

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10, 2007 • OUR 60TH YEAR, NO. 73 • 50 CENTS

**FIRE DANGER
LOW**

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'THE JOCKS'



SANDY KASHMAR/STAFF

High School Musical, Disney's new contribution to the world of family musicals, will be presented by the Ruidoso High School Theater Department. The show takes an upbeat, contemporary look at high school life and rivalries, featuring the jocks, the skaters, the brains and the thespians. Players shown here in Monday's rehearsal are (l-r): JJ Wood, Connor Reveley, Jake Rigsby, Nate Huffman, Cody Jones, Curtis Hobby and Joey Baldanado. The production runs Feb. 2-4 and 9-11 at the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center.

Carrizozo swears in new police chief

■ Probate Judge Carrie Spencer quickly replaces Ken Jones

JULIE CARTER
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Six days after the resignation of Carrizozo's most recent police chief, Ken Jones, a new chief was hired and sworn in at the Carrizozo board of trustees regular meeting.

Carrie Spencer took the helm of the department officially Tuesday, enthusiastically endorsed by the mayor and the council.

Spencer, a Carrizozo native, comes to the force with a solid background in law enforcement and heart for the community she grew up and lives in.

Her career in law enforcement began in Carlsbad in 1995, where she was employed while she completed certification at the police academy and worked as a patrolman for 2 1/2 years before being promoted to a detective, where she served for another year.

At the time, the police captain and Spencer's superior in Carlsbad was the recent Capitan Chief of Police, Robert Bird. Bird endorsed Spencer by saying she was an excellent cop that rose in rank to detective in half the time it nor-

mally takes an officer. "She is honest, thorough, and her quality of work and ability to do her job was the reason she was promoted so quickly," said Bird.

Bird said it was great to see that Carrizozo hired a good, honest cop to be chief. "I wish I were still working in the area," he said. "It would have been great working with her."

After her tour of duty in Carlsbad, Spencer was employed by the police department in Big Springs, Texas prior to moving back to Carrizozo. She worked for the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department in 2001-02 and filled in at the Capitan Police Department after that.

"My experience as a youth growing up in Carrizozo was when local enforcement was men like Chanco Morales, Leandro Vega and Max Watson. I respected them and what they stood for," said Spencer.

"I think the police department should be part of the community and the youth respecting but not afraid of them. Today they call that community policing."

Spencer said she wanted people to know she was not an 8-5 kind of police officer and understood that the job was much like the ranch she

See SPENCER, page 7A

Downs identifies infiltration sites

DEANNA CHENEY
For the Ruidoso News

Photographs of damaged, corroded and "blown out" manholes located west of the regional Waste Water Treatment Plant along the interceptor line made for serious discussion Monday during a meeting of the Ruidoso Downs City Council.

An inspection of plant lines was conducted as part of an agreement reached between members of the plant's Joint Use Board last month following allegations leveled by Ruidoso Downs officials that infiltration of the line was occurring.

Downs officials have threatened on several occasions in the past year to withhold payment of its share of costs to operate the plant until the city's concern was taken seriously. They contended that infiltration was "skewing" usage figures charged to the city each month by the Village of Ruidoso, which acts as fiscal agent.

Packets consisting of 20 photographs taken last week were

distributed among councilors by Mark Lewis, acting public works supervisor for the city, depicting some but not all of the plant's 30 manholes and 400,000 linear feet of line.

"Some of these pictures are an indicator that water has surcharged and been pushed back into the plant," John Waters, city manager, said upon review.

"They also show where the river has run off course over the manholes during periods of flooding.

"It could be that we have some compaction issues, too, and some other potential issues

See LINES, page 5A

Public library bookmarks changes

DIANNE STALLINGS
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The loss of two employees and a change in operating hours at the Ruidoso Public Library prompted some calls to elected municipal officials.

But Mayor L. Ray Nunley said once he looked into the situation, he believes the staff is handling the impacts.

"It's kind of a bandage approach, but one we can live with for now," he said Tuesday. "I had one person contact me Sunday about the two employees who left," the mayor said. "There was a third who was on medical leave but is back now."

"We are replacing one (of the two who left) right away and are still looking at the second position."

Village Human Resources Director Debbie Rogge said in line with council instructions and in lieu of a blanket hiring freeze, administration officials look at each vacancy as someone leaves village employment to determine if filling the job immediately is necessary.

One of the positions at the library that opened up from resignations is being advertised for the two-week period before selecting the new person, she said.

Head Librarian Phyllis Reed said when the first employee resigned, she submitted justification for filling that post, but administration officials decided not to at this time.

"That does not mean forever," she said Tuesday. "The position has not gone away."

As for a change in hours, Rogge said Reed checked with other public libraries across the state and found that even in Taos, many are closed on Monday and use some of the saved hours to expand open time on Saturday or evenings to accommodate working people and students.

"Saturday used to be very minimal hours, something like 9 a.m. to noon," Rogge said. "Now the library is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to

See LIBRARY, page 7A

Hope springs eternal

FOR SOME REASON, GRIFFITH SPRING IS FLOWING AT NEAR-RECORD LEVELS

DEANNA CHENEY
For the Ruidoso News

RUIDOSO DOWNS - With the primary spring serving the city of Ruidoso Downs outraging past 4 million gallons per minute over the past four days, city officials have mandated a water conservation program they enacted in 2002.

City mandated water conservation when Griffith Spring dropped below 400 gpm for minutes, John Waters, city manager, said during a meeting of the city council Monday. The spring's flow had been at 496 gallons per minute - the highest reading for the

spring on record. He also reported that the city's 1-million gallon water storage tank was full.

"The spring's flow produces some pretty dramatic numbers up or down," City Attorney Dan Bryant remarked. "At the rate it is flowing now that amounts to 6,000 gallons per hour, 4 million gallons per month, and 51 million gallons per year."

Nevertheless... Still, Waters recommended caution as drought "can be cyclical." He directed staff to monitor closely the spring's production levels and report back. Should things change,

back up again taking us out of the doldrums."

Waters said until hydrologists can make some sense of the spontaneous return of the spring he is inclined to "Thank the Almighty for this" and allow for voluntary conservation of water.

"For the first time in seven years the spring flow has returned to a sustainable level," he said. "And, we don't know why."

Mark Lewis, acting public works supervisor, told councilors he had been to the spring at 4:30 p.m. earlier that very day and obtained a reading of 496 gallons per minute - the highest reading for the

the city can reinstate restrictions, Waters said.

Councilor Dean Holman said that should conservation measures be mandated again he would like to see a tiered billing go into effect.

"I'd like us to come up with an average rate per household that residents can watch on a voluntary basis, then raise the amount we bill beyond that, if possible," he said.

"Most people in our city are pretty aware and I think they'll be careful."

Councilor Judy Miller concurred, noting that "those who go over" consumption rates are "usually commercial users."

Waters said a change in

"For the first time in seven years the spring flow has returned to a sustainable level. And we don't know why."

John Waters
City manager, Ruidoso Downs

how rates are changed in the future with any water needs planned for the future.

"The water conservation program in Carrizozo is a good example of what we can do here. We need to be proactive in our water conservation efforts."



Alto Lakes meeting

Members of the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District Board will conduct a special meeting at 8 a.m. Thursday in the meeting room of the Bonito Voluntary Fire Department in Alto.

Recycling committee

The Lincoln County Solid-Waste Authority Board has approved its first countywide Recycling Committee from staff and Board member nominations. The Board is waiting to

approve additional nominations from Carrazzo, Mesalero Downs and the Ruidoso Tribe. The committee will be assisted by LCSWA Operational Supervisor Debra Ingle and county resident Jim Miller, and will begin its work providing advice on the county waste recycling program in January. The program also includes the Village of Ruidoso.

Other actions by the Board at its Dec. 29 meeting:
• Approved removal of \$926.94 in accounts receivable on vacated residential property verified by the County Assessor.
• Heard a preliminary proposal by Cob Creation LLC of Florida to generate electrical energy using municipal solid waste and zero emissions technology at the Lincoln/Otero County Landfill. Operational Supervisor Debra Ingle indicated that insufficient manage-

Tree recycling

Keep Ruidoso Beautiful urges residents to recycle their Christmas trees. Bring your tree to Schoolhouse Park (orange tree pool) and Senior Center, then come back on Jan. 13 for tree mulch. Mulch, which helps with water retention, walking paths and erosion control, will be given out on a first-come-first-served basis.

Remember to remove all decorations from your tree before dropping it off. For more information, call Parks & Recreation at 257-5030.

LCSWA news

The following items can be recycled in Lincoln County including Ruidoso: batteries of all types, cardboard, computer equipment, carpet padding, large household appliances, newspapers and newsprint, plastic containers and bottles, old paint and used oil, scrap metal, water heaters, tires and aluminum. Small fees are charged for most items marked *. The Authority will also exchange still usable items and materials when needed by others.

Recycling will keep waste disposal fees for a minimum.

Transfer Station and Recycling Center, P.O. Box 2405, Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346; www.lcswa.org; 378-4697 or toll free 1-877-548-8772; email: lcswa@valernet.com; fax 378-4896.

Computer disposal

Computer equipment may now be brought to the LCSWA yard for proper disposal. This new service costs \$10 per computer to cover the cost in transporting discarded computers. Proper disposal will remove eight pounds of hazardous material per computer from the regional landfill.

Construction material

Do not place construction material in dumpsters or trash compactors. Construction materials in these containers can cause equipment breakdowns. Small construction waste loads may be delivered directly to the LCSWA Yard, 222 2nd Street, Ruidoso Downs. A drop-off fee schedule for some items is available by calling 378-4697 or toll free, 1-877-548-8772.

Tree waste

The Authority will pick up residential tree waste (trunks and limbs up to 6 inches in diameter and in sections no more than four feet long, plus needles and leaves) on a scheduled basis in Lincoln County outside of Ruidoso. Stack material on your property in one pile along a relatively level stretch of road, keeping piles clear of overhead power lines, poles or fences. Piles should not include household trash, lumber or construction trash, dirt, rocks or large stumps. Grapple service is provided every 9-12 weeks on a rotating schedule, available at our office. Commercial businesses needing this or any trash disposal or recycling service call 378-4697 or toll free 1-877-548-8772.

The Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority Greentree

Mrs. Ruidoso

The Mrs. New Mexico Pageant seeks applicants for the title of Mrs. Ruidoso. Once selected, the person will advance to represent her community in the 2007 Mrs. New Mexico Pageant to be held June 16 at the Performing Arts Center in Rio Rancho. Applicants must be 18 years old (no age limit), married at the time of competition, a U.S. citizen and a New Mexico resident. No performing talent required.

The new Mrs. New Mexico wins a prize package valued at more than \$8,000 and an all-expense paid trip to the nationally televised Mrs. America Pageant.

Now in its 31st year, the Mrs. America Pageant is the only competition to recognize the one person who contributes so much to modern-day life - America's married woman. To obtain the official application or for more information, call Sherree Channel, executive director of the Mrs. New Mexico Pageant, at 877-631-4447 or visit www.mrsnewmexicoamerica.com.

Correction

The information regarding gift baskets put together by Linco Medical Supply which ran in the Dec. 22 issue of the Ruidoso News needs clarification. The total cost for all 25 baskets was between \$1,200 and \$1,500, and Linco owner Verna Adams sends the baskets out to all companies that work with her throughout the year, not just those that send referrals.

NEW CONSTRUCTION



Mandy Denson of Ruidoso sent in this picture of an igloo her family built. She says, "We spent so much time making this igloo and snow family I just had to send it. We could fit three adults inside our igloo. It is still standing when a little snow for wear. These pictures were taken on New Year's Eve."

Bryant participates in Ruidoso Downs meeting

DEANNA CHENEY For the Ruidoso News

RUIDOSO DOWNS -- With his bid for hire as attorney for the Village of Ruidoso seemingly up in the air, local attorney Dan Bryant participated in Monday night's meeting of the Ruidoso Downs City Council unabated. Bryant has served as legal aide to the city for the past 10 years. When it was learned that last week that he had responded to the village's search for an attorney and was selected pending final negotiations of a contract, councilors in Ruidoso Downs felt that discussion of a possible conflict of interest was in order should Bryant be required to serve out his 180-day notice of termination there.

