

THE COMMUNITY PAGE

A coming of age in Mescalero

DIANNE STALLINGS
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Continuing one of the most sacred traditions of the Mescalero Apache, Twyla Rayne Ahidley Enjady will celebrate her coming of age ceremony beginning May 17-20 in Whitetail.

An 8th grader at Ruidoso

Middle School, Twyla is the daughter of Kimberly Enjady and Malloy Ahidley. She enjoys art and spending time outside.

Twyla is Mescalero and Chiricahua Apache and a descendant of renowned Apache leaders Naiche and Cochise.

Her family includes brother Joshua and two sisters, Trinity and Angel. She is the grand-

daughter of the late Larry Wayne Enjady and Debra Blaylock Toclanny. Her maternal great-grandparents include Lorraine Moquino and the late Wayne Enjady, Sr., Charles and Ellys Hugar, a great-granddaughter of Cochise, and the late Clayton Blaylock.

Twyla's paternal family includes grandparents Pansy and Phillip Ahidley, great-grandparents Zola Ahidley and the late Phillip Ahidley, Sr., and the late Goldie and Leonard Kanesevah, Sr.

The feast will be staged near the old school in Whitetail, a former Chiricahua enclave where Twyla's great-grandmothers Lorraine and Clara Mae grew up. For more information, call 464-4336.

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Library solicits Downs support

Todd Fuqua
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Supporters for the Ruidoso Public Library were out in force at Monday's Ruidoso Downs Council meeting, voicing their desire to see the council budget money for the library's book fund.

Library director Phyllis Reed asked the council for \$5,000, citing the fact that Ruidoso Downs residents use the library's various services.

"Children and grandchildren come to our reading programs in the summer, and adults come to special programs all through the year," Reed said. "They also use our public access computers for research and e-mail. We're very glad to offer these services."

Reed was joined at the podium by Sue Albom, library board chairman, who said the \$5,000 request is actually quite modest, given how many Downs residents use the facility.

"If we asked for a correct proportion, based on how many use the library, we could come here and ask for \$51,000," Albom said. "Books are actually the biggest drain on a library. They cost money to replace, borrowers lose them from time to time, and users expect the newest titles out there."

"Some people just come in

to sit down and read a book in some peace," she added. "Please consider our reasonable request for funding this year."

During the public input portion, five residents spoke in favor of the budget consideration, with several others in attendance in agreement.

Council provided \$1,500 in 2004 for library books.

The council was ready to approve this month's bill for the Regional Waste Water Treatment plant in the amount of \$23,772.92 before councilor Dean Holman expressed a desire to comment on the bill.

As a motion had already been made, a second was needed to vote on approval before discussion could commence. No second came, and the motion died, as did all discussion on the issue.

The council moved on, but City Manager John Waters said the bill will likely be on the council's next agenda.

Council also approved confirmation of Mark Luis as the Acting Public Works Director, and approved Resolution No. 2007-02, completing an application for a Local Government Transportation Fund, known as GRIP2.

GRIP2 funds, if awarded by the state, would raise \$261,000 toward the completion of a new Parker Road Bridge.

Nunley: Land is available for airport expansion

Ruidoso mayor says a bond issue to fund improvements could be repaid by airport revenues

DIANNE STALLINGS
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Plenty of land is available for development at Ruidoso's Sierra Blanca Regional Airport, the mayor says.

L. Ray Nunley told Airport Manager Tim Morris at a recent village budget meeting that he receives constant calls about pilots wanting hangars for airplanes.

Morris said plans call for more parking for vehicles, more tie-downs, more hangars and more jet fuel access.

If a bond issue is needed to build the improvements, it could be repaid with generated revenues from those improvements at the airport, Nunley pointed out.

Morris said within the next five years, a new taxi-lane will be added using 95 percent federal money, which will open up an entirely new area for development and produce more income for the airport.

Village on federal radar

Morris received news this week that the village was among five southeast New Mexico airports awarded more than \$2.36 million in federal Airport Improvement Program grants.

U.S. Sen. Pete Domenici

announced the awards. The Republican from New Mexico said the grants will go to Roswell, Hobbs, Fort Sumner, Artesia, Lea and Lincoln Counties for infrastructure improvements to ensure safer air service to those communities.

The largest award is \$1.28 million to support the replacement of the terminal at the Lea County Regional Airport in Hobbs. Domenici, who serves on the Senate Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the FAA, noted that the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded more than \$11 million in AIP grants to more than 20 New Mexico communities.

Sierra Blanca Regional Airport, owned by the village of Ruidoso, received \$300,000 to sealcoat Runway 12/30, and repair electric perimeter fence components.

"Airport safety and maintenance is important to any municipal airport. These funds will make the facilities in these smaller communities more suitable for supporting the civilian and business air service," Domenici said. "It is this air service that can make the airports assets for sustaining and expanding economic development."

THE OTHER AWARDS WENT TO:

• Roswell International Air

Center, Roswell - \$630,000 for terminal renovations to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and to purchase an airport sweeper.

• Fort Sumner Municipal Airport, Fort Sumner - \$151,540 to complete rehabilitation of the aircraft parking apron.

• Artesia Municipal Airport, Artesia - \$150,000 to improve the airport access road, and update the facility's "Exhibit A property map."



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Duemling headed to State Engineer's district office

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Bill Duemling, who is well-known in Lincoln County for his years as a service forester with the New Mexico State Forestry Division, will assume a new position as water resource engineering specialist for the State Engineer's Roswell district office.

Duemling previously was stationed in the Capitan district of the forestry division and, among other duties, worked with developing treatment plans for forested land to improve the watershed and reduce the risk of wildfire.

"Duemling will be working on water administration and water rights issues within the Carlsbad, Roswell and Artesia basins," said State Engineer John D'Antonio.

"In addition, he will be conducting field investigations concerning illegal water diversions in that area."

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry in 1984 from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Managing resources

The Office of the State Engineer is charged with administering the state's water resources. The state engineer has power over the supervision, measurement, appropriation, and distribution of all surface and groundwater in New Mexico, including streams and rivers that cross state boundaries.

The State Engineer also is Secretary of the Interstate Stream Commission and oversees its staff.

The nine-member Interstate Stream Commission is charged with separate duties including

protecting New Mexico's right to water under eight interstate stream compacts, ensuring the

state complies with each of those compacts, as well as water planning.



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RUIDOSO NEWS OPINION

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2007

RUIDOSO NEWS

Glenas Orcutt, publisher
Marty Racine, editor

A MediaNews Group Newspaper. Published every Wednesday and Friday
at 104 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, New Mexico

OUR OPINION

It's time for the circus to go animal-free

Cruel methods have no place in a compassionate society

The Web site to which PETA refers in a letter on this page is www.circus-es.com.

We went there. We saw and heard the video in which an elephant trainer commands, "Hurt them, make them scream!" For anyone who loves animals, it is not a pretty sight.

Yet it is not entirely shocking. It has been known, or assumed, for years that severe training methods are employed to get wild animals to "perform." The editor of this newspaper saw first-hand the intolerable conditions and extreme heat to which polar bears were subjected at a circus in Puerto Rico. One of the bears subsequently died en route on a rescue mission back to the U.S.

There is something wonderful and magical about a circus: flying trapeze artists, sword-swallowers, clowns. At the circus, we're all kids again, and

there are many ways to be delighted. Animals coerced into performing "tricks" needn't be among them.

We don't fault the Optimist Club for sponsoring this week's Carson & Barnes circus in Ruidoso. Society as a whole needs its consciousness raised. We learn and evolve, and just as we finally came to terms about the cruelty of cockfighting, so should we about the circus.

We leave you with the words of anthropologist and animal behaviorist Dr. Desmond Morris:

"The idea that it is funny to see wild animals coerced into acting like clumsy humans, or thrilling to see powerful beasts reduced to cringing cowards by a whipcracking trainer is primitive and medieval. It stems from the old idea that we are superior to other species and have the right to hold dominion over them."

Rocket ships will carry souls closer to the Pearly Gates

It's time to fess up. This column has been unduly harsh with the notion of taxpayers subsidizing a playground for rich guys. We characterized the \$198 million Spaceport America at Upham as nothing more than a jungle gym for the wealthy.

Once this thing becomes fully operational, and it will be soon, you will be able to

buy a \$200,000 ticket to strap yourself onto a rocket and whiz on into space, hopefully to return and hold a news conference. Wheee!

Here's where I missed the boat. It is not only rich people who are going to blast into the wild blue yonder.

Dead people, too.

They've already done it. For historical purposes, note that on the last Saturday of April, a 20-foot rocket soared into hazy skies carrying the cremated remains of 200 folks. The idea, maybe, is they were hoping to get closer to the Pearly Gates.

Among the 200 was the actor who played "Scotty" on Star Trek. Now, that makes some sense. A fitting burial matching a person's identity.

It could catch on. Perhaps a fellow who spent a lifetime writing opinion page columns could have his ashes poured into the ink tank at the local newspaper. It would mark the first time the poor guy ever made the front page.

If you are looking for evidence that life isn't fair, note that space travel, like first class airline seats, will be available only to the rich. It is little consolation many more of us will be able to afford it dead. You can send your loved one's ashes soaring for less than \$1,000.

Truth be known, he'd probably just as soon have a new set of golf clubs while he can still enjoy them.

One has to wonder who owns

space. What would your grandma Millie have to say about all the clutter we are sending up there? Everyone is dumping something. Space is

beginning to look like an Alabama farmyard with two rusting John Deeres, three Model A's, and a 1961 Ford Victoria with a missing hood. Spaceport America, I have failed to mention,

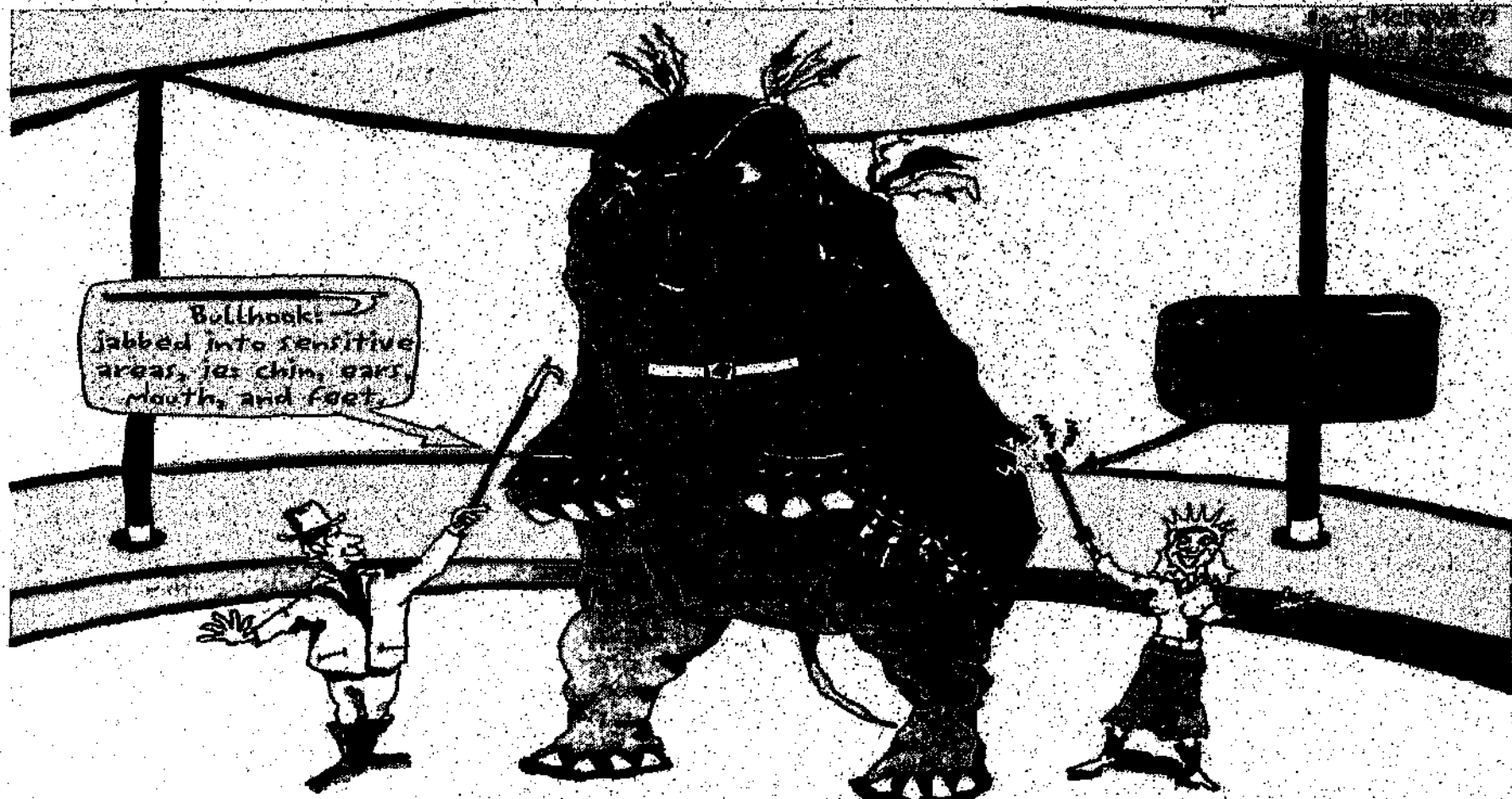
is big business with potential economic impact. Rick Homans, once New Mexico's Economic Development Secretary, quit that post at Governor Bill Richardson's request to take over the Spaceport development. Rick was absolutely jubilant with the success of the burial space shot.

"This has truly been a christening of the spaceport and all its potential," Rick said. Rick need not rest on his laurels. I'm starting to get it, though. Dead people will make the difference. Just carrying rich people didn't seem to work when you crunched the numbers. Let's see, \$198 million cost. At \$200,000 a ride, you need to find 990 people who want to ride into space to cover your investment, forget overhead.

The way I figure it, there are maybe, like, nine. The other 981 rich guys will be satisfied with a \$15 ride on the roller coaster at Six Flags and a day at the spa. Rick Homans has some unique problems, even in addition to finding a motel in Upham when he goes to work. Marketing would seem to be a challenge. Let's see, I've got an extra 200 grand and am considering a space flight. There have been two launches thus far. One was successful, one crashed into a mountain. Hmmm, 50 per cent chance of coming back alive.

Where's the ticket booth?

NED CANTWELL - ncantwell@beyondbb.com - would rather be driving.



REALLY?!!!

YOUR OPINION

Bullhooks used on circus elephants inflict pain

To the editor:

THIS MORNING, PETA sent a letter to Ruidoso Mayor Lonnie Ray Nunley and the Village Council urging the village to enact legislation that would ban the use of bullhooks, electric prods, and other devices commonly used to inflict pain on elephants. PETA's request comes in light of Carson & Barnes Circus' scheduled May 17 visit to Ruidoso.

Carson & Barnes is a chronic violator of the federal Animal Welfare Act, and its animal care director has been caught on videotape viciously attacking elephants with bullhooks and electric prods. PETA points out that similar legislation is already pending in Chicago and has requested to meet with Mayor Nunley and the Village Council to discuss making the 2007 Carson & Barnes performance the last time that these instruments are used against elephants in Ruidoso.

PETA's letter was accompanied by a videotape, which shows Carson & Barnes animal care director Tim Frisco repeatedly attacking elephants with steel-tipped bullhooks and shocking them with electric prods as the animals scream and recoil in pain. "Tear that foot off! Tear it off! Make 'em scream!" Frisco instructs trainers. "Right here in the barn. You can't do it on the road. I'm not gonna touch her in front of a thousand people."

The undercover video footage reveals standard elephant-training practices used by the circus industry.

"Bullhooks are cruel tools of the circus trade that are routinely used to beat elephants into submission," says PETA Director Debbie Leahy. "Mayor Nunley and the Village Council must send circuses the message that these instruments of torture will not be permitted in Ruidoso."

Video footage of elephant beatings can be seen on PETA's Web site Circuses.com. PETA's letter to Mayor Nunley and the Village Council follows.

May 10, 2007

Dear Mayor Nunley and Councilors:
PETA is the world's largest animal rights organization, with more than 1.6 million members and supporters dedicated to animal protection. We have obtained video footage documenting elephant abuse at the Carson & Barnes Circus, which is scheduled to perform in Ruidoso on May 17. We are writing to ask the village to enact legislation that would ban bullhooks, electric prods, and other devices that inflict pain on or cause injury to elephants.

The enclosed video footage shows Carson & Barnes animal care director Tim Frisco viciously attacking terrified elephants with metal bullhooks and electric prods. Frisco instructs other trainers to hurt the elephants until they scream and to sink a sharp metal bullhook into their flesh and twist it. Frisco also cautions that the beatings must be concealed from the public. A U.S. District Court judge described this video as "troubling"

and noted that it depicts conduct that violates the federal Animal Welfare Act. Carson & Barnes paid a \$400 fine....

The use of bullhooks results in pain, suffering, and trauma, including lacerations, puncture wounds, swelling, and abscesses. Although elephants' skin appears tough, it is actually so sensitive that elephants can feel the pain of an insect bite.

Trainers embed the sharp hooks into the elephants' skin and soft tissue areas. Bullhook abuse is routine at circuses that continue to use this barbaric instrument, but penalties are rare. Elephants will not be afforded more humane care until communities prohibit these cruel devices.

An elephant's ability to feel pain—as well as sorrow, joy, and happiness—rivals our own. In circuses, every instinct is subject to discipline. Elephants who reach for a blade of grass, try to comfort a friend, or extend their trunks to smell something new suffer a painful blow from a bullhook.

A fumbled trick during the show results in a beating. Elephants in circuses live a sad life of punishment and confinement.

We hope you agree that the abuse of animals in circuses is unacceptable and that you'll make this year's Carson & Barnes performance the last time that elephants will have to endure the bite of a bullhook in Ruidoso. Please let me know if we can meet to discuss this issue. You can contact me at 206-367-0228 or LisaW@peta.org.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Lisa Wathne, Captive Exotic Animal Specialist

Guidelines unmet

To the editor:

ONCE AGAIN, THE CIRCUS is coming to town, with its accompanying cruelty and neglect. Prior to last year's circus I contacted the Ruidoso Optimist Club (the event's host) requesting that the circus be cancelled, suggesting instead a more appropriate form of entertainment.

While attempting to cite supportive materials over my concerns as to the care, treatment and transport of circus animals, [the Optimists] stated that Ruidoso would no longer host another circus. I was instantly relieved... A year later I was told I was "nothing but a do-gooder" and got disconnected.

There is no lack of documentation to educate and inform those yet unaware of the unmet minimal federal requirements for the care and maintenance of captured "performance" animals used in many areas of entertainment. Animals in captivity have a multitude of demands and needs that their captors are mostly ignorant of and/or rarely qualified to provide—demands and needs that would naturally be met within their own groupings in their supportive habitat.

As humankind calls out and seeks to earn respect in fields of personal endeavor,

or, mutual respect for all life needs to be considered if interactive success is to be achieved. Fences without clear purpose appear overnight on private lands, interfering with wildlife migration, trees are randomly cleared, which puts small animals at risk from sky and land predators, and coyote dens are excavated with little regard. Poisons scattered thoughtlessly to achieve award-winning gardens and lawns claim lives of even domestic animals.

Finally, New Mexico claims a ban on cockfighting. Let's not ignore any animal cruelty. Please take a reflective informed moment and grasp the magnitude of the plight of circus animals. They are invited rightful participants on Planet Earth along with all its magnificent inhabitants.

Recall the words of comedian Richard Pryor: "But for the use of physical punishment by, and fear of, their oppressors, animals would never be a part of a circus."

Carol Maloney
Alto

Cats work from fear

To the editor:

I SEE THAT THE OPTIMIST CLUB is sponsoring a circus in our locality. I would like to find out if any members of this organization made any effort to see how circus animals are treated.

In contrast to the glitter associated with circuses, performing animals' lives are miserable. Constant travel means that the animals' access to basic necessities, such as food, water and veterinary care, is inadequate.

Because animals do not naturally ride bicycles, stand on their heads or jump through rings of fire, whips, electric prods and other tools are often used to force them to perform.

Undercover footage of a behind-the-scenes training session shows elephants being viciously beaten with bullhooks and shocked with electric prods. The beatings are concealed from the public.

Some elephants spend almost their entire lives shackled. Many die prematurely of disease, captivity-induced foot problems and arthritis, and the stress of confinement.

According to Henry Ringling North, author of *The Circus Kings*, early in their training big cats are "chained to their pedestals, and ropes are put around their necks to choke them down... They work from fear."

Tigers and lions usually live and travel in cages 4 feet high by 7 feet long by 7 feet wide.

Bears may have their noses broken or paws burned to force them to stand on their hind legs, and they are repeatedly beaten with sticks to make them obey. Chimpanzees may be fitted with collars that deliver electric shocks through remote controlled devices carried by the trainer.

Alan W. Moseley
Ruidoso

How to find yourself: Go to Google, dangle a carrot and hope they correct the 'map'

It was a simple phone call. "This is FEDEX, where do I find you?" After a couple years of therapy (until the insurance co-pay ran out) we were still trying to "find me." This could be a complex answer.

"Do you mean in an existential sense?"

"Yeah, what exit? Where are you?"

There are very few off-ramps to White Oaks, NM, but this is an often asked question by most over-nighting service explorers suffering through a marketing concept going something like, "when it absolutely, positively has to be there

overnight." A ghost town in Nowhere, New Mexico, is just not on the profit map of that deal. Eight of the last ten years we didn't even have a street address to our name.

Some delivery companies readily adapt. We have a permanent parking spot for the UPS truck at our place. My wife really doesn't need all that she purchases. She enjoys the hunt, and she just likes having a guy in uniform to talk to every now and then. DHL has solved the problem of "finding me" in the past by taking the

package to be delivered to the post office and mailing it to me by certified priority mail, thus adding a 26-mile round trip to the post office gas bill on my side of the delivery equation.

FEDEX seems to use one crew for overnight deliveries and another when it absolutely, positively has to be there sometime.

"Got Google?" I replied to the FEDEX rep on the phone? "Good, go to Google Maps and type in my name and address and that little location carrot is placed right on the roof of my house on the satellite map."

I know, I put it there. If you enlarge the satellite map you can see our white "found" dog in the backyard. That's Posada. The other two are our Boston Terriers, but they've moved since the photo was taken. I'm sure that the military has better aerial maps.

They say that the military could put a cruise missile up an orifice of every camel in the Middle East from satellite imagery. Because of their ability to not be in the same place too long, Boston Terriers are pretty safe from a terrorist threat like this.

This column is known in the biz as a "service piece." You, too, will be able to find yourself and take total control of where your locator carrot is in life, at least on Google Maps, by word's end.

Say you're a first-time visitor to Lincoln County and you Google popular locations here and head out the door with a stack of printouts in hand. Here's where you'd end up (as of last Wednesday, as you know things can change)...

The Flying J Ranch is located at the Bonito cutoff. That's nine miles or so from where it really is in Alto.

Use the Google Maps to find Inn of the Mountain Gods and you'll at least be within site of the resort, but you'll be checking in at what used to be their stables, as I recall. (There's a little warning on Google Maps that "all locations are approximate." Not many maps that have the nerve to put a statement on the map like that. If "everything on this map is approximate," well, it's not really a map, is it? It's a suggestion of direction.

Ski Apache is located about half way up the mountain. At least it's on the road to Ski Apache.

The Spencer Theater, which takes a map, is about seven miles off, and you'd actually find yourself pretty near the Flying J Ranch.

There are three different location carrots for the Billy The Kid Casino, and the closest one would still be a three, or more, mile walk to get there. Another is so far off that one would also have to hike to it and bring something to kill snakes along the way.

Google has the Ruidoso News in a residential area of what is known as the "Upper Canyon." They're not.

Let's say you were a pilot and you forgot your maps (luckily pilots that are still alive don't do this) and you use Google Maps to find the Sierra Blanca Regional Airport on Airport Highway 220. You'd be landing on The Links Golf Course about 10 miles away, and it's not going to have a good outcome. The course is known for its moguls.

Now the White Oaks Schoolhouse was not even on the map a while back, but they are now, because it is possible to put yourself on the map, or at least move those little carrots to where your business actually is. This is kind of cool except for the fact that you're doing the work that Google didn't. It also means, to ranchers 12 miles off the pavement, that they can put an exact locator and refer delivery companies to Google for directions. No excuses. Do what you're paid to do. Of course, DHL will still probably

mail it to you.

Here's how. Go to Google Maps. Sign on the Business Center (email address and another password to remember). It's free. Give some details about your business and then you get to go to the map (click on the satellite version) and actually drag your carrot right to your front door.

They'll send you a postcard to verify that you are who you are (it takes the post office two weeks to get it here), or have their computer call you within the next five minutes (you'll have to punch in a PIN verification number they give you). The bad news is that it may take up to a month (some are instant) for this location to be uploaded. Both the Spencer locator and Flying J Ranch have been corrected recently, but Google only uploads maps once every four weeks.

There, I've been of service.

And if you don't want to be found (there are those among us who seem to prefer that), you can always, like, plunk that carrot in the middle of the lava beds west of Carrizozo.

Don't be surprised, though, if Danny, the UPS guy, doesn't try to hike in with a box on his shoulder.

BRAD COOPER is a columnist who writes out of White Oaks. He's on the map.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Requiring universal insurance will not cure the health care mess

LAURA L. CASEY
Austin, Texas

We overuse health-care services every day, turning our doctors into robots prescribing the latest pill du jour for the latest fad disease, and why should we care about the costs?

Are the healthcare plans proposed by California or Massachusetts good for America?

Universal health insurance coverage to all state residents — that sounds like Christmas. How does universal health insurance improve care and cost less? Frankly, I thought Americans were already footing the bill for the uninsured and then some. Are doctors and hospitals tossing the sick and injured out into the street because the person was uninsured? How come no one told me?

In addition to care for the uninsured, why do I now need to pay for twelve employees who will administer the process, adjudicate claims, and create programs like the Medical and Healthy Family rewards system that seeks reduce premiums for healthy behavior and pay for the uninsured's gym membership? If I can earn free air-travel I might just quit my job, move to California and join the fun.

Universal coverage — what does that really mean? I have health insurance and I am subject to poor access, inattentive providers, inaccurate health record reporting, chart-

ing errors, infection due to unclean operating rooms and inaccurate billing. Is this what California and Massachusetts are aiming for? How does getting everyone insured help this situation? Please don't misunderstand me. I want those less fortunate to be cared for. I do believe the free gym membership is a bit extreme, and I want the rest of us cared for, too.

God bless California and Massachusetts for trying but when will we affect change for the masses? American's adolescent predisposition for over-consumption is not alien to our health care delivery system. We over-utilize health care services every day. When are we — you and I — going to ask for the whole thing to change? Take a moment and reflect upon your most recent health-related encounter.

Could anyone tell us what it was going to cost before we got our bill? No, but gosh darn it we will all be required to have insurance now, why worry about cost? Did we have to wait? Yup, and expect those wait times to grow because

we've oversold this flight. Was your doctor prepared to see you? No, we've taught him to be a robot prescribing the drug du jour, and what is this latest trend?

Now he sends us to the pharmacist to get our questions answered. *Hmmm*, I thought that was the doctor's job. Does your doctor really care? Maybe, but he's too scared to make that known, because you might sue him.

Did you, the patient, question the care proposed by the doctor as to why it was necessary and just how the procedure, drug or test was going to affect your quality of life? No, we've been taught to respect authority.

Did anyone ask what happens if you don't get this test, drug or procedure and how that choice will affect one's quality of life? No way! The doctor said....

What we don't need is more entitlement-based programs or rewards, "to encourage the adoption of healthy behavior" as the governor of California's health care proposal indicates. Why keep trying to control the

uncontrollable? What costs more? The choice to weigh 350 pounds, smoke cigarettes and die of heart disease at 48, or live to 87 with chronic back pain, new knees and hips because the "healthy" person chose to run marathons for forty years of his life?

Both lifestyles have inherent ongoing health related costs and what we need is honesty. If I am content at 350 pounds and love my family and enjoy my cigarettes and food, or if I loved running to the extent I wore my joints to the bone, nothing, I repeat, nothing related to health insurance is or was going to alter my behavior.

Both state reforms are requiring all individuals to have a minimum level of coverage because, according to California's proposal, this is the most effective way to "fix the broken health care system." Considering California was the state that created Managed Care for us 15 years ago, maybe California should take a backseat this round and let somebody else have a turn.

With every member of the

every American with quality of life and health. Meeting that goal costs less because the paradigm shift is away from over-consumption dictated by physicians, insurance companies and legislators and toward mindful choices made by the consumer.

LAURA L. CASEY resides in Austin, Texas, and is the author of *How to Get the Health Care You Want*. Her Web site is www.laura-casey.com.

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 - But the businesses were billed just \$37,650.00 for Village wastewater services.
 - Thanks to Village Taxpayers, those local 5 businesses saved \$1,275,400.00 last year.
- DON'T YOU THINK VILLAGE TAXPAYERS SHOULD AT LEAST RECEIVE A THANK YOU NOTE?**

P.S. If you think there is a remedy in sight, you probably believe in SANTA CLAUS and the TOOTH FAIRY!!

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EDUCATION

Rowland honored as Teacher of the Year

TODD FUQUA
toddf@ruidosonews.com

Until two weeks ago, Jean Rowland had never heard of Wal-Mart's Teacher of the Year program.

Now, she is a Teacher of the Year. The first-grade instructor at Sierra Vista Primary was honored with the award as a local winner, earning a \$1,000 education grant for her school and making her eligible for the State Teacher of the Year award, as selected by the Phi Delta Kappa international educational fraternity.

State award winners earn a \$10,000 educational grant for their school, and are then eligible for the National Teacher of the Year and an additional \$25,000 for their school.

Rowland is currently in the process of applying for the state Teacher of the Year award, but never thought she would even be honored at the local level as she has.

"It totally surprises me," Rowland said. "There are so many in this school to choose from, and so many great teachers in the area."

Rowland was the teacher chosen by Wal-Mart of Ruidoso, picked from teachers nominated from the Ruidoso, Mesalero, Carrizozo, Hondo, Capitan and Corona school districts.

She got her start teaching kinder-



Jean Rowland, honored as the 2007 Teacher of the Year by Wal-Mart for the Ruidoso area, stands with her first-grade class at Sierra Vista Primary as they show off their hand-made guitars and sport cowboy hats as part of their year-long cowboy theme.

garten in 1980 in Alamogordo, moved to Odessa and worked with parents and volunteers in teaching children with developmental delays.

Rowland came back to Alamogordo in 1989 to continue working with developmentally delayed children, and ended up working with several

students and parents in the Mesalero area.

She later moved to Ruidoso, teaching in the first all-day kindergarten,

and has taught first grade at Sierra Vista for the past decade.

"I wanted to make a difference and secure their future," Rowland said when asked why she made the decision to become a teacher. "I wanted to make sure they had a fun experience when learning. It is so much fun for most of the time."

Making things fun includes bringing in animals from her farm, hatching eggs and creating a lot of hands-on work for the kids.

Currently, Rowland's class is in the middle of a cowboy theme that has been running all year long, with students donning cowboy hats, making cut-out guitars, singing around make-believe campfires and envisioning themselves as cow-punchers out on the open range.

When addressing the Ruidoso School Board after accepting the Teacher of the Year Award, Rowland quoted Proverbs 22:29: "Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings."

The point behind the quote, Rowland said, is that a person can be infinitely skilled at what he or she does, but that person owes their talent to a much higher authority, and that's just how she views being honored as Teacher of the Year.

"If you're wondering how important excellence is, remember the King you are serving," Rowland said.

Graduates encouraged to continue their quest for education

TODD FUQUA
toddf@ruidosonews.com

More than 180 students earned their GED, training certificates, Associate of Arts, Bachelors and Masters degrees Saturday during the second commencement ceremony for Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

The assembled throng heard from Freda McSwane, a local attorney who earned her bachelor's degree from ENMU-Ruidoso and an eventual law degree from Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

McSwane was a non-traditional student, as are many who take classes at ENMU-Ruidoso, and said it was a challenge for her to quit her job and move to Portales to live in a dorm and finish her degree on the main campus.

"I was a true non-traditional student," McSwane said. "I had to complete 15 hours in my final summer before I was able to enter law school at Texas Tech."

This shows you can do anything you want to do if you don't let anything get in your way."

McSwane said she also had a lot of help in her journey from friends, family and ENMU faculty, and challenged the graduates to continue their education and improvement.

"You are our future, don't let your achievements end here," McSwane said. "Your journey has just begun."

Graduating students were also treated to addresses by Frasia Hendrickson, a GED recipient, and Associate Degree graduate Patricia DeSoto, both of whom overcame their particular obstacles in obtaining their education degrees.

"No one should give up on their dreams," said Hendrickson, who earned her diploma fifteen years after she would have graduated from high school. "It was lots of work to get where I am now, but I had a lot of support from my family. I had to do this, not just for myself, but also for my daughters."



Local attorney Freda McSwane addresses graduates, professors and dignitaries at the second Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso commencement ceremony Saturday at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Locals earn NMJC degrees

HOBBS — New Mexico Junior College affirmed 233 students' search for knowledge during its commencement ceremony May 11, when the students officially graduated with various degrees, diplomas, and certificates. Twenty-six GED recipients graduated from the Adult Basic Education program as well.

The commencement exercise honored students graduating with associate degrees in arts, applied science, and science, as well as certification students and GED recipients.

Seth A. Carruth, of Ruidoso, and Milika S. Sanchez, San Patricio, received Associate of Applied Science degrees.

Optimist Club scholarships

The Optimist Club of Ruidoso has awarded its 2007 college scholarships to Nayara Megarity, Wendy de la Torre, Brianna Sherrell of Ruidoso High School and Kelsey Campbell of Capitan High School. Joseph Baldonado and Jara Kristen Berg of

Ruidoso were named as scholarship alternates. More than 40 applications were received from graduating seniors at Lincoln County and Mesalero high schools. Each recipient will receive a \$500 scholarship award.

Megarity plans to attend the Art Institute of Colorado to major in photography. De la Torre will attend college to major in Criminal Justice. Sherrell plans to attend UNM to major in Nuclear Engineering. Campbell will attend UNM as a premed major. Baldonado and Berg also plan to attend UNM.

The scholarship program is an annual activity of the Ruidoso Optimist Club whose mission is support of local youth. For more information, contact Club President Tom McElligott at 915-588-2487.

Summer registration

Summer and Fall semester registration at Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso begins Monday. Summer classes commence June 4, while the Fall semester starts Aug. 20. Summer schedules are available at the campus

or online at www.ruidoso.enmu.edu. Students can also register at 709 Mechem Dr. or by phone at 1-800-934-3668.

ENMU-Ruidoso classes

Several special short-term classes begin this month at ENMU-Ruidoso, with several more on the horizon for those seeking some self-enrichment and learning opportunities. Early registration is encouraged. Classes offered are:

- Jujitsu, June 1-29, Tuesdays and Fridays
- Get Your Ham Radio License, June 2-July 7, Saturdays
- Mosaics, June 4-7
- Kung Fu, June 5-29, Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Photoshop, June 9
- Scrap Booking, June 9
- Don't Get Lost (Wilderness Skills), June 9
- Alcohol Server Education, June 11
- Learn to Play the Baroque Recorder, June 15-22, Fridays
- Making your own Gift Baskets, June 15
- Beginning Stained Glass, June 16-July 7, Saturdays
- AARP Drivers Safety, June 22-23

Registration for these and other classes can take place by telephone, mail, FAX, or in person at the ENMU Customized Training office located in the Lincoln County Works Center, 707 Mechem Dr. For more information, call Coda Omness or Fred Reed at 630-8181 or 1-800-854-4712 or by e-mail at coda.omness@enmu.edu or reedf@enmu.edu.

The 2007 summer reading program at the Ruidoso Public Library, titled "Get a Clue @ your Library," kicks off June 2. Registration for the program has begun and will run through June 21.

An all-day Western event has been planned for the grand opening. Crafts, activities and participation prizes for younger readers will begin at 9:30 a.m. "The Saga of Cindy," a Western version of Cinderella, will be performed by the library staff at noon, with the

chuckwagon serving "doggie" dogs, cow chips (potato chips) and sarsaparilla sippers (soft drinks) during the intermission.

For tweens, teens and other patrons, a presentation on Billy the Kid will be given at 1 p.m. Tickets will also be on sale for a "cowboy quilt" to be given away. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for six tickets. The quilt drawing will be held July 14.

Kids College at ENMU

The following Kids College classes at ENMU-Ruidoso are beginning in June, and early registration is encouraged.

- Christmas in June, June 15, 12:30-4 p.m.
- Cupcake Decorating, June 29, 1-3 p.m.
- Gourd Art, June 22, 12:30-4 p.m.
- Making Your Own Birdhouse, June 15, 9 a.m.-noon.

The complete community education schedule can be viewed online at www.ruidoso.enmu.edu. You can also call Coda Omness at 630-8181 for more questions or to register.

RMS to institute dress code next year

TODD FUQUA
todd@ruidosonews.com

Dress codes at public schools are inherently controversial things. School districts all across the country have toyed with the idea, only to be met with resistance from parents and — particularly — students.

But once they've been implemented, things settle down and everyone gets on with the business of teaching and learning.

At least that's what Ruidoso Middle School principal George Heaton hopes will happen when RMS institutes its dress code next year.

"We decided to do this due to the general deterioration of student dress in the public school setting," Heaton said. "Many middle schools in New Mexico and the Southwest have gone to dress codes just in the middle school age group."

The simple code — it takes up just one typewritten page — has been sent to retail stores and is

available just about everywhere. It's been sent home with grade cards for sixth graders that will be entering seventh grade next year, it's been sent to all parents of current middle school students, placed on the school district's public access channel and can be found on the district's Web site.

Heaton said the biggest resistance to the code was the abolition of denim jeans. That included a few questions from the school board when it was presented at last week's meeting.

"We went against that because there are so many styles of blue jeans out there, and we wanted more of a uniform code," Heaton said. "We didn't want to make this too hard to police."

Heaton said this code is not set in stone, and will be reviewed by staff and a parent-teacher committee throughout the year.

Ruidoso Middle School 2007-08 Dress Code

1. **Shirts**
 - a. Must have collars
 - b. Must be solid navy blue, golden yellow, or white
 - c. Must be tucked in
 - d. Any logos must be smaller than a quarter. School Logo - RMS or RHS will be allowed
 - e. Undershirts: solid white, navy, or golden yellow tee shirts or turtle necks are allowed under collared shirts, with the undershirt sleeves no longer than the outer shirts (no writing or logos)
2. **Pants or capris**
 - a. Must be tan, khaki, or navy blue. (No denim of any color, no cargo)
 - b. Must fit properly on the waist
 - c. Length should not be longer than heel of shoe
3. **Shorts, skirts, or jumpers**
 - a. Must be tan, khaki, or navy blue (no denim of any color, no cargo)
 - b. Length needs to reach at least the wearer's fingertips when standing up straight
4. **Outerwear**
 - a. Must be stored in locker during the school day
5. **Miscellaneous**
 - a. Belts are encouraged
 - b. Ripped or torn clothing is not permitted
 - c. Writing or embroidery is not permitted on clothing
 - d. Handbook will address accessories such as headwear, body piercing, and sunglasses
 - e. Sweaters and sweatshirts will be designed by the RMS Student Council to be sold to students, late Fall

School board hears questions on band program trip to Branson

TODD FUQUA
todd@ruidosonews.com

As an addition to its state agenda last Tuesday, the Ruidoso School Board heard from Dr. Arlene Brown, who brought up a number of questions regarding the Ruidoso High School band's performance in Branson, Mo. the week before.

Brown questioned the financing, timing and appropriateness of the trip, with board president Danny Sisson promising an investigation into those questions.

A week later, superintendent Paul Wirth says most of the allegations brought up by Brown are based on "misinformation."

"I asked [activities director] Todd Garelick to research the letter," Wirth said. "He spoke with band students and with parents. We find, across the board, the questions have no basis."

Wirth wouldn't comment any further, as most of the questions raised involved student confidentiality.

In more upbeat news, the board recognized several students

and teachers for their recent accomplishments.

Students Josh Valcarlos, Lucas Lindsey, Ceranne Osborne, Brianna Sherrill and Mifeka Wenner were all honored as ACT scholars, while Danny Flores praised the efforts of the 6th-8th-grade band students who earned top marks in performance and sight reading at recent festivals.

Ruidoso Middle School principal George Heaton praised students Taylor Vuicich, Alex Barleen and Lauren Flores for being selected as representatives for the People to People World Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C. April 2-8.

Teachers also got recognition, as Jean Rowland was congratulated on being named the local Teacher of the Year by Wal-Mart. Rowland is now applying for the State Teacher of the Year honor.

Four instructors were also honored at the end of their careers, as Connie Forrest, Susie Goza, Debbie Thomas and Nan Wierwille were thanked for their years of service to the Ruidoso school system.

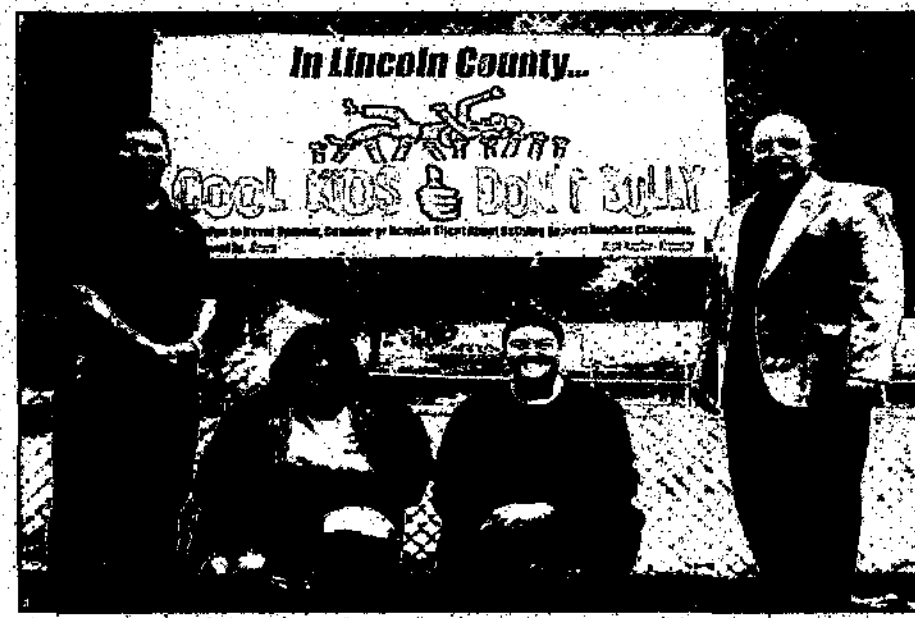
Cool Kids Don't Bully campaign gears up

The Cool Kids Don't Bully campaign kicked into high gear this week with the official hanging of the Cool Kids banner at the Ruidoso tennis courts at Sudderth Drive.

Local Cool Kids Representative Lynn Salas contacted Susan Phillips from the Village of Ruidoso Planning & Zoning to discuss permission to hang the local banner, which states "In Lincoln County...Cool Kids Don't Bully."

In addition, Salas also contacted Raphael Salas, Parks and Recreation Director for the Village of Ruidoso, for permission to hang the banner on the fences of the tennis courts. The public has become accustomed to watching for local events and campaigns posted on these visible fences.

A resolution in support of the Cool Kids campaign signed by Lincoln County Commissioners Dec. 14, 2006, noted "Bullying is a pervasive



COURTESY

Sponsor Brad Stewart of Sears, Ellen "Buzz" Bizzell of Village of Ruidoso Parks & Recreation, Cool Kids representative Lynn Salas and Cool Kids founder Rick Naylor show off the latest Cool Kids banner to be hung, this one at the tennis courts on Sudderth Dr.

and serious problem in today's schools...and research shows early intervention with youth

can curb and diminish their choice to use violence." The Lincoln County Cool

Kids banner was sponsored by the Ruidoso Sears store. Owner Brad Stewart was happy to participate in a violence prevention program for our youth. According to Stewart, "Our community must work together to change the current air of acceptance of bullying. Our kids deserve to be safe at school."

For further information on obtaining a Cool Kids banner for your business or school, call Representative Salas at 973-2437 or Cool Kids Founder Rick Naylor at 973-1727.

Zia Scholars announced

Zia Natural Gas Company is proud to announce the 2007 New Mexico high school scholarship recipients. A scholarship in the amount of \$500 per semester for four years is awarded to students in service areas based on academic standing, demonstrated need and an overall sense of community participation.

Sean Lahey, Ruidoso; Kevin Kelsey, Capitán; Kaitlyn Vega, Carrizozo; Bhavini Bhakta, Hobbs; Deanna Reed, Jal; Angelena Casias, Cimarron and Lauren Eshom, Springer are this year's scholarship recipients.

RMS to salute student achievers

Ruidoso Middle School will salute its stars starting at 3 p.m. May 17, featuring work done by students from every discipline.

The event — which is scheduled to last until 7 p.m., features performances by the RMS school band and jazz band, the 7th and 8th-grade choirs, drama class and Fiesta Dancers. There will also be a science fair, video presentation of the middle school yearbook, student work displays in all classrooms, student-designed mousetrap car races, a student-built crash test model car competition and a middle school apparel sale.

The event's purpose is to display and celebrate all the hard work students have done during the school year, and the public is invited. Light snacks will be served in the cafeteria.

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AGREE

FROM PAGE 1A

Her council already banned the use of detergents with phosphates to help the treatment plant meet a 0.01mg/L phosphorous standard for discharge to the Ruidoso River, which is designated as a cold water fishery, she pointed out.

Curry said the nitrogen limit is set in the operating permit for the treatment plant. "I don't know if yours truly can't get there or not," he told councilors. "But you have to start or we go back down the road 14 years. There is always a reason not to get married. Now is the time, and the Environment Department tried to help you."

Ruidoso Councilor Greg Cory pointed out both municipalities passed bond issues totaling \$14 million and they back more capacity and a higher quality discharge.

"But every expert we talk to says it is just not possible at this time (to meet the nitrogen

standard)," he said. "My concern is financial. We have a population of 8,000 and Ruidoso Downs has less than half of that. (The plant) is a \$3,000 investment for every man, woman and child. I'm worried about signing an agreement referring to a limit we can't meet."

Councilor Ron Hardeman, who later offered the motion for the Ruidoso Council to sign the agreement, said, "Our biggest fear is that we spend all this money and then don't reach the standard, and then we have no bonding capacity and maybe no one is interested in giving more grants or loans."

State Surface Water Quality Bureau Chief Marcy Leavitt stressed to councilors that even if the agreement was never signed, the 1.0 mg/L standard for nitrogen is part of the operating permit for the plant and would have to be met, unless modified.

She said five years will give the JUB valuable time and that the strict standards enacted around the country likely will



DIANNE STALLINGS/STAFF

State Environment Secretary Ron Curry addresses a concerned audience and councilors from Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs, saying it is time for them to sign and make a financial commitment to reduce nitrogen levels in the Ruidoso River from wastewater effluent.

spawn new technology to accomplish better contaminant removal. If that doesn't occur, but the river regains its health through the reduction of phosphorous, which was the initial

reason for constructing a new treatment approach, JUB members could ask the state Water Quality Control Commission to reduce the nitrogen requirement.

Hardeman asked if reductions are ever approved by the board. Leavitt said one standard was relaxed in 2005 during the last review. Reviews occur every three years.

If nothing else eases the problem, a tertiary treatment such as reverse osmosis could be added, but state officials tried to avoid that option now because it is costly, Leavitt said.

"The 1 mg/L is the number

based on science at which the river should get healthy," she said. "A treatment (reverse osmosis) is available, but this plant does not have it. We are not requiring it now because it is so expensive and we want to see the response of the river first (to the new plant and phosphorous reduction). We know here are other sources that contribute to the contamination. Watershed groups in Ruidoso are doing an excellent job looking at non-point sources. Hooking up the (Mescalero Apache) tribe to the sewer lines and removing septic tanks and hooking up those homeowners, I think, will be helpful."

STORY SO FAR: After dinner, Ben runs into the same cruel, mocking kid who nearly ran him down—but this time the rider introduces himself as Joe Pastore. But that would make him ... a ghost.

CHAPTER NINE

An Accusation

a breakfast serials story

The sweet, grassy, horsey smell of the barn greeted Ben. From either side he heard the munching of horses chewing their hay, and a big box fan on an extension cord droned in the doorway, moving the humid air. One of the cats, almost invisible in the shadows, swished its tail from a rafter. The warmth of the day lingered, pulsing up from the cement floor and making the smells of horse and hay and manure more intense.

Ben paced toward the nearest stall, feeling as though he wanted to cry, or smash his fist into something. He hated that kid, whoever he was—trying to scare him, trying to make him feel like a worthless bum. He couldn't be a ghost. Ghosts didn't exist. He was just a guy with a sick sense of humor. Wasn't he?

The nameplate on the stall door read Candy Cane. A large white head swung upward, trailing wisps of hay. The horse looked at him, munching placidly, its jaws and lips working from side to side.

"Hey, Candy Cane," Ben quavered, pitching his voice the way Rachel had that morning.

The horse looked at him with wide, nonjudging eyes and plucked another mouthful of hay from the floor. Ben scratched the horse's hard forehead between the eyes, and let his gaze wander. The place was filled with a jumble of tools and equipment: ropes drooping from metal rings in the wall, pitchforks and manure shovels lined up next to a wheelbarrow, a pile of sacks stamped in blue with the words Blue Seal Feeds, a water spigot with a bucket hanging from it, a toolbox crammed with stiff brushes and rags and spray bottles. And over it all was the quiet munching of the horses and the hum of the fan. As Ben scratched Candy Cane's forehead, he could feel the horse's facial muscles moving under his fingers with the chewing. The tension and fear and loneliness began to melt from Ben's bones with every crunch of the animal's jaws.

That kid was definitely not a ghost. He was somebody who looked like Joe Pastore and knew it, and for some sick reason he was trying to rattle Ben's cage. But whoever he was, the guy wasn't right. The Brennans were kind and generous. It wasn't an act. Just because there were hateful or cruel people in the world didn't mean

everyone was like that. Just because Ben hadn't met a lot of good people in his life didn't mean he couldn't meet some now. Why couldn't the Brennans just be completely decent folks who had always been that way—even back as far as Mr. Brennan's father trying to give Joe Pastore a hand? It was a warmhearted family that rescued dogs and horses, and now they were rescuing him, even though they'd been burned once before—literally. Somehow, for some reason, he had been taken out of his dingy, left-behind existence and brought to this peaceful, loving place, where people were friendly and there were animals and good food and adorable, incredible, brave, smart—

"What are you doing?"

Ben stared. It was as if he'd made Rachel appear just by wishing. She was breathless from running, had run so fast she skidded on the extension cord to the fan and righted herself with a quick grab at a stall door. But her expression wasn't the kind he'd been dreaming about. She wasn't smiling. She looked like she was ready to kill somebody, and she kicked the extension cord away from her with an angry scowl.

"What are you doing?" she repeated, her voice hard.

He stepped away from Candy Cane, feeling guilty for no reason at all other than the accusation in Rachel's eyes. He couldn't imagine why she was glaring at him.

"Nothing. Petting—nothing."

"I saw you," she said, her fists clenched by her sides. "I saw you with a cigarette lighter."

If Candy Cane had turned around and kicked Ben in the stomach with both hooves, he couldn't have been more stunned. The lighter? The stupid, dirty, disposable lighter he had picked up without even thinking about it? There was a long, nasty silence. Rachel drew a deep

breath before Ben could think of a thing to say.

"Listen, I was willing to give you the benefit of the doubt, but I know who you are, and I know why you're here with my aunt and uncle," Rachel said in a tightly controlled voice.

"But—"

She cut him off with an upheld hand. "I'm not going to say anything about this, because maybe I'm wrong. But I'm not taking any chances with the horses, understand?"

If you only knew how much I like you! Ben wanted to cry out. You wouldn't do this to me! Please don't do this to me!

Just then, Ben felt a powerful shove from behind. As he stumbled forward and fell to his knees, he realized that Candy Cane had given him a push with his heavy head. Now he crouched on the dusty floor at Rachel's feet, too mortified and ashamed to defend himself. She shrank backward in disgust, and a fresh wave of humiliation flooded Ben's heart. It couldn't get worse than this.

"May I have it, please?"

Stricken, he looked up.

Rachel held out her hand. "The lighter."

Trying to hold back the tears of humiliation that welled in his eyes, Ben dug into his pocket and pulled out the lighter. Hating it, hating his life, he put it into Rachel's outstretched palm.

(To be continued.)

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RUIDOSO NEWS

CLUB

FROM PAGE 1A

"Jody tells me that if she got up in the morning and said she's aching, she'd never leave. She is still so active."

Being president of the club is a big responsibility and although she is employed at Mitchell's Silver and Turquoise in Midtown, Kinnan tries to attend every event at the clubhouse.

"You have to keep people motivated," she said.

"We started the chamber of commerce, the public library and garbage pick-up," Keyes said. "We would bake cookies for the library's December open house. We mostly buy the cookies now."

Many members volunteer as ushers at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts. They used to collect trash from roadsides, but now work behind the scenes on the annual river-clean-up effort, Kinnan said. Some of their other accomplishments include annual scholarships to high school students, political forums for local and county elections, helping with the annual kindergarten and child screening effort, contribution to the Handicapped Skiers, Girls Ranch of New Mexico, the

Lincoln County Food Bank, Christian Services, the library, the Literacy Program and Hospice, and this year, twice packed boxes of supplies and treats for troops in Iraq.

The most recent program, "Project Shoe-In," was initiated with seed money two years ago from the late June Leland right after Kinnan was elected, and evolved after club leaders learned that teachers were using their own dollars to take care of urgent clothing needs of some students. The project covers grades first through sixth.

"We provide underwear, shoes, clothing—whatever is lacking including hygiene kits so they can brush their teeth at school," Kinnan said. "It creates a happier environment in the classroom. Children are picked on when they don't fit in."

"We do our best to combine fun and public service," the president said. "I don't believe that anyone can become a viable part of any community without doing his or her part in seeing that a helping hand is extended to those in need."

"As a club we are able to do more and be more visible. Yes, the dynamics have changed, but the underlying principles are still there—to take care of those in need. A community can only become better when people pull together."



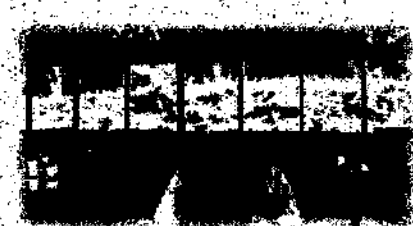
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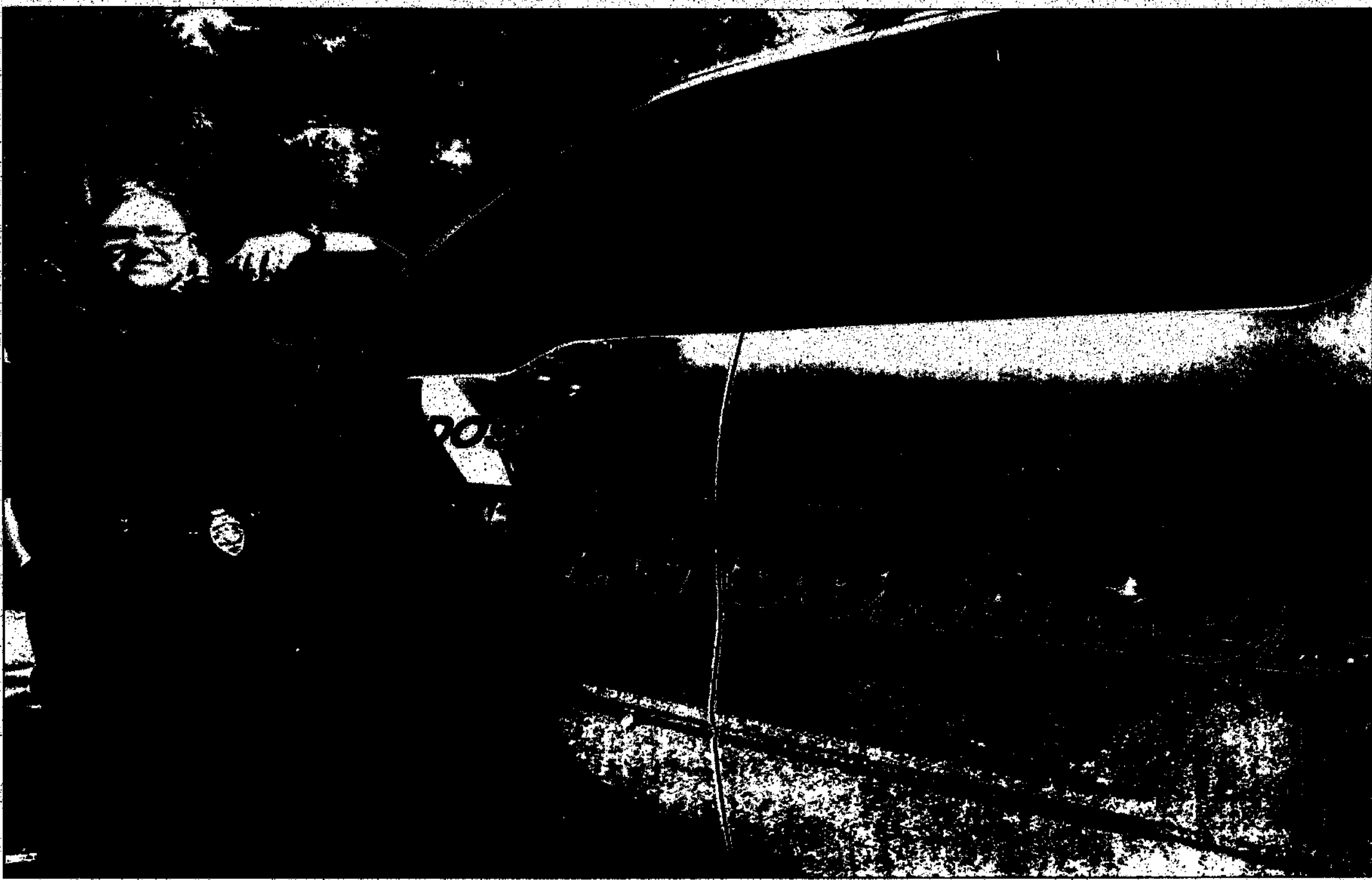
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Colinda Corona stands next to the new Ford F150 that features a lift and accommodates animal cages. A Capitan High School graduate, Corona recently was hired as Ruidoso's newest animal control officer.

Village animal control gets a lift

Ruidoso has a new animal control officer and a new vehicle to help her perform her duties

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Parked on an isolated road high above Upper Canyon, Colinda Corona is listening for barking dogs.

A complaint from a neighbor about the noise is just one of four calls she will answer that morning and the other three are waiting. Corona is Ruidoso's new animal control officer.

Her interest in animals dates back to her school days showing lambs and dairy heifers.

Corona, 31, has lived in Lincoln County since first grade and graduated from Capitan High School in 1995, after moving there as a freshman.

Was assistant vet

Besides showing livestock, she judged horses for FFA and, in 1996, earned her certification as a veterinarian assistant in Roswell.

She worked for a humane society in Ardmore, Okla., and then the animal shelter operat-

ed by the Humane Society of Lincoln County, she said.

"Based on my experience there and with animals, I decided to apply for the animal control officer's job," she said. Her first day was April 9, and she has a brand new vehicle to help her perform her duties.

New vehicle helps

The 2007 Ford F150 accommodates animal cages in the back and also features a lift.

"In the past, if there was a dead deer, we would have to call for the sanitation department, because it would be too heavy for one person," Police Chief Wolfgang Born explained. "Now, one person can drag it to the lift and get it in the truck, or she can lift a big dog or a dog trapped in cage."

With large gold lettering on the side of the truck, everyone who spots the truck knows Corona's job.

So far, the work is pretty much what she expected.

The majority of calls are complaints about animals running loose.

"Dogs are the most common, but I have people wanting me to

trap cats too," she said. Some people are surprised to learn that Ruidoso and Lincoln County have leash laws that require dogs (and cats) to be under restraint at all times or confined to the owner's property.

'Exotic' risks

"I try to stress what can happen to a dog running loose, being hit by a car or being poisoned," she said. In Ruidoso, the risks can be a little more exotic and just as deadly, such as attacks by large predators or stressed does defending their fawns.

"And I point out that any dog can bite," she said. "People don't realize that. I spend time educating people on that."

Overall, Corona said she enjoys working with the public.

"I generally try to establish a good rapport," she said. "I'm very nice the first time around, but I get harder with (repeat offenders) and tell them they have got to take care of the situation."

Corona said she averages from six to 10 calls a day and spends the rest of her time set-

ting traps for cats and watching for dogs running loose.

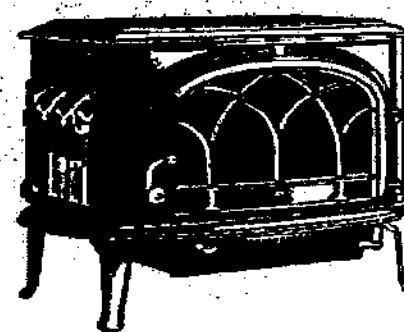
"They are sending me to school May 21 for this," she

said.

"The officers and dispatchers have been wonderful in assisting me."

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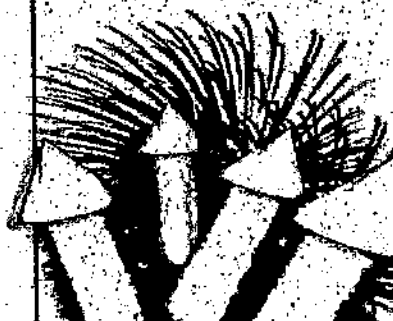
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Fireworks Show.

Thursday, May 17
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Friday, May 18
Comedian Drew Lacapa is "bustin' loose" at Inn of the Mountain Gods Event Center at 8 p.m. Tickets will be \$5 a person.

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MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

First, you have to believe you can win it all, then, you have to perform up to that level — and the mens Warrior track and field team achieved both of those objectives.

With a steady and consistent onslaught starting on Friday, the RHS trackers continually placed in the top six to produce a point total the other competitors could never overcome.

In the end, on Saturday, the Warriors had beaten their nearest rival, Hope Christian, 78-41. The Lovington Wildcats, expected by many to finish up near the top, could only manage a distant eighth place.

RHS did such a great job in the first day of competition that by Saturday afternoon it was evident no one else was going to contend for No. 1.

"The boys came out the second day, kept the pressure up and did as well as they did the first day of the meet," Warrior coach Ronny Maskew proudly exclaimed.

"That's what really impressed me! They could have slacked off a little, but instead,

all of them performed to their maximum ability — they never let up on effort, not one of them."

"Toward the end of the meet, when we knew we were going to win it all, the boys won two of the last three events and placed second in the other one.

"That's what winners do; they try to prevail until the very end."

Maskew continued with his summation of the Warrior victory, "This is one of the hardest working teams we've ever had. Both the boys and girls consistently worked well together, pulling for each other to do the best they could.

"The boys only won three out of 19 events which shows just how important each place finish was to the overall point total of the team."

"We've had several great senior leaders this year and we're sorry to lose them, but we have a lot of talent coming back next year, and I believe we will have the potential to do very well in the next two seasons.

Also, I would like to take this time to thank the Warrior

See TRACK, page 2B



The Warrior teams congratulate one another on a job well done at the recent state finals held in Albuquerque.

Ruidoso state meet results

Boys Events	Participant	Placement	Mark
4x100-meter relay	Ruidoso	1st	44.13
110-meter hurdles	Nathaniel Mays	6th	16.46
4x200-meter relay	Ruidoso	2nd	1:33.19
400-meter dash	Lucas Lindsey	3rd	50.86
300-meter hurdles	Nathaniel Mays	4th	42.08
1600 sprint medley	Ruidoso	2nd	3:45.93
4x400-meter relay	Ruidoso	1st	3:29.70
800-meter run	Joel Salas	4th	2:01.93
Discus throw	Ben Sanchez	5th	124-07
Triple jump	Lance Dettmer	2nd	43-01.75
	Curtis Hobby	3rd	42-06.50
Shot put	Ben Sanchez	3rd	44-04.25
Javelin	Ben Sanchez	1st	172-05
Girls Events			
4x100-meter relay	Ruidoso	4th	51.40
100-meter hurdles	Tabitha Sporteman	4th	17.43
4x200-meter relay	Ruidoso	5th	1:49.93
400-meter dash	Amber Gardner	1st	58.59
300-meter hurdles	Angela Gardner	2nd	44.94
200-meter dash	Amber Gardner	3rd	26.59
Long jump	Haley Williams	6th	15-10
Shot put	Alex Ramirez	5th	32-00
High jump	Megan Mirau	2nd	5-02
Javelin	Alex Ramirez	1st	123-02
Pole vault	Lauren Sportsman	2nd	8-06
Discus	Alex Ramirez	3rd	100-02
Triple jump	Leslie Sanchez	6th	31-05.75



Ben Sanchez shows his gold medal, won in the javelin throw.

RHS GIRLS NO. 2 STATE GOLFERS



NAT HOLLAND/EL DEFENSOR CHIEFTAIN

Alayne Lee puts at state finals at New Mexico Tech course in Socorro, May 7-8. See Friday's Ruidoso News for full details.

Former NBA star in Ruidoso

MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

One-time National Basketball Association player, Greg Foster, visited the Village, Friday for, as he put it, "Both business and pleasure."

His company, Parkland Capital Management, while based in El Paso, also does business here in Ruidoso, and it gives Greg a chance to play some golf.

"I enjoy all sports but I especially like being outdoors, and what better place than Ruidoso," Foster said.

"It's a great excuse for me to practice my golf game and appreciate the beautiful surroundings."

Now retired for the last four years from basketball, Foster spent 13 years in the NBA and played for nine different teams.

His "glory" years were with



MIKE CURRAN/STAFF

Former NBA star Greg Foster, center, General Manager of the Links Shaun Hubbard, left, and Ross Anderson before a golf match.

Preps on Tap

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Wednesday, June 6-10

Rodeo

N.M. high school rodeo state finals in Carlsbad.

On Deck

Senior Olympics

Minimum age is 50 as of Aug. 1.

All doubles, mixed doubles and teams will play down to age of youngest partner. \$5 registration fee entitles you to participate in all events offered. Must compete locally to qualify for state & national games.

Competition by gender in 5-year age groups. State registration: \$45. Deadline: May 25.

Extra fee for bowling, golf, swimming and triathlon. Final events, May 19 at Ruidoso High School in order to qualify for the August N.M. state meet. For men and women, age 50 plus, beginners welcome. Events held in RHS gym, 9 a.m. Frisbee accuracy and basketball free throw. On field at 9:30 a.m. for frisbee and softball distance throws. Soccer kick accuracy, javelin, discus, shotput, long jump, standing long jump, and seven running events from 100 meters to 10 k. For info call Bart at 257-3193.

Basketball Camp

Final applications are now being evaluated for the Ten-Star All-Star summer basketball camp.

The camp is by invitation only. Boys and girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply. Players from 50 states and 17 foreign countries attended the 2006 camp.

College basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American team. Camp locations include: Prescott, Ariz., Thousand Oaks, Calif., Sterling, Colo., Babson Park, Fla., Atlanta, Ga., Glassboro, N.J., Hickory, N.C., Commerce, Texas, and Blacksburg, Va.

There is also a summer camp available for boys and girls ages 6-18 of all skill levels. For a free brochure on these camps please call 704-873-0873.

Golf instruction

Golf clinic, how to drive and use the wedge — Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. at the Links. Teaching Pro, Al Forrester will demonstrate. No charge.



Proud Warrior girls pose on the podium in Albuquerque after the state finals concluded.

COURTESY

Track

FROM PAGE 1B

coaching staff — all nine of them. They're an excellent bunch of people who contributed greatly to the fine year we've had."

Girls

"The Lady Warriors this year were a fun group of athletes to work with," Maskew

went on. Most of the girls are young, but tough, and will get better and better as time goes on."

The girls and the coaches had high expectations going into the state meet, but it was their misfortune to have to compete against two of the very best 3A track and field teams in the state of New Mexico.

St. Michaels, four time state champions, scored 72 overall points for first, Bloomfield had 64 and the Lady Warriors came in third with 57 points.

"Any one of these three teams can beat many 4A and 5A schools in the state and that's why we have a mutual respect for one another," Maskew volunteered.

"I feel very lucky to have been able to coach such a fine group of kids and I wish them all well over the summer months."

This marks the first time since 2000 the Ruidoso Warriors have won state. Based on the returning talent next year should be a good one.

Ruidoso Little League Schedule

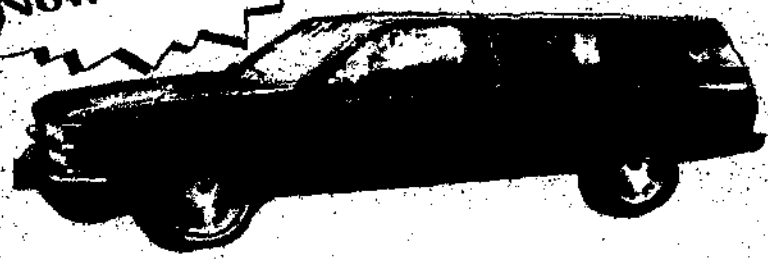
All listed games to be played at Gavilan Field

Date	Day	Time	Division	Home	Visitor
May 16	Wed.	6 p.m.	Minors	Braves	Twins
May 17	Thurs.	6 p.m.	Minors	Braves	Rockies
May 18	Fri.	5 p.m.	Minors	Dodgers	Pirates
		7:30 p.m.	Majors	Nationals	Mariners
May 19	Sat.	2 p.m.	Minors	Braves	Braves
		4:30 p.m.	Majors	Tigers	Rockies
		7 p.m.	Majors	Red Sox	Braves
May 21	Mon.	6 p.m.	Minors	Mariners	Dodgers
May 22	Tues.	6 p.m.	Majors	Red Sox	Nationals
May 23	Wed.	6 p.m.	Minors	Pirates	Braves
May 24	Thurs.	6 p.m.	Majors	Mariners	Braves
May 25	Fri.	6 p.m.	Majors	Rockies	Tigers
May 26	Sat.	6 p.m.	Minors	Twins	Yankees
May 27	Sun.	6 p.m.	Majors	Braves	Rockies
May 28	Mon.	5 p.m.	Minors	Braves	Twins
May 29	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Majors	Mariners	Red Sox
May 30	Wed.	10 a.m.	Minors	Yankees	Mariners
May 31	Thurs.	12:30 p.m.	Minors	Dodgers	Pirates
June 1	Fri.	3 p.m.	Majors	Nationals	Mariners

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FOSTER

FROM PAGE 1B

the Utah Jazz, from the '95-'96 season through 2000, during which they won two championships. Before that he played his college basketball at UCLA and then transferred his sophomore year to UTEP where he played for Hall of Fame Coach, Don Haskins.

He was selected in the 35th round of the NBA draft in '90 by the then — Washington Bullets and closed out his career in '02-'03 with the Toronto Raptors.

"I was fortunate and had a great ride in the NBA," Foster stated. "I got to know and play against such players as Michael Jordan, and many other great guys — in fact, I would like to say that 99 percent of the players are good individuals and I enjoyed my time with them."

"If there's anything I miss

about being retired from the game it would be the camaraderie that existed between many of us."

When his career in the NBA was over, Foster relaxed for a few months and then began his second profession in the real estate lending and development business back in El Paso.

"I always knew I would be

involved in real estate, and when my basketball days were done, certain business opportunities were presented to me that I just couldn't pass up," Foster said.

"I returned to El Paso where I was mentored in commercial and private real estate lending and now, here I am again, doing something I love to do."

Foster now makes El Paso his home with his wife of 14 years, Victoria, whom he met while at UTEP. They have three children, Victoria, 14, Collette, 11 and Greg Jr., 7.

Now that he's retired from the NBA home life is more stable than in his playing days — he's reasonably sure he won't be traded anytime soon.

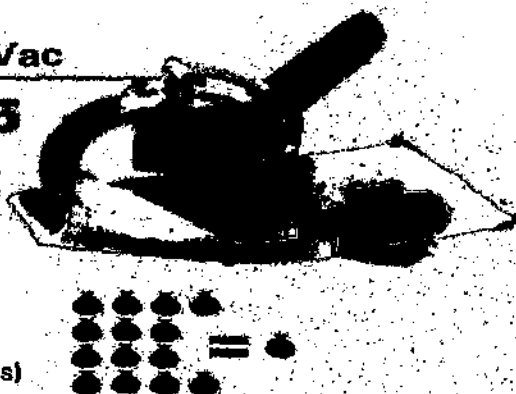
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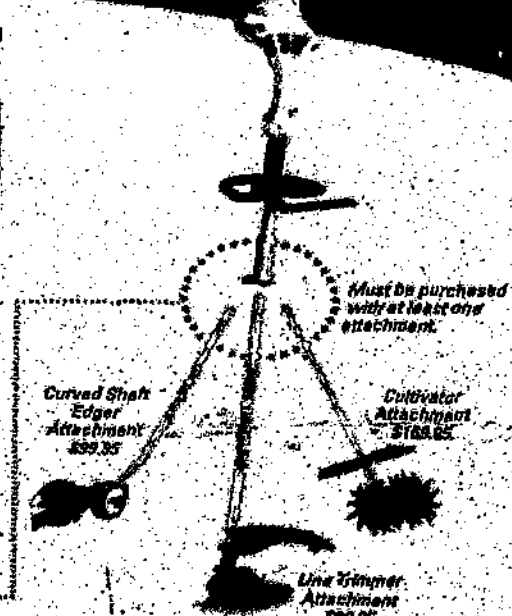
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Ball among women to be honored

Twelve women will be memorialized through the New Mexico Historic Women Marker Initiative and one of the nominees from the first round of consideration is writer and Mescalero Apache historian Eve Ball from Ruidoso.

The initiative, funded by the state Legislature, allows counties and tribes to nominate one woman from their community to be commemorated by a historical marker.

Under the administration of the New Mexico Women's Forum that created the initiative and in conjunction with Historic Preservation Division and the state Department of Transportation, along with community organizations such as the Association of Counties, the state Commission on the Status of Women and the All Indian Pueblo Council, several submissions were reviewed from local county governments.

Besides Ball, who also wrote a column for the *Ruidoso News*, the 12 selected for the first round are:

- Women of Shakespeare (Hidalgo County)
 - Doña Ana (Doña Ana County)
 - The Ladies Auxiliary of Local 890, Mine, Mill and Smelter (Grant County)
 - Magnolia Ellis (Sierra County)
 - Marjorie Bell Chambers (Los Alamos County)
 - Ana Manzanares (Valencia County)
 - Josephine Cox "Grandma" Anderson (Eddy County)
 - Esther Martinez (Ochay Owingeh)
 - Dessie and Fern Sawyer (Lea County)
 - Louise Massey Mabie (Chaves County)
 - Sally Rooke (Union County)
- Women from six other coun-

ties and four more Pueblos were submitted for a second round of review in June.

Guidelines for the selection process are that the women nominated were of historical importance; significant in their social, educational, political, architectural, artistic; and/or other notable contributions to her community, the State of New Mexico, the Southwest and/or the nation.

The women being honored must be deceased and their achievements must be documented and will be reviewed in the context of the time in which they lived.

One historic woman will be selected per county; 18 to represent each Native American Pueblo, and one each for the Navajo and Apache tribes for a total of 54 markers.

"It is important that women be recognized for their achievements and contributions to our

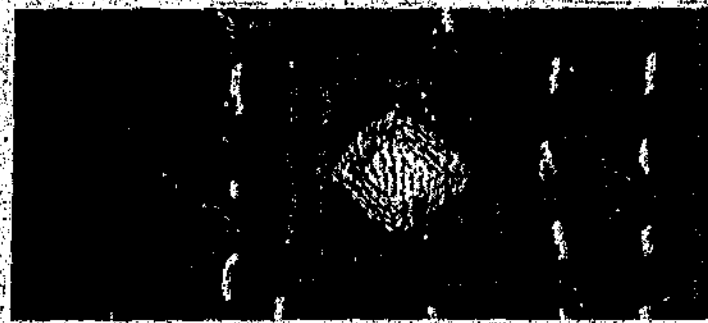
state," said Patricia French, chairwoman of the selection committee. "Women had great historical influence on our state and in their individual communities."

The committee is urging community input from local women's organizations and individuals with a historical perspective. Nomination forms are available at www.historicpreservation.org. Nominations are specifically being sought from Bernalillo, Catron, Curry, Harding, McKinley, Mora, Otero, Roosevelt, Socorro and Taos counties.

For more information, contact Patricia French, selection committee chairwoman, at patg.french@gmail.com or Rosemary Molnar at 505-984-0136 or via email at rosemarymolnar@comcast.net.

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URBAN ELK



COURTESY JOE TOSKIN

Linda and Joe Toskin spotted several elk in a vacant lot off Royal Street and Cree Meadows Drive Saturday morning in Ruidoso. They said the elk seemed to enjoy the attention of the many spectators who stopped to look and take photographs.

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LINCOLN COUNTY

PAGE 4B

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2007

Carrizozo FFA ends year with successful Ag Day and awards banquet

JENNIFER SHAFFER
For the Ruidoso News

The Carrizozo FFA and the Canyon Cowbelles hosted a successful agricultural education day April 30. Approximately 100 students ranging from pre-K to sixth grade were able to learn more about American agriculture by visiting seven unique booths.

This year the FFA was able to become an more integral part of Ag Day as two booths were run solely by FFA members. One was devoted primarily to FFA and its many benefits.

The other booth educated students about the uses and advantages of wool as well as its journey from the sheep to the finished product. Kendal Wilson and Jennifer Shafer, chapter officers and wool judges, facilitated the booth and were able to incorporate their knowledge of wool judging into their presentation.

The FFA education booth was directed by Erin Hightower, Kevin Gore and Casey Barela (other FFA officers), and all the chapter officers who attended Ag Day chose to wear their FFA official dress in order to positively represent the Carrizozo FFA.

The Cowbelles also provided students with a wide selection of booths in order to familiarize them with many aspects of agriculture. Jessica Gutierrez, the county weed specialist, had a booth on the ways to identify noxious weeds.

Sam Gutierrez directed the Natural Resources Conservation Service booth on the effects of erosion. Additionally, David Roper gave a horse shoeing demonstration and Lanita Rasak, a former New Mexico State Cowbelle president, familiarized



Carrizozo FFA Inducted their new 2007-08 officers. L-r Tessa Hendricks, Erin Hightower, Kendal Wilson, Casey Barela, Jennifer Shafer, FFA Advisor Christopher Scott and Alexa Borowski.

students with the cattle ranching life and the cattle brands of New Mexico.

A government trapper taught students about the practices and purposes of catching predatory animals.

As is the Ag Day tradition, the Cowbelles provided a free hamburger lunch for anyone in the school who was interested. Although the students may not voluntarily admit it, the Cowbelle cooking is the highlight for many students, and the hard work and general congeniality of these women is greatly appreciated by the students and teachers alike.

Agriculture is a fundamental part

of our lives here in Lincoln County, and Ag Day always has been, and will continue to be, a unique opportunity for all students to be exposed to agriculture.

Carrizozo FFA awards

The Carrizozo FFA hosted a banquet and awards ceremony May 11.

Degrees
Distinguished Service Award (given by members) - Mike Gaines
Honorary FFA Degree - Matt Ferguson and Sergio Castanon
Discovery Degree - Destiny Dutchover, Joel Ferguson, Kylie

Gaines, Jordan Hill, Chelsea LaMay, Katina Maldonado, Fernando Najera, Troy Neiderstadt, Jenna Schartz, Wade Sultemeier, Mark Vigil, Roper Webb, Marshal Wilson, Stephanie Zamora and Lauren Smith.

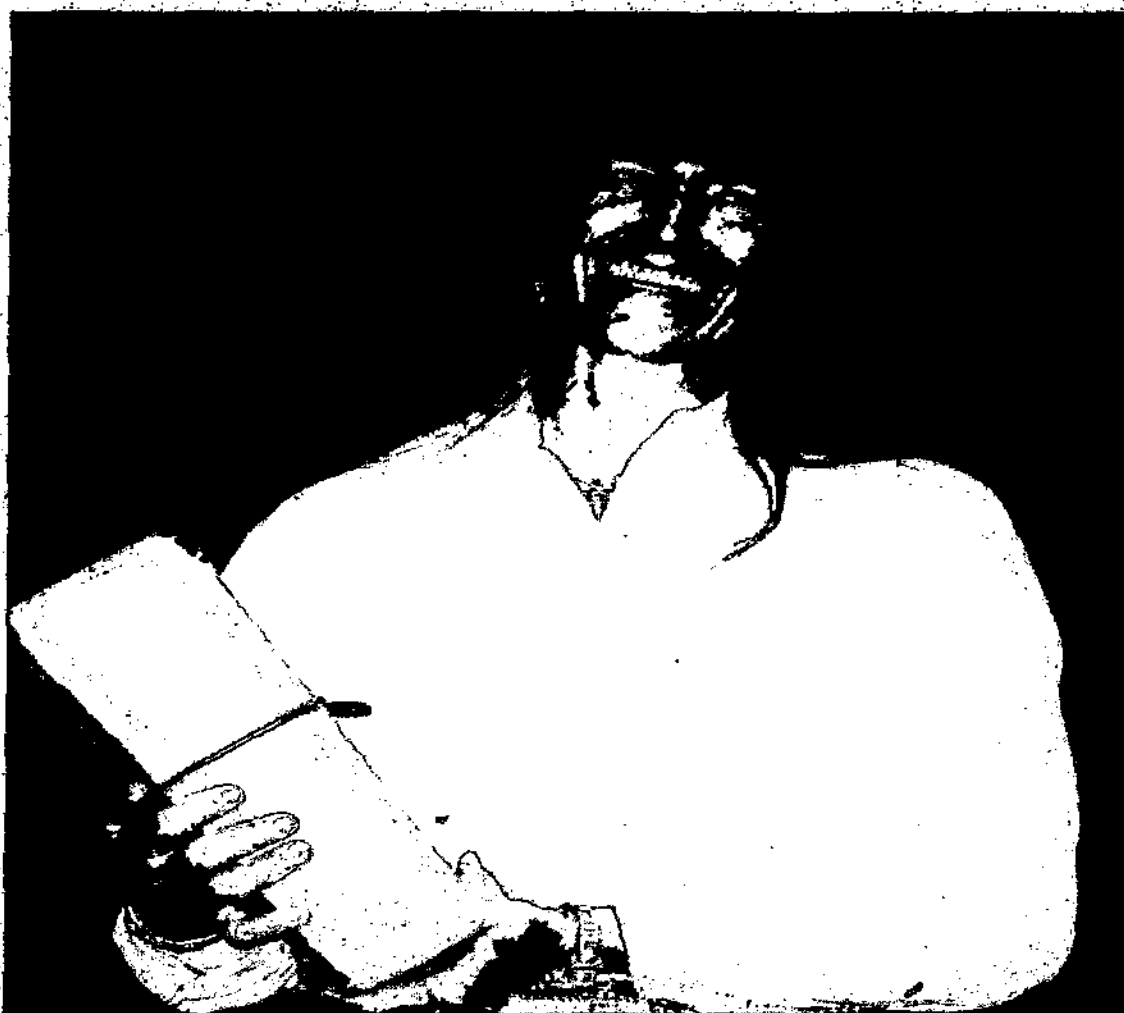
Greenhand Degree - Matt Dutchover, Kinsey Vega, Ryan Guevara, Joe Gallegos, Tessa Hendricks, Keith Sultemeier, Arron Vallejos, Alexa Borowski, Carlos Samora, Tanner Huston, Kenneth Vega, Stefan Najer, Lena Reyes, Cody Ventura, Ashley Ventura, Daniel Hernandez
Chapter Degree - Jennifer Shafer,

Troy Korosil, Kathleen Schlarb
Proficiency Awards
Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication - Jace LeBlanc
Agricultural Services - Kevin Gore
Beef Production - Kendal Wilson
Swine Production Entrepreneurship - Kaitlyn Vega
Sheep Production Entrepreneurship - Erin Hightower
Specialty Animal Production Entrepreneurship - Casey Barela
State FFA Degree - Kendal Wilson, Erin Hightower, Kaitlyn Vega
Star State Agribusiness Award Finalist - Kendal Wilson
Scholarships
Kaitlyn Vega received a \$1000 Ford Scholarship and a \$500 New Mexico Junior Livestock Foundation Scholarship
Judging Awards
Agricultural Mechanics - Eric Korosil
Meats - Kendal Wilson
Wool - Jennifer Shafer
Landscape Design - Jace LeBlanc
Wildlife - Tanner Huston
Entomology - Alexa Borowski
Homesite - Tanner Huston
Horse - Kaitlyn Vega
Star Discovery Award - Marshal Wilson
Star Greenhand - Tessa Hendricks
Star Chapter Farmer - Kaitlyn Vega
Officer Installment
Historian - Kathleen Schlarb
Sentinel - Alexa Borowski
Reporter - Keith Sultemeier
Reporter - Jennifer Shafer
Treasurer - Casey Barela
Secretary - Tessa Hendricks
Vice President - Erin Hightower
President - Kendal Wilson

CAPITAN CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Dr. Becky Washburn-Brown humbly received the Capitan Citizen of the Year award Saturday at an event given for that purpose. Family, friends and clients from the community gathered to make the day special for Dr. Becky. She was awarded a leather-tooled picture and album to commemorate the award.

COURTESY PETER B. RENICH



Hondo Fiesta and Fiber Fest get top billing

It was a pretty day to celebrate Mother's Day. I know everyone had a good time.

There was nice crowd for the enchilada supper and the Hondo Fiesta Saturday night. As usual we thoroughly enjoyed the little ones. The beautiful costumes show the hard work that the mothers put into them. The winning costume was simple and made with the colors of Mexico.

The three soloists were so good. Franklin Herrera sang the "Star Spangled Banner." What a wonderful rendition. The three young ladies soloists were also great. The Hondo School has some great talent in their students.

The junior high Prince and Princesses were Andrew Padilla and Selenia Chavez. The high school King and Queen were Brian Aragon and Mercedes Lopez. The judges had a difficult time choosing the senior king and queen. Checking my program Brian and Mercedes were the king and queen in 2005. Congratulations to all the dancers and their instructors.

The Zamora house across the

street from us is undergoing a lot of changes. It has been restuccoed, windows and doors painted blue and a new porch on the front. It is such a big improvement to see the home have the TLC. Everyone is mowing their yards. With all the moisture, the weeds and grass are almost getting ahead of us.

I sat next to a lady from Carrizozo that I had not seen in years. She is Stella Killingbeck. She and I went to the same beauty shop when Pat was

the owner. Her daughter-in-law Gwendolyn Barela is employed at the State Monuments in Lincoln. Stella's great-grandson, Patrick Barela, was voted the best-dressed boy in the junior class. He is in the fourth grade.

Don't forget the Fiber Fest at the Museum May 19-20. The garage sale will be 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. May 25-26, at the back of the Torreon Trading Co. For more information call 858-4047.

There will be an antique shop, Worley Hotel and a quilt shop open soon. Most of these will be open during Memorial Day Weekend.



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COUNTY BRIEFS

Legion Post 11

American Legion Post 11 located in Carrizozo recently elected officers. Installed to serve were: Post Commander Dean Lollar, Adjutant John Tate, Chaplain Bob Chadd, Service Officer Lee Meinig, Finance Officer Roy Dow and Sergeant At Arms Jim Strickland.

American Legion members are mil-

itary veterans who served our country during times of war or conflict declared by Congress.

The Legion's focus is to be of service to all Veterans and their families, and be contributing citizens to their communities. Military Veterans are encouraged to visit a Local Post and become involved.

Post 11 serves the Carrizozo area and meetings are held the third

Saturday each month at 9 a.m. at Wells Fargo Bank in Carrizozo. For more information contact Roy Dow at 648-2921 or Dean Lollar at 648-2057.

Longhorn show

The Texas Longhorn Breeders of New Mexico are hosting a two-day World Qualifying Registered Texas Longhorn show at the Lincoln County

Fairgrounds in Capitan at 9 a.m. May 19-20. For more information contact Kristi Wilson at 336-9940.

Zumwalt tea

Phyllis Zumwalt will be honored with a tea at 1 p.m., May 17, at the Otero Coop. Electric Building located on 12th Street in Carrizozo. The tea is hosted by the Roadrunners Extension.

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2007 Teen Leadership Lincoln class doubles in size; takes on teen challenge

Leadership Lincoln hosted the third annual Teen Leadership Lincoln session April 19 at Bonita Park and Conference Center north of Ruidoso.

The session provided area high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to meet each other and gain leadership skills through a series of physical and mental challenges. Park facilitator Andria Bailey led the session.

Teen Leadership Lincoln began as a class project of the 2004-05 Leadership Lincoln Class. That class envisioned all six area high schools participating with a maximum of 24 students. Each school is invited and encouraged to send a boy and girl from the junior and senior class.

All high schools

That vision became a reality when 22 students participated from all six schools. The students were: Meghan Tucker, Tim Atkinson, Jessica Clark, and Jarret Lovelace from Capitan High School; Tony Medrano, Victoria Hernandez, and Stacia Calvert from Carrizozo High School; Adam Bailey, Meghan Proctor, Patrick Palomarez, and Kelli West from Corona High School; Patrick Chavez, Mercedes Lopez, Alice Manning, and Trish Yocum from Hondo High School; Kelly King-Morgan, Flaco Martinez, Richard Valdez, and Michelle Munoz from Mesalero High School; Joey Baldonado, Adrienne Ordorica, and Lance Dettmer from Ruidoso High School.

Exciting, fun and cool

The students' descriptions of the day said it all. "Exciting, fun, awesome, cool, stupendous, inspirational, joyful."

All of these were student answers to the question of a one-word feeling about the day. These words exactly described the reactions.

"Standing on the sidelines and watching these students work together to accomplish the challenges was exhilarat-

ing," Project Coordinator, Maury St. John stated. "In these times of only news about the teenagers that are in trouble, it is exciting to see these teens work together with other teens that they have just met," St. John added.

A few of the exercises included a human chain, blindfolded walk and human bowling. These exercises resulted in understanding how everyone became useful and contributed to the success of the group through their own diversity.

"Hopefully the students will see that a team approach is positive, that everyone can add support in some way and they cannot achieve everything they want by themselves," commented chaperone Shad Cox.

Any junior or senior interested in participating in the 2008 Teen Leadership Lincoln program should contact their high school principal for information or St. John at 257-4575.

Volunteers and donors

Volunteers and sponsors made Teen Leadership Lincoln a huge success. Committee members were Jackie Blaylock, Shad Cox, Joe Gomez, Rich Lurix, Diana Proctor, Lucy Rickman, Tom Rigby, Maury St. John and Kathy Yeager.

Sponsors included Tom Battin, City Bank, Greg Corey, Rick Delaco, High Country Agency, Lincoln County Medical Center, Rich and Sharon Lurix, L. Ray Nunley, Ruidoso Home Care and Hospice, Sierra Blanca Motors, Don and Maury St. John, The Title Company, Jules Videau, Wells Fargo Bank and Dr. Don Wolfel.

Leadership Lincoln is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to identifying and discussing issues pertinent to Lincoln County and Mesalero.

The program selects class members who meet monthly from September through April and graduate in May.

This year's graduation ceremony May 10 concluded the program for the class of 2006-07.



The 2007 Teen Leadership class was top row, l-r: Meghan Tucker, Jarret Lovelace, Adrienne Ordorica, Joey Baldonado, Victoria Hernandez, Tony Medrano, Stacia Calvert. Middle row: Richard Valdez, Tim Atkinson, Patrick Chavez, Patrick Palomarez, Lance Dettmer, Kelly King-Morgan, Meghan Proctor, Mercedes Lopez. Front row: Kelli West, Adam Bailey, Jessica Clark, Flaco Martinez, Michelle Munoz, Alice Manning, Trisha Yocum.

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY DEADLINES!

So that our employees may spend the holiday with their families...

The **RUIDOSO NEWS** will close at 4:00 pm on Friday, May 25th and will be **CLOSED** on Monday, May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.

Advertising **DEADLINES** for Wednesday, May 30th will be Friday, May 25th @ 3:00 pm.

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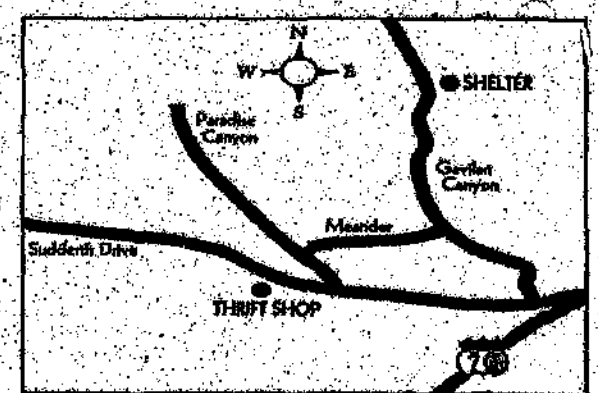
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INSTANCE Very good, loving boy. Good natured - good with kids and other dogs. Brother adopted. SPOONSORED BY RUIDOSO NEWS	IRISH Irish 5 year old, 50 lbs, black and white, very friendly with kids - a true dog lover's dog. SPOONSORED BY RUIDOSO NEWS	KITTEN Y Bright eyes, pretty face, good natured - love being held. SPOONSORED BY BILL HIRSHMILLER & SONS, THE OFFICE DOG
SPARKY Sparky is a sweetie pie, border collie, very playful and loving. SPOONSORED BY JOHN CARICHER	SPARKY Irish brother - special adoption rate. Sparky 12 weeks, very friendly, love to play. SPOONSORED BY PSG RUIDOSO	Spot Pet Spot is a sweetie pie, border collie, very playful and loving. 257-4001

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FUNERALS DEATHS

Martha Milburn Allen

Graveside services for Martha Milburn Allen, 75, of Ruidoso will be at 3 p.m. Friday, May 18 in Forest Lawn Cemetery with the Rev. Vern Edmondson officiating.

Ms. Allen passed away Saturday, May 12, at her home. She was born May 30, 1931 in Clovis to Polly and Arthur Milburn. She lived in Clovis until 1966 when she moved to Lubbock and at the age of 50, became a Registered Nurse through the Methodist Hospital program.

She moved to Ruidoso in 1994 where she had loved the

mountains since her childhood. She attended the First Presbyterian Church in Ruidoso.

She is survived by a daughter, Ann Jordan of Ruidoso; a son, Steven Foster of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a brother, George Milburn and his wife, Lynda of Clovis; three step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren and many friends.

The family has requested memorials to Ruidoso Hospice Foundation or your favorite charity.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.lagroneruidoso.com.

Peggy Sue Brown

Peggy Sue Brown, 69, of Ruidoso and formerly of Celina, Texas, passed away Tuesday, May 8, 2007, at her home. She was born July 6, 1937 in Dallas, Texas to Benjamin Cleve and Minnie Mae Lynch Marcom. Peggy married Bobby L. Brown, Sr., on Dec. 31, 1970 in Durant, Okla. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Celina.

She is survived by her husband, Bobby L. Brown, Sr.; daughters, Kathy Lynn Sullivan of Chandler, Texas, Rebecca Sue King of Ruidoso, Joy Romero of Gun Barrel

City, Texas and Jackie Lynn Wilhelm of Sugarland, Geo.; sons, Terry Marcom Huff of Lewisville, Bobby L. Brown, Jr. of McKinney, Texas and Kenneth Lee Brown of Lynchburg, Tenn.; 14 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and brother, Benjamin Cleve Marcom of Weatherford, Texas.

Funeral services were May 12, 2007 at Mulkey-Mason Funeral Home in Lewisville. Interment followed at Old Hall Cemetery in Lewisville. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the American Cancer Society.

Obituary Policy for the Ruidoso News

We publish obituaries free of charge as a community service. Obituaries must be submitted by a funeral home or family member. In addition to hand delivery at our office, submissions may be made by email to mrcine@ruidosonews.com by fax to 505-257-7053; or by post to P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88345.

Submissions are subject to editing for length, wording, grammar and spelling according to the newspaper's established styles. Long lists of family members may be reduced.

The newspaper makes every effort to publish obituaries and funeral notices in a timely manner, but we do not guarantee publication of an obituary on a specified date.

We accept one photo per obituary; publication of a photo is subject to space availability and is not guaranteed. We are not responsible for errors or omissions.

To guarantee that an obituary runs exactly as submitted and/or on a specified date, please contact our advertising department to place a paid notice.

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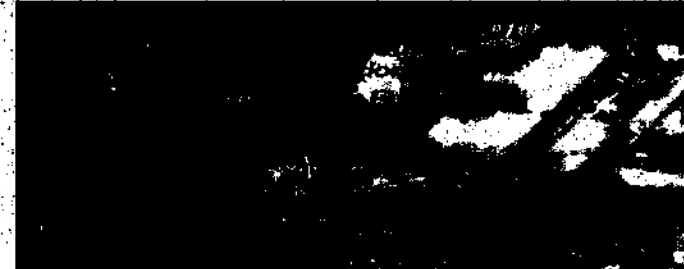
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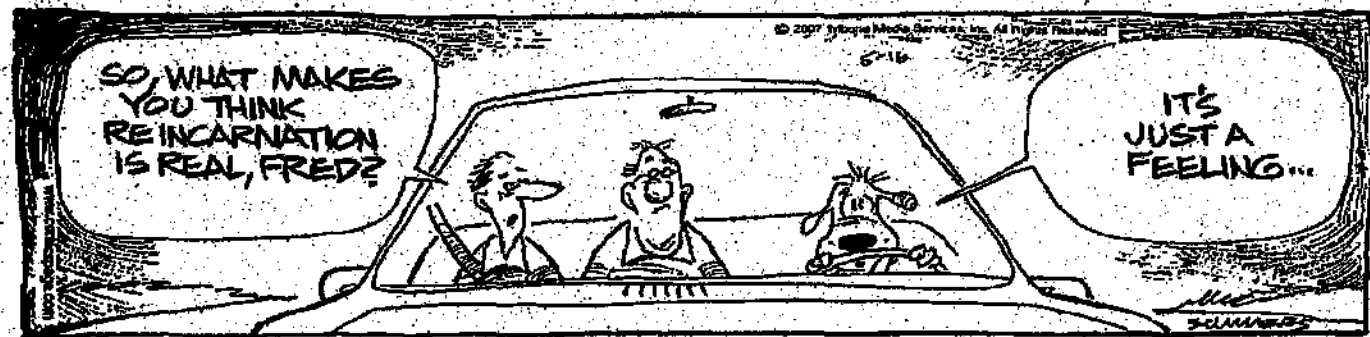
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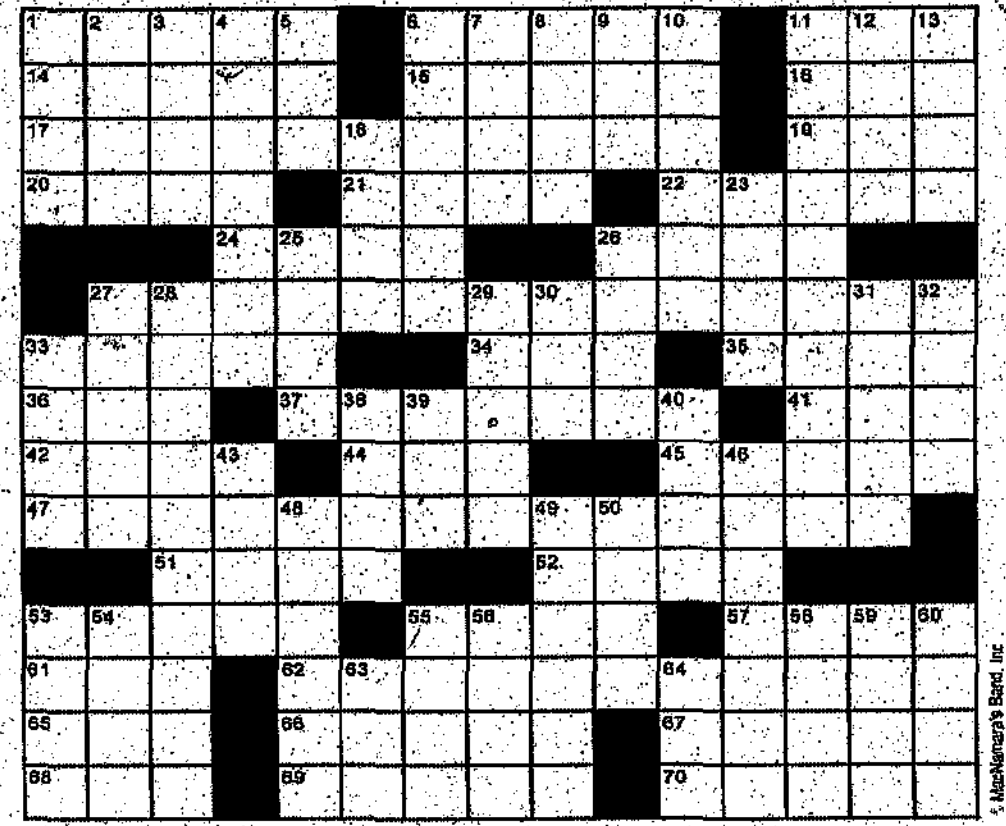
SHOE



ACROSS

1. Desert caravan stops
6. Cackout remnants
11. Pea's place
14. French textiles city
15. Delta's location
16. Luau strings
17. Avoid an F, perhaps
19. Keebler baker
20. Crystal ball user
21. War, to Sherman
22. Orderly grouping
24. Riyadh native
26. Keep ___ (persist)
27. Win the final game of the season, say
33. Be burned out
34. Angry feeling
35. Abrasive stuff
36. Left-winger, for short
37. "CHiPs" star Erik
41. "Make ___ double!"
42. Top guns
44. Be in the hole
45. Making all the stops
47. Shut down the line
51. Tidy sum
52. Place for polish
53. ___ cotta
55. Comet feature
57. "Scat!"
61. Jackie O's husband, for short
62. Common New Year's resolution
65. Claiborne of fashion
66. ___ HOOKS (box legend)
67. Inmate for good
68. Jeans brand

CURTAINS



American Profile Homebrew Content

69. Company in a 2002 scandal
70. Ouzo flavoring

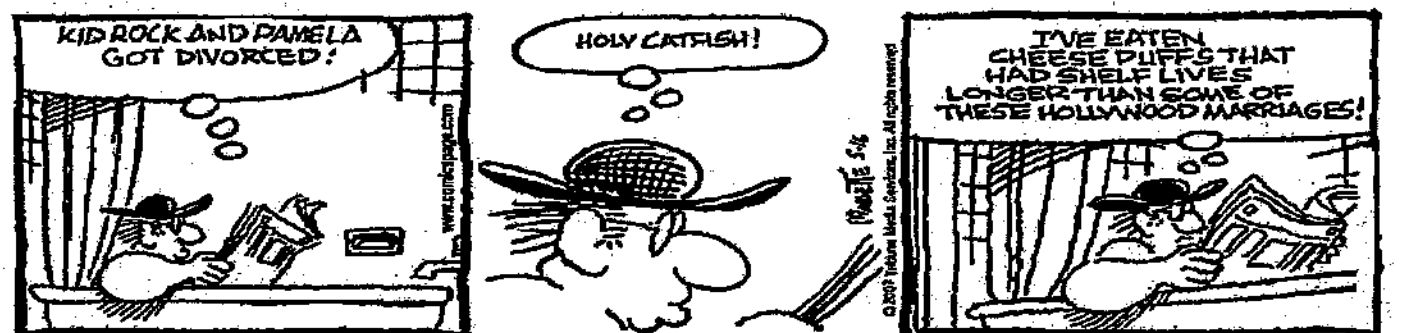
DOWN

1. Former GM line
2. Suffix for the wealthy
3. ___ gin (liqueur type)
4. Madrid museum
5. "... two if by ___"
6. One-celled critter
7. James Brown's genre
8. Take the mound
9. UFO crew
10. Sword holder
11. Where San Juan is
12. Joad family's state: Abbr.
13. Stand up to

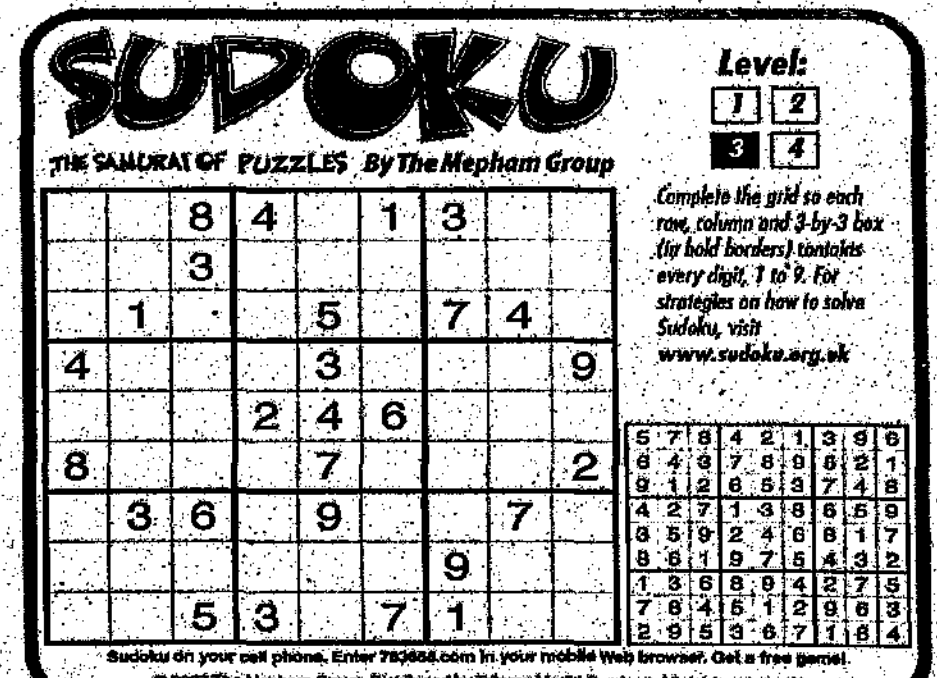
18. Film sleuth Charlie
23. Pug's workplace
25. Took a metro
26. Got gray
27. Susan Lucci soap role
28. Martin Luther King Jr. won one in 1964
29. Took on board
30. Nest egg letters
31. Giant of myth
32. List-ending abbr.
33. Dull as dishwater
38. In need of a rubdown
39. Bill picturing Jefferson
40. Height: Prefix
43. Tend to the sauce
46. Rainwear fabric

48. Trophy alternative
49. In ___ (together)
50. Pre-storm period
53. Starbucks size
54. Canal of song
55. Wedding cake section
56. "... extra cost!"
58. Stereo system
59. Change for a fin
60. Cruel dude
63. SEAL's mil. branch
64. Suffix with schnozz

KUDZU



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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (or bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Answer: SKUNK DRAWL WOBBLE BOTTLE

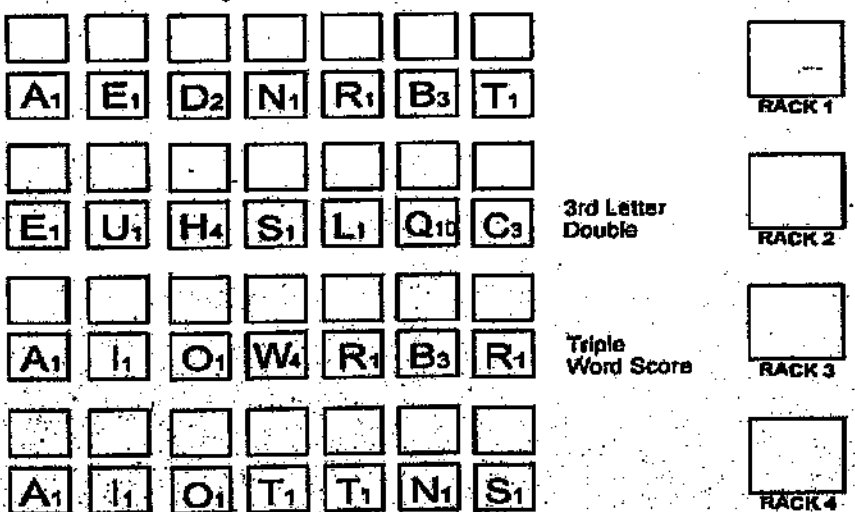
Jumbles: SKUNK DRAWL WOBBLE BOTTLE

What happened to the library thief? — HE WAS "BOOKED"

Answer: What happened to the library thief? — HE WAS "BOOKED"

SCRABBLE

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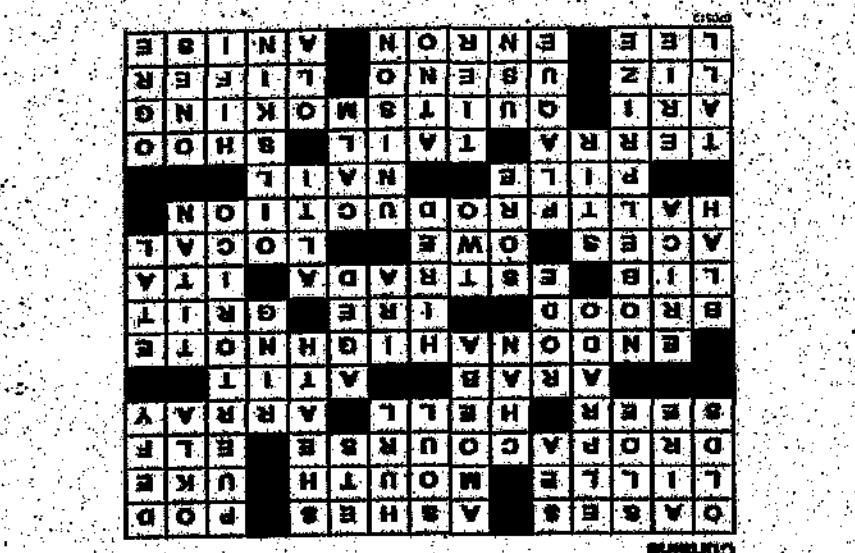


PAR SCORE 160-170
BEST SCORE 222

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 3rd Edition.

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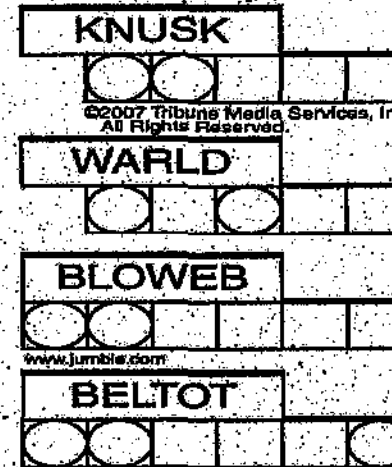


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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Ans: HE

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DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 3rd Edition.

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Answer: SKUNK DRAWL WOBBLE BOTTLE

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What happened to the library thief? — HE WAS "BOOKED"

Answer: What happened to the library thief? — HE WAS "BOOKED"

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Olivier LaFarge
D.H. Lawrence - author
John Lewis
Nancy Lopez
Mabel Canyon Dodge Lihou (1879-
1969) - business promoter of art and
social causes, author
Tommy S. Macalino
Maria and Julian Martinez
Bill Kladwin - cartoonist; Pulitzer Prize
winner
Douglas MacArthur - general
George McLintock
Jim Morrison - rock 'n roll musician
John Nefeltis
Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986) - abstract
painter best known for her large paint-
ings of desert flowers and scenery pre-
sented in close-up views
Juan de Onate
J. Robert Oppenheimer
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RUIDOSO NEWS

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FIRE DANGER
MODERATE

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of Pippin

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the wealth

4A OPINION
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a hand of poker

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rodeo rides
into the sunset

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Tax levy hike goes to voters

DIANNE STALLINGS
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County voters will be asked to approve a new special property tax levy for the maintenance, expansion and operation of the hospital in Ruidoso and for Lincoln County rural health care clinics, but county commissioners aren't sure how high to set the cap.

Although James Gibson, administrator of the county-owned Lincoln County Medical Center, urged that to meet future growth demands, a 4.25 mills lid be set, up from the current 3 mills, County Assessor Rick Silva advised caution.

If voters in Ruidoso, a major portion

of the county population, are asked to approve too steep a figure, they may reject the entire package, he said.

Property values go up each year in the county and would yield more money without increasing taxes, he said, pointing to a 2.96 mill levy in 1995 yielding \$764,000 and a 2.01 mill levy 11 years later bringing in \$1.5 million. One mill equates to \$1 for each \$1,000 of taxable property value.

He gave the example that the owner of a house with a taxable value of \$70,000 and market value of \$210,000

paid \$182 in annual property taxes for the current 3 mill levy, but would pay \$297.50 for 4.25 mills, an increase of \$115.

Residents in Ruidoso may be experiencing tax fatigue facing a recent school bond issue and a new bond issue for a sewage treatment plant, as well as higher utility rates, Silva said.

"I don't know how this is going to fly," he said of any increase.

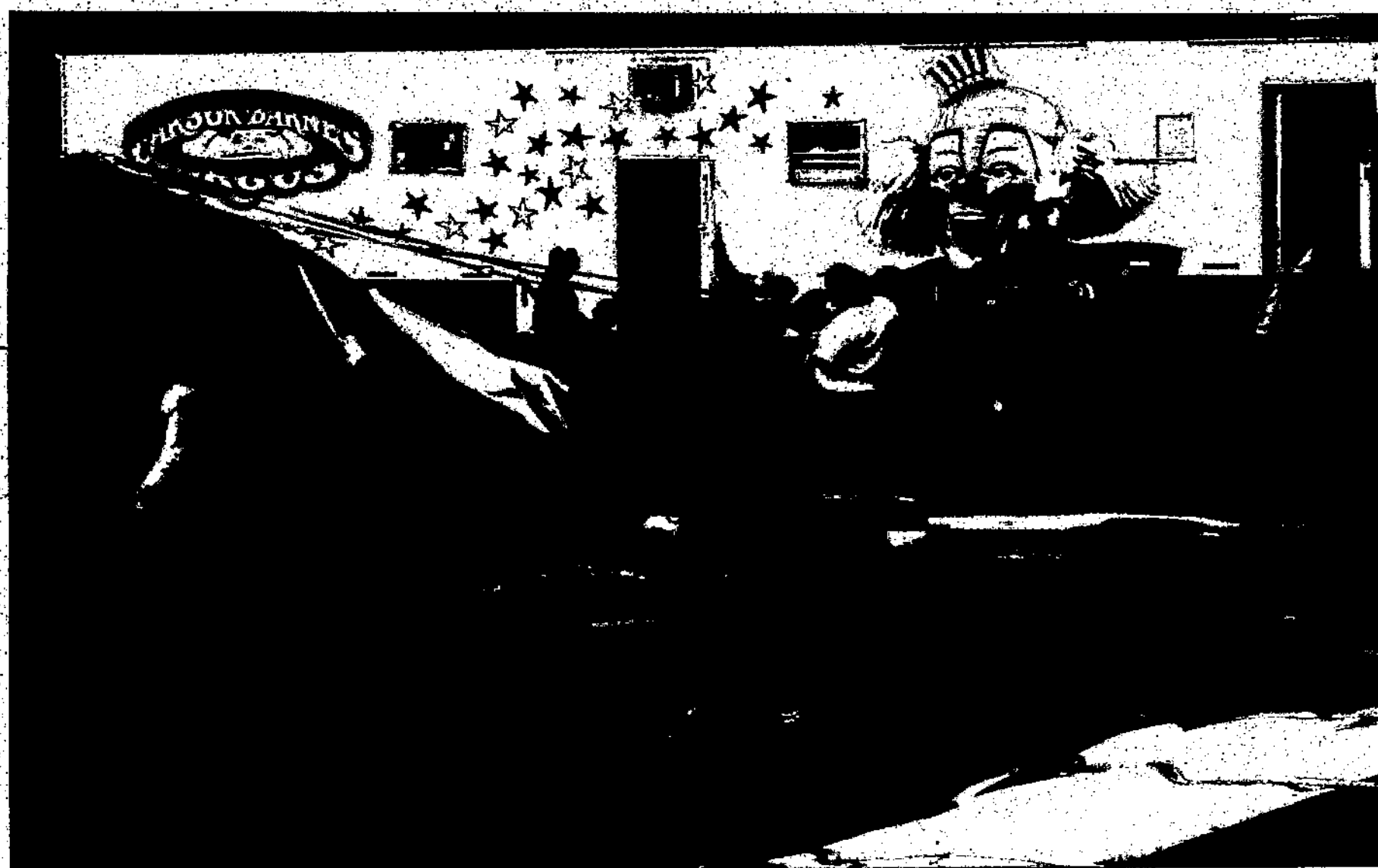
Without a vote, commissioners tentatively concurred that the November special election ballot would not specify

what rural health clinics are covered to allow Hondo to be added, and possibly even a clinic in Capitan in the future. They agree to insert that the mill levy proceeds can be used for the ambulance operation at the hospital, which serves the entire county, and they agreed on a seven-year term, instead of the maximum eight years for the tax, to avoid having the next reauthorization election fall in a Presidential election year.

Commissioners told County Clerk Tammie Maddox they want a regular election, not one by mail, although the mail-in ballot option would be less costly and has shown a high turnout in other counties.

See LEVY, page 2A

ROPING EVENT



SANDY KASHMAN/STAFF

Men raise the Big Top as the Carson & Barnes Circus sets up Thursday at the White Mountain School Complex in Ruidoso. The workers first marked and drove in the posts, then rolled out the enormous canvas, finally securing it with ropes, which took a little more than an hour. Then they raised the front of the tent, took an elephant and a forklift inside, and the rest of it began to come up, looking like a balloon inflating. Children from the schools walked over to watch, as well as folks from the community.

Street department considers special assessments

DIANNE STALLINGS
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The idea, says Village Street Director J.R. Baumann, is to place the cost of fixing roads on the people who use them

Future road surfacing and rebuilding work may only occur when property owners are willing to pay a special assessment.

Ruidoso Village Street Director J.R. Baumann told village councilors during a budget workshop Tuesday that his first assessment focus may be six miles of roads on Camelot Mountain off U.S. 70.

Precedent-setting

"We would put the cost back on the people for using the roads," he said. "It would be assessed based on the value of the property. We've never done it before. If it goes smoothly there, we could pick other areas and assess and they will

get brand new roads.

"The state will give us the money up front because we would have a guaranteed repayment source."

Mayor L. Ray Nunley asked if the cost would be lower to put the projects out to bid to be paid through assessments, which would free up village crews for repairs on other roads.

He noted that roads in Cree Meadows, "are just about down to gravel."

Baumann said the village should be able to perform the work for less cost because no profit is involved, but he will look at both options.

An advantage would be realized not tying up street crews, he agreed.

Roads in the George White area also are in bad shape and he doesn't want them to deteriorate to the point where they must be totally reconstructed.

Councilor Greg Cory asked if the \$150,000 councilors added back into the street budget after a workshop two weeks ago will keep crews busy in the coming year.

"We'll just do fewer miles," Baumann replied. "There's 180 lane miles in Ruidoso. We get four to five done a year and the life (of the surface) is about 10 years. We fall behind every

year."

Councilor Angel Shaw pressed, "When you stood here the time before last, you said materials were cut \$150,000 and that's why we pushed so hard for \$150,000."

Baumann clarified that he will come close to completing projects for the year under the village's five-year plan for streets, but added that major items such as bridges, which cost \$500,000 each, never have been budgeted.

Cory asked Baumann to try to quantify how much work remains in the village's five year street plan and the cost of completing it.

Councilor James Stoddard quipped that police can't seem to slow the traffic on Hull Road, but maybe huge potholes can.

Budget frustrates councilors

■ Some say it's time to consider a property tax increase to fund expenses

DIANNE STALLINGS
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Two Ruidoso village councilors say they are tired of "hitting a wall" each year as they try to put together a new annual budget with growing expenses and level revenues.

Councilors Ron Hardeman and Greg Cory said it is time for the council to consider an increase in property taxes or gross receipts taxes. Any increase would be too late for this year's estimated \$29.7 million budget, but would kick in for the next fiscal year's revenue.

Village Finance Director Elaine Beltran asked for guidance. She brought the council a balanced budget the previous week and they didn't like it, because of some significant

See BUDGET, page 3A

Speeders may see double

■ Judge says exceeding speed limits by 20 mph warrants stiffer fines

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Drivers exceeding Ruidoso speed limits by 20 miles per hour or more could face fines double current levels.

But to collect more revenue from fines and penalties, manpower in the village police department needs to be beefed up, said Municipal Judge Mike Line.

The judge attended a village council workshop Tuesday on the proposed Fiscal Year 2007-2008 preliminary budget that must be submitted to the state by June 1.

He offered a few suggestions for saving money and generating more income. He volun-

See FINES, page 7A

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