanner valued \$100 that had been stolen from a parked car Nov. 6.

Ruidoso Downs

Scooter scoots

A scooter valued at \$200 was reported missing from a residence on Valleyview Lane between 7:30 p.m. Jan. 16 and 8 p.m. Jan. 27.

Juveniles arrested

Police arrested two 13-year-old Ruidoso females Jan. 16 at Wal-Mart, charging them with shoplifting \$44 and \$45, respectively, of ladies panties, miscellaneous makeup and jewelry.

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TALENTED WARRIORS



PHOTO BY CHARLI KRAUSE
All State choir members from Ruidoso High School are, from left, back row: Peter Zagone, James Mowell, Jenny Gheer, and Christa Fredrickson; middle: Cody, Dillon, and Shana Hoffman; front: Matthew Johnston.



PHOTO BY CHARLI KRAUSE
All State band members from Ruidoso High School are, from left, Jonathon Korczyk, Ariel Kennedy, Sarah Hayton, Britiany Jewell, Guy Griffin, Tricia Bergeron and Amanda Lee.

FUNERALS DEATHS

Gene Hite

A memorial service for Gene Hite, 62, will be held Saturday, Feb. 1, 11 a.m., in Datil at the Community Center.
 A former Lincoln County resident, Mr. Hite died Monday, Jan. 26, 2004, at home on his ranch between Magdalena and Bernardo.
 Born in 1942, the youngest of four boys, Gene and his brother Lake went to Carrizozo schools and lived in Carrizozo during that time.

Gene spent his entire life ranching in New Mexico. He loved God's country and respected his animals. His "fellowship" was helping the neighbors with their chores and needs.
 He is survived by his wife, Lawana; daughters Dana, Tara, and Brenda; a son, Brandon; seven grandchildren; and brothers Pascal, Alfred and Lake.
 The family is requesting no flowers and suggests instead a donation to the New Mexico Boys Ranch.

Gala to honor women in the military

The 19th Annual Tribute to Women in the Military, Past and Future, is set for March 5 at the Hilton Hotel in Albuquerque.
 The event is cosponsored by the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women, Tribute XIX from Kirtland Air Force Base and the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services.
 The conference will cover issues for females active in the military, veterans and spouses in the military. Topics will include identity theft, sexual assault, post-traumatic stress

disorder, self-defense, health care and domestic violence.
 The Proudly She Serves Gala celebrates the women who serve in the military. Three awards will be presented to recognize military and civilian women who were instrumental in advancing the opportunities for women, who served as a role model for others and who contributed to improvements in the community, state and country.
 Registration for both events is required. The conference fee is \$18 and tickets for the gala are \$20 for an individual and

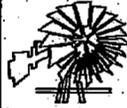
\$38 for couples. Registration forms are on the commission Web site at www.state.nm.us/womenscommission or call Tribute XIX at (505) 846-7525.
 The commission is a state agency dedicated to increasing the awareness of the rights, responsibilities and interests of women and girls in New Mexico, and to preserve women's history and contributions to the state.
 For more information on the commission's award programs, call Kathi Brown at (505) 841-8922 or toll free at 1-800-432-9168.

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CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK
 by Dr. Jack V. Waters, Chiropractic Physician
SPORTS BENCH-SITTING CAN BE HARMFUL
 In most sports, second-string players sit on the bench during much of the game. Such long periods of sitting and hunching over can cause low back pain by shifting the spinal ligaments and discs and reducing vertebrae stability.
 Nine male volleyball players were measured for lower back stiffness before a warmup, after a 30-minute warm-up period, and again after 30 minutes of bench rest following the warm-up. Stiffness was measured for forward, side, and backward bends and twisting. On average, bench rest following warm-ups led to increased lower back stiffness as well as side and backward bending.
 Thus the common practice of sitting second-string athletes on the bench after warm-up exercises for prolonged periods and then later seating them into the game may increase the likelihood of spinal stiffness and back injury. Players should always continue moving to keep their muscles warm prior to play. Your Doctor of Chiropractic can provide you with more tips on preventing back problems.
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DISTRICT COURT

Civil cases

The following civil cases were filed in Lincoln County District Court in Carrizozo. They are identified by the date, the plaintiff and defendant, the type of action and the docket number.

Sept. 3 - Discover Bank by its servicing agent Discover Financial Services Inc., vs. Duane Carroll; complaint for breach of agreement and for debt and money due; CV03-182.

Sept. 4 - Household Credit Services Inc. vs. Raymond D. Grimes; complaint for breach of agreement, and for debt and money due; CV03-183.

Sept. 8 - Bob Gist and Treva Gist, husband and wife, vs. Susan C. Carter; complaint for breach of contract, accounting and for fraud; CV03-185.

Sept. 9 - James Wimberly vs. State of New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Motor Vehicle Division; notice of appeal and petition for writ of certiorari; CV03-186.

Sept. 9 - Vincent P. DiMarco vs. Presbyterian Healthcare Services Inc., doing business as Lincoln County Medical Center; complaint for intentional interference with contractual relations, prima facie tort, intentional infliction of emotional distress and punitive damages; CV03-187.

Sept. 10 - First Federal Bank vs. Reyes A. and Mary Gloria Sanchez; complaint for debt and money due and to foreclose mortgage; CV03-188.

Sept. 10 - Ford Motor Credit Company vs. Cruz T. and Karen E. Aragon; complaint on a contract and for debt and money due; CV03-189.

Sept. 12 - Daniel Zamora vs., Lincoln County and Corrections Systems Inc., a California corporation; complaint for damages due to negligence; CV03-190.

Sept. 12 - Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club vs. Lakeside Corporation, a New Mexico corporation, and all unknown claimants of interest in the premises adverse to plaintiffs; quiet title; CV03-191.

Sept. 12 - Petition for change of name from Jennifer Jean McKenzie to Jennifer Jean Lemmon; CV03-192.

Sept. 12 - Petition for change of name from Patricia Elaine McKenzie to Patricia Elaine Lemmon; CV03-193.

Sept. 15 - Fed Ex Express, a Delaware corporation, vs. Folk of the Wood Inc., a New Mexico corporation; complaint for breach of contract; CV03-194.

Sept. 16 - State National Bank, a New Mexico banking corporation, successor in interest to Ruidoso State Bank, vs. Anita Johnson, a single woman, and John Manley, and his unknown spouse, if any; complaint for foreclosure of mortgage and debt and money due; CV03-195.

Sept. 16 - Nancy A. McGinley vs. Esther M. Johnson and Melvin W. Johnson; complaint

for fraudulent, intentional misrepresentation, or in the alternative, for negligent misrepresentation; CV03-196.

Sept. 18 - Paul D. Schiele and William Schiele vs. Brandon Behn; complaint for damages as a result of personal injury; CV03-199.

Sept. 22 - Systems Technology Inc. doing business as Enchanted Log Homes and Arlin Pennington vs. Daryl L. Carson; complaint for breach of contract, quantum meruit and conversion; CV03-200.

Sept. 23 - The Bank of New York, acting solely in its capacity as trustee for EQCC Trust 2001-F, vs. Daniel Raye Carpenter, Lori Lee Carpenter and Potter Randall County Appraisal District; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-204.

Sept. 25 - Louis E. Aragon vs. Longhorn Development Corp., a New Mexico corporation not in good standing, First International Bank, successor in interest to United States National Bank, their heirs, devisees, successor and assigns; John Does and heirs; and any and all unknown claimants of interest in the premises adverse to the plaintiff; quiet title; CV03-206.

Sept. 25 - George Randall Goodall vs. state of New Mexico ex rel., Child Support Enforcement Division; petition for writ of mandamus and complaint for damages; CV03-207.

Sept. 25 - Henri and Donna Testa vs. Tom Lewicki, individually and Tom Lewicki Construction Inc.; complaint for breach of contract and prima facie tort; CV03-208.

Sept. 26 - Homecoming Financial Network Inc. vs. Stephanie Hay, Steve Lee and Pierce A. Humble Sr.; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-209.

Sept. 26 - Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club Inc., a New Mexico corporation, vs. Robert and Marihelen Boyd, Anne E. Harper, Clarence U. Finley, Carol Leroy Marable, Sun Hong, also known as Sun Cha Ingersoll, Thomas W. and Debra J. Whatley, Gerald E. and Ruth D. Laughery, Ronald J. and Janet G. Roberson, Michael William Smith, George and Margaret Chrzanowski, Charles D. Rundles and Ardeeen P. Bass; complaint for nuisance and to enforce restrictive covenants requiring clean up after fire damage; CV03-210.

Sept. 26 - General Electric Capital Business Asset Funding Corporation, formerly known as Metlife Capital Corporation, a Delaware corporation, vs. P & M Limited Partnership, a New Mexico limited partnership, and Coca-Cola Company, a Delaware corporation; complaint for debt and money due and foreclosure; CV03-211.

Sept. 26 - Bank of America vs. Constantino Rangel; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-212.

Sept. 26 - Chase Mortgage Company vs. Orin Nutting, also known as Orin Grayson Nutting and Leticia Nutting; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-213.

Sept. 29 - Baca's Trees Inc., a New Mexico corporation, vs. Meadow Valley Contractors Inc., a foreign corporation; complaint for amounts due for breach of contract; CV03-214.

Sept. 29 - Whispering Bluffs Interval Owners' Association Inc. vs. Davie L. and Yolanda Y. Franklin and unknown heirs, First Western Federal Savings Bank, Resort Exchange Inc. BankWest Boulder Industrial Bank, Financial Management Task Force Inc., liquidate of BankWest Boulder Industrial Bank, all unknown claimants of interest in the premises adverse to the plaintiff; quiet title and foreclosure of lien; CV03-216.

Oct. 1 - David M. Stevens, attorney at law, vs. Donald R. Hughes; complaint for breach of contract and damages; CV03-217.

Oct. 3 - Mortgage Electronics Registration Systems Inc. vs. Jack Casenave; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-219.

Oct. 6 - Jeffrey Dax Riggins and Jamie Shurette vs. Charles Marrajo; damages from personal injury; CV03-220.

Oct. 6 - Asset Acceptance Corporation vs. Giorgio Sobrero and Gabriella Bollani; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-221.

Oct. 6 - Eastern New Mexico Medical Center vs. Nico Najjar and Linda Najjar, jointly and severally; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-222.

Oct. 6 - Eastern New Mexico Medical Center vs. Debbie Shafer; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-223.

Oct. 6 - Larry Strain vs. Ramada Franchise Systems Inc.; complaint for declaratory judgment; CV03-224.

Oct. 7 - Petition for name change from Cheyenne Belle Underwood to Cheyenne Belle Goodloe Evans; CV04-225.

Oct. 9 - Jayshree Inc., a New Mexico corporation, vs. Village of Ruidoso; appeal to district court of Ruidoso Village Council decision Sept. 23; CV03-227.

Oct. 9 - Jayshree Inc., a New Mexico corporation, vs. Village of Ruidoso; complaint for inverse condemnation; CV03-228.

Oct. 9 - Sherman Acquisition Limited Partnership, an assignee and purchaser, vs. Marybeth Anuskewicz; complaint on an open-end credit card account; CV03-229.

Oct. 9 - Nunn Electric Supply vs. Silver Dollar Electric Inc. and Ernest Lawrence, guarantor; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-230.

Oct. 9 - Angela F. Wood vs. State of New Mexico, Motor Vehicle Division; notice of appeal; CV03-231.

Oct. 14 - George H. Harkey and Bobby L. Harkey vs. Larry Rawson, doing business as Home

Improvement Services; petition to cancel lien; CV03-232.

Oct. 14 - Rick and Mary Jo Riddle vs. Robert W. Garcia, doing business as Enercon Construction Co., Enercon Products Company and Energy Conserving Structures Inc.; complaint for breach of contracts, breach of implied warranty or workmanship and for unfair trade practices; CV03-233.

Oct. 14 - Ameriquest Mortgage Company vs. Renae Hicks, also known as Renae Hicks Vega, John Doe and Jane Doe tenants; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-234.

Oct. 15 - Ronald and Patricia Massey vs. Wiley Munsey; breach of contract; CV03-235.

Oct. 15 - Karen Callahan vs. Peter Wolfe; complaint for breach of contract or in the alternative, for unjust enrichment; CV03-236.

Oct. 17 - Wachovia Bank N.A., formerly known as First Union National Bank, as trustee

for Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2002-1, Asset Backed Certificates Series 2002-1 in trust for the benefit of the certificate holders, vs. Richard D. and Joan L. Thompson, United State of American IRS, New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, John and Jane Doe tenants; complaint for foreclosure, to determine title to property and other relief; CV03-238.

Oct. 20 - Bank of America vs. Marcia Guynes; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-240.

Dec. 4 - Century 21 vs. Stefano Sobrero; appeal; CV03-241.

Oct. 10 - Cendant Mortgage vs. Craig R. Chalman; foreclosure; CV03-410.

Oct. 30 - Flagstar Bank FSB, vs. Harion Scrimshire and, if married, Jane Doe Scrimshire, his spouse, Jane and John Doe tenants; foreclosure; CV03-243.

Oct. 30 - Verna Ellen Wells vs. Kathryn Christian, heirs, spouse, and all unknown

claimants of interest in the premises adverse to plaintiff; quiet title; CV03-244.

Oct. 31 - Asset Acceptance Corporation vs. Giorgio Sobrero; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-246.

Oct. 31 - Hugh Bearup vs. Pamela Ann Mills, DCR Resorts Inc., a New Mexico corporation, and Dave Woods; complaint for personal injury as a result of dog attack; CV03-247.

Nov. 6 - Change of name petition of Priscilla Diane McDaniel to Diane Kathleen Daunt; CV03-249.

Nov. 6 - Foxworth Galbraith Lumber Co. Inc. vs. Advanced Construction Contractors, Jim Hagerman, David Terry and Richard Henderson; complaint for debt and money due on open account, guaranty, breach of contract and to foreclose lien; CV03-250.

Nov. 7 - William and Verletta L. Witt vs. City of Alamogordo, a

CONTINUED on page 11A

Special Celebration

The staff of your Wells Fargo Bank cordially invites you to a celebration on Friday, January 30th, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at our main branch, 401 Sudderth Dr., as we wish Don Lane well on his last day of work for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, and good luck on his retirement journey.

"Many thanks to the customers, support people in real estate and Wells Fargo employees who have made my job very enjoyable. Jo Ann and I plan to do some traveling but Ruidoso will continue to be our home and we look forward to more time to visit our friends and enjoy the beautiful place where we live."

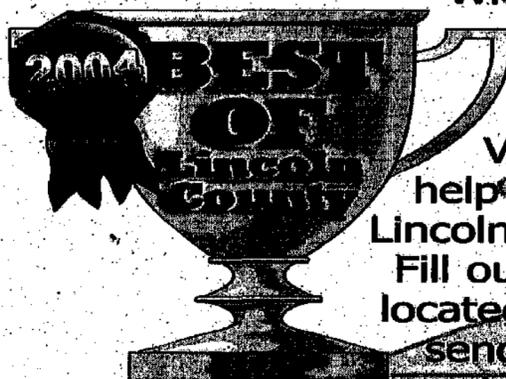
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DISTRICT COURT

FROM PAGE 10A

New Mexico municipality, W.G. Bettis and C.A. Bettis, married men dealing in their sole and separate estates, and Karl Anthony Wright, Judy Wright and Catherine Wright, if living or if deceased, their heirs, spouses, and all unknown claimants of interest in the premises adverse to the plaintiffs; quiet title; CV03-252.

Nov. 7 - Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, formerly known as Bankers Trust Company as trustee vs. Bruce B. Parsons, Patricia J. Parsons and Joe and Jane Doe tenants; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-263.

Nov. 10 - Ford Motor Credit Company vs. Laren McIntire; complaint on contract and for debt and money due; CV03-254.

Nov. 17 - Residential Funding Corporation vs. Angela T. Cordova, Cameron M. Williams and John and Jane Doe, tenants; foreclosure; CV03-256.

Nov. 17 - American Investment Bank vs. Shawn Lee Christensen; complaint for deficiency following foreclosure; CV03-257.

Dec. 10 - Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for Bank of New York, as trustee, vs. Mark W. Hughes, Debra S. Hughes, Lincoln County Commission, New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, State National Bank of Ruidoso and John and Jane Doe tenants; amended complaint for foreclosure; CV03-258.

Nov. 25 - Pamela Mills vs. David E. Wood, Paul Woolls, DCR Resorts Inc., a New Mexico corporation, Four Walls LLC, a California limited liability company; complaint for breach of contract and fraud; CV03-260.

Nov. 25 - D. Craig Farikas vs. Mavis Chenault and Mortgage Pro, Inc., a New Mexico corporation; verified complaint for breach of contract, constructive trust, quantum meruit, violation of SECTION 58-21-1 et seq (Mortgage Loan Broker Act), unfair trade practice; CV03-261.

Nov. 25 - Bank of America vs. Stephen Duffy; complaint on open account; CV03-262.

Dec. 1 - First Horizon Home Loan Corporation vs. David Lee Zemke, Gail Robin Zemke, Guaranty Home Equity Corporation, doing business as GB Home Equity, John Doe and Jane Doe tenants; foreclosure; CV03-263.

Dec. 4 - Lonnie Carzoli and Kamela Carzoli vs. Michael Cornelius, a minor child, and Eric Cornelius, his father and next friend; complaint for damages as a result of personal injury and property damage; CV03-266.

Dec. 4 - Teri Sodd vs. Pinecraft Building Inc., a New Mexico corporation, and Tom Peier, individually; complaint for damages for negligent construction, breach of contract, breach of implied warranty and negligent misrepresentation; CV03-215.

Dec. 4 - Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Inc. vs. Roy T. Havens, Charlotte H. Havens,

Wells Fargo Bank New Mexico N.A., state of New Mexico Department of Taxation and Revenue, unknown occupants; foreclosure of security agreement and mortgage; CV03-267.

Dec. 5 - Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for Flagstar Bank, FSB, vs. the estate of Gregory Bram Nunnally, deceased, Trina Nunnally, as mother and guardian of the minor child, Skyler Nunnally, Dina R. Nunnally, Jeffrey R. Nunnally, individually and as co-personal representatives of the estate of Gregory Bram Nunnally, deceased, Sandie Nunnally, Amber D. Shaffer, individually and as co-personal representative of the estate, his unknown heirs, devisees or delegates of the deceased, John and Jane Doe tenants; complaint for foreclosure; CV03-268.

Dec. 5 - Barney Rue and Nancy Berg vs. village of Ruidoso, a New Mexico municipality; complaint for inverse condemnation; CV03-269.

Dec. 8 - Citibank South Dakota N.A. vs. Brenda S. Kee; notice of automatic stay since defendant filed on Dec. 4 a voluntary petition in Bankruptcy under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code in the bankruptcy court of the New Mexico district; CV03-197.

Dec. 8 - Dero Enterprises Inc., International Women's Apparel Inc., and Trousers Etc. Inc. vs. Evelyn's Inc., doing business as Evelyn's Fashions; complaint for debt on open account; CV03-270.

Dec. 8 - Priscilla S. Roberson vs. Tranquino S. and Ruby Montoya, unknown heirs of Frank Lisnet, Roy R. Norman, W.O. Norman, John W. Por and W.J. Thompson, and all unknown claimants of interest in their premises adverse to the plaintiff; CV03-271.

Dec. 9 - La Vida vs. Eleanor Ruth Ciddio Steen Adams; notice of filing foreign judgment; CV03-272.

Dec. 9 - James R. Contway vs. Doug Lant, individually and doing business as Sierra Delta Construction (SDC Builders) and William Roy Right; complaint for breach of contract, conversion of funds, unjust enrichment, and for unlawfully cloud-

ing title to real property; CV03-273.

Dec. 24 - Casa Del Cocinero LLC vs. High Sierra Estates Mutual Domestic Water Users Association; property damage, loss of business income, for an injunction; CV03-274.

Dec. 12 - Carolyn M. Davidson vs. Maurice C. Davidson, M.D., deceased, John Hall, deceased, and wife, J. Bruemmer, joined by his wife, Ed Sanders, joined by his wife, Bruemmer, Hall and Sanders, a partnership, Bruemmer & Sanders, a partnership, The Jacqueline T. Ely Irrevocable Trust, a Texas irrevocable living trust, and Kenneth M. Keegan, a single man, and all other claimants of interest in the premises adverse to the plaintiffs; quiet title and prescriptive easement; CV-03-275.

Dec. 12 - Paula G. Land vs. Gary Mitchell, doing business as Gary C. Mitchell, P.C., Attorney at Law; complaint for legal malpractice; CV03-276.

Dec. 12 - Gustavo and Dale Dominguez vs. First National Bank in Alamogordo, First National Bank in Ruidoso and Richardson Motor Company; breach of fiduciary duty; CV03-277.

Dec. 15 - Alex Trujillo vs. Village of Capitan, Steve Sederall, Leroy Montes, George Tiffin, John Whittaker and Bobbi Shearer in their official capacities as the Board of Trustees; complaint for inverse condemnation and breach of contract; CV03-279.

Dec. 15 - First Resolution Investment Corp. vs. Leslie J. Evans; complaint for debt and money due; CV03-280.

Dec. 15 - Virgil Mortenson vs. C.R. Dobbs; complaint to domesticate and enforce foreign judgment; CV03-281.

Dec. 16 - Mark Alan Bersaño vs. R.C. Pitts, Ernest D. Prehm and Otto Ernest Prehm, any heirs and all unknown claimants of interest in the premises adverse to the plaintiff; quiet title; CV03-282.

Jan. 5 - Associates First Capital Corporation, a Delaware corporation, successor by reason of merger with Associates Financial Services Company Inc., successor by reason of merger with Associates Financial

Services Company of New Mexico Inc. vs. Crystal I. Tivis, state of New Mexico Department of Labor, Family Restaurants Inc.; notice of sale on foreclosure to begin at 11:05 a.m., Jan. 29 on the front steps of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo; CV03-198.

Jan. 7 - Michael DeCanditis and Jeanne DeCanditis, his wife, vs. Don Russell Construction Inc., a New Mexico corporation; complaint; CV03-283.

Dec. 29 - The Recovar Group LLC vs. Folk of the Wood Inc.; complaint for money owed; CV03-284.

Dec. 29 - Whispering Bluff Interval Owners' Association Inc. vs. Dorothy N. McBride, and if married, John Doe McBride; foreclosure of lien; CV03-285.

Dec. 29 - Petition to change name of Bennie L. Dutchover to Bennie L. Long; CV03-286.

Dec. 29 - Whispering Bluff Interval Owners Association Inc., a non-profit corporation, vs. Thomas A. Thompson, and B. Diane Thompson, and First Western Federal Savings Bank; complain for foreclosure of lien and to quiet title; CV03-288.

Dec. 29 - Eva Gallardo vs.

Carlos Monge; complaint for negligence; CV03-289.

Dec. 29 - Lela Baca vs. Thomas P. Viviani; complaint for negligence; CV03-290.

Dec. 30 - Steve L. Stroud vs. Betty Joan Stroud; complaint to divide and distribute community property and to pay community debt; CV03-291.

Dec. 30 - Sedgwick CMS Inc. vs. Patricia L. Thomson; complaint for damages resulting from breach of rental agreement of automobile; CV03-292.

Jan. 6 - Bank of America vs. Fred D. Van Winkle, individually, and Fred Van Winkle as personal representative of the estate of Jimmie Louise Van Winkle, Federal National Mortgage Association, the unknown spouse of Fred D. Van Winkle, if any; complaint for foreclosure; CV04-01.

Jan. 6 - The Bank of New York acting solely in its capacity as trustee for EQCC Trust 2001-2, vs. Olympus C. Robnett, Lyn H. Robnett, Household Realty Corporation and Blazer Financial Services; foreclosure complaint; CV04-02.

Jan. 7 - Martha G. Fresquez, personal representative of the estate of Essequiel Fresquez, also known as Dick E. Fresquez, deceased, vs. Della J. Neria, individually and as personal representative of the estate of Andrew C. Fresquez, deceased; complaint

for partition of real property and for breach of contract; CV04-03.

Jan. 7 - Jerrod T. Stierwalt vs. State of New Mexico, Motor Vehicle Division; notice of appeal; CV04-04.

Jan. 9 - Lana Ann Henley vs. Ruidoso Downs Racing Inc., doing business as Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino; damages for personal injury and negligence; CV04-05.

Jan. 12 - Carol Lester vs. Wells Fargo Bank of Lea County, a New Mexico banking corporation; complaint to recover on certificate of deposit; CV04-067.

Jan. 12 - State National Bank, a Texas banking corporation, successor in interest to Ruidoso State Bank, vs. Anita Johnson and John Manley; complaint for money judgement and foreclosure of mortgage; CV04-08.

Jan. 12 - Chase Manhattan Bank USA vs. Regina Breecher and Robert Breecher; petition for replevin; CV04-09.

Jan. 12 - Western Bank of Alamogordo vs. Angelo L. Vega; complaint for money owed; CV04-10.

Jan. 15 - Arcenia Lueras and Carolyn A. Lueras vs. Holly M. Smith; complaint for damages for personal injury and property; CV04-12.

Jan. 16 - Sharon Young Inc. vs. Evelyn's Inc.; complaint for debt and money due; CV04-13.

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US 70 Activities Underway In February 2004

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

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

Blasting will continue to be more frequent on weekdays (Mon-Fri), in Section B and F at the following locations: MP 272-275 located West of Glencoe/East of Fox Cave; MP 267-270, located East of the Rio Ruidoso Bridge and MP 295-297 located at Tin Top area. Please call the hotline or visit the website for details. Lane closures will begin at 12 pm lasting up to one hour.

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February Calendar of Events
 US 70 Hondo Valley
 Citizens Task Force Meeting
 Date: February 19, 2004 (Thursday)
 Place: Hondo Valley Schools
 Time: 7:00 pm

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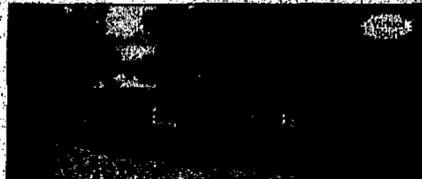
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SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30, 2004

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PAGE 1B

First shall be last in boys 4-3A hoops Ruidoso, Lovington open district play with a pair of unlikely losses

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

If any lessons were learned from Ruidoso's District 4-3A opener Tuesday against Portales, the biggest one should be this: Never, never count anyone out in a district game.

The Rams entered Tuesday's game with just five wins, the Warriors were 11-6 and riding an eight-game win streak.

Portales proved to be the better team Tuesday, however, turning a 21-13 halftime deficit into a 40-38 win.

"You have to take your hat off to Portales," said Ruidoso coach Billy Page. "They did a good job. They were disciplined and true to form."

By all accounts, this was a game the Warriors (11-6, 0-1 district) should have won. They had a chance to win it in the end after Portales' Russell Knudson missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw situation with seven seconds left.

Ruidoso got the rebound and took a time out to set up the final shot. After the ball was knocked out of bounds by Portales (6-11, 1-0), the Warriors found themselves at half court with the ball and just four seconds left to try for the game-tying — or game-winning — shot.

They got the ball into Garrett Born's hands — he had shot two 3-pointers in the quarter to keep Ruidoso in the thick of things — but the Rams were all over him defensively.

"We had to get into a man and not let Born or (Austin) Beier get the ball and square up for the shot," said Portales coach Mark Gallegos. "We were going to let somebody else beat us. That was the strategy behind us going man-to-man at that point."

Born — who led the Warriors with 13 points — finally had to give the ball up to Nick Page,



Ruidoso's Jaime Urban, right, guards Portales' Chris Carter Tuesday during the Warriors' 40-38 District 4-3A loss. Ruidoso tries to get back on the winning track tonight at New Mexico Military Institute.

who was forced to take a three-point shot from about three feet beyond the arc. The shot fell short, and Portales had the rebound and was fouled.

"He had the shot, he just decided not to take it," said coach Page. "He could have taken it, or drive, and he decided not to do either one and we had to take a further shot than we wanted."

"But you can't blame the kid, these are 16 and 17-year-old boys year, young men," he added. "That's part of life right there, 'which way do I go?' We try to teach life as well as basketball, and that was a little bit of it."

Each team had its chances at the end to tie or win the game, as Ruidoso's Jaime Urban also missed a free throw on a one-

and-one situation with 26 seconds left. Ruidoso was able to get the ball back on the rebound, but an ensuing shot by Beier wasn't true, and Knudson got the rebound and was fouled.

Knudson's later missed free throw, and resulting Warrior possession, reminded Gallegos of a similar situation the Rams found themselves in against Goddard. In that game, the Rockets got the ball back and sunk Portales with a last-second shot.

"We lost the game exactly like that," Gallegos said. "We had a chance to put it away at the free throw and couldn't do it. We learned a little bit about that and

See WARRIORS, page 3B

Ruidoso girls drop district opener

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Ruidoso Lady Warriors may have had a tall order in facing Portales in their first District 4-3A basketball game of the year, but they didn't back down.

In fact, Ruidoso played the Lady Rams pretty evenly.

Unfortunately for the Lady Warriors, that performance only occurred in the second half. The first half — particularly the first quarter — was brutal.

Ruidoso spotted their hosts a 12-3 lead after one period, and were unable to recover in a 49-35 loss Tuesday in Portales.

"We came out really timid in the first half, we didn't play like we could," said Ruidoso coach Greg Marez. "We hadn't played in 10 days, and we were really mechanical."

Tuesday's game was the first for the Lady Warriors (9-8, 0-1 district) since a 58-43 win over Socorro on Jan. 16.

That long layoff made Ruidoso a little rusty, Marez said.

"With 10 days off, our offense was pretty dry," Marez said. "We hadn't faced a competitor in a long time."

"We turned the ball over a lot in the first half, and they capitalized on it," he added. "They're a great transition team."

Ruidoso tried to press at

See GIRLS, page 3B

Warrior basketball teams ready to make their marks in district race

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Ruidoso Warriors didn't get their District 4-3A season off to the best start with Tuesday's 40-38 loss to Portales, but the district schedule has just begun.

What's more, the team that everybody thought would run away with the district title — Lovington — actually lost a 55-54 squeaker to New Mexico Military Institute on the same night.

The two leading teams in the district now have a combined record of 11-22, while Lovington and Ruidoso bring up the rear with a combined record of 27-10.

The Warriors get a chance to rectify the situation tonight when they head to Roswell for a 7:30 p.m. tip-off against NMMI.

"We've dug ourselves a hole," said Ruidoso coach Billy Page. "Now NMMI has momentum going into the

DISTRICT 4-3A

Team	W	L	District
Portales	5-11	1-0	0-0
Nathan Brown	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Seth Clabaugh	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Daniel Ayenda	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Russell Knudson	3-1-3	0-0-0	1-0-2
Austin Pullen	1-0-2	0-0-0	0-0-0
Chris Kitchner	1-0-1	3-0	0-0-0
Bo Gabriel	1-0-2	2-0-0	0-0-0
Trevor Ferguson	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Chris Adkins	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Jonathan Garcia	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Chris Carter	5-2-2	12-0-0	0-0-0
Jack Hale	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Daniel Born	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Totals	17-5	14-0	
Ruidoso	11-6	0-1	
Nick Page	1-0-2	0-0-0	0-0-0
Garrett Born	5-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Maclean Enriquez	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Jaime Urban	1-0-2	0-0-0	0-0-0
Jason Kaminski	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Jesse Steno	1-3-4	5-0-0	0-0-0
Austin Beier	3-0-2	0-0-0	0-0-0
2-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Aaron Romero	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Julian Sarris	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Kyle Snowden	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
Cody Small	2-0-1	4-0-0	0-0-0
Dustin Price	3-0-2	0-0-0	0-0-0
Totals	18-3-9	33-0-0	
Portales	0-0	17-10	— 40
Ruidoso	0-0	11-6	— 35
3-point goals	—	For 1 (Kitchner), Ruk	
3 (Born 3), Beier 3	—	For 26	
(Gabriel 7), Ruk 28 (Page 5), Steno	—	For 4 (Clabaugh 3), Ruk 3 (Romero,	
Beier 3), Turnovers	—	For 12; Ruk	
15. Total fouls	—	For 10, Ruk 13.	

our game with them, and we have to contend with that."

The Institute (5-11, 1-0 district) will present a problem similar to that of Portales: They are deliberate and take care of the ball.

"It's going to be a hard-fought game," Page said.

"They're up on top, and we want to get up on top. It's gonna be a battle."

As in years past, the Colts have added a pair of perimeter players to their lineup following the Christmas break, and one of them was a major factor in their victory over Lovington.

It was Waige Turueke — one of those new players — who shot a three-pointer as the last second ticked off the clock to give NMMI the shocking win.

But before Turueke could get that shot, the Colts had to take care of Lovington's Jawaan Payne, who led the Wildcats in scoring but spent most of his time on the bench in the second half with foul trouble.

Ruidoso, meanwhile, will be without three players — Chance Hooper, Patrick Valliant and Wes Adaza — due to a discipline situation. Hooper and Valliant will

See DISTRICT, page 3B

Ruidoso grapplers keyed up about Roberston tournament

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Ruidoso Warrior wrestling team will try to get back on a winning track today when they head to Las Vegas for the Robertson invitational, but it won't be easy.

Waiting for the Warriors will be a 19-team, round robin tournament featuring such powerhouses as Carlsbad, West Las Vegas and — of course — Robertson.

"For this tournament, we want to wrestle top our potential and wrestle better than we did at ours," said Ruidoso coach Brian Brown. "If they wrestle 100 percent, I don't care if we

win or lose, I can't ask for any more than that.

"There's a lot of good teams that will be there, but there's no reason we can't be in the top three at this tournament."

Ruidoso is coming off a less-than-stellar team performance at its own Sierra Blanca tournament this past Saturday, although there were few individual efforts to crow about.

The best finish was turned in by Case Forrest, who took first at 189 pounds, but will be out of commission this weekend with a bad shoulder.

"He separated it in practice pretty bad, so I don't know if he

See WRESTLING, page 3B



Sterling Reil, top, pushes down Robertson's Travis Price during the consolation championship of the 160-pound division of the Sierra Blanca tournament. The Warriors head to Las Vegas this weekend for the Robertson Tournament.

side line

Ski Report

Ski Apache
The past weekend's storm dropped 11 inches on new snow on the mountain, and three more advanced slopes opened this week. Ski Apache is open daily, and lifts operate from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Expect to find great conditions on all open trails.
New snow past week: 19 inches
Road at report time: Clear
Snowy depth: 21-30 inches on open trails
Surface conditions: Machine groomed and packed powder
Skiing conditions: Excellent on all open trails
Trails open: Capitan, Deep Freeze, Top Notch, Elk Ridge, Bull Run, Elk Liltine, Buckhorn, Cliff, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Lower Sierra Blanca Trail, Lower Moonshine, Easy Street, Chair Five Beginning Slope, Kiddle Korral, Barnbi, Bear, Sunnyside
Lifts open: Chairs 2-5, 7-8 and two surface lifts. The Gondola is open Saturdays and Sundays for sightseers.
Snowmaking past 24 hours: Yes
Forecast: Mostly sunny with light winds
Learn to ski one day and snowboard the next with the new snow sports package. Inquire at the Ski School desk.

Prep Results

Tuesday, Jan. 27
Boys Basketball
Capitan 67, Tularosa 55
Gateway Christian 85, Mesalero 52
Portales 40, Ruidoso 38
Girls Basketball
Mesalero 68, Gateway Christian 16
Capitan 50, Tularosa 45
Portales 49, Ruidoso 35

Preps on Tap

Friday, Jan. 30
Boys Basketball
Mountainair at Carrizozo, 7 p.m.
Mesalero at Hondo, 7:30 p.m.
Ruidoso at NMMI, 7:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball
Mountainair at Carrizozo, 5 p.m.
Mesalero at Hondo, 6 p.m.
Lovington at Ruidoso, 7:30 p.m.
Wrestling
Ruidoso at Las Vegas Robertson, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 31
Boys Basketball
Corona at Lake Arthur, 4 p.m.
Capitan at Hatch, 6 p.m.
Girls Basketball
Corona at Lake Arthur, 2 p.m.
Capitan at Hatch, 4 p.m.
Wrestling
Ruidoso at Las Vegas Robertson, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 3
Boys Basketball
Mesalero at Mountainair, 7 p.m.
Carrizozo at Temple Baptist, 7 p.m.
Hondo at Lake Arthur, 7:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball
Carrizozo at Temple Baptist, 5:30 p.m.
Hondo at Lake Arthur, 6 p.m.

On Deck

Free throw championship
Boys and girls ages 10-14 are invited to take part in the 2004 Knights of Columbus free throw championship Jan. 31 at 2 p.m. in the Ruidoso Middle School new gym. Winners from this local competition will move on to district and state competitions.
When signing up, please bring birth certificates for all competitors. For more information, contact Dave Tetreault at 257-9556.

Mescalero Open
The Mescalero Hospital is hosting an open men's and women's basketball tournament Feb. 27-29 at the Mescalero Community Center gymnasium.
Entry fee is \$175 per team, with a \$75 non-refundable fee due by Feb. 16. There will be 12-man and 8-women team brackets with ten players to a team.
For more information, call Gleda Bob at 464-3829 or Marcene Kari at 464-3814.

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TIP OF THE WEEK

One of our professionals, Scott Roser, dared us to submit his tip of the week: Scott says, "List with me, I'll set you free!" We follow with, "List with us, we will take care of all the fuss."

Just wanted to see if you are reading! Next week - 1031 Tax Exchanges - JZ

Our "Tip of the Week" is first hand experience written by one of our local CENTURY 21 Aspen Real Estate agents — We live here! — We know the market!

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Capitan teams sweep Tularosa, stay unbeaten in District 5-2A

Lady Tigers rely on the 'Cat' for big district win at home

BY MARTY RACINE
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The Capitan Lady Tigers have found a second scorer.

Catherine Wood, whose floor play has been exemplary all year, hit for 12 points Tuesday to help guide Capitan past Tularosa, 50-46, at Cummins Gym.

Jessica Becker as usual led the Lady Tigers (14 points), but Wood's contribution Tuesday helped form a one-two punch the Lady Tigers have often been missing this season.

By winning, Capitan remained undefeated at 2-0 in District 5-2A. The Lady Tigers are 10-5 overall. Tularosa dropped its district opener and fell to 8-7 on the season.

Lady Wildcat Christian Syling took game honors with 15 points.

The game was close throughout. It was tied at 9 after one, while Capitan led by a bucket at halftime and at the end of the third.

The Lady Tigers hurt themselves from the free-throw line, where they converted 14 of 31. But Tularosa's free-throw performance was



PHOTO BY GLYNIS RACINE

more telling. The Lady Wildcats missed 14 from the line in a five-point loss.

The Lady Tigers visit Hatch Valley Saturday, while the Lady Wildcats host Cloudfcroft.

Catherine Wood, left, dribbles up court against Tularosa defenders Ellen Chavez (43) and Alesha Allen Tuesday during the Lady Tigers' 50-46 victory Tuesday at Capitan.

Capitan boys outlast Wildcats

BY MARTY RACINE
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

They clawed for most of the game, but in the fourth quarter the Capitan Tigers put the bite on Tularosa for their second consecutive district victory.

Capitan broke open a 32-tie at the end of three periods with a 25-point barrage to put away the Wildcats on the road, 67-56.

The win on Tuesday raised Capitan's record to 2-0 in District 5-2A and to 11-5 overall. Tularosa dropped to 0-1 in the district and 10-9 overall.

The Tigers have found balanced scoring just in time for district. Three players hit for double-figures and six scored at least seven points.

For the second game in a week, Elliot Taylor led the scoring, this time with 16 points. Usual high scorer Sheldon Moor chipped in 13, while Weston Richardson added 12.

Taylor's night included three 3-pointers, as the Tigers half-court offense has settled into a nice outside-shooting

Team	W	L	District	Overall
Capitan	11	5	2-0	11-5
Tularosa	10	9	0-1	10-9

rhythm.

But the Tigers, who normally have a height advantage over their opponents, worked inside, as well. In a foul-plagued game on both sides, the Tigers went to the free-throw line 42 times, hitting a respectable 30. Nearly half their points came from the stripe.

Tularosa shot 31 freebies. Aaron Chavez paced Tullie with 19, while Daniel Munoz scored 10. No other Wildcat was in double-figures.

Capitan travels to Hatch Valley Saturday. Tularosa plays at Cloudfcroft.

Mescalero splits with Gateway Christian

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Mescalero girls basketball team is chomping at the bit to get to the state tournament this year, and they have a few obstacles to get past to achieve that goal.

The first obstacle is District 8-1A competition, a challenge they more than handled with a 68-16 thrashing of Gateway Christian on Tuesday.

The Lady Chiefs (14-5, 2-0) did it mostly with young girls. Coach Roland Bradford rotated a number of junior varsity kids in and out of the game throughout.

Augusta Lang was the high scorer for Mescalero, putting in 18 points, while Leslie Bigmouth had 16 and Yvette Martinez added

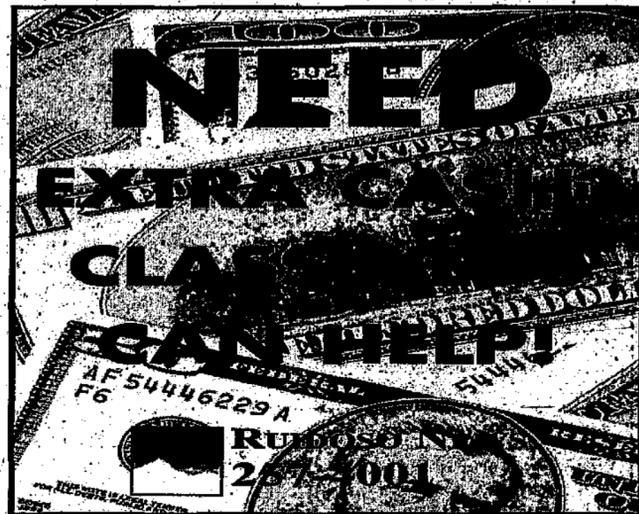
10. For the boys, it was a different story. Gateway Christian entered the game with 16-2 record overall, and ended the night with another win, beating the Chiefs 85-52.

The Warriors had a 28-9 lead after the first quarter and were up 48-20 at halftime.

Both teams head to Hondo tonight for another district match. "I'm sure they're much improved," Bradford said of the Lady Eagles. "It's that time of year that you can't take anybody for granted. You have to keep in mind that this is district and you can't back off."

The girls game is scheduled to start at 6 p.m., with the boys' match to immediately follow.

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When the apostle Paul was in prison for keeping the faith, he wrote to those he loved who were far away... "that the Lord may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love may have power to comprehend what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of the Lord, which surpasses knowledge..." (Ephesians 3:17-19)
When we worship with our children while they are small and teach them about their God, He will be with them when we cannot... if they are "rooted and grounded in Love."

Sunday Joshua 1:1-9 Monday Jurgis 13:1-25 Tuesday Isaiah 43:1-13 Wednesday Isaiah 48:1-11 Thursday Isaiah 48:1-22 Friday Isaiah 49:1-13 Saturday Isaiah 49:1-26

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RUIDOSO CHURCHES

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Apache Indian Assembly of God
Mesalero, 677-4747, Donald Peney, pastor, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday services: 7 p.m.
First Assembly of God
El Paso Road, Ruidoso, Rev. Stacy & Alicia Brankal, Pastor. Sunday morning worship: 10:45 a.m.; Children's Church in the New Castle-During Sunday Services: 10:30am - Sunday evening praise: 6 p.m.; Undercover Youth Night-Mondays 9:00 - 8:30pm Music - Fellowship - FunAgos (2-20 Everyone is welcomed) - Ladies Bible Study-Tuesday Nights@ 7:00pm every 1st and 3rd week. Wed. family night: 7 p.m.
BAPTIST
Abo Baptist Church Located just past milepost 14 on Hwy. 48, between Angus & Capitan, Roland Burnett, Pastor. Sunday School: 9 a.m.; Worship Service: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Bible Study: Wed. at 7 p.m. 336-1979.
First Baptist Church
270 Country Club Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345. (505) 257-2081. Tim Gilliland, Pastor. Contemporary Services. Sunday 7:00 a.m. & Sunday 11:00 a.m.; Traditional Service Sunday 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School all ages 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday Activities for all ages, 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Ruidoso Downs. Randy Widener, Pastor. Sunday: Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Worship hour 8 & 11 a.m.; Eve. worship: 6:00 p.m.; Wed. Prayer meeting 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Thimble. Bill Jones, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
Mesalero Baptist Mission
Mesalero. Sunday school 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 7:15 p.m.; Training union 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday services 6:30 p.m.

Ruidoso Baptist Church 126 Church Drive, Palmer Gateway, Wayne Joyce, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.
Mountain Baptist Church- Location: Park behind the Smokey Bear Monument on the northeast side. Times of Service: Sunday school - 10:00am. Sunday Morning - 11:00am. Sunday evening - 6:00pm, Wednesday evening: 6:30pm.
The J-J Country Church Interdenominational-Hwy. 70 W 505-257-6899 Rev. Charles W. Clay, Sunday 10 am Worship, Tuesday 6:30 pm Worship. Sunday e-mail: helpandhope@zianet.com
BAHA'I FAITH
Baha'i Faith Meeting in members' homes. 257-2987 or 258-5595
CATHOLIC
St. Eleanor Catholic Church Ruidoso. 257-2330. Reverend Al Galvan. Sacrament of Penance: Sat. 5:00 p.m. or by appointment; Sat. Mass: 6 p.m. (Bilingual); Sun. Mass: 9:30 a.m. (English); 11:00 a.m. (English); Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 5 to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass, St. Jude Thaddeus, San. Patricia: 8 a.m.
St. Theresa Catholic Church Corona. Sunday Mass: 6 p.m.
St. Joseph's Apache Mission Mesalero. Father Larry Gosselin, OFM. Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Guadalupe Beat. Father Larry Gosselin. Saturday Mass: 6 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.
CHRISTIAN
Christian Community Church 127 Rio Corner W/Zagle. Mid-town, 9-11 Sunday Services/Praise & Worship. For more information call:378-7076
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Hall 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 Capitan, 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 Mesalero 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 121 Mesalero Trail, Ruidoso. Fr. Ron Thomson, 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 (JDOK, CIA) 1:30-3:30; Wednesdays: Daughters of King at noon; Eucharist & healing: 5:30 p.m.; Choir practice: 7:00 p.m.
St. Anne's Episcopal Chapel in Glenoco. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m.
FULL GOSPEL
Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship Int'l. K-Bob's Hwy. 70 in Ruidoso, Dinner at six Mondays. Special Priced Menu. Women Welcome! Ron Rice, 354-0255, e-mail rgrice1@ruidoso-online.com
Mission Fountain of Living Water San Patricia. Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Evening services: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.
Jehovah's Witnesses
Ruidoso - Kingdom Hall--1102 Gavilan Canyon Rd., 336-4147, 257-3871. Sunday: Public Talk--10:00 a.m.; Watchtower Study--10:50 a.m. Monday: Book Study--7:30 p.m. Thursday: Theoc. Ministry School--7:30 p.m.; Service Meeting--8:20 p.m.

CONGREGATION HISPANA DE LOS TESTIGOS DE JEHOVA
1102 Gavilan Canyon Rd., 336-4147, 378-7095.
Don: Reunion Pabellon--1:00 p.m.; Estudio de la Antias--1:50 p.m. Mart: Escuela del Ministerio Teocratico--7:00 p.m.; Reunion de Servicio--7:50 p.m. Juev: Estudio de Libro--7:00 p.m.
LUTHERAN
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
1120 Hill Road, 258-4191, 257-5206. Kevin L. Krohn, 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., 10:35 a.m.
PENTECOSTAL
Apostolic Pentecostal Assembly, Eternal Life Ministries, Minister: Harry A. Peyton, call for your personal Home Bible study. 430-9640, (Web page) http://www.DoeintstOCrist.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 Carle Anderson. Sunday school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. Potluck Fellowship after worship the third Sunday of every month.
Mountain Ministry Parish 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 Schring. Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.
REFORMED CHURCH
Mesalero Reformed Mesalero. 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. Kids Club (grades 1-5) 3:30.
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Ruidoso Seventh Day Adventist 207 Parkway, Agra Pita, Ruidoso Downs. 378-4161. Pastor Earl Robertson • 505-439-0760. Assoc. Pastor Willoua 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 Universalists Church, meets at Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce 720 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso: 2nd & 4th Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Potluck Branch: 10:30 a.m. Service: 11:00 a.m. Children's program: Call 336-2170. www.mtsuu.com/mtsuu
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, 682-2299; Monday: Women's Bible study 6:30 p.m. at Schlotzsky's Deli. Tuesday: Ruidoso men's Bible study noon at Pizza Hut, Mechem Drive. Wednesday: (Sept. through May) Capitan Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Groups 6:30 p.m. at Christ Community Fellowship. E-mail: Rick@americanmissionary.org
Calvary Chapel 121 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.
Casa de Oracion Comunidad Cristiana, Ruidoso 304 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345 (505) 257-6075. Pastor: Carlos & Gaby Carreon, Marites - Oracion 6:00 pm; Jueves - Servicio General 6:00 pm; Sabado - 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 Mary Lane, Pastors. Sunday: 8:00 Sun. a.m., 10:45 am. 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 Wyatt, 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 pm. Wed. Bible Study Adult 7 p.m. Thurs. and Youth, Thurs. 7 p.m.
Cowboy Church Noon Sundays at the Glenoco Rural Events Center. Everyone welcome. Preacher Susan 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: xamir@i25.com
Miracle Life Ministry Center Ron Rice & Catherine Callahan, Ministers Available 24 hours for healing prayer. 354-0255 e-mail miraclelife@ruidoso-online.com
Peace Chapel Interdenominational (ULC) Alto North, 336-7075. Joannice Price, Pastor. Morning chapel: 6:50 a.m. (Sept. - June); Sun. Service: 11 a.m.
Racetrack Chapel
Horseshoe'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-DENOMINATIONAL
Spiritual Awareness Study Group Minister: George N. Brown, Ph.D. U.L.C. Sundays 1 p.m. - 2:57-1569

CAPITAN & LINCOLN CHURCHES

BAPTIST
Trinity Southern Baptist Church (south on Highway 48) Mt. Capitan Rd. 354-2044. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.; AWANA-Sunday 4-6 p.m.
Mountain Baptist Church
Independent-Fundamental. 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) Capitan, NM (505) 378-6134
CATHOLIC
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Capitan. 354-0102. Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.; Monday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Capitan - 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
Capitan Four Square Church Highway 48, Capitan, Harold W. Perry, Pastor. Sunday

School: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.
METHODIST
Capitan United Methodist Church
Pastor Johanna Anderson and the congregation of Capitan 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 Capitan. 505-648-2846.
NAZARENE
Angus Church of the Nazarene Angus, 12 miles north of Ruidoso on Hwy. 48, 336-8032. Rick Hutchinson 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 Capitan, Highway 380 West, 354-2458. Ed Vison, 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 a.m. 505*633*4951

CARRIZOZO CHURCHES

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
The Word of Life Church
Rev. Chuck Fulton, pastor/648-2399, 711 'B' 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 Berg, Pastor. Saturday Mass: 6:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Perry Zumwalt, minister. Ave. C at 12th, Carrizozo, NM. Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; Worship Service 11:00 a.m.; Evening Worship 11:15 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. 648-2853/648-2846, Carrizozo, Johanna Anderson, pastor. Sunday school: 10:00 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11:00 a.m. Church Practices (Yves.) 6:50 pm; United Methodist Women Every 3rd Wed. 1:00 pm; Fellowship Dinner 4th Sun. of month 12:30 pm.
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Carrizozo Community Church (A/G)
Johnnie L. Johnston, pastor. Corner of C Ave. & Thirteenth, 648-2186. Children's Church 10:30 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 pm.
Carrizo Christian Fellowship Leonard Kanesewh III, Pastor. 56 White Mt. Dr. 3 mi. W. of Inn of the Mountain Gods Mesalero. Sundays 10:30 & 6:30. Wed. 6:30 378-1789

LINCOLN COUNTY

Life on wheels

hasn't slowed down Lincoln County's Donald Hobbs

BY JULIE CARTER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

One look at what he has done and how he has done it with the best of attitudes causes his friends to first say, "I never could have done what he's done."