The matter was placed on the Jan. 8 agenda then removed by Ruidoso Downs Mayor Bob Miller when village councilors subsequently announced that they wanted to take a second look at their choice of Bryant, in view of the 180-day clause. Councilors said they would be discussing the matter the following Tuesday night in their own meeting.

"Basically the Mayor felt that there could be no real dis-

cussion of Dan Bryant's replacement until the village and Bryant reached their decision," John Waters, city manager, said.

"The ball is in their court. In the meantime I will be working on putting a new REP together for the city, should we lose Dan. We also are looking into whether an in-house attorney might better meet the needs of the city as opposed to a contract attorney." Currently, the Daniel Bryant Law Firm is contracted by the City of Ruidoso Downs at a contract rate of \$139,000 per year.

IN OTHER MATTERS, COUNCILORS:

- approved billings of 15 percent for operational costs of the regional Waste Water Treatment Plant for the months of September and October 2006. Payment had previously been withheld pending more financial information.
• received a final report from City Clerk Carol Virden on the official canvass return from the Dec. 12 General Obligation Bond Election. Virden reported that 102 eligible voters participated in the election for a pro vote of 85 to 17.
• eased Water Restriction Phase 2 to a Voluntary Water Conservation Stage.
• granted a special permit to operators of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino for late January or February.
• received an update on Codification of City of Ruidoso Ordinances.
• received update on South Hale Ditch developments.
• approved creation of a student internship program at the Hubbard Museum of the American West.

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Controlled burn to target salt cedar

DEANNA CHENEY For the Ruidoso News

RUIDOSO DOWNS -- Salt Cedar foliage collected from the bank of the Rio Ruidoso near the Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino is targeted for a controlled burn to be scheduled in the next 30-60 days.

The foliage was removed by employees at the track in August and September under order of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as part of the agency's Water Quality & Flood Protection Plan. It consists of a six-foot tall pile of compressed and decomposing materials and measures 140 feet by 20 feet. It currently is being stored in plastic bags in a lined earthen berm located some 300 yards from the river, Richard Swenor, director of the track's corporate security and safety department, said.

In a Dec. 19 letter to Ruidoso Downs councilors, Swenor said the foliage should be burned in order to keep seeds from spreading. Salt Cedar is considered highly invasive as it increases salinity along the river and increases fire potential and flood frequency. Studies indicate a mature Salt Cedar tree can consume as much as 200 gallons of water per day.

Swenor noted that a burn permit was submitted by race track officials immediately following last year's Salt Cedar removal but was withdrawn due to drought conditions. Prior, the Salt Cedar had been "trimmed back" in 2000, rather than eliminated, and re-grew to more than 15-feet in height. It was pulled from its roots in November 2004 and buried in early 2005. Then, with heavy spring rains, re-grew again.

"This is a never-ending battle for us," Swenor said. "But, it is something we have to do. It's a weed that keeps coming back and growing. If we do nothing it blocks up the river and causes other problems." The 2007 burn is to be conducted under the supervision of the Ruidoso Downs Department of Public Safety when weather conditions are considered favorable and will take approximately six hours to complete. Signage and other public service announcements are to be posted at that time.

Councilors approved the special burn in their monthly meeting "Monday contingent upon 'inspection of the pile' to be burned."

"We've had the past with old mattresses and other stuff being thrown in," Councilor Sue Garrett said. "I want to be sure that is not the case this time. This is to be a Salt Cedar burn only."

Advertisement for Michelen's Italian Restaurant. Variety of LUNCH SPECIALS Starting at \$4.50. Served daily Tuesday - Friday from 11 am - 4 pm. and PIZZA at Michelen's Italian Restaurant. Casual Family Dining. Open for Lunch & Dinner. 2703 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, NM. 257-5753.

Brunell's Fall & Winter Sale Starts Jan 8th. Brunell's Inc 2316 Sudderth Dr Ruidoso, NM 9-5:30 Mon-Sat 505-257-2911

ALIEN TREATIES. PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS (PG13) 4:55-7:30 10:00 ROCKY BALBOA (PG) 5:00-7:20 9:45 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) 4:30-7:00 9:30. DONT FORGET YOUR GIFT TICKETS!!!

www.CovenantWomensHeart.org. Get Ready, Get Red and Go. Take time out for our 4th annual Women's Heart Symposium on Saturday, January 20. It's an important part of Covenant Health System's campaign for women's heart health leading up to National Wear Red Day™ on February 2. Join us at the Lubbock Civic Center from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for health heart demonstrations and FREE health screenings worth hundreds of dollars. At 11:30, join us for lunch with heart disease survivor Mellanie True Hills and hear her keynote address, "Be Still My Heart: Surviving and Thriving in a Hyperbusy World." Get great food and gifts with West Coast Flavor—all for \$10. To pre-register for screenings, lunch and your chance to win valuable prizes, call 1.866.4COVENANT (1.866.426.8362).

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Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast. Wnd 1/10, Thu 1/11, Fri 1/12. Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 40s.

We Celebrate Hometown. American Profile

New Mexico At A Glance. Moon Phases. UV Index. Santa Fe 42/24, Albuquerque 47/28, Ruidoso 59/41, Roswell 68/36.

Area Cities table with columns for City, Hi, Lo, Cond. Lists cities like Albuquerque, Carlsbad, Chama, Clovis, Deming, El Paso, Espanola, Farmington, Gallup.

National Cities table with columns for City, Hi, Lo, Cond. Lists cities like Allentown, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver.

Isn't it time to take care of the woman who takes care of everybody? Pre-register for your FREE health screening at the Women's Heart Symposium on January 20. Find out if you have: High cholesterol, Elevated blood sugar, High blood pressure, Increased risk of osteoporosis, Adequate oxygen flow, Healthy body mass ratio, Good overall physical fitness. *Be sure to fast for 12 hours prior to your free health screening.

Billy's Great 2007 Car Giveaway. Someone Will Win A New 2007 Pontiac G-5. Why Not You? Billy's Player's Club Members Receive an Entry Blank for Every 10 Points* Earned Between January 1st and February 3rd. You Win Two Ways because Player's Club Points Also Earn Cash... The More You Play The More Chances To Win. Membership to Billy's Club Is Free. Billy The Kid Casino at Ruidoso Downs Race Track. Where We Promise You Smiles and Now a Chance at a New Car.

Save up to \$120 in your first three months! Or, order either Full Basic Cable or fastest High-Speed Internet for 3 months for just \$29.95 per month. Hurry! This offer ends on Friday, Dec. 15! 1.866.OBBTV4U 1.866.622.8848. Orange BROADBAND.

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RUIDOSO NEWS

Glenas Orcutt, publisher
Marty Racine, editor

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OUR OPINION

Law enforcement in the area has reached a crisis

We should demand better-trained, better paid forces

Other than guaranteeing fresh drinking water, we cannot think of a more salient function of municipal government than providing for public safety.

As we applaud the appointment of Carrie Spencer as chief of police in Carrizozo, we note that the sudden exit of her predecessor, Ken Jones, was simply another example of the tenuous staffing police departments in our area are facing.

While Ruidoso struggles to fill nine vacancies in its department, Carrizozo and Capitan have at times come this close to owning departments in name only; each is down 33 percent in staffing potential. Even at full staff, 24/7 policing is unrealistic in either community.

With near-full staffing to be found only in Ruidoso Downs and in the Lincoln County Sheriff's office — the latter is still stretched thin — and with a DA perceived in many quarters

as soft on crime, the law enforcement situation in Lincoln County has reached a crisis point. Criminals might call it a joke. The public should call it an outrage.

What to do?

There must be a sea-change in priorities, and grants and budgets to fund them — ZoZo cops don't even receive retirement benefits — or else places like Carrizozo and Capitan can concentrate on potholes and clean water and rely on the county (at a significant cost) to watch their backs, as do unincorporated areas.

Meanwhile, officers must be allowed to do their jobs, free of political interference. Consider this: Randy Haskins, who was kicked off the Capitan force by the current mayor for being "uncontrollable," participated in 63 "on scene" drug arrests from October-December in his new post in Artesia. Now that's public safety.

This is the year we separate ourselves from Louisiana

There is a ritual in New Mexico politics. Just before opening bell at the Legislature, convening now for a 60-day session, activists around the state ruffle up their feathers and strut around town boasting this will be the year our state bans cockfighting. This column struts with the best.

Then, on cue, a bill outlawing the brutality is introduced in the House, a companion bill is introduced in the Senate, and well-intentioned lawmakers pontificate about the horror of cockfighting. A few weeks later, somewhere deep into the session, the whole campaign slips into the night.

I don't know to whom the cockfighting lobby gets, or how it gets to them, but these boys are good. There is clear evidence that an overwhelming number of her citizens want New Mexico to rid herself of this embarrassment, but year after year our legislative folks find a way to avoid the ban.

Here's the difference this year. We've got Bill. After years of wishing the issue would just disappear forever, after years of claiming he had so many pressing agenda items with which to deal that cockfighting just did not appear on his radar screen, Governor Richardson has come around. Big time.

The gov says he will seek the demise of cockfighting, elevating us to the major league of gubernatorial effort, right up there with the commuter train and spaceport. There is the consensus that Richardson has stepped to the plate because he thinks cockfighting could adversely affect a presidential run.

The theory is balderdash, I suspect. A nation that tolerated illicit oral sex in the Oval Office isn't likely to bristle at some misguided folks watching roosters claw one another to death in rural New Mexico, as repugnant

the practice may be.

Truly, Bill Richardson did not want to get involved in this fight, but once cornered, he took the only reasonable path. Cockfighting is brutal, outlandish, a national joke that lumps us with Louisiana as the two states still turning their backs to the monstrosity.

Mark my words. This is the year cockfighting stages its last battle. Strut. Strut. Strut.

We are offended — offended, I say! — by the reaction of State Sen. Phil Griego, a San Jose Democrat. Phil is outraged by the campaign to outlaw cockfighting. "It is a way for these liberals to kick in the door and do away with everything we've been accustomed to for over 300 years here in the West," he charges.

Not so! There is a lot about the Old West we like. Cowboy boots are good. Ladies dressed in Western finery, a nice touch. Gunfights at the OK Corral are fun if they are shooting blanks. Who doesn't enjoy a good old-fashioned sing-a-long around the campfire if no one is spitting tobacco juice into the flames? But rodeos? Hunting? Fishing? They've got to go. We liberals are on the march.

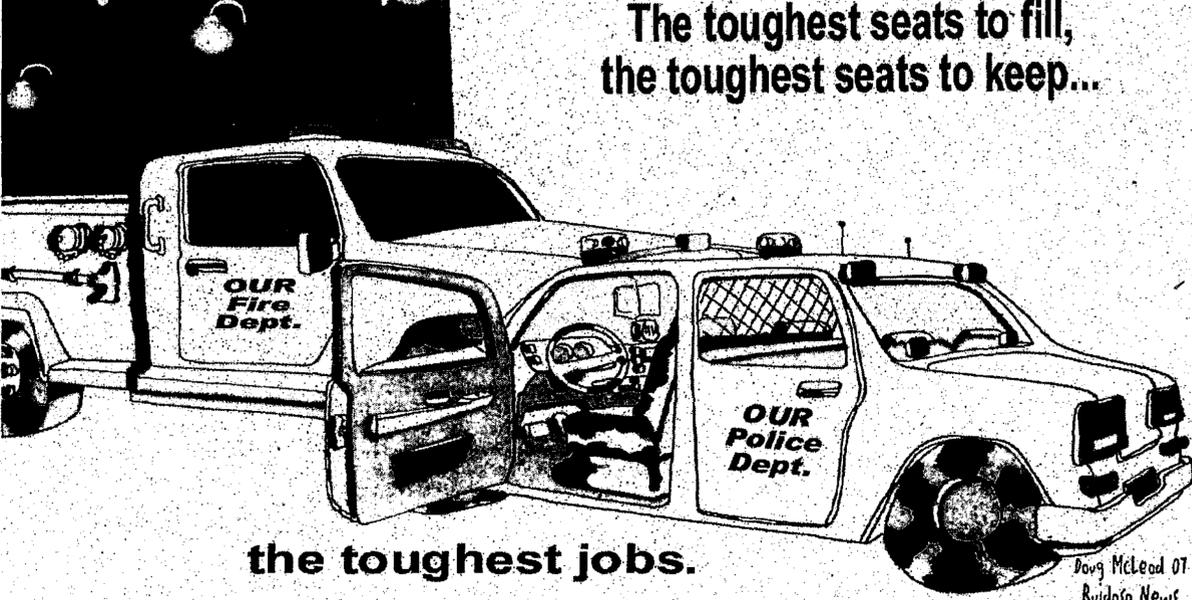
Just k-i-d-d-i-n-g!
Once cockfighting is banned — strut, strut, strut — enforcement will be problematic, especially if the local sheriff has a bird in the contest. Be that as it may, this column is going to look for a new cause to champion. Two come to mind. I am wavering between personally ending global warming once and for all, or joining the New Mexico Save the Chimps campaign. There really is such a thing and I will be writing about it. Probably incessantly.

Comment is welcome at ncantwell@charter.net by all, even those who think this column is for the birds.



LOOKING ASKANCE
NED CANTWELL

Throughout Lincoln County



The toughest seats to fill,
the toughest seats to keep...

the toughest jobs.

YOUR OPINION

School district would benefit from soccer-only field

To the editor:

AS A LONGTIME RESIDENT of Ruidoso, it seems obvious to me that we are determined to build some type of structure or new business on every inch of open space in town.

As I watch this rapid demise of our open space, I would like to put in a plug for maintaining a small bit of greenery in the immediate proximity of our primary school in the form of a new soccer field for the junior and varsity boys and girls soccer organizations.

Something for our kids, what a novel idea! It would eliminate the constant and unproductive competition between our soccer and football programs for our only football field at the Ruidoso Middle School.

At present, there are more than 70 junior high and high school level kids participating in the very young soccer programs within the Ruidoso Independent School District, not to speak of the hundreds of kids that play the sport at the intramural level.

This year, both the boys and girls varsity teams competed for their respective state titles, an achievement that brought great pride and prestige to our school district. The involvement in these programs rivals the other school-sponsored sports

in our school district and should be expected to continue to grow rapidly as the growth of this sport nationally is unprecedented.

But unlike track, baseball and football, the soccer program does not have a regulation-sized, dedicated soccer field on which they can play their games or practice. I traveled to many of the out-of-town varsity or JV games this year. At the games I attended, all were played on regulation-sized soccer fields that were reserved specifically for this sport. Some schools, like Hatch High School, had numerous new soccer fields for the games to be played on.

At present, there is a large piece of unused open field just to the east of Sierra Vista Primary school that I believe is big enough to be used as a regulation-sized soccer field (with some redesign of existing access). It lies immediately adjacent to the multiple use fields at the primary school, none of which at present can be properly used for soccer practice or as a regulation sized field for the JV and/or varsity games.

These multiple-use fields are in heavy demand for all types of sports and recreation and to rededicate any portion of this acreage strictly to soccer would further minimize the use of these fields for

all of our kids.

Instead, I would like to see the school district or city dedicate the unused acreage at this location to a new soccer field and to challenge the parents and faculty involved with the JV and varsity programs to find the funding to build the new field.

I for one, would work relentlessly to obtain grant funding for this field, just as I have been successful in my career in finding grant funding for many public use facilities and pieces of expensive equipment in the local area.

And then I feel as if there are some contractors here in town that would be willing to donate their labor to get the field installed. A fence and the sprinkler system would be the primary expenses that would need to be paid for through grant funding. Our soccer parents are resourceful and I believe this funding could be obtained if the land were dedicated to the project.

In the weeks and months to follow, I will be soliciting support from the school district for this project. I would like to hear from any parent that thinks this project has merit and the time to plan for such a facility is now.

Thomas M. Gavin
Ruidoso

Legislature expected to consider right-to-life bill

To the editor:

JAN. 22 WILL MARK the 34th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that made abortion legal throughout the United States at any time for any reason — or for no reason at all.

It did this by denying state or local governments the ability to regulate abortion by laws which will stand up to the decisions of liberal activist judges.

Abortion is thus seen as a Constitutional right related to the right to privacy. If someone can find either of these rights in the U.S. Constitution I would like him to inform me just where they are. In the "penumbra," of course! One can imagine almost anything in a penumbral.

Since the R. vs. W. decision, more than 47 million unborn human beings in our country have been lost to that sacred watchword, "Choice."

The abortion providers do not generally admit that these were human beings even though it an incontrovertible fact of biological science that a new human

being exists from the moment of conception.

The genetic makeup of this human being can be distinguished from that of every other being on the planet by modern forensic methods. We use such methods to convict or exonerate suspects in criminal cases, to establish paternity of children, etc. But we deny that an unborn child has any civil rights because of its location, state of development or possible inconvenience to someone or other.

When the next session of the New Mexico legislature begins on Jan. 16 it is expected that three bills will be introduced that affect the right to life of the unborn and the aged or infirm. One is the Parental Notification bill which would involve parents in their minor child's decision on abortion; their involvement is required by law in every other health care matter. The proposed law would have a bypass to involve the courts in the case of abusive families.

Gov. Richardson is expected to introduce a bill providing \$10 million to the

University of New Mexico for embryonic stem cell research.

Such research would involve creation and harvesting of an unknown number of human embryos, thus destroying some humans for the possible (but as yet not very promising) benefit of others.

A third bill is one seeking legal sanction for assisted suicide; this is a slippery slope that we need not mount.

We in the right-to-life movement support the parental notification bill and oppose the other two. If you believe in the sanctity of all human life you would do well to join the Right To Life Committee of New Mexico, which seeks to educate people — including our legislators — on the issues of abortion, infanticide and euthanasia.

The RTLNCM is a non-sectarian, non-profit organization dedicated to the right to life of all innocent human beings from fertilization to natural death.

Its mailing address is 2800 San Mateo NE, Suite 107, Albuquerque NM 87110.

William Studer
Ruidoso

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LINES

FROM PAGE 1A

along the lateral lines," he said, making note of those pictures which show cracks in lines, calcide nodules growing outside of the pipes, and a root system growing out from a lateral line.

Waters said Tuesday that the pictures confirm some of the city's fears about the lines.

"These pictures show that we are in bad shape," he said, "and that a regular maintenance sweep of the line needs to be done. For now, the City of Ruidoso Downs is going to continue to inspect the manholes and lines because it needs to be done. We want the people in the valley and state to know we take care of the river and the plant seriously."

When asked by councilors what it will cost to make repairs, Waters said the manholes, located from 6-8 feet from the river, could cost from \$10,000 to \$30,000 apiece, a few as low as \$5,000. He would not venture a guess what it might cost to repair lines.

More to come?

"This is just a first report," he said. "It may be that we are looking at more serious problems. We have to go back in there and see what we are really dealing with. Certainly, at the least, we want to make sure the manhole lids are sealed and secured."

In the interim, councilors agreed to pay some \$40,000 in operation costs at the WWTP for billings received for the months of September and October 2006.

Councilors voted in November and again in December to withhold payment until a detailed accounting of expendi-



tures was provided to the city. The group also sought an inspection of facilities when it was learned that the plant's operating budget was at 51 percent rather than at the anticipated 40 percent.

In recent weeks, finance managers with the village have shown city officials that increased expenses have included costs billed by Livingston and Associates to repair sampling stations and to conduct lab analysis; some routine maintenance procedures at

the plant, including parts replacement; and administrative fees charged by the village, in addition to usage costs.

A motion was made by councilor Judy Miller and seconded by Sue Garrett that billings at 15 percent for WWTP operations for September and October be paid by the City of Ruidoso Downs to the Village contingent upon receipt of a monthly accounts receivable report and the "progressive remediation" of damaged facilities at the WWTP.



PHOTOS COURTESY MARK LEWIS

Far upper left, third manhole from the WWTP, heading west: Blown 200-pound manhole lid surrounded by 65' x 30' of debris. The white debris is not snow but paper, toilet paper, etc. The manhole is close to the river.

Far bottom left: Sixth manhole from the WWTP, heading west. Root infiltration pictured.

Left: Fourth or fifth manhole from the plant, heading west, and located six feet from the Rio Ruidoso. This photo illustrates how easy it is for water overflowing from the river to pour into the WWTP water lines when manhole lids are not fitted securely in place. Lid here had been lifted sometime in past and sewage flowed from line into field/river. To create this pressure to lift a 200-pound cover on the interceptor line the flow must be physically stopped at the plant (or maybe as a stoppage along the line) and backed up into the city of Ruidoso Downs.

State launches enviro Web site

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Officials with the New Mexico Environment Department launched a Web-based system for residents to ask questions and to comment on environmental issues.

The streamlined program also will allow NMED staff to respond quickly to those comments.

Residents can ask non-emergency questions, make suggestions or report issues related to programs the department oversees, including hazardous waste, air quality and water and wastewater systems.

To access the system, visit www.nmenv.state.nm.us and click the ENTS (Environmental Notification Tracking Sys-

tem) icon at the bottom right corner of the page, or go directly to the site at http://nmenvit.state.nm.us/EnvComp/Incident/incident_hdr_list.php.

Public access

"The Environment Department continues to find ways it can better serve the public," said NMED Secretary Ron Curry.

"The system will allow us to respond to residents as soon as possible concerning environmental questions and issues."

Residents can also post comments anonymously. However, the department may need further information and can better investigate a concern or comment if the sender provides his contact information. The department will respond to comments in a

timely manner.

For a list of bureaus the department oversees, which also include Occupational Health and Safety, the Food Program and Solid Waste, visit www.nmenv.state.nm.us.

Those who have air, groundwater discharge, surface water permits and other NMED issued permits should not continue through this system but continue to follow normal reporting procedures.

Residents should continue to report environmental emergencies that require immediate response to the New Mexico State Police 24-hour Dispatch Hotline at 505-827-9329.

For more information about spills and unauthorized discharges, visit www.nmenv.state.nm.us/gwb/low.htm.

State: Village water meets standards

Environment Dept. reports that Ruidoso's drinking supply is safe

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

While local elected officials wrestle with questions about growth and Ruidoso's water supply, some good news was delivered by the New Mexico Environment Department about the quality of the village's water.

In a yearly summary of monitoring results on village wells and water treatment plants, department staff scored high marks in most categories and delivered a safe product to the community's customers for the time period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2005.

"We're pleased to announce that through the drought and heavy flows, we've maintained a safe drinking water environment," Village Water-Wastewater Director Ken Mosley said.

"I'd like to extend appreciation to the plant operators for their great job of keeping the water supply going and safe."

Village water sources were listed as North Eagle Creek Wells 1, 3, and 4, the Brown Well, Green Well, Eagle Creek, Alto Lake Reservoir, Alto Well #1, Alto Well #2, the Cherokee Well, the Hollywood Well and the River Well. The sources are

• Lead and copper were detected in amounts less than half the allowed limits

• Total coliform bacteria, which indicate fecal contamination, were not detected

• A list of 10 inorganic and radioactive contaminants were either not detected or in amounts significantly lower than allowed

• Turbidity numbers fell well within the limit

treated at the Alto Crest and Grindstone Lake reservoir treatment plants.

Lead and copper were detected in amounts less than half the allowed limits. Total coliform bacteria, which indicate fecal contamination, were not detected.

A list of 10 inorganic and radioactive contaminants, including nickel, selenium, barium and fluoride, also were either not detected or in amounts significantly lower than allowed.

Turbidity numbers, which reflect sedimentation and clarity of water, fell well within the limit of less than 0.3 NTU (nephelometric turbidity unit) for 95 percent of the readings. Only one out of the thousands of readings taken during the

year exceeded.

According to information from the state ED, turbidity has no health effects, but can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth.

Out of two categories of disinfection by-products, HAA5, Haloacetic Acids, exceeded the allowed level in one reading for one quarter by 2.6 parts per billion at Grindstone, but was well under the limit on the annual quarterly average.

The other byproduct, trihalomethanes, fell below allowed limits at both Grindstone and Alto Crest.

Women's Health Services Now Available in Capitan and Carrizozo

Presbyterian Medical Group is pleased to announce that Tim Harkins, MD, (FACOG, Board Certified) is now providing services in Capitan and Carrizozo. Dr. Harkins received his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia and has been in private practice for more than a decade. He has been a member of the Lincoln County Medical Center staff since 2004 and specializes in the care of women.

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EDUCATION

Expanding higher education in Ruidoso

TODD FUQUA
todd@ruidosonews.com

Wondering how \$1.25 million dollars raised by a general obligation bond approved by New Mexico voters in 2004 has been spent? All you have to do is visit the Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso branch community college at 709 Mechem Dr.

There, you can glimpse your bond money at work, as Phase 1 of the campus' expansion is just about finished.

"This is becoming a lot more like an actual campus, not just one small part of a big building," said Community Education and Marketing Coordinator Coda Omness. "There's still some work to be done, but it's mostly just touching up. We will be ready for the first day of classes Jan. 15."

The first thing visitors and students will notice when walking into the building is the commons area. Originally the reception desk, the entire area has been transformed into an area for students and others to relax and study.

Another big addition is a larger bookstore, located in what was the only actual classroom in the entire building. Starting in March, students won't be purchasing their school texts and other supplies from a broom closet, rather from an actual functioning store.

"Mostly, offices are being moved from one place to another," Omness said. "That's why things have been so hectic around here, in addition to getting ready for the new semester to start."

With the only previously existing classroom being remade into a bookstore, the university needed more classroom space, and it's getting that with five new classrooms being added in the former storage space near the back of the building.

Each classroom can seat 30 students comfortably, and will enable ENMU to offer more daytime classes and eventually wean itself off of classroom space at Ruidoso High School.

Another major addition in the former storage space is a larger library, which will allow the university to expand its collection by approximately 2,000 titles, according to librarian Jim Pawlak.

Pawlak is also hoping to double the number of computer stations available for use



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Above Coda Omness points out blueprints for the Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso branch campus while standing in what will be the new library.

Right ENMU-R librarian Jim Pawlak sits in the current library, which is already being packed up for the move to the larger facility.



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Workers continue laboring on the main hallway in the newest addition to the ENMU-R branch campus. The hallway leads to three new classrooms and a new library.

by students, in order to allow the computer lab to be used exclusively for classes.

As ambitious as this particular phase of construction and remodeling is, it's only the beginning. Voters also passed a \$118 million bond package in November, with \$1.25 million going to ENMU-R.

That phase of construction, which Omness said would begin in 2008, would add four more classrooms, a biology and chemistry science laboratory, a construction trades and hospitality and tourism training center and construction of faculty and administrative offices.

Computer literacy pays off for local parent

Yunuen Ruiz was awarded a free computer for her participation in the Computer Literacy Program offered by Lincoln County Literacy Council and its partner agencies - Lincoln County Head Start and Lincoln County Parents as Teachers.

Yunuen attended 18 hours of class with her two daughters, Ximena and Yajaira. The Computer Literacy Program is funded in part through a grant from the Dollar General Foundation.

In Family Literacy classes parents learn how to talk to their children about books and improve the language skills of their children. Participants learn specific techniques to use when reading to their children and take home activities and books.

Children also participate in book activities with separate instructors and then with their parents. In Computer Literacy classes, participants learn basic computer skills such as word processing, email and internet use.

Family Literacy classes are scheduled at Hondo School Feb. 1-March 22 from 5-7 p.m. and in Ruidoso at the Nob Hill Parent Center April 13-June 1 from 9-11:30 a.m.

Computer Literacy classes in Ruidoso will run Jan. 11-Feb. 15 and a second session will run from Feb. 22-March 29 from 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at the Nob Hill Parent Center.

Students wishing to participate in the Computer Literacy Program must also enroll in English as a Second Language, GED or Family Literacy classes.

All classes are offered free of charge through ENMU-Ruidoso's Adult Basic Education program. For more information call Susie Morris at 630-8181 or toll free at 1-800-854-4712.

COURTESY PHOTO
Computer literacy instructor Rosy Reyes, far left, presents Yunuen Ruiz, far right, a computer donated by Ruidoso businessman John Lawrence for her participation in the Computer Literacy Program. Between the two stand Ruiz's children.



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JULIE CARTER/STAFF

Carrizozo trustee Wes Lindsay welcomes new chief Carrie Spencer to the police department Tuesday.

SPENCER

FROM PAGE 1A

lives on with husband, Stirling Spencer. "It is a commitment and requires availability whenever needed," she stated.

Open door policy

She also said the department has an open door policy and encourages citizens to come to her with their concerns.

Lincoln County Sheriff Rick Virden said he wishes Spencer the best, adding, "Her heart is in the right place. She truly cares for community and that is good for Carrizozo." As before, Virden said his department will continue to support the needs of Carrizozo when called upon.

Carrizozo is advertising for another officer but Spencer, as a working chief, said she would work short-handed before hiring the wrong person. She is considered another officer.

"I don't believe in asking them to do what I am not willing to do myself, and that includes working weekends, nights and holidays."

Spencer is also the Lincoln County probate judge. Prior to hiring, the council conferred with the state judicial ethics committee, which confirmed it was not a conflict of interest for Spencer to hold both positions as long as she did not discharge her duties as probate judge while on duty as chief.

LIBRARY

FROM PAGE 1A

6:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday."

The library is closed Sunday and Monday.

Nunley said he agrees with the advantage of longer hours on Saturday.

Acting Village Manager Bill Morris said the short hours on Saturday always bothered him and after the public gets used to the schedule, he hopes the reaction will be positive.

"We're trying it to see how the new hours work and we can always reassess the situation," he said.

Reed said the library previously was open 48 hours a week with 8 hours after 5 p.m. and on weekends, but now it is open 42.5 hours a week with 11.5 hours after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

State requirements

"The state of New Mexico requires a certain number of hours after 5 p.m. and on weekends," Reed said. "I've received as many good comments as bad on the change in hours. It's been a hard week. The second resignation came at a bad time. It's a change of lifestyle with new hours. I think we are going to make it."

But some residents are not enthusiastic about the changes at the library. One man complained to the Ruidoso News that the Internet access system was broken for quite a while, eliminating patrons access from their homes. He also lamented the loss of long-time employee Chris Mulqueen.

Morris said the Internet access, "has been an ongoing problem with the provider and with some of our equipment. I think we got it fixed Monday. We knew we had a problem."

Another resident wrote that the library suffered when village officials "dipped into the till" for unexpected emergencies.

He accused municipal officials of mismanagement and poor planning. Any new hires at the library should be floor staff and not tied up behind closed doors with administrative duties, he wrote.

Morris said the library budget wasn't touched by any emergency situations.

"We haven't touched their budget at all," he said. "And if we look at the hours and we need to change, we will. Right now, we are trying to be more frugal, but not to a point of hurting the program. I think (the new evening and Saturday hours) are a good thing and will allow more access for people who are busy during work-days."

Any replacement personnel hired he's confident will be "on-floor" staff interacting with the public, he said.

Reed said the new position was advertised as "technical office support," and the person hired will be doing the job of the employee who left, possibly "a few office tasks" and work at the circulation desk.

She credited \$30,000 allocated to the public library by the Lincoln County Commission in 2006 as helping to pull the library through this tough period.

The money was used to hire temporary personnel through

"If we look at the hours and we need to change, we will. Right now, we are trying to be more frugal, but not to a point of hurting the program."

Bill Morris
Acting village manager

the Quest service, she said. When the vacancies occurred, the temporary person was able to "fall in and take up the slack. We had the ability to have someone immediately."

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Committee on county's first Comprehensive Plan stresses water, growth

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

During the initial meeting of the steering committee for Lincoln County's first Comprehensive Plan, members boiled down some of the major issues facing the county and proposed some possible solutions. County residents will be

given a chance to offer input on what should be included in the plan at two meetings later this month in Ruidoso and Carrizozo. While the county lacks zoning, the county commission exercises some oversight of growth through a subdivision ordinance. Steering committee members at the first session were

giving guidance for drafting the comprehensive plan to staff of Sites Southwest, the firm handling the project. Items listed under the category of water supply were that only 1,000 acre feet of water rights are left for residents of Hondo Valley, that a resource inventory is needed and that under current law, land can be

subdivided where water rights already were sold. Members were worried that other counties or municipalities in Lincoln County could try to secure rights to water not yet discovered within county borders. They said the county commission needs to ensure a future water supply, but has no real jurisdiction at this point.

Tourism, a significant economy in the county, will be affected by water availability, they said. What happens when the county reaches the limits of existing water rights, they asked. With the county's fractured geology and hydrology, no one size solution or approach fits all, they concluded.

Solutions they proposed were to create a water users policy and to tie water rights to domestic wells to eliminate the possibility of drilling wells if all rights were sold. The county commission should be willing to invest money in hydro-geology studies to develop strategies, in addition to working with a U.S. Geological Survey crew doing an inventory of county water resources, they said.

Water should be used within the resident community, not transported in rights or wet water elsewhere, members said.

The 12 members of the steering committee and public attending the first session included County Commissioner Tom Battin, Commissioner Jackie Powell, County Planner Curt Temple, Cathie Eisen and Duane Frost of the county Public Lands and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee, Oscura resident Jerry Carroll and Alto resident, PLURAAC member and former commission candidate Tony Davis.

Under the category of growth, those attending said the county shouldn't grow too quickly or allow uncontrolled growth. To that end, the county subdivision ordinance should aim to create an acceptable model of growth and developers should have to provide community amenities when building subdivisions using a point system for approval. Open spaces should be required in development, they said. As one possible approach, they suggested adoption of federal conservation districts that would restrict development.

Separate distinct communities should be maintained and not allowed to merge together, they contended.

The county should maintain control over all types of subdivisions by setting minimum and maximum lot sizes and not allowing a loophole from rules for those with lots that exceed certain dimensions, members concluded. Commissioners also will face the problem of fostering broader cell phone service while trying to keep a lid on the number of cell phone towers.

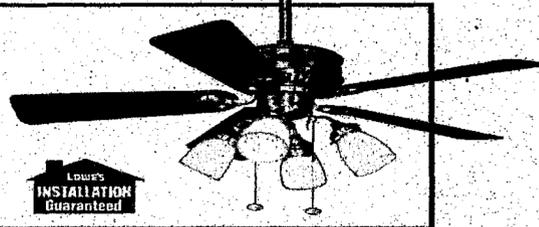
Members stressed protection of farms because of their association with the customs and culture of the county, no matter how many are left or their economic value.

Incentives could be considered to discourage ranchers from selling all of their land to subdividers when they are faced with a situation where their children do not want to farm or ranch. Possibly, a portion of a ranch could be sold to generate money to help the surviving operation, they proposed. Agricultural land trusts also could be formed.

Historic areas such as Ancho should be designated.

County residents are urged to attend one of the next two meetings on the comprehensive plan set for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Jan. 29, at the Ruidoso Convention Center, and Jan. 30, at the commission chambers in the county courthouse in Carrizozo.

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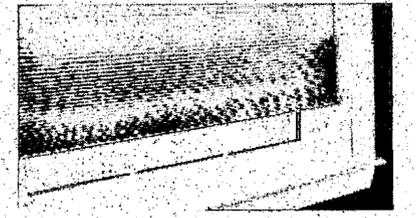
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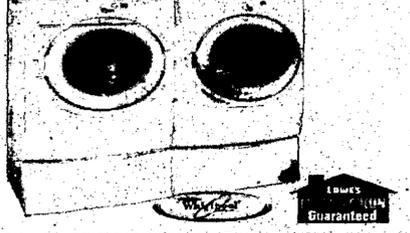


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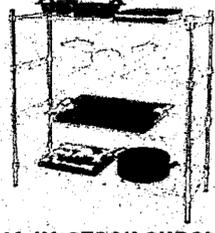
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SPORTS

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PAGE 1B

Warriors drop two to Cobre and Roswell

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

When you have makeable shots and they don't fall in, you usually don't win.

That's what happened Friday as the Warriors faced off against the Cobre Indians in a losing effort, 61-42.

"You have to make the easy shots," said Ruidoso coach Billy Page. "When you don't, it usually comes back to haunt you in the end."

Going into the third quarter, the game was still a toss-up, with Cobre leading, 29-22. Later on in the same quarter, however, foul trouble put the Warriors in jeopardy and that was "all she wrote."

Thomas Rodríguez, the leading scorer of the game with 11 points, fouled out and Ben Sanchez, who scored 10, and Kiel Burkett each had four personal fouls. Obviously, this affected the outcome of the game.

Page liked the Warriors' effort but stated, "We got beat, consistently, in the transition part of the game and that's what made the difference."

On Saturday evening, the Warriors (2-11) faced the Roswell Coyotes in Roswell and again came out on the losing end, 79-38.

"Our overall effort was outstanding for the entire 32 minutes but once again we left a lot to be desired in the transition part of the game," Page said. "It

was a running match from start to finish and even though they were bigger, we were outrun from start to finish, pure and simple."

No one single person stood out for Roswell, but the overall team speed on changeovers made the difference in the game.

Brand Franklin had a good game offensively with 13 total points, but defensively, no one took charge. Unfortunately, as in any sporting event, it takes

all three ingredients — desire, offense and defense — to win.

"Even though the Coyotes were bigger and quicker than we are, we didn't show the patience necessary and in the end it cost us," Page said. "The boys gave 32 minutes of outstanding effort but our execution on changeovers needed to be there and it wasn't."

In the meantime, the Warriors intend to practice hard on the transition part of the game for upcoming district play.

side line

Ski Report

Ski Apache
For ticket prices and latest snow totals, call 257-9001
Ski report culled from www.skiapachesnowreport.com
New snow past week: 3 inches
Weather at report time: 25 degrees and clear
Midway depth: 30 inches
Season total snowfall: 59 inches
Surface conditions: Packed powder
Skiing conditions: Good
Trails open:
Least Difficult: Bunny, Easy Street, Lower Deep Freeze, Moonshine, Snow Park, Lower SBT
More Difficult: Ambush, Chino, Meadows, East Meadows, East of East, Gerónimo, Sunnyside, Bone Yard, Capitan
Most Difficult: Wild Onion, Rover and Top Notch, Screaming Eagle, Chute, Dead End, Terrible, Incredible, Upper Peebles, Lower Peebles, Mescalero, Gallente, Upper Snow Park, Roys Run, Lincoln Lift Line, Gondola Lift Line
Lifts open: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, Gondola (weather permitting)
Trails groomed: Bunny, Easy Street, Top Notch, Lower Moonshine, Lower Snow Park, Lower Deep Freeze, Capitan Heavy
Snowmaking past 24 hours: Yes
Forecast: High of 54, cloudy

Prep Results

Thursday, Jan. 4
Boys Basketball
Smokey Bear Tournament
Mescalero 49, Capitan 44
Clovis Christian 76, Loving 63
Magdalena 64, Cloudcroft 59
Hagerman 90, Carrizozo 72
Girls Basketball
Smokey Bear Tournament
Clovis Christian 30, Capitan 28
Cloudcroft 44, Hondo 31
Hagerman 61, Carrizozo 25
Magdalena 53, Mescalero 37
Friday, Jan. 5
Boys Basketball
Cobre 61, Ruidoso 42
Smokey Bear Tournament
Clovis Christian 80, Mescalero 71
Hagerman 66, Magdalena 56
Capitan 58, Loving 45
Carrizozo 74, Cloudcroft 71 (OT)
Girls Basketball
Smokey Bear Tournament
Clovis Christian 39, Cloudcroft 33
Hagerman 50, Magdalena 42
Capitan 48, Hondo 28
Mescalero 46, Carrizozo 41
Saturday, Jan. 6
Boys Basketball
Roswell 79, Ruidoso 38
Smokey Bear Tournament
Championship
Hagerman 90, Clovis Christian 73
Third Place
Magdalena d. Mescalero, forfeit
Fifth Place
Carrizozo 61, Capitan 56
Seventh Place
Cloudcroft 67, Loving 47
Girls Basketball
Ruidoso 63, Tularosa 47
Smokey Bear Tournament
Championship
Hagerman 43, Clovis Christian 19
Third Place
Magdalena 49, Cloudcroft 24
Fifth Place
Capitan d. Mescalero, forfeit
Seventh Place
Carrizozo 60, Hondo 30
Monday, Jan. 8
Boys Basketball
Dexter JV 46, Corona 32
Girls Basketball
Corona 45, Dexter JV 26

SHINING IN SILVER

Ruidoso wrestlers show promise at Silver City

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

The Ruidoso grapplers met with individual success when they traveled to the 16-team, Silver City Tournament over the weekend. Senior Garrett Griffin, competing in the 160-pound weight class, won all of his matches as did Chase Stroud, also a senior, who wrestles in the 112-pound class.

Manny Herrera succeeded in five out of his six 171-pound matches.

The Warriors began the tourney down 24 points because they were missing wrestlers in four weight classes, but the backbone of their team came through as expected.

"We graduated a lot of seniors last year and so we're in a rebuilding process this season," stated coach Brian Brown. "But our freshmen and sophomores are achieving intermittent success and they did so at Silver City."

As the Warriors wrestle mainly Class 4A and 5A schools, it has to be a constant challenge to succeed and come out on top. But these grapplers usually do, which all good athletes seem to do.

Griffin, for instance, has lost only one match so far.

The next big event for the Warriors will be at the Joe Vivian Invite on the campus of Cibola High this Friday and Saturday in Albuquerque, where 32 teams will be competing.

"We expect to do well there and be consistent as we have been," Brown said. "That's the name of the game. In short, we anticipate individual success but at the very least it will be a great experience-builder."

Brown and the entire team greatly appreciate all community support they have received to date.



Above Garrett Griffin, in blue, puts a hold on a Cobre wrestler during the Silver City tournament this past weekend. Griffin went undefeated in the tournament, winning the title at 160 pounds.

Right Chase Stroud takes down a Farmington wrestler during his quest to win the 112-pound title at the Silver City tournament.



Second quarter is good to Ruidoso girls in win over Tulie

GIDAL KAISER
For the Ruidoso News

TULAROSA — One lengthy stretch of inconsistent play on Tularosa's part led the Ruidoso Lady Warriors to a 63-47 victory Saturday evening over the host Lady Wildcats (7-6).

Scott Saldevar's Lady Wildcats had just tied the game at 11 on LaDon Mendez's basket with 4:08 to go in the second quarter. But starting with two Hailee Bob free throws, the Lady Warriors (9-6 after Saturday) pressed their way into a 14-4 run to end the quarter and establish a 10-point lead.

Tularosa cut the deficit to 27-20 on Casey Danley's layup, but a quick 13-0 Ruidoso run put the Lady Warriors up by 20 to virtually ice the game. During Ruidoso's third-quarter run, also set up by a press defense, Tularosa missed four shots — including a putback layup

— and committed four turnovers. Ruidoso shot from 6-for-7 from the field in that stretch.

The Lady Wildcats never got closer than 17 points, and have dropped two games in a row.

"We played all right in the second half, but weren't consistent enough," Saldevar said. "We're still missing too many shots and making too many mistakes."

"We're having defensive lapses, and they're starting to come at critical stages. That's our Achilles' heel... it's the common theme the last three games."

Lady Warrior head coach Julie Montoya said the second-quarter run was the key to her team getting its focus back. Ruidoso was 6-for-10 from the field and 2-for-3 from the line; it also forced Tularosa into seven turnovers while building the 10-point cushion.

"It started with our defense, picking it up there," Montoya said. "Of course, that turns into more offense. We picked up the defense in the second quarter, and it paid off."

Saldevar said he made a call to bring a couple of inexperienced players in during the time frame to give his regulars a little rest.

"That was a mistake on my part — just for the fact we put a lot of pressure on a freshman (Dominique Disinger) to play point guard," he said. "And we lost some momentum there, and Ruidoso sucked it in and kept going."

The first 12 minutes of the game were as sloppy as a game could get. The teams combined for 17 turnovers and 34 missed shots, with at least 10 offensive putbacks that missed the mark.

"We started off real sloppy, we couldn't make any shots and nothing was dropping for us," Montoya said. "We

didn't get to the boards, either."

Ruidoso and Tularosa combined for 54 turnovers, 30 for the Lady Wildcats and 24 for the Lady Warriors.

Ruidoso was led by Haley Williams' 14 points and five rebounds. Bob added a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds, and Toney-Montoya added 11 points. Zoie Arviso grabbed five rebounds. Angela (nine) and Amber Gardner (eight) combined for 17 points.

Tularosa saw three players apiece with nine points: Danley, Ruth Gomez and Amanda Herrera. Cassie Valdez added eight points and seven rebounds, LaDon Mendez added seven points. Danley had a team-high eight rebounds and three steals.

Gidal Kaiser is the sports editor for the Alamogordo Daily News, a sister paper to the Ruidoso News.

Chief boys take fourth at Smokey Bear, all others in consolation

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

CAPITAN - The Smokey Bear Tournament in Capitan last Thursday, Friday and Saturday featured eight boys teams and an equal number of girls squads competing for first-place trophies in the mountain town.

Of the seven local teams, only the Mescalero Chiefs were able to win their opening game. By beating the Capitan Tigers 49-44, the Chiefs advanced to the winner's bracket with high expectations.

In that game, Mescalero standouts included Justin Blake with 17 points and Branson Smith and Glen Yellowcloud with 10 each.

For Capitan, Teke Eldridge scored 17 points and Travis Berryhill had a good inside game, scoring 10 in the losing effort.

Tiger coach Steve Foust asserted that the broken nose J.T. Eldridge suffered in Thursday's game hurt their chances, but key turnovers cost them more.

Capitan's second game saw a turnaround as the Tigers beat the Loving Falcons, 58-45.

"This was a big win against a district opponent and the key to this win was our successful effort to play within the system," Foust said. "It's a new system and the boys are still learning but they're improving game by game."

Saturday, Capitan met a strong Carrizozo team in the fifth-place game and lost, 61-56. Turnovers cost Capitan and they paid the price.

Friday saw Mescalero play the Clovis Christian Eagles in a losing effort, 80-71. All hopes of any further success were dashed Saturday when both Mescalero teams were unable to travel back to Capitan because of inclement weather conditions.



Mescalero forward Branson Smith, center, tries to corral the ball as Clovis Christian defenders Will Genitski, far right, and Ryan Schaap pursue Friday in the semifinals of the Smokey Bear Tournament in Capitan.

Chief coach Ron Burton was pleased with the way the boys team had played and anticipated bigger things to come until the weather stepped in to quash their remaining hopes.

"Capitan was a nicely executed game and everybody contributed to the win as we expected them to," Burton allowed. "Our boys kept constant pressure on Capitan from start to finish, allowing them no easy shots and this proved to be the deciding factor in the game."

In the second game against Clovis, the Chiefs found their match, but in all, their defense was sound and they worked the run and press well.

"We just came up a bit short in the Eagles game but everyone tried their very best to contribute as much as they could. That's all anyone should expect," Burton said.

Carrizozo's boys had to rebound from a 90-72 loss to eventual tournament champion Hagerman in the first round. The Grizzlies were actually tied with their opponent at 46-all at halftime before the Bobcats turned on the scoring in the second half.

Johnny Beltran and Casey Barela had 18 points each for Zozo, while Greg Vigil put in 12.

Friday, the Grizzlies needed overtime to fend off a determined Cloudcroft team, 74-71. Jeremy Zamora poured in 17 points to lead five Carrizozo players in double figures.

Girls

The Lady Chiefs lost to the Magdalena Steers team, 53-37 in the opening game Thursday and beat Carrizozo Friday, 46-41, before they were forced to forfeit the Capitan game

Saturday, because of the weather.

Friday's game marked the third time Mescalero and Carrizozo had faced each other, with the Lady Chiefs taking a 2-1 lead in the season series. Kaitlyn Vega had 20 points to pace Zozo, while Melanie Bell put in 15 points, Kelsey Duffy 11 and Kayla Randall 10 for Mescalero.

In the opening round Thursday, the Carrizozo girls lost to Hagerman, 61-25, but won the consolation game, Saturday against Hondo, 60-30.

Vega was the high scorer in both games with 20 and 24 points apiece, while Jennifer Shafer chipped in 11 points in the win over Hondo.

The tournament was a particularly rough one for the Hondo girls, as they also dropped one to Capitan Friday,



Capitan forward Catrina Turner (3) fights for a rebound between Hondo's Esther Gonzalez (25) and Mercedes Lopez at the Smokey Bear Tournament in Capitan.

48-28, and lost the tournament opener to Cloudcroft, 44-31.

Mercedes Lopez averaged 12 points per game for the Lady Eagles, leading her team in scoring each time.

Capitan's girls relied on Kelsey Campbell and Catrina Turner for most of their scores,

as Campbell had nine points in the Lady Tigers' 30-28 loss to Clovis Christian on Thursday, and Turner put in 13 points to lead Capitan Friday against Hondo.

Campbell also had 10 points in Friday's game, while Brittney LaMay had nine.

POOP SCOOP

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
SPECIAL TO THE RUIDOSO NEWS

After my wonderful Goblin, a 13-year-old merle Australia shepherd-Catahoula mix, died in July 2003, I received letters from many other pet owners with condolences and some heart-warming stories.

One sweet fable focused on a pet's place in heaven:

A man and his dog were walking along a road. The man was enjoying the scenery when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying, and that the dog walking beside him had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them. After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight. When he was standing before it, he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother of pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold.

He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?"

"This is Heaven, sir," the man answered.

"Wow! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked.

"Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up."

The man gestured, and the gate began to open.

"Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked.

"I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

way he had been going with his dog. After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road, which led through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence. As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book.

"Excuse me!" he called to the reader. "Do you have any water?"

"Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there." The man pointed to a place that couldn't be seen from outside the gate. "Come on in."

"How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to the dog.

"There should be a bowl by the pump."

They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the bowl and took a long drink himself, then he gave some to the dog. When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man

who was standing by the tree waiting for them.

"What do you call this place?" the traveler asked.

"This is Heaven," was the answer.

"Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too."

"Nope. That's Hell."

"Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?"

"No. I can see how you might think so, but we're just happy that they screen out the folks who'll leave their best friends behind."

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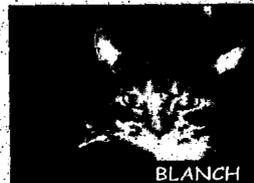
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Celebrations---Albuquerque hosts the largest hot-air balloon event in the world the first weekend in October.

Corona girls win big, boys fall to Dexter JV

MIKE CURRAN
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Good things happen to those who work hard, as the Corona Lady Cardinals found out Monday evening, beating the Dexter JV Demons 45-26. Stacey Merritt and Jordan Muncey had a great game, scoring 15 and 11 points respectively.

Overall, however, the whole team put it all together and the

score reflected a great team effort and that's as it should be.

Needless to say, coach Leon Porter was satisfied with the outcome.

"This win couldn't have come at a better time, because of the recent tough losses we suffered at the Bean Valley Tournament," Porter said.

"Those losing efforts were games we could have won but didn't and so Monday's win gave us a

big confidence boost at just the right time."

Unfortunately, the boys couldn't follow-up in the subsequent game, losing, 46-32.

The boys kept pace with the Demons in the first quarter with the score knotted at eight, and followed suit in the second quarter, tied at 19.

The third period saw Dexter pull ahead by seven, eventually building that lead by 14 and win

going away.

Ross Davis was the leading scorer for the Cardinals with 14 points. Dylan Johnson had nine by the time he fouled out, midway through the fourth quarter.

"Our leading scorers had an off night and that was the difference in the game," Porter stated. "Hopefully, we won't make the same mistake Thursday evening at home against Hondo."

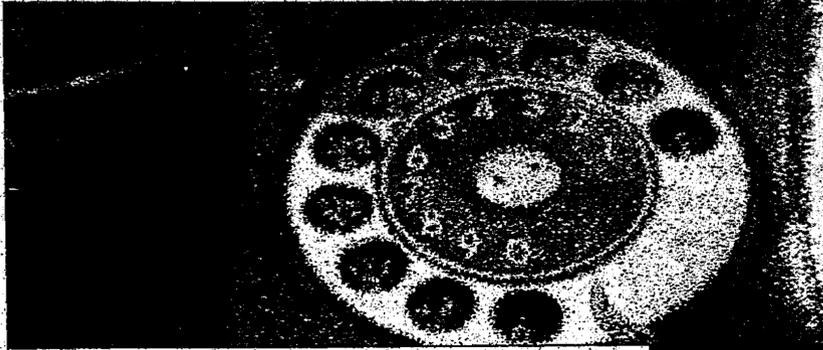
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LINCOLN COUNTY

In case it happens to me

This is not going to be meaningful or deep, so don't hunt for your hankie.

The problem is my house is a wreck. We were expecting company, so of course I was cleaning. It is also the weekend so the unending laundry process was in full motion. My brother-in-law once said, "Yeah we are behind in doing the laundry. Heck, we have two loads walking around right now."

So I was putting away, stacking up, putting away, stacking up when it occurred to me — there is not one closet in the house I would want to open in front of anyone. Big sigh here.

As one does when expecting company I started noticing things that only days before I had not noticed, like dust on knick-knacks and the top of the fridge. I just sighed and said, "What if I died and my friends had to look at this?"

I don't know how "town people" handle death but it is a well-accepted process that when a death occurs in a ranch family — you bring a casserole, water and toilet paper and be prepared to do "cleaning duty."

It's not so much that ranch women are cleaning deficit but it's that we live amongst the dirt, animals, kids and whatever. And it's a well-documented fact no one has ever gotten sick eating at a rancher's table, but you might not want to look, say, in any cabinets or let's just say on top of the fridge.

This brings to mind a couple of recent ranch deaths. I arrived, at a time I considered fairly early, to help in the kitchen (8 a.m. as I recall) with water and T.P. in hand only to be hailed out the kitchen window by three neighbors already in dishwashing mode.

The woman of the house said, "More toilet paper? More water?" I just laughed and said there is not one ranch affair that either you don't run out of toilet paper or run out of water.

There are always tears and grief at this point but also the comfortable give and take of people who have known each other for years, if not generations.

Another time that comes to mind was several years ago. I arrived to find the lady of the house not only gone but no one even knew where she was. You have to understand the "faith," for lack of a better word, that local women would just come in and start cleaning.

The knick-knacks on top of the kitchen cabinet were a little dusty and after shining up the rest of the house and still no show by the lady of the house, we decided to just do the knick-knacks.

We had not seen each other in eons, so there was a new grandbaby to discuss, a new marriage and one lady and her husband had just

bought a ranch. So obviously in this time of grief we had very joyful news to share and discuss.

It was a lesson in teamwork. I stood on the kitchen cabinet and handed things from atop the cabinets. These were hand-washed with care and dried and handed back to me. I started laughing and asked, "Did anyone

notice the order they were up here?" We laughed and tried to place them in what might have been the order we took them down. We laughed over the thought that when the funeral was over and everyone gone, the widow would at some point sit with a cup of coffee and look at the tops of her cabinets and think, "What the heck happened up there?"

It's not just funerals; it's weddings or meetings, or the lady of the house gets hurt or sick and then someone will show up with shirt sleeves rolled up and without asking — just start cleaning. It's a very comfortable process.

As I said, I don't know what "town people" do. I don't know if it includes sweeping up dog hair with out even a "tsk tsk."

I know that the idiom is when we die, if we are lucky we will have three true friends. I've given up at this point in life trying to know who my true friends will be. But whoever they are, I'd rather them find my house clean.

So for you who might be here at that time, I cleaned house today. The pantry is not perfect and the laundry isn't done. I hope to God you will just close the closet doors without looking in.

Please think enough of me to just close the door to my son's room and don't let anyone use his bathroom. Throw out the dog, wipe off the kitchen table and we should be good to go. Oh, and you might want to empty the dishwasher.

Welda McKinley Grider is a native of Lincoln County, mother, ranch wife and a true product of her rural roots.



Welda McKinley Grider

NMSU studies special algae for biodiesel production

ARTESIA — The paddlewheel steadily spins, creating an endless wake of greenish waves in the 10-foot circular stock tank at New Mexico State University's Agricultural Science Center in Artesia. Even though it seems the stationary paddlewheel isn't making any progress, it may help find the way to cleaner, renewable fuels using oil extracted from one of nature's simplest organisms: single-cell, green algae.

The NMSU science center is serving as the location of research led by the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management, based in Carlsbad.

The research is focused on developing the potential of growing algae as an oil-producing feedstock for biodiesel production.

"NMSU personnel at the Agricultural Science Center at Artesia have been absolutely instrumental in the success of the algae biodiesel project," said Doug Lynn, CEHMM interim executive director. He said NMSU is helping on two fronts — providing technical expertise through the Artesia Science Center and having NMSU College of Engineering Dean Steve Castillo serve on the CEHMM Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Council.

"He has been extremely supportive in everything we do," Lynn said.

The project is investigating the best ways to grow and harvest certain species of algae, which produce a much higher level of oil than more traditional crops like soybeans or canola.

"The oil produced from algae will process into biodiesel as easily as oil obtained from land-based crops," said a news release from CEHMM. "Algae is now considered to be one of the most critical components in alleviating the need for foreign oil. This does not, however, eliminate the likelihood of other oil-based feedstocks from being investigated. CEHMM is also collaborating with the Artesia Science Center on a project focused on the potential of growing a cold-season canola crop to generate oil for biodiesel production."

But why attempt to raise saltwater algae hundreds of miles from the nearest ocean? The tremendous reserves of brackish water, mild climate and abundant sunshine in New Mexico make good conditions for algae farmers.

"We have sunlight and space, and we have a brackish and saline water supply," said Steve Loring, assistant director of NMSU's Agricultural Experiment Station. He noted that the project was a focus of the Artesia center's annual field day in August.

In addition to space for two demonstration tanks, a supply of well water and technical expertise, the center is providing lab space for the project.

While one tank's water is agitated with a paddlewheel, researchers tried a system of pipes to circulate the water in a second tank. The results were less successful than with the paddlewheel, and the second tank is not now growing algae.

Since the tanks were established in July, technicians from CEHMM have conducted measurements almost every day of temperature, salinity, oxygen, pH and other characteristics of the water. A densimeter is used to determine the



COURTESY

Matt Mathis, left, and Roger Simmons, technicians with the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management, sample the water in a stock tank being used to grow algae at New Mexico State University's Agricultural Science Center at Artesia. Researchers are working to determine the best methods to grow and harvest the algae, which can be used to produce oil for biodiesel fuel.

density of algae in the water.

Extension agronomist Robert Flynn is the Artesia center's liaison with the project. He reviews literature that relates to the project and coordinates with the technicians, fine-tuning prior research efforts to match water and weather conditions at Artesia. Flynn also oversees the canola crop project.

The next step in the algae research, Lynn said, is to establish a larger demonstration pond at the Artesia center, about one-quarter of an acre in size.

Construction of the pond should be complete in March. The new pond will enable a broader focus on growing and harvesting the algae, as well as oil extraction processes.

A much larger demonstration project to be started in 2008 eventually will cover about 100 acres, Lynn said.

As the project expands, NMSU is expected to remain a critical partner, researching other species of algae, as well as harvesting and oil extraction techniques. "We anticipate a long and productive partnership with New Mexico State University," Lynn said.

Carrizozo will celebrate National Day of the Cowboy

JULIE CARTER
jcarter@tulalosa.net

With plans yet in a fledgling state, the day selected by the U.S. Senate proclamation for National Day of the Cowboy will be celebrated in Carrizozo honoring the heritage of the cowboy in Lincoln County.

Parented by the Carrizozo Heritage Museum, the National Day of the Cowboy celebration will be held July 28, 2007 in Carrizozo. The fourth Saturday in July is named by the national proclamation as the day of

honor, so planners are holding to that for their local event.

The National Day of the Cowboy's main goal is to bring awareness and acknowledgement of the cowboy and his culture to the public through events, education, music, art and community activities.

A steering committee for the local event has been formed and is made of up of five representative ranchers, members of the Outriders (a new horse mounted service organization), working cowboys, and museum board members.

Plans for the day will put the spotlight on the working cowboy with honor given to other cowboy venues that evolved over time including music, art, poetry and storytelling, cowboy history and educational applications.

A cattle drive, parade, art show, awards and a stage show are just a few of the elements on the table for the event that is plotted to be an annual affair.

For more information about the Carrizozo celebration, contact Roland Caster at 648-2265.

POLICE BRIEFS

LC Sheriff Department arrests

Dec. 22 — Marcus Ramos, 19, of Ruidoso, was arrested by Deputy Steve Minner. While attempting to execute a write at a residence, Minner identified Ramos as the only person at the house.

When running Ramos' driver's license, Minner discovered he had a warrant for his arrest from the Deming District Court for failure to appear for sentencing for charges of possession of a controlled substance

(meth) and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Jan. 2 — Deputy Edward Bracamonte responded to Highway 70, mile post 278, and took custody of Fernando Gutierrez, 33, of Hondo. Gutierrez had been arrested by Lincoln County Sergeant Robert Sheppard on an outstanding warrant from Roswell Magistrate Court. The charge was for failure to appear on charges of possession of a controlled substance. Court documents show

Gutierrez also pleaded guilty to charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance in 2000 in the Carrizozo Magistrate Court.

Jan. 6 — APO Officer John Lund arrested Floyd K. Ryen, of Ruidoso Downs, and placed him in custody of the Downs police. Ryen, 39, was arrested for violation of his adult parole/probation. He was transported from RDPD to the Lincoln County Detention Center by LC Sheriff Deputy Charlie LaBelle.

FUNERALS DEATHS

Douglas L. McBride Jr.

Services are pending at Ballard Funeral Home in Roswell for Douglas L. McBride of Ruidoso who passed away, Monday, Jan. 8, 2007 in Palm Desert, Calif. A further announcement will be made when arrangements have been finalized.

Mark Dolan

Prayer service for Gerald Mark Dolan, 49, of Phoenix, Ariz. was Jan. 5 in Mescalero with a funeral mass Jan. 6. Burial followed at Mescalero Cemetery. Mr. Dolan passed away Dec. 28, 2006 in Phoenix, Ariz. He was born July 15, 1957 at Mescalero and lived most of his life in Mescalero until

moving to Phoenix 10 years ago. He worked in construction and attended the Catholic Church. He married Merlinda Enjady on Dec. 7, 1997 in Phoenix. He is survived by his wife, Merlinda; children, Julette Dolan Mangas, Jerry Perajto, Brienne Dolan, Nanette Dolan, Janel Resa Dolan, Bernadine Dolan, Matthew Naiche, Montana Dolan and step-daughter, Reina Enjady; brothers and sisters, Fabian Dolan, Garrison Dolan, Adrian Dolan, Patrick Dolan, Francis Dolan, Cheryl Thompson, Anita Dolan, and Sylvia Zap; and ten grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two sons, Jeremiah Martinez and Kansas Dolan.

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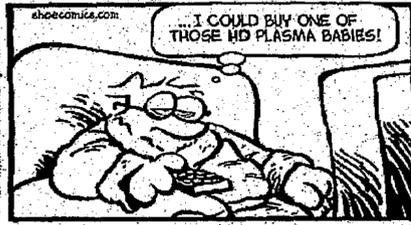
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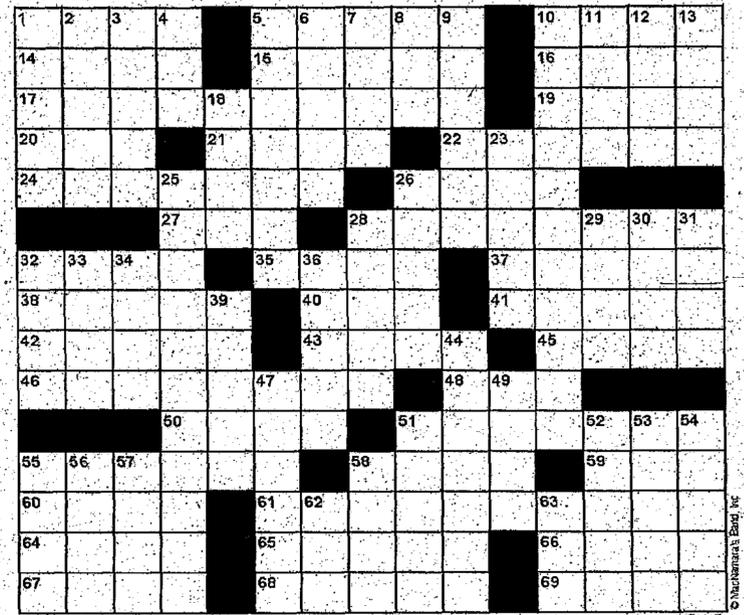
SHOE



ACROSS

- 1. Scandinavian capital
5. Big Apple theater awards
10. Orienteering aids
14. Place to moor
15. Greeting card feature
16. Equal to the task
17. Sad story
19. Keep in check
20. Room offerer
21. Drops the ball
22. Endowed with pension rights
24. Food-packing plant
26. Clockmaker
27. Notable time
28. Guitarist, at times
32. Play a big part
35. Vintners' valley
37. The New York Times, for one
38. Grub or maggot
40. Knight or bishop
41. First name in TV talk
42. Less cordial
43. Signs one's name to
45. Daily trim
46. Some files published on the Net
48. Prefix with friendly
50. Cyber-shopper's site
51. Totally drenched
55. Itty-bitty
58. "Where America's Day Begins" island
59. Actress Lupino
60. Trim to fit, maybe
61. Amphibious wheels
64. Mucky stuff
65. French river to the English Channel
66. "As ___ on TV"
67. One of equal rank
68. Gives the green light to

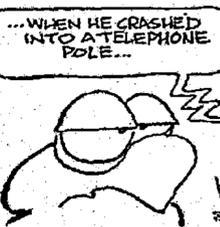
Gas Who?



DOWN

- 1. Fiber___ cable
2. Tuscany city
3. Rimas of country
4. Brulns great Bobby
5. Exceeded, as a budget
6. Rock legerid Chuck
7. Nettles
8. Language suffix
9. Central Internet computer
10. ___ Fluff (Fluffernutter ingredient)
11. Assist in wrongdoing
12. Ballet band
13. Fax button
18. Give a razzing to
23. Piece for practice
25. Source of power
28. Needed a bath badly
29. Extends across
30. Uris's "___ 18"
31. Sandberg of Cooperstown
32. Freudian ___
33. Snack in a shell
34. Dry as dust
36. Friendship
39. Tarboosh wearers
44. Mexican wraps
47. States as fact
49. Rooster topper
51. Crash test item
52. Dr. Watson
53. Beat barely
54. Pop singer Taylor
55. Sidewalk Santa, say
56. Singer Brickell
57. Word on Irish stamps
58. Explorer Vasco da
62. Stir-fry pan
63. GI-entertaining gp.

KUDZU



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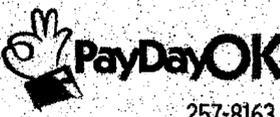
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<p>PERSONALS & ANNOUNCEMENT 100 New Mexico is governed under its original state constitution.</p>	<p>Almanac of Record Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (3rd Monday in January) Before his assassination in 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. was the foremost civil rights leader of the 1950s and 1960s, and in 1964 he won the Nobel Peace Prize.</p>	<p>Attorneys 118 Patricia S. Ortiz Attorney at Law Family Law General Civil and Criminal Litigation 714 Mechem Ruidoso 505-630-9046 Fax: 630-1222</p>	<p>Legal Notices 152 Members of the public are invited to provide comment on hearings for the issuance of or from fees of liquor license as outlined below. All hearings will be conducted at the Alcohol and Gaming Division Offices on the date specified in the table below. 505-476-4557</p>	<p>Tracking 205 Drivers: Great pay, Home/Time & More running Western Region with WERNER ENTERPRISES! 800-346-2818 ext. 130</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 Assistant Manager needed @ WORLD FINANCE 257-5840 Apply at 394 Sudderth To place a classified ad phone 257-4001 GREAT WALL OF CHINA RESTAURANT Now Hiring: Apply in Person @ 2913 Sudderth Looking for Full/Part Time Bartenders. Must have experience. Do not call. Apply at 1431 Mechem.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 NEEDED 2 ROOM ATTEN-DANTS RESPONSIBLE, RELIABLE, MATURE & SERIOUS PERSON TO APPLY @ SWISS CHALET PLEASE. Part Time Night Auditor, Work 2 nights, Friday & Saturday, 1 Front Desk Clerk. Serious We come. Must be willing to work weekends. Apply at 1431 Mechem. Ruidoso News online at www.ruidosonews.com</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 PART TIME or FULL TIME Customer Service Representative needed in busy Ruidoso office. Must have excellent telephone communication skills, computer experience, positive attitude. Excellent salary, paid holidays & more. For interview call the personnel office at 505-257-1507.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 WATER PLANT OPERATOR Salary \$17.11 hourly. Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until position is filled. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax 258-5848. Website: www.ruidoso-nm.gov "Drugfree Workplace" EEOE</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 TECHNICAL SERVICES OFFICE SUPPORT Salary \$10.62 hourly. Excellent benefit package included (vacation, sick, retirement & insurance). Applications accepted until 4:00 pm Friday, January 26, 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</p>
<p>Public/Special Notices 114 The following units at A.A. Storage Inc. 2247 W. Hwy 70 Ruidoso Downs N.M. are past due. If payment is not received within 15 days of the 2nd publications of this notice, storage items will be sold by auction Feb. 2, 2007. Unit# B-1, 32 Tony Giarratano, POBox 846, Ruidoso, NM 88355. Misc household items & 4 Wheelers not running, needs work. Wood pieces, misc. chair parts etc. Unit# F-P Josta Martinez, 401 Mechem Dr, #1, Ruidoso, NM 88345. Misc household items Unit# B-2 Galena Conanche, POBox 612, Mechem, NM 88340. Misc household items</p>	<p>Happy New Year/Special Occasions 138 Friends of Snookies McDonald Are Invited To A Potluck Dinner In Celebration Of His 90th Birthday Carrizosa Country Club Beginning 2 p.m., Jan. 13 Your Attendance Will Be Your Gift!</p>	<p>Employment To place a classified ad phone 257-4001</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 SEARCHING FOR HARD WORKERS Seeking CUSTOMER REPRESENTATIVE Part-Time Position Mon-Fri 8 am - 1 pm Must be outgoing, flexible, team player. Applications available after 4w 70 at 840 Hwy 70 E, Ruidoso Downs.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 Capitan High School Captain, NM HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT Must have or be able to obtain Level 3 Paraprofessional License. Contact: Teresa Burns, Special Education Director 505-354-8516</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 CRUISE Looking for Full/Part Time Bartenders. Must have experience. Do not call. Apply at 1431 Mechem.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 CRUISE Looking for Full/Part Time Bartenders. Must have experience. Do not call. Apply at 1431 Mechem.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 CRUISE Looking for Full/Part Time Bartenders. Must have experience. Do not call. Apply at 1431 Mechem.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 CRUISE Looking for Full/Part Time Bartenders. Must have experience. Do not call. Apply at 1431 Mechem.</p>	<p>Gen. Help Wanted 224 CRUISE Looking for Full/Part Time Bartenders. Must have experience. Do not call. Apply at 1431 Mechem.</p>

Gen. Help Wanted 224
All positions available, full & part-time. Please apply in person at Michelle's, 2703 Sudderth Dr. 257-5753

Gen. Help Wanted 224
NOW HIRING for following position: Part-time Maintenance Person Cree Meadows Country Club 301 Country Club Dr. Apply in person.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Join our great staff with part-time positions in housekeeping. Thursday & Fridays ONLY. \$8.00 per hour + tips + incentive bonus. Submit application at office 220-Crown Dr. Ruidoso. No Applications on File!

Gen. Help Wanted 224
RUIDOSO READY LABOR Daily Work Daily Pay Construction, framers, general labor, food service, housekeepers, clerical work. All Skill Levels! Apply Today! 257-7876 108 Service Rd.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Growing property management company seeks FT MAINTENANCE TECH for local apartment complex in Ruidoso Downs. Position available immediately. For consideration fax resume to 505.378.5335 or call 505.362.4500.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
ASSISTANT MANAGER Ladies Clothing Store Responsibilities include: Merchandising and pricing, working closely with office and Management personnel, plus strong customer service ability. Basic internet and computer skills required. Experience in retail plus but will consider training someone with desire and good history. Some work ends and holidays. Hours and days negotiable. Please resume in confidence to: P.O. Box 4393, Ruidoso, NM 86355

Gen. Help Wanted 224
NOTICE OF EMPLOYMENT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Body of the Town of Carrizozo is now accepting applications for one police officer. Prefer Certified/Certified by Waiver Police Officers, but will consider non-certified. Salary is \$11.45 per hour and certified is \$12.45 per hour. Applications and job descriptions may be obtained at Town of Carrizozo Town Hall, P.O. Box 247, 400 9th Street, Carrizozo, NM, 88301. Position open until job is filled. The town of Carrizozo is an E.O.C. in compliance with ADA Title II-A.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Leann Wehrbach, CMC Town Clerk/Treasurer Town of Carrizozo To place a classified ad phone 257-4001

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Leann Wehrbach, CMC Town Clerk/Treasurer Town of Carrizozo To place a classified ad phone 257-4001

Gen. Help Wanted 224
THRIVING BUSINESS NEEDS COMPETENT FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEES. MUST KNOW ELECTRIC. CAL PLUMBING CARPENTRY. MUST OWN TOOLS & HAVE TRANS. FORTIFICATION & VALID DRIVERS LICENSE. SWIMMING POOL EXPERIENCE A+. SUBJECT TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING. GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR A DEPENDABLE PERSON. MAIL RESUME AND PHONE CALL TO: FLOYERS TO PO BOX 7353 RUIDOSO NM 86355 BY 1/24/07

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Travelodge: Full-time housekeeper. No experience necessary. Apply in person at 159 W. Hwy 70.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Village Hardware now has full time delivery warehouse employees. No phone calls. 2815 Sudderth, Ruidoso.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Village Hardware now has full time sales, post office employees. 2815 Sudderth, Ruidoso.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Business Opportunity 244
GOLF ETC. Golf shop franchise. A whole lifestyle opportunity. 800-806-8633 To place a classified ad phone 257-4001

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Local builder looking for investor for spec. Houses. 257-5963

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 because 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.

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Townhouses/Condominiums 342
Great downtown location. 2bd/2 ba, \$775/mo + utilities. \$500 Dep. Jennie 505-630-9900

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Townhouses/Condominiums 342
Furnished River Front Home. Choice of (2) 3 BR/2.5 BA or one unit combined. Fully furnished. Monthly rent for rates. 925/427-9783

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Townhouses/Condominiums 342
1 & 2 BR Furnished Condos. Utilities Included. 257-2511

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Furnished Houses 350
Bring your toothbrush. Full furnished. 1 car garage. 1/2 car garage. \$995/mo w/rent/agent. 937-0513

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
Grand floor apt. upper canyon. 1BR/2BA \$550. No incl. utility. 257-8839

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
2BR. Gas/water p.d. Washer/dryer hookups. Appliances, central loca. lin, no pets. FE Single. \$550. Couple/\$600. Ref. required. Deposit. Lease req. 623-3360

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
Rainbow Terrace Duplex apartment for rent. 2 bedrooms. 1 ba. Fireplace. Pkic area/Playground. Nice view. Tranquil hill central area. All appliances. Ref. \$625 to 5700. Mo. or longer lease. 257-2000

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
2BD/1BA Unfurnished includes Large Storage Right, Gas Fireplace, W/D. Newly Refinished \$675. Plus Utilities. 258-5877

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
Furnished Efficiency Cabin. \$390/mo. Midtown. utilities paid. Clean & Cozy. 258-5877

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
The Capital apartments. Large 2 & 3 Bedroom apartments. Long term lease. \$525/month. Convenient location. School System. Walking distance. 354-0967

Gen. Help Wanted 224
Farm. Apts. - General 314
UNFURNISHED 1 & 2 BDR O.A.M. A.P.A.R.T. MENTS. PAID. NO PETS. 258-3111

Furn. Apts. - General 314
MOVE IN SPECIAL Refurbished Apts & motel rooms (Nighly). Rentals. 1 & 2 Bedrooms Apts. All bills paid. Sierra Blanca views. No pets. Phone & cable included. Call Landlord. 257-8905

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309 Carters Lane 1bd/1 ba. water & gas paid. \$550 mo-\$450 dep. Close to Midtown. 257-2494 NO PETS!

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CAMELOT PLACE APARTMENTS Now taking applications: 1, 2, 3 Bedroom apartments. Rent assistance available. Certain income restrictions apply. Call 257-5897. TTD 1-800-659-8331 Equal Housing Opportunity & Equal Housing Provider.

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Bring your toothbrush. Full furnished. 1 car garage. 1/2 car garage. \$995/mo w/rent/agent. 937-0513

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Land/Acreage 442
LAST CHANCE TO OWN! ABANDONED FARMING/INDUS RETIREMENT 20 Acres - \$24,900 Old Farming and Mining Community, Incredible Scenery, including frequently running River, Spring, Views and Diverse Topogra. phy. Excellent Financing. Few Lots Remain! Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-824-5263 or visit www.SantaRitaRanches.net

Land/Acreage 442
ADJACENT TO LAKE SUMNER 10 Acres - \$15,900 Rare Riverfront Property in NM Incredible Scenery, Views and Diverse Topography. 5 miles to Running Pecos River. Views and Diverse Topography. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-204-9754 or visit www.RiverRanches.net

Land/Acreage 442
35/2ba Doublewide, \$725/month \$500/dep. In Ruidoso. Call 257-8444 ask for Frank

Land/Acreage 442
611 MAIN UPPER CAN YON Large 1bd/1ba cabin w/ water, electric, convenient location. 500.00 down payment. Gas. No pets. 10 month lease required. 806-592-8091 or 806-549-3798

Land/Acreage 442
FOR SALE 1971 Hensley 12' x 60, water driven wood stove, new H2O tank. 937-1871

Land/Acreage 442
Very nice 3 bd, 2 ba. mo. bi. \$85,000. 2000 down. 2 bd, 1 ba. with detached 1 room and bath. Totally remodeled. \$69,000. 937-3059

Land/Acreage 442
CAUTION FLAMMABLE Firewood for sale, seasoned Juniper, Cedar, Locust. You pick up. We deliver call 808-1797 or 937-8072

Land/Acreage 442
Misc. Items 625
Chic, glew, progane, vent free, freestanding fire place. In floor. New. Pd. \$450. Sell \$350. 808-0138

Land/Acreage 442
PONTAINE snowboard machine. 14' wide. belt including freestyler. Cheap brown in floor. New. Pd. \$450. Sell \$350. 808-0138

Land/Acreage 442
New Snow Blower. Crafted in hawaii. \$500. O.B.O. 335-4619

Land/Acreage 442
PIANO LESSONS Openings available. Reasonable Rates. 257-5284 or 937-5022

Land/Acreage 442
Piano Tuner in town Jan. 11 & 12. Call for ap pointment. 937-5022

Land/Acreage 442
1980 Toyota MRV Savannah \$5,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Land/Acreage 442
1982 Chevy Allegro \$4,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Land/Acreage 442
Chevy Silverado '03. 1500. 122K. \$10,450. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

Land/Acreage 442
Chevy Silverado '03. 1500. auto. \$8,950. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

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Chevy Silverado '03. 1500. auto. \$8,950. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

Animals 700
AKC Schnauzer puppies. From \$600 to \$1,200. Call & white-puppi & black, Mini & Teacups. 378-0089

Animals 722
English Bulldog Pup 12wks old, beautiful markings, AKC Registered Wormed, Vet Checked, \$500. For more information Call (201)795-8201 or email: (clone_kindred@yahoo.com)

Animals 722
Female english bulldog. Timi is so Sweet and lovable. She loves to be held and in your lap. She is pretty small. She is ready for new home. She is AKC Reg. This PUPPY Will Get To Your Heart to know more about my baby, you can contact me via email at (choice_pets@yahoo.com) thanks!

Animals 722
Pug puppies 3 black & 2 brown. \$400/ea. Shots & 808-0536

Animals 800
1971 Bonanza 17ft Flare. \$1,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1978 NUWA 29FI-5W \$3,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1994 Fleetwood Savanna \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1994 HILO 30FI \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1994 Sunnysbrook \$6,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1994 Tab \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1996 Holiday Rambler \$10,500 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1998 Rockwell/Merit Lite \$6,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 800
1998 Terry SW \$4,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 810
1980 Toyota Odyssey \$3,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Animals 810
1982 Chevy Allegro \$4,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

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Chevy Silverado '03. 1500. 122K. \$10,450. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

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Chevy Silverado '03. 1500. auto. \$8,950. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

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Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
1997 Dodge Ram Ext. Cab \$5,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2003 Ford F-150 \$330/Month 505-521-1900 Saturn Las Cruces

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2003 Ford F150 XLT \$219/Month 505-524-4227 Tower Auto Sales

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2003 Ford F-150 \$299/Month 505-524-4227 Tower Auto Sales

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
Ford F-250 '03 XL Auto. a/c. \$9,450. 1-800-970-3944 DLR

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
Ford F250 2001. XL S. Cab. 139K. ac \$8,950. 1-800-970-3944 DLR

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
Ford F250 2000 XL \$7,995. pwr stroke 1-800-970-3944 DLR

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
1992 Ford F-250 Supercab \$5,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
Ford F-350 2001. C. Cab. \$9,850. 1-800-970-3944 DLR

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
1999 Ford F-350 Crew Cab \$13,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2001 Ford Ranger Ext. Cab \$11,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2001 Ford Sport Trac \$11,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2001 GMC Sierra 4X4 \$4,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
1990 GMC Sportside 4X4 \$4,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910
2004 Dodge Durango \$15,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

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2004 Dodge Durango \$15,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Sport Utility 912
BMW X5 3.0i S/R. Leather. Low mi. 1-866-201-4409 INDY

Sport Utility 912
Cadillac Escalade EXT '02 S/R. Leather. Car Connection. 1-866-201-4409 INDY

Sport Utility 912
2000 Chevrolet Blazer 4X4 \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Sport Utility 912
2003 Ford F150 XLT \$219/Month 505-524-4227 Tower Auto Sales

Sport Utility 912
2003 Chevrolet Suburban \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Sport Utility 912
2003 Chevrolet Tahoe \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Sport Utility 912
2003 Chevrolet Venture \$7,900 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Sport Utility 912
2001 Chevy Blazer \$5,995 505-527-8697 Levi Auto Sales

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Equinox LT '05 \$14,995. S/R AWD. 1-866-201-4409 INDY

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Suburban '02. 271. Auto. \$16,500. 915-842-9946 dlr

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Suburban '02. 4x4. a/c. \$11,950. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Tahoe '03. 4x4. auto. \$16,495. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

Sport Utility 912
1999 Chevy Tahoe \$11,995 505-527-8697 Levi Auto Sales

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Tahoe '99. 4x4. auto. a/c. \$9,500. Call 1-800-970-3944 dlr

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Trailblazer \$219/Month 505-524-4227 Tower Auto Sales

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Trailblazer '02. 271. Auto. \$16,500. 915-842-9946 dlr

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Trailblazer '02. 4x4. a/c. \$14,950. 1-800-970-3944 dlr

Sport Utility 912
Chevy Trailblazer EXT '03. \$12,995 505-525-1930 Car Connection

Sport Utility 912
2003 Mazda Tribute ES \$3,995 505-527-5359 Las Cruces Toyota

Sport Utility 912
Mazda Tribute EX '02 \$9,995. V6. 4X4. S/R. 1-866-201-4409 INDY

Sport Utility

Auto For Sale #17
Lexus '00 RX300 S/R, CD, Clean, 1-866-201-4409 INDI

1990 Lincoln Good condition, low miles, good gas mileage, leather interior, NEW suspension (\$3,500), new heads (\$1,400) \$9,200 Call Joe 808-0282.

Lincoln LS '00 \$9,995. Leather, S/R, X-Clean. 1-866-201-4409 INDI

2002 Mazda 626 LX \$7,998 505-523-5566 Las Cruces Toyota

2002 Mazda Protege \$5,900 505-527-8697 Levi Auto Sales

Mercedes SLK Roadster 320 '01 hard top. 1-866-201-4409 INDI

Mercury Gr. Marquis '98 Auto, ac, lthr. 915-858-9795 Desert Auto.

2003 Mercury Sable LS Wagon \$9,998 505-523-5566 Las Cruces Toyota

2004 Mitsubishi Galant ES \$262/Month 505-521-1900 Saturn Las Cruces

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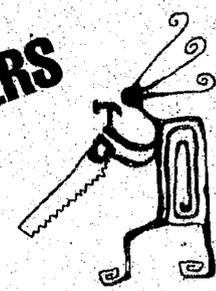
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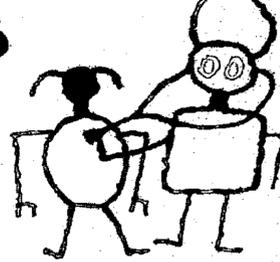
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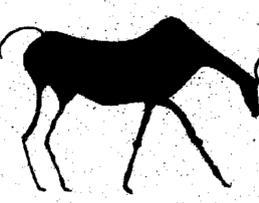
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