

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2007 • OUR 61ST YEAR, NO. 25 • 75 CENTS

**FIRE DANGER
MODERATE**

INSIDE



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County OKs comprehensive plan

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Lincoln County's first Comprehensive Plan may contain errors, but it is a starting point, county commissioners agreed.

After expressing some reservations and suggesting some changes, the five commissioners unanimously voted to approve the plan by resolution, and to revisit it in August or September for the first set of possible changes.

Although Commissioners Eileen Lovelace and Jackie Powell appeared to favor putting off a vote for at least one more month, they apparently were per-

The county's first such plan, the cornerstone of the new subdivision ordinance, is not perfect, commissioners agree, but they vote 5-0 in order to adhere to a timeline

sued by Commission Chairman Tom Battin and County Manager Tom Stewart to move ahead.

"In my mind, (passage is needed) because we set a definite timeline when we put off (a vote on a subdivision moratorium)," Battin said. "A comprehensive plan is the cornerstone on which

to develop (new rules for the) subdivision ordinance. A six month deadline is going to be difficult to achieve right now, but I would rather be right than quick. I do think it is a living document. A resolution allows change, but gives us a starting place and we need to start as soon as we can."

Stewart added, "You have to set a line in the sand, otherwise it could go on forever."

The Comprehensive Plan was prepared by consultants with the firm of Site Southwest, and was posted July 10 on the county Web site. A public hearing was conducted last week during the regular county commission meeting in Carrizozo, but only three individuals — besides commissioners — spoke on the issue.

Attorney Mike Runnels, who represents a developer and is the former Ruidoso planning director and state

See PLAN, page 7A

STANDING TALL



COURTESY KATHLEEN MCDONALD

Among the 49 performers in the HEAL Benefit production "Survivor 3: Stand Up" at the Spencer Theater were Jennifer Lewicki, who sang "Stand Up For Love" (originally by Destiny's Child) with Jennifer Carter, and Brendan Pryce, who performed "I'm Still Standing" (originally by Elton John). The two shared a hug after the show. See today's Opinion page.

Wildlife gets a drink

■ 'Trick tank' added to water sources for animals in Lincoln National Forest

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Although the water supply for wildlife seems ample today, in the arid Southwest tomorrow can bring sudden change and dry conditions.

Biologists in the Lincoln National Forest over the last 18 years took advantage of a funding source from purchases of Habitat Stamps by those buying fishing and hunting licenses in New Mexico to provide a year-round water source for deer, elk, smaller animals and birds.

A crew of representatives from several different groups gathered recently on the Smokey Bear Ranger District of the forest near Ruidoso Downs to install a "trick tank" and natural stone "drinker," which brought the number of tanks in the district to 30.

"The neat thing about it was the mixture of groups with different missions coming together to work as a team to enhance wildlife," said District Wildlife Biologist Larry Cordova.

The groups were the Ruidoso Ridge Runners, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Quails Unlimited, the U.S. Forest Service and one individual, Larry D. "Slick" Graham, who noticed all the commotion and asked to join the effort, said Cordova, who also is co-chairman of the Sierra Blanca chapter of the RMEF.

The Habitat Stamp program began in 1989, and each year crews in the district try to install at least one trick tank. The assembly resembles an inverted umbrella to catch rainfall and snow, which then is channeled into an above-ground cistern-like tank. The release of the water to a "drinker," formed like a natural rock catchment that would hold rain, is controlled by an underground float tank, similar to the way a toilet works.

Forty tanks were put up in the Sacramento District around Cloudercroft and the Guadalupe District near Carlsbad has 40.

"We were one of the first national forests to really take

See DRINK, page 8A

A river runs through it

Underground water flow in Fort Stanton Cave surprises explorers

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Scientists with New Mexico Tech say water is flowing in a river of crystalline limestone, possibly dry for the past 150 years, discovered in an extension of Fort Stanton Cave northeast of Ruidoso.

The water is running at a depth of from half a foot to 1 1/2 feet.

After a year of substantial precipitation in Lincoln County, many long-time rock cavers and spelunkers, past few months, the cave system was found to be filled with water. The water level was higher than the cavers had expected.

The water was found in a cave system under the mountain. The cave system was discovered by two cavers, who were exploring the mountain. The water was found in a cave system under the mountain.

team led by John Corcoran, digging to find that alternate route, broke through a barrier, according to Penelope Boston, Ph.D., director of the Cave & Karst Studies Program at New Mexico Tech.

The cave delivered two surprises in less

than a month — a new access route and an underground water flow.

Based on limited data compiled by Dr. Victor Polyak at the University of New

See PLAN, page 9A



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Busy council

Ruidoso village councilors are scheduled for two meetings Thursday.
 Mayor L. Ray Nunley set a 2 p.m. workshop to discuss the village's Fiscal Year 2007-2008 final budget.
 Councilors will meet in the administration complex at 313 Cree Meadows Dr.
 A special meeting will begin at 3 p.m., for a fourth quarter FY2006-07 budget review.
 Other items on the agenda are adoption of the final budget resolution amending the 2006-2007 village budget and adoption of a resolution adopting the FY2007-08 revenue and expenditure budget for the village.

Pet Faire

Members of the Partnership for Animal Welfare are sponsoring a Patriotic Pet Faire, a Tribute to America's Service Dogs on Aug. 4.
 From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the White Mountain Sports Complex in Ruidoso, pet owners and their furry friends can enjoy a day of fun put together to benefit the group's spay-neuter voucher program in Lincoln County and Mescalero.
 Low cost vaccinations for bordatella, rabies, distemper, feline leukemia and against rattlesnake bites will be provided on-site from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. by Dr. Lynn Willard of the Ruidoso Animal Clinic.
 Prizes will be awarded to



Retired Naval Lieutenant Commander Robert "Bob" Finley was honored recently for his years of military service with an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., and visits to the Marine Corps Memorial, World War II Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery. Finley, a longtime resident of Alto who recently moved to Baton Rouge, La., served in the South Pacific during the war.

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Local 3-Day Forecast

| Wed 7/25 | Thu 7/26 | Fri 7/27 |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | | |
| 77/59 | 81/58 | 76/57 |
| Scattered thunderstorms possible. | Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm. | Slight chance of a thunderstorm. |
| Sunrise 6:10 AM Sunset 8:07 PM | Sunrise 6:10 AM Sunset 8:07 PM | Sunrise 6:11 AM Sunset 8:06 PM |

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New Mexico At A Glance

Moon Phases

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| First Jul 22 | Full Jul 30 |
| Last Aug 5 | New Aug 12 |

UV Index

| | |
|----------|---------|
| Wed 7/25 | Extreme |
| Thu 7/26 | Extreme |
| Fri 7/27 | Extreme |

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|-------------|----|----|-----------|-------------|----|----|-----------|------------------|----|----|-----------|
| Alamogordo | 92 | 67 | t-storm | Grants | 82 | 53 | t-storm | Santa Fe | 80 | 56 | t-storm |
| Albuquerque | 88 | 68 | t-storm | Guymon, OK | 94 | 67 | mst sunny | Santa Rosa | 91 | 64 | t-storm |
| Carlsbad | 93 | 67 | t-storm | Hobbs | 90 | 67 | t-storm | Silver City | 79 | 53 | t-storm |
| Chama | 76 | 50 | t-storm | Las Cruces | 89 | 70 | t-storm | Socorro | 87 | 63 | t-storm |
| Clovis | 90 | 61 | mst sunny | Las Vegas | 81 | 55 | t-storm | St. Johns, AZ | 88 | 61 | t-storm |
| Deming | 90 | 66 | t-storm | Lordsburg | 91 | 66 | t-storm | Taos | 84 | 51 | t-storm |
| El Paso, TX | 92 | 72 | t-storm | Lubbock, TX | 90 | 66 | sunny | Trinidad, CO | 85 | 59 | mst sunny |
| Espanola | 83 | 60 | t-storm | Odessa, TX | 90 | 67 | t-storm | Truth or Conseq. | 87 | 67 | t-storm |
| Farmington | 89 | 60 | t-storm | Raton | 85 | 55 | mst sunny | Tucson, AZ | 88 | 70 | t-storm |
| Gallop | 62 | 55 | t-storm | Roswell | 93 | 68 | t-storm | Tucumcari | 90 | 61 | mat sunny |

National Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---------|----|----|-----------|-------------|----|----|-----------|----------------|----|----|-----------|
| Atlanta | 83 | 67 | t-storm | Houston | 88 | 74 | t-storm | Phoenix | 95 | 82 | t-storm |
| Boston | 88 | 65 | mst sunny | Los Angeles | 80 | 67 | sunny | San Francisco | 78 | 59 | mat sunny |
| Chicago | 84 | 67 | t-storm | Miami | 88 | 79 | t-storm | Seattle | 82 | 60 | sunny |
| Dallas | 93 | 75 | mat sunny | Minneapolis | 94 | 74 | mat sunny | St. Louis | 90 | 73 | pt sunny |
| Denver | 92 | 68 | mat sunny | New York | 87 | 68 | mat sunny | Washington, DC | 85 | 69 | t-storm |

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winners of a Pet-Owner Look-Alike Contest, a Pet Costume Contest and a Pet Tricks Contest.
 Professional demonstrations, including an agility course, grooming and obedience, will be presented. Dogs and trainers from the Border Patrol, from the Ruidoso K-9 Division, therapy dogs and service dogs for the blind and deaf also will be there.
 A silent auction will be conducted for famous and local art, one-of-a-kind sculpture, pet products and gift baskets from local merchants.
 Mark Jones will snap patriotic pet photographs.
 Product vendors and food booths will be set up and will

include jewelry and animal communicator Zoe DeNegri, goods from All 4 Pets, Thundering Paws Resort, Haute Dogs Pet Styling, No Bones About It and others.
 Dogs must be on leashes and cats in carriers.
 For more information, contact Susan Carter at 378-4946.

Another session of CONNECT New Mexico will be held Dec. 5-8 in Las Cruces. Each program will involve 40-45 young professionals, ages 25-40, from throughout the state. Applicants must be nominated by a Leadership New Mexico graduate and there will be a strong focus on four areas of diversity when selecting the class: i.e., gender, ethnicity, business sector and geographic location.
 Tuition for the program is \$750. Applications can be downloaded from www.leadershipnm.org; the application deadline is Aug. 1.

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ALLEN THEATRES
 HARRY POTTER (PG-13)
 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:30
 TRANSFORMERS (PG-13)
 12:10 3:15 6:20 9:20
 I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU
 CHUCK AND LARRY (PG-13)
 12:00 2:20 4:35 7:00 9:40
 ERBE FASLEY SHOW JULY 24, "NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM" 9:00 AM-11:00 AM 1:00 PM
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Lodgers committee
 An organizational meeting of the Lincoln County Lodgers Tax Committee is set for 10 a.m. today in the village of Capitan Council Chambers, 114 Lincoln Avenue, Capitan.
Connecting leaders
 Leadership New Mexico will launch the first session of CONNECT New Mexico, "The Next Generation of Leadership," Oct. 3-6 in Albuquerque.
 The program is designed to offer young professionals the opportunity to develop personal leadership skills, learn how New Mexico systems and structures work, and explore critical issues facing our state. CONNECT New Mexico will encourage participants to cultivate new ideas and they will also be introduced to recognized leaders who will provide insight into a wide range of issues and topics.

Health collaborative
 The Otero-Lincoln Behavioral Health Local Collaborative (LC12) will meet at noon Thursday at the Community United Methodist Church, 220 Junction Rd., Ruidoso.
 Behavioral health providers, consumers and family members are welcome to attend. The guest speaker will be Ann Del Vecchio who will give information on the strategic prevention framework plan.
 Time permitting, there will be a PowerPoint presentation about the Local Collaborative. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Grace at jd12@beyondbb.com or 505-430-7642.

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Delays hit Perk-Grindstone fuel-reduction program

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

The third phase of a project in the Perk-Grindstone area aimed at reducing the potential wildfire intensity on forest system lands adjacent to Ruidoso, will be delayed another year.

Changing forest conditions, escalating fuel costs and heightened requirements for environmental analysis led to the deadline extension.

The 5,200-acre project proposed by officials with the Smokey Bear Ranger District of the Lincoln National Forest classifies as an authorized hazardous fuel reduction project under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003. Perk Grindstone III is a collaboration that intended to connect community protection in the complex landscapes of the Lincoln National Forest, Mesquero Apache Reservation and Village of Ruidoso, said Forest Service public information official Joe Garcia.

The project was developed in continuous collaboration with the Greater Ruidoso Area Wildland-Urban Interface Working Group, and is directly connected to the Ruidoso community wildfire protection plan and ongoing fuels reduction work.

An environmental assessment covering the project was issued in July 2005. An eligible party filed objections in accordance with regulations implementing that feature of HFRRA. In their response to the objections, officials with the Forest Service Southwestern Regional Office instructed the Lincoln National Forest to revise the EA, focusing on particular elements that were not consistent with requirements for Mexican spotted owl habitat or that lacked adequate analysis or disclosure of environmental effects, Garcia said.

In May 2006, Smokey Bear Ranger District officials negoti-

ated an agreement with TEAMS Planning Enterprise, a Forest Service Enterprise Unit specializing in National Environmental Policy Act compliance, to complete the environmental assessment.

In August 2006, based on a multiple level review, Lincoln National Forest Supervisor Lou Woltering decided to raise the level of analysis to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision with an estimated completion date of August 2007. The primary rationale for an EIS was attributed to the need for a forest plan amendment, impacts to the Mexican Spotted Owl, issues with roads and the limitations of fuels modeling.

A notice of intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on Sept. 22, 2006.

Recently, officials with the Smokey Bear Ranger District determined that the Perk Grindstone III Project timeline was compromised, because of the following critical issues:

- changed forest conditions because of recent tree/stand insect-related mortality;
- potential new Occupational Safety and Health Administration concerns because of tree/stand mortality and snag hazards;
- operational and transportation feasibility associated with helicopter logging; and,
- economics associated with recent increases in liability and fuels costs associated with helicopter yarding. The proposed action is more than 50 percent helicopter logging.

In response to those issues, Lincoln National Forest staff drafted a preliminary logging economic analysis and an additional ground-based alternative in June. The main concerns that need to be analyzed in the new ground-based alternative are effects to soils/hydrology, wildlife/botany and recre-

ation/scenery. Evaluation of the new ground-based alternative will require more time and resources to complete the EIS. This change necessitated that the timelines for completion of the NEPA analysis and issuance of a Record of Decision be extended to August 2008, Garcia said.

The draft EIS is scheduled for public review in December 2007.

Smokey Bear District Ranger Buck Sanchez said he recognizes that he has not met expectations for completion of the project previously scheduled for August 2007.

"The tree mortality in the project area increased due to insect activity, the subsequent safety risks to ground and helicopter operations, and recent increases in liability and fuels costs associated with helicopter logging and transportation required that we develop other alternatives that can safely and efficiently implement the necessary treatments on the ground," he said.

"I deeply regret that I could not meet my previous commitment, but feel this is the right thing to do based on these changed conditions.

"We will continue to collaborate with all partners through the remaining stages of project analysis, decision-making and implementation."

In the interim while the NEPA analysis is being conducted, Sanchez said Lincoln National Forest crews will continue to aggressively suppress fires that start in or near the Perk-Grindstone area.

"If we reach environmental conditions where fire danger is severe, we will continue to assign and state additional fire suppression resources in the Greater Ruidoso Area, Sanchez said. "We also will continue with our highly successful fire prevention efforts."

For more information on the

"I deeply regret that I could not meet my previous commitment, but feel this is the right thing to do."

Joe Garcia
Smokey Bear District Ranger

Lincoln National Forest, check the Web site at: www.fs.fed.us/r3/lincoln.

Spraying proposed

A spraying program is being proposed on the western portion of the Sacramento Mountains on the Lincoln National Forest that experienced two successive years of defoliation from an infestation of a winter conifer-feeding looper species.