Donald Hobbs celebrates his 66th birthday today. Fifty-one of those years have been spent paralyzed from the waist down.

The youngest of 10 children, Donald "Squeaky" Hobbs spent most of his younger years in the Ancho-Coyote area, growing up in the hard times of the 1940s. When he was 15 years old, he and some buddies were riding calves in a pen near White Oaks and Donald was thrown, injuring his back. Two days later, he woke to find he had no feeling in his legs and was unable to use them.

At the time, with limited diagnostics, doctors suspected polio was the culprit. They treated him for both the back injury and polio and he responded to neither. Today doctors think the paralysis came from the injury and not polio, but either way, Donald was handicapped for life.

Handicapped, but only in that he couldn't walk. He never let it slow him down. Carrizozo high school classmates Jack Hefker and Bob Stearns said they never saw him act any different than any one else and that he sure never felt sorry for himself.

"He was always just one of the guys. We didn't ever even think of him any different than the rest of us," said Stearns.

Donald refused a wheel chair for the first 37 years of his paralysis. He drug himself around on crutches everywhere to do everything. The job built incredible upper-body strength that shows in his broad shoulders and large arms yet today. If there was somewhere he couldn't get, his friends carried him. He went to dances, he partied with the boys, he attended high school and all the activities that went with it. And he drove.

At the age of 19 he was hospitalized after a car accident. During his stay at the old Carrie Tingley Hospital in Truth or Consequences, he met someone who he says was a really mean nurse.



PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

Donald Hobbs, who was paralyzed from the waist down when he was 15, keeps cattle at his ranch near Ancho, thanks to his ranch vehicles — his pickup and a motorized wheelchair.

Hobbs explains with a big grin, "She was so mean to me I decided to get even with her. I asked her to marry me, and she's been paying for it ever since." That's how the big cowboy met his little sparkly blue-eyed wife, June.

June and Donald raised two sons, Kelly and Ty. Donald held down an assortment of jobs as a bookkeeper and store manager in a parts store, and even owned his own parts stores in Las Cruces and in Carrizozo. He and June also owned a small cafe in Las Cruces. The last stop was coming full circle for Donald — a home and some cattle to raise right where he grew up in Coyote.

"I keep just enough cows to keep me broke," he says. And he does all the work involved with them from a wheel chair or his pickup. He even does his own branding. "I feed my cows in the corral, so that's how I gather them," he explains. "They get pretty gentle. I even got some pretty wild cows from Stirling Spencer, and now when it's just me and them in the corral, I can pet them. Anyone else shows up and they'll run over me to get out of the corral."

About 1990, after his shoulders wore out from the many years on

crutches, Hobbs gave in to using a wheelchair. The motorized ones have become his own version of a ranch vehicle for the jobs close at hand. It's not uncommon to drop by his place and find him stuck in the mud or soft dirt.

"I've learned to carry a shovel if I'm going off the beaten track. I can usually dig myself out. One time June tried to kill me. I got stuck, so I told her to get the pickup and pull me out with a chain. She hooked the chain on the top of the chair and it pulled me over backwards. She got so excited she jumped out of the pickup before she took it out of gear and then it drug me about 15 feet."

Ask him how he has done it all so good naturedly, he'll tell say, "I'm just hard-headed. Nothing's really been that bad. I can't really complain about anything." And he sincerely means it.



PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

Donald and June Hobbs will have been married 45 years this year.

Capitan school tax levy vote is Tuesday

BY JULIE CARTER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Polls will be open in Capitan on Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Lincoln County Fair Building for voters with the district to vote on continuation of a tax levy to fund Capitan Public Schools capital improvements.

The passage of this levy will not increase taxes. The tax levy has been in place in the Capitan District since 1979 and provides the district with approximately \$343,654 per year. The duration of the levy is five years and must be reauthorized by the voters.

Money is used for erecting, remodeling and making additions to the schools, providing equipment for and furnishing

school buildings, purchasing or improving school grounds and purchasing computer software and hardware for student use in public school classrooms.

It also is used for maintenance of public schools buildings and school grounds exclusive of maintenance employee salaries and for purchasing activity vehicles for transporting students to extracurricular activities.

The Capitan Board of Education says it is dedicated to the appropriate instruction for all students and the maintenance and repair of all school buildings in the district. The board must continue to maintain and build classrooms in order to meet anticipated growth in enrollment.

Ranch communication is not entirely verbal

The rancher's wife stands at the gate waiting for him to make up his mind which direction he is going to go with the small herd of cattle he's bringing to the pens. She sees him look at the cattle that are trotting a little faster than he'd like and then glance at her, but he says nothing.

With a long-established telepathy, she knows by watching him, she's got the wrong gate open even though it's the one he told her to have ready. She slams her gate and runs as fast as boots, spurs and chaps will let her, to the other gate that is now the one they need open.

The language that is spoken and more often not spoken at the ranch requires visual skills as well as interpretive ones. Then there are some days the meaning comes through loud and clear.

Cattle and horses speak to their owners through patterns and nature's instincts. A mother cow will eventually give away the location of her hidden new baby if you just quietly watch her trying to not give it away. She will look every direction but the right one until at one point, she'll glance the way of her calf.

A baby calf, falling behind the herd while you're driving them, will get a look in his eye that reads: In the next second you are going to see him with his tail curled up over his back, eyes glazed over, and leaving to go back to where he came from before you both-

ered him. A horse's ears will perk up to attention while you ride through the brush, and you can bet the bank he's heard, seen or smelled something you haven't. If the rider will pay attention, a horse will find more cattle in the brush than a rider will ever see alone.

Ranch husband and wife communications, while pretty much the same across the land, take on a bit more animation and sometimes humor. Well — it usually is funny

later. While she's chunking rocks at the bulls to get them through the gate and he's hollering it's the wrong gate, or wrong cattle or wrong something, the next rock chunking usually is directly at him. Not hard to interpret that.

An old rancher trick is to loudly give the wife instruction that she doesn't need, but that someone else within hearing does. Rather than offend the "help," he makes her look less than capable and hopes the one who needs to hear it does. It usually fails in its intended mission and makes for a few days of Spam as the main course at meals.

A nod, a whistle, a wave or a shake of his head speaks an entire language to his partner, who most often is also the cook. Better judgment on his part is not always in use when communicating his thoughts. You mean it didn't say, "for better or worse and for mind reading?"



County Views
BY JULIE CARTER

Conference will promote agri-tourism opportunities

BY JULIE CARTER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Already known are the difficulties people in agriculture are facing making their income last.

For a long time, ranchers and farmers have looked for ways to diversify beyond sending the wife to get a job. That isn't enough anymore.

New Mexico State University Extension Service, Culture to Culture, Rural Economic Development Through Tourism and the New Mexico Beef Council are sponsoring a conference to address agricultural tourism as an alternative.

The New Mexico Agri-Tourism Conference will be at the Mountain View Holiday Inn in Albuquerque on March 4-6. The first day's sessions will review eight different alterna-

tive income opportunities, with presenters speaking on already established agri-tourism businesses.

Friday's agenda covers the logistics of getting a business off the ground, financing, regulations and insurance, and marketing. Saturday conference attendees will go on guided tours with a choice of destinations to be made at registration.

Registration in advance of Feb. 20 is \$125 per person and \$150 after that. A \$50 cancellation fee will be assessed on refunds requested through March 2.

For registration forms, contact the Lincoln County Extension office at 648-2311 or NMSU's Edmund Gomez at 852-2668. Gomez's email is gr@nmsu.edu.

COUNTY BRIEFS

Diabetes cooking class

The free diabetes cooking school sponsored by the Lincoln County Cooperative Extension Service and the New Mexico Department of Health Diabetes and Control Program still has available openings.

Classes start Monday in the Home Ec room of Ruidoso High School. They will run from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 22.

Registration and materials are free. To register, call Lincoln County Home Economist

Marsha Palmer at 648-2311.

Knowledge Bowl

Capitan Schools played host to the high school Knowledge Bowl Jan. 21. With all Region IX schools represented, the results were as follows:

- Varsity:**
1. Ruidoso; 2. Capitan; 3. Corona
- Junior Varsity:**
1. Ruidoso; 2. Cloudcroft; 3. Tularosa

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Idle Silver City copper mines set to reopen

BY WALTER RUBEI
SANTA FE BUREAU CHIEF

SANTA FE — Copper mines in Silver City that have been closed for more than three years will soon be back in operation.

Tony Trujillo, director of government relations for Phelps Dodge, announced Thursday that they would be reopening the Cobre Mine and the Chino milling operation.

"After nearly six years of weak demand and prices for our major products, we are seeing improved market dynamics, continued solid operating performances and the fruits of many difficult but necessary actions that Phelps Dodge has had to take over the past years," Trujillo said.

"Due to this economic recovery, we are resuming some copper production that has been idle during this downturn in Grant County."

State Economic Development Secretary Rick Homans said the decision to reopen the mine and milling operating, which will open at half capacity, will mean approximately 200 jobs, each paying an average of about \$45,000.

"The per capita income in Grant County today is around \$18,500. The unemployment rate is 13 1/2 percent," Homans said. "It's a county of 30,000, so obviously 200 jobs at that kind of level, about a \$10 million payroll, will have a huge impact on the local economy."

Trujillo said that local economic development officials have estimated that for every mining job returned, the ripple effect will create two other jobs in Silver City and other nearby communities.

"This is a very exciting day for Grant and Hidalgo counties and the southwest corner of the state," Rep. Manuel Herrera, D-Bayard, said. "For six brutal years we've gone through some high unemployment, as high as 17 percent. This is going to put a lot of our people back to work."

Gov. Bill Richardson said an agreement between the company and the state on environmental issues helped pave the way for the mine's reopening.

"We had some negotiations on the environmental water assurance issues, which concluded successfully between the Environmental Department and Phelps Dodge," Richardson said.

Jon Goldstein, a spokesman for the state Environment Department, said Phelps Dodge worked out an agreement with the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department and the Environment Department in which it agreed to create a \$27 million fund, with cash, collateral and corporate guarantees, to ensure that any future contamination problems can be dealt with.

"We worked for hours up here trying to get the environmental concerns out of the way and trying to lay a path for the reopening of the mine, and it seems to be happening now," Sen. Ben Altramirano, D-Silver City, said.

Richardson said the state has worked to ensure that "our relationship with the mining company is one of mutual respect, recognizing that we have to protect the environment and the water, which the company has also assured us it's committed to do."

NMSU asks for aerospace program

BY WALTER RUBEI
SANTA FE BUREAU CHIEF

SANTA FE — Bill McCarthy, interim dean of engineering at New Mexico State University, told lawmakers Wednesday that a proposed aerospace engineering program at the school would fill a void in the state and enhance New Mexico's reputation as a leader in space technology.

The Senate Education Committee on Wednesday gave a "do pass" recommendation of a bill introduced by Senate Majority Whip Mary Jane Garcia, D-Doña Ana, to appropriate \$350,000 to begin the process of establishing the school.

The bill will go to the Finance Committee before getting a chance to be heard on the floor.

Garcia noted that southern New Mexico has numerous space-related industries, including the White Sands Missile Range and the NASA White Sands Test Facility, and was recently selected as one of two finalists for a private space race. But there is not an aerospace engineering program in the state,

she said.

She noted that the newest elementary school in Las Cruces was named for the doomed space shuttle Columbia. She said a survey of high school students showed that they showed a high level of interest in an aerospace program.

"There is tremendous interest, but we don't have a program in New Mexico," Garcia said. "If New Mexico is going to compete, we need a program."

McCarthy said students at NMSU ranked an aerospace program as third in their level of interest, behind electrical and mechanical engineering, and well ahead of civil engineering.

"I feel it is a strong need for our state and our university," McCarthy said. "I feel it's important to promote New Mexico as a space state."

Garcia said the plan was to create an endowed chair and secure private funding to support the program.

Paul Jaramillo, who along with his wife conducted the test of high school students to determine their level of interest, said space-related industries in Southern New Mexico have pledged their

support for the program. White Sands Research and Developers and the High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico have both offered their support, and 26 letters of support have been received from private industry, he said.

McCarthy said the funding this year would allow the university to bring in experts and determine exactly what was needed to get the program going. He said they would then return to the Legislature next year when they had a better understanding of what was needed.

McCarthy predicted the university would also be able to secure federal funding to set up the needed laboratories. He estimated it would cost \$1.5 million to set up the labs.

Senators Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., and Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., have all expressed their support for the program, as has the NMSU Board of Regents, McCarthy said.

"Since it appears we're going to go to Mars soon, I think New Mexico should be involved," Sen. William Sharer, R-Farmington, said.

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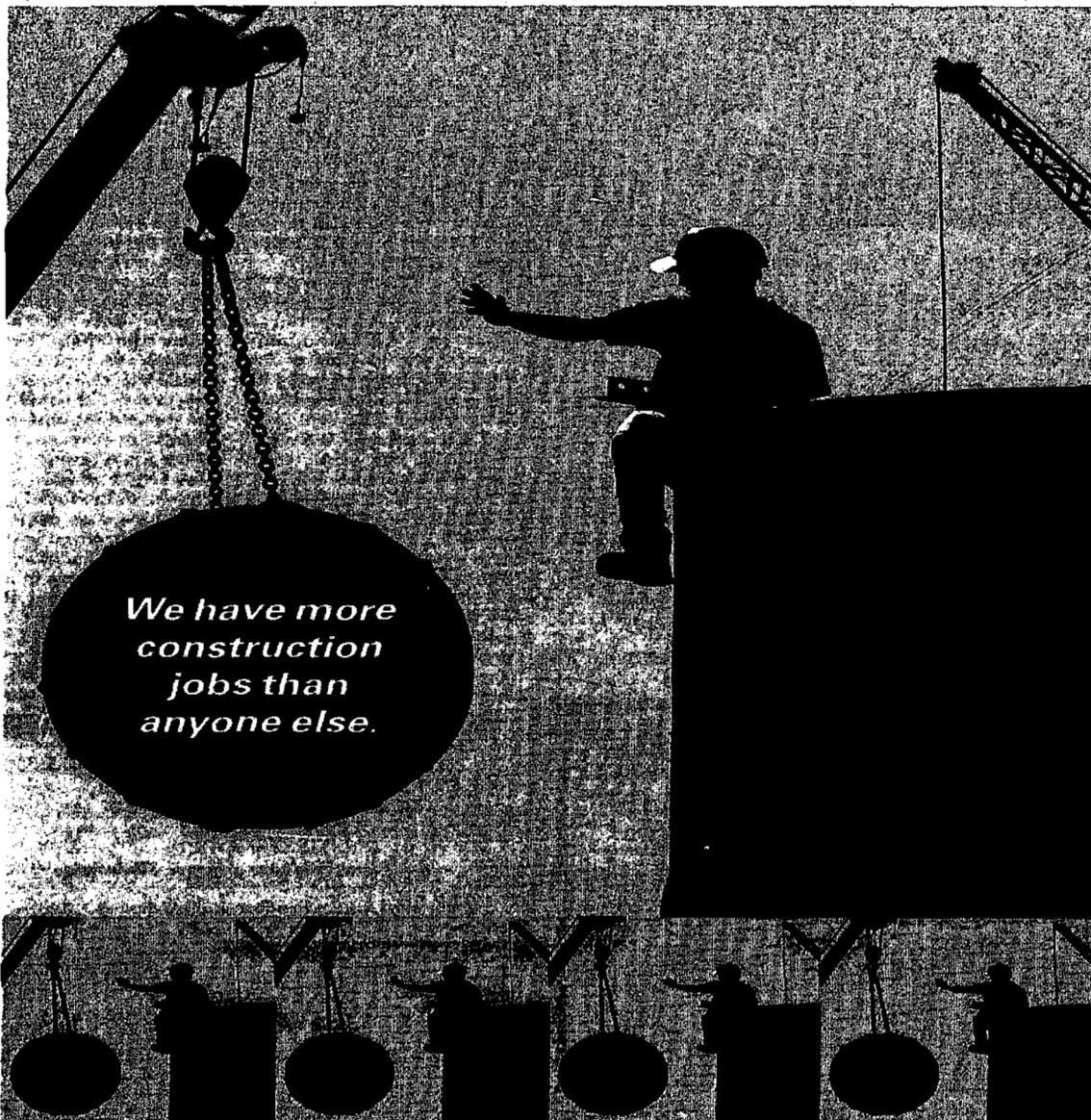
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Price of agricultural water may rise

Revenue from the proposed increased would go toward water conservation, the bill's sponsor says.

BY WALTER RUBEK
SANTA FE BUREAU CHIEF

SANTA FE — Water in New Mexico is too cheap, University of New Mexico economist David Brookshire said Tuesday.

Rep. Mimi Stewart, D-Albuquerque, has introduced a bill that she said would not only make the price of water closer to its true value, but would also fund needed water projects in the state. Named the "Water Resource Fee Act," Stewart's bill would charge agricultural users an additional \$2 an acre foot for water, and domestic users \$25 an acre foot.

An acre foot of water is enough to cover one acre with one foot of water, or about 326,000 gallons. Acequias, American Indian tribes and livestock wells would be exempted from the fees.

The fees would raise an estimated \$22 million a year, which would go toward a number of different water projects in the state. The bill is being backed by the World Wildlife Fund, which sent a representative from its Las Cruces office to Santa Fe on Tuesday to help lobby for its passage.

"Everyone in the state needs to start thinking differently about water," Stewart said. She said that up until the last two years, the state had been in a 15-year wet cycle. The drought conditions the state is now experiencing are expected to

last for the next 20 to 30 years, she said.

"We are in a water crisis," Stewart said. "We don't have enough water right now for our needs, and yet our population is supposed to grow by 3 percent in the next 20 years."

David Harris, executive director of the New Mexico Finance Authority, said the state did an inventory of needed water projects last summer, and it totaled \$5 billion worth of projects that have yet to be funded.

Part of the problem, according to Brookshire, is that the scarcity of New Mexico's water is not reflected in the price.

"I think it's pretty fair to say that the prices are extraordinary and artificially low," Brookshire said. "We've estimated that to get prices up to where they would truly reflect the economic value in terms of scarcity, it's somewhere on the border of 300 percent."

"So I would argue that it's almost too cheap to conserve," Brookshire said. "There just isn't an incentive to get people to conserve water."

The largest chunk of money raised from the fees, 56 percent, would go toward the Water Project Fund, with half of that earmarked for public water suppliers. Another 28 percent would go toward irrigation and other agricultural projects. The remaining money would go to the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission.

Stewart said that agricultural users consume 70 percent of the state's water, and said they must also pay their fair

share for conservation. She said farmers could tap into the fund for water conservation projects such as laser field leveling, lined irrigation ditches and more efficient irrigation practices.

"The two largest water users in the state, agriculture and public water suppliers, have about 50 percent of this revenue stream earmarked for capital projects that would help them conserve water," explained Beth Bardwell of the World Wildlife Fund. "They (farmers and ranchers) almost get dollar for dollar back that they have invested."

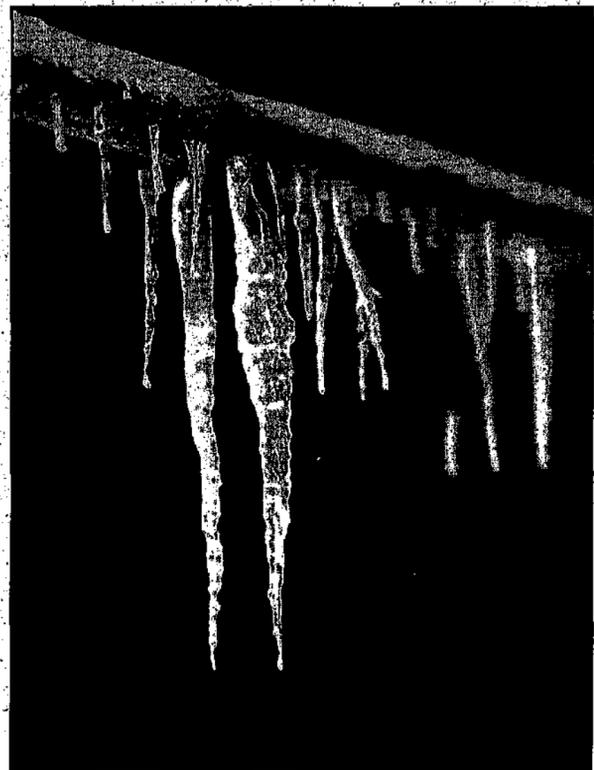
Other nonagricultural projects would include replacing leaky water mains in municipal water supplies, aquifer storage and recovery projects, water reclamation projects and metering of water diversion and withdrawal, Bardwell said.

Stewart said the fee would cost the average family between \$1 and \$2 a month. A farmer who used three acre feet of water over 50 acres would pay \$30 a month.

Stewart has lined up House Speaker Ben Lujan, D-Santa Fe, as one of the bill's co-sponsors, but admitted that it would be difficult to get the bill through during the 30-day session.

"This has a long way to go through the legislative process. We're not under any illusions that in a 30-day session this will be successful," Stewart said. "It might take us a few years to do this, but I think we're all committed to try to conserve the water that we have, to use it better and to try to add a few more decades on to amount of water we have now."

HANGING OUT



ELLIS NEEL/ALAMOGORDO DAILY NEWS

Icicles hang from the eave of a house in Haynes Canyon in High Rolls Monday, following a brief winter storm which dumped several inches of snow in the Sacramento Mountains and surrounding areas.

Governor, legislators negotiating capital outlay

BY TS. HOPKINS
SANTA FE BUREAU

SANTA FE — Negotiations between Gov. Bill Richardson and legislators regarding the distribution of capital outlay funds are continuing, an analyst for Senate Majority Whip Mary Jane Garcia, D-Doña Ana, said Tuesday.

"There are people who feel this is just 'pork' and helps a politician come election time," analyst Ricardo Gonzales said Tuesday. "I just don't think that is true."

Gonzales said politicians get re-elected because they know what needs to be done in their district and they try to meet those needs.

"What doesn't get a politician re-elected is not meeting constituents' needs," Gonzales said. "Being involved in their district and being trusted with capital outlay gets them re-elected — it's the same for either party."

Gonzales said distributing capital outlay is one of the true functions of state government — helping municipalities com-

plete projects that would otherwise be beyond their financial means.

Capital outlay money comes from the severance taxes paid by those who have gas and oil leases on state property. The money goes into a permanent fund, along with general obligation bonds, which are voted on every two years.

The pool of money in the capital outlay fund is about \$440 million for fiscal year 2005, Finance Secretary James Jimenez said.

The general obligation bond capacity, according to the state Constitution, is 1 percent of the assessed property tax of the state.

The state pays twice a year on its general obligation bonds and severance tax bonds. The money left over is the state's bonding capacity, Gonzales said.

The University of New Mexico's Institute of Meteoritics was the first of its kind in the world.

An automatic 12.5 percent of the capacity remains in the permanent fund, while 62.5 percent of the severance tax bonding capacity is used for capital outlay.

"The Department of Finance is the authority for capital outlay oversight on projects," Gonzales said. "When a project is completed, if there are funds remaining, the legislator may reassign what is left for another project."

Gonzales is quick to point out the legislator assigns the

money and then is out of the fiscal loop.

"There is a fiscal agent to handle the funds," Gonzales said. "It might be a city or a county, but they will send the project to bid."

Currently the capital outlay split is one-third each for the governor, Senate and the House.

"This is one of the most vital things we do here," Gonzales said. "As an analyst, I think the current system is equitable."

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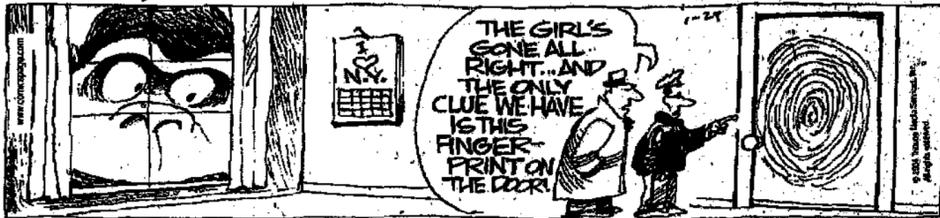
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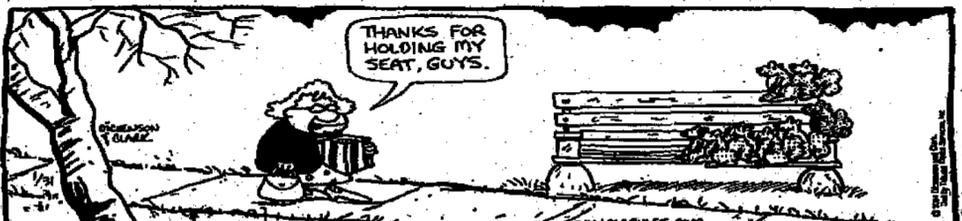
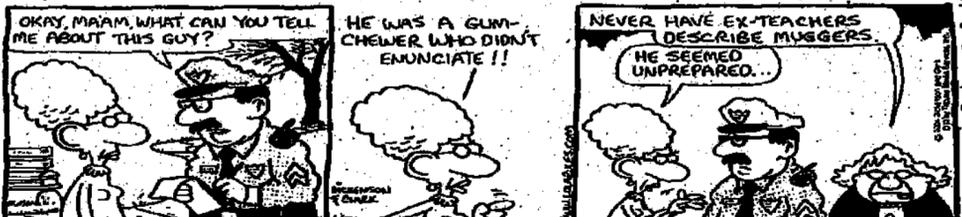
Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

Crossword puzzle grid with clues. Clues include: 'AT LAST!' By LILA CHERRY ACROSS, 'Church supporter', 'Bear, in Madrid', 'Puts back in', 'Author Ten', 'When Banquo', 'Murdered', 'Lab equipment', 'Stable', 'Dipcredit', 'Portuguese islands', 'Walters with snakes', 'Straightaway', 'Scrapple', 'McArdle who played Arnie', 'No prob', 'Texas', 'Subscriber's receipt', 'Gnus' features', 'More eccentric', 'Extreme program for losers', 'Easter bloom', 'Appliance letters', 'Bundles up', 'Artist Rousseau', 'Created: Abbr.', 'Bear, in Madrid', 'Prenuptial agreements', 'Puts back in', 'Author Ten', 'When Banquo', 'Murdered', 'Lab equipment', 'Stable', 'Dipcredit', 'Portuguese islands', 'Walters with snakes', 'Straightaway', 'Scrapple', 'McArdle who played Arnie', 'No prob', 'Texas', 'Subscriber's receipt', 'Gnus' features', 'More eccentric', 'Extreme program for losers', 'Easter bloom', 'Appliance letters', 'Bundles up', 'Artist Rousseau', 'Created: Abbr.', 'Coup of', 'Knock out', '65-Down hangout: Abbr.', 'See 64-Down', 'Elmer, to Bugs', 'Speedy', 'Obstruct', 'Acter Katz', 'Anti-BUI group', 'Daring bet', 'Golf coups', 'Merged news agency', 'Thames town', 'L.A. Philharmonic offering', 'That resort', 'Hin', 'Likely', 'Millionaire shortstop, familiarly', 'Pilot's concern', 'Borodin's prince', 'Low in a tea', 'Boss, stangly', 'Baby's aliant', 'Important', 'End-era link', 'Gives a new handle', 'John P. Marquand', 'Secret agent', 'Spends; see time', 'Equilibr', 'Just okay', 'Southwestern tribe', 'Condition', 'Valuable violin', 'Corday victim', 'Warnings', 'Put together', 'Book, with steps', 'Hold on Tight', 'rock gp.', 'Norwegian royal', 'Receptacle', 'weight', 'We want', 'First letter', 'Paris pronoun', '119', '124', '125', '126', '127', '128', '129', '130', '131', '132', '133', '134', '135', '136', '137', '138', '139', '140', '141', '142', '143', '144', '145', '146', '147', '148', '149', '150', '151', '152', '153', '154', '155', '156', '157', '158', '159', '160', '161', '162', '163', '164', '165', '166', '167', '168', '169', '170', '171', '172', '173', '174', '175', '176', '177', '178', '179', '180', '181', '182', '183', '184', '185', '186', '187', '188', '189', '190', '191', '192', '193', '194', '195', '196', '197', '198', '199', '200'.

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JUMBLE

JUMBLE word game section. Includes jumbles: ENTAK, OYLED, UNROAD, ZARABA. Includes a grid of letters and a solution: 'TAKEN'.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME section. Includes a cartoon of a gardener and a puzzle: 'WHEN THE GARDENER WON THE HIGH STAKES POKER HAND, HE...'. Includes a solution: 'HE WAS RAKED'.



Think Snow!!! Answer: When the gardener won the high stakes poker hand, he — "RAKED" IN A BUNDLE

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE grid with the solution to the crossword puzzle.

EXTRA! BRAND GAMES SOLUTION section. Includes a grid of letters and a solution: 'TAKEN'.

Proposed schools budget up \$15.8 million 'overnight'

At \$1.9 billion, education would be 58 percent of N.M. spending

BY TS. HOPKINS
SANTA FE BUREAU

SANTA FE — The House Education Committee approved a whopping \$1.9 billion budget for public education Wednesday.

Minutes later, Education Committee Chairman Rick Miera, D-Albuquerque, took the budget to the House Appropriations & Finance Committee for its approval.

"It was received, Miera said, "but not accepted."

Miera said he had the education budget within acceptable ranges before Gov. Bill Richardson announced a 2 percent raise for teachers late Tuesday afternoon.

"I expected a 1 percent increase and a one-time bonus of 1 percent," Miera said. "The budget went up \$15.8 million overnight."

Miera said normally the education budget is about 45 percent of the total state budget. At the moment, the proposed education budget is 58 percent of the state budget.

Working with the governor before the session began, Miera said a compromise of sorts was worked out on education reform, the top priority for Richardson.

Included in the education budget is \$13 million in 22 line items of non-recurring expenditures listed under Public Education Reform.

"Those non-recurring funds — \$13 million — are reform items," Miera said. "If they are truly reform items, they may become annual recurring items. We'll see."

Some of the reforms include a Bullying Prevention Initiative; Truancy Initiative; and Dropout Prevention.

"I want to preserve the integrity of the House," Miera said. "Many people thought we were going to supplant with the education budget. I won't do that and the consensus of the committee is in agreement."

Miera defined supplant as using new money in the budget to pay long-standing budget items; not the spirit of education reform, agreed to by voters in October when they passed a constitutional amendment to allow the state to increase the percentage taken from the Permanent Fund to pay for education.

Miera said what he wants to do is take another look at HB212 from last session to define "reform."

"Is full-time kindergarten a reform project?" Miera wondered. "It wasn't when former Gov. Gary Johnson vetoed it."

Miera said he has been working closely with the Appropriations Committee to trim the budget, but doesn't know what the eventual compromise might be.

"I think what we need to do is move more money into reform," Miera said, "and put less into the lock box."

Richardson has proposed putting half of the new money from the constitutional amendment into a reserve fund, or "lock box" until they can agree on how it would best be spent.

Miera said he felt \$9.6 million from the general fund for reform would be rock solid.

Senate mulls animal protection bill

BY WALTER RUBEL
SANTA FE BUREAU CHIEF

SANTA FE — Animals brought to public shelters in New Mexico would be ensured of humane treatment, both in life and, if necessary, when being put to death, under a bill introduced by Senate Majority Whip Mary Jane Garcia, D-Dofia Ana.

The Animal Protective Services Act would set standards for humane conditions in animal shelters and would require that when an animal is euthanized, the procedure be done by someone who is properly trained and licensed.

"These were some people's pets, and maybe they could no longer take care of them so they took them to the pound," Garcia said. "We need to ensure that while they're there, they're treated in a humane way."

"We don't want them to be just skinny and dying."

The bill would create a seven-member board that would adopt minimal standards for animal shelters and establish procedures for licensing. It would also have the authority to conduct inspections at shelters and, if necessary, conduct a hearing on violations. It would be able to deny, suspend or revoke an animal shelter's license and assess fines of up to \$5,000.

Art Jaramillo, superintendent

"These were some people's pets and ... we need to ensure that while they're there (the pound), they're treated in a humane way. We don't want them to be just skinny and dying."

Jane Garcia
Senate majority whip

of the state Regulation and Licensing Department, said at the time the legislation was first proposed in November that the standards would cover basics such as accessible food and water, shelter from the elements and proper veterinary treatment — "minimum standards that I think anyone in this industry would agree need to be followed uniformly throughout the state."

While the board would have the authority to assess fines, Michele Rokke, an animal control/law enforcement program director with Animal Protection of New Mexico Inc., said the primary function of the board would be to assist shelters, many of which lack training.

"It isn't a hammer coming

down," she said.

There was some concern at the time the bill was unveiled that animal shelters in poor counties would shut down the facility instead of spending the money needed to meet the new standards. Garcia said there was a possibility that an amendment could be added to the bill to help counties meet the standards.

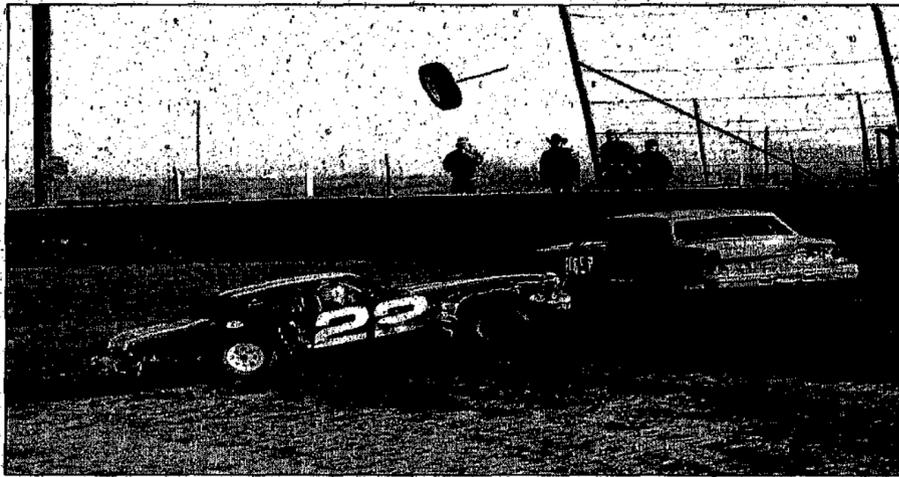
The act would also create the Animal Care and Facility Fund, which would collect fines and fees determined by the board and use them to help animal shelters defray the costs of implementing humane euthanasia techniques.

A second fund, called the Pet Overpopulation Fund, would be used to help animal shelters pay to spay and neuter pets. Garcia said she is also seeking a capital outlay expenditure to fund a mobile van to spay and neuter pets in Dofia Ana County.

"I went to the (animal shelter) in Las Cruces. Oh, I about died," Garcia said. "They had all those animals, and then they had posted on the walls how many that had to be put under through euthanasia. It's tragic."

Garcia said she was hopeful the bill would be heard by next week in the Conservation Committee. It would then have to pass the Judiciary Committee before being heard on the Senate floor.

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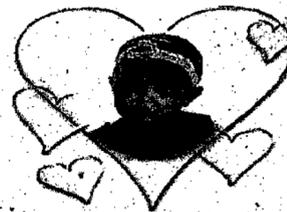
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Legislators hope bill will prevent N.M. base closures

BY WALTER RUBEI
SANTA FE BUREAU CHIEF

SANTA FE — Senators and representatives from both parties packed the governor's cabinet room Wednesday to express their support for a package of bills designed to strengthen New Mexico's military bases in light of the pending Base Reduction and Closure Process.

"This is something that all New Mexico needs, and it's critical that we step forward and are prepared," Sen. Carroll Leavell, R-Jal, said. "I think you're going to find a very friendly Legislature as we go forward with this piece of legislation."

The package introduced by Gov. Bill Richardson includes a bill introduced by Rep. Terry Marquardt, R-Alamogordo, that would allow private companies to conduct testing at White Sands Missile Range without having to pay state compensating tax.

The bill would also provide

\$400,000 to fund the Office of Military Base Planning and Support and the Military Base Planning Commission and \$300,000 each for improvements to the overpasses and entrances to Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo and Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis.

"Passage of the omnibus bill is both urgent and critical," said Lt. Gov. Diane Denish, who has headed the base planning commission. "It's not only an investment in the bases, but it's an investment in jobs, it's an investment in our rural communities, it's an investment in business in New Mexico."

Pentagon officials have said that as many as 25 percent of the nation's bases could be closed under the BRAC process. The initial list of those bases recommended for closure is expected to be released by May 2005 and will be finalized by the later part of 2005, said retired Gen. Hanson Scott, who is heading the state commission along

with Denish.

Sen. Timothy Jennings, D-Roswell, told legislators what it was like the last time a military base in New Mexico was closed. Jennings said he was in high school when the Pentagon shuttered Walker Air Force Base in Roswell.

"All the sudden, things just went, and Roswell dropped from 60,000 people to 30,000 in the space of three years," Jennings said. "We had row after row and block after block of houses that were vacant."

"It was devastating. And it doesn't just devastate Roswell and stop. It goes all the way down to Dexter and Artesia. It just reaches out and hammers the whole state."

Richardson said part of the \$400,000 to keep the base commission going would be used to pay for experts to help identify how the bases can compete for new missions and respond to the criteria set out by the BRAC Commission.

"What we're doing is not unprecedented, but it's fairly close," Richardson said. "We're actually offering tax incentives, we're offering capitol outlay funds for roads and infrastructure."

Denish said that when she and a contingent of commission members went to Washington last year, Pentagon officials told them that investment in roads and infrastructure leading in and out of the bases would be one of the factors considered.

The state is also touting improvements in education. It has spent \$10.3 million to improve schools in Las Cruces and \$2.1 million to improve schools in Alamogordo, according to information presented by the governor's office.

The bill introduced by Marquardt is expected to allow Boeing to complete testing on an airborne laser weapons system at White Sands Missile Range. Those tests are expected to bring 100 jobs and \$180 million

to the state, but Marquardt said the effort goes much deeper than that.

"This is bigger than one project," he said. "It's bigger than \$180 million. It's bigger than 100 jobs. This is what makes New Mexico kick."

Denish said they have also been in touch with New Mexico's congressional delegation seeking to get changes in the BRAC criteria. On Wednesday, Sens. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., and Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and Reps. Tom Udall, D-N.M., and Steve Pearce, R-N.M., urged the Pentagon to also consider the ability to conduct research, development and testing and the value of surrounding land and airspace when looking at bases.

Scott said that, along with the legislative package unveiled Wednesday, an executive order is being drafted by the governor's office directing municipal planning agencies in communities with military bases to work with those bases to ensure they remain free of encroachment.

Park fee changes likely; camping pass may return

BY DARREN MARCY
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

SANTA FE — The New Mexico Parks Division announced a proposed restructured fee schedule Tuesday.

State park users will see increases here and there in the fees charged by the Parks Division, but the biggest news is the potential return of the annual camping pass.

The fee increases would be the first in six years, according to a Parks Division news release.

The annual day-use pass will increase from \$20 to \$30 per vehicle, and day use fees will go up \$1 to \$5 per day under the proposal.

The Parks Division points out that a similar annual day use pass in Texas, Colorado and Arizona costs \$50 or more. Also, the department is working to make the day use pass transferable.

The day use fee of \$5 will be charged at all 30 state parks, including the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park in Albuquerque, which currently charges a per-person fee. Living Desert Zoo & Gardens State Park in Carlsbad will raise its per-person fees to \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 7-12, which is a \$1 increase.

The annual camping pass, which went away several years back in an effort to make the Parks Division more self-sufficient as mandated by state law, could be reintroduced.

An annual camping pass for a New Mexico resident will cost \$180. Nonresidents would be able to buy the pass for \$225. The senior and disabled resident camping pass, which has continued to be offered, would go up from \$90 to \$100 per year.

The annual camping passes will be valid in reservation campsites as well. The daily camping fee will not be changed.

"For the same price as four movie tickets or a tank of gasoline, an entire family can enjoy unlimited admission to 30 state parks for an entire year," said State Parks Director Dave Simon. "And an entire year of family camping in our state parks will cost about the same as three days of skiing or a few nights in a motel."

Other proposed fee changes include an increase in the annual concession permit from \$300 to \$500 for fishing guides, boating and rafting companies, and other commercial ventures.

And the cost for renting a conference room, entire building and deposits would also increase under the proposed fee restructuring.

The Parks Division will hold public meetings about the changes for the next month in communities throughout New Mexico, and a formal hearing will be held Feb. 25 in Santa Fe. That meeting is planned for 5:30 p.m. in Porter Hall of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources building, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, in Santa Fe.

The proposed changes would

go into effect May 1, if approved.

All annual permits, including those purchased before May 1, will be valid through the end of the year.

"We want to emphasize that every single dollar that visitors spend on admission and camping fees goes back into our state parks," Simon said. "Our goal is to make our parks system one of the best in the nation."

The New Mexico Parks Division annual operating budget is \$22.2 million; but only 37

percent of that comes from the state's General Fund. The remaining 63 percent is generated from visitors fees and other self-generated revenue sources.

Information about the entire fees proposal is available online at www.nmparks.com or by calling the parks main office at: (888) NM PARKS.

Darren Marcy is the outdoors editor for the Farmington Daily Times, a sister paper of the Ruidoso News.



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November 1805 "Ocelot in View" From this point, as they consider the site for winter quarters, Lewis & Clark can see clearly enough to give a woman (Sagoyewew) and an African American slave (York) the right to vote.

September 1805 After encountering with the Salish, who share the only food they have with the starving explorers, Clark wraps. "They are very friendly to us and appeared to wish to help us as much as lay in their power."

August 1805 During initial encounter with Shoshone warriors, Lewis lays down his gun and approaches Chief Cameahwait. They become friends and the Shoshone provide critical horses and guides for their westward trip across the Rockies.

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The FARHER THEY GOT FROM CIVILIZATION, THE MORE CIVILIZED THEY BECAME.

Seaside fun, sans the tourists

It felt distinctly English, as we stood sheltered from a dreary drizzle beneath the dripping eaves of a centuries-old building while we devoured a greasy bundle of fish and chips. It was 10 p.m. on a pitch-black, rainy night, the sleepy silence of the village broken only by our raucous laughter, the consequence of a five-hour bevy at the pub.



On the Go with Hank & Ellen
BY ELLEN BARONE
TRAVEL WRITER
AND PHOTOGRAPHER

The chip shop across the street, now closed, had sold us the last of the day's catch before calling it a night. The streets were empty; everyone tucked comfortably into the warm, dry safety of home or pub. The rain had become irrelevant, a mere backdrop to my first night in the ancient seaside community of Whitby, England.

Situated on a sheltered harbor straddling the River Esk, the Yorkshire coast town was once the largest whaling port in the North of England. Today, holidaymakers outnumber fisher folk, but Whitby's seafaring roots are obvious. A salt-crusted fleet of fishing vessels shares the bustling harbor with a flotilla of pleasure craft and, on this July weekend, HM Bark Endeavour, the replica of Captain Cook's legendary 18th century Antarctic and Pacific explorer ship.

It was an English colleagues' 4th of July party that had brought me to Whitby. It might seem odd that a celebration of America's independence from British rule would bring me to England, but what better excuse to pack a bag than revelry? Our English hostess, Maggie, a notorious party-thrower, capitalizes on the traditions of both her native country and the U.S. (a nation she's called home for the past 25 years) for reasons to celebrate.

Whitby was where Maggie spent her childhood summer holidays. As I strolled the bustling quayside past giggling gaggles of teenaged girls, vacationing father-son duos casting fishing lines off the pier, young lovers huddled on wrought iron benches, mothers pushing prams, and children darting into ice cream shops, it wasn't difficult to imagine how Maggie and her family had once spent their summers.

Somehow, despite the usual array of video arcades and plastic souvenir shops that seem to be universal icons of beach towns, Whitby manages to be both seaside resort and an eclectic community of working seamen, artists, writers, retirees and native population. I liked the town at first glance, with its colorful wharf and picturesque jumble of cottages climbing both east and west hillside from the harbor, and even more as I got to know it.

What struck me the most about Whitby was



COURTESY ELLEN BARONE
The fishing town of Whitby England offers a nice beach and plenty of fun -- without all the tourists.

that it felt English through and through: From my Spartan third-floor dormer room above the bar at the Dolphin with its porcelain tub (sans shower) to the flutter of accented English that drifted into the room's open window from the hotel's outdoor café below. Other than the few Yanks, like me, imported from across the pond for Maggie's party, there wasn't an American accent to be heard. Even the continental contingent hasn't discovered Whitby. After all why would the Spanish, French or Italians with their glorious sun-filled coastlines come to the north of England for a vacation at the beach?

When I come back to Whitby (I'm already scheming to find a way to hole-up there for a week or two next summer) it won't be the beach I'll come for either, though it's an added bonus for the rare sun-warmed day. I'll come to Whitby more for what it doesn't have — Starbucks and McDonalds, artificial air-conditioning and Hilton hotels, or drive-thru anything — than what it does have.

I'll come to Whitby to wander Old Town, with its pretty cobbled streets and pastel-hued houses that huddle around the harbor. I'll come to eat fish and chips and hang out in real English pubs. I'll come to ramble among the ruins of Whitby Abbey and St. Mary's churchyard said to be the inspiration for Bram Stoker's famous book, Dracula. I'll come to spend languorous afternoons ambling along the Heritage Coast Trail, a scenic walking path that wends its way along precipitous cliffs, pretty villages and concealed bays, such as Robin Hood's Bay, a picturesque harbor south of Whitby that once offered sanctuary to the benign outlaw and was the secret haunt of smugglers and pirates. I'll come to explore the surrounding rugged and resolute Yorkshire Dales and Moors.

To be continued next week...

Ellen Barone, together with her husband Hank, is a full-time freelance travel writer and photographer based in Alto. Their column appears each Friday in the Ruidoso News. To learn more about their travels visit their web site at <http://www.intlmediagroup.com> or E-mail them at barones@intlmediagroup.com.

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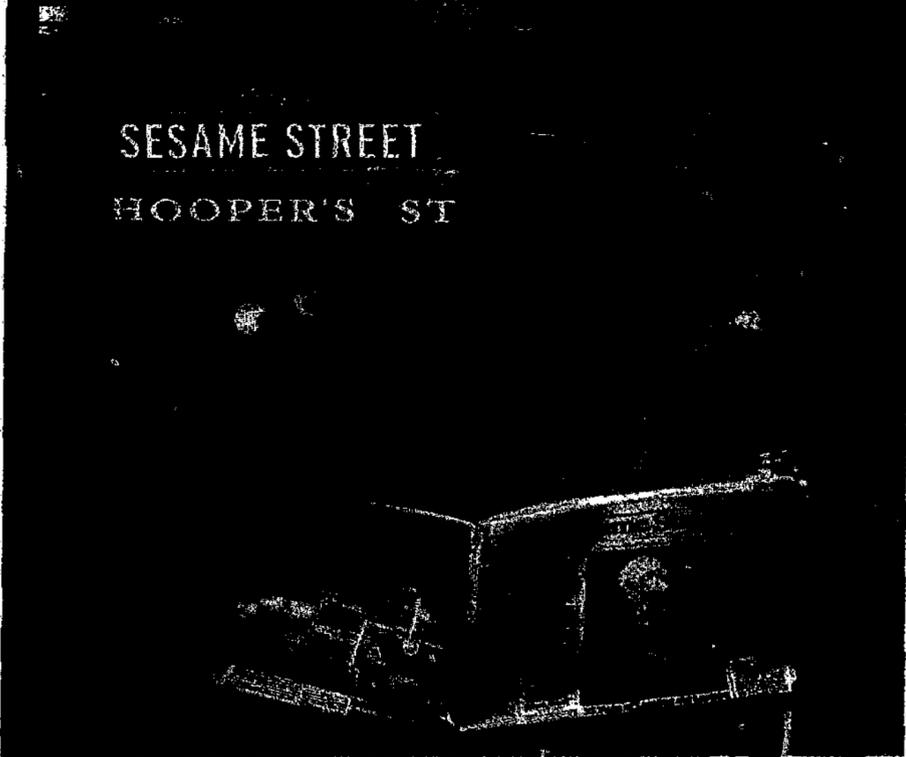
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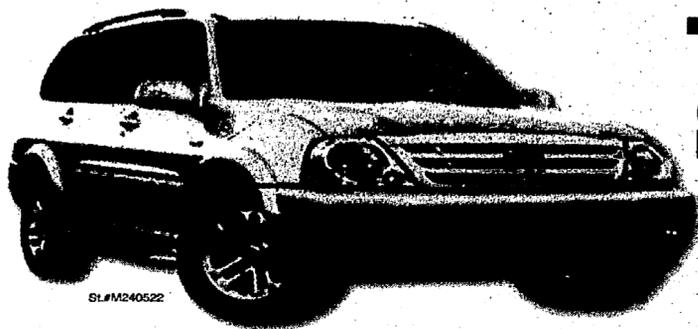
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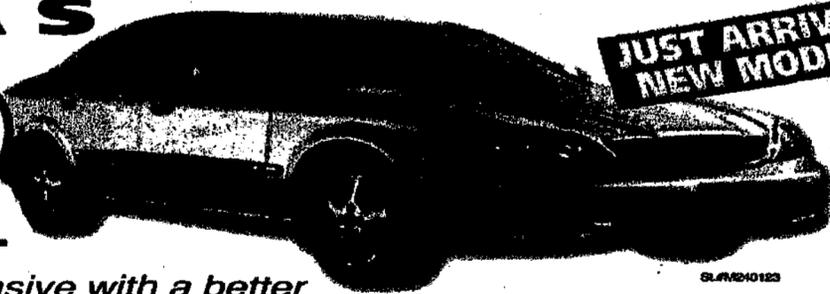


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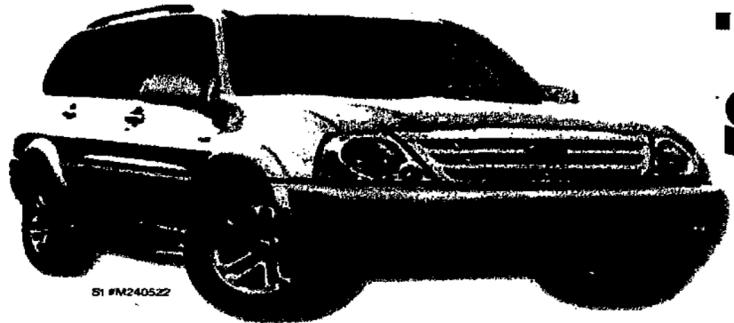
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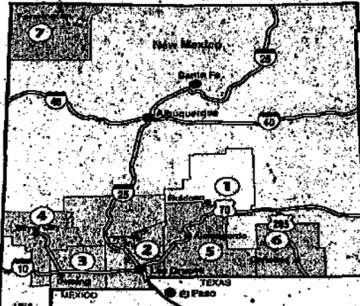
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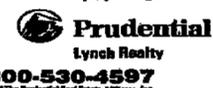
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LEVEL 1/3 ACRE W/ TREES View of S.B., immaculate manufactured home, large deck. Private setting, carport, workshop, storage. Terrific buy. 102 Silverstar Ct. \$95,000.

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DON'T WORRY... WE HAVE RENTALS!

HOUSES:
243 YELLOW PINE - Unfurnished 3BR / 1 3/4 BATH w/ game room + w/d hookups. \$875 + utilities. No smoking. Fenced yard, pet allowed w/owner approval. On Market, month to month.
50 JUNIPER SPRINGS RD. - 1BD + loft, 1 BATH. On 5 acres. \$700 + utilities.
200 VALLEY VIEW DR. - Unfurnished 4 BDR / 3 BA. Fenced. \$1350 + utilities.
111 GRINDSTONE CYN RD. - Unfurnished 3 BDR / 1 1/2 BA. \$525 + utilities.
103 GRINDSTONE #2 - Furnished Efficiency. \$400 includes basic utilities.
124 LITTLE BIG HORN - Furnished 3 BDR / 2 BA. \$550 + utilities.
CONDOS:
LOOKOUT MANOR L.S. - Furnished
257-4011 • 800-530-4597



RUIDOSO HOMES

• ONLY ONE 2003 LEFT! Champion 26x60, 3 Br, 2 Ba, retreat, real oak cabinets, 2x6 walls, etc. One only for \$50,000 delivered & set-up!
• BEAUTIFUL CAVCO 32x80 4 Br, 2 Ba. huge family room, all the mountain extras. Less than \$32 per square foot!
• CAVCO 3 Br, 2 Ba with family room, fireplace, 2x6, 30 pound roof, and much more. Limited time for \$57,900
• CAVCO 1600 square-foot beauty. Split floor plan, built-in desk, pantry off kitchen, 2x6, 30 pound roof, etc. One only for \$58,700!
• BRAND NEW 2002 CHAMPION 3 Br, 2 Ba doublewide home. "Program" deal. One only for \$33,900 set-up and delivered. START THE NEW YEAR WITH A NEW HOME. LANDHOME FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH 0 DOWN OAC. COME SEE US TODAY! Your Land/Home and Mountain Home Experts!
WE TAKE TRADES!
Phone: (505) 378-8064 • Fax: (505) 378-5234
655 Hwy 70 W • Ruidoso Downs

Rock Solid in Real Estate

HOME ON ACREAGE W/VIEWS She-built, less than \$60/sq. ft. 2 large bedrooms, 1 with study, 3 baths, carport, separate 12'x16' shop or studio with wood burning stove. 14'x16' storage building. 2100+ sq. ft. situated on approx. 2.12 acres with Sierra Blanca view Horses allowed \$129,000. #98046
MAKE THAT DREAM A REALITY! Cute and affordable, this 2 bedroom, 1 bath home in Ruidoso would make a great weekend or starter home! Recently remodeled. Enjoy the fresh Ruidoso air from the wonderful new deck. Call us! \$79,500. #10236
EQUISITE LIVING WITH TOWNHOME EASE! This beautiful 3 bedroom 2 3/4 bath townhome has been extensively remodeled and is just a pleasure to be in! Very tastefully furnished, includes the amenities of the Deer Park Woods Townhomes in Alto Village and comes complete with an Alto Hill Golf Membership. Very Spacious! \$349,600 #10333
OWNER HIGHLY MOTIVATED! 7.42 +/- acres with wonderful valley views. Downhill slope but tapers off for good building site. Lowest price in Fanches of Sontera. \$24,900! #10283
Gary M. Lynch, Broker, CRS, GRI, Realtor 335-4232
Cindy K. Lynch, Associate, CRS, GRI, Realtor 335-4232
Lynne Meadows, Associate Broker, Realtor 335-4017
Debbie Hart, Associate Broker, GRI, Realtor 335-4242
Casey D. Widener, Property Manager, Realtor 335-3702
Linda Long, Associate Broker, Realtor 257-7748
Paul Park, Associate, Realtor 257-0219
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Lifetime Area Resident • 24 Years RUIDOSO Area Real Estate Experience

SUPERB SIERRA BLANCA VIEW
Fans in each room & attic & basement. 4 Br, 3 1/2 Ba, game room w/ pool table. Furnishings negotiable. Heating A/C, water pond, system owned. \$359,900. #10647
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282
HORSE PROPERTY WITH VIEWS
Five acres with large modern home, vaulted floors, 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
BEAUTIFUL CEDAR CREEK
3 Br, 1 Ba, floor upper, lots of detail, vaulted ceilings, fans in bedrooms, nice fireplace. Drive to convenient back door! Adjoins national forest. \$148,000. #10211
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282
CREEK FRONTAGE ON CEDAR CREEK
Little cabin in Paradise Canyon on the creek. 2 Br, 1 Ba, now on sewer. Lot next door available for \$18,000 with sale of cabin. Nice FR glassed in porch. \$75,000. #10651
Call Joseph A. Zagone at 808-0282
Each office independently owned and operated.

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(800) 626-3213

EXPERIENCE LIFE AMONG THE TALL PINES

COZY CHARMING Mtn. GET-AWAY
1 bedroom, 3/4 bath efficiency, full kitchen, wood burning stove & gas wall heater. Cute as can be! A mobile enclosed with wood siding. \$49,900. #10608.
GREAT CONDO IN THE TALL PINES
2 bedroom, 1.5 baths, fully furnished w/view of Sierra Blanca. Berber carpet & refrigerated air. Fabulous rental property. Cute! Cute! Must see! \$91,900. #10604.
REMODELED - REALLY NEAT!
"Old Ruidoso" style cabin 2 bdrm., 1 bath. Cozy FP, lots of knotty pine, new bath w/ceruzt. Mostly furn. w/come out. Walk to town, metal roof, porch, 2 lots, dog run, etc. shed. \$99,000. #10807.
CUSTOM RETREAT
Luxury condo has lg. living area w/oak floors, high ceilings, kit. w/ oak floors, custom cabinets, updated appl. Beautiful SB views, new windows, roof & low-maint. siding. A real gem! \$110,000. #10537.
GREAT SINGLE WIDE ON 10 ACRES!
1998 mfg. home on 10 acres in Capitlan. Beautiful view of SB & Capitlan. Has a tank room, workshop, small barn, storage & carport. Has fabulous water works well system. Fully fenced. \$125,000. #10603.
SURROUNDED BY FOREST
This 3 bdrm., 2 bath cedar home w/valley view. Well built. Sprawling redwood deck, partially fenced. +390 sq. ft. heated, finished, finished shop, office & car. with 3/4 bath. Storage galbs. \$195,000. #10668.
UNDER CONSTR. QUALITY RADIANCE HOME
3 bdrm. stucco beauty will have a metal roof & all the exquisite features you expect. Mgr. on main lvl. Single, a option for 4th bdrm. Furniture included in the center of this fine new home! \$230,000. #10635.
ELEGANT STUCCO HOME w/SB VIEW!
Open concept beauty w/air-splashed interior. Lofy ceilings, upscale interior w/beautiful kit. Charming in every way. Open the doors... you won't want to leave! Luxurious mtn. living. \$459,900. #10633.

Bob White, Broker
BOB WHITE ASSOCIATES
Off: 257-1113 Cell: (505) 430-4002
email: bobwhite@att.net
Professional Assistance - Buying or Selling Real Estate

GREAT OPPORTUNITY - PRICE REDUCED BY \$40,000.00! 44 acres, north of Capitlan. 3 1/2 houses, 6 stall barn, big metal shop, 2 wells, fenced pasture, 360 degree view of Sierra Blanca and the Capitlan - WAS \$289,000 - REDUCED TO \$249,000.

FORMERLY BONNEY'S RESTAURANT - GREAT LOCATION - Approx. 1/2 acre +/- on Suddorth. Everything in good condition, lots of parking - possible owner finance - \$350,000.

THE FIRE PLACE STORE - Sales/Service - ESTABLISHED BUSINESS - OWNER WILL TRAIN YOU! \$69,000.

SUNSET CANYON LODGE - Established Lodging Business for sale. Recently updated, ideal for a couple. Midtown location, walk to shops, 8 units, office, tile floors, fireplaces, some units with kitchens, indoor lounge area; huge covered porch with BBQ and hot tub. Could be bed & breakfast. Many repeat customers. \$324,000 - cash or terms.

101 HOUSES FOR SALE
Pine Mountain Realty Dan Boile
 937-0800 257-4700
 Fabulous custom-built home. 3000 sq. ft. Dd garage. 1000 ft. of porch. \$315,000.

102 CONDOS FOR SALE
OPEN HOUSE- 819 West Hwy 70, #515 Champions Run, Ruidoso Downs, Fr. Sat. & Sun 1-4, 2Bd/2Ba deluxe condo, completely remodeled & furnished, soft water, & pellet stove.

RUIDOSO'S FINEST New Condos. Tres Rios, 100 Raquet Dr., 3Bd/3.5 Bath, garage, many amenities, 1st floor master with patio. \$225,500. See @ ruidoso-realty.com or call Stevens RE 1-505-630-9900 or 1-888-556-1349

1999 2BD/2BA Mobile on 1/4 acre, a must see! Looks like new, Ruidoso Downs area. For info call Yolanda, 937-5216. Se habla Espanol.

CLEAN MANUFACTURED Single wide, 1995, 2Bd/1Ba, set up in quiet adult park in Ruidoso, NM. \$10,500. Call 1-505-258-4034 or 1-505-937-2336

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN! 1978 Chief Villa 14x72, 2Bd/1Ba, new carpet. Please call 354-3168

105 HOUSES FOR RENT
1 BEDROOM Duplex, Midtown, \$550. Brooks Mountain Resort 257-0075

3BD/2BA, FIREPLACE, garage, 2 decks. \$875/month, plus utilities. South side Cree Meadows, references, plus credit check. 1 year lease. 257-1139

3BD/2BA, LOCATED 82 Texas St. Big yard, fenced, deck, FP, no appliances. \$560.00 + \$350.00 deposit. 258-4648 No pets.

CARRIZOZO- Artists house, monthly or free month rent, with 1 year lease, charming, see to appreciate. \$425/month. 505-982-4388, 505-438-9809

FOR RENT, Newly Remodeled 2Bd/2Ba, located across from river, \$650/per month plus bills & deposit. Maximum occupancy two. 258-4129 for more info

FURNISHED OR unfurnished 2Bd/2Ba home across the street from the river. Enclosed yard, 2 carport, plus workshop with AC & heat, dead end street, close to Thriftway. \$1,000/per month, plus utilities. First & last plus deposit, 1 year lease. Casas de Ruidoso, Donna 257-7577

105 HOUSES FOR RENT
FURNISHED OR Unfurnished 4Bd/3Ba home in Alto. \$1,800/per month, plus utilities. Pristine condition, 2 car garage, excellent view, covered deck. First & last plus deposit, 1 year lease. Casas de Ruidoso- Donna 257-7577

NICE CLEAN/FURNISHED, 1 or 2 bedroom house on the river near midtown for rent. Very quiet area, non smoking, no pets. Call 257-5660

SMALL 2BD, clean, W/D, \$425. + utilities, + \$100. deposit. Need references. Available after February 1st. Call 378-4396

UNIQUE 1BD, furnished, w/carport. Heart of town includes water satellite, \$800. Marsha Guynes @ Re/Max 258-5833

2BD/2BA CONDO FOR RENT
 2 BDR/ 2BA, condo at Champions Run - Ruidoso Downs - unfurnished - \$700./per month, refurbished, with new paint & tile. Available NOW! Call Donna - Casas de Ruidoso 257-7577

2BD/2.5BA CONDO, Centrally located, easy access, \$600/month, water paid. Call David 257-8909 or 270-8022

FURNISHED OR Unfurnished 3Bd/3Ba condo on ski run road. \$1,400/per month, plus utilities. First & last plus deposit, 1 year lease. Casas de Ruidoso, Donna 257-7577

106 CONDOS FOR RENT
FABULOUS 2BD/2BA Condo w/Southwest flair 2nd master suites, 1 w/lr/office, plus fireplace in living room, metal roof, stucco, berber carpet with tiled kitchen, bathroom, & dining areas. Double car garage. Security door, sky lights, private 12ftx16ft deck, stackable washer & dryer. New furnace & air conditioner, new thermo paneled windows. \$975/per month, includes everything but electric & phone. Available February 15th. \$500/security deposit, 6 month minimum lease, must have references, no pets. 505-808-0133

107 APARTMENTS FOR RENT
FREE MONTH rent with one-year lease. 1, 2, or 3 bedrooms on Mechem. Start at \$450/month. Water/sewer/garbage paid. Fr/m/Deposits. Call 505-585-5029 or 505-491-8087

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

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.

107 APARTMENTS FOR RENT
2BD/1BA, UNFURNISHED Unit close to schools, 700+ utilities. Call Pat or Bill at A+ Realty Services, 258-4574

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE. Utilities paid; non smoking, deposit & references required, no pets. Call 258-4762 For details.

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

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107 APARTMENTS FOR RENT
LA TIERRA Affordable Adult Community
ONE MONTH FREE APPL NOW!
 • Own your own home!
 • Private community!
 • Beautifully landscaped!
 • Excellent location!
107 Jack Little Drive Ruidoso, NM 88345
Call Today: 505-258-2727
Income Limits Apply - 55 years and over

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108 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT
3 BEDROOM Mobile w/ad-on in Ruidoso Downs, pet OK, \$625/per month plus utilities. \$625/security deposit. Call Sandy @ All American Realty 257-8444

3BR/2BATH, NICE, River frontage, Willow Mobile Park, NORTH SIDE OF RIVER, A/C, 2BR/1BA, 200 Friction Blom, 378-7099 or 1-315-528-8328

COZY 1BD Cottage in the Hondo Valley, along Hwy 380, 1 mile from Hwy 70 Junction. \$400/month, \$500/Deposit. Call 653-4285

NICEST & cozy 2 Bedroom cabins, furnished or unfurnished; fireplace & new carpet, quiet pleasant area, easy access. Available Now off Mechem, Call 257-2773

ROOM FOR RENT, Bills included, \$275/per month. 338-4444
ROOM FOR RENT/own bath, access to living room & kitchen area. \$350/month, includes utilities. Call 808-0298

SHARE NICE 3Bd/2.5Ba house, split expenses & utilities, non smoking, small animals OK. 336-2403 or 937-1284. Leave message.

STUDIO & bath on quiet horse farm, \$375/plus deposit. Please call 378-8163

110 ROOMS FOR RENT
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 Sportsman area. Absolutely beautiful setting & land. Remote & private but w/year round road access and still an EZ drive to exciting Ruidoso. Best Financing Ever! 877-670-8015

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112 LOTS FOR SALE
Pine Mountain Realty Dan Boile
 937-0800 257-4700
 Commercial lots for sale in Ruidoso & Ruidoso Downs. Residential lots in Ruidoso, Alto, Little Creek & Rancho Ruidoso. All have community water, most have Sierra Blanca views.

FULL GOLF membership lot in Alto. Mostly level. Nice lot for building. \$34,500.00 #95312 Call Joseph Zaghe at Century 21 Aspen Real Estate 257-9057 or mobile 808-0282

LIQUIDATION SALE on Builders lots, 10 view lots in Ruidoso and Alto Area. Call 378-4900.

NICE 1/2 acre lot in Alto, golf membership, \$65,000. 322 El Camirio. Gadsden Realty, Cwtier/Broker 336-4176

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 & electric. min. 1 year lease. Call Casar @ De Ruidoso, Inc. 257-7577

OFFICE WITH reception area & 2 small private office. New carpet & paint, 1009 Mechem. \$450/month. Wayland at 258-5833 or 937-2811

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE Space for rent. 2 to choose from, plenty of parking, good location, nice decor, available 2/1/04. Call 257-9806

116 STORAGE RENT
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

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 Most All Sizes Storage Units Very Secure and Private! On premise Manager Compare Rates
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CARPENTER HELPER
 Laborer must have auto or truck, pay \$7.50/hour & up depending on experience. Only serious inquiries only. 358-9116

Taking applications for SECURITY OFFICER and PT/COOK at Fort Stanton Residential Treatment Center (354-8305). Applications can be picked up at 23 Lincoln Drive, Fort Stanton, NM

200 HELP WANTED
FIRST CHRISTIAN Church Child Development Center is now hiring. Need a loving, well organized, hard worker to teach young children. Call Milan 258-1490. Serious inquiries only.

FULL-TIME TREATMENT Coordinator case management with busy treatment center agency working with SED youth. We serve clients in Lincoln, Otero, and Chaves counties. This position involves some day travel. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree plus 2 years experience working with special needs youth. Call 505-258-3192 or fax resume to 505-258-3683

200 HELP WANTED
IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR A PERSONAL SECRETARY. Must be very experienced with quick books, 1 person office. Some accounting, efficient with public relations, filing, managing & medical insurance. Good salary & working conditions. Resume & good references a must. Send to PO Box 2340, Ruidoso, NM 88355.

LIKE TO SHOP? Need mystery shoppers for Ruidoso area. www.shopper-jobs.com or write PO Box 2912, Broken Arrow, OK 74012

200 HELP WANTED
College Central Mail Manager
 full or part-time position available. Resume required. Please call Barbara for appointment, 257-2576.

Full-time Front desk help must know computers. Please apply in person @ 220 Crown Dr. No phone calls.

NOW HIRING Servers full & part-time. Apply in person 1501 Sudderth.

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

200 HELP WANTED
NEED PART TIME experienced tax preparer from 2/9/04 to 4/9/04. Should be familiar with Ultra Tax software. 258-8106

RUIDOSO READY LABOR
 Daily Work/ Daily Pay
 Construction, framers, general labor, food service, housekeepers, clerical. All Skill Levels
 Apply Today! 257-7876
 449 Sudderth Drive in Gateway Center.

200 HELP WANTED
WATER OPERATION IV
 Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until position is filled. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax 258-5848. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE

200 WORK WANTED
GARDEN GREEN Super Clean Yard Work, Hauling, Tree Thinning, FIRE BREAKS, Fire Needles, Roofs and Gutters, Power Washing. 257-2172 or 808-1107. dangarus@zianet.com

200 MISCELLANEOUS
20FT. GOOSENECK cattle trailer, with metal top. Good condition. \$2000. Call 258-8116 after 6pm or leave message with your number.

COURT CLERK Part-Time. Applications accepted until 4:00pm Tuesday, February 3, 2004. Applications at the Village of Capitán, 114 Lincoln Ave Capitán, New Mexico 88318 or Phone 505-354-2247 or Fax 505-354-2713. "Drug free work place" EOE

DEPUTY CLERK Full-Time. Applications accepted until 4:00pm Tuesday, February 3, 2004. Benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement and insurance). Applications at the Village of Capitán, 114 Lincoln Ave Capitán, New Mexico 88318 or Phone 505-354-2247 or Fax 505-354-2713. "Drug free work place" EOE

200 HELP WANTED
RN 26 hours per week or LPH 40 hours per week in Alamogordo to provide care to 2 medically fragile clients. GILMORE OWEN HOME CARE 257-2415

HIGH SCHOOL students wanted for week-ends and holidays; apply in person at St. Bernards, on Saturday 1-31-04 between 1:00-3:00 only.

PASTA CAFE now hiring. All positions available. Apply in person at 2331 Sudderth.

200 HELP WANTED
LOOKING FOR FLEXIBLE person, both in hours and duties. Arba family seeking full-time housekeeper to help with cleaning, cooking, and part-time aid to disabled adult as well as some child care. Never a dull moment! References required. 505-848-2727 or 937-4076

MICHELENA'S IS now hiring Servers, servers, & floor manager. Apply in person at 2703 Sudderth Dr.

MVD CLERK Part-Time Applications accepted until 4:00pm Tuesday, February 3, 2004. Applications at the Village of Capitán, 114 Lincoln Ave Capitán, New Mexico 88318 or Phone 505-354-2247 or Fax 505-354-2713. "Drug free work place" EOE

200 HELP WANTED
REGISTERED NURSES needed in all Nursing fields. Short and long term positions open, with possibility of permanent placement. Top Pay plus Great Fringe Benefits. Please call Nancy Duran at 800-461-1815 ext.120

RELIEF WORKERS needed at New Horizons in Carrizozo to work with adults who are developmentally disabled. Call 849-2979 for an application.

RUIDOSO CARE Center is now hiring staff! Positions available are: Night Staff, Charge Nurse, Weekend Charge Nurse, & MDS/Admissions Coordinator. Call Human Resources @ 257-9071 for information on pay, benefits, & sign-on bonus. M/F/D/V EOE

200 HELP WANTED
RHIT Medical Records Consultant
 RHIT Medical Records Consultant needed for contract work at Ruidoso Care Center. Position is approximately 4 hrs. per month. Contact Human Resources at 257-9071 for more information or submit resume at 200 Resort Dr.

SALES POSITION, including most weekends is available at Michelle's Job requirements include: a sincere desire to engage and work with the shopping public, a passionate interest in fine clothing, the ability to work well with fellow employees, self-motivated and most importantly a positive attitude. Job Benefits include: sales commissions, liberal in store discounts, paid vacation and a great working environment. To schedule an interview call Michelle's at 257-5700.

200 HELP WANTED
WATER PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN
 Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until position is filled. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax 258-5848. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE

200 HELP WANTED
PRV TECHNICIAN
 Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until position is filled. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax 258-5848. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE

200 PERSONALS
FREE PREGNANCY Test, Caring & Confidential Assistance. 258-1800

200 LOST & FOUND
FOUND-GOLD EARRING with the #15 in the middle surrounded by diamonds. Found at Ruidoso High School by concession stand. Call 257-7505

200 LOST & FOUND
TWO DOGS lost in Cedar Creek, Muskrat area, Christmas Day. 1 Airedale, 1 Red Heeler. Both have tags & microchips. Reward El Paso. 935-594-8500

200 MISCELLANEOUS
5 AIRTIGHT wood heaters from \$125-\$225. 2 fireplace inserts, \$200 each. 358-2696

ALL TOOLS Triller, 3 cable rigs, signs, selling info, business name, & more. For Rotor Rooter Business. \$2000. 808-1246

American Facing Rims Diamond Back 16x86 or 5.5-4 for \$450 (\$780 Retail), 2004 Chevrolet "39" 20" Rims - Grey Sparkies, 6 lug nut, 16x86 pattern, 4 for \$1800 (\$2200 Retail); Call Jason 837-1278

FOR SALE 100 gallon auxiliary gas tank for full size pick-up. \$75. OBO. 378-5662

FOR SALE BHP, Sears Craftsman Chipper Shredder. Needs tune up. \$150. 378-5662

FOR SALE Indian designed throws, placemats, quilts and jewelry. The Byrd's Nest, 721 Mechem, Sierra Mall. 257-4166

GE APPLIANCES 5yr old, white slide-by-side refrigerator, \$450. Dishwasher, \$150. Stove, \$300. microwave w/vent. Take all for \$1000. Everything like new out of vacation home. 1800sq.ft. or like new, power blinds, plush carpet, \$300. Antique small desk w/hair, \$325. & antique dresser, \$250. Call 257-1789 or 910-0479

LOOK! SALE! Ruidoso family supply 1600 Sudderth (located inside Keepsakes). 20% Off Spartan Cleaning products, Panasonic vacuum, \$119. 257-0400

NEW KINETICO K60 Water softener, paid \$2,400. Asking \$1,900. OBO. Call 257-4748

Rustic Southwest furniture. Call 336-4444

WATER SOFTENER 2 years old Northstar Model NSC25ED. Electronic demand 29,000 grain softener with integrated bypass valve. excellent condition. \$375. 354-0085

SEARS KENMORE top of the line, 26 cu.ft., white, refrigerator/freezer w/ice maker. Fridge on top, glass shelves, textured front, excellent condition. 338-4774

RAILROAD TIES - 1000 Railroad ties in Deming, NM, Grade 1 9ft., \$6.00 each. Grade 2 \$4.00/each. Picked up at track. Delivery available. 1-800-358-4107 or 505-259-3368

Roswell Home Care and Hospice
 Are you looking for a more challenging position? Roswell Home Care and Hospice has been providing quality and compassionate care to the residents of the Roswell community and Chaves County for almost 20 years. We are currently looking for an experienced health care professional to provide leadership for our staff. This position is responsible for the overall administrative function of the agency. Home Care and Hospice experience and competent computer skills are a plus. Previous management is required.
 If you think this position is the one you are looking for send your resume to:
 Pat Raub, CEO
 Alamogordo Home Care/Hospice
 505-11th Street
 Alamogordo, NM 88310
 Or call Pat at 800-617-3555

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 Join our team of talented professionals at ENMU's Ruidoso Center!
 Applications are being solicited for the following full-time Support Staff position:
Administrative Secretary
 Successful applicant must be a high school or GED certificate, and four years of progressively responsible secretarial experience. An Associates degree or vocational or college coursework in a related field may be substituted for up to two years of required experience. Applicants should also possess excellent customer service, office equipment, interpersonal communication skills, organizational and computer skills (word processing, data bases operation, and use of the Internet).
 Willingness to work flexible hours occasionally necessary. Bilingual skills (Spanish/English) are also strongly preferred, but not required. Beginning Salary is \$8.45 per hour (ENMU Grade 5) Group Insurance and tuition assistance benefits available.
 Interested applicants must provide a completed University application, letter of application and current resume.
 Anticipated Start Date: As Soon as Possible
 For more information, contact
 Dr. Jim Miller
 505.257-2120 or 1.800.934-3668
 the Ruidoso Center of ENMU
 709 Mechem Drive
 Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345
 (505) 257-2120 http://www.ruidoso.enmu.edu
 ENMU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

200 HELP WANTED
THE MESCALERO Care Center is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:
Business Office Manager
 Successful candidates must have a high school diploma with strong accounting skills and experience in a health care facility. These skills include A/R, A/P, Payroll, medical insurance billing, and collections.
 The Mescalero Care Center is managed by Health Management Services, LLC, in Billings, MT, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
 Interested applicants should contact the Mescalero Care Center to obtain an application and return it to:
 Mescalero Care Center
 P O Box 359
 Mescalero, NM 88340
 Phone: 505-464-4802
 Fax: 464-4808

WESTERN AUTO is now hiring Tire Tech/Auto Tech. Experience necessary. Please apply in person at Western Auto.

200 HELP WANTED
AFFORDABLE WINTER rates for cleaning honest dependable, excellent references. Please call 354-3168

200 WORK WANTED
Brillante Construction
 Thomas Brillante
 Redwood Decks - Rethrodeing
 Painting - New Construction
 Lic. 65819-258-5198-Ruidoso, N.M.

200 WORK WANTED
PAINTER NEEDS Work-House burned in November. Please call 257-9276 Leave message.

200 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
LOOKING FOR a business? Call me for several profitable businesses for sale in Ruidoso. Jennie Dorgan @ Stevens RE 1-505-830-9900 or 1-888-556-1349

GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
 for sale to the right couple. Very successful outer wear manufacture, servicing Western stores, Groups/Clubs, Corporate Business & Schools. Established 1983. Also Direct Embroidery for business promotional and awards. Strong current customer base already in place. This business is "Turn Key Ready", and prime for some serious growth this coming year. Priced for a quick sale. Owner is forced to retire. \$290,000. Call for appointment 505-420-9774. Serious inquirers will be requested to provide personal financial documents.

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16FT. BOAT and trailer in brand motor, needs seats, \$500. Call 808-1246

CAR TRAILER for sale, \$800. Call 808-1246

200 BUILDING MATERIALS
RAILROAD TIES - 1000 Railroad ties in Deming, NM, Grade 1 9ft., \$6.00 each. Grade 2 \$4.00/each. Picked up at track. Delivery available. 1-800-358-4107 or 505-259-3368

501 SERVICES 501 SERVICES

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 Quick & Easy
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3 MATCHING tables- End table, coffee table, & couch table. Glass tops. \$100. for all three. Please call 258-4263

BEAUTIFUL FLORAL loveseat, Queen size mattress set, Queen comforter matching shams, decor pillows, & valances. All in excellent condition. 378-7091

BRASS DAY BED w/trundle, plus 2 inner spring mattresses, triple dresser w/mirror & armoire, cream w/brass trim. Beautiful set. Excellent condition. Moving boxes. 336-4774

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KAWAI UPRIGHT piano in excellent condition with humidity control system. \$1200 OBO. 882-2540 or 491-8723

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1.8L V6, 125 HP, 4-Speed Manual, 16" Alloy Wheels, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors.

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4.0L V6, 150 HP, 4-Speed Manual, 16" Alloy Wheels, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors.

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\$15,999
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2.0L I4, 125 HP, 4-Speed Manual, 16" Alloy Wheels, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors.

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4.0L V6, 150 HP, 4-Speed Manual, 16" Alloy Wheels, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors, Power Side Windows, Power Side Mirrors.

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\$24,499
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1998 GMC Jimmy, 4WD, fully loaded, power everything, clean inside & out, \$5,900 OBO. 258-3069

1999 JEEP Grande Cherokee, all options, Cleanest in town. Call 505-937-0973

91' JEEP Cherokee, 4x4 Sport, new radiator & hoses, excellent tires \$2500. Call Bob 937-5001 or 257-2997 or Diane at 257-2393

NEED A GREAT BUY? 1992 Nissan Pickup, 4x4, SE, V-6. Runs great, \$3,300. OBO. Please call 808-1444 or 378-7112

97' DODGE Diesel, 4x4, ext. cab, 96,000 miles, clean, runs great, running boards, goose-neck ball, 2 ball, trailer brake. Retails \$16,000. Asking \$14,000. 336-4567 or 937-0940

1995 JAYCO Designer 5th Wheel Series, slide-out, excellent condition \$15,000. OBO Call 937-2698

2001 33FT. Celebrity Travel Trailer with 13ft. slide out, W/D, tub, shower, queen bed, \$15,000. Call Stella or Dale 258-4207

MUST SELL 5TH WHEEL, 2003 Pilgrim Open Road, 35ft. Fully loaded w/3 slide outs. Will sell for pay off. Call Tripp or Aimee @ 258-8811

1999 VW Cabrio, Vin# 3VWDB61EXXM810992. Owner: Katherine Cox. Vehicle is to be sold for balance due. Sale will be after February 6, 2004. Contact Mike at Lincoln County Collision Center. 378-5682

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LAURA LEE SPEER, Deceased.

Cause No. PB-04-02 Honorable Karen L. Parsons presiding

NOTICE TO CREDITORS LARRY GORMAN BROOKS has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of LAURA LEE SPEER, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the Personal Representative c/o Marc Prelo, 412 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso, New Mexico, 88345, or filed with the District Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico.

LARRY GORMAN BROOKS Representative of the Estate of LAURA LEE SPEER, deceased. PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY: PRELO LAW FIRM

Marc Prelo 412 Mechem Drive Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345 Tel. (505) 257-3000 Fax. (505) 257-6514 Attorney for Larry Gorman Brooks

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LAURA LEE SPEER, Deceased.

605 LEGAL NOTICES

vs. JOSEPH A. MUHLKE, WANDA S. MUHLKE, JOHN DOE and JANE DOE, (true names, unknown), Tenants, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 11, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., the undersigned Special Master will, at the northeast entrance of the Lincoln County Court-house, Carrizo, New Mexico, sell all the right, title and interest of the above-named Defendants in and to the hereinafter described real estate to the highest bidder for cash. The property to be sold is located at 443 Chama Canyon Rd., Alto, and is situated in Lincoln County, New Mexico, and is particularly described as follows:

Tract 443, THE RANCHES OF SONTERRA, UNIT THREE, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-officio Recorder of Lincoln County, New Mexico, May 24, 1996, in Cabinet F, Slide No. 448.

THE FOREGOING SALE will be made to satisfy a judgment rendered by the above Court in the above-entitled and numbered cause on December 30, 2003, being an action to foreclose a mortgage on the above-described property. The Plaintiff's judgment, which includes interest and costs, is \$342,343.33 and the same bears interest at 8.375% per annum from September 1, 2003. The amount of such interest to the date of sale will be \$12,882.20.

The Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash. The sale may be postponed and rescheduled at the discretion of the Special Master.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the real property and improvements concerned with herein will be sold subject to any and all patent reservations, easements, all recorded and unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein, and all recorded and unrecorded special assessments and taxes that may be due. Plaintiff and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for, and the purchaser at the sale takes the property subject to, the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as real or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the purchaser at such sale shall take title to the above described real property subject to the Defendants' right of redemption, which period will be determined by the Court.

/s/Nick Vega, Special Master PO Box 383 Carrizo, NM 88301 (505) 648-2463

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LAURA LEE SPEER, Deceased.

Cause No. PB-04-02 Honorable Karen L. Parsons presiding

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

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606 LEGAL NOTICES

the right to withdraw the property from the sale at anytime.

The property includes the contents of the spaces of the following tenants:

Prescilano Cano: Luggage, wheel chair, misc clothing, pots & pans, chest.

Starting Woodridge: Chest, dresser, mirror three piece sectional, cookware, mattress, lamps, pillows, suitcase, small television.

Chuck Hunker: Chest, table saw, suitcase, chair, tool box, fishing gear, metal saw horse, containers of stuff.

Margie Valdez: Bicycles, baby bed, bottled water dispenser, snowboard, misc boxes.

A.G. Mowdy: 10' portable table saw, 2 folding chairs, 5 gal gas can, work table w/ jlg saw and lathe, 10' DeWalt cross-cut saw, 3 extension cords, gutter cleaner, router bit set, 2 bicycles, melamine boards & paneling, hickory boards, 14 misc gluing clamps, nail guns, spiral saw, DeWalt water cutter w/case, ski electric drill w/case, saw horses, spring clamps, 1 8V B&D drill w/case, plastic containers, stereo speakers, tool belts, fishing rods & reels, fluorescent light fixture, bed frame, piano dollies, hand Sanders, ice cooler, misc construction supplies.

A.G. Mowdy: Craftsman 18HP mower, bi-fold doors, Riccar vacuum cleaner, portable evaporative cooler, queen mattress & box springs, king mattress & box springs, water cooler stand, small chest of drawers, couch, love seat, microwave, and table/lamp, Uniflo charcoal grille, golf bag & clubs, fertilizer spreader & garden tools, satellite dish, bedding supplies, misc clothing, gas weed eater, lawn mower, bar stools, color televisions, bread machine, Eddy Flex exercise machine, end table, knife set, tarp covers, kitchen & cleaning supplies, swivel rocker, recliner, outdoor wooden table & benches, bed frame, 1 gal gas can

Renee James: Gas dryer, glass table tops, mirror, satellite dish

Tricia York: Mattress & box springs, fishing poles w/reels, boxes of misc items

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF BENNIE L. DUTCHOVER

Cause No. CV-03-288 Division III

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Please take notice that the petitioner, Bennie L. Dutchover, has filed a Petition to Change Name in the District Court of Lincoln County. The purpose of the petition is to change the petitioner's legal name from Bennie L. Dutchover to Bennie L. Long. Please take further notice that a hearing in the District Court to approve the petition will be held on February 19, 2004 at 8:15 a.m. at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Carrizo, New Mexico.

RICHARD A. HAWTHORNE, P.A. Richard A. Hawthorne Attorney for Petitioner 1221 Mechem, Suite 2 Ruidoso, NM 88345

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF BENNIE L. DUTCHOVER

Cause No. CV-03-288 Division III

606 LEGAL NOTICES

#5935 TT (1)30 LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF RUIDOSO PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Ruidoso Parks & Recreation Committee will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Hub-Bard Room, 122 Downs Drive, Ruidoso Downs. Meetings are open to the public.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the City Clerk at the City of Ruidoso Downs at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible.

/s/Carol Yiriden City Clerk/Treasurer

#5925 4T (1)23,30(2)6,13 LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

No. CV-03-256

MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR RESIDENTIAL FUNDING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,

vs. ANGELA T. CORDOVA; CAMERON M. WILLIAMS; and JOHN DOE and JANE DOE, (true names unknown), Tenants, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will hold a Special Meeting and a Public Hearing at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 12, 2004, at the Village of Ruidoso Administrative Center, 313 Cree Meadows Drive, Ruidoso, New Mexico. The purpose

606 LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF SUIT STATE OF NEW MEXICO

of this meeting is to hold a Public Hearing to consider the following proposed ordinance, and other proper business that come before the Board. AN ORDINANCE OF LINCOLN COUNTY CREATING FLOOD ZONES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING THE FLOOD ZONES DESIGNATED BY THE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS AND THE FLOOD BOUNDARY AND FLOOD WAY MAPS REGULATING FLOOD HAZARD AREA LAND USE AND PRE-

scribing certain terms, providing for administrative duties and appeal procedures, repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, providing for severability, and fixing the effective date of this ordinance.

Copies of the agenda and the proposed ordinance for the February 12, 2004

WITNESS the Honorable Karen L. Parsons, District Judge of the Twelfth Judicial District Court of the State of New Mexico, and the Seal of the District Court of Lincoln County, this 19th day of January, 2004.

/s/ELIZABETH YSASI Deputy

#5938 TT (1)30 LEGAL NOTICE

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/s/ELIZABETH YSASI Deputy

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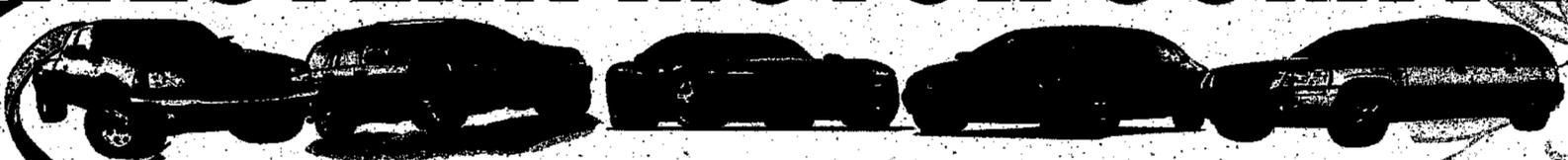
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601 AUTOS FOR SALE 601 AUTOS FOR SALE

END OF MONTH KICK-BLOWOUT

at
WESTERN MOTOR COMPANY



**Biggest and Best
Used Car
Selection**

Vans

Cars

**No
Money
Down!**

**in
Town!**

**No
Payments
'til April
'04**

Trucks

**101 E. Hwy 70
Ruidoso, NM**

505.378.8406

4x4s

**No Credit,
Bad Credit,
All Applications
Accepted!
Call for
Pre-Approval
5378.8406**



601 AUTOS FOR SALE 601 AUTOS FOR SALE

ANNUAL Wholesale Sale

Every January Ruidoso Ford Lincoln Mercury offers you the opportunity to buy like a dealer — you pay only NADA Dealer's Wholesale or Below Wholesale for the vehicle of your choice. There are over 100 units to choose from. No Guessing as every unit is marked with your cost. So come early for your best selection!

✓ CPO Vehicles • 6 yr. 75,000 mile warranty • 4.9% Financing ✓

Special Financing Rates

Wholesale

Many with Factory Warranty

#4306	'03 FORD TAURUS Leather, Sunroof, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$14,999	#4249	'03 FORD RANGER SC XLT, 4x4, 4 Dr, Auto.....Wholesale	\$18,688
#4290	'03 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS Leather, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$18,888	#4304	'03 FORD FOCUS ZX5, 6 Disk, Sunroof.....Wholesale	\$11,555
#4301	'02 FORD F150 SC, 4x4, Flare Side.....Wholesale	\$22,988	#4312	'03 FORD EXPLORER SPORT XLT, 4x4, 4 Dr, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$18,998
#4302	'03 LINCOLN TOWN CAR Sig., Leather, Sunroof, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$29,898	#4253	'03 FORD EXPEDITION XLT, 4x4, 5.4 V-8, 3rd Seat.....Wholesale	\$24,888
#4255	'03 FORD FOCUS ZTS Leather, 6 Disk CD, Loaded, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$10,499	#4298	'03 FORD SPORT TRAC XLT, 4x4, CD/CS.....Wholesale	\$23,727
#4258	'03 FORD FOCUS 4 Dr, Auto, A/C, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$10,455	#4194	'03 FORD WINDSTAR Dual A/C, 4 Dr.....Wholesale	\$15,999
#4232	'03 FORD MUSTANG V-6, Auto, Loaded, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$13,888	#4229	'03 FORD WINDSTAR Dual A/C, 4 Dr, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$16,988
#4307	'03 CROWN VICTORIA Leather, Traction Control.....Wholesale	\$17,888	#4195	'03 FORD WINDSTAR Dual A/C, 4 Dr, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$16,988
#4257	'01 TOYOTA CAMRY 4 Dr, Auto, Moonroof.....Wholesale	\$10,977	#4264	'02 FORD SUPER CREW XLT, 4 Dr, Loaded, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$20,225
#42381	'97 FORD RANGER Flare Side, A/C, One Owner.....Wholesale	\$4,995	#9D0841	'01 NISSAN PATHFINDER 4x4, 6 Disk.....Wholesale	\$18,888
#4297	'02 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL Leather, Sunroof.....Wholesale	\$22,888	#4270	'03 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4, XL, 5.4, CPO✓.....Wholesale	\$25,988
#42481	'02 FORD MUSTANG Auto, CD, CS, 22,700 miles.....Wholesale	\$11,998	#4287	'03 FORD TAURUS SES, PW, PL, PS, CD.....Wholesale	\$12,555
#4270	'03 FORD EXPEDITION 4x4, XLT, 3rd Seat, CPO✓.....Wholesale	\$27,747	#4311	'03 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 4x4, Leather, 3rd Seat.....Wholesale	\$23,989
#4305	'03 FORD FOCUS ZTS, CD, MP3, Fin.....Wholesale	\$10,699	#4317	'01 LINCOLN LS V-8, Leather.....Wholesale	\$19,888
#4292	'03 FORD RANGER SC XLT, 4x4, 4 Dr, Auto, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$19,555	#4315	'03 LINCOLN TOWN CAR Sig., Sunroof, CPO✓4.9%.....Wholesale	\$29,898
#4303	'03 FORD FOCUS ZTW, 6 Disk, Traction Control.....Wholesale	\$11,555	#4319	'03 FORD TAURUS SES, CD, Cruise, Tilt.....Wholesale	\$12,333

All Credit Applications Accepted

Below Wholesale

\$0 Down Delivers

#4175	'03 FORD EXPLORER 4x4, XLT, 4 Dr, 3rd Seat, CPO✓.....Below Wholesale	\$21,673	#4242	'03 FORD ESCAPE XLT, 4x4, V-6, 4 Dr, Loaded, Auto.....Below Wholesale	\$16,989
#4214	'03 FORD EXPLORER 4x4, XLT, 4 Dr, 3rd Seat, Dual A/C.....Below Wholesale	\$20,975	#4279	'03 FORD F150 SC XLT, Low Miles, Loaded, CPO✓.....Below Wholesale	\$17,995
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A musical pick-me-up

story • page 3

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On the cover



COURTESY SPENCER THEATER

Stacy Moscotti is the title character in "The Unsinkable Molly Brown," playing at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts in Alto Feb. 5 and 6. The musical started its national tour two weeks ago, and tickets are available for the Ruidoso performance. See the story on page 3 for more details.



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'Molly' floats to the top at the Spencer

BY KATHLEEN McDONALD
FOR VAMOS

When auditions were posted in New York last summer for a touring revival of "The Unsinkable Molly Brown," more than 400 professional singers and dancers tried out for the starring role. Stacy Moscotti won. The young actress was selected thanks in part to her visceral gusto and spitfire spirit, which mirror those of the original Molly.

Stacy will shine in the spotlights in "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" at the Spencer Theater at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, and Friday, Feb. 6.

Presented with full Broadway flourish, the Windwood Productions musical features a cast of 23 singers and dancers, a touring orchestra, a score by "The Music Man's" Meredith Willson, and dazzling costumes and sets. The show kicked off its national tour two weeks ago and now comes to the Spencer. Excellent seats are available for \$39 to \$45 — call the Spencer Theater at 336-4800 for tickets.

"I love playing Molly; I'm having the time of my life!" Moscotti said.

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown" follows the title character from her dirt-poor childhood to her vaunted status as "uncrowned queen of smart Parisian society." The

show's colorful tunes, including "I Ain't Down Yet," "Belly Up to the Bar, Boys," "I'll Never Say No," and "Beautiful People of Denver," herald what's in store — a tale packed with dramatic drive and plenty of hilarity as Molly refuses to stay down and

always goes for the top.

"I identify with Molly in many ways," Stacy says of the heroine — her first leading role in her first national tour.

"Molly's tenacity is inspiring, as is her willingness to learn. Even when things didn't go as planned, she was not deterred.

I admire that. Her story is about believing in yourself, about making mistakes but always learning from them, about finding one's self. I like her fire."

In fact, Molly Brown has proven to be a motivational

force for Stacy, who had much ambition to begin with: She's a 2000 graduate from Duke University (graduating Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa) with degrees in drama, English and business. She also has a mezzo voice and natural vibrancy helping her to excel.

"I have different goals from Molly, but they are similar in scope: hers was to get rich; my dream is to get to Broadway. She reached her dream and I know I'll reach mine."

If you go

what: "The Unsinkable Molly Brown"

when: 8 p.m. February 5 and 6

where: Spencer Theater, Airport Highway 220, Alto



COURTESY SPENCER THEATER

Tickets are available for "The Unsinkable Molly Brown."

Molly's folkloric tale was made into the sensational Broadway musical "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" in 1960 and a hit movie with Oscar-nominated Debbie Reynolds in 1964, and several of Willson's tunes became classics.

"Molly always had her eye on the prize, but her story shows the journey of life is more fascinating and I appreciate that," Stacy says. "This is an amazing story about an amazing lady. I hope everyone in

Ruidoso comes to see it."

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown," which co-stars Steven Mitchell Brown as Leadville Johnny, will tour to 29 states and Canada.

Anyone seeking to share in Stacy's experience on this cross-country tour should visit Stacy's website blog at StacyMoscotti.com.

Kathleen McDonald is the publicist for the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts.

Glenn Miller Orchestra brings Big Band sound to town

BY SANDY SUGGITT
VAMOS EDITOR

The Big Band sound of the Glenn Miller Orchestra will lift the roof of the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. February 12.

The 19-piece orchestra, led by trombonist Larry O'Brien, continues the tradition of Glenn Miller before he disappeared over the English Channel on a flight from London to Paris in 1944. Miller had formed the Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band to entertain servicemen, after boasting more hit records in one year than anybody in the recording industry ever. "Chattanooga Choo-Choo" was the first Gold Record ever awarded a performing artist, and the



COURTESY RUIDOSO CONCERT ASSOCIATION

The Glenn Miller Orchestra hits Ruidoso Feb. 12.

Glenn Miller Orchestra library is so large that the orchestra can perform five concerts without ever repeating a song, O'Brien said.

Think "Stardust," "Moonlight Serenade," "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree" and "Rhapsody in Blue."

"The orchestra has been in continuous operation since 1956, started at the behest of Mrs. Miller, Glenn's widow,

under the direction of Ray McKinley who was a drummer with Glenn Miller in the Army Air Force Band and also played with Glenn in civilian life before they went into the service," O'Brien said.

Four lucky people may enjoy the concert free — two tickets are available

for the first-comers at the Ruidoso News and the Ruidoso Senior Center, compliments of the Ruidoso Concert Association. Single tickets are \$25 and may be purchased from Candle Power (257-9508), Clinton Smith (258-5702) or at the door.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

ARTS BRIEFS

Saturday, Jan. 31

Silent auction

Silent auction by the Ski Apache Disabled Skier's Association at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 6-9 p.m. All proceeds go to help hundreds of people with special needs learning how to ski and snowboard. All donations are tax deductible. For more information, call 336-4416. Free food for everyone.

Monday, Feb. 2

Community center meet

Community Center Task Force meeting, 7 p.m., at the Ruidoso Schools Central Office, Horton Circle.

Line dancing

Ruidoso Downs Senior Center line dancing, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Book review

The Ruidoso Book Review and Discussion Group will meet at 10 a.m. at the Ruidoso Public Library, 107 Kansas City Road. Dorothy Bailey of Ruidoso will review *Revenge of the Middle Aged Woman* by Elizabeth Buchan, a story of a successful, married career woman with children dealing with the trials and tribulations of middle age and how she handles the unexpected difficulties. There is no charge and everyone is invited.

Leadership Lincoln session

Leadership Lincoln two-day session, today and Thursday, "Operation of State Government," held in part at the state capitol in Santa Fe and hosted by Lincoln County legislators.

Thursday, Feb. 5

Leadership Lincoln session

Leadership Lincoln two-day session, "Operation of State Government," held in part at the state capitol in Santa Fe and hosted by Lincoln County legislators.

Meditation group

Guided-image meditation group meets at High Mesa Healing Center at 2 p.m., led by Susanne O'Malley. For information, call 336-7777.

Friday, Feb. 6

Line dancing

Ruidoso Downs Senior Center line dancing, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Art reception

Reception for Art in Public Places, 5-7 p.m. Ruidoso Village Hall: Ruidoso High School art students' two-dimensional work; Ruidoso Public Library: Cheryl Sullivan from Lincoln with photographs and floor cloths; three-dimensional work of RHS art students.

Lecture in Capitan

First Friday Lecture at the Capitan Public Library, 101 East Second St., is 7-8 p.m. on book clubs, presented by Susan Weir-Ancker and Mary Jo and Porter Smith. Refreshments will follow. Free of charge.

Coming soon

Pastel workshop

Pastel workshop 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, with Michael Chesley Johnson; cost is \$40 plus \$30 for supplies. To sign up, call Elizabeth Becker at the Hubbard Museum of the American West at 378-4142.

Spencer musical

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown" at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 8 p.m., Feb. 5 and 6 tickets \$36-\$45. For information, call 336-4800.

Ski Apache race

The 18th Annual Cross Your Heart Cup Race will be held at Ski Apache from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 11. Proceeds will go to the American Heart Association and everyone is welcome to participate in several events.

A \$12 entry fee entitles participants to race and win prizes based on this year's theme, Hollywood: "It's about fun and fashion!" Medals will be awarded in several categories. Festivities will feature an after-race party at Cree Meadows Country Club beginning at 6 p.m. The auction will feature items from local merchants and those who wish to donate may call 336-4356, extension 211. More information about the event is also

available by calling the above number.

Glenn Miller Orchestra

The Glenn Miller Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Ruidoso High School Performing Arts Center, 100 Warrior Drive. Tickets are \$25. For information, call 258-5702.

Valentine's dinner dance

The community is invited to a Valentine's Dinner Dance sponsored by the First Christian Church from 6:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at Cree Meadows Country Club. Dinner will be between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., and the Graham Brothers will provide music for dancing and listening from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Door prizes will be given away throughout the evening. Tickets for the dinner and dance are \$20 each and are available at First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Rd. For information, call the church at 258-4250.

Dinner theater

Dinner Theater at Mountain Annie's: "The Originals," buffet at 7 p.m., Feb. 14; show at 8 p.m., reservations required (257-7982).

Benefit cocktail party

Join screen star Linda Blair and friends for "Cat Tails," a special cocktail party at the Hawthorne Suites, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20 for the Humane Society of Lincoln County's 2004 Spay & Neuter Campaign. The society's goal is to help 5,000 animals this year alone.

Tickets are \$60 and include a ticket to attend the coming-of-age comedy "Vanities" starring Linda Blair, Erin Moran ("Happy Days") and Jill Whelan ("The Love Boat") at the Spencer Theater Saturday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m.

Mardi Gras in Cloudcroft

Mardi Gras descends on Cloudcroft Feb. 20-22 when village and local businesses are hosts to the annual Family Style Mardi Gras without the risqué atmosphere of the New Orleans carnival. Festivities kick off at 2 p.m. Friday with a mask parade and umbrella judging, a teen dance 6-10 p.m., and for adults, the Fais Do-Do Dance at 8:30 p.m. at the Lodge.

Call to artists

The Tamarind Institute invites nominations of artists for its new project, "Migrations." Partially funded by grants from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, "Migrations" will identify and showcase emerging Native American artists who are working with a contemporary vocabulary. Preference will be given to artists who have been exhibiting for a relatively short period of time, are not known nationally and have not had a museum show. The sponsors seek artists who are exploring ideas related to contemporary art as opposed to working in a traditional manner.

The nominating process is open to everyone, and artists may nominate themselves. A panel of well-respected arts professionals will select six artists from the nominees. The artists will have an opportunity to make prints in collaboration with trained printers at either Tamarind in Albuquerque, or at Crow's Shadow

Institute of the Arts on the Umatilla Reservation in Pendleton, Ore. An exhibition of two prints by each artist and approximately four pieces of each artist's work in other media will open at the University of New Mexico Art Museum in 2006 and then travel to venues across the country. A full catalogue will accompany the exhibition, with color reproductions and essays written by critics who have been invited to visit the workshops during the artists' residencies.

Artists must have a tribal enrollment number to participate and must be free to travel to Albuquerque or Oregon for a two-week period during the late spring or summer of this year. Artists do not need prior experience in printmaking.

A list of required application materials and project information is available at <http://tamarind.unm.edu>.

Tamarind Institute is a division of the University of New Mexico College of Fine Arts and recognized worldwide as a leader in collaborative lithography.

COURTNEY EXHIBITS

Art in Public Places shows

Art in Public Places exhibits for February: at Village Hall, Ruidoso High School art students' two-dimensional work; at Ruidoso Public Library, Cheryl Sullivan from Lincoln with photographs and floor cloths; and three-dimensional work of RHS art students; in the Children's Library, photographs of third-through sixth-graders from a photography workshop taught by the Photographic Society of Lincoln County at the Hubbard Museum of the American West in October.

Schuetz at Capitan library

The featured artist at the Capitan Public Library for January and February is landscape and seascape artist David

Schuetz of Ruidoso.

Johnson at Hubbard Museum

Timberon artist Michael Chesley Johnson's solo exhibition of pastel paintings continues at the Hubbard Museum of the American West in Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico, through February 22nd. All paintings are for sale and 25 percent of the price goes to support the non-profit Museum. For more information, call the museum at (505) 378-4142 or visit www.HubbardMuseum.org.

Information about ongoing exhibits or other events in Lincoln County should be e-mailed to ssuggitt@ruidosonews.com or faxed to Sandy Suggitt at the Ruidoso News at 257-7053.

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ART, CRAFT & SUCH

Film on Mexican artist enlightening

Art, Craft and Such

Practical, creative ways to include fun in everyday living

by Polly E. Chavez



Recently I saw a video, "Frida" (Salma Hayek). I saw how a 1925 trolley car and bus accident transformed Frida's life. She spent over a year in bed recovering and in constant pain. During her convalescence,

Frida began to paint in oils. She found beauty in imperfection and practiced surrealism that was provocative.

Frida sought out Diego Rivera (Alfred Molina) to ask his opinion on her artwork. Eventually she falls for him, accepts his behavior and marries him. The couple traveled to the U.S. and France where Frida met top people from the worlds of art and politics. Their stormy relationship survived his womanizing and infidelities. They shared the same views on politics. In Mexico they boarded Russian communist Leon Trotsky (Geoffrey Rush). The movie follows Frida's relationships with Rivera, Trotsky and various women. Frida's undying devotion belonged to Rivera and they realized they needed each other. An art exhibition brings Frida and Diego to the U.S. When Rivera is paid an assignment from Nelson Rockefeller (Edward Norton) to paint a mural, Rivera refuses to remove a communist reference in his work and returns to Mexico.

When Frida was young, her father shared with her his interest in Mexican archaeology and art. He taught her to use a camera, to develop, retouch and color photographs. Her father, Guillermo Kahlo, was a successful photographer. His parents were Hungarian Jews from Arad, now part of Romania. In 1891, his father gave his 19-year-old son (then known as Wilhelm) money to pay his passage to Mexico. He changed his name to Guillermo and never returned to his country of birth. In 1894, Guillermo married a Mexican woman who died giving birth to their second daughter. He next married Matilde Calderón.

Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo y Calderón, the third daughter of Guillermo and Matilde was born July 6, 1907, in the Mexico City suburb of Coyoacán. Frida was one of four daughters born to the Hungarian Jewish father and a mother of Spanish and Mexican Indian descent. When Frida was 6 years old, she was stricken with polio. She spent nine months confined to her room. The doctor recommended physical exercise to strengthen her slightly deformed right leg. She hid the withered leg with long skirts. As an adult Frida was known for her signature mustache and unibrow. She dressed in flamboyant clothes, preferring floor-length native Mexican skirts.

She died in 1954 at the age of 47. Frida enjoyed art success during the 1940s (when I was born). Her reputation rose after her death in the 1980s with the publication of numerous books about her work by feminist art historians and others.

Via the movie, I saw Frida through her own eyes and her art that reflected her turbulent life. Frida means "peace" in German.

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

Big Fish

Drama and Comedy, 2 hrs. 05 min.

Rated PG-13 for a fight scene, some images of nudity and a suggestive reference.

Edward Bloom (Albert Finney) has always been a teller of tall-tales about his oversized life as a young man (Ewan McGregor), when his wanderlust led him on an unlikely journey from a small-town in Alabama, around the world, and back again. His mythic exploits dart from the delightful to the delirious as he weaves epic tales about giants, a witch and conjoined-twin lounge singers. With his larger-than-life stories, Bloom charms almost everyone he encounters except for his estranged son Will (Billy Crudup). When his mother Sandra (Jessica Lange) tries to reunite them, Will must learn how to separate fact from fiction as he comes to terms with his father's great feats and great failings.

Starring: Ewan McGregor, Albert Finney, Billy Crudup, Jessica Lange, Danny DeVito
Directed by: Tim Burton
Produced by: Richard D. Zanuck, Dan Jinks, Bruce Cohen
Showtimes: 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:35 p.m.
*Saturday and Sunday only
**Friday through Sunday only

Cold Mountain

Romance and Drama, 2 hrs. 35 min.

Rated R for violence and sexuality.

Directed by Academy Award-winner Anthony Minghella ("The English Patient", "The Talented Mr. Ripley") and based on Charles Frazier's best-selling Civil War novel of the same name, Cold Mountain tells the story of Inman (Jude Law), a wounded confederate soldier who is on a perilous journey home to his mountain community, hoping to reunite with his pre-war sweetheart, Ada (Nicole Kidman). In his absence, Ada struggles to survive, and revive her father's farm with the help of



COURTESY

Ewan McGregor in Columbia's Big Fish.

intrepid young drifter Ruby (Renee Zellweger).

Showtimes: Noon*, 3:15 p.m., 6:20 p.m., 9:25 p.m.

*Saturday and Sunday only

**Friday through Sunday only

The Big Bounce

Crime/Gangster, Romance and Thriller, 1 hr. 48 min.

Rated PG-13 for sexual content and nudity, violence and language.

Jack Ryan is a likeable drifter whose talents lie just outside the law. Hoping a change of scenery will bring him luck, Jack heads for Hawaii. He takes a job working construction for Ray Ritchie, a shady real estate developer who is building a resort despite protests by local Hawaiians. Almost immediately, Jack has a run-in with Ray Ritchie's foreman and Bob Jr., Ritchie's right-hand man, warns Jack to get off the island if he knows what's good for him. Enter Nancy Hayes, a thrill-loving local who specializes in good looks and petty crime. When Nancy tries to seduce Jack into helping her double-cross Ray Ritchie and steal \$200,000 of his payoff money, Jack is intrigued-but hesitant. This could be the perfect score, or the perfect setup.

Starring: Owen Wilson, Morgan Freeman, Sara Foster, Gary Sinise, Bebe Neuwirth

Directed by: George Armitage

Produced by: Steve Bing, George Armitage, Jorge Saralegui

Showtimes: 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.

*Saturday and Sunday only

**Friday through Sunday only

The Butterfly Effect

Science Fiction/Fantasy and Thriller, 1 hr. 53 min.

Rated R for violence, sexual content, language and brief drug use.

A young man (Kutcher) struggling with the psychological effects of sublimated childhood memories devises a technique of traveling back in time to inhabit his childhood body, but he finds that every trip back has unintended results on his present self, leading him to travel back again and again, trying to repair the damage that he's only making worse and worse.

Starring: Ashton Kutcher, Amy Smart, Eidon Henson, Eric Stoltz, Ethan Suplee

Directed by: Eric Bress, J. Mackye Gruber

Produced by: J.C. Spink, Chris Bender, A.J. Dix, Anthony Rhulen
Showtimes: 7:10 p.m., 9:45 p.m.

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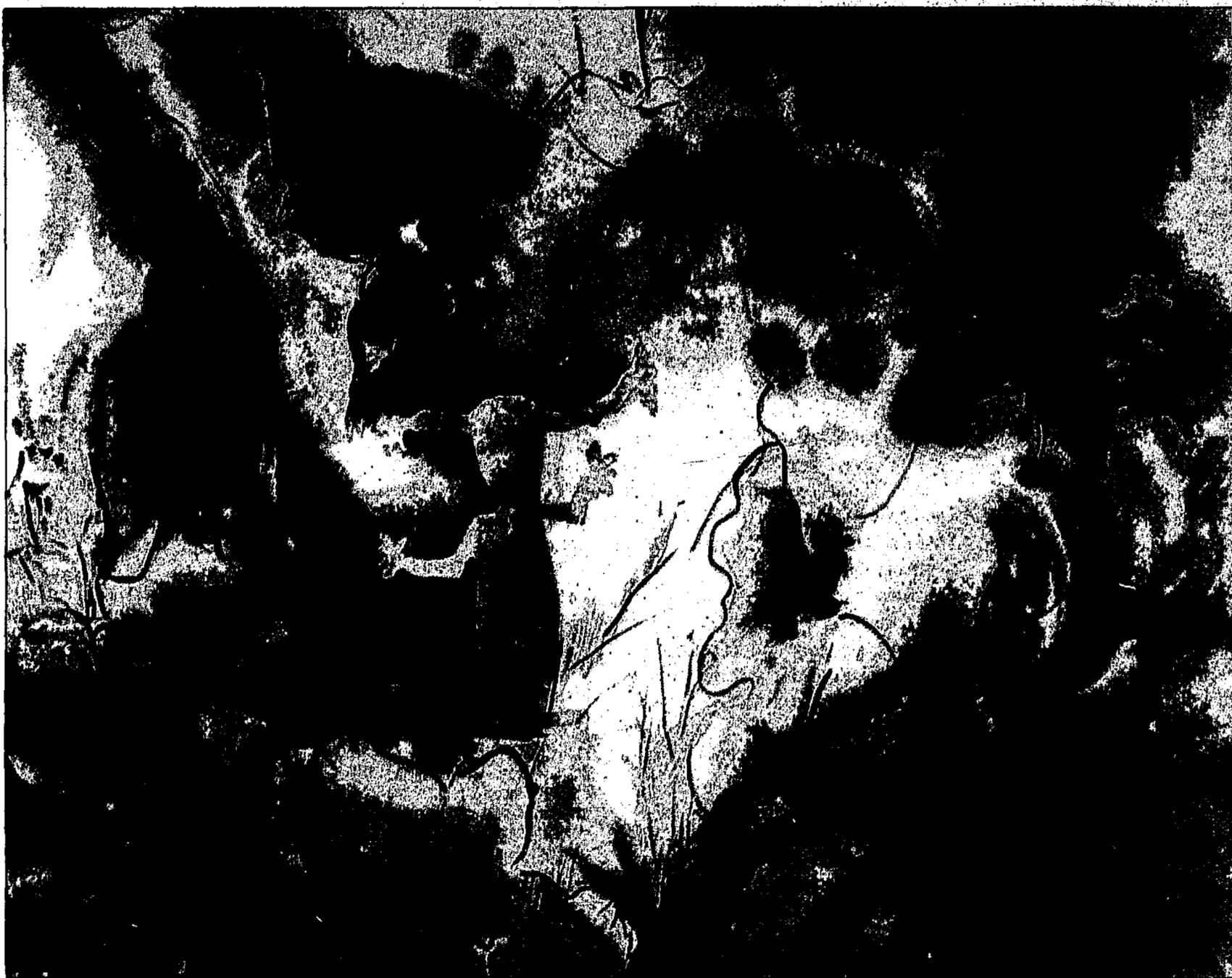
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Ginny Powell: Flora galore

BY SANDY SUGGITT • VÁMONOS EDITOR



SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

"Sally in My Garden"

Whether abstractions or paintings of posies, Ginny Powell's touch with watercolors is light and spirited.

Flowers predominate — and it's not just because they're hard to grow in Ruidoso and therefore paintings must do — but because she was raised by a china painter. Her mother's intricately-painted cups and saucers are displayed in a cabinet in Powell's home and show a meticulousness rare

in china painting — a quality that the daughter's watercolors also show.

"I guess that's why I like flowers so much," she said. "Mother always painted flowers, and I grew up in California where there were flowers all around."

She started painting in high school and prefers watercolors, although she worked with acrylics and pastels in New Orleans — "in between kids."

The family was in New Orleans and Lafayette for two decades, then moved to Albuquerque for seven years before moving to Ruidoso five years ago. Moving around a lot, she found it hard to find teachers and people to paint with, but in Ruidoso she hooked up with Pat Speight about four years, and the two started the "RaRa's," which stands

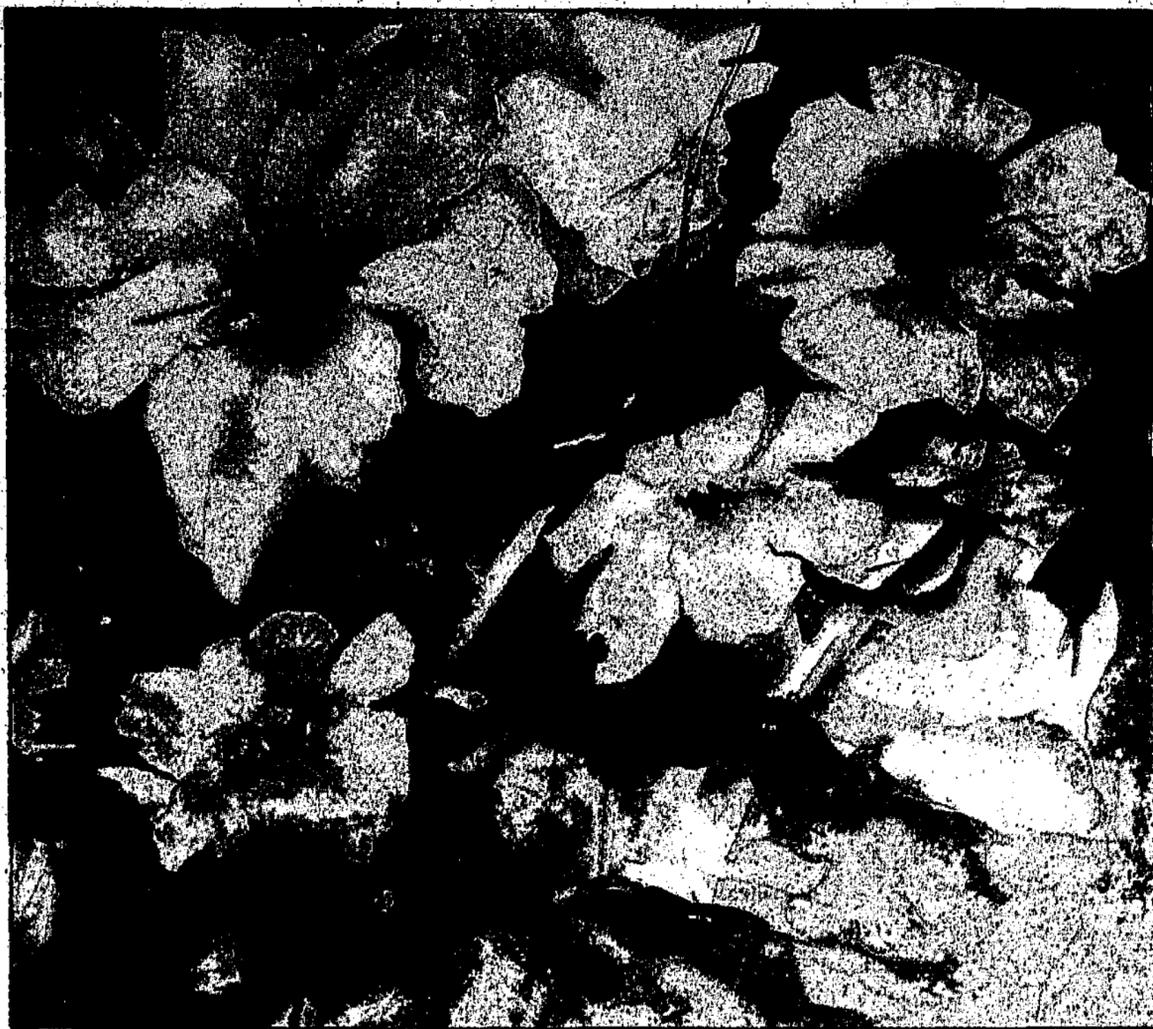
for Ruidoso Art of Ruidoso Artists — an informal group that has since acquired many more members working various mediums. Powell considers Speight her mentor and teacher.

One of those mediums is painting gourds, and Powell's gourds are unique in that they're like her watercolor paintings — decorated with transparent leather dyes.

She also started working with Ralph and Rosalie Dunlap, spinning in Lincoln and making quilts, and Sally and her husband, Rollen, are woodturners as well.

"Watercolor is my love, but gourds are very fascinating because you have a three-dimensional object to hold, finding out what shapes they come in is intriguing, too. I got hooked on that too," she said.

THE ARTS



PHOTOS BY SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

Ruidoso artist Ginny Powell, left, takes a lighthearted approach to her work. Three of her untitled flora-themed pieces are shown here.



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Plain folks of Northfield take action

Past Tense

by Drew Gomer
Historian, The Hubbard Museum of the American West



Much has been written – and filmed – about the celebrated “Northfield, Minnesota, Raid” and the James/Younger Gang, perhaps the most efficient band of outlaws to ever terrorize the American frontier.

It was in Northfield that the gang was shot to pieces by a group of peaceful men who wanted nothing more than to be left alone. Yet, somehow, in the usual retellings of what happened that September day in Northfield, it is the outlaws who come off as the heroes.

And that is a funny thing. There is a plethora of tales telling of how the James and Younger boys were “forced” into a life of crime by the Civil War and other circumstances, and to be fair, there is much to that ... to a point. But not when you consider all the men who came from almost identical circumstances, but did not devote their lives to robbing banks, trains, stagecoaches, and, oh yes, killing people in the process. The James/Younger gang averaged a fatality a year, and when you consider the fact that they were “in business” for 15 years ... they were responsible for a lot of innocent deaths.

It is rare that the story of the Northfield raid is told in anything but sympathetic terms to the outlaws, but what of the citizens of Northfield, the real heroes of the day?

The Ball opens

The people of Northfield were peaceful and industrious. It was a farming community, and with the rich soil that is common in that part of the country, it thrived. Everyone had heard of the conditions down in Missouri, where banditry seemed to be commonplace, and gangs such as the James/Younger gang were actually held in rather high esteem in some quarters. But it all seemed so far away from peaceful, placid, Northfield on the warm, sunny afternoon of September 7, 1876.

Adelbert Ames, mill owner, Medal of Honor winner, and former military governor of Mississippi, was walking toward his mill on the other side of the Cannon River from

the main part of town, with some family members. He noticed three very well mounted men, all wearing dusters, approaching across the Cannon River Bridge. One of the men tipped his hat “Hello Governor,” he said, pleasantly. But something about the trio aroused Ames’ suspicions. “No one here calls me governor” he later stated, and wondered for the next few minutes about the riders. After that, however, he didn’t have to wonder at all, because hell was about to explode in Northfield.

Other citizens noticed, not only these three, but also two other groups of three, and two, respectively. The riders made people uneasy; with their uniform-like dusters, they appeared to be on some sort of mission. And they were, they were.

The first group of three men rode right up to the bank, dismounted and went in, leaving one of the group of two on the sidewalk out front, where he paced. The other man from the group of two stopped in the middle of the street and began to adjust his saddle girth. The three remaining riders just sat motionless at the far end of the street.

They couldn’t have acted more suspiciously if they had tried.

The bravest man in Northfield

When the three desperadoes (probably Charlie Pitts, Frank James and Bob Younger) entered the bank they came face to face with a man of iron nerve who never even carried a gun: J.L. Heywood, assistant cashier.

Cole Younger later complained that the three who entered the bank had been drinking and that was why everything went wrong, and he may well have been right. Whatever their condition, the three bandits just couldn’t seem to rattle Heywood. Charlie Pitts drew a blade across Heywood’s throat – just enough to draw blood – and still the courageous teller would not open the vault for them. He had told them it had a time lock and could not be opened. In actual point of fact, the vault was unlocked and all they had to do was try the door!

Finally, one of them fired a pistol next to his ear and even that didn’t rattle the unflappable Heywood. By now, the citizens were becoming alarmed and gunfire began to reverberate from outside in the street.

A.R. Manning was working at the counter of his hardware store when he heard the initial gunfire. He looked up to see two riders, (possibly Cole Younger and Clell Miller) go thundering across the town square, firing their pistols. At first, he thought they were advertising a show

scheduled for that evening, but soon realized otherwise, when he heard screaming from the street.

Young Henry Wheeler, a medical student-home for vacation, was sitting across Division Street in a chair under an awning when the firing broke out, and Dr. Whiting, the town dentist, walked to his window to see what the fuss was about. The people of Northfield were beginning to take notice.

Back in the bank, employee Alonzo Bunker saw an opportunity to remove himself from harm’s way and proceeded to do so, racing for the back screen door as fast as his legs would carry him – which was not quite fast enough, as it turned out. One of the robbers, variously identified as either Pitts or Bob Younger, sent a bullet crashing into Bunker’s shoulder. However, it seemed only to increase his adrenaline flow. He picked up speed, rounded the corner and made it to safety. He survived.

At one point, one of the robbers – it appears to have been Pitts – saw that the outer door of the vault was open and walked over to investigate. Heywood sprang forward and attempted to slam the door on the bandit, but was pistol-whipped for his trouble.

Time to go

By now, Cole Younger was shouting from outside for the trio inside the bank to give it up and make a run for it: “We are beaten!” he quite accurately stated. In the street, pandemonium reigned. The gunfire had become so heavy as to sound like “a dozen men with hammers” and the men in the bank knew that the raid was a failure. With that in mind, one of them, the last one out the door, turned, and in an act of sheer viciousness, shot the dazed and bleeding Heywood through the head. Then, he turned to join his outlaw cronies in the hell that Division Street had become. The identity of this bandit has always been in question, but in the opinion of this writer, it was Frank James.

A.R. Manning, the hardware store owner, had been handing out rifles to whoever wanted them. The citizens of Northfield were fighting back, something the outlaws were not used to. Wheeler, the young medical student, had climbed to a 2nd-story window overlooking Division Street. In his hands he held an old Sharps carbine with four paper cartridges. Elias Stacy, another local, plastered Clell Miller in the face with a shotgun loaded with bird shot as the outlaw mounted his horse. Still another citizen, a man named Phillips, stood his ground on a street corner, a revolver in each hand, blazing away.

Disaster for the outlaws

Hardware store owner Manning up the street, rifle in hand. At one point, Manning dropped the horse. The (Cole Younger) he hit in the thigh further up the street, Manning saw Bill Chadwell and dropped him dust of Division Street with a bullet to the heart.

A few moments later, young Wheeler, from his sniper’s position on the second floor, put a bullet through Clell Miller, severing his subclavian artery and dropping him, too, into the dust of Division Street.

This was an unparalleled disaster for the fabled James/Younger Gang. Not only had they been whipped, but they had been whipped by a bunch of sodbust Yankee sodbusters at that!

Cole and Bob Younger were ones out of town, bullets whistling around them as they clattered across the Cannon River Bridge. Behind them, the smoke began to lift and wisp away.

See GOMBI



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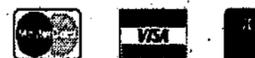
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The Quarters • 2535 Sudderth • 257-9535

The Village Buttery • 2107 Sudderth • 257-9251

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GOMBER: The James/Younger boys get surprised

Continued from page 8

zens began coming out of hiding to take stock of what had happened. Outlaws Clell Miller and Bill Chadwell lay very dead in the middle of Division Street. Citizen Alonzo-Bunker had been hit in the shoulder, but was already being cared for, and in the bank lay the motionless form of the courageous teller Heywood, whose name is honored in Northfield to this day.

None of the people of Northfield had known, at any one time, exactly how many outlaws they were facing. At one point during the fighting, at least one resident had raced about in a panic claiming that 50 men were shooting up the town. Nevertheless, the residents of quiet

Northfield were not about to be victimized by any bandits – legendary or not – and in the end, they proved that decent, honest, peaceful men, when sufficiently aroused, are as dangerous as any outlaw.

Epilogue

Two farmers had heard the shooting just a mile or so away in Northfield that day. They stood in the middle of the road, watching as six men on five horses loped toward them. The men were reloading their pistols as they came. The farmers wisely stepped into the brush and as the men passed, one of them suggested that they "stop for a horse" and another called out "No, no – go on a little further." One of the farmers commented afterward that "it was not until later that we learned what they

had done."

The Younger brothers and Charlie Pitts were relentlessly pursued through the Minnesota woods until, in yet another story of bravery in common men, they were cornered at a marshy area called Hanska Slough. Seven men, of various occupations, marched into a swamp where they knew waited four men who had nothing to lose and were as desperate as men can be. Yet they went in, anyway. In the ensuing gunfight, Charlie Pitts was killed, and the Youngers, very much the worse for wear, were captured. All three were given life sentences.

And the James boys? As usual, they got away. But their power was forever broken. The Northfield experience prompted Frank

to retire from outlawry and Jesse was never able to raise recruits who were quite up to snuff. His standards got lower and lower until he finally let Charlie and Bob Ford into the gang. On April 3, 1882, what most thought was improbable and some thought impossible actually happened. When he and his brother were guests at Jesse's home, Bob shot the legendary bandit chieftain from behind, forever insuring his niche in outlaw history as the "Dirty little coward ... who laid poor Jesse in his grave."

Sources: *The Last Hurrah of the James Younger Gang* by Robert Barr Smith; *I, Jesse James* by James R. Ross, and *The Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters* by Bill O'Neal.

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Plain folks of Northfield take action

Past Tense

by Drew Gomber
Historian, The Hubbard Museum of the American West



Much has been written – and filmed – about the celebrated “Northfield, Minnesota, Raid” and the James/Younger Gang, perhaps the most efficient band of outlaws to ever terrorize the American frontier.

It was in Northfield that the gang was shot to pieces by a group of peaceful men who wanted nothing more than to be left alone. Yet, somehow, in the usual retellings of what happened that September day in Northfield, it is the outlaws who come off as the heroes.

And that is a funny thing. There is a plethora of tales telling of how the James and Younger boys were “forced” into a life of crime by the Civil War and other circumstances, and to be fair, there is much to that ... to a point. But not when you consider all the men who came from almost identical circumstances, but did *not* devote their lives to robbing banks, trains, stagecoaches, and, oh yes, killing people in the process. The James/Younger gang averaged a fatality a year, and when you consider the fact that they were “in business” for 15 years ... they were responsible for a lot of innocent deaths.

It is rare that the story of the Northfield raid is told in anything but sympathetic terms to the outlaws, but what of the citizens of Northfield, the *real* heroes of the day?

The Ball opens

The people of Northfield were peaceful and industrious. It was a farming community, and with the rich soil that is common in that part of the country, it thrived. Everyone had heard of the conditions down in Missouri, where banditry seemed to be commonplace, and gangs such as the James/Younger gang were actually held in rather high esteem in some quarters. But it all seemed so far away from peaceful, placid, Northfield on the warm, sunny afternoon of September 7, 1876.

Adelbert Ames, mill owner, Medal of Honor winner, and former military governor of Mississippi, was walking toward his mill on the other side of the Cannon River from

the main part of town, with some family members. He noticed three very well mounted men, all wearing dusters, approaching across the Cannon River Bridge. One of the men tipped his hat “Hello Governor,” he said, pleasantly. But something about the trio aroused Ames’ suspicions. “No one here calls me governor” he later stated, and wondered for the next few minutes about the riders. After that, however, he didn’t have to wonder at all, because hell was about to explode in Northfield.

Other citizens noticed, not only these three, but also two other groups of three, and two, respectively. The riders made people uneasy; with their uniform-like dusters, they appeared to be on some sort of mission. And they were, they were.

The first group of three men rode right up to the bank, dismounted and went in, leaving one of the group of two on the sidewalk out front, where he paced. The other man from the group of two stopped in the middle of the street and began to adjust his saddle girth. The three remaining riders just sat motionless at the far end of the street.

They couldn’t have acted more suspiciously if they had tried.

The bravest man in Northfield

When the three desperadoes (probably Charlie Pitts, Frank James and Bob Younger) entered the bank they came face to face with a man of iron nerve who never even carried a gun: J.L. Heywood, assistant cashier.

Cole Younger later complained that the three who entered the bank had been drinking and that was why everything went wrong, and he may well have been right. Whatever their condition, the three bandits just couldn’t seem to rattle Heywood. Charlie Pitts drew a blade across Heywood’s throat – just enough to draw blood – and still the courageous teller would not open the vault for them. He had told them it had a time lock and could not be opened. In actual point of fact, the vault was unlocked and all they had to do was try the door!

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Time to go

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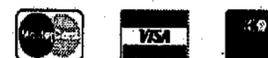
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GOMBER: The James/Younger boys get surprised

Continued from page 8

zens began coming out of hiding to take stock of what had happened. Outlaws Clell Miller and Bill Chadwell lay very dead in the middle of Division Street. Citizen Alonzo Bunker had been hit in the shoulder, but was already being cared for, and in the bank lay the motionless form of the courageous teller Heywood, whose name is honored in Northfield to this day.

None of the people of Northfield had known, at any one time, exactly how many outlaws they were facing. At one point during the fighting, at least one resident had raced about in a panic claiming that 50 men were shooting up the town. Nevertheless, the residents of quiet

Northfield were not about to be victimized by any bandits – legendary or not – and in the end, they proved that decent, honest, peaceful men, when sufficiently aroused, are as dangerous as any outlaw.

Epilogue

Two farmers had heard the shooting just a mile or so away in Northfield that day. They stood in the middle of the road, watching as six men on five horses loped toward them. The men were reloading their pistols as they came. The farmers wisely stepped into the brush and as the men passed, one of them suggested that they "stop for a horse" and another called out "No, no – go on a little further." One of the farmers commented afterward that "it was not until later that we learned what they

had done."

The Younger brothers and Charlie Pitts were relentlessly pursued through the Minnesota woods until, in yet another story of bravery in common men, they were cornered at a marshy area called Hanska Slough. Seven men, of various occupations, marched into a swamp where they knew waited four men who had nothing to lose and were as desperate as men can be. Yet they went in, anyway. In the ensuing gunfight, Charlie Pitts was killed, and the Youngers, very much the worse for wear, were captured. All three were given life sentences.

And the James boys? As usual, they got away. But their power was forever broken. The Northfield experience prompted Frank

to retire from outlawry and Jesse was never able to raise recruits who were quite up to snuff. His standards got lower and lower until he finally let Charlie and Bob Ford into the gang. On April 3, 1882, what most thought was improbable and some thought impossible actually happened. When he and his brother were guests at Jesse's home, Bob shot the legendary bandit chieftain from behind, forever insuring his niche in outlaw history as the "Dirty little coward ... who laid poor Jesse in his grave."

Sources: *The Last Hurrah of the James Younger Gang* by Robert Barr Smith; *I, Jesse James* by James R. Ross, and *The Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters* by Bill O'Neal.

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If only dads planned birthday parties

Dave's World

by Dave Barry
Tribune Media Services



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BY SANDY SUGGITT
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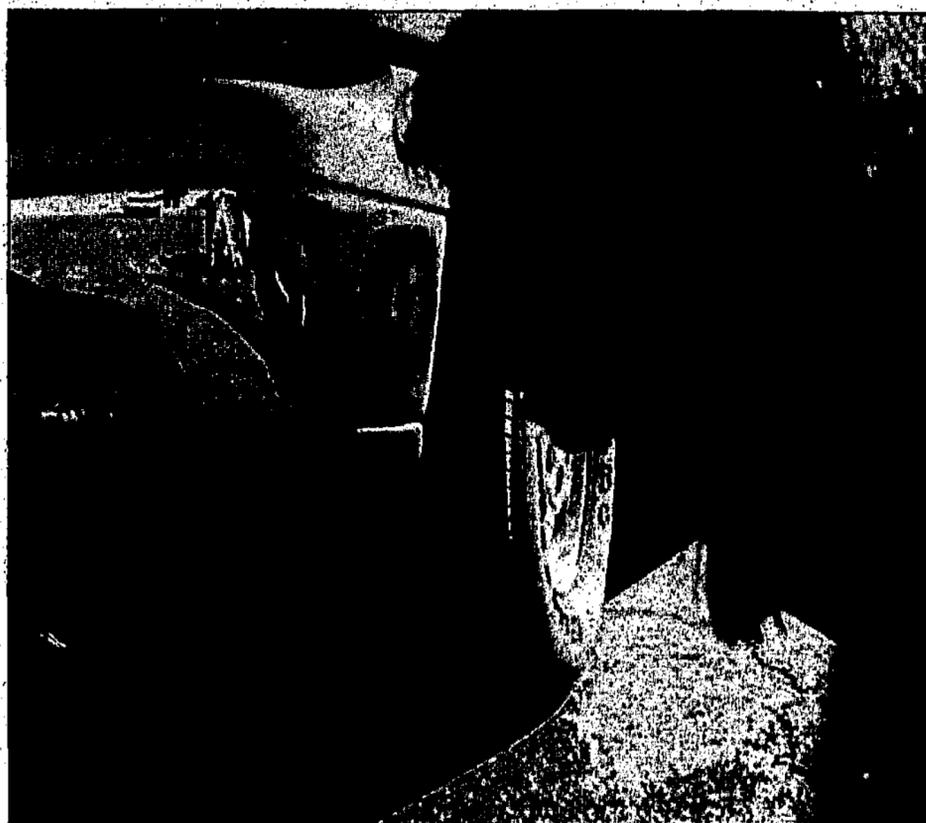


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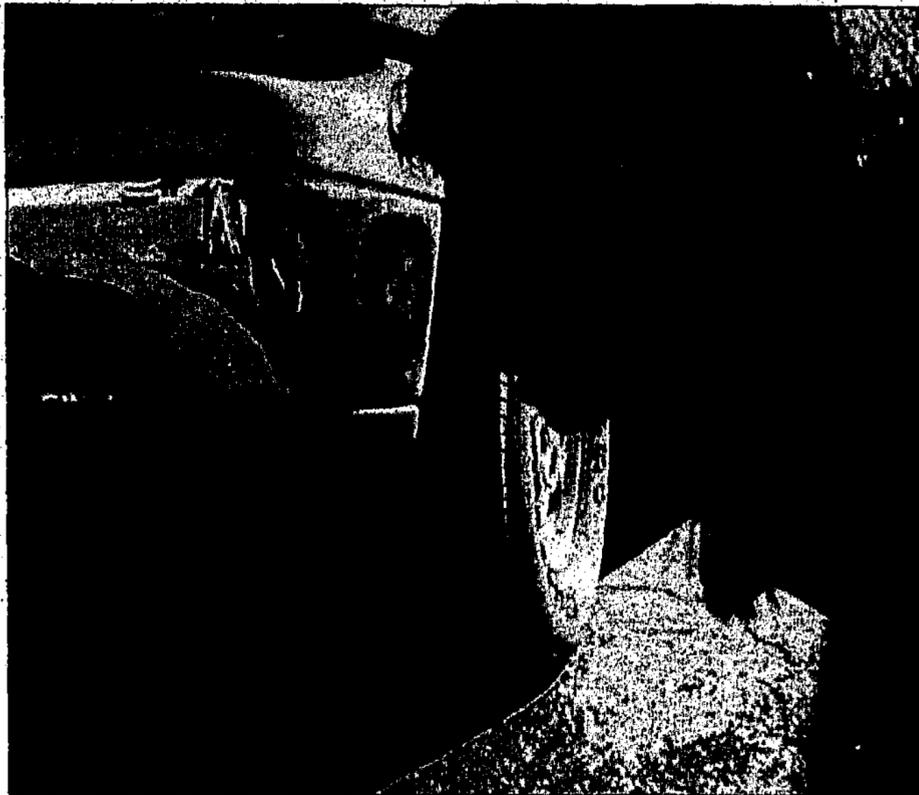


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LOCAL ARTS

RHS art students get a public viewing

BY CHARLI KRAUSE
VAMONOS CORRESPONDENT

Ruidoso High School artists are getting the exposure that they deserve starting in February. As part of the community's Art in



PHOTO BY CHARLI KRAUSE

Work by Orion Jimenez, 10th grade.

Public Places program, both Advanced Placement art students and some regular art students will have their creations on display at village hall and the Ruidoso Public Library throughout March.

The two-dimensional art will be on display at Village Hall, and the three-dimensional can be viewed at the public library. The reception is set for February 6. In March, the student art show will begin at the Hubbard Museum of the American West.

"It gets their artwork out there to the public. Any exposure is good for them whether the public responds or not," said Barry Lucy, RHS art teacher.

The artwork to be displayed is in all shapes and sizes. A sculpture made from tightly rolled magazine pages, along with a glass dish, and a colored pencil drawing are just some of the pieces in the exhibit. All of the Advanced Placement art classes are participating, along with the top regular art students.

"I'm just picking and choosing what has been the best and what hasn't really been seen before," said Lucy.

AP art student Chris Kluthe is a

first-year art student at RHS.

"I stay up until 4 a.m. working on my art. It's a great class to take. Before, I was surrounded by classical art, but now I'm in a class that explores more contemporary art and allows me to be more creative," Kluthe said. "Art shows are good because they show the community what the students are capable of."

Deita Daignault is a new student to RHS and is also going to have work in the show.

"I really enjoyed creating my piece. It took me about two or three weeks to complete it. I think art shows really show the community what we are accomplishing," Daignault said.

Lucy feels that this exposure is good

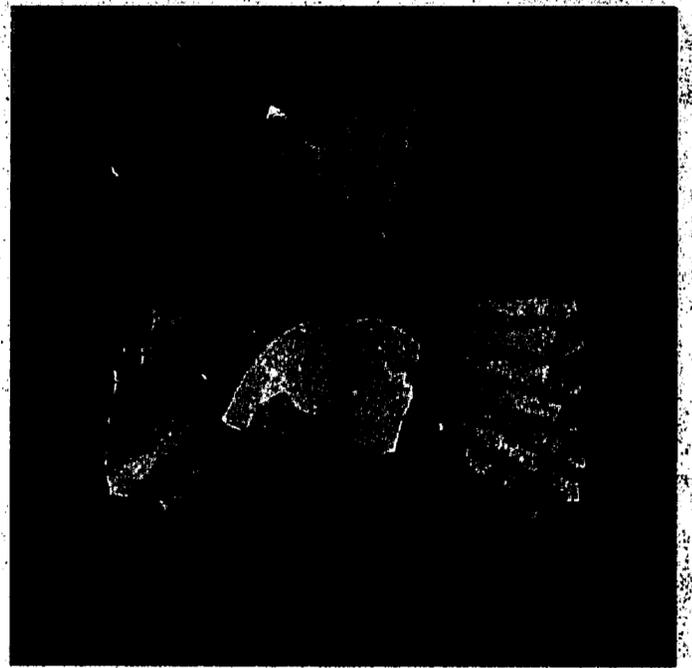


PHOTO BY CHARLI KRAUSE

A paper creation by Greg Garcia, 11th grade.

for the students and also beneficial for the rest of the community.

"The main thing the kids' work does is bring work to the public here that they are not really exposed to. It has a very contemporary background. I show them a lot of contemporary work in class. The style around here has been the same for about 20 years," Lucy said.

Animal benefit Feb. 20

Various organizations throughout the greater Ruidoso community have joined forces for a swanky cocktail party at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20 at the Hawthorn Suites. Dubbed "Cat Tails," the party proceeds benefit The Humane Society of Lincoln County's 2004 Spay/Neuter campaign. Enjoy the gourmet vegetarian hors d'oeuvres of Myra Romero and Dave Anderson (stuffed grape leaves with rice, mint, currants and spices; stuffed mushrooms with veggies, fresh fruit, vegan cheesecake, fresh pico de gallo) and the Spanokopita (Greek phyllo pastry with spinach and herbs) of the Greenhouse Café; music by Sam Donahue; beer by Sierra Blanca Brewery; and wine by End of the Vine.

Stage and screen star Linda Blair ("The Exorcist," "Born Innocence"), an animal lover and founder of the WorldHeart

Foundation, will also be on hand.

"I will go anywhere and do anything for animals," she said when helping to arrange the Cat Tails party.

If you go

what: "Cat Tails" cocktail party, a benefit for the Humane Society of Lincoln County

when: 6 p.m. Friday, February 20

where: Hawthorn Suites, 102 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso

Tickets are \$60, with proceeds benefiting the HSLC. All ticket buyers also receive a ticket to "Vanities," starring Linda Blair, Erin Moran and Jill Whelan at the Spencer Theater, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21. For tickets call 336-4800 or go to www.spencertheater.com.

"Cat Tails" is sponsored in part by Spencer Theater, Hawthorn Suites Golf & Convention Resort, Sierra Blanca Brewing Co., End of the Vine, and the Humane Society of Lincoln County, with media support from

Ruidoso News and Ruidoso radio stations KRUI-1490 AM NEWS TALK TOURISM & KIDX 101.5 FM; KWES 93.5 FM & KBUY AM, and KEDU-LP FM 102.3.

Schuetz featured in Capitan

The featured artist at the Capitan Public Library for January and February is David Schuetz of Ruidoso.

As a young man, Schuetz sang and played guitar, entertaining audiences from Branson, Mo., to Honolulu, Hawaii, and still plays and sings gospel music.

He became interested in painting by watching Bob Ross and Jerry Yarnell on PBS, working first in watercolors. He attended seminars by Marvin Stevenson in Odessa, Texas, and took drawing courses at Odessa College.

Mostly self-taught, he studied oil painting with Lorene Caywood in Capitan for about two years. He won People's Choice Grand Champion at



COURTESY DAVID SCHUETZ

David Schuetz's work will be on display in Capitan.

the Lincoln County Fair and prefers landscapes and seascapes.

Currents works by Schuetz are at the Adobe Gallery and several shops in the Ruidoso area, and he has paintings on display at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, and in private collections in Iowa, Missouri, New Mexico and California.

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Ultimately tasteful antique architectural elements throughout. Adjacent guest house on 1 ac. is the utmost in elegant accommodations for your favored guests.

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.



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



MAIN COMPLEX OF THE ENCHANTMENT RANCH

This artistic home and studio are tasteful, secluded, and beautiful. Courtyard, waterfalls, and ponds provide a fantastic ambience on 5.4 acres. Custom antique features throughout. \$480,000 #10391

HOMES WITH CREEK OR RIVER FRONTAGE



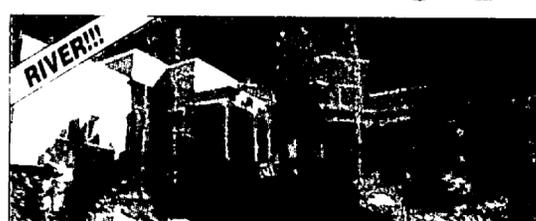
GREAT HOME WITH CREEK FRONTAGE!

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



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



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

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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**



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**



ALTO BEAUTY ON THE 16TH 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**



OPEN CONCEPT ALTO BEAUTY ON FAWN DRIVE
 You'll like everything about this great one-level 3 br home w/wood floors. Fabulous valley views. Full golf. Located on a secluded cul-de-sac. Downstairs perfect for expansion. So attractive! **\$369,500 #10465**



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**



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**



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**



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. **\$440,500 #96311**



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**



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**

GREAT VIEW HOMES



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**



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**

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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



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 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! \$106,900. #10183



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



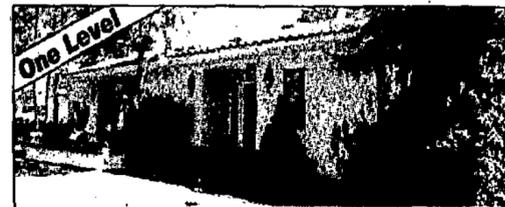
GREAT VIEW HOME ON .99 ACRES!

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



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



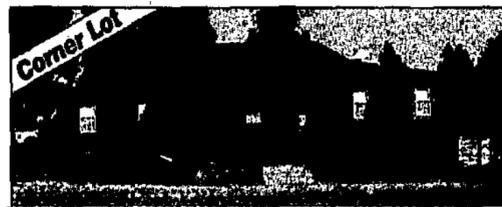
QUALITY, PRESTIGIOUS CUSTOM-BUILT HOME

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



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



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



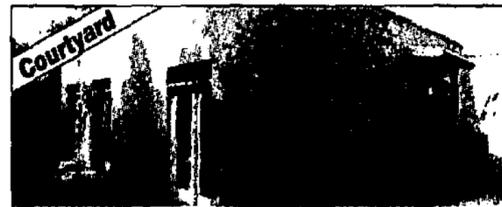
GREAT 3 BR. IN THE DOWNS

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



THESE UNITS SELL FAST!!!

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



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



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



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



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



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

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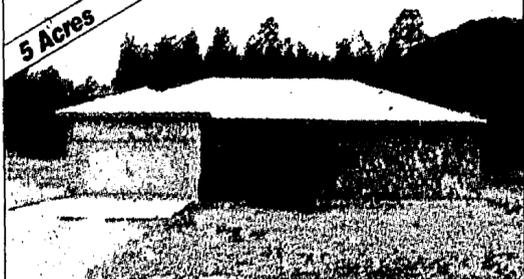
SPECTACULAR HOMES WITH ACREAGE

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



5 Acres



EXCEPTIONAL STUCCO HOME ON ACREAGE

This attractive one-level home on approx. 5.13 acres in Shangrila 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

5 Acres!



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

17.25 Acres!



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 runs, tack room, and 3-bay workshop. Fenced! Nice home too. \$495,000. #93526

Great Buy!



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

COMMERCIAL

Potential!



GREAT COMMERCIAL PROPERTY W/ HWY FRONTAGE

Real estate... Approx. 2.24 acres w/ approx 569 ft. Hwy frontage. Approx. 2,500 sq. ft. building w/ office, shop, grease pit, two 16 ft. overhead doors & storage. Excellent multipurpose commercial location. \$225,000. #93288

1.53 Acres



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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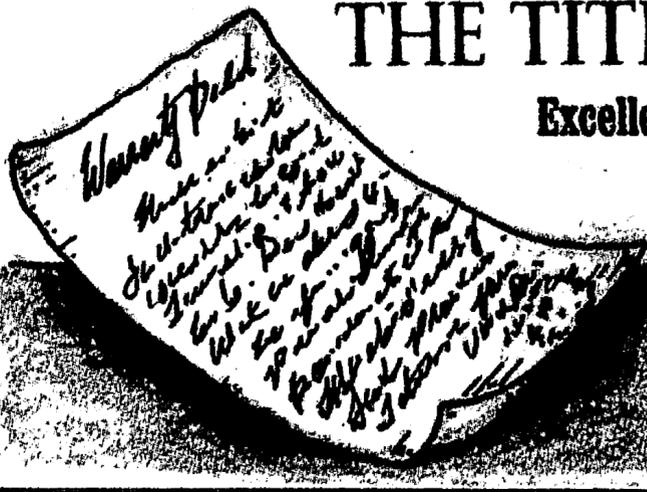
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