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LINCOLN COUNTY'S #1 NEWS SOURCE

OCT 23 2007

RUIDOSO NEWS

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MODERATE**

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'Misled'

River Resort condo development reveals holes in the planning and enforcement side of major village projects

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

A building at the River Resort condominium project on Eagle Drive apparently was repositioned without prior approval from the planning division to protect two old-growth trees.

Members of a Ruidoso Village Council-appointed task force Monday reviewed drawings submitted at different periods during two reviews of the 37-unit complex by the village Planning

and Zoning Commission and two appeal hearings by the Village Council. They looked at minutes from those meetings and questioned how some issues they considered important during the planning commission reviews contained on tape were left out of the official minutes.

After about two hours, they agreed to submit questions to the staff to answer dealing with the timing of various changes, easements, how minor plan amendments are defined and processed, building height, flood plain elevations and other issues.

Task Force Chairman Angel Shaw, a village councilor, said while she sympathizes with the staff shortfall in the planning department and code enforcement, following up to ensure major developments comply with approved plans should be paramount.

"These projects that affect us long-term should take priority over inoperable vehicles and nonconforming signs," Shaw said. If something slips through that proves detrimental to the village, "We're still accountable."

In a recent conversation at the site

with Councilor Greg Cory and developer Sunny Van Haselen, Shaw said Van Haselen said he would create a "meandering" river walk between the buildings and the Ruidoso River. He acknowledged that having an 8 foot easement mostly underwater did not fulfill the purpose obviously intended by the council for a pathway, she said.

Village Attorney Dan Bryant said he checked the site and, "There is plenty of room between the building and the river

See COMPLY, page 8A

STIR CRAZY



Rotarian Denton Colvin gets a workout stirring the beans during Tuesday's Rotary Enchilada Dinner at Ruidoso High School. An estimated 750 hungry diners turned out for the annual charity event.

Top of the charts: Sewer rates to go higher

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

A proposed new charge for sewer system improvements and a rehabilitated wastewater treatment plant, when coupled with existing sewer rates, will propel Ruidoso near the top of a statewide chart.

But at a workshop Monday, village councilors said they have little choice but to approve

the increase next month, because more revenue is required to cover the cost of mandated improvements to the treatment plant to reduce nitrogen and phosphorous contaminants in the discharge into the Ruidoso River.

The proposed wastewater base surcharge and a commodity charge for residential and commercial service recommended by Red Oaks

Consulting representatives essentially is a flat fee across the board, depending on meter size.

But councilors said in one year they expect a study to look at capturing more revenue from high-use commercial accounts, such as hotels, to more equitably distribute the financial burden now carried by residen-

See SEWER, page 9A

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CONFERENCE KUDOS

A beaming Lincoln County Treasurer Beverly Calaway, second from left, shares kudos from the New Mexico Association of Counties in the form of a plaque recognizing the outstanding 71st annual conference staged this year in Ruidoso. Calaway said the event out-distanced all other previous NMAC conferences in attendance. She thanked volunteers, business owners, elected officials and their staffs for all their help. From left are County Finance Officer Charlene "Punkin" Schlarb, NMAC executive board member Calaway, Commission Chairman Tom Battin, County Clerk Tammie Maddox and County Assessor Rick Silva, NMAC President.

DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

Voting machines worked, but are on the way out

The county converted to an electronic system for elections, then the state decided to return to paper ballots

DIANNE STALLINGS dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Trying to maintain a positive spin, but with irritation showing through their words, Lincoln County commissioners and the county clerk discussed the status of voting machines.

Like many other county clerks in New Mexico, Tammie Maddox was pleased when she converted to an electronic system, which delivered results in a timely and accurate manner. Then state legislators decided they wanted to return to paper ballots and they promised counties that had expended large sums of money on newly purchased voting machines they would be compensated.

County 'fortunate'

The legislation passed, but the money seems to be lagging, Maddox told commissioners. Lincoln County is fortunate it only owes about \$28,000, she said. Some counties owe more than \$1 million.

"I would rather we didn't have to use paper ballots, but we have to accept it," she said of the statewide ordered shift.

"What do we do with the machines we bought?" County Commissioner Eileen Lovelace asked.

Maddox said they are stored. She's had a few calls and the secretary of state is trying to sell them, she said. In the background could be heard the comment, "To a more progressive state."

"They never gave us any problems," Maddox said. "I'll be sorry to see them go."

While a waiver for any debt connected to the purchase of

the now unusable machines was intended and she hasn't been required to make any payments to date, a moratorium on payments ends in December, she said.

Oscara resident Jerry Carroll asked if ballot counting will occur in-house with the state-mandated machines.

Maddox said the machines essentially are tabulators. Tapes of the results are printed before a memory card is taken out and downloaded to Santa Fe, "as a security measure," she said.

Another cost the county will face from the change of machines is that the maintenance agreement the state signed with the manufacturer will expire after October and will cost \$13,000 a year to continue, a sum she considers "very high."

The county clerk's affiliate with the New Mexico Association of Counties is trying to negotiate a lower figure, she said.

"The machines were sold to the state and that's their price for maintenance and they shoved it down our throats," Maddox said. "They won't even allow us to train our own (electronics) maintenance people on the machines."

Commission Chairman Tom Battin asked if the machines have been used yet and Maddox said they were in the last general election.

"They're good machines and accurate," she said. Out of 28, "only one gave us problems."

With no other option, commissioners approved Maddox signing to accept 28 M-100 voting machines and 22 Auto-

marks.

In another election-related issue, Maddox secured approval of polling places for the 2008 elections.

She pointed out that for the Nov. 6 special property tax levy election for the Lincoln County

Medical Center, ambulance service and rural health clinics, some precincts are being consolidated.

Although she realized the timing was confusing, the list presented Tuesday was for 2008, she said.



The Mill Levy Means Excellence

"I am proud to be associated with a healthcare organization whose mission is to improve the health of individuals and families in Lincoln County. LCMC takes great pride in a

commitment of delivering excellent patient care and creating high

patient satisfaction. No matter if

you are a resident or visitor of

Lincoln County, our caregivers

ensure high quality health care is

accessible to everyone. In fact, we

offer a broad range of services you'd

expect to find only in a larger

metropolitan area. You can feel

good about supporting an

institution that makes a positive

impact in your community.

It's important that we keep

the mill levy intact."

Brandi D. MPT

Adm. Serv.

Rural Health

LCMC



On November 6, it's important that you vote to keep exceptional health care in Lincoln County. Vote yes for the mill levy.

Lincoln County Medical Center

PRESBYTERIAN

www.phslcmc.org

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RUIDOSO NEWS contact information: 104 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 128 Ruidoso, N.M. 88355 • Telephone (575) 257-4001 • Fax (575) 257-7053. GLENAS ORCUTT PUBLISHER, EXT. 3; MARTY RACINE EDITOR, EXT. 18.

NEWSROOM contact list: Dianne Stallings (General Assignment reporter, Ext. 22), Todd Fuqua (Business, Education editor, Ext. 19), Mike Curran (Sports editor, Ext. 5), Julie Carter (County reporter, Ext. 23), Sandy Kashmar (Entertainment, Vamonos editor, Ext. 15). Chris Gonzales, Circulation Coordinator.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING contact list: Sheri Parker (Advertising Director, Ext. 9), Diane Gremillion (Account Executive, Ext. 7), Theresa Rathgeber (Account Executive, Ext. 6), Harold Oakes (Account Executive, Ext. 14), Kelly Caprice (Inside Sales, Ext. 8), James Goodwin (Classified Receptionist, Ext. 12).

RUIDOSO NEWS OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

Glenas Orcutt, publisher
Marty Racine, editor

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OUR OPINION

There will be no moratorium, but...

...we have other tools to protect and shape our county

The county's Visioning Committee says there is no need for a building moratorium in Lincoln County.

The committee says the county already is equipped with the tools, as outlined in the recently adopted comprehensive master plan, to manage orderly growth.

This doesn't surprise us. When the Visioning Committee was formed in the wake of a 3-2 County Commission defeat of a possible six-month moratorium, it was clear which way the hammer was going to fall.

When an issue appears pre-ordained, one does question the thoroughness and sincerity of the process.

Nevertheless, we agree with

some of the cautionary aspects of the committee's recommendations, which were presented to a special County Commission meeting last week.

If growth is inevitable, even desirable, the committee recognizes the need to preserve the county's rural nature. It suggests developing water and density regulations, policies to protect public lands, partnering with the state to develop water models and consideration of partial zoning.

We trust the revamped subdivision ordinance will offer details and enforcement procedures, but let's toss the concept of a moratorium out of the toolbox and use everything at our disposal to protect our assets.

He holds the title for most boring job in New Mexico

Those who don't know Fred Nathan have to figure he leads the most boring life in New Mexico.

Spends his evenings sitting in straight-backed wooden chairs. Orders tapioca for dessert. Can't wait for Saturday morning and the next dominoes tournament. Promises Arlyn a hot night on the town and takes her to Burger King.

I mean, why else would this guy, the executive director of Think New Mexico, be focusing his attention on an industry as drab as title insurance? Title insurance. Isn't that the business so blah it



NED CANTWELL LOOKING ASKANCE

holds its annual conventions in old school gymnasiums and has Kentucky Fried Chicken cater?

Those familiar with Fred and the track record of Think New Mexico know better. And they know the title insurers are anything but boring. Those folks are gathering at a posh hotel, revving up for a legislative showdown with Nathan who is known for tipping dominoes and creating huge ripple effects.

When Nathan draws a bead on you, you've got to feel like Custer did at Little Bighorn. He and his Think New Mexico get all or most of the credit for ending the sales tax on food, the beginning of full-day kindergarten, and lottery reform designed to put more money into college scholarships.

Think New Mexico is a ship that welcomes aboard the disadvantaged of our state, and Nathan is builder and captain. His latest campaign is based on the premise that New Mexicans are getting screwed by a system where title insurance costs are set by state government.

Deregulate the industry and watch costs plunge, is the Think Tank theory.

There is evidence to suggest Nathan is right. New Mexico's title insurance law is the envy of the title industry in other states. Translation: consumers beware.

While our prices are fixed, in neighboring Colorado title insurance consultant Gary Wolf told the *Denver Post* title insurance

costs can vary by as much as \$500 on a \$110,000 condo. So what, says Jim Maher, of the American Title Land Association, a title-industry trade group. "If you've ever been to a closing, you know it doesn't take much to screw something up. You want to have someone who has been there before. Is it worth paying...more to have that? Or is it better to pay some newbie to do it on a discounted basis?"

The rub, of course, is that in our state the newbie, the veteran, the guy with excellent service, the outfit that gives shoddy treatment, are all getting the same rate. What sense does that make?

Deregulation, letting the free market work its magic, seems the obvious solution in New Mexico, one of only three states in the country where the state fixes the price, according to the Associated Press.

In a *New Mexico Business Weekly* story, the cost for title insurance on a \$950,000 house in Washington State is said to be \$600. Purchase a \$300,000 home anywhere in the New Mexico and you will pay \$1,248, Think New Mexico says.

The unambiguous headline of a *Rio Grande SUN* editorial supporting Think Tank's position shouts: Title Insurance Stinks.

"Guv, put title insurance on legislative 'call,'" suggests the headline of *The Santa Fe New Mexican* editorial supporting Think Tank. "Properly done, that reform could save New Mexicans \$40 million a year," the editorial suggests.

And *The Albuquerque Tribune* says, "...it's significant that in one of the nation's poorest states, state regulation of title insurance isn't really doing consumers any favors."

Knowing Nathan's record, we're guessing title insurance reform is likely to happen, sooner or later. You can bet the house on it.

NED CANTWELL welcomes response at ncantwell@beyond-bb.com.

Quite possibly, the only River Walk we'll ever have...



Doug McLeod 07
Ruidoso News

YOUR OPINION • HOSPITAL MILL LEVY VOTE

Editor's note: As we approach the Nov. 6 vote whether to increase the mill levy to fund the current operation of the Lincoln County Medical Center, readers have been weighing in on both sides. The Ruidoso News will continue to present opinions as letter-writers furnish them, with the hope the dialogue inspires Lincoln County property owners to vote on Nov. 6.

Yes

To the editor:

I LEARNED SOMETHING about the hospital mill levy today that I didn't know, and I bet many other people don't know. I thought in the Nov. 6 election that if the mill levy failed, that we would just go back to the 3.00 mills that we currently pay.

I was wrong. If the mill levy isn't passed, the tax assessment is zero. That makes the election a whole different ball game.

No

To the editor:

THANK YOU REYNALDO Valcarcel and Michele Rebstock for your comments in Friday's paper [Oct. 12]...bringing us more facts before we vote. Let us add to that list.

The Lincoln County Medical Center (LCMC) mill levy tax is not a "renewal" or a "continuation" as described in radio and print ads. It is an increase in the cap from 3 to 4.25 mills and perhaps an increase in what we pay from 2.6 to 4.25 mills - a 42-63 percent increase.

In the *Ruidoso News* last month, County Assessor Rick Silva was quoted at a Lincoln County Commissioners' meeting as saying that the existing 3 mill cap would bring in plenty of money because of the increases in property improvements and valuations already occurring in the county. Capital projects at LCMC could be funded, but maybe not as quickly as Presbyterian Healthcare Services (PHS) wants.

Two years ago, when PHS approached the county commission to renew their contract one year earlier than the normal negotiation period, only Commissioner Earl Hobbs was suspicious. Maybe PHS already had their plans for capital expansions.

The commissioners also did not allow other bidders to submit competing proposals to manage the Lincoln County facilities. Not only that, PHS requested

Rural areas need their clinics

If we don't have a mill levy then there is no Carrizozo Clinic, no Corona Clinic, no Rose Clinic, no support for Honda Clinic, no new ambulance equipment, and the list goes on and on and I am sure it would happen quickly.

Most important to me at my age, 81, is there would be no expansion of the hospital facility or addition of new services or medical staff.

My cardiologist comes here once a month and that saves me travel. Without the ability to expand, LCMC won't have any extra free space for my physician to use here in Ruidoso. That service alone is very important to all my fellow senior citizens who need specialists that are not here in Ruidoso.

I think that everyone should realize

that we must pass the mill levy to be able to have a hospital that can help us as we age and become more complicated patients.

We must have clinics in the rural areas that have the ability to offer healthcare with financial aid and sliding scale prices to young families without insurance and seniors that have fixed incomes.

I finally understood that without this mill levy, none of that would be available to anyone.

That is why I urge everyone to vote Yes to pass the mill levy so that there will be healthcare in Lincoln County, regardless of age or financial situation.

Mac H. Smith
Ruidoso

It's not a renewal but an increase

that negotiations be secret and conditions not be disclosed for proprietary business reasons.

Thank you, Commissioner Hobbs, for your insights. You were right!

Have you ever seen a tax lowered or repealed once it is in place? There always seems to be something else to spend it on. Politicians at all levels forget that it is not their money, but the people's money!

Don't get us wrong, we enjoy the services of LCMC like everyone else in the county, and we are all for good healthcare. But, we think the PHS managers should get creative, prioritize their wish list of expansions (maybe reintroduce some of those lost services outlined by Michele Rebstock) and live within a budget like all of us.

And, if they cannot do it, maybe it is time to look for another organization that can.

Harvey and Kathryn Minter
Alto

Reason to pause

To the editor:

JUST A QUICK NOTE to commend Michele Rebstock for having the courage and for taking the responsibility for the Guest Commentary article in Friday's issue.

I'm of course referring to the mill levy increase now being put before voters in the county seeking a huge increase in the taxpayer's burden of subsidizing Presbyterian Healthcare Services.

It's hard for the average citizen to sort the wheat from the chaff when the chaff is composed of heavyweights who have

something to gain personally from raising the mill levy and will do whatever it takes to influence the voting in their favor.

It's always wise for voters to have both sides of the coin shown to them before voting to "donate" it to Presbyterian.

Reynaldo Valcarcel also deserves praise for his Letter to the Editor in Friday's issue. Hopefully the two of them have given citizens reason to pause and consider before voting on the mill levy increase.

J.L. Schuller
Ruidoso

LETTERS POLICY

The *Ruidoso News* encourages letters to the editor, especially about local topics and issues. Each letter must be signed and must include the writer's daytime telephone number and mail address. The phone number and mailing address will not be printed; the hometown will be. The telephone number will be used to verify authorship. No letter will be printed without the writer's name.

Letters should be no more than 300 words in length, of public interest, and free of libel; editing will be for length, grammar or spelling. Shorter letters are preferred and generally receive greater readership. The *Ruidoso News* reserves the right to reject any letter. Longer by-lined "Guest Commentary" articles will be considered; call the editor at 257-4001.

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

OPINION
GUEST COMMENTARY

Not everyone needs 'the best healthcare system in the world'

J.R. DIECKMANN
GreatAmericanJournal.com

Democrats and some Republicans seem to be trying to make government run healthcare the major issue for voters to consider in the coming elections. The only real reason for this trend is the candidacy of Mrs. Clinton whose only real issue is socialized healthcare. Her agenda is total socialism, but healthcare is the only issue she can get away with promoting publicly.

"It's all about the children," she says. "We have to provide healthcare for the low-income children." Mrs. Clinton's idea of "low-income children" is a 24-year-old living at home with a family income of up to \$80,000 annually.

Obviously, this is not about the children. It's about government control over your healthcare in the hands of politicians who won't stop until they have control over every aspect of your life.

It is neither the job, nor the constitutional duty of the federal government, to provide for the people. That is what communist governments do. The job of providing for the people in America is reserved to individual initiative and the free enterprise system.

It is the job of the federal government to deal with issues of national and international interests on behalf of its citizens. This includes national security, defending the borders, building interstate highways, providing postal service, a court system, etc. It does not include providing healthcare and other social services except for military veterans.

Why does our Constitution not authorize our government to provide these services? Because in America we have two things that are specifically designed to do that: the free enterprise system and charities. The government is not authorized by the Constitution to compete with either of these, nor is it necessary. Living in America means accepting personal responsibility and taking advantage of the free enterprise system to provide for yourself and your family. That is what America is all about and what separates it from other countries and makes it special to be an American.

The job of caring for the children belongs to the parents of those children, not the government or the taxpayers. That is the responsibility you are expected to take on when you make babies. The working plan of the Democratic Party today is to destroy the family and replace it with government regulations and services at the wage earners' expense. "We're going to take things away from you on behalf of the common good," says Mrs. Clinton. What she wants to take away from you is your freedom, your liberty and your money.

Dangerous times
Americans today are living in very dangerous times. Not only from the threat of Islamic terrorism, but even more so from the threat posed by those who control the Democratic party and under the financial thumb of George Soros. The only reason Democrats can now outspend Republicans in campaigning is the millions upon millions of dollars Soros is pouring into causes that ultimately end up in the campaigns. Soros owns the Democratic party. If Soros wants socialized medicine in America, then let him pay for it. He can afford it better than we can. Government-run healthcare is just another tool

Soros and the Democrats are using to usher in socialism in America.

High cost of healthcare

The real problem with healthcare is not how do we pay for it, but the high cost itself. I hear politicians offering all kinds of ideas on how to pay for healthcare, but I don't see any of them addressing the root of the problem, the high costs.

In that respect, I would like to make a few suggestions. I am not a health expert or an economist, but some things just make good common sense. No one disputes the fact that we have the best healthcare in the world.

The problem is that not everyone can afford the best healthcare in the world, just like not everyone can afford a Ferrari. Most Americans don't even need the best healthcare in the world, just a good family physician.

In my business as an electrician, a customer will occasionally ask me, "Is it possible to do this, or that?" I tell them that anything is possible, it's just a matter of cost. It's the same with the medical industry which has, by now, made almost anything possible with human health except a cure for the common cold. That is something they will never do because there is too much money to be made in cold remedies that treat the symptoms but don't cure the cold.

Technical advances in medicine come with a high cost and it is mostly the insurance companies that pay that cost. Those costs are then passed on to the policy holders in the form of higher premiums. The average person might see a doctor once a year but ends up paying thousands of dollars for those few visits. There has to be a better way.

Get the lawyers out

One of the major costs of healthcare today is lawsuits against doctors, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies who are usually guilty of nothing more than an occasional human error.

In some cases, drug companies have been guilty of gross negligence with their products and should be made to pay the price for it. But as is the case with any industry, it is the consumer who ultimately pays that price and the company loses nothing. There may be nothing we can do about those companies other than to sue them to try keep them honest, but doctors and hospitals are a different story.

Doctors and hospitals are forced to pay astronomically high insurance rates for malpractice protection and those costs are passed along to the consumer in medical bills. I propose a ban on all malpractice lawsuits. Instead of taking complaints to a lawyer, those complaints should be taken to the American Medical Association. The AMA would then investigate the claim and hold the accused doctor's license in jeopardy. Why should we all have to pay the costs of making some lawyer and client rich for a doctor's mistake?

Doctor accountability could include temporary suspension of the license for minor offenses and permanent suspension of license for gross negligence. Doctors would be held accountable for their practices but would not need to shell out hundreds of thousands of dollars for malpractice insurance. They will not take unnecessary chances with their patient's health if their license to practice is at stake. Their rates to

the patients could then be lowered.

Due to the threat of frivolous malpractice lawsuits, doctors now order excessive tests on patients just to cover themselves. They know many of these expensive tests are not needed but if sued, they may come in handy in court.

As long as they are not held accountable to the patient for the billing amount, the costs will be run up and paid by an insurance company or the government, further raising the cost of healthcare. They have no reason to consider the costs of their services as long as someone else with unlimited funds is paying the bill.

Get the government out

Government involvement in payments for medical services is a guarantee of grossly inflated healthcare costs. Medical professionals and hospitals will bill the government for unreasonably high charges knowing that the bill will be scrutinized by nothing more than a government employee clerk. It's a guarantee that highly inflated billings will be paid without question.

Not only is that money paid by us taxpayers, but it sets a precedent that is also used on insurance companies which then have to pay inflated rates as well. Again, the policy holder gets screwed.

If the government pays \$200 for a hammer and \$800 for a toilet seat without batting an eye, how much do you think it will pay for an appendectomy or to set a broken arm? Since government has become involved in healthcare, the costs of healthcare have skyrocketed.

"Free healthcare" just

means getting someone else to pay for it, and you pay for theirs but are never allowed to see the bill. Anytime the word "free" is applied to a product or service, it's a joke and the joke is on you. "Free" simply means the cost to you is hidden somewhere else unless you happen to be an illegal alien.

Restructuring insurance

With the initiation of the foregoing, medical costs can be drastically reduced but there is more we can do. Restructuring medical insurance to be more like auto insurance would make it more affordable. You get what you pay for. If you want only minimal coverage then you should have that option. Why should everyone have to pay for the Ferrari when only a few will drive it?

Your medical insurance should be offered as a list of electives. If you want transplant surgery on your policy, then elect it. If you want basic general surgery coverage, elect that.

If you only want basic family physician coverage, then elect that. Basic coverage could also include limited visits to specialists. Visits to hospital emergency rooms would be limited to perhaps one per year per person on the basic policy and hospitals would not be obligated to accept emergency patients unless someone was responsible for the bill. That could be either the insurance company or the individual. If you want more emergency insurance coverage, then elect it and pay for it.

The point is that not everyone can afford the "best healthcare system in the world," nor do they need it. Choose the coverage you want and can

afford, and that is what you pay for. If you can't afford to pay for heart or kidney transplant surgery on your policy, then why should someone else pay for it? Everyone has to die sometime, but the medical industry will keep you alive forever at any cost as long as they can get someone to pay for it.

As it turns out, that someone is all of us. As a result, many are unable to afford the cost of medical insurance within the present system.

Neighborhood clinics

One of our biggest healthcare problems is the abuse of the healthcare system by low- and middle-income people who simply can't afford the costs of healthcare. They fill up our multi-million dollar hospital emergency facilities with problems that could just as well be taken care of by a simple country doctor. What we need are more neighborhood health clinics to deal with these problems so that the emergency rooms can be available for real emergency patients.

A tax incentive program could be introduced to doctors to encourage them to open small family health clinics. All doctors could be asked to donate four hours a week to these clinics. The doctors could rotate their duties at these

clinics, thus ensuring that one would always be on duty during business hours and without seriously interrupting their normal work week. The rest of the clinic could be staffed with interns and EMTs who wish to donate a little of their time. The only costs would be the expense of maintaining the office building and supplies. The cost of an office visit could be as low as \$20 paid by the patient out-of-pocket, but the saving to the healthcare industry and the public would be enormous.

The solution to the healthcare crisis is not in finding ways to pay for the high cost of healthcare, but in making healthcare affordable in the first place. I have suggested just a few examples of how that can be done.

I'm sure there are many more things that those in the medical profession could suggest, as well. I suppose the problem is in getting politicians to listen and take an interest in real solutions instead of using healthcare as a political issue to gain votes and promote socialism in America.

J.R. DIECKMANN is an electrician in Los Angeles and is the owner, editor, and webmaster of GreatAmericanJournal.com.

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EDUCATION

Keeping drugs out of our schools

Students, volunteers and counselors are working to make Red Ribbon Week a success.

TODD FUQUA
toddf@ruidosonews.com

When fighting the scourge of drugs, probably the most effective way to combat it is to reduce the demand.

That's the idea behind Red Ribbon Week, an annual celebration of anti-drug activities focused on children throughout the country.

This week's event takes place Oct. 23-31 and is co-sponsored locally by Lincoln County schools, Region IX's Prevention Program and the Lincoln County DWI Prevention Program.

"The big push is to convince the kids to do something more constructive with their time," said Linda Hand of DWI Prevention. "As long as they have alternative activities, they're less likely to make destructive decisions."

Red Ribbon Week was first organized in 1986 by parents concerned about destruction caused by alcohol and drug abuse. The red ribbon was adopted as a

symbol in honor of Enrique Camarena, an agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration who was kidnapped and murdered while on the job.

The theme of Lincoln County's Red Ribbon Week is "I've got better things to do than drugs!" Among the activities planned for the week are:

- Sharing Camarena's story and his commitment to fighting drugs in our country;
- Distributing activity packets to all elementary grade levels;
- Making daily positive choice announcements written and read by stu-

dents in their schools,

• Participating in the Lincoln County DWI Program's simulation tricycle activities.

Additionally, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) chapters at Ruidoso High School and Ruidoso Middle School are coordinating a campaign that includes a seat belt race, giving away "Drugs Don't Fly With Me" flyers and premiering a student-produced video, *Meth Mouth*.

At the 4th and 5th grade level, students have been encouraged to write editorials and produce artwork which will

be reproduced in next week's editorial pages in the *Ruidoso News*.

Kelli Shaw, a representative for Region IX, said speaking to children in grades 3rd through 5th is particularly effective in combating drug use.

"Research shows that children are less likely to use alcohol and other drugs when parents and other role models are clear and consistent in their opposition to substance use and abuse," Shaw said.

For more information about Red Ribbon Week or prevention resources, visit www.nida.nih.gov or call the school based health center at 258-4859.

HOMECOMING ROYALTY



COURTESY

The 2007 Ruidoso High School Homecoming Court: (l-r), Emma Pearson (crown bearer, 2nd grader at Sierra Vista Primary), Ericka Olivera (RHS Homecoming Queen), Lance Dettmer (RHS Homecoming King), and Grady Woodul (crown bearer, 2nd grader at Sierra Vista Primary). The Royalty was crowned during the Warriors' Homecoming game Oct. 5 at W.D. Horton Stadium.

School board awards bond package

TODD FUQUA
toddf@ruidosonews.com

It took but a few minutes of discussion, but at the end of Tuesday's school board meeting of the Ruidoso Municipal School District, members approved the sale of bonds by Morgan Keegan and Company of Tennessee to the tune of \$8.5 million.

The bonds will be used to pay for school construction and improvements throughout the district, and Morgan Keegan and Company was chosen due to the low interest rates on the bonds.

"Rates fell as we had expected, and these are the results," said Charles Casey of Casey Financial Consulting in Albuquerque. "We've also marketed these bonds by getting bond rating from Moody's and have insurance."

"I always like to sell bonds around this time of year anyway, because the interest rates are always lower and that worked out well for us."

The bond package is actually a series of 15 bonds, ranging in amounts from \$200,000 to \$1 million, with the final one maturing in 2022.

Before the final package was approved by the board and a

bond resolution could be signed, member Rafael Salas asked where the bond sale was advertised, in addition to the *Ruidoso News*.

"We publish in the Bond Buyer as well, but also have a preliminary statement which we distribute by email and the Internet," Casey said. "That's the most effective way to advertise your bond sale. We had bids from all across the country on this."

In addition to Morgan Keegan's bid, companies from Pennsylvania, Georgia, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Utah, Minnesota and Texas also put in bids.

Board members also discussed possible revisions to the school district board policy manual, copies of which are at each school in the district in addition to the central office. Board members and district staff reviewed the first two sections, and will review sections C and D in the coming weeks.

As several policies are cross-referenced throughout, a final decision on any revisions won't be made until every page has been reviewed by staff and board members.

Salas also recognized members of the ground maintenance

crews from the Village of Ruidoso and the school district, calling attention to their maintenance of the White Mountain Recreation Complex.

"School safety is our top priority, but sometimes we overlook the playground and playing fields," Salas said. "There must be about 600 kids on those fields on Saturdays, adults too. Those fields and how well they're maintained are a part of the kids' safety and enjoyment in school, and I'd like to recognize that."

The board gave certificates of appreciation to Rodney Griego, Tom Keck, and Dirk and Danny Sanchez for the work they've done on White Mountain, W.D. Horton Stadium and the practice field at Ruidoso High School.

Budget adjustments reflecting grants and awards were also approved, reflecting a Jordin Fundamentals grant for the Ruidoso Middle School GPS project for \$2,400, \$57,109 for rental fees for three new buses, a Technology For Education award of \$6,439, and an award granted the district's libraries for \$21,608.

The board will next meet in a non-business setting Oct. 24 for a school visitation at 9 a.m. at RMS.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Laughing out loud

Ruidoso Public Library officials are inviting the public to come laugh with them in the library at 11 a.m. Saturday and again at noon, Oct. 24. During the workshops, people will be taught how to laugh for no reason, use laughter to stimulate healing in the body and to laugh our zest for life to the surface.

Michele Caskey, a certified laughter coach, will be leading both workshops. She is also a stand-up comedian and an artist. Her fun art is currently on display at the library.

Also on display, starting Oct. 15, is the artwork of students of Ruidoso High School instructor Barry Lucy. The bronze sculptures of local artist Gary Goss are on display in the lobby showcase.

Health Council meeting

There will be a meeting of the School Health Advisory Council of the Ruidoso Municipal School District at 3:30 p.m. Monday at the central office. For more information, including an agenda, contact Mary Lou Estes at Ruidoso High School at 258-4910.

SEPTEMBER BUZZY BEES



COURTESY

Students names as September Buzzy Bees at Nob-Hill Early Childhood Center are: front row, l-r: Yajaira Ruiz, Bowen Perry and Desirae Valencia. Middle row, l-r: Katrina Lucero, Avery Randolf, Ricardo Acosta, Skydra Saenz, Elijah Dominguez, Evelyn Balderrama and Sam Montes. Back row, l-r: Geraldine Rila, Lakelisha Rocha, Stacy Gutierrez, Bailey Moore, Mykaela Harvey, Ashley Luna, Kellau Blaylock and Jacy Smith.

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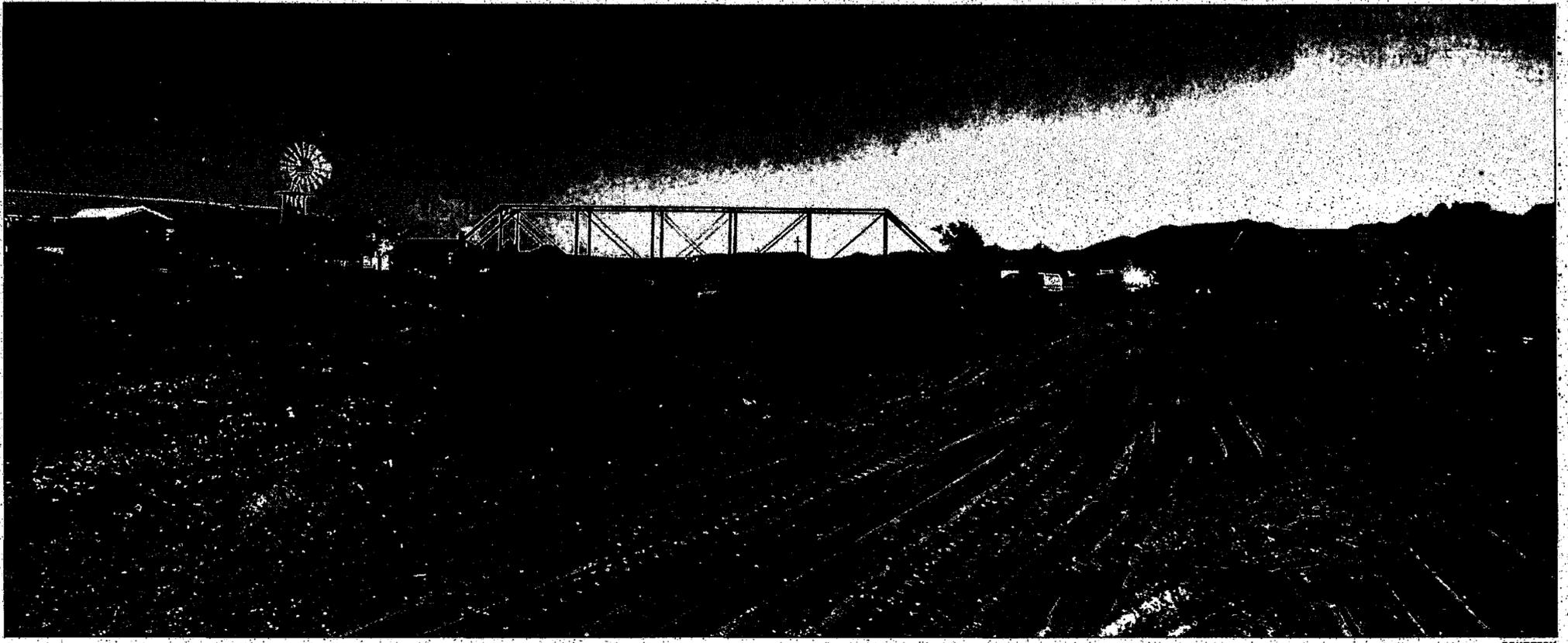
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BRIDGING HISTORY



COURTESY

The Rio Hondo Bridge, known as the Green Bridge, spans its new home over the Tortugas Arroyo at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces. The 134-foot, 5-inch long bridge built in 1902 is listed on the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties and was brought to Las Cruces from Lincoln County, where it was in use over the Rio Hondo until 1989. Ralph Dunlap, a member of the Lincoln County Commission at the time and an early museum board member, was influential in bringing the bridge to Doña Ana County for preservation. A century of lead paint had to be sandblasted off the structure and new paint, true to the original color, was applied.

Study funded for bypass

■ But Gavilan project is not guaranteed

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Shortfalls in transportation money may affect local hopes of the state assuming responsibility for Gavilan Canyon and creating a bypass around Midtown Ruidoso.

Lincoln County Manager Tom Stewart told county commissioners Tuesday he received the official announcement by the state Department of Transportation of the \$250,000 award for a traffic study in the Ruidoso/Alto area, specifically looking at alternatives for a bypass.

Commission Chairman Tom Battin and Village Councilor Greg Cory gave presentations to the state DOT commission at that board's meeting in Carlsbad last month, he reported.

Gary P. Shubert, District Two DOT Engineer, wrote that he anticipates the study will look at existing and projected traffic volumes in the area and at possible alternatives for relieving congestion on existing routes.

"I would anticipate this

study beginning some time in the next six to eight months," he wrote.

Commissioner Eileen Lovelace said she attended a meeting Friday and officials were talking about a shortage of transportation money.

Battin said the study is funded. "But that doesn't guarantee the project. However, the study will make it eligible for funding."

Lovelace said she heard that \$600 million allocated for transportation is being cut and officials are talking about raising taxes and permit fees.

Officials were worried about how to maintain 30,000 miles of state highways and they talked about cutting some of those miles, she said.

She asked to attend a meeting of the Transportation Commission Nov. 5 in Las Cruces to get a better handle on the situation.

Battin said he's been told the money is available for the project, but, "it's a matter of priorities."

Ruidoso officials hoped to alleviate heavy truck traffic through Midtown by routing it from U.S. 70 around the village on Gavilan to hook up with New Mexico Highway 48.

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COMPLY

FROM PAGE 1A

for a path," although the terrain is uneven.

As for transcribing statements made by representatives of the developer during the hearings, Bryant said they would be more crucial as evidence if Van Haselen was refusing to move forward on commitments. "But they are less important when he's telling Councilors Cory and Shaw he is going to put in a path," the attorney said.

"I wonder why under oath, his representative says (there will be) 18 feet from the edge of the river to the first building?" Task Force Member Bill Hirschfeld asked, referring to the tapes. "The staff didn't point out that the plans were different."

As for the majority of easement for the River Walk lying underwater, an obviously irritated Hirschfeld, who also is a planning commissioner, continued, "So he gave us an 8-foot river walk easement and no one explained that we would have to put waders on and that we would be walking down the middle of the river."

"We go to a meeting and talk about something of importance to the whole community with a lot of people there, and to let us sit there and assume there would be a river walk on dry land wide enough for couples to pass each other. Who protects us" from such misunderstandings or misinformation?



Ruidoso Village Councilor Angel Shaw, in center, acted as chairman of the River Resort Review Task Force that met Monday to look at issues surrounding the 37-unit condominium development on Eagle Drive. Around the table from left are Village Attorney Dan Bryant, Planning Commissioner Bill Hirschfeld, Village Manager Dan O. Higgins, Planning Commissioner Phillis Barnett, Senior Deputy Village Manager Bill Morris, Councilor Don Williams and Village Planning Director Bob Decker.

Councilor Don Williams, a task force member, said he was told by a surveyor that 80 percent of the easement was unusable as a river walk.

"If 80 percent is unusable, they probably had an idea," Hirschfeld said of the developer.

"If they were worth their salt, they did," Williams responded. "I think everybody

has been misled, but is that a crime?"

Hirschfeld wondered if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers might have a role, if to provide a usable river walk, Van Haselen had to shore up the river bank in places. Bryant said he doubted it, but Shaw said almost certainly they would.

In the future, hammering

out developer agreements in writing, in addition to the regular voted-on site development and other issues, would eliminate many questions, Shaw said.

Such an agreement also could include a requirement for the developer to pay, if the village hired an independent engineer, surveyor or other expert to check compliance with plans.

Village Planning Director Bob Decker and Senior Deputy Village Manager Bill Morris said Van Haselen talked to Village Forester Rick Delaco about moving the building to save the old trees, and may have thought that constituted an approval of the change.

The developer has applied for an minor site development plan amendment to cover the

movement of the building further from Eagle Drive, they said.

But Shaw pointed out that the application was submitted two months after the fact and the building foundations already are in place.

Williams said someone needs to define the difference between a major plan amendment requiring action by the planning commission and a minor amendment that can be signed off on by the planning director and two planning commission members.

Decker said in the case of the building being moved, the change did not affect parking, did not bring the buildings closer to the river and had no significant impact.

Other questions raised during the discussion included the height of the buildings and the elevation above the flood plain.

Decker said the developer's surveyor certified that the lowest floors of the buildings are at least one foot above the flood plain elevation.

"But have you been out and checked?" Shaw pressed.

Decker said if the developer's surveyor certified information and it later is found to be incorrect or false, the surveyor could lose his license.

Morris said no one on staff is a surveyor, but one could be hired.

Task force members will meet again at 10 a.m., Oct. 29, at village hall, 313 Cree Meadows Drive to review the staff report and prepare recommendations to the village council.

NOGAL

FROM PAGE 1A

zozo and Ruidoso. One acre foot equates to about 325,800 gallons of water annually.

When water system officials asked the State Engineer's Office to consider more water rights, they were told action might take two years, because residents served by the system must wait in line behind two new proposed subdivisions, Richard Rotert, president of the Nogal Mutual Domestic Water Users, told Lincoln County commissioners Tuesday.

"We responded that we supply a township with residents who have lived there for years and paid taxes, and we're asked

to wait behind proposed subdivisions (Heritage Preserve at Ruidoso and Good Sawyer) with no residents there," he said.

And to dig the blade in a little deeper, the system's water users were told to cut back on consumption by the OSE, because the system exceeded its water rights allocation for the past two years by a half acre foot annually, he said.

"Their solution was to dump a half-acre-foot into an arroyo," for the state to recapture the water, Rotert said.

Seven of the 28 connections have domestic wells on which to fall back, he said. But for the other 21, they already are using far below the usual domestic annual minimum at about 3,000 gallons per month.

"That's insufficient for a community to begin with," he insisted.

The Nogal system owns 1.45 acre-feet of water rights from the Bonito Lake Reservoir, a water supply for the city of Alamogordo and Holloman Air Force Base in Otero County, with pipes that run through the settlement.

But because the 22-year-old treatment plant isn't capable of cleansing surface water to the degree required by the state, a water well was drilled for the Nogal system. The requirements for treatment are less for groundwater, he explained.

The non-profit system asked in August 2001 for 20 acre feet of water per annum from the well, but the application was protested and a past president

accepted the domestic allotment of 3 acre feet per annum, "with the understanding that we could reapply for additional water rights," Rotert wrote in his letter. "This act in good faith was our undoing."

End of the line

"When we did reapply, requesting an additional, modest 3 acre feet, the OSE informed us that our request would be dealt with in the order of requests submitted, meaning that we were then at the end of the line."

If the plant, which had a life expectancy of 20 years, could be replaced, the community system could receive the 1.45 acre feet from the reservoir.

"This is what I've been talking about and concerned about," Commissioner Jackie Powell said. "This community already is here and it is taking a back seat to God only knows what."

Rotert said to provide a quarter-acre-foot of water per year to each family in Nogal, the water system needs 7 acre-feet to 8 acre-feet of rights, and not meeting that, they still are being asked to cut back.

County Manager Tom Stewart said he will send a letter and talk to officials with the OSE. Commission Chairman Tom Battin said while commissioners have no direct authority

over the OSE, a resolution from the county commission supporting more urgent action for Nogal's crisis might help. Other commissioners agreed and approved action.

Commissioners also approved a resolution backing an application by the non-profit Nogal water system for planning money available through the Community Development Block Grant program for a preliminary engineering report.

On Oct. 4, Stewart received a letter from Dora Batista of the Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District, saying that Clark Taylor of the Resource, Conservation and Development District was looking for assistance for the small domestic system.

Batista told the manager the system was eligible for CDBG planning grant money, if the county would assume the role of fiscal agent and pass a resolution agreeing to manage the project.

A survey to establish low to moderate income may be required, but the area already is designated as a colonias.

Commissioner Don Williams told Stewart to ask state officials for suggestions on how to solve the dilemma. Battin said one alternative would be for the other 21 users to each drill a domestic well, which the OSP must approve, and each con-

pump at least 1 acre foot per annum.

"I think it would be in the state's interest to give 8 to 10 additional acre feet instead," the chairman said.

Rotert said he wrote letters to State Reps. Don Williams and Dan Foley (R-Roswell), and State Sen. Rod Adair (R-Roswell) in June. Williams, a Republican from Glencoe, referred his letter to the OSE, but Rotert said he has not heard back from anyone.

Not being able to use the 1.45 acre feet from the lake, the Nogal system entered into an agreement to allow state agencies to use the water for fire-fighting, Rotert said. Bonito won't sell any more water rights, so the township is capped from that source, even if a new plant is built, he said.

"That's because Alamogordo has its own supply shortage," Powell said.

Powell said the state is wrong to look at requests for approval of water supplies as isolated situations.

"I'm afraid this is just the tip of the iceberg," she said. "It's important for us to view the whole."

Rotert said the water system is using the settlement's colonias designation to seek money from the state Water Trust Board and officials are filling out papers.

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SEWER

FROM PAGE 1A

tial users.

Village Public Works Director Randall Camp said staff found it difficult to compare Ruidoso to other areas, because the conditions are unique with a treatment plant discharging into a cold water stream and a small year-round population to support a water, sewer and wastewater treatment system large enough to serve three to five times as many people in the summer and winter tourist seasons. Many other areas may face similar hikes over the next few years because of aging treatment plants, he said.

Taos, Angel Fire high

Some of the highest sewer rates in the state were reported in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County, with an average commercial monthly bill at \$162.89 and residential at \$13.68; Angel Fire commercial fees are \$104.54 and \$65.55 for residential; Hatch at \$49.26 and \$14.25; and Taos Ski Valley each at \$173.14.

In Ruidoso, a residential customer using 4,000 gallons or less per month is paying \$13.60, but under the proposed rates would pay triple at \$40.90.

A residential customer using 7,003 gallons is paying \$15.85 and would pay \$47.55.

No increase is being proposed for the \$13.60 sewer base charge for a three-quarter inch meter residential customer in Ruidoso. That customer would pay no commodity charge for using 4,000 gallons or less.

But according to figures presented to the council at the workshop, if use hit 4,100 gallons or more, a per thousand gallon commodity charge would kick in. For a customer running 7,003 gallons, the charge would add \$2.25 to the bill.

On top of that, a \$27.20 per month charge would be applied to cover the cost of the wastewater treatment plant and \$6.8 million in improvements to the sewer system. The same rule applies with no commodity charge if use stays at 4,000 gallons or less, but a 7,003-gallon user would pay \$4.50 per month.

Councilor Greg Cory questioned why staff and consultants recommend breaking apart the wastewater and sewer charges, because the bottom line is an increase in rates for handling sewage.

But Village Water Director Ken Mosley said the separation would lend itself later into setting up an entirely independent accounting, if the Joint Use Board that governs the treatment plant owned by the village and the city of Ruidoso Downs is converted into an autonomous entity.

A customer also will be able to see exactly where the big hit on the bill occurs, staff said. Looking at the positive side, Mayor L. Ray Nunley said if more grant money is received in the future, reducing the debt on the estimated \$35 million plant project, that \$27.20 rate could be adjusted.

"We have to get it done before the 2008 New Mexico State Legislative session starts to show good faith," he said.

Unfortunately, because the village also provides water service and sanitation/yard waste collection, the sticker shock will look even greater with those monthly fees attached.

Councilor Angel Shaw moaned, "Happy Thanksgiving," when she heard the rates must be approved by the council's second meeting in November.

Cory said he's still bothered because the village is charging a new fee, but not providing a new service. Councilor Ron Hardeman responded, "We are providing a service by keeping us out of a courtroom and sav-

"Happy Thanksgiving"

- Ruidoso Village councilor Angel Shaw, ruefully, when learning that the rate for a residential sewer customer could triple under proposed increases

ing the taxpayers money, and allowing continued growth and development."

"It's an upgraded service," Councilor Michele Rebstock

added.

Village Manager Dan O. Higgins said the one-year wait to re-examine the commercial rate structure will give staff

time to see how the system is affected by seasonal highs and lows. Senior Deputy Manager Bill Morris said the study could then be used to defend any

change in the rate structure.

Nunley said he wants to emphasize that no significant rate hike has occurred on the sewer side for about 15 years.

An annual state consumer price index rate increase covers inflation, but not capital investments and other costs.

But for the treatment plant, "This is the worst-case," scenario for a rate hit, he reiterated.

Members of the Joint Use Board will meet at 10 a.m., Nov. 1, at Village Hall, 313 Cree Meadows Dr., for an update on the plant design by officials with Molzen-Corbin Engineering.

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Fort residents read to their children

TODD FUQUA
todd@ruidosonews.com

Don't call them "inmates," call them "residents."

True, the men who find themselves as guests at Fort Stanton in a drug rehabilitation program operated by Civigenics may have made some mistakes in their pasts, but their road to recovery does not involve iron bars or ankle chains.

Rather, it involves a great deal of counseling and hard, honest work.

It also involves reading, lots of reading.

The library boasts numerous titles, all of them donated, and a computer program designed to take residents from illiteracy

to college-level reading is a popular activity.

But there's one program that's in desperate need of books.

Once a resident enters Fort Stanton, contact with the outside world is necessarily restricted. For residents who also happen to be fathers to small children, that separation can be painful.

One of their only means of contact is a program in which fathers record themselves reading a children's book. That recording is burned on a compact disc, and the disc and book are both sent to the child.

The children may be away from their fathers, but they'll still be able to read along.

Recordings are made every

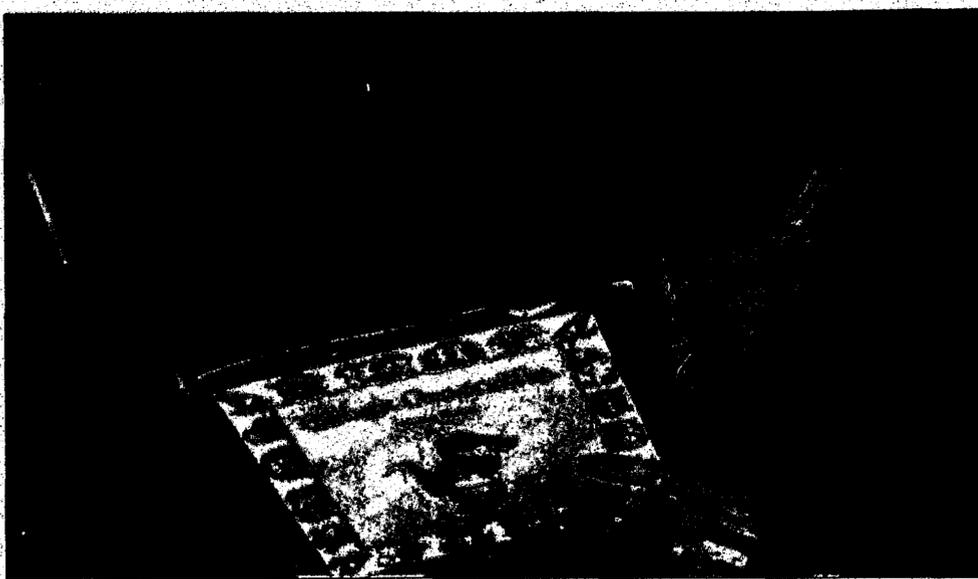
two weeks, but supplies of children's books are running low, and that's where the Smokey Bear Lions Club of Capitan comes in.

On Oct. 27, members of the Lions Club will be collecting children's books in front of the First Savings Bank at 2718 Sudderth Dr. in Ruidoso from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The drive is part of Make A Difference Day, a national day of charity work created by USA Weekend magazine.

"We've had this program here about a year, and it's very popular," said Jennifer Riggs, director of the Fort Stanton Residential Treatment Center. "We usually hit the Dollar Stores and garage sales trying to find as many children's books as we can for this."

For more information on donating books to this cause, call Bob Callender at 258-1345.



A resident at Fort Stanton reads one of the handful of children's books left at the facility's library. A program in which fathers staying at the fort can read to their children via digital recording is in need of new children's titles.

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Fort's namesake was in truth a minor historical figure

JOANNE JAGER
Historical Society of New Mexico

New Mexico's newest state monument is a relatively unknown beautiful and historic site nestled high in the Capitan Mountains. Even less well known is the man for whom Fort Stanton was named, Captain Henry W. Stanton.

Henry Whiting Stanton was a native of Detroit, born on January 24, 1823, the son of Henry Stanton, of Vermont, who served in the Quartermaster General department with distinction, achieving the rank Brigadier General, and his wife, Eliza Keyes. Young Henry was one of four offspring of that marriage.

Their mother, Eliza, died, and the senior Stanton remarried to Alexandrine Macomb, in February 1834. Thus, as a youth of 11 years, the future Captain Stanton became associated with the family of one of the greatest military legacies in American history — his stepmother was the daughter of General Alexander Macomb.

Alexander Macomb also was a native of Detroit, whose family took up residence in New York where Alexander was educated, and entered the army in 1799. In 1802 he became one of the first students to complete the course of study at West Point, and the following year he married his first cousin, Catherine Macomb.

Macomb rendered distinguished service in the War of 1812, was promoted to Brigadier General, helped plan the reorganization of the army and was the author of treatises on military administration. In 1821 he was appointed chief of the Corps of Engineers, and

then in 1828, commanding major general of the U. S. Army, a post he held until his death in 1841.

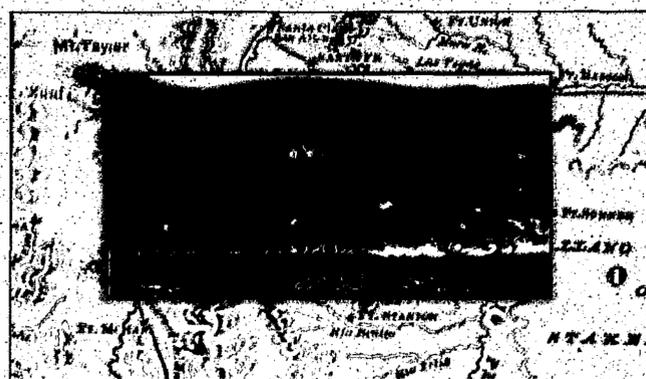
Henry W. Stanton, too, entered West Point, in September 1838, and graduated in 1842. He was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the First Dragoons on July 1, and was sent to serve at the Cavalry School in Carlisle, Pa. He then spent the next decade on frontier duty at posts such as Fort Leavenworth in Kansas, and Forts Gibson and Towson in Indian Territory, and he participated in the expedition to the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains in 1845.

During the late 1840s, Stanton was posted alternately at Leavenworth, Kan., the army headquarters, and at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., the troop supply depot, serving as adjutant during the War with Mexico, until 1850.

Thus, he was not near the action during the war; nor was he on the march with General Stephen Watts Kearny into Santa Fe, California, and finally Mexico. His father, however, received a posthumous award for meritorious conduct during that war.

In 1851 Henry had married, at Fort Hamilton, N.Y., Sarah Macomb, a daughter of the late General Alexander Macomb and the younger sister of his stepmother, Alexandrine. How they met is uncertain, but both were natives of Detroit and in 1844 his sister, Mary Eliza Stanton, had married a U. S. naval officer, William Henry Macomb, a brother of Alexandrine and Sarah, so the family connections had been reinforced. Other Macomb siblings were: Catherine, who married John Mason of the U. S. Legation to Mexico; Caroline, who married her cousin Captain John Navarre Macomb; and Alexander Saranac, who married Susan Watts Kearny, the sister of General Philip Kearny, the hero of the War with Mexico.

Stanton next saw frontier duty at Sonora, Calif., and at Fort Orford, Ore., before being assigned to the Recruiting service. Finally, on July 25, 1854 Henry W. Stanton was promoted to Captain in the First Dragoons and given command of Company B, at Fort Fillmore,



Joseph and Carolyn Arcure of Lincoln County pooled their considerable design and photographic talents to create the Fort Stanton State Monument 2006 Calendar. The photographs of the fort and reenactment scenes are backed with maps from the 1855 era. The calendars authorized for printing by Fort Stanton Inc. sell for \$10 and proceeds will go toward the preservation of the fort and museum. Calendars are available at the Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce, Curves, the Fort Stanton Museum, Josie's Framery, Lincoln State Monument, Gallery 408 in Carrizozo and Oso Art in Capitan.

on the most remote border of New Mexico Territory. His bride was with him at Fort Fillmore, near the border town of La Mesilla, where on the fourth of the same month in 1854 the United States flag had been raised, signifying the confirmation of the Gadsden Purchase boundaries, it being the seat of the new county of Dona Ana.

Six months later, in January 1855, captains Richard Elwell and Henry Stanton were detailed to the Sacramento Mountains in a campaign to deter Apache raids upon the settlements there. In a skirmish on the 20th, Stanton and a few of his troops rode into an ambush at James Canyon in which Stanton was shot and killed. He was only 32.

In April, men of the First Dragoons made camp in the region and the site was soon designated for one of the strategic fortifications to be built along the new frontier. Construction began immediately and they named it for their fallen comrade, Sarah, the much-pitied widow described by diarist James Bennett, returned to Fort Hamilton and remarried.

How did a junior officer, so naive to the battle, achieve the distinction of having a fort named in his honor? In the grand opera of the winning of the West, Henry W. Stanton seemed always to be in a minor

role. He was neither a warrior nor a hero, but he was an officer and a gentleman on a far frontier, born to the military and living a tradition. He earned the respect of both comrades and cousins.

Captain John Navarre Macomb, who had served as Aide-de-Camp to Major General Alexander Macomb, his uncle, and had extensive engineering projects to his credit, was named Chief Topographical Engineer for the Department of New Mexico in 1856. He would later lead the expedition from Santa Fe to the confluence of the Green and Colorado rivers, confirming the immensity of the Colorado River system.

But in August 1857, in a final irony, Captain J. N. Macomb would be the surveyor of the military reservation on the Rio Bonito where Fort Stanton stood. The soldier whom it memorialized was both his step-cousin and his brother-in-law, several times over.

John Navarre Macomb was a first cousin of Alexandrine, Stanton's stepmother, and her sister Caroline, who was his wife; and of their brother William Henry, the husband of Stanton's sister Eliza; and, of course, of the widow Sarah. He was the brother-in-law to Henry Stanton by his marriage to Sarah's sister, as well as by the marriage of his wife's brother to Stanton's sister.

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Warrior squad corrals Colts

MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

With 15 minutes left to play in the match, Ruidoso led 3-0 and the contest seemed all but over when, suddenly, NMMI scored two quick goals and grabbed the momentum.

The Warriors abruptly awoke and answered with a score of their own, winning 4-2.

"The boys woke up promptly when the Colts scored that second goal," Warrior coach Craig Washnok explained. "Sometimes we have a tendency to coast on a lead when we think we have the game in hand but the players have to rise that this can occasionally learn up and bite you when you become somewhat complacent."

The first half remained scoreless until, with four minutes left to play in the period, Jose Ramirez punched one in on an assist by Mario Varela. Varela then turned around and scored the second Warrior goal off an assist by Neal Hoffer and both teams went to the halfway mark with Ruidoso up, 2-0.

"The boys and I thought we were in control at that point, especially when we went up 3-

0, about 12 minutes into the second half when Varela scored his second goal of the match," Washnok said.

That's when NMMI came back with their two quick scores, and, at that point, the match could have been up for grabs had the Colts scored again.

NMMI's best player is their goalie, senior, Justin Fishback, who also happens to be the team captain.

His superb, aggressive play on goal allows him to play forward and give direction to his teammates. He can also be tough to score on at times.

Ruidoso, on the other hand, played a tight game and, more importantly, seems to learn and improve with every match they play.

"We had to play hard the last 12 minutes of the match but the boys did what they had to do to secure the win," Washnok asserted.

With this victory, the Warriors move to 13-4 overall and remain undefeated in district play, 4-0.

The win also will have set up some good momentum going into their eagerly anticipated



MARK DOTH/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Neal Hoffer performs a slide tackle and steals the ball from a NMMI defender.

contest with No. 2 ranked Socorro, Tuesday, at Horton Field.

Saturday will see the

Warriors face off against Hatch Valley at home.

Hatch recently gave Ruidoso a scare on Oct. 9, when the

Bears led 3-1 with seven minutes left to play but the Warrior boys dug down and pulled the game out, 4-3.

side line

Sports on Tap

- Thursday, Oct. 18
Volleyball
Carrizozo at Vaughn, 5 p.m.
Corona at Mountainair, 5 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 19
Football
Ruidoso at Bernalillo, 7 p.m.
Dexter at Capitan, 7 p.m.
Carrizozo at Jal, 7 p.m.
Hagerman at Mesalero, 7 p.m.
Hondo at Vaughn, 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 20
Volleyball
Lovington at Ruidoso, 3:30 p.m.
Mesilla Valley at Mesalero, 3 p.m.
Capitan at Eunice, 2 p.m.
Vaughn at Hondo, 2 p.m.
Girls Soccer
Hatch at Ruidoso, 4 p.m.
Boys Soccer
Hatch at Ruidoso, 2 p.m.
Rodeo
High school rodeo in Belen, two days
- Tuesday, Oct. 23
Volleyball
Portales at Ruidoso, 7 p.m.
Hondo at Mountainair, 4 p.m.
Corona at Carrizozo, 5 p.m.
Girls Soccer
Ruidoso at Socorro, 4 p.m.
Boys Soccer
Ruidoso at Socorro, 7 p.m.

Tee-Fore-Ski tournament successful

MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

Amid breezy weather and sunny skies Saturday, the first ever Tee-Fore-Ski golf tournament at the Inn of the Mountain Gods concluded to the fanfare and approval of all who participated.

This charity event for the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers Program (SADSP) originated in June as the brain-child of Ross Anderson, Pat Reaves, Clay Smith, Ron Anderson and Justin Rowland. More than \$10,000 went directly to SADSP as a result of the tournament.

SADSP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing snow sports instruction to any person with a disability, regardless of the type or extent of the handicap. Clients with financial limitations are also included in the program.

This organization is the sec-

ond oldest disabled program in the country and was originally started in the early '70s to help Vietnam vets at Fort Bliss.

"Last year more than 300 ski lessons were given to students who qualified," SADSP Program Director Marty Davenport said. "The New Mexico School for the Blind and Roswell Special Education attended eight times. The Ruidoso, Capitan and Mesalero Special Education programs were also in attendance. Candlelighters (children with cancer) came from El Paso and were able to enjoy the snowy slopes of Ski Apache, too."

"The whole event would not have been possible without the participation of Ski Apache and the Inn of the Mountain Gods," Davenport continued. They, and all the others who so generously donated the prizes and their time help to ensure that

See GOLF, page 3B



COURTESY

Members of the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers Program are shown after their first-ever successful tourney at IMG.

RHS soccer girls outduel Oñate squad

MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

The Ruidoso soccer girls traveled to 5A Oñate Saturday and found themselves in a match where whoever scored last would be the victor. Talent stood out and the Lady Warriors punched the final goal in for a 5-4 win.

With that triumph, they improved their overall record to an 8-7 winning mark. Their recent conquest of Hatch Valley gives them a 1-0 district performance.

In the Oñate match, RHS drew first blood by scoring two goals on their passing prowess, but by the end of the half, the contest was knotted, 2-2.

"In the beginning, the girls were persevering and marked their opposition well, but as the match went on they became

impatient and kicked the ball around too much," coach Sigurd Schmitz explained.

"I told them at halftime they had to be less impatient and match up, man for man, with their opposition better. The girls also do better when they put consistent pressure on their adversaries, which usually forces them into mistakes which we then are able to capitalize on."

That advice seems to have been heeded, because the Lady Warriors then settled into their style of play in the second half.

Ruidoso scored first in that period when Aimee Vasquez crossed one over to Ericka Olvera who punched it in and RHS went up, 3-2.

Oñate answered with a goal of their own to tie the match and then took the lead when one of the Lady Knights sent

one in on an oddball glancing kick off the side of her shoe.

With 10 minutes left in the contest, and Oñate on top 4-3, Vasquez scored on a passed-through ball, which again tied the competition.

Vasquez wasn't done yet, though, and with five minutes left on the clock she put in the winning goal to give the Lady Warriors a well-earned victory.

"This match was a scoring fest," Schmitz said. "We played a tough game Thursday in our win against 4A Roswell High School and I think this was somewhat of a factor during the latter stages of the first half in the Oñate contest two days later."

The Ruidoso girls will have played a tough, No. 6 ranked Socorro squad Tuesday, and then travel to Hatch Valley Saturday.



FREDERIC MORAS/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Ericka Olvera goes in for a block in a game against Portales, Oct. 2.

Results

- Friday, Oct. 12
Football
Hondo 41, House 18
Carrizozo 38, Clayton 27
Santa Fe 40, Mesalero 6
Texico 50, Capitan 15
Volleyball
Ruidoso 3, Lovington 0
- Saturday, Oct. 13
Girls Soccer
Ruidoso 5, Oñate 4
Boys Soccer
Ruidoso 4, NMMI 2
Volleyball
Lordsburg 3, Mesalero 0
Capitan 3, Eunice 1

On Deck

Ski Run Road Challenge

Run to the highest finish in New Mexico Saturday, Oct. 20. The Ski Run Road Challenge is an uphill run for 12 miles on a paved road - Highway 532 - from Eagle Creek Sports Complex to the Ski Apache parking lot, climbing from 7,300 to 9,659 feet at mile marker 9.5, and finishing at 9,770 feet. Water stations, complete with energy drinks, will be available at mile markers 3.2, 6.3 and 9.5. Since Highway 532/Ski Run Road ends at Ski Apache parking lot, traffic will be closed to unauthorized vehicles from mile markers 3 to 12 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Any private vehicles must start the drive to the finish line before 8 a.m. and cannot come down before noon. All proceeds benefit S.E.R.G., a non-profit organization supporting more than 20 local charity groups in Lincoln County. For info, go to www.ruidosonews.com/skirunroadchallenge or call race director Frederic Moras at 287-9507. His email address is sruidoso@hotmail.com. Volunteers and sponsors will be greatly appreciated.

Swim Lessons

Lessons will start Nov. 7 at 3:30 p.m. at Cree Meadows Country Club. Registration is by email or phone to Connie Russell at 505-937-3026 or monserus@valerinet.com or Sarah Crowe at 312-256-1439 or sarah.crowe@gmail.com. You may also apply in person (if space permits) on Monday, Nov. 5 at 3:30-5 p.m. at Cree Meadows Country Club. Swim lessons are for 8 weeks and include a final pool show-off party where the kids will swim and race with parents. Lessons will be on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. and Friday during the day. Ages 4-16 may apply. Cost is \$55.



Patrick Gonzales lets go of one in Hondo's victory over House, 41-18.

COURTESY

Hondo handles House

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

Friday's homecoming, parents' night game against the House Cowboys may not have been the Eagles' finest effort of the season, but at the end of the contest they posted a 41-18 victory and remain undefeated with a 4-0 record.

Before the game began at 7 p.m., the field was dedicated to one of their own fallen heroes in Iraq, Steven Chavez, who was killed on March 14, 2007.

Chavez played football for the Hondo Eagles before graduating in 2005.

"He was a great kid who had a passion for football and played with all his heart," Hondo coach Brandon Devine emotionally said.

Devine had coached Chavez and knew him well.

After the heart-warming

dedication ceremonies were completed the Eagles took on the Cowboys. Going into the fourth quarter House had crept back into the contest and found themselves behind by only a field goal, 21-18.

"If we intended to win this game, we were going to have to step it up a notch, and I told the boys so," Devine recalled.

"House was tougher than we expected, they came to play, no doubt about it."

The 18 points the Cowboys scored were the last they would put on the board even though the Eagles would tack on 20 more and win going away.

"I'm convinced the extra conditioning we do won this game for us," Devine avowed.

"The boys are in top physical shape and, in the end, it made the difference as it usually does."

Friday the Eagles will play

at Vaughn who has a 3-3 overall mark and is 0-1 in district play. Vaughn's three losses were to San Jon, Roy and House, all of whom Hondo has beaten.

Offensive stats:

Patrick Gonzales: 13 carries, 180 yards, 3 touchdowns

Rico Lopez: 1 reception, 6 yards, 1 carry for 15 yards, 1 touchdown

Conrad Gonzales: 1 reception for a 1 point conversion

Lawrence Gonzales: 1 PAT kick completed for 2 points

Defense stats:

Lawrence Gonzales: 15 tackles, 5 assists, 3 interceptions for 75 yards

Raymond Montano: 11 tackles, 8 assists, 1 interception for 40 yards, 1 fumble recovery, 2 defensive touchdowns

Christian Guillen: 3 tackles, 3 assists, 2 sacks, 1 safety

Tigers clawed by Texico

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

The Capitan Tigers were not welcome guests at Texico's homecoming Friday, losing to the Wolverines, 50-15.

The Tigers traveled to Wolverineland with a 3-3 overall mark, expecting to come out on the winning side, but Texico jumped on Capitan early before the homecoming crowd.

"Texico is a well-coached team and they played 48 minutes of good football," Capitan assistant coach Jason Hightower said.

"Most of the time they had 11 men on the ball at all times and we did not.

"Of the two touchdowns we scored, wide receiver Charlie Parker made an exceptional catch and 35-yard scoring run off of a Caleb Wilcox pass."

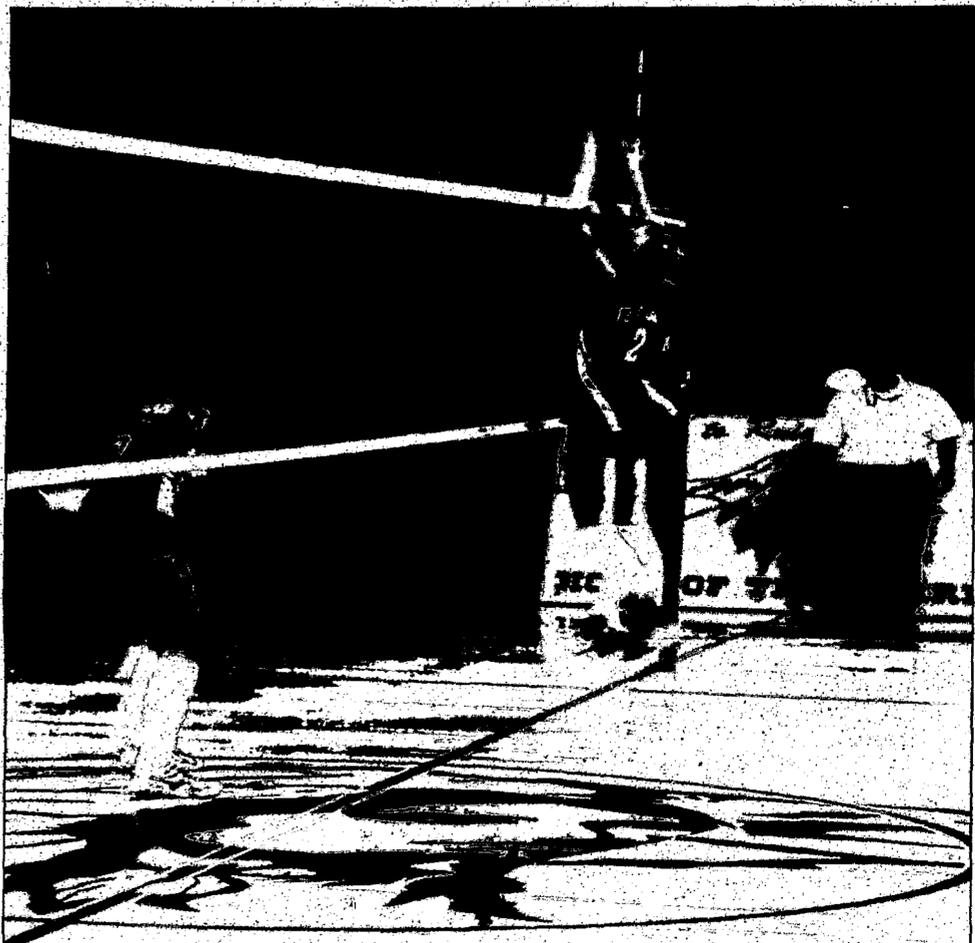
"Nick McCullough played tough throughout the entire game, but the squad as a whole did not play a physical contest together as a team," Capitan head coach Gerald Burns stated.

In the first half, the Tigers were down inside the Wolverine 5-yard line twice but couldn't punch the ball in. This, coupled with the fact that Texico opened up a big lead in the first two quarters, decided the flow of the game in the second half.

Capitan will begin district play this Friday when the Dexter Demons come to Tigerland. The Demons boast an undefeated 7-0 season thus far and this game should prove to be a real test for the Tigers. Of their common opponents, Dexter has beaten Texico, 13-0, and took down Tularosa, 28-7. Both, the Tigers and the Demons crunched Hagerman.

"Teamwork and a good hard physical effort are the order of the day if we are going to get by Dexter," Burns explained. "Hopefully, by game time, the boys will have figured this out, and by the opening whistle, they will know what they have to do."

RHS NETTERS ROLL ON



KAREN MIRAU FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

With this win against Lovington, the Lady Warriors go 10-4 overall and 1-0 in district. Ruidoso beat the Lady Wildcats in three straight sets, 25-7, 25-14, 25-14 to retain their No. 1 ranking. RHS will meet Lovington again Saturday.

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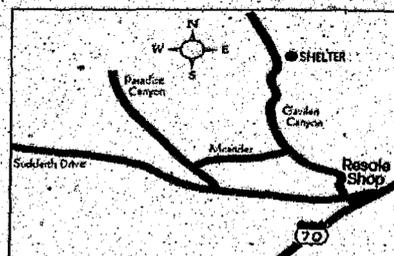
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A local 'shave-tail' female pilot



MIKE CURRAN II/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Ross Anderson putts after driving to within 6 feet of the pin on No. 5.

GOLF

FROM PAGE 1B

we, in turn, will be able to assist more deserving students in the future."

The tournament was a four-man scramble with a shotgun start which began at 10 a.m. A team fee of \$400 was required (or \$100 for individuals) and 100 percent of the proceeds went directly to SADSP.

About 78 men and women competed on 19 teams for prizes such as a new Ford Focus (donated by Ruidoso Ford-Lincoln-Mercury) for a hole-in-one on No. 8 or an ace on No. 18 which would have rewarded the lucky recipient

with a 2007 Toyota Tundra (sponsored by Desert Sun Motors).

Cindy Ascelese came the closest to claiming one of the automobiles when she put her shot about three feet from the hole on No. 18.

Cash prizes were also awarded for the longest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin and closest to the pin on the second shot. All prizes were donated by area companies, corporations and individuals.

"It's heartwarming to be able to give something back to those in need," Ski Apache Marketing Manager Anderson said. "Because of the success of this event we are already considering how we can make next year's tournament even better."

ED WIDENER
For the Ruidoso News

A successful New Mexico business woman, Denise Hawthorne from Ruidoso, has been gracing the skies of Otero and Lincoln counties.

Recently Hawthorne marked her first solo flight at Alamogordo/White Sands Regional Airport whereby she properly became the sole occupant of her training airplane to complete the customary three take-offs and landings by herself.

In addition to this accomplishment, experienced by a relatively small percentage of people, Hawthorne adeptly attained the feat in a type of airplane widely referred to these days as a "tail-dragger."

Having earlier completed the ground school preparation Denise sought out professional flight training associates of Silver Linings Aviation.

Consulting with flight instructors Ed Widener and Kevin Dunshee, this energetic aviatrix personally set her goal to get flight training and make her initial solo flight in what was once more often referred to as "convention-gear" aircraft.

These terms refer to the type of landing gear configuration affixed on any particular design of aircraft.

Most contemporary airplanes are manufactured with tricycle landing gear which, in aviators' humorous jargon, are called "nose-draggers" because the landing gear, having the smaller wheel and tire, is located on the nose rather than the aft of the airframe.

Tail-draggers have a number of performance advantages yet are widely known to



JIM HOLDER/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Denise Hawthorne endures a time-honored ceremony as Ed Widener cuts off her shirt-tail.

require more attentive control during take-off, landing and all ground taxiing operations due to inherent design characteristics such as weathervane inclination and left-turning tendency.

A small, yet time-honored, ceremony within the aviation community was performed on the airport terminal ramp shortly after Hawthorne's first solo flight.

Certified Flight Instructor Ed Widener cut off her shirt tail, and aviation mechanic Jim Holder made a photographic record of the event while others watched and cheered.

This shirt-tail cutting ritual has its roots in earlier days of flight training when radio communications were virtually

non-existent.

The newly-soloed pilot's shirt tail was liberally harvested from their flying garb and posted on a strut of the airplane as a precautionary signal to others in the surrounding sky to give this first-time pilot-in-command a generous margin of airspace.

Later, it was flying scarves

or cutting of the necktie worn by uniformed military candidates. Hawthorne's trimmed shirt tail will now be proudly displayed on the classroom wall.

Hawthorne is undaunted; she has made her mark in the tail dragger and is now continuing on toward private pilot certification.

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LINCOLN COUNTY

Masons host annual meetings

The Carrizozo Masonic Lodge #41 hosted the annual Masonic Foundation meeting Saturday.

Not too many showed, but those that did enjoyed hamburgers and all the trimmings.

Ralph Dunlap gave a brief history of the Masonic Park behind the Lincoln Courthouse.

He had just started putting the park together when he had heart surgery. He thanked the Lincoln State Monument for their dedication in helping finish and caring for the trees.

It is a lovely place now with the beautiful grass and the growing drought-resistant trees. The trees have their plaques with the donor name for those in memory of loved ones.

The Lodge has had weather problems this year with their Lincoln activities. It has either rained or the wind has blown as it did Saturday.

Our neighbors finally got their

new roof on. I know they were glad to get it on before the wind came up. It really did blow here and elsewhere in Lincoln County.

The weekend was a busy time for the Dunlaps. Their granddaughter and family from Phoenix visited them.

They hit a lot of road construction between Phoenix and Safford and heavy rains about White Sands and said that they could hardly see.

While they were here, Patricia took us to all to our doctor appointments, cooked and did some shopping.

Jerry and daughter Corina enjoyed visiting the UFO Museum.

The Lincoln County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting in Carrizozo Saturday night. We were unable to go due to various reasons.

The Cowboy Symposium was held in Ruidoso Downs over the weekend.

Until next week, everyone take care.



LINCOLN TRAILS ROSALIE DUNLAP



The Tried but True Sale set-up crew included Carrizozo Woman's Club members. From left, Lucia Vega, Susan Goewey, Sharon Hefker, Eva Rottinger and Madeleine Sabo.

COURTESY

Woman's Club Tried and True Sale this Saturday

JULIE CARTER
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

The Carrizozo Woman's Club is hosting the third annual Tried and True Sale 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20.

The clubhouse is located at the corner of 11th and D Streets in Carrizozo. The sale features a vast selection of high quality new and used items. This year's lots include a large selection of furniture, household items and small electronic appliances.

There will be many racks of new and used clothing for men, women and children.

Everything for sale is in excellent condition and with guaranteed great prices.

There will also be a section of the sale full of bargain Christmas items for those who wish to start on the season early.

The sale is a major fundraiser for the club that begins with preparation months in advance.

The club is proud to offer the large number of great bargains available each year at the sale.

Proceeds from the Tried and True Sale go toward the upkeep and renovation of the historic clubhouse building, which is on the New Mexico and

the National Registers of Historic Buildings.

The Carrizozo Woman's Clubhouse was built in the Pueblo Revival Style in 1939, and is one of the most unique and well-preserved adobe buildings in the state.

Cared for by club members for the past 68 years, the building's hardwood oak floors were recently restored to their original glory.

The Carrizozo Woman's Club invites everyone to come by and have a cup of coffee, visit and shop during Saturday's sale.

For more information, contact Tona Macken at 354-0760.

COUNTY BRIEFS

Elk hunt raffle

Carrizozo Country Club is selling chances to win a bull elk tag in Unit 36, Nogal area, for Oct. 27-31.

The drawing will be held at the Country Club Oct. 21. Tickets are \$50 each and only 300 are being sold.

For information, call Matt Ferguson at 648-2984, Wally Ferguson at 849-1446 or Scott Shafer at 648-2877.

Time and tickets are limited.

'Zozo electronic recycling

Lincoln County Solid Waste, Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Carrizozo are hosting an electronic recycling, 9 a.m. - noon, Saturday, Oct. 27.

Obsolete electronics may be delivered to City Hall and deposited for disposal for free.

Computers and peripherals, office equipment and small electronics and household appliances all qualify. Gaming hardware, cell phones, cameras, radios, TVs, telephones, printers, audio/visual equipment, copiers, toner cartridges, network hardware and disk drives are some of the items acceptable for disposal.

For more information, call 648-2371 or 648-5586.

Women's retreat

Trinity Baptist Church of Capitan will hold a Women's Retreat Oct. 19-20. This no-cost event will start at 6 p.m. Oct. 19 and conclude

at 4 p.m. Oct. 20.

Women of all ages are invited to bring a Bible, notebook and sleeping bag.

Sleeping over is optional. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share for Friday night and Saturday lunch. Suzy Gayle will be doing a special Sunday Service at 11 a.m., Oct. 20.

For more information, contact Monda Milton at 354-2384.

PFK Fall Carnival

Carrizozo PFK will host their annual Fall Carnival 5-7 p.m. Oct. 31 in the Old Gym at Carrizozo High School.

Those interested in hosting a booth at the carnival should contact Cathy Barela at 648-2346 or J'Lane Zamora at 648-2802.

First Friday at CPL

The Nov. 2 First Friday Adult Lecture event at the Capitan Public Library will feature Tomas Vigil and his classical guitar.

Vigil, of Lincoln County, will share information about the classical guitar and entertain with his music.

The event starts at 7 p.m. at Capitan Village Hall.

Refreshments will be served afterwards across the street at Capitan Public Library.

The First Friday lectures are free of charge.

For more information, call 354-3035.

Mayor Hemphill digs in and looks for answers

JULIE CARTER
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

Rolling up his sleeves to begin addressing the situations he inherited, Bob Hemphill began his first meeting as the new Mayor of Carrizozo with a statement directed to questions that were posed to him after he was sworn in Sept. 24.

Mayor's statement

In the Oct. 9 meeting, many of the answers to the questions involved outlining the duties of the mayor, definition of classified and unclassified employees, salaries of the mayor and trustees as well as protocol for handling resignations and appointments of board members and the mayor.

Hemphill also said there have been some mistakes made, "and we are in the process of working with those."

"I've been in contact with Ms. Gallegos as the D.A.'s office and I have a call into Martin Ortega at the Department of Finance Authority. We are working on some of the remedies for some of the mistakes," Hemphill said.

Hemphill was referring to the "overtime" charged to the town by Clerk Leann Weibrecht, which he referred to as a "poor choice of words." He explained that Weibrecht had been asked by the council to do some work beyond her normal scope of work. The job involved updating the town

ordinances in lieu of the expense of hiring it out.

"The other mistake made, according to Hemphill was when the board authorized a buy-back of vacation that would have been lost because of the policy's ambiguity on how vacation is earned and when it has to be taken. "It does not violate state statute," Hemphill said, "but it does violate our local ordinance."

Hemphill said in his query to Ortega at DFA, that he asked what the town needed to do, what the remedy needed to be.

The "Mayor's Statement" item on the agenda will remain, at least temporarily, on future meeting agendas, Hemphill told the crowd. He encouraged people to write their questions down and leave them at city hall, saying that he may not remember it if you just ask him on the street.

"I'll research the questions and give you the answers," he said.

"I will not address things that are not in our control. I will not address things from NM Courts dot com from eight or nine years ago," said Hemphill. "I will not address specific complaints against an individual in an open meeting. If you have a complaint about someone in particular, come and tell me and we'll sit down with that person and talk about it."

Carrizozo Chief of Police Carrie Spencer presented her September department report to the council. The report indicated 14 cases were logged,

"At this time, I will honor Mayor Zamora's choices and continue with his appointments."

Bob Hemphill
Mayor of Carrizozo

of which four were felony cases and four misdemeanors. Two arrests were made. Municipal court report had nine cases docketed.

Kim Roper was approved as a part-time animal shelter employee, removing the need for animal shelter personnel to work overtime to care for the animals on weekends.

A 30-minute executive session brought a statement from Mayor Hemphill, "One of the things I said shortly after I was sworn in was, at that time, I intended to make no personnel changes. At this time, I will honor Mayor Zamora's choices and continue with his appointments. That means all the boards, all the committees and the three unclassified personnel are still in the same seats."

In other business the council: tabled the business registration request from Glen Mochel for his paint and body shop on Aspen Street because the property is zoned R-2. The request was referred back to P&Z.

discussed the process in applying for approval of relocating the LCSWA transfer site to the McBride property.

The council will meet next in a regularly scheduled meeting at 6 p.m., Nov. 13.

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FUNERALS DEATHS

Herb Roser

Herb Roser, the last of the Lower Merion High School "Roser boys," passed away peacefully July 29, 2007, at the age of 88.

Born and raised in Narberth, Pa., one of the highlights of his childhood was winning the Philadelphia Greater Metropolitan Area marble championship in 1931, and getting to sit in the dugout of the American League Champion Philadelphia Athletics with future Hall of Famers Connie Mack, Mickey Cochrane, Al Simmons and Lefty Grove.

He went on to compete in the National Marble Championship at Wildwood, N.J. Herb graduated from high school in 1937 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Jan. 6, 1938. After completing boot camp at Parris Island and Sea School, he was assigned to the Marine Detachment aboard the newly commissioned USS



Enterprise (CV-6), participating in several cruises and becoming an original "plank owner."

At the outbreak of WWII, SSgt. Roser was transferred to Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. where he was assigned as an instructor at Officers Candidate School. He was subsequently selected for the commissioning program himself, and served as platoon sergeant for his own officer candidate platoon. Commissioned a second lieutenant in October, 1943, Herb was assigned as Executive Officer of the Marine Detachment on the USS Bataan (CVL-29) and participated in numerous Pacific campaigns to include New Guinea, Saipan, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, Okinawa, and the occupation and security of Tokyo Bay in September, 1945. Inspired by the Marine aviators aboard the Bataan, Herb applied for and was accepted for Naval Flight School, train-

ing along with several WWII contemporaries, including Alan Shepard, and earning his wings of gold in March 1947. After flight school, Herb flew with several fighter squadrons, including VMF-222, VMF-114, and VMF (N) 531. He deployed to Korea in 1951 joining VMF (N) 513 where he flew 80 missions mostly at night in the F4U-5N Corsair. He was shot down by enemy ground fire, surviving a bailout at 500 feet, and was rescued by helicopter after evading for several hours behind enemy lines.

Medically retired in 1953, Herb enrolled at Millersville State Teacher's College in Lancaster, Pa. where he earned a Bachelor's of Science in Industrial Arts, graduating Cum Laude. College was followed by a stint as a high school teacher in Richburg, N.Y., where, largely due to his Marine Corps background and leadership skills, he was appointed Vice Principal during his first year.

In 1958, he successfully petitioned the Secretary of the

Navy for reinstatement in the USMC, and was returned to active duty. He completed the remainder of his Marine Corps career flying the R4Q Flying Boxcar and R5D Skymaster. Herb retired from the Marine Corps in 1963 as a Major with over 3350 flight hours. His awards included the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Purple Heart, and numerous campaign medals.

After the Marine Corps, Herb worked in several fields including teaching, real estate and industrial design. He was a talented artist, enjoyed tennis and the outdoors, and all the family pets, but his true passion was his love of the game of golf.

Self taught, he was a low handicapper and a wily veteran of match play, and could be found regularly on the golf courses at MCAS El Toro and MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif.

A disciple of Percy Boomer, he spent the latter years of his life searching for the "secret of golf," and would greet friend and opponent alike with "have

you heard about..." He was well-read, had strong opinions on just about any subject, and loved to engage in animated conversation. A truly unique individual, Herb Roser will not be forgotten.

Herb was preceded in death by his wonderful wife of 64 years, Jo; mother (Momsy), grandmother and great-grandmother, full of love and devotion to her family; and his two brothers, Harry (Moose) and Gordon (Roz). He is survived by his three children, Col H. Gary Roser USMC (Ret), Monterey, Calif., Gillian Halicki, 29 Palms, Calif., and Scott Roser, Ruidoso, and his sister-in-law, Irene Roser, North Wales, Pa. and her four children Lee, Steve, Leslie, and Michael. He is also survived by his six grandchildren: Geoff Roser, Ashburn, Va., Allison Bloor, Richmond, Va., Kevin Halicki, deployed to Iraq, Michael Halicki, 29 Palms, Calif., Marley and Sadie Roser, Ruidoso and five great-grandsons, Jack and Ben Bloor, Richmond, Va.; Jacob, Marcus,

and Lucas Roser, Ashburn, Va. **Sherrie Darlene Gibbs**

Prayer service for Sherrie Darlene Gibbs, 38, of Mescalero was at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, at the Mescalero Community Center where the funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17.

Burial will follow at the Saenz Family Cemetery.

Ms. Gibbs passed away Friday, Oct. 12, at her home. She was born March 10, 1969 in Mescalero. She lived in Texico until moving back to Mescalero in 1980. She attended the Carrizo Fellowship Church.

She is survived by her father, Winfred H. Gibbs; brothers and sisters, Loren Gibbs, Edison Dean, Pauline Chino, Jordan Torres, Brian Torres, Franklin Torres, Rochelle Martos, Coy Chino, John Chino and Sharon Chino; niece and nephew, Nikki Gibbs and Destri Gibbs; sister-in-law, Carol Gibbs. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.lagroneruidoso.com

Obituary Policy for the Ruidoso News

We publish obituaries free of charge as a community service. Obituaries must be submitted by a funeral home or family member.

In addition to hand delivery at our office, submissions may be made by email to mrucine@ruidosonews.com; by fax to (505) 257-7063; or by post to P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88345.

Submissions are subject to editing for length, wording, grammar and spelling according to the newspaper's established styles.

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

We accept one photo per obituary; publication of a photo is subject to space availability and is not guaranteed.

We are not responsible for errors or omissions.

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

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On Election Day, November 6, Lincoln County residents will have the opportunity to vote YES to sustain and increase funding for Lincoln County Medical Center, Emergency Medical Services and the four rural clinics. *We can only provide the healthcare services our friends, families and neighbors rely on today if the mill levy passes.*

When you vote to support the 4.25 mill levy, you will renew the 3.0 mill levy necessary to maintain today's healthcare services in Lincoln County and then invest 1.25 mills for:

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- new technology and services for tomorrow to keep pace with the growth in our community

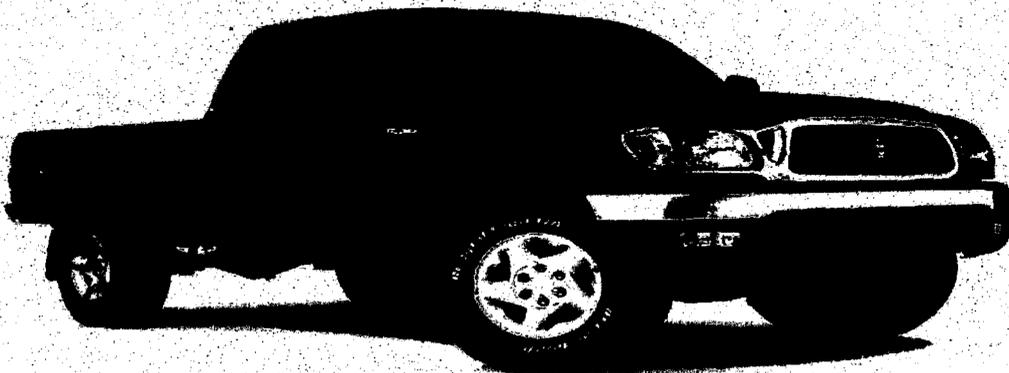
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NMSU presents conference for small-scale livestock, agricultural producers

MORIARTY - Staying on the cutting edge is important to any business owner, including those in agriculture.

New Mexico State University will provide an opportunity for ranchers and small farm owners to do just that at the first-ever New Mexico Small Farm Conference and Trade Show.

The three-day event will be

Friday, Nov. 2, through Sunday, Nov. 4, at the Moriarty Civic Center, 202 Broadway.

With the small operating farmer or rancher representing 92 percent of all agricultural producers in New Mexico, the NMSU Cooperative Extension Service Small Farm Task Force determined a need for an educational conference geared to the smaller acreage farmer or

small herd stockman.

The conference and trade show will focus on small scale livestock and agricultural producers from New Mexico and present educational programs tailored to their needs.

During the conference there will be a variety of informative demonstrations, including a stock dog demonstration on Friday, demonstrations on flo-

ral arranging and cooking tips for holiday gifts and treats on Saturday and planning and installing drip irrigation systems on Sunday.

Trade show

A trade show of agricultural vendors will be held, along with displays and exhibits by NMSU researchers and non-profit organizations.

A health fair will be in the civic center with free blood pressure and glucose tests.

The Lions Club Eye Bus will be present Saturday to provide examinations.

Friday's activities will be from 1-5 p.m. Programs will resume Saturday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Admission paid in advance is \$40 for all three days; \$25 for

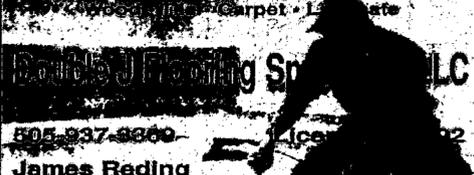
Saturday only or \$20 for either Friday or Sunday only.

Cost at the door will be \$60, \$30 and \$25, respectively.

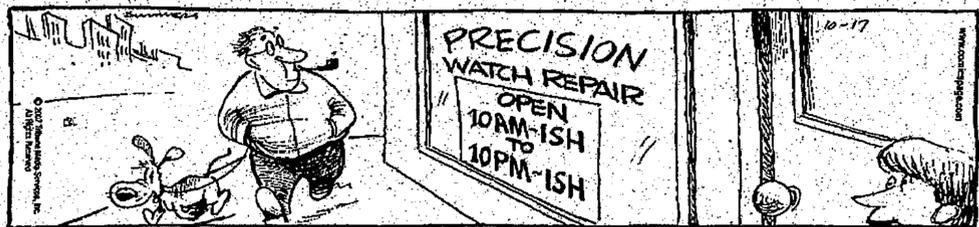
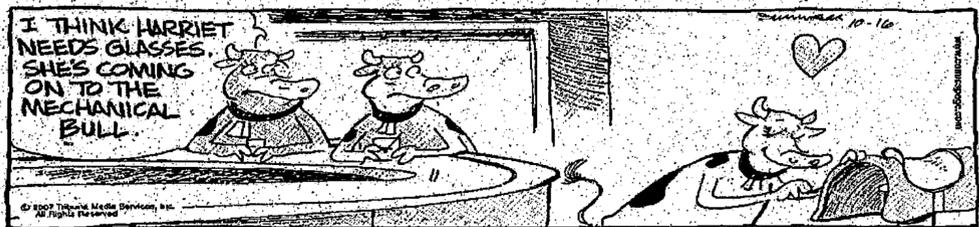
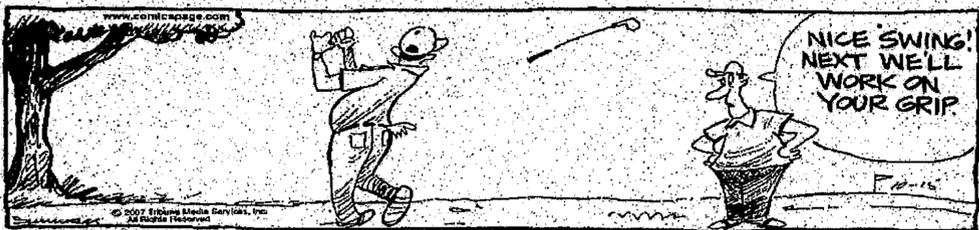
For more information, visit the NMSU College of Agriculture and Home Economics Web site through the calendar of events, www.cahe.nmsu.edu/calendar.

Advance registration may be done on-line.

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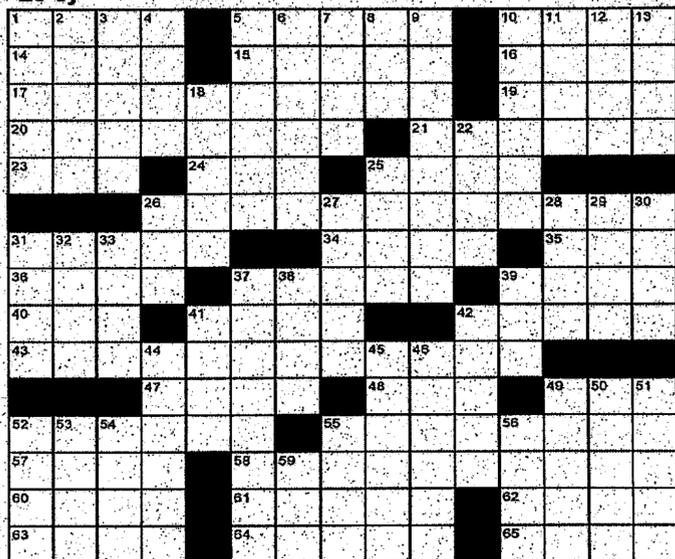
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- 1. Pitcher's miscue.
5. 'Lemon Tree' singer Lopez
10. Diribags
14. Ready for business
15. Pine exudation
16. Twistable snack
17. Marked by self-indulgence
19. Tijuana's locale, for short
20. Means of escape
21. Place to get oysters or clams
23. Like some grins
24. Have a bug
25. Marathon's rate
26. Arborist's skill
31. Satellite's job, briefly
34. Part of an interstate
35. Old French coin
36. Cheese in a ball
37. Sunday assents
39. Gives a boost to
40. Cackleberry
41. Light bulb, in comics
42. Map close-up
43. Doctors sometimes engage in it
47. 'The doctor'
48. Offbeat
49. 'That's all wrote'
52. Rub elbows
55. Free from imperfections
57. Bad way to run insect domestication
60. Greedy one's cry
61. Overthrow, maybe
62. Nicole Smith
63. Critic's bestial
64. Bit attachments

'Ee-sy'



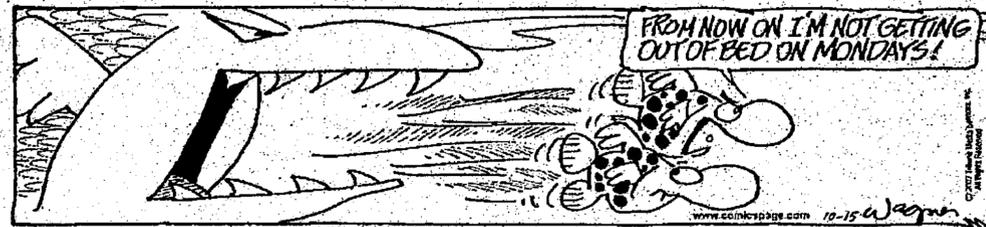
American Profile: Hometown Content

071014

DOWN

- 1. Box office biggies
2. Boston Marathon month
3. Smelling a rat
4. 'Trick' joint
5. Mrs. Ed Norton
6. Attack verbally
7. 'any wonder?'
8. Diarist Anais
9. Fixes indelibly
10. Sign of disuse
11. Native Saudi
12. 'It was vu all over again'
13. Eagles do it
18. Soak up
22. Wile E. Coyote's supplier
25. Think ahead
26. Rock's Petty
27. Traction aid
28. Horned goddess
29. Intersection point
30. Sudden burst
31. Cause of grounding
32. Upper hand
33. Tamer's workplace
37. Off-the-cuff comic, e.g.
38. Chow
39. Director Lee
41. Facto
42. The movie 'Wordplay' is one
44. Tricky pitch
45. Accepted, as a job
46. Thumb twiddlers
49. Perform superbly
50. Reddish brown dye
51. Award named for Poe
52. Some Easter dinners
53. Leave off
54. fide
55. Gilpin of 'Frasier'
56. Fix, in a way
59. Poetic preposition

ANIMAL CRACKERS



SCRABBLE BRAND

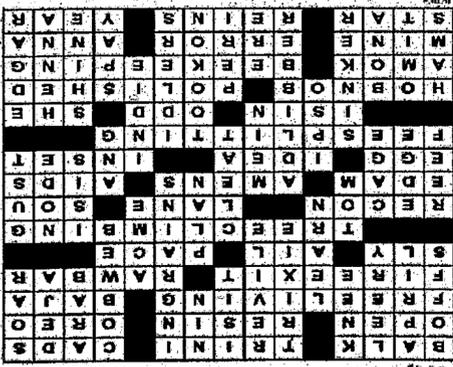
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SCRABBLE rack layout with letters and rack numbers.

PAR SCORE 150-160 BEST SCORE 222 FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus.

For more information on books, clubs, tournaments and the school program go to www.scrabble-assoc.com or call the National SCRABBLE Association (631) 477-0033.



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JUMBLE

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

Jumble puzzle with words NEQUE, REVNY, ZORFEN, ROUVED and a grid.

Answer here: [grid]

PAR SCORE 150-160 TOTAL 222 RACK 4 = 64 RACK 3 = 65 RACK 2 = 40 RACK 1 = 83

THE BARTENDER



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PAR SCORE 150-160 TOTAL 222 RACK 4 = 64 RACK 3 = 65 RACK 2 = 40 RACK 1 = 83

SUDOKU puzzle grid and instructions.

Jumbles: QUEEN NERVY FROZEN DEVOUR Answer: The bartender kept his customers in good spirit with a FREE ROUND

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