

RUIDOSO NEWS

**FIRE DANGER
LOW**

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30, 2009 • OUR 63RD YEAR, NO. 69 • 75 CENTS

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Track move doubted

STEVE RAMIREZ
Las Cruces Sun-News

LAS CRUCES - State Sen. Mary Kay Papen, D-Las Cruces, said Tuesday it could be very hard for the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino to move its horse racing and casino operations to Las Cruces in 2011 as owner R.D. Hubbard has proposed.

A state law that prevents horse race tracks and casinos from being within 80 miles of each other and efforts by Hubbard and race track officials to get the New Mexico Legislature to approve tax breaks for Ruidoso Downs are the biggest problems that could delay plans to

Las Cruces senator cites state law prohibiting 'racinos' from operating within 80 miles of each other

move to Las Cruces. Papen said getting legislators to change the state law and approve substantial tax breaks at a time when state government is facing a significant budget deficit could be difficult to sell to a majority of legislators.

"Doing that would be setting a very dangerous precedent, and the state can't afford to do that," Papen said. "If we were grant those things to R.D. Hubbard we would have to

be willing to give those same things to everyone else. We can't play favorites... it's not fair to the other tracks in the state."

In the past two years, proposed legislation that would allow Ruidoso Downs to pay 10 percent of taxes on the first \$10 million of net profits generated at the combination race track and casino - or "racino" - has failed to get beyond consideration from legislative com-

mittees. Ruidoso Downs has been paying 26 percent in taxes - the same as all other racinos in the state - and Hubbard has said Ruidoso Downs has been losing money because of the tax rate.

Gov. Bill Richardson has said he would support tax concessions that would keep the horse race track and casino in Ruidoso. But anything like that would have to be first approved by the state House and Senate.

Hubbard has said that any move to Las Cruces would be an alternative if the Legislature fails to approve tax breaks.

See **TRACK**, page 7A



DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

Hope Robertson, 6, from Tomball, Texas, flies down the hill to her waiting mother. Sledders primarily from Texas and Mexico swamped the bunny sledding slopes at Schoolhouse Park in Ruidoso Monday. Parents watched as their small children climbed the hill behind the Senior Center. Older and more adventurous sledders headed for the higher hill on the other side of the playground, but the little sledders didn't seem to mind. The laughter and happy screams said it all about why so many visitors come to Ruidoso over the holidays. For storm coverage, see page 7A. For more photos from Schoolhouse Park, see page 10A.

Weather warms economy

More white stuff means more green for merchants

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Ruidoso's tourism economy is heated up this winter.

"It's Mother Nature," said Steve Tally, the village's tourism director. "We've done a lot of marketing, but it's mostly Mother Nature."

Plentiful snowfalls during December have lured winter enthusiasts to the Sacramento Mountains. Long lines of vehicles the past week have filled state Highway 48 and Ski Run Road during the early morning and late afternoon hours, as skiers head to and return from Ski Apache.

"It sure is packed," Ruidoso Interim Police Chief Dick Swenor said of the highway. "It's been a

while since it's been like this."

Ski Apache is 98 percent open, including Apache Bowl, said Director of Operations Justin Rowland.

"It's white, it's beautiful, and we're busy," said Rowland. "Monday was our busiest day of the year so far. We had 4,800 people up here. You can pretty much ski the whole mountain now. A little snow sure helps."

Ski Apache's snowfall total so far this season stood at 71 inches on Tuesday.

"We hope to see it continue through January and February," said Rowland.

Children and adults on sleds were out in force as well in recent days.

The Ruidoso area picked up another one inch of snow on Tuesday, according to a report from the National Weather Service. San Patricio, Hondo, and

"It's white, it's beautiful, and we're busy."

the Bonito Lake area had similar accumulations.

"If you're a skier or a snowboarder, you're watching the weather," said Tally. "But we will look at possible additional marketing after the first of the year."

The long-term forecast is suggesting above normal snow through the winter months.