Two aerial surveys of the area infested by the *Nepytia janatae* flown by New Mexico Zone Forest Health staff during June and August of 2006 found about 6,014 acres of national forest lands affected. An aerial survey conducted on April 30 showed an additional 6,086 acres of Forest Service land affected.

Areas of defoliation occur in the vicinity of Cloudcroft. Under the proposed action, contractors would aerially spray around that village to suppress the winter defoliator looper, reduce the threat of fire risk to the community and reduce potential impacts to tourism and private property values caused by tree mortality.

Comments may be submitted to the Forest Supervisor, 1101 New York Ave., Alamogordo, NM 88310-6992; 505-434-7200; fax 505-434-7218; e-mail comments-southwestern-lincoln@fs.fed.us.

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104 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 128 Ruidoso, N.M. 88355 • Telephone (505) 257-4001 • Fax (505) 257-7053

GLENAS ORCUTT PUBLISHER, EXT. 3
gorcutt@ruidosonews.com

MARTY RACINE EDITOR, EXT. 18
mracine@ruidosonews.com

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e-mail: editorial@ruidosonews.com • online: www.ruidosonews.com
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NEWSROOM

Dianne Stallings General Assignment reporter, Ext. 22
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Todd Fuqua Business, Education editor, Ext. 19
toddf@ruidosonews.com

Mike Curran Sports editor, Ext. 5
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

Julie Carter County reporter, Ext. 23
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

Sandy Kashmar Entertainment, Vamontos editor, Ext. 15
skashmar@ruidosonews.com

Member: New Mexico Press Association, NAA, Inland Press Association
Tom Schafer, Circulation Coordinator
tschafer@ruidosonews.com

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OUR OPINION

Standing up never felt so good

Benefit for HEAL strengthens the community

The sellout crowd at Saturday evening's production of *Survivor 3: Stand Up* experienced an atmosphere that can only be described as electrifying. The pre-show buzz gave way to applause, cheers and even a few tears, as the 49 performers expertly delivered the message of the evening.

Innovative sets, creative lighting and live video production beautifully supported the singers, dancers and musicians as they explored the powerful theme of survival and the overcoming of obstacles.

Being a member of the audience was a privilege. Each of the cast members delivered a heartfelt performance, with

diverse musical styles reflecting a range of stories, from getting back on your feet to experiencing the power of change. And as everyone gathered to enjoy the concert, they were brought more assuredly together by its scope and content to continue to stand up for a common purpose.

Just as it is not possible to measure the effects on the lives of the women and children who are supported through the accomplishments of HEAL and The Nest, it is impossible to measure the ultimate benefit to the community of working together to achieve a common goal.

But when you stand up, Lincoln County, take a bow.

Regarding salvation, not all roads lead to Rome

A letter to God (interspersed with nagging from my own conscience).

Dear God,
Got a few minutes?
(Well, now, that was a clever opening. Of course he's got few minutes. He's got an eternity, for Heaven's sake.)

Here's the thing. You don't know me, but I am this guy who writes a column for a whole bunch of New Mexico newspapers.

(Duh! He doesn't know you? He MADE you!)

Anyway, here's my problem. I should be writing about New Mexico, like how Governor Bill wants to be president, but I can't. I am all preoccupied with the edict that came out of the Vatican, about how Catholicism might be the only religion playing with a full deck.

See, I am a practicing Roman Catholic. Proud of it. I believe in all the important stuff. The Eucharist. The Holy Trinity. Stuff that takes a lot of faith. I mean, no offense, God, but if we are going to hang around with you, we can't shy away from miracles. Like, you make TREES?

A lot of us Catholics who hold the core beliefs have a lot of trouble with some of the other issues. Our church should take a look at clerical celibacy and maybe how that needs to be studied as a possible cause of the scandals. And why not let women be priests? Rome's got herself one horrendous personnel shortage. Maybe some of the arbitrary rules need to be changed.

But, hey, you know more about that stuff than I do.

(Oh, that's a nice touch. God is smarter than you? My, aren't we humble today?)

So, anyway, what has me all riled up is Pope Benedict signing off on a statement that, according to the Associated Press, "says other Christian communities are either defective or not true churches and Catholicism provides the only true path to salvation."

Actually, it did not say that part about salvation. I read it.

What it said was that other churches "are deprived neither of significance nor importance in the mystery of salvation. In fact the Spirit of Christ has not refrained from using them as instruments of salvation." You can make up your own mind about what that really means.

(You're going to go ahead and let God make up his own mind? How generous!)

But look, God, here's the bottom line. Your followers have been fighting too long about who's

right and who's wrong. I have always felt you don't much care which building we walk into Sunday morning, you care what we are doing Tuesday night. Don't you think that is rather profound?

(What! Now you're asking God for an attorney?)

Here is one Roman Catholic who believes steadfastly in his own religion but has only the deepest respect for our Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, First Christian, and friends in all other religions who hold strongly their own beliefs. And if a person thinks this whole Supreme Being thing is a big con, well, so be it.

(Careful!)

In recent years there has been some real progress toward the various religions trying to understand one another and ratchet up tolerance. That ecumenical effort needs to continue. I mean, Geez!

(Pardon the expression.)

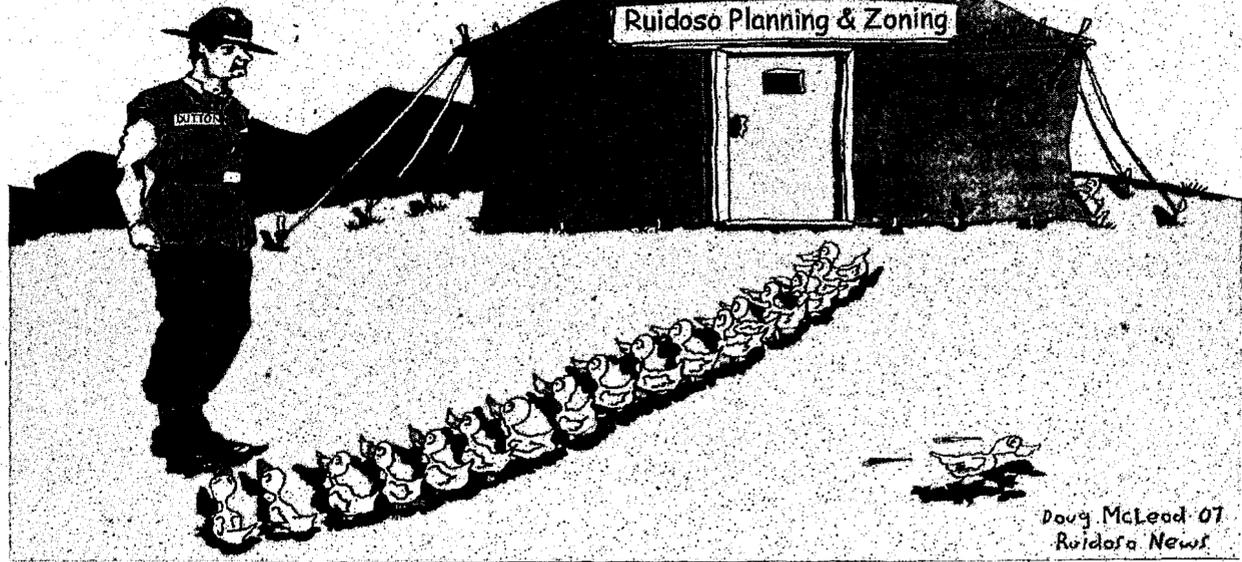
If you could just help me get that message across, God, I will appreciate it. And, oh, while I've got your attention, could you maybe nudge along the Richardson campaign and tell Bill he needs to take me with him to Washington?

P.S. Bill Richardson is "one of us."

(Have you no conscience whatsoever?)

NED CANTWELL - ncantwell@beyondbb.com - dives under the table when he hears thunder.

Commissioner Dutton suggests that applicants put all their ducks in a row, prior to their hearing...



Doug McLeod '07
Ruidoso News

YOUR OPINION

Stick up for the 'pickup truck dogs' on July 31

To the editor:

THREE WEEKS AGO, I laughed when I saw a beautiful 8-week-old puppy at the Carrizozo Animal Control Shelter. She was running the place, playing with big ol' pit bulls, cattle dogs and a cute little (except to the puppy) Corgi boy.

Then I learned that she had fallen out of a red long-bed pickup truck on Angus Hill the week before. Although the driver slowed, he apparently changed his mind about rescuing her from his callous irresponsibility and just kept on truckin'.

Two elderly ladies, horrified at seeing this incident, pulled over right there on Angus Hill - risking their lives to cross the street to save little 'Gavvy' - thankfully suffering short-term blood-loss and temporary limp.

Gavvy (now adoptable at Thundering Paws Pet Resort, 336-7297) is one of hundreds each year, and the only thing 'unusual' is that someone would consider her a 'throw-away.' Promise, a 4-month-old heeler puppy, wasn't so lucky. When she broke her hip three months ago, riding in a pickup truck, her owner instructed Dr. Willard (Ruidoso Animal Clinic) to put her to death, rather than pay for surgery necessary only because of his irresponsibility.

Working in a pet-rescue arena of any

kind opens one's eyes, but it doesn't really take that to see what's going on in the back of pickup trucks in Lincoln County. It's shoved right in our faces like this every day. Dogs who serve ask for nothing in return, but deserve everything, including basic, common-sense protection from owners who insist that their dogs accompany them in their city travels.

But these hard-working "pickup truck dogs" are constantly subjected to dangerous travel in the backs of pickup trucks (something wrong with the empty seats inside?) without harnesses, without water or even protection from the sun.

At the first sudden stop, dogs are thrown out in front of oncoming traffic, breaking legs, necks, hips, or worse. One was dragged by his chain behind a truck until he was literally torn to pieces on the road. His owner didn't even notice until the next stop that he'd fallen out.

Much of the time, those of us following or driving beside these pickup trucks are also at moderate to grave risk. In an age when cell-phone use in cars is rightly considered a dangerous distraction, and punishable in some areas by fines or jail time, how much more of a distraction is an un-harnessed dog jumping on and off a tool box in front of your car?

Are any of you driving near these dogs not terrified that you will run over this dog when in the case of sudden stop or accident it inevitably falls? How about walking by them with your leashed dogs and being scared to death when they charge you?

I'm sick of it! I'm also sick of seeing these dogs in the hot sun, now suddenly in the parking slot next to my car! And I'm tired of having to gingerly, tentatively enter my car, hoping that the dog won't mistakenly think I'm encroaching on his/her pitifully small personal space and bite me.

Like any aggressive dog behavior, it is never the dog, it's the owner who is in the wrong, for not training, socializing and, in the case of pickup truck dogs, not protecting these loyal, wonderful animals.

Ruidoso Police Chief Wolfgang Born has worked hard on a new, upgraded ordinance to protect pickup truck dogs (and citizens from them) traveling on the city streets of the village of Ruidoso, coming up July 31 at Village Council. If you're sick of this too, make your opinions known.

Please stick up for the pickup truck dogs at this meeting.

Sunny Aris
Ruidoso

GUEST COMMENTARY

Every New Mexico child deserves health care

LINDA M. LOPEZ
New Mexico State Senator

More than 4,400 New Mexico children lost Medicaid coverage in February, adding to the 87,000 New Mexico children who have no health care insurance. New Mexico has the fourth-highest rate of uninsured children in the United States. Nationally, estimates show there are more than 9 million children without health care insurance.

The U.S. Senate is currently deciding whether to strengthen the successful State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to cover more of our country's children. SCHIP was created through the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to help states provide health insurance coverage to children and some parents with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid, but for whom private health insurance was either unavailable or unaffordable.

Today, SCHIP covers almost 6 million children. Since its inception, the number of uninsured low-income children in the U.S. has decreased by one-third. New Mexico's SCHIP, as part of the New Mexikids Program, covers 25,155 children with family incomes up to 235 percent of the poverty level, as well as some adults and parents.

An additional 268,000 children are covered by Medicaid funding under the New Mexikids Program (according to

February 2007 Medicaid enrollment). Two-thirds of the uninsured children in our state are eligible for the New Mexikids Program, if funding were available.

However, the Congressional Research Service projects that the need for federal SCHIP funds will exceed available funds in 18 states in 2007 alone by approximately \$1 billion.

The budget proposed by the president is only for an additional \$635 million, which would cause as many as 200,000 children to lose their existing SCHIP coverage. The good news is that Congress has passed a budget resolution that proposes increasing SCHIP funding by \$50 billion over the next five years.

Over 60 children's advocacy organizations sent a letter to Congress earlier this year supporting six key points related to the reauthorization of SCHIP.

New Mexican children will benefit greatly from strong SCHIP legislation. If SCHIP is re-authorized with the full \$50 billion in new federal funds approved in the budget resolution, the state would receive \$622.4 million in new federal funding for children's health coverage in the next five years.

In 2008 alone, New Mexico would receive \$124.5 million to cover more of our uninsured children. New Mexico will also benefit from legislation that supports state flexibility, such as maintaining coverage of some needy parents

in its program and the option to cover the many legal immigrant children living in New Mexico who are currently barred from other types of health coverage.

In addition to reducing the number of uninsured children in New Mexico, \$622.4 million in new federal funding would generate \$246.9 million in increased business activity (payments to hospitals and other health-related businesses), \$93.3 million in augmented wages, and 3,148 additional jobs in New Mexico.

We thank Senator Bingaman for his outstanding leadership in Congress for a strong and well-funded SCHIP. Governor Richardson and other state leaders have also demonstrated a strong desire to expand coverage to more uninsured children, but without federal support (both increased SCHIP funding and sound policy), we cannot even maintain coverage of children and adults who are already enrolled in SCHIP, much less cover more uninsured children.

American and New Mexican children deserve the basic right of health care and a healthy childhood. America has the ability and the responsibility and can do no less for its children.

LINDA M. LOPEZ is a New Mexico State Senator (District 11) and former Chair of the SCHIP Oversight Committee. She can be reached at 505-831-4148.

Vote nears on possible sale of Alto water corporation

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

In an attempt to answer questions raised by members of the Alto Golf and Country Club about the possible sale of the community water corporation to the Alto Lakes Sanitation District, officials prepared an information sheet.

Voting materials are expected to go into the mail today. If approved, the transaction is expected to close in late 2007.

The unincorporated Alto area north of Ruidoso is one of the fastest-growing segments of Lincoln County. In the last few years, residents have formed their own zoning district and water and sanitation district with elected boards.

On the question and answer sheet, Club officials explained that a significant portion of the water system is nearly 40 years

“As Alto continues to grow, the need for capital investment in the water system will also grow and someday could exceed the Club’s ability to borrow funds on behalf of the Water Corporation.”

old and needs improvements.

“As Alto continues to grow, the need for capital investment in the water system will also grow and someday could exceed the Club’s ability to borrow funds on behalf of the Water Corp.,” they wrote.

“The Club Board believes that the best long-term way to continue to economically produce and distribute water to our homes and our golf course is through the Water and Sanitation District.”

Currently, the District pays

\$900,000 to the Club and will pay off Water Corp. debt and obligations estimated to be \$1.6 million at closing for a total of about \$2.5 million. The District will receive all Water Corp. assets, cash and accounts receivable, and will assume responsibility for all accounts payable and contractual obligations in place at closing.

The Club will be released from all guarantees of Water Corp. debts and obligations.

The Club will retain ownership of Club-owned senior

water rights, which will be leased to the District for 40 years at \$1 per year.

The District has the option of purchasing the rights after 20 years, as well as right of first refusal on any sale contemplated by the Club.

The District also will receive title to the Club-owned Water Corp. maintenance yard and solid waste disposal area on High Mesa. The District will assume responsibility for operation of the solid waste and forest waste collection.

A rate increase will occur, but lower than was requested by the Water Corporation, officials wrote.

“The Club and community will realize first-year savings of about \$120,000,” they wrote. The Water Corp. has applied for a 20 percent across-the-board increase in water rates and connection fees. The District will reduce the increase to 12.15 percent, they stated.

“The agreement authorizes the District, at their option, to adjust the rate for golf course

irrigation based on the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index,” according to the question and answer sheet. “In addition, the District plans to remove the existing mil levy (property tax) no later than July 1, 2008.”

For more details, see the Q & A summary on this page or the District’s Web site at www.Wsd.AltoLakes.net:

- the complete Asset Purchase And Sale Agreement
 - information about improvements
 - information about the District’s purpose and history
 - information about the board and meetings
 - complete results of the Survey of Property Owners.
- The Club Web site at www.altolakesgolf.com has the complete Asset Purchase And Sale Agreement and the question-and-answer sheet.

Questions and answers: Country club members get a primer on issues

Other questions and answers distributed to members of the Alto Golf and Country Club about the possible sale of the Alto Water Corp. to the Alto Water and Sanitation District include:

Question: How will the Club benefit by selling the system?

Answer: The Club will receive proceeds of \$900,000 less seller’s closing costs. The Club will also receive a first-year reduction in water rates of approximately \$24,000 as a result of the District’s across-the-board rate reduction. Club assets, all of which serve as collateral to secure the Water Corp.’s debt, will be fully released and the Club will have no further responsibility for the Water Corp.’s financial well being. No membership assessment will be required to improve the Water Corp.’s equity capital. The Club will no longer have any responsibility for the quality, quantity, production or distribution of water provided to members.

Q: How will the lot owners be affected by the transfer?

A: The Club can assess lot owners, equally with all other members, for additional equity to fund the Water Corp.

The District Board believes that operating costs and water system improvements should be fully funded from water and sewer revenues. Lot owners will continue to pay a fixed annual fire protection charge and a connection fee when a home is constructed.

Q: Will water for the golf course be guaranteed after the sale?

A: The Club will retain ownership of senior water rights that provide a substantial amount of the water required to maintain our golf course. Those water rights will be leased to the District and the District will be obligated to furnish water to the course.

Q: What is the downside of selling the system?

A: The District is a wholly separate entity, and the Club will have no further influence in the operation of the water utility. The District will generally operate in a manner similar to that of the ALWC, however the District is a government entity which must conduct business in the manner prescribed by law.

Q: If I have a complaint, how will it be handled?

A: Complaints will continue to be handled by the same ALWC General Manager and office staff. Unresolved complaints may be taken to the District Board where they will be heard in an open meeting. Decisions of the District Board may be appealed to State regulatory agencies and to District Court.

Q: What happens if the Club keeps the system?

A: The Water Corp. has been adversely affected by declining water sales and rising expenses leading to the need for an immediate 20 percent increase in water rates. The system requires significant modernization and upgrades. The Water Corp. and the Club together do not have the equity capital or debt structure required to fund these improvements.

Keeping the system will require implementing the full 20 percent water rate increase and the Water Corp. will continue to borrow at currently high rates. In addition, if the Water Corp.’s capital requirements exceed the borrowing power of the Club, a membership assessment will be required to increase the Water Corp.’s capital structure.

Q: What if the members do not approve the sale?

A: If a majority of the Club members voting do not approve the sale, the agreement is canceled and the Water Corp. will remain under Club ownership. The District will likely go out of existence.

Q: What if I am not registered to vote in New Mexico?

A: For your protection, the agreement requires that all Alto Lakes property owners will have the opportunity to make their views known through binding referendums which will be held before any issue (other than Board elections) is submitted to the eligible voters. Under New Mexico state law, only voters registered in the State who own property in Alto Lakes are eligible to vote in Board elections.

Q: What is the difference between the District and the Water Corp.?

A: The District is a quasi-municipal political subdivision of the State of New Mexico. The Water Corp. is a private utility wholly owned by the Club with borrowings guaranteed by the assets of the Club. The District’s property owners are all members of the Club.

The District will continue to serve Water Corp. customers in Kokopelli and Eagle Creek II; however, these customers do not lie within the District boundaries.

Q: Who manages the District?

A: The District is managed by an elected five-person Board of Directors comprised of Alto Lakes property owners. The agreement requires that all seats on the Board remain filled until closing and state law requires that the Board remain fully constituted thereafter.

Q: What advantages does a Water & Sanitation District have over a private water system?

A: As a government entity,

the District has access to grants and low-cost loans from the State and Federal government making future improvements less expensive for the rate payer.

Under New Mexico law, a State chartered Water and Sanitation District can protect Alto’s water from condemnation by Ruidoso. Control over the use of the local water will remain within the Alto Lakes community.

Q: How will the District finance the purchase of the Water Corp.?

A: The Agreement between the Water Corporation and the District requires that the District borrow \$4 million. The District will apply about \$2.5 million to the acquisition and all remaining borrowed funds will be invested in water system improvements. The debt will be repaid from the District’s operating revenues, which it believes will be sufficient to meet all obligations.

Q: Can we be assured that the District will remain financially viable?

A: The State requires that the District have sufficient net operating income to meet its debt payment obligation and meet reserve requirements. This requirement insures that the District can meet unforeseen events without jeopardizing its loan obligations. If the District Board fails to do so, the state will order the necessary changes.

Q: What about the Water Corp.’s employees?

A: All current employees of the Water Corp. will become employees of the District at comparable compensation and benefits. The existing team will continue to run the daily operations of the system.

Q: Is voting in District elections limited to full-time residents?

A: No. All New Mexico voters, residing anywhere in the state, who own property in Alto Lakes, are eligible to vote.

About 40 percent of Alto Lakes properties are owned by New Mexico residents.

Q: What improvements are needed?

A: Parts of the water system are nearly 40 years old and in need of upgrading. The five-year capital plan is currently being updated to identify the specific needs of the system. Improvements are needed in water supply, water quality and the distribution system. Distribution system upgrades will be targeted at eliminating “brown” and “red” water, providing adequate and uniform water pressure, and assuring adequate water quantities and pressure for firefighting.

Q: How will the District make the improvements?

A: The District will have

about \$1.5 million available for improvements to be completed within the next two years. Priority will be given to making the water supply more drought-resistant and to upgrading the distribution system.

The District will make application for a Planning Grant to fund preliminary engineering to identify priorities in upgrading the distribution system. Future improvements will be broken into phases with community property-owner input into the cost and timing of each segment and will be undertaken as funds become available.

Q: Why can’t the Water Corp. make the improvements?

A: The Club and the Water Corp. do not have sufficient assets to borrow all of the funds needed to make the required

improvements. In addition the District will have access to federal and state grants, money that a privately owned utility cannot obtain.

Q: What will the Club do with the \$900,000 sales proceeds?

A: The Club Board has not made any decisions regarding the use of the proceeds. The Board will evaluate various options such as reducing the outstanding indebtedness of the Club.

There will be no major spending projects without a majority approval in a vote to be submitted to the entire membership. Members are urged to evaluate the sale of the Water Corp. on its own merits without regard to possible uses of the funds.



Cathy Eastham

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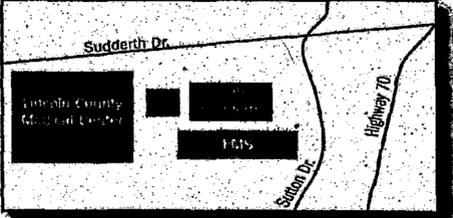
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PRESBYTERIAN

EDUCATION

District has big plans for area schools

TODD FUQUA
todd@ruidosonews.com

The Ruidoso school board met in a special session last Tuesday, primarily to approve the construction of the next phase of the new Ruidoso Middle School building, awarding the bid for construction of the actual structure to DND Contractors, who presented a bid of \$19.5 million.

The first phase has already begun, with construction crews trying to beat the winter weather, clearing the land atop the hill across from the current high school, laying the foundations and hoping there's enough time for them to cure before the cold comes.

"We decided to split the construction into two packages in order for us to get caught up with our construction," said Ruidoso Superintendent Paul Wirth. "We still have to finish paperwork on this most recent award, and make sure everything is in order."

The contract approval is the latest step in a complex design which will see the construction of a new middle school, demolition of parts of the old one, the entire vacating of Nob Hill

Early Childhood Center, renovation of White Mountain Intermediate to house kindergarten students and the moving of students from Gavilan Canyon Alternative School to the grounds of the old middle school.

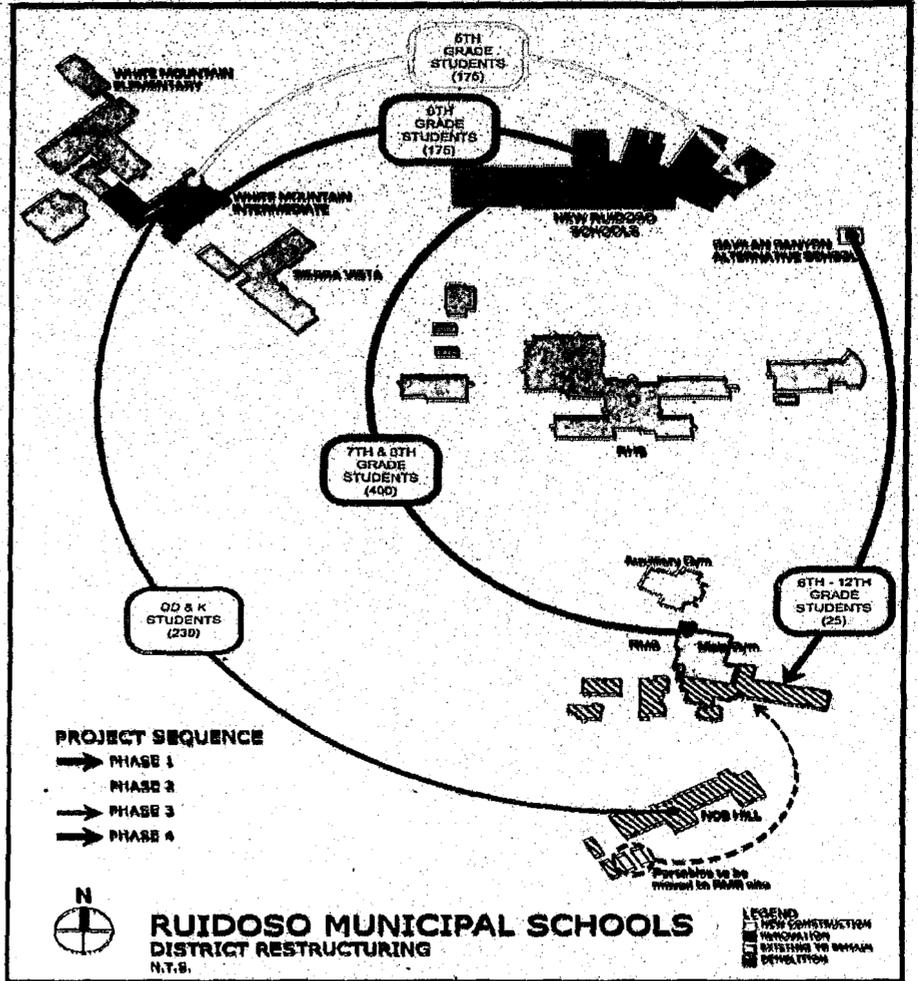
"All of this will be happening many years down the line, and things still might change before then," Wirth said.

By the time all the moves have been made, kindergarten students will be in the renovated White Mountain Intermediate school, fifth and sixth grade students will be in wings of the new middle school, and students from the alternative school will be in portable units moved to the old middle school site from Nob Hill.

Except for the alternative school, every student in the Ruidoso district will be in schools concentrated in primarily the same area - right around Warrior Drive.

"That's all by design," Wirth stated. "We'll work on having a staggered schedule for each school to keep the traffic from becoming too much of a problem. Once we've re-forested the area around the new school, the whole thing will be quite beautiful."

COURTESY
A look at the Ruidoso Municipal School District's plan for student movement during construction of the new middle school reveals the plan's complexity. Note that the old middle school's gymnasiums will continue to stand and will be used by students from the alternative school, while portables currently being used at Nob Hill Elementary will be moved to the old middle school site to be used as classrooms.



EDUCATION BRIEFS

SHARE needs volunteers

Volunteers - with or without children - are being asked to share their hearts and homes for teen ambassadors from abroad for the upcoming 2007-08 school years. The students are participating in the SHARE! High School Exchange Program to learn firsthand about this country.

The students, who arrive in August, are between the ages of 15 and 18 and have been screened for academic preparedness and English proficiency and would attend a local high school.

All students must be placed by Aug. 31. For more information, contact Yvette Coffman at 1-800-941-3738 or info@sharesouthwest.org. Those interested are also invited to visit SHARE's Web site at www.sharesouthwest.org.

Community education

Community education classes continue at Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso through August. Classes available this month are:

- Finding the Creative Writer in You, Aug. 1
- Acrylics, Aug. 2
- Computer Basics for Seniors 2, Aug. 3
- Basic Dog Obedience, Aug. 4
- Alcohol Server, Aug. 6
- Mosaics Aug., 6
- Watercolor, Aug. 7
- Video Editing with Windows Movie Maker, Aug. 11
- Getting to Know Your Digital Camera, Aug. 18

Space is limited, so register today. The ENMU-Ruidoso Community Education Office is located in the State National Bank Building, 707 Mechem Dr. You can also contact them by phone at 830-8181.

Burdine scholarship to benefit ENMU business majors

The Community Foundation of Lincoln County tripled its assets since October 2006 with the most recent fund established, the Gene Burdine Foundation-ENMU Ruidoso Scholarship Fund.

The Gene Burdine Foundation Scholarship Fund will directly benefit ENMU Ruidoso business majors beginning this academic year.

The CFLC received the gift Friday, when Burdine family members Deloros, Kathy and Sherry presented a \$27,000 check to ENMU-Ruidoso Provost Dr. Michael Elrod at Kokopelli Country Club in Alto. CFLC will manage the fund's contributions and disbursements as directed by the Burdine family who wants to support business as well as hospitality and tourism students at the branch community college.

"The college is looking forward to seeing this scholarship fund grow in the coming year," Elrod said. "This scholarship is the largest donation this campus has received."

Elrod stated that he has been working with Kathy Burdine for the past year on establishing the new scholarship fund through the CFLC. Elrod said through the three-pronged partnership between ENMU-Ruidoso, the Gene Burdine Foundation and the CFLC, business students will receive the benefit of an ever-growing scholarship, while interest earned on the investment funds will be awarded to eligible local non-profit organizations throughout Lincoln County.

"This is truly a win-win-win for the entire community," Elrod said.

The Burdine Foundation has committed to



COURTESY
The Burdine Family, on behalf of the Gene Burdine Foundation, presented a \$27,000 check for the ENMU-Ruidoso Scholarship Fund, benefiting business students at the branch community college. Deloros Burdine and Dr. Mike Elrod, ENMU-Ruidoso Provost, stand to the left while Kathy Burdine, Ken Berry and Sherry Burdine stand to the right.

awarding similar amounts annually to the fund through an annual golf tournament. This year's tournament will be Aug. 27. The entry fee is \$250 per golfer and proceeds have been earmarked for the ENMU-Ruidoso Scholarship Fund.

"Our mission is to support, promote and encourage charitable giving in order to improve the quality of life within our communities," said Dean Lollar, Community Foundation of Lincoln County Board Chairman. "Our partnership with

the Gene Burdine Foundation and ENMU Ruidoso is exciting and will benefit many important endeavors as the Fund continues to grow."

The CFLC's fundraising campaign goal was \$100,000 by October 2007 and \$1 million by July 1, 2011. Lollar said the organization's restricted funds have seen significant growth during the past year as more and more people have recognized how their contributions sustain Lincoln County's quality of life in perpetuity.

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County begins to recoup money designated for road repair

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

It's 21 down and counting on the scorecard for Lincoln County to recoup money designated for repair of roads damaged during September 2006 flooding.

Last week, County Manager Tom Stewart told county commissioners that 20 projects approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency are completed and 12 are left to finish by the March 2008 deadline.

The total justified amount as of July 1 is \$364,212, with \$69,281 in requests for additional work and \$157,000 in projects waiting to be completed.

But County Road Super-

intendent Albert Hernandez said his crews already notched up one more job and have begun number 22. He pledged that he will finish the list and spend the allocated amount by the deadline.

However, occurrences such as recent flooding in Capitan mean that his crews must be pulled off FEMA work to answer emergency repairs.

"That caused Albert to shift focus and move off FEMA, but I'm satisfied he has a schedule to address them between now and March," Stewart said.

Work is pending in Alamo Canyon east on U.S. 70 until he can determine whether available road material nearby lies on private or public land, Hernandez said.

His crew took off to patch

roads and do drainage work. They hauled base course material to Devil's Canyon, Magado Creek and Valley Heights subdivision, he said.

"We started Alpine Village Road and Musketball Road," he said, but the supplier ran out of material and the crew went back to FEMA projects. Letting the supplier deliver the material keeps his trucks free for projects, the road boss said.

As soon as material is available, he will polish off the rest of the projects, which he said should come in within the amount he budgeted.

"We're going 110 mph and trying to keep everyone satisfied," Hernandez said. "When we get flooding, we have to pull off FEMA, but I will make sure we get all that money before the

"We're going 110 mph and trying to keep everyone satisfied. I will make sure we get all that money before the March 15 deadline."

— County Road Superintendent Albert Hernandez

March 15 deadline."

Stewart said he and Hernandez keep hearing from Capitan citizens that all the money the county is receiving from FEMA should be spent in that town. But that's not the way the program works, he said. The money must be spent on specific work approved by FEMA and only to restore a road or drainage to its pre-flood condition.

"You can't improve it or use it on something else," he said.

That approach is being criti-

cized and debated, because counties miss a chance to correct a road to prevent future flooding, Stewart said. Lovelace said that kind of approach is hard for citizens to understand.

The county is reimbursed by FEMA as projects are completed and audited. Hernandez said FEMA officials don't allow fudging.

"I missed a spot and the girl says she GSP'ed it and told me, 'You're going the wrong way,'" he said.

Commissioner Jackie Powell

asked what condition roads will be in this fall when ranchers begin shipping their livestock to market, if monsoons begin again.

"When you have caliche roads and with this much moisture, even chip seal gets soft underneath," Hernandez said. "We're going to have problems. Those trucks really are heavy and the roads could be soft. We still have a lot of miles that need to be redone and I don't see them done in the time I have left here."

PLAN

FROM PAGE 1A

lieutenant governor, said he was speaking on his "own nickel." He criticized the plan because of historical inaccuracies and statements about water resources that were presented as fact without substantiation.

He contended more public airing was needed. If history is misrepresented, "What other points may be wrong?" he asked.

"Any assumptions about water need to be vetted with experts," Runnels said. "Everyone has opinions, even experts. We need to make sure all the data is reviewed to ensure it's accurate."

He objected to a reference in the plan to "uncontrolled growth," contending the county uses multiple types of control.

As chairman of the Fort Stanton Development Commission, he asked that more agencies than the Lincoln County Historical Society be listed in the preservation effort for historic Fort Stanton, saying it would be a serious omission not to include state and national departments. He also pointed out that appropriate development at the fort still is official policy.

Oscara resident Jerry Carroll, who served on the plan steering committee, also pushed for more review, insisting that public input was limited and that to garner public support, the plan warranted more exposure and input.

He is "totally against blanket zoning in this county," Carroll said, although he can see limited applications in high-density areas. But blanket zoning as a tool to create community water systems and for other goals was never debated in any of the public meetings on the plan, he said.

"I don't know where that came from," he said. "It was not

discussed in any meetings I attended."

The plan also failed to acknowledge the existence of townsites, a particular type of early land division tied to the custom and culture of the county, he said. Also lacking was reference to the Jicarilla Mining District, which may be the oldest in New Mexico, he said.

"I was under the impression we were going to have more public meetings or steering committee meetings," Carroll said. Then he saw the item listed on the commission agenda for adoption by resolution.

"We need to study this a lot longer," he said. "It may cost money, but it would be money well spent. If we do not, it would contribute to my contention this is a fraudulent document."

Powell asked for one more month to review the plan. Lovelace agreed.

"I know it's not an ordinance, but instead of coming back every month and changing it time and time again, let's try to get it right the first time," Lovelace said.

Commissioner Don Williams said he understood some urgency to adopt existed.

County Attorney Alan Morel replied, "We are proposing subdivision regulations stricter than the state's, and the only way we can is to have a comprehensive plan that outlines what those concerns are. It needs to be approved before we adopt (an amended) subdivision ordinance."

Lovelace asked if that amended ordinance was ready to adopt next month. Morel said it was not.

"Then I think we have time," Lovelace countered.

But Battin said as a living document and a resolution, changes can be inserted easily.

Stewart asked for those who found errors or think something should be changed to submit the items in writing with reference to where they should be inserted. They will be compiled and could be considered at the

The county is proposing subdivision regulations stricter than the state's, thus a comprehensive plan is essential

commission's meeting in August.

Powell said part of her reluctance to making changes was tied to printing and reprinting costs, but Stewart said the consultants will give the county the computer disk containing the plan and changes won't be difficult or costly.

"This plan is general, rather than detailed," Stewart said. "It does contain specific recommendations the commission can consider."

Lovelace asked if state officials must approve the plan. Stewart said state officials must see the plan to justify the funding reimbursement, but

they have no input. It is the county's plan.

Battin said with the plan approved, inserting changes should be handled more quickly than holding off on approval and continuing to debate. He may not agree with every line, but it will provide something to build upon, he said.

Nogal resident Robert Moeller, a county planning commission member, urged approval.

"At the last commission meeting on a (subdivision) moratorium, people were standing in the hall," he reminded commissioners. To be so close to ordering something as drastic

as a moratorium and then put off adoption of a comprehensive plan that can provide a rationale for whatever land-use ordinance amendments subsequently are enacted, makes no sense, he said.

Stewart assured Lovelace that all changes proposed will receive public airing by the commission.

"As we used to say in the military, the only easy way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time," he said. "There is a lot in the plan to work toward, there is a lot we don't have the money to do. I'd rather be inclusive than exclusive of any ideas."

Some of the changes suggested by Battin included more diplomatic wording in a reference to blocking access to public land and to drivers of all terrain vehicles abiding by federal rules; modifying wording to acknowledge mining districts, but not advocate expansion; to support value-added production

agricultural products, but not just specify fiber art; to generalize references to golf courses in the county; and to refer to continued collaboration with state and federal agencies in forest health issues.

He added that he thinks the commission should follow a recommendation in the plan to work toward creation of a water authority to bring in water from outside county borders.

Williams suggested changes include setting a definite time period for review of the plan, instead of using the word "periodically," which could mean never to some people, he said. He preferred annual reviews.

Parks' motion to approve included review of suggested changes within the next two months.

"I agree this is a broad guideline and there are some things I don't agree with, but we will never get one that suits everyone," he said.



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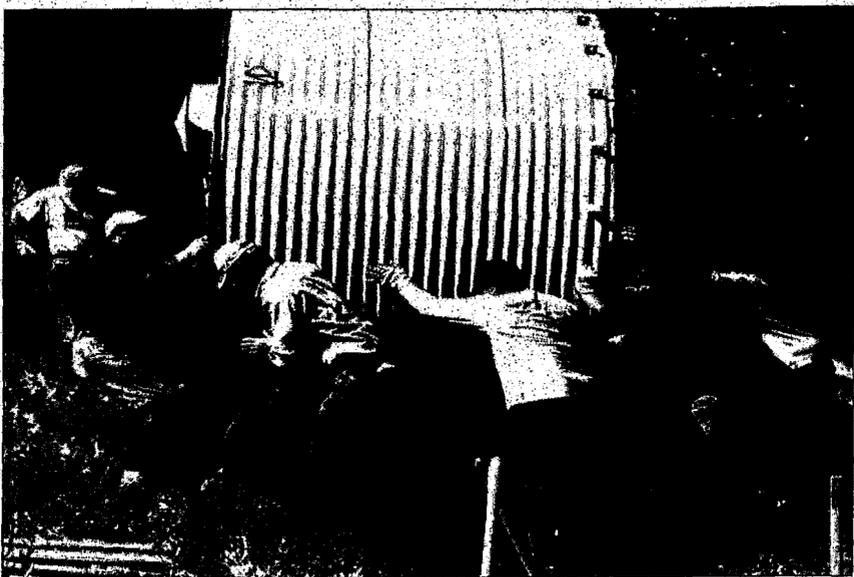
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Sculpture in Progress
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DRINK

FROM PAGE 1A

advantage of it," Cordova said. The tanks cost about \$8,500 and another \$500 covers other materials and overhead, but not labor.

As the name of the program

indicates, the money from the sale of the Habitat Stamp is to be used to enhance wildlife habitat. In the Lincoln, that included adding water sources, riparian improvements, enhancement of natural springs and installation of devices to protect streams from degradation.

Crews treat about 1,000 acres annually on the district, reducing the number of Ponderosa pine and piñon juniper in a mosaic pattern that opens the canopy to create diversity and to encourage the growth of natural grasses, but keeping some groups of thick trees to provide wildlife hiding areas and thermal shelter in the winter, Cordova said.

Danny Waldon, biological science technician, oversees Habitat Stamp programs in the Lincoln, but biologists from each district come up with the annual projects, Cordova said. "The umbrella tanks provide year-round water in areas that may have water for eight to nine months a year, but then

are dry," he said. The drinker approach is used instead of the more traditional troughs seen on ranches to give other creatures access to the water such as bats and birds.

Although the tank and drinker are fenced to keep out livestock, deer and elk can leap over the fence and a bottom smooth wire allows mountain lions and smaller mammals, including raccoon, porcupine and coyote, to reach the water. When full, the tank holds 3,500 gallons of water. Although replenished naturally with rainfall and snow, maintenance checks are performed once or twice a year and the water can be supplemented.

"I have a biological technician who also checks the structure for maintenance needs," Cordova said. Bears sometimes dig and get into the float box.

The Ruidoso Downs site was picked for the latest tank because in drought, no water is available in Hale Canyon and wildlife was forced to travel all the way to the Ruidoso River in some cases, crossing U.S. 70 to drink.

"Before we started putting in year-around water, we would have large groups of big game congregate," Cordova said. "This disperses big game. We like to have one every one-and-a-half miles to two miles apart. That's a goal. We haven't accomplished it yet." More

Top left: Members of the Ruidoso Ridge Runners, the Sierra Blanca Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Quails Unlimited join Forest Service officials and others after finishing the installation of a wildlife water-supply system.

Above: Volunteers with three groups, U.S. Forest Service staff and a passer-by push a trick tank into place on a leveled piece of ground to provide a water source for wildlife in the Smokey Bear District of the Lincoln National Forest.

Below: Bill Martinez of Ruidoso Ridge Runners stands near the rock "drinker" where wildlife can enjoy the water supply captured by the trick tank in the Lincoln National Forest.

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Snowy River, looking downstream.

COURTESY WAYNE WALKER

RIVER

FROM PAGE 1A

Mexico, the top layer of the calcite river appears to be about 150 years old, and would be the last time water moved through the "river."

"This means we are witnessing a once-in-a-century event and an unparalleled opportunity to study the hydrology and former climate of this region of New Mexico," Boston said.

She already recovered 36 strains of unique manganese-using bacteria from a black shiny crust on the walls that are unknown on the surface.

Antibiotic producing actinomyces bacteria were found dotting many of the walls.

With the renewed water flow, Dr. Lewis Land with the NCCRR in Carlsbad and the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources in Socorro, will be able to compare water chemistry and environmental tracers between Snowy River and water from surface streams to determine the source and fate of the water in Snowy River.

"It is critical to understand the hydrology of such regions of our state, because the quality and quantity of our precious water resources depends on such knowledge," Boston said.

"And the BLM will gain invaluable insight into how to protect and manage Fort Stanton Cave and Snowy River, and its greater catchment basin.

"Cave decorations, like stalactites and stalagmites, the amazing Snowy River calcite itself, preserve geochemical traces of what our past climate was like as if we were reading a storybook. This insight is critical in helping us understand our present climate and predict what our statewide and global climate future may be in an era of anticipated changing world climate."

The search also will continue for unique microorganisms of potential human pharmaceuti-

cal and industrial significance.

A spokesman for NMT said the Snowy River exploration project is a good example of various state and local agencies and institutions and volunteers working together. Finds such as Snowy River also can play a major role in stimulating interest in students to enter technical fields.

Andrew Grieco, the 16-year-old who participated in the initial exploration trip, for example, went on to complete his Bachelor of Science degree in Earth Sciences and Physics at NMT two months ago with Boston as his advisor. He is serving an internship at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

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Announcement



Sample of actual size: approx. 2.5" x 4" for \$26

James Seymour Black
 James was born Saturday, August 12, 2006 to Bill and Karen Black of Ruidoso Downs. His paternal grandparents are Paul and Betty Black of Denver, Colorado. His maternal grandparents are Bill and Mary Biddle of Clovis, New Mexico.

Engagement



Sample, not actual size

Congratulations to Cheryl Ann Smith & Monroe B. Cooper from their proud families.

Birth



Sample, not actual size

Heather Lynn Nichols
 Happy Birthday to Heather Lynn Nichols, one year old, from Mom, Dad & brother Kyle.

The 2007 Lincoln County Relay For Life Committee would like to offer a heartfelt Thank You to each and every individual, team, cancer survivor, caregiver, business, and organization for contributing not only funds but also time and support to this year's event. Relay For Life is not just about raising funds for cancer research, advocacy, education, and patient services — it is about thanking and supporting cancer survivors and their caregivers. Relay For Life is truly an event about spreading hope and celebrating life. Thank You for being a part and making a difference in so many peoples lives.

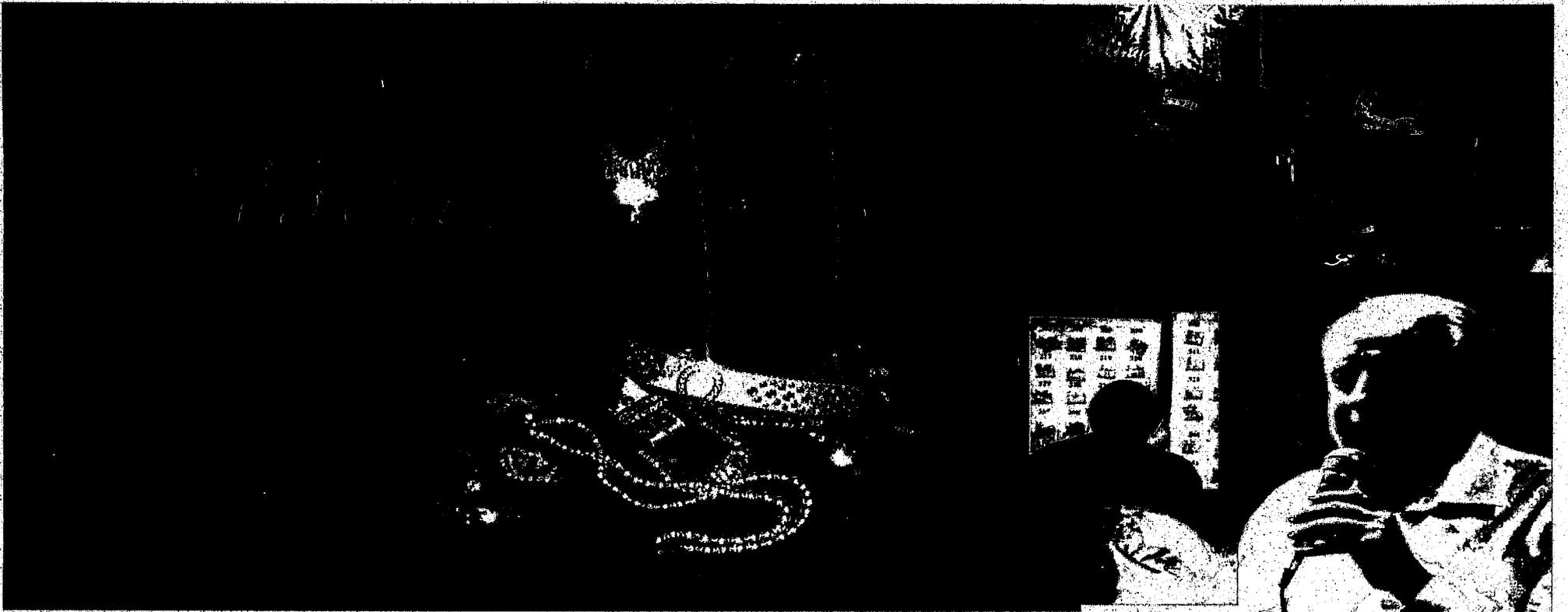
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 thank you for your participation.**



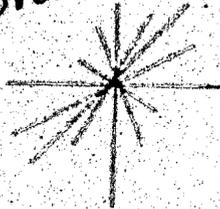
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SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2007

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PAGE 1B

Giles takes the fifth with Wild Six

■ A great filly with heart comes from behind and storms to victory in the Rainbow Futurity

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

No, it wasn't the self-incrimination part of the fifth amendment trainer Wes Giles was called upon to invoke, rather, it was the fifth straight race his two-year-old filly, Wild Six, has won in a row. And what an occasion to do it—just in time to take down \$625,000, while winning a come-from-behind victory in the Grade 1 Rainbow Futurity Sunday afternoon at Ruidoso Downs.

The game filly came from behind in the 400 yard dash for the fourth time in her career to overtake the 10-1 long shot, Possum Fust, by a neck and the eventual fourth place finisher, Brighton Beach.

"I have to hand it to the track maintenance personnel," Giles volunteered. "They did a

great job bringing the surface of the race track up to good racing standards with the short amount of time they had for this big race.

"As for Wild Six, she ran her heart out like she always does," Giles explained. "She could have left the gate somewhat better, but then in her five races to date she's only been the leader but one time, in the Rainbow Futurity trials. In the other four races she got behind early, but in all of her races she's always had a big finish. That's the mark of a Quarter

"She could have left the gate a little better than she did but in the end she ran her heart out and came from behind once again to win it."

Wes Giles
Trainer of Wild Six

Horse with courage and resolution."

Jockey Tony Guymon has been aboard the spirited filly for all five wins but this was the biggest victory yet for all—including owners John Lee and fellow Arizonans Lincoln Sherwood and Herman Mineer.

Wild Six, the Tres Seis-sired filly, was purchased for \$32,000 11 months ago in the Ruidoso Quarter Horse Yearling Sale and has roared to victory in every race she's run.

Giles, born in Salt Lake City, Utah, has been training racers now for 25 years, but he didn't start out in that profession. He began in the construction business but after four years decided he'd give the training business a try like his father before



COURTESY RUIDOSO DOWNS RACE TRACK

Wes Giles-trained racer, Wild Six crosses the finish line first for the fifth straight time.

him. Last year was the first season he had a stable at Ruidoso Downs and this meet he has about 50 racers in training, although most of them are Quarter Horses. It was a long hard climb up the ladder of suc-

cess, but as Giles says, "You have to earn your way to success—you have to show people what you can do before they're going to trust you with an

See GILES, page 2B

side line

Good to Know

Senior Olympics

In the 2007 Summer National Senior Games, three Lincoln County residents competed June 22-July 7 in Louisville, Ky. June Hence repeated her success of the 2005 Pittsburgh games, winning sixth and seventh place ribbons in the 500 yard freestyle swim and the 200 yard breast stroke events. Overall, she swam in five events. Christopher Garusona just missed an award with a ninth place finish on the very difficult 5,000 meter racewalk course. Galen Farrington cycled to 25th place in both the 20 and 40 kilometer road races in highly competitive fields of 69 and 73 men in his age division. More than 12,000 men and women, ranging in ages from 50 to 100, attended the games, with 3,819 in swimming, 1,771 in cycling and 474 in racewalk. New Mexico was represented by 273 athletes, 15th highest among the 50 states. Upcoming National Summer Games will take place in San Francisco in 2009 and Houston in 2011. Eligibility for the 18 sports is determined through state games in even-numbered years.

Bike Club

The fast-growing interest of bicyclists in Ruidoso and the need for safe riding in the community brought together a group to form the Bicycle Ruidoso Club. The club began as a small group in May, and today they have approximately 30-35 members and are growing. Monthly meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at Boneshaker Cyclery at 2312 Sudderth Dr. at 7 p.m. The club encourages group rides and has scheduled rides on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The Tuesday ride is a time-trial ride on Airport Rd. beginning at Sonterra Fire Station and is a five mile ride. The club also has a mountain bike ride on Wednesday at Cedar Creek where riders can hone their technical skills. The Bicycle Ruidoso Club promotes safe riding, family participation, courteous conduct towards others and a "share the road" attitude. It is in the process of addressing the need for biking lanes for families, bike safety education for children and signs to help drivers be aware of bikers on community roads. Anyone interested is invited to attend the meetings, for more info call Boneshaker Cyclery at 257-6784 or Sarah Krewa at 258-9924 or 257-4900.

Mountain shootout at Ski Apache

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

The Third Annual 3-D Shoot Above the Clouds saw large numbers of New Mexico and Texas archers gather at Ski Apache Saturday and Sunday for "best shooter" bragging rights in the state.

Hosted by the Ruidoso Archery Club, this shoot was the last of the six tour competitions organized by newmexicoarchers.com and drew 160 registered participants, including men, women and children.

The two-day competition was comprised of 50 targets, many of which were hidden within the scenic topography of Ski Apache, some as high as

10,000 feet atop Elk Ridge.

David Locke, of newmexicoarchery.com, and a crew of eight people oversaw the placement of all targets, in coordination with Ski Apache Marketing Manager Ross Anderson and Director of Operations Justin Rowland.

"Some of the top archers in the state of New Mexico were here for this shoot," Locke said.

"We probably had three of the top five archers in the state here for the shoot and we greatly appreciate their participation in helping to make this

such a successful event."

The large number of contestants represented 14 different classes, including men, women, seniors and children.

Belt buckle prizes were awarded for first and second places for the tournament itself. Custom belt buckles, by Red Bluff Buckles of Continental Divide, N.M., were bestowed upon the winners of the

newmexicoarchers.com tour.

One such tour winner was local septuagenarian archer, Dick Cox, of Nogal who won the men's senior class.

At the beginning of the competition he found himself behind by some seventy points, but when the leader left to shoot in another competition, figuring he had enough points to take first place, Cox shot a great finishing score on the last day to claim the top spot by one point.

"It's great to have summertime events such as this at Ski Apache and we look forward to many more next summer," Rowland said. "We've done extensive maintenance on all of our chair lifts and brought them up to national standards and we continue to update the existing facilities."

Pro athlete and PR specialist Anderson, All American speed skiing record-holder at 154.06 mph, was on hand both days of the archery competition and accompanied a few of the contestants through some of the targets.

"I would sincerely like to thank the entire team of personnel at Ski Apache for helping to make this such an auspicious outcome," he stated.



MIKE CURRAN/STAFF

Ross Anderson, center, with four contestants on Eagle Ridge at 10,000 feet.



COURTESY ROSS ANDERSON

A young contestant attempts to hit one of the tougher targets.

RUIDOSO THUNDER AT EAGLE CREEK



MIKE CURRAN/STAFF

Jerry Corliss belts a single up the middle to drive in a run Sunday at the Last Chance Qualifier tournament at Eagle Creek. See Friday's edition of the Ruidoso News for the full story.

On Deck

Little League Football

Lincoln County Little League Football will have signups for the upcoming season Aug. 4, 9 a.m.-noon and Aug. 5, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. at the Ruidoso High School auxiliary gym. Ages seven through 12 may apply and there will be a \$75 fee. There will be another signup during the first week of school—date to be announced. For info call Cach Kalama Davis at 378-5678.

Youth Soccer League

Lincoln County Youth Soccer League will have early signups starting Wed. July 25 and continuing July 26-27. Ages four through 14 may register 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. each of the three days at the White Mountain soccer field. There will be a \$55 fee. For information call Rhonda Newsome at 973-0108.

GILES

FROM PAGE 1B

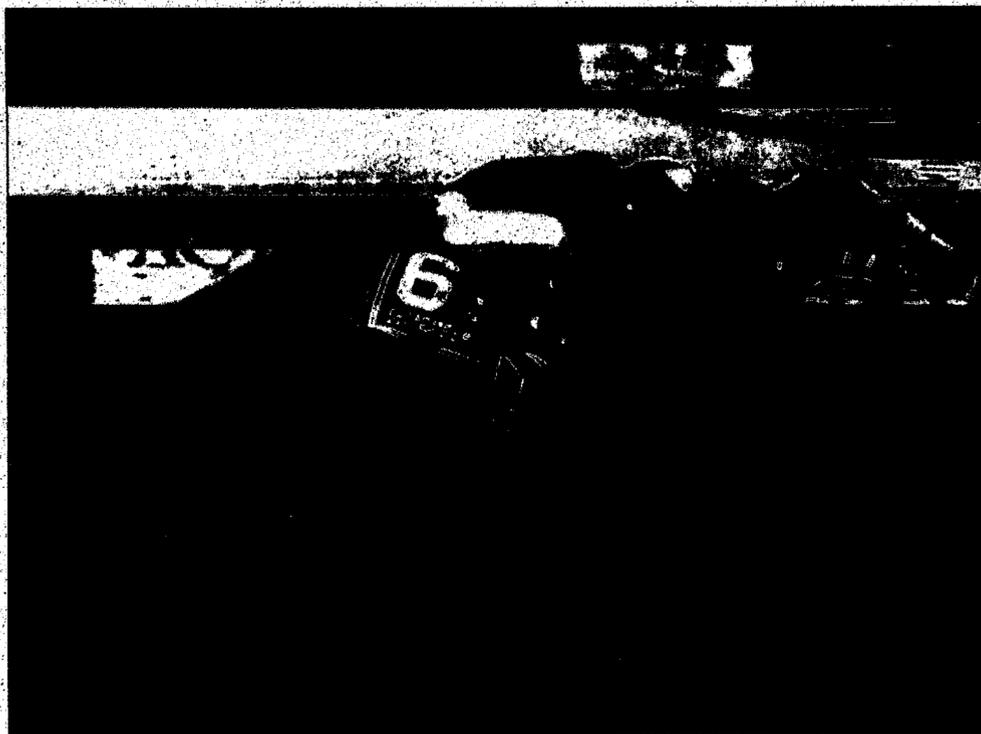
expensive racer. And when you get the opportunity you have to prove you can then handle a 'big' horse.

"When I first saw her, I knew early on Wild Six was a runner. It's just something a trainer has to be able to see to succeed in this business. But everybody's different - what one trainer may be able to see, others won't, and vice-versa. It sure wouldn't be very exciting and competitive if everyone saw the same things in all horses."

As for her latest win, Wild Six showed a never-say-die strong finish.

It takes some horses two to four weeks to come back up to speed, but this courageous filly showed her strength the very next day.

"She had her usual spring and energy the day after the race," Giles asserted. "Still, we haven't made any decisions at all concerning her next race. Although she's eligible for the All American race, we might decide to rest her for the rest of the year - we just don't know yet."



COURTESY RUIDOSO DOWNS RACE TRACK

Separate Bet races to his third victory in as many starts to win the Rainbow Derby Saturday afternoon at the Downs.

ARCHERY COMPETITION AT SKI APACHE



COURTESY ROSS ANDERSON

A group of contestants warm up before hitting the slopes at Ski Apache.



MIKE CURRAN/STAFF

Suzy Head of Mimbres, N.M., shoots well for her first year of competition.



MIKE CURRAN/STAFF

Jason Bracken, of Midland, Texas, scores a hit on Eagle Ridge.



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RUIDOSO DOWNS RESULTS

Thursday, July 19

Race 1: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$8,774.50, 1 1/2 furlongs. Clever Assault, 6.20 3.80 4.00. Mexicali Romance 3.20 2.60. That's Mr. to You 4.00. Scratched: Jimson. Time: 1:36.00. Jockeys: Carroll D. Lewis (2) Stan Ning (6) Christopher G. Zamora (5), EX 2/6 \$25.40, Q 2/6 9.20, Superfecta 2/6/5/1 33.70, Trifecta 2/6/5 64.40. Race 2: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$10,800, 7 1/2 furlongs. Taco Billy 16.20 9.00 4.00. Desert Luck 6.20 4.00. Hesapogilooker 3.60. Time: 1:36.80. Jockeys: Jorge Espitia (4) Duane Lee Sterling (6) Nate Smith (1), DD 2/4 78.60, EX 4/6 96.40, Q 4/6 42.00, Superfecta 4/6/1/3 1,524.50, Trifecta 4/6/1 343.20. Race 3: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Cate Runaway 6.80 3.80 2.60. Feature Jess Rockin 3.60 2.80. Covayne Splash 3.00. Time: 1:17.50. Jockeys: Esagar Ramirez (5) Roy Baldillez (1) John Raul Valenzuela (9), EX 5/1 94.10, Q 1/5 7.60, Superfecta 5/1/9/6 88.10, Trifecta 5/1/9 50.20. Race 4: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Pappasito 11.20 4.00 3.00. Tarzan First 3.00 2.60. Three Smiles 3.60. Time: 1:17.51. Jockeys: Freddie L. Martinez (8) Mark Anthony Villa (9) Roy Baldillez (2), EX 8/9 24.40, Q 8/9 12.80, Superfecta 8/9/2/4 260.80, Tri Super 8/9/2 8.80. Race 5: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Texas Version 12.40 7.40 4.20. Shine Eye Guy 10.20 4.60. Eyasa Western 3.00. Time: 1:17.53. Jockeys: Juan L. Vasquez (3) Joe A. Martinez (4) Carroll D. Lewis (9), EX 3/4 1.65, Q 3/4 77.40, Superfecta 3/4/9/A 688.90, Trifecta 3/4/9 1,333.00. Race 6: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Chisled Cuervo 8.60 4.80 3.00. Chisled Form 4.60 3.20. City Dance 3.20. Scratched: A Purple People Eater, Takin' Win. Time: 1:17.48. Jockeys: G. R. Carter, Jr. (3) Nate Smith (2) Tony Ray Bandy (6), EX 3/7 52.80, Q 3/7 25.00, Superfecta 3/7/6/4 203.40, Trifecta 3/7/6 186.40. Race 7: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Runaway Rooster 48.60 17.80 5.40. Stoll Genius 3.80 3.20. Check This Disco 9.80. Time: 1:17.53. Jockeys: Salvador Estrada, Jr. (8) Esagar Ramirez (4) Tome Rae Green (3), EX 8/4 140.00, Q 4/8 7.32, Superfecta 8/4/3/5 7,320.00, Trifecta 8/4/3 1,765.20. Race 8: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Brown Eye Suze 3.80 3.80 3.00. No Moo Sixes 7.20 4.40. Velvet Bride 4.00. Time: 1:17.48. Jockeys: Freddie L. Martinez (3) Roy Baldillez (1) Noe Garcia (9), EX 3/1 42.60, Q 1/3 37.20, Superfecta 3/1/9/7 914.00, Trifecta 3/1/9 342.80. Race 9: Trials, 2 year olds, Purse: \$4,000, 350 yards. Sebe Shakin 9.40 4.40 3.20. Shakem Bye 4.60 3.60. As Takin First 2.80. Time: 1:17.41. Jockeys: Miguel A. Perez (9) G. R. Carter, Jr. (8) Mark Anthony Villa (10), Pick 3 8/3/9 (2 correct) 13.80, EX 9/8 29.40, Q 8/9 19.60, Superfecta 9/8/10/6 554.60, Trifecta 9/8/10 83.60. Friday, July 20 Race 1: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$7,300, 550 yards. Streakin Boom Botz 3.40 2.60 2.40. Crucita Preciosa 3.60 2.80. Rebels Dasher 4.60. Scratched: Spotted Sweeper, Thoughts Dont Rime. Time: 17.641. Jockeys: Joa A. Martinez (6) Salvador Estrada, Jr. (10) Bonifacio Perez (3), EX 6/10 17.40, Q 6/10 9.80, Superfecta 6/10/3/9 475.70, Trifecta 6/10/3 159.40. Race 2: Claiming, 3 year olds and

up, Purse: \$8,106, 350 yards. Jess Strawflin 5.20 4.00 3.00. Shake Em Boom Boom 8.20 4.00. Rumors N Gossip 3.00. Scratched: Easy Down Dash, Shez Kinda Bold, Awfully Quick. Time: 17.673. Jockey: Arturo Quintero Carrillo (2) Noe Garcia (3) Shawnette L. Sherbino (3), DD 6/2 10.20, EX 2/3 22.60, Q 2/3 23.00, Superfecta 2/3/10/1 173.60, Trifecta 2/3/10 113.00. Race 3: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$4,900, 870 yards. DH Coup de Gall 6.60 4.00 4.60. DH Arockiteasy 3.60 3.60 3.20. Just Sleazy 4.60. Scratched: U. S. A. Warrior, Eye See Heaven. Time: 46.712. Jockeys: Michael V. Meador (2) James Julian Gonzales, Jr. (7) Tome Rae Green (8), EX 7/2 28.60, EX 2/7 27.00, Q 2/7 28.40, Superfecta 7/2/8/4 304.00, Superfecta 2/7/8/4 588.10, Trifecta 7/2/8 202.40, Trifecta 2/7/8 213.00. Race 4: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$7,638, 7 1/2 furlongs. Keosnative 10.00 4.80 3.60. Many Move 5.00 3.40. Singing Memo 3.00. Time: 1:35.60. Jockeys: Shawnette L. Sherbino (2) Jorge Espitia (3) Stan Ning (6), EX 2/3 41.80, Q 2/3 19.40, Superfecta 2/3/6/8 676.30, Trifecta 2/3/6 26.40. Race 5: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$5,300, 9 1/2 furlongs. Raise a Dreamer 5.80 3.00 3.00. Kyia's Klitten 2.60 2.60. Noshowin 4.80. Scratched: Rowdy Who. Time: 1:07.20. Jockeys: Duane Lee Sterling (8) Joe A. Martinez (4) Carlos D. Madeira (5), EX 8/4 18.60, Q 4/8 7.80, Superfecta 8/4/5/7 311.90, Trifecta 8/4/5 133.80. Race 6: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$8,300, 250 yards. Tnts Dasher 20.20 10.40 8.20. Another Talker 21.60 11.60. Sierra Perdida 6.60. Scratched: Dilly Dally Dooey, Sixdash Smash. Time: 13.314. Jockeys: Freddie L. Martinez (4) John Raul Valenzuela (5) Esagar Ramirez (9), EX 4/5 521.60, Q 4/5 27.00, Superfecta 4/5/9/7 29,094.80, Trifecta 4/5/A 453.40. Race 7: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, fillies and mares, 5 1/2 furlongs. Gall Tale 3.20 2.60 2.40. Baby Twinkle 5.40 3.80. Satin Sadle 3.20. Scratched: Posh Excess, China Puddle, Creole Cuisine. Time: 1:08.80. Jockeys: Jorge Espitia (8) Joe A. Martinez (2) Elvis Langlinais (9), EX 8/2 20.00, Q 2/8 4.20, Superfecta 8/2/9/11 509.20, Trifecta 8/2/9 216.80. Race 8: Allowance, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$16,700, 400 yards. Ivory James 4.20 4.40 3.40. Count Conrad 6.20 4.40. That's the Man 4.80. Time: 19.60. Jockeys: Juan L. Vasquez (4) Esagar Ramirez (6) Bonifacio Perez (5), EX 4/5 20.20, Q 4/6 23.20, Superfecta 4/6/5/3 149.90, Trifecta 4/6/5 201.20. Race 9: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$6,500, 5 1/2 furlongs. Timely Shot 4.80 2.80 2.40. Slizzling Dream 3.20 2.60. Smooth Ghost 4.20. Scratched: Astro Dome, Irion Hall, Lots of Magic, Drone's Ego. Time: 1:09.60. Jockeys: Oscar Ceballos (9) Nate Smith (7) Ruben Urioste (2), Pick 3 8-4-5/4/92140 (3 correct) 21.40, Pick 3 8/4/8-10 (3 correct) 10.40, EX 9/7 12.80, Q 7/9 6.80, Superfecta 9/7/2/1 88.20, Trifecta 9/7/2 77.40. Saturday, July 21 Race 1: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$10,982, 1,000 yards. Cowboyed Up 6.00 3.00 2.80. Waves the Tax 3.60 3.20. January Jones 5.00. Time: 54.105. Jockeys: Joe A. Martinez (4) Duane Lee Sterling (8) Mark Anthony Villa (3), EX 4/8 23.20, Q 4/8 17.40, Superfecta 4/8/3/7 433.20, Trifecta 4/8/3 212.60. Race 2: Claiming, 3 year olds and

up, Purse: \$13,300, 350 yards. Whicita 12.60 6.20 4.40. Pimonte 6.20 6.20. Mito's Call 7.40. Time: 17.809. Jockeys: Roy Baldillez (6) John Raul Valenzuela (2) Mark Anthony Villa (1), DD 4/6 37.40, EX 6/2 73.80, Q 2/6 37.60, Superfecta 6/2/1/8 2,050.30, Trifecta 6/2/1 891.40. Race 3: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$7,300, 1 mile. High On Champagne 7.60 4.40 2.80. Pioneer Jim 6.40 3.00. Bound for Houston 2.60. Time: 1:44.20. Jockeys: Duane Lee Sterling (1) Nate Smith (7) Joe A. Martinez (6), EX 4/7 87.20, Q 1/7 60.40, Superfecta 1/7/6/2 203.90, Trifecta 1/7/6 192.40. Race 4: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, fillies and mares, Purse: \$8,700, Footie Ivo 49.40 21.60 7.20. Irresistible Jewel 9.80 4.80 3.20. Validation 4.40. Time: 1:08.20. Jockeys: Salvador Martinez (5) Travis Cunningham (7) Christopher G. Zamora (8), EX 5/7 578.00, Q 5/7 174.20, Superfecta 5/7/8/2 8,036.40, Tri Super 5/7/8 862.20. Race 5: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$9,200, 350 yards. Streakin Zip 15.20 7.00 4.60. Buster Edwards 13.00 6.80. Eye Opened Expert 4.40. Scratched: Mr Texas Tango, Fannie Mae Gol. Time: 17.510. Jockeys: John Raul Valenzuela (9) Arturo Quintero Carrillo (3) Jerry Mendez Rodriguez (2), EX 9/3 279.00, Q 3/9 163.20, Superfecta 9/3/2/1 2,578.70, Trifecta 9/3/2 1,927.00. Race 6: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$6,700, 6 furlongs. Tactical Allusion 19.40 6.20 4.20. Wapato Gold 12.80 5.00. Parade of Nicks 3.00. Time: 1:13.20. Jockeys: Fanny A. Madrid (1) Jorge Espitia (7) Joe A. Martinez (3), EX 4/7 423.00, Q 4/7 143.00, Superfecta 4/7/1/2 1,636.20, Trifecta 4/7/1 943.60. Race 7: Allowance, Optional Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$13,400, 1 1/2 furlongs. Pistol Creek 3.20 2.80 2.10. Sweep's Go 4.20 2.10. Majestic Stream 2.10. Scratched: Jo Dee Who, Go Kitty, Go, Saint Augustus. Time: 1:35.40. Jockeys: Jorge Espitia (5) Nate Smith (7) Shawnette L. Sherbino (2), EX 5/7 19.40, Q 5/7 13.20, Trifecta 5/7/2 33.00. Race 8: Allowance, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$11,900, 350 yards. El Shuefly 7.80 5.60 4.20. Runaway Home Rebel 15.00 7.00. Streak of Lightcadil 6.40. EX 10/4 87.00, Q 4/10 43.80, Superfecta 10/4/5/6 1,314.00, Trifecta 10/4/5 557.20. Time: 17.579. Jockeys: Freddie Martinez (10) Oscar Ortega (4) John Raul Valenzuela (5). Race 9: Rainbow Derby, Grade: 1, 3 year olds, Purse: \$447,294, 440 yards. Separate Bet 5.20 2.60 2.60. Yallant Hero 2.60 2.40. The Crawfish 3.00. Scratched: Voghts Gold, Okey Dokey Fantasy, La Lallique. Time: 20.971. Jockeys: Freddie L. Martinez (6) G. R. Carter, Jr. (2) Cody Jensen (3), EX 6/2 9.80, Q 2/6 5.00, Superfecta 6/2/3/10 28.30, Trifecta 6/2/3 24.40. Race 10: Maiden, Special Weight, 2 year olds, fillies and mares, Purse: \$7,300, 6 furlongs. R. Starry Night 17.00 9.60 5.80. Lady Accord 8.00 4.40. Trick Wager 5.20. Time: 1:15.40. Jockeys: Travis Cunningham (8) Carlos D. Madeira (2) Salvador Estrada (9), Pick 3 10/6/8 (3 correct) 307.20, EX 8/2 84.60, Q 2/8 43.80, 8/2/9/4 1,674.70, Trifecta 8/2/9 591.00. Sunday, July 22 Race 1: Maiden, Special Weight, 2 year olds, fillies and mares, Purse: \$7,490, 5 1/2 furlongs. My Texas Gal 8.00 4.20 2.80. Barbed Wire Baby 3.40 2.60. Hunkagold 2.80. Scratched: Klepto Graduate. Time: 1:09.60. Jockeys: Nate Smith (2) Stan Ning

(7) Mark Anthony Villa (6), EX 2/7 18.20, Q 2/7 10.40, Superfecta 2/7/6/5 105.50, Trifecta 2/7/6 46.80. Race 2: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$12,620, 350 yards. Flyin With Vengeance 10.60 3.80 3.40. Corona Mas Fino 3.20 3.20. Special Blazieffort 3.40. Scratched: Sky Ro. Time: 17.403. Jockeys: Carlos D. Madeira (4) Freddie L. Martinez (9) Juan L. Vasquez (3), DD 2/4 49.60, EX 4/9 23.00, Q 4/9 7.20, Superfecta 4/9/3/1 507.80, Trifecta 4/9/3 77.20. Race 3: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$5,554, 350 yards. One Real Lady 9.00 5.00 3.00. Vs Call Me Sally 5.40 3.00. Jess Thoughts 2.80. Scratched: Mr Jess Opener, Open Pit Mine, Eirajo Bird. Time: 17.751. Jockeys: Salvador Martinez (8) G. R. Carter, Jr. (6) Esagar Ramirez (3), EX 8/5 73.80, Q 5/8 37.60, Superfecta 8/5/3/9 412.00, Trifecta 8/5/3 122.80. Race 4: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$7,400, 870 yards. Lord Clean Sweep 6.20 3.60 3.00. Overhauled 4.60 4.20. Fosters Dash 3.40. Time: 46.702. Jockeys: Stan Ning (2) Nate Smith (6) Mark Anthony Villa (1), EX 2/6 30.00, Q 2/6 16.80, Superfecta 2/6/1/5 113.00, Tri Super 2/6/1 37.50. Race 5: Maiden, Special Weight, 3, 4, 5 year olds, Purse: \$6,900, 400 yards. Chickie Rime 14.20 10.00 4.80. Judge Rino San 2.80 9.60. Blushing Venture 2.80. Scratched: Deans Drifting Cash, Fast Nlk, Shez Mighty Pind. Time: 20.196. Jockeys: Jerry Mendez Rodriguez (1) Noe Garcia (4) Freddie L. Martinez (7), EX 1/4 648.40, Q 1/4 313.80, Superfecta 1/4/7/9

3,436.20, Trifecta 1/4/7 2,304.00. Race 6: Allowance, 2 year olds, Purse: \$25,000, 400 yards. Strong Hope 10.20 4.20 3.80. Shelbys Surprise 3.60 3.40. Jess Phenomenal 6.60. Scratched: Miss Runaway Champ, El Jorge, Zippin Silver. Time: 19.604. Jockeys: Bonifacio Perez (8) Freddie L. Martinez (3) Larry D. Payne (1), EX 8/3 27.80, Q 3/8 14.40, Superfecta 8/3/1/10 1,371.40, Trifecta 8/3/1 537.20. Race 7: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$9,200, 7 1/2 furlongs. Cinderella Kid 4.40 3.00 2.40. Really Real 4.40 3.00. Milton's Choice 3.40. Time: 1:35.60. Jockeys: Mark Anthony Villa (5) Travis Cunningham (1) Duane Lee Sterling (2), EX 5/1 34.40, Q 1/5 19.00, Superfecta 5/1/2/4 172.50, Trifecta 5/1/2 79.20. Race 8: Claiming, 3 year olds and up, Purse: \$7,900, 6 furlongs. Stone Canyon 2.80 2.60 2.40. La La Boom 5.00 3.40. Crafty Crab Cake 4.20. Scratched: Mychampion, Hello Five.

Time: 1:12.20. Jockeys: Duane Lee Sterling (4) Mark Anthony Villa (2) Carlos D. Madeira (3), EX 4/2 15.80, Q 2/4 13.20, Superfecta 4/2/3/8 103.80, Trifecta 4/2/3 92.60. Race 9: Rainbow Futurity, Grade: 1, 2 year olds, Purse: \$625,000, 400 yards. Wild Six 4.40 3.00 2.60. Possum Fust 5.80 3.60. Early Morning Bite 3.40. Scratched: Shy Ann Jess, Three Past Six. Time: 19.428. Jockeys: Tony F. Guymon (6) Larry D. Payne (9) Samuel Harold Thompson (10), EX 6/9 38.60, Q 6/9 27.20, Superfecta 6/9/10/2 521.60, Trifecta 6/9/10 143.40. Race 10: Maiden, Special Weight, 2 year olds, Purse: \$8,900, 6 furlongs. Bad as Bean 18.00 8.30 5.80. Duke It Out Luke 12.40 5.60. Jacob's Conundrum 4.00. Time: 1:15.40. Jockeys: Nate Smith (7) Stan Ning (2) Shawnette L. Sherbino (2), Pick 3 4/6-7-8/7 (3 correct) 81.20, EX 7/4 715.00, Q 4/7 217.00, Superfecta 7/4/2/5 7,937.10, Trifecta 7/4/2 1,005.40.

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LINCOLN COUNTY

NMSU coordinates high school agriculture teacher training on agro-terrorism

ALBUQUERQUE — High school agriculture teachers from across New Mexico are more aware of the need for their communities to have emergency response plans for agricultural situations after completing a three-day course in preparedness and response to agro-terrorism.

Fifty-four teachers were among 85 participants in the course taught by instructors from the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training's Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education at Louisiana State University.

"The intent of the conference is to educate people in New Mexico who might potentially be the first person that would see an agriculture incident and could warn the appropriate authorities," said Billy Dictson of the Southwest Border Food Safety and Defense Center at New Mexico State University, which brought the training to Albuquerque.

"We are trying to get everyone in New Mexico who's involved in the agriculture industry aware that their

county should have an agriculture emergency response plan," Dictson said.

"Food preparation"

The course provided skills needed to prepare for and respond to an incident that affects an area's food supply, whether it is a natural disaster, accidental occurrence or criminal activity. The participants received an overview of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and the possible threats to the agricultural infrastructure, whether during production, transportation or distribution of the food product.

Information was provided on assessment and preparedness planning, recognition of agro-terrorism and response to an incident of suspected agro-terrorism, as well as the steps for disinfection, decontamination and remediation. The course ended with a five-hour table-top scenario exercise.

"This information is timely and informative," said Mark Runyan,

Clovis High School agriculture teacher. "We all need to be aware that the community has an emergency management response plan. By telling our students this information we can start spreading the word; hopefully they will take it home to their parents."

Los Lunas High School agriculture teacher Daniel Matthews said it's nice to have the knowledge personally "in case I see something during my job while I'm visiting a student's project. I will know the steps I should follow to report the incident."

Course instructor Kelly Hamilton told his group of ag teachers that they needed to expose their students to the way incidents are handled, because they may be going into agriculture, law enforcement or many other careers that could be affected by the plan.

Belen High School ag teacher Jerrod Smith said he plans to teach about various foreign diseases during his animal and plant science units. "It's important that they know the

threats that are out there," he said.

Lots of training

More than 225 people in New Mexico, including NMSU Cooperative Extension Service agents and New Mexico Department of Agriculture and New Mexico Livestock Board employees, have received the preparedness and response training.

"We're a small state in terms of agriculture personnel," said Dictson. "We probably only have 200 to 300 people who could be first detectors—first responders on the agriculture side if something happens. It is important that we train as many of those people who are out there on the ground on a daily basis and who might be the first ones to see something."

County response

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the federal government has developed an emergency response system that includes local, state and federal emergency management plans. Agriculture has

been identified as a critical infrastructure.

In 2004, President Bush signed a presidential directive to establish a national policy to defend the agriculture and food system against terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. This document established the requirement that county emergency response plans have an appendix for dealing with agricultural situations.

"To my knowledge, only one county has an actual agriculture emergency plan," Dictson said. "Every county has an emergency plan, but Union County is the only one that has the agriculture appendix. It was put to test during the snow blizzards in January."

Dictson and Jeff Witte, New Mexico Department of Agriculture's Office of Agriculture biosecurity director, are working to help counties develop their plans.

"We are seeking funding for writing the plans. Once the plans are written, we will assist the counties in a training exercise," Dictson said.

COUNTY BRIEFS

Buyers Clubs

The Lincoln County Fair Buyers Clubs are taking donations to help with the purchase of livestock at the Lincoln County Fair.

Buyers Clubs pool funding to purchase exhibitors animals that have qualified for the sale. They then resell the animal through a packer and recycle the money toward another purchase, using limited funding to help as many youth as possible.

Persons interested in making a contribution to a county buyers club should contact:

- Capitan Buyers Club, Box 963, Capitan, NM 88316
- Corona Buyers Club, Box 36, Corona, NM, 88318
- Hondo Buyers Club, Box 74, Hondo, NM, 88336
- Carrizozo Buyers Club, HC 31, Box 45, Carrizozo, NM, 88301.

For more information, contact the Lincoln County Extension Club at 648-2311

Capitan First Friday

The Capitan Public Library's First Friday Adult Lecture at 7 p.m., Aug. 3, will feature Dr. Joseph Fraley. His topic will be "Chiropractic and Brain Function." Dr. Fraley grew up in Cloudcroft and moved back to the area to begin his chiropractic practice in Ruidoso.

The First Friday lectures are free

and refreshments are served afterwards. For more information, contact the library at 354-3035.

Library shop sale

Not 2 Shabby Shop, the thrift shop of the Capitan Library, is celebrating its first year anniversary Aug. 24 with a sale and a campaign. For every new school supply customers bring in they can have half off on their sales at the shop that day.

The library is partnering to give these school supplies away to those unable to buy them and wants to offer this sale as a thank-you for a year's business.

The store is located at 217 Lincoln and open Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For further information, call 354-0149.

Education sessions

There will be two special work sessions of the Capitan Board of Education, Aug. 6 and Aug. 10-11.

The Aug. 6 session will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Capitan Municipal School board room, featuring a discussion of bond election issues.

Board members will meet at 10 a.m. Aug. 10-11 at the Lodge Resort in Cloudcroft to discuss board and superintendent team-building and training, board goals, district plans update and more bond election issues.

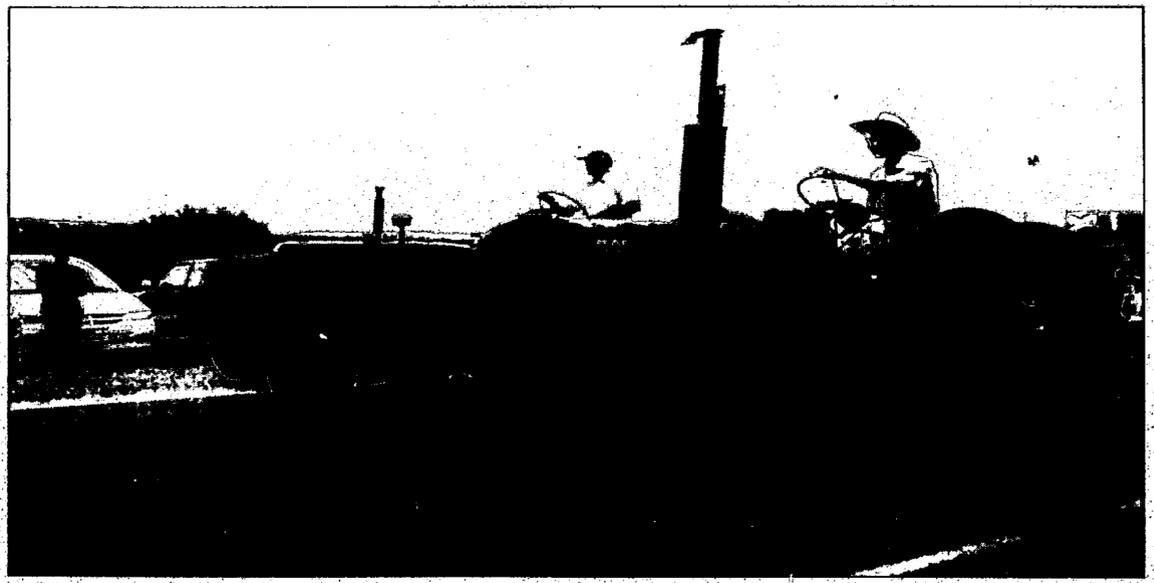
CORONA FESTIVAL



FILE PHOTO

The Corona Festival is coming up, with events planned for July 28 in the northern Lincoln County community. At right, a crowd attends a ranch rodeo, highlighting the open bleachers and folksy and down-home way to enjoy the day's competition. The rodeo is the Corona High School FFA's major fund raiser, featuring local ranch teams and beginning at 1 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person or \$20 per carload.

Below A tractor — one of several such old relics — rides through town during the parade. The parade kicks off the day's events at 10 a.m., with a brisket dinner served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the school.



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Regulation commission mulling rules on shielding military members from predatory sales

Staff of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission's Insurance Division is seeking public comment on proposed regulations aimed at shielding soldiers and other military personnel from deceptive and predatory life insurance sales practices.

The new rules, if approved by state Insurance Superintendent Morris J. Chavez, would prohibit a number of specific sales practices, including "door-to-door" life insur-

ance sales in barracks, day rooms and other restricted military areas.

In addition to service members working on military bases in New Mexico, the rules would also cover reservists and National Guard members on full-time active duty.

"We have a responsibility to protect our troops at home, because we're not doing it in Iraq," PRC Chairman Ben R. Lujan said. "Predatory practices need to be elim-

inated, especially when they prey upon the men and women serving this country."

Last year, President Bush signed the Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act, which requires states to work collectively with the Secretary of Defense to protect service members from abusive sales practices and the sale of life insurance products that are improperly marketed as investment prod-

ucts. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) recently developed and endorsed a set of military sales practices regulations, which the PRC's Insurance Division and insurance commissioners in other states are using as a model for their own states' regulations. Members of Congress have asked NAIC to report by Sept. 29 on the progress states are making in

adopting the newly developed standards.

Chavez said that his staff will work with military leaders from each of New Mexico's military installations to implement and enforce the new rules.

"It is imperative that New Mexico troops are protected from predatory life insurance sales practices," Chavez said. "These rules will ensure that happens."

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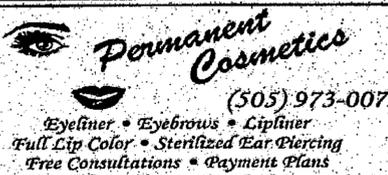
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OBITUARY

Michael Hickey

Michael Albert Hickey, M.D., passed away peacefully early July 14 after a valiant fight with prostate cancer. Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Agnes and John Hickey, his brother, Larry Hickey, a nephew, Eddie Hickey, and his first wife, Kathy Hickey.

He is survived by his children: Tim Hickey, his wife Yas Ishibashi and their children Shaye Cohn, Caitlin and Ryan Hickey of Brookline; Sheila Hickey and her partner Bruce Williams and their children Josh and Gabe of Tijeras; Maureen "Moe" Hickey and her partner Frank Ohmberger, Moe's son Eddie Benavides of Albuquerque and Eddie's father, David Benavides; Nora Utrup and her husband Dan of Torreon; Patrick Hickey and his partner Andrea Kilbury of Tijeras; and Daniel Hickey of Albuquerque and his

sons, David and Ethan of Las Cruces.

Also surviving are his Aunt Veronica, several cousins, and many nieces and nephews as well as his friend and soul mate, Sandra "Anna" Wiggins and her son Jeff Bracey. He leaves behind many wonderful friends including Joe and Johnnie Glass and many others from Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center, the Bernalillo County Mental Health Center, and the UNM Student Health Center.

Mike was born Dec. 29, 1932 in Topeka, Kansas, went to elementary school in Fairbury, Neb., and spent many years traveling the Midwest with his family while his father worked for the CCC. After a brief stint in the Navy, Mike changed careers and went to medical school, graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1960.

He completed a one-year rotating internship at Bernalillo

County Indian Hospital in 1961 and then moved his young family to Las Cruces where he worked as a general practitioner for five years. Mike returned to Albuquerque in 1966 and became a member of the first class of Psychiatry residents at UNM's School of Medicine. After finishing his residency, Mike became director of the Student Health Center at UNM, regaling his children with stories of campus life in the turbulent late 1960s and early '70s.

Mike later worked at the Mental Health Center before moving to Alamogordo to become the only psychiatrist in several counties. Mike and his wife, Sandra, spent many years living around New Mexico where he practiced psychiatry in various locations including Taos, Ruidoso, Mescalero and Las Vegas, while he decided which small town he liked the best. He eventually resettled in

Alamogordo, where he became more involved in the administrative side of medicine, including the development of the new Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center where he was the Medical Director before his retirement in January 2005.

Mike moved back to Albuquerque in March 2006 to spend more time with his children and grandchildren, but continued to journey once a month to Mescalero as a consulting psychiatrist until his illness precluded any further travel. In his last year he enjoyed reconnecting with old friends from the Mental Health Center. Please log on to <http://homepage.mac.com/timhickey/mikehickey/index.html> to view Mike's memorial web page. His family would like to thank Dr. George Comerri and Jeanine Sukis; Dr. Ian Rabinowitz; Kim, Zandra, Phyllis, Rose, and Reyna at Heritage Hospice; Tracy, Charmaine, and Louis at DCI;

and Trish Nickerson and Tracy Tomlinson for all their kindness and support. A memorial service will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. at French's Mortuary at 7121 Wyoming Blvd NE in Albuquerque, with a reception to follow at another location. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Cottonwood School in Corrales,

or to Heritage Hospice or to UNM Cancer Research and Treatment Center. His children and grandchildren say good-bye to their father/Poppa Mike with these words from a Dan Fogelberg song: "The leader of the band is tired, and his eyes are growing old. His blood runs through my instrument and his song is in my soul..."

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

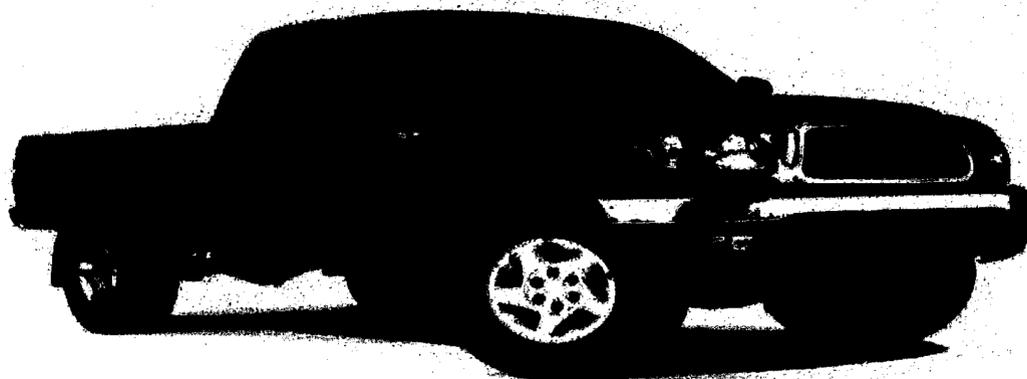
Recent births at
Lincoln County Medical Center

- June 17, 2007, a girl, Raneisha Faith Chavez, 5 lbs, 12.3 oz., 18.25", to Rowena Trujillo and Isaac Chavez.
 June 17, 2007, a girl, Molly Flora Dawn Pena, 6 lbs, 15 oz., 20.5", to Justina Aragon and Rodney Pena.
 June 19, 2007, a boy, Santiago Magana, 6 lbs, 7.7 oz, 20", to Gloria and Erik Magana.
 June 19, 2007, a boy, Dominik Bradley Lance Horst, 7 lbs, 3.4 oz, 18.5", to LeAnne Young and Travis Horst.
 June 21, 2007, a girl, Zoey Clover Wheelless, 6 lbs, 6.2 oz, 19", to Charie Flowers and Brett Wheelless.
 June 24, 2007, a girl, Arda June Whisper Kanseah, 6 lbs, 12.9 oz, 19", to Myrtii Kanseah.
 June 27, 2007, a girl, Bryana Ivette Villanueva, 8 lbs, 1.7 oz, 20", to Leticia and Joel Villanueva.
 July 2, 2007, a girl, Kaylee Ann Hall, 6 lbs, 0.2 oz, 18", to Kortney and Robby Hall.
 July 3, 2007, a girl, Gladys RedElk Gallerito, 7 lbs, 12.8 oz, 20.5", to Joyce Secatero and Thurman Gallerito.
 July 5, 2007, a girl, Alina Leowani Robles Flores, 7 lbs, 14.4 oz, 20.5", to Karina Flores and Roberto Robles.
 July 6, 2007, a girl, MikelaLeNae Alvarado, 6 lbs, 9.1 oz, 19.5", to Eugina Miguez and Micheal Alvarado.
 July 8, 2007, a girl, Lilianna Nicole Marrujo, 7 lbs, 9.3 oz, 19.25", to Rachel Chino and Nicholas Marrujo.
 July 9, 2007, a girl, Graca Danielle Fort, 7 lbs, 13.6 oz, 19", to Bethany and Shawn Fort.
 July 10, 2007, a boy, Manuel Preciado Jr., 6 lbs, 5 oz, 18.5", to Anna Quarles and Manuel Preciado.
 July 11, 2007, a boy, Jaxon Daniel Lee Morgan, 7 lbs, 4.5 oz, 20", to Sierra Shanta and Joshua Morgan.
 July 14, 2007, a boy, Caiden Hunter Cockrell, 8 lbs, 12.8 oz, 21", to Jamie Cockrell.
 July 15, 2007, a boy, Colin Ashton Jones, 3 lbs, 9.8 oz, 16.5", to Jackie Sevier and George Jones Jr.
 July 16, 2007, a girl, Arielle Lee Ward, 7 lbs, 0.7 oz, 19.5", to Itheen Klinekole and Denny Ward.
 July 16, 2007, a girl, Audra Grace Scott, 5 lbs, 5.3 oz, 17", to Jamie and Cody Scott.
 July 18, 2007, a boy, Diego Eli Castillo, 5 lbs, .01 oz, 18", to Maria and Lucas Castillo.

Son Oscar,

You now soar with Angels. It's been a year and not a day goes by drenched in our pain that we don't think of you, we miss you so very, very much, your love, smile, voice, laughter, humor and habits. We cherish every memory of you. We shall love you forever. Until the day we meet again,

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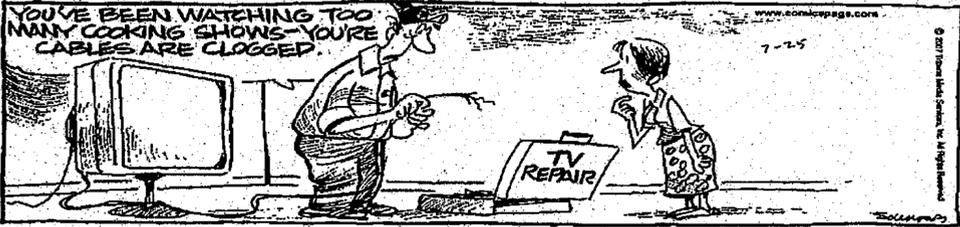
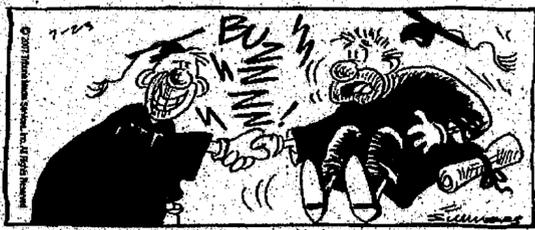
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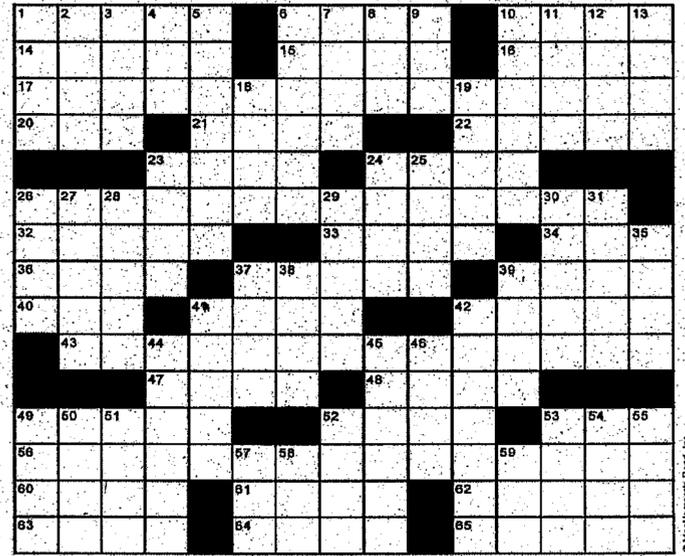
SHOE



ACROSS

- 1. Stogie after Curly
6. Baseball card fig.
10. Cut into boards
14. Raring to go
15. Xenia's state
16. Irish Rose lover
17. Business magazine's language?
20. Break a Commandment
21. Lana of Smallville
22. Soda bottle size
23. Punch-in time for many
24. Spinach is rich in it
26. Former airline's language?
32. Cuts and pastes
33. Ready to serve
34. Locomotive part
36. Palo
37. Shelled out
39. Vena (main vein)
40. Title for McCartney
41. Miracle Mets stadium
42. Paparazzo's quarry
43. Dramedy show's language?
47. Crier's employer
48. Gen- (boomers' kids)
49. Lamb Chop manipulator Lewis
52. Retin-A treats it
53. Orientating need
56. Apple II's language?
60. Is in the red
61. The enemy
62. Take back
63. Monopoly stack
64. Links heads-up

Watch Your Language!



65. Fare behind a sneezeguard

23. Defense alliance since 1949

49. Attempted to score

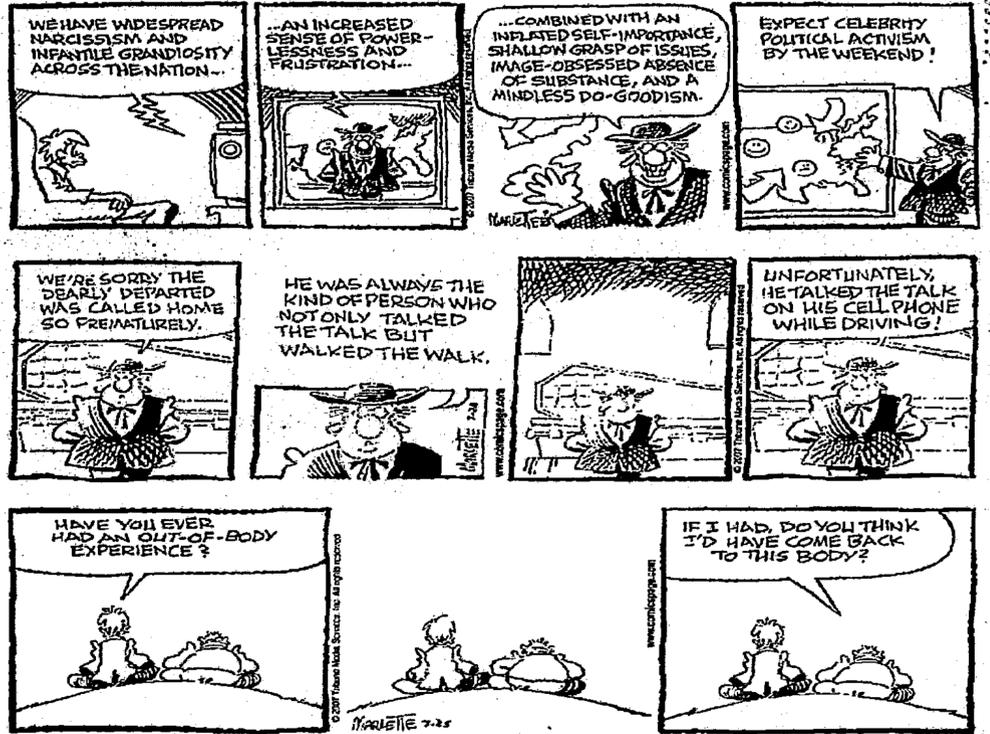
DOWN

- 1. Stage constructions
2. Mata
3. Narc Eddie (Popeye)
4. Rx item
5. Tourney starters
6. Oklahoma athlete
7. Tough guy
8. Make public
9. Scale unit
10. Like seawater
11. Help in a heist
12. Chips brand
13. Not e'en once
18. Dick's primer mate
19. Admiral Byrd book

- 25. Go into hysterics
26. Carrots' partners
27. Wing it on stage
28. Explosive stuff
29. Thing to aim for
30. Locker room item
31. Mansard edges
35. Bunyan's ox
37. Take third place
38. An Ivy, briefly
39. Tpon collectibles
41. Zeno, notably
42. Law, medicine, etc.
44. Burnout cause
45. It may be lame
46. Mannerly sort

- 50. Hockey legend Gordie
51. Congregation's assent
52. Monkey-see-monkey-do sort
53. Whimper like a baby
54. Israel is in it
55. Hang in the balance
57. On vacation
58. Bovine bellow
59. Stephen of "FearDotCom"

KUDZU



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SCRABBLE word game grid with letters and rack numbers.

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by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

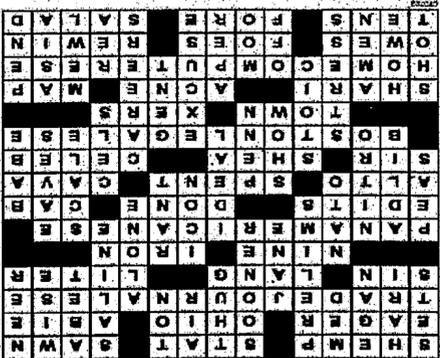
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 1461 Highway 70 East
 Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346
 Equal Opportunity Employer

Gen. Help Wanted 224
ACCOUNTING CLERK
 The Ruidoso News seeks an Accounting Clerk who will be responsible for reception, telephone, book keeping, cash handling, billing, customer support, sales and order entry.
 Will cross train to cover the classified advertising desk to provide excellent customer support and perform other functions as needed.
 This is an entry level position ideal for introducing the successful candidate to the world of newspaper advertising by working at our multiple departments in this energetic and productive office of this twice weekly publication.
 High school diploma or equivalent is required. Must possess excellent customer service, sales, interpersonal communication, have accounting/book-keeping, typing and spelling skills.
 Computer expertise and familiarity with Microsoft Office with emphasis on Excel, Word, Outlook, Email and networking is strongly preferred with the ability to quickly learn other Mac/PC based software systems. This position generally works Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. but must have the flexibility to work varying hours when required.
 The Ruidoso News is a Media News Group Newspaper and this entry level position offers tremendous career opportunities within one of the leading corporations in the newspaper industry.
 We are an equal opportunity employer. We recognize and appreciate the benefits of diversity in the workplace. Those who share this belief or reflect a diverse background are encouraged to apply. In addition to a competitive compensation package we offer excellent benefits including medical, dental, vision, spending account, 401K, and an opportunity for outstanding growth potential. Our concern is for the health and safety of our employees, therefore we offer a smoke-free work environment and conduct pre-employment drug testing.
 Your application/resume will be reviewed in the HR Dept. If you meet the listed qualifications, your application/resume will be forwarded to the appropriate department for further consideration. Due to the large number of applications and resumes received, only those chosen for further consideration will be contacted.
 104 Park Ave., Ruidoso NM, 88345 FAX: 505-257-7033

Gen. Help Wanted 224
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
 The qualified candidate will have managerial background in all areas of Public Works Administrations: Water/Wastewater, Wastewater Treatment, Streets, Solid Waste, budget, preparation, and fiscal management. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering or Public Administration (or related discipline) and a minimum of 6 years of public works or related experience. Position requires evening meeting attendance and a close working relationship with several committees. Salary \$60,000 and up DOQ. Applications accepted until position is filled. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax: 258-5848. Website: www.ruidoso-nm.gov. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
SCHLOTZSKY'S DELI
TCBY
 Permanent Position with well-established locally owned business. All shifts available. Benefits available. APPLY IN PERSON Come Grow with us! 2812 Sudderth Drive

Gen. Help Wanted 224
M. Waldrop Furniture
 2167 W. Hwy 70 Ruidoso Downs Delivery/Warehouse position for Dependable, Careful, Mature person with good driving record and references. Drug Test and Background Check Mandatory. Apply in Person, No Phone Calls, Please

Gen. Help Wanted 224
WANTED HANDY MAN/MAINTENANCE PERSON
 for fine art bronze finishing studio. Must have some driving record and be able to do some traveling. Please apply in person at 2815 Sudderth, Ruidoso.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
THE LODGE
 AT SIERRA BLANCA
 Is seeking Happy, Motivated People to join our team in the following positions.
Maintenance Worker
 Should have experience in general maintenance, some knowledge of electrical, plumbing, drywall repair, and painting. Any additional skills or expertise a plus. \$10.15/hr.
Housekeepers
 Must have cleanliness as an attitude, like to clean and work in a clean happy, cooperative team environment. We believe a clean room brings guests back, some housekeeping experience a plus. We will Train \$9.15/hr.
 Apply in person 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 107 Sierra Blanca Dr. Ruidoso, NM

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 Individual must have a minimum of two years inside/outside sales experience; Bachelor's degree with knowledge of newspaper industry is preferred. Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills along with high ethical standards and strong customer service skills.
 Bilingual abilities in English and Spanish are a big plus.
 Must be able to operate a motor vehicle, and provide proof of valid driver's license and liability insurance.
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Gen. Help Wanted 224
CERTIFIED PATROL OFFICER
 Salary \$15.72 - \$18.18 hourly depending on level of certification. Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until positions are filled. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax: 258-5848. Website: www.ruidoso-nm.gov. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Humane Society of Lincoln County
 is seeking energetic animal loving person to fill the part time position of Animal Caretaker, 20-25 hours per week starting at \$7.00 an hour. The ideal candidate will be: reliable, caring, a team player, pay attention to details, be good with people and animals, and have a professional manner and appearance. Animal or medical experience would be assets. Call 257-9841 for an interview or mail your resume to PO Box 2832, Ruidoso, NM 88355. HSLC is a "Drug Free Workplace" EEOE.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Noley Water Lodge/Restaurant
 Hiring Housekeeping and Front Desk. A full time shared position is available for a flexible mature individual. Responsibilities will include housekeeping, front desk and telephone contact with guests, with potential to develop a more varied workload. A part time housekeeping position is also available. Strong interpersonal skills are essential. Spanish a plus. Competitive salary and benefits for the right people. Call 257-3881 to schedule an interview for both positions.
 Part time Housekeeper needed \$9.00 an hour depending on willingness to work. Attitude will adjust your salary. Apply in person at Log Cabin 1074 Mechem.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE
 Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route, includes 30 Machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. 1-888-329-3374.
 Need to sell something? Phone 257-4001. Ruidoso News Classifieds.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Mescalero Apache School
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
 Mescalero Apache School is looking for qualified applicants for the following positions for the 2007-2008 School Year:
 > Special Education Teacher
 > Computer Teacher
 > Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
 > Cafeteria Staff
POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED
 ****All Certified positions and Coaching positions require a valid license from the NM Public Education Department.
 ****All positions require background checks and clearance from any criminal charges prior to employment.
 ****Selections for employment will be based on the Mescalero Apache Tribal Ordinance 06-02.
 For additional information and application:
 Mescalero Apache School Personnel Office
 P.O. Box 280; 249 White Mountain Drive
 Mescalero, NM 88840
 Phone: (505) 484-4431 Fax: (505) 484-4822

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 Individual must have a minimum of two years inside/outside sales experience; Bachelor's degree with knowledge of newspaper industry is preferred. Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills along with high ethical standards and strong customer service skills.
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 Must be able to operate a motor vehicle, and provide proof of valid driver's license and liability insurance.
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Gen. Help Wanted 224
ENMU-Ruidoso
 Full Time - Administrative Assistant
RESPONSIBILITIES: Under limited direction, provide broad and diverse administrative, secretarial and academic services in support of the ENMU-Ruidoso Provost Office, exercising independent judgment and initiative.
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High school graduate or equivalent and five years responsible secretarial/clerical experience is required. Associate of Arts degree in a related area may be substituted for up to two years of the required experience.
 A complete job description is available at www.ruidoso.enmu.edu or by request.
 Position open until filled. Review of applicants will begin October 11, 2007.
 Facsimile or electronically mailed applications will not be accepted.
 Send letter of interest, current resume, unofficial transcripts, a list of three recent professional references and a completed ENMU application to:
 Dr. Mike Elrod, Provost
 ENMU-Ruidoso
 709 Mechem Drive
 Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345.
 Offer of employment contingent upon verification of individual's eligibility for employment in the United States. ENMU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Family Resource and Referral, Inc.
 Seeds a qualified applicant for the position of **Inclusion Specialist**. Bilingual preferred. Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Special Education, Early Childhood Education or related field with at least three years of demonstrated experience directly related to early childhood special education, children with special needs and their families. Knowledge of child development, childcare resources, State licensing guidelines, as well as ADA, IDEA and other relevant regulations. Effective communication and management skills required. Position is part time with competitive salary and work would be within our service area, Chaves, Lincoln, Lea, and Eddy Counties.
 Send resume and transcripts to:
 Family Resource and Referral, Inc.
 P.O. Box 3038
 Roswell, NM 88202-3038
 Attention: Katie Harton

Gen. Help Wanted 224
SERVICEMASTER
IKARD Propane NEWSOM
 Seeking SERVICE TECH
 Experience with LP, natural gas, piping, appliance repair and installation required.
 Applications available at 640 Hwy 70 E, Ruidoso Downs.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
 All real estate advertised here-in is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Gen. Help Wanted 224
LIBRARY ASSISTANT
 Salary \$9.45 hourly. Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until 4:00 pm Friday, August 3, 2007. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax: 258-5848. Website: www.ruidoso-nm.gov. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
SOLID WASTE WORKER
 Salary \$10.01 hourly. Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted 4:00 p.m. Friday, August 3, 2007. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax: 258-5848. Website: www.ruidoso-nm.gov. "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
RENTALS
 300
PARKS/SPACES/STAGES
 318
 Mobil home space on private lot, \$185/mo. plus water & deposit. 378-4411
MOBILE HOME SPACE
 PARK. 505-258-4568