All the snow-related activity was being embraced by merchants, lodgers, and eateries in the area.

"We've been busy," said Bruna Campos, an employee at the Alto Café. "Definitely the snow brought them here."

See **WARM**, page 7A

Stoddard changes mind; will seek re-election

DIANNE STALLINGS
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When he ran for his first term on the Ruidoso Village Council, Jim Stoddard talked about limiting his public service to four years.

But Thursday, Stoddard announced he will run for re-election to a second term to complete several projects still pending and to tackle some problems he encountered while serving as a councilor.

Three council seats are up for election at-large in the non-partisan contest.

In his statement, Stoddard, who is known for his outspokenness, said he's running because he feels obligated and responsible to help successfully complete the new regional wastewater treatment plant being constructed under a court mandate.



STODDARD

"I currently represent the village on the Joint Use Board that is charged with the oversight of the (plant) and am working to bring about more equal representation on that board," he wrote.

"Currently, that board is made up of two representatives from (the City of Ruidoso Downs, two from

See **RACE**, page 7A



Marilyn Woods and Marsha Parr, with the Mountain Top Trail Riding Club, ring the Salvation Army bells in Midtown Ruidoso while a young girl drops some coins into the kettle.

Salvation Army the Salvation Army this year in Lincoln County. people gave and how gener- Salvation Army. successful. Mary Austin, Lisa
 year collected seven times "With so few volunteers ous this community is," cessful. Mary Austin, Lisa
 Despite few volunteers, more donations than last it was refreshing to see how said Darien Ross, with the ringers who made this suc- **CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A**

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AccuWeather® 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
RealFeel 37°	RealFeel 38°	RealFeel 51°	RealFeel 52°	RealFeel 43°	RealFeel 39°	RealFeel 35°
Humidity 44%	Humidity 43%	Humidity 37%	Humidity 52%	Humidity 43%	Humidity 39%	Humidity 39%
Breezy and not as cold with clouds and sun	Sunshine and breezy	Mostly sunny and milder	Mostly sunny	A full day of sunshine	Cold with partial sunshine snow at night	Cold with some sun, snow at night
Wind: WNW 19-20 mph	Wind: WNW 10-20 mph	Wind: W 7-14 mph	Wind: NW 7-14 mph	Wind: ENE 6-12 mph	Wind: ESE 6-12 mph	Wind: E 6-12 mph

RealFeel Temperature™ is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation and elevation on the human body. Shown are the highs for the day.

National Forecast for Dec. 30, 2009

Legend:
 Cold
 Warm
 Stationary
 Showers
 T-storms
 Rain
 Furries
 Snow
 Ice

Regional Cities

Forecasted and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

Almanac

Ruidoso
 Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
 High/low 32°/21°
 Normal high 49°
 Normal low 19°
 Record high 66° (1980)
 Record low -16° (1954)
Precipitation:
 Monday 0.03"
 Month to date 1.02"
 Normal month to date 1.58"
 Year to date 16.84"
 Normal year to date 22.61"

Alamogordo
 Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
 High/low yesterday 37°/28°
 Normal high 54°
 Normal low 28°
 Record high 73° (1955)
 Record low 9° (1966)
Precipitation:
 Monday 0.12"
 Month to date 1.02"
 Normal month to date 0.93"
 Year to date 11.34"
 Normal year to date 13.14"

Weather Trivia™:
 Q: What is diamond dust?

Sun and Moon

Wednesday: Sunrise/Sunset
 7:05 a.m./5:06 p.m.

Wednesday: Moonrise/Moonset
 4:03 p.m./6:01 a.m.

Moon Phases

Full Last New First

Dec 31 Jan 7 Jan 15 Jan 23

Extremes

Monday's National High/Low:
 (For the 48 contiguous states)
 High: 70° in Miami, FL
 Low: -23° in West Yellowstone, MT

Monday's World High/Low:
 High: 116° in Cunderdin, Australia
 Low: -56° in Summit Station, Greenland

National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Abilene	50/36/pc	47/31/c
Anchorage	21/17/c	24/13/c
Atlanta	50/40/c	52/36/r
Austin	58/39/c	60/32/pc
Baltimore	38/26/s	38/35/f
Boston	26/22/s	38/32/c
Chicago	34/26/sn	31/15/sn
Dallas	48/39/c	50/29/c
Denver	36/14/pc	35/17/pc
Des Moines	30/11/sn	14/3/c
Detroit	34/28/c	37/24/sf
El Paso	53/34/pc	56/30/s
Las Vegas	56/36/pc	59/37/pc
Los Angeles	64/48/r	68/50/pc
Minneapolis	24/9/sn	14/1/c
New Orleans	63/51/r	66/43/pc
New York City	34/29/s	38/35/c
Philadelphia	35/26/s	39/36/sn
Phoenix	82/44/pc	65/45/s
Reno	40/29/sf	44/30/pc
San Francisco	55/49/r	57/51/c
San Diego	63/54/c	65/50/pc
Seattle	44/35/r	44/38/r
Tucson	61/37/s	64/37/s
Tulsa, OK	40/27/c	38/22/c
Wash., DC	40/31/s	42/36/c
Wichita	40/19/sf	32/19/c
Yuma	66/47/pc	70/48/s

W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

Regional Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	41/26/c	43/22/s
Artesia	56/36/pc	53/32/s
Chama	33/10/sn	35/11/pc
Clayton	44/20/pc	38/24/sn
Cloudcroft	36/19/pc	39/19/s
Farmington	42/21/sn	33/14/s
Hobbs	58/31/pc	49/28/pc
Los Alamos	36/17/sn	36/13/s
Portales	50/26/pc	48/23/sn
Raton	43/15/pc	38/11/sn
Red River	29/8/pc	30/-3/s
Ruidoso	44/29/pc	43/31/s
Santa Fe	38/22/c	39/16/s
Silver City	50/30/pc	51/30/s
Taos	40/17/pc	37/12/s

Mexican Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	90/73/s	87/72/s
Cancun	82/69/pc	80/69/pc
Chihuahua	63/32/s	63/28/s
Ciudad Juárez	54/34/pc	55/30/s
Leon	75/41/pc	78/42/pc
México, DF	73/43/s	75/48/pc
Monterrey	70/48/pc	75/46/s
Morelia	76/45/s	75/46/pc
Oaxaca	86/54/s	85/48/s
Pto. Penasco	68/52/s	65/47/s
Tijuana	63/50/pc	68/48/pc

FROM PAGE 2A

Smith, an Ann Rhoddy took on the Realtor challenge and collected well over \$1,000 combined. Lorely Enriquez and Daisy Cuevas from the Lady Warrior soccer team braved the elements and collected over \$400. Joe Bruchette from Cofex Computing also collected over \$400. And Angel Chavez and his daughter Naomi from Angel Chavez General Contracting collected over \$300," said Ross.

Because of fewer volunteers the Salvation Army this year began taking kettles to churches in each community to raise funds for those in need. The money that was collected is for people in Lincoln County and is distributed through the First Baptist Church of Ruidoso Downs. Bell ringers were stationed at Walmart and Lawrence Brothers IGA.

Teague visits

Congressman Harry Teague will continue his "Harry in Your Hometown" outreach program on Sunday with events in Capitan and Carrizozo. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and meet with Congressman Teague one on one to share their thoughts and questions with him and to learn more about how his office can help them solve problems with federal agencies.

Following the event, Teague will be available to visit with interested media.

This event is part of Congressman Teague's "Solutions for Southern New Mexico" tour, kicking off Jan. 2. On the weeklong tour, Teague will visit all 18 counties in the 2nd Congressional District to meet with constituents and attend various events.

Since taking office in January, Teague has hosted over 70 "Harry in Your Hometown" events across southern New Mexico and opened six Congressional Field Offices. The "Harry in Your Hometown" program is a community outreach initiative developed by Congressman Teague to help him stay in touch with constituents throughout New Mexico's second congressional district.

Capitan

- Harry in Your Hometown
- Capitan Village Hall, 114 Lincoln Avenue
- Sunday, Jan. 3, noon - 1 p.m.

Carrizozo

- Harry in Your Hometown
- Carrizozo Town Hall, 400 9th Street
- Sunday, Jan. 3, 2 - 3 p.m.

For more information, call 1-888-9-TEAGUE.

Planners meet

Ruidoso Planning and Zoning commissioners will discuss department issues and take a refresher course at their next meeting, Jan. 5.

They will receive a code enforcement update, par-

ticipate in a Zoning 101 Workshop, hear about building requirements from Shawn Fort and talk about their meeting schedule for 2010. They're trying to decide whether to schedule two meetings a month on a regular basis, or one a month with a second called, if needed, or to continue with just one meeting a month.

Also on their list of discussion items is a review of the village sign code, which commissioners say is being ignored by many in town.

The meeting begins at 2 p.m. in the council chambers of the Village Administration Center, 313 Cree Meadows Drive.

Other items on the agenda include:

- a variance request for Lot 3A, Block 7, Wingfield Homestead 2nd Addition submitted by applicant James Lattimer, agent D.T. Collins & Associates.
- a zone district amendment for Lot 15A, Block 1, Forest Heights Subdivision submitted by applicant Wayne Usrey.
- a revised Site Plan for an Irish Pub on Lot 2A - 8, Block 3, Riverside Addition submitted by applicants Thomas Farrell and Shari Smith, agent Shaw Engineering, tabled from Dec. 15 meeting.

Alpine Village

The Alpine Village Water and Sanitation District Board will conduct a regular monthly meeting at 5:30 p.m., Monday, in the District's building, 112A Alpine Meadows Trail.

The meeting will include regular business for the District, such as paying bills and reporting on the operations of the water system.

The agenda may contain discussion regarding committees to address the Conservation and a Drought Contingency Plan, Capacity Assessment, and revising the Bylaws and Regulations.

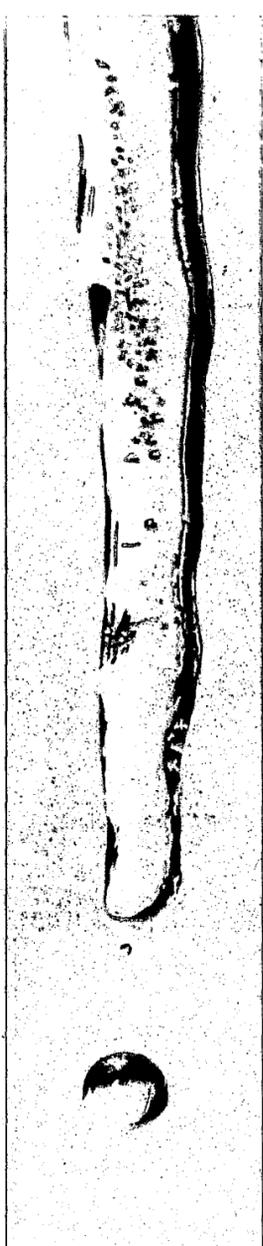
All residents of the District are welcome to attend. Agendas are available at least 24 hours prior to meeting time.

Tree recycling

Keep Ruidoso Beautiful, the Village of Ruidoso Parks and Recreation and Solid Waste Departments, and Sierra Contracting will host the annual Christmas tree recycling program at Schoolhouse Park in Ruidoso through Jan. 16.

The Schoolhouse Park drop-off location is in the temporary orange fenced area between the swimming pool and the recycling dumpsters. Both green and flocked trees (fake snow) are accepted. All tree stands, lights, ornaments and other tree decorations must be removed for the safety of the crews and machinery. Please do not illegally dump Christmas trees at other trash disposal dumpsters or compactors locations.

County residents with trees cut into pieces four feet or less may also place



COURTESY DAVID TREMBLAY

The simple process of an icicle melting is captured in all its intricate beauty by Ruidoso photographer David Tremblay.

in their normal yard waste location. Carrizozo residents can drop discarded trees by Town hall for proper disposal. Capitan residents should drop discarded trees off at the Town equipment yard. Corona area residents should drop off Christmas trees to be recycled at the Corona waste disposal and recycling center near the railroad tracks. Any county resident can also take trees to the School House Park recycling area in Ruidoso.

There are many uses for discarded Christmas trees instead of burying them in the landfill. Other uses for Christmas trees discarded on private property include

- Erosion control and soil stabilization in ravines and arroyos
- Compost and mulch

- Habitat for birds and other small animals
- Firewood

Trees discarded at the Schoolhouse Park site will be converted into mulch and made available to county residents at White Mountain School and Schoolhouse Park.

For more information on Christmas tree recycling, contact Ruidoso Parks and Recreation at 257-5030 or the Solid Waste Authority office at 378-4697, toll free at 1-877-548-8772 or via email at lcswa@valornet.com. Christmas tree recycling information is available on the Authority Web site at www.lcswa.org.

Call for Artists

If you live in Lincoln County, you may apply to be part of the Grandmother of Art Tours, the Art Loop Studio Tour, July 9 - 11, 2010. Download your application from the Web site, www.artloop.org or request an application, and return by Jan. 15, 2010. All forms of art will be considered.

For more information, call toll-free 877-377-6576, or visit www.artloop.org.

Board election

Officers for the Board of Director of the Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District/Council of Governments will be elected during the annual meeting Jan. 22.

The session will begin at 10 a.m., in the Campus Union Building of Eastern New Mexico University in Roswell. Guest speaker will be Michael Trost of the Pecos River Resolution Corporation. Members also will discuss the state funding budget adjustment that emerged from the October special session of the State Legislature.

Meeting cancelled

The regular Lincoln County Land and Natural Resources Advisory Committee set for Jan 5 is canceled because of a lack of agenda items.

Fort volunteers

Fort Stanton Inc. the citizens booster group that shepherded the historic fort through more than one close call before it was named a state monument this year, is hunting for more members.

After the fort was closed in 1995 as a state hospital for the mentally disabled, supporters of preserving the 1855 fort turned federal, then state hospital, never flagged in their dedication. They fought attempts to develop subdivisions on the land around the fort and other threats to its authenticity and value as a historic complex, which includes a World War II German internment camp that functioned more as a guest community within a community.

But to continue manning a museum and advocating for the fort, needed repairs and restorations, warm bodies are required, says President Clinton Smith.

"Fort Stanton Inc. membership dollars helped achieve its mission by saving the fort for future generations," he said. "In 2009,

Fort Stanton became an official New Mexico State Monument. But our work has just begun. We need public and more member support for future preservation projects such as roof repairs on the silos and for educational materials for school tours."

Grants written by members of Fort Stanton Inc and state funding gave the New Mexico State Monuments division enough resources to renovate the administration building and officers quarters and Smith hopes to keep the momentum of preservation going, he said.

"Your membership dollars go toward presentation of historic buildings at the fort about 15 miles northeast of Ruidoso between Lincoln and Capitan, educational materials for tours, exhibit furniture, the annual Fort Stanton Live event, the Fort Stanton Inc. newsletter, museum maintenance and more," Smith said.

Student annual memberships are \$15, individual memberships are \$20, family are \$25 and lifetime are \$250. Fort Stanton Inc. is a charitable 501 (c) (3) organization and all monetary donations are tax deductible. Contact Peggy Whittemore/FS Membership, P.O. Box 446, Alto, NM 88312.

For more information, go to www.fortstanton.com.

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 1:35 4:20 7:05 9:45
 AVATAR (PG-13)
 1:30 5:00 8:30
 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)
 12:45 2:50 4:55 7:00 9:05
 THESE TIMES ARE GOOD FOR WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

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Lincoln County Medical Center

Introducing Lincoln County's newest Internist, Alfred B. Varela, MD

Lincoln County Medical Center welcomes Internist Alfred B. Varela, MD, to our growing family of providers. Dr. Varela is no stranger to Lincoln County and New Mexico. He most recently worked in Santa Teresa as a staff physician at the Doctors of Santa Teresa Medical Clinic and as the Medical Director for the Santa Teresa Medical Care Center. Dr. Varela provides adolescent and adult medical care at our Internal Medicine Associates Clinic.

Dr. Varela completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at Grant Hospital, in association with Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital, in Chicago. He was Chief Resident in Internal Medicine from 1987 to 1988. Dr. Varela is bilingual in Medical Spanish.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Varela at Internal Medicine Associates, please call (575) 630-8350. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Internal Medicine Associates is a department of Lincoln County Medical Center and Presbyterian

www.pbs.org/lcme

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OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

Lisa Morales, publisher
Marty Racine, editor

A MediaNews Group Newspaper Published every Wednesday and Friday

OUR OPINION

2009: It was a 'typical' year

We can do without the 'sensational' news

In July 2008, as we all remember, a historic flood ripped through Ruidoso, pushing a river out of its banks and causing widespread destruction and displacement.

News in these parts doesn't always hit with such force, and in 2009 the events of the day unfolded in a typically more measured way.

That is to say, the year's significant stories covered by the *Ruidoso News* were chapters of a larger saga, with updates published periodically – the possible move of Ruidoso Downs Race Track; the progress, or lack thereof, of

the expanded Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant; the indictment of a former Ruidoso police officer and the investigation of a Capitán officer; the tracking of the economy and year-by-year comparisons of tax revenue.

Even our weather, which tends to the dramatic, provided small, steady updates: cumulative precipitation figures throughout the year; mounting snow totals at Ski Apache.

Floods get our journalistic adrenaline flowing, but, frankly, we're perfectly content with 2009, a year of basic reporting to keep you informed about your town. Happy New Year!

We've lost the art of the compromise

So we end the year with a climate "accord" nobody likes. And healthcare reform limped out of Congress with critics baying on all sides. When the Legislature convenes to contend with the state's red ink, we'll probably see more controversial compromises, just as we did in the special session.

Which makes me think we don't know how to compromise any more. I'm not sure we even know what a compromise is.

I've seen the process in two settings – as a mediator and as an observer at New Mexico First's Town Hall Meetings.

In mediation training, we learned that resolving conflict has several critical pieces. First, the right people have to be at the table with authority to make an agreement. Second, everybody has to negotiate in good faith. Third – and this is a big one – everyone must be heard and believe they've been heard by the others. Fourth, everyone should be prepared to concede on some lesser issues in order to reach an agreement on critical issues.

As a mediator, I've seen two emotional people forge an agreement they could live with, shake hands, and walk away satisfied. And I've also seen mediations fail because one of the four elements wasn't in place.

New Mexico First has for decades provided a constructive forum that brings together a variety of people from all over the state to discuss a chosen issue – education, economic development, taxation. The process is designed to allow participants to make their points and then to nudge players with divergent opinions toward a consensus. The final product is a document. Sometimes, frankly, the consensus document is a marvel of wording so muddy, it's hard to tell what agreement was reached.

Compromise or consensus can be an ugly mutt. The compromise between black and white is grey.

But the process is still worthwhile. If you and I have sat

together on a New Mexico First panel, we still might not agree by the end of the Town Hall, but I will go away with an understanding of how you feel because you've explained how you came to your views, and I've listened. And vice versa.

So when it appears that nothing much happened in Copenhagen, I'm philosophical. At least many of the people who count were at the table and had the authority to negotiate. Some of them were listening to each other. It was a start. A real agreement is going to take time. That won't satisfy those who believe time is running out, but it's the reality.

The health care compromise is more disturbing, not so much for its content as its process. For quite a while we saw the Gang of Six in the Senate, which included Sen. Jeff Bingaman, try valiantly to hear all sides and forge a compromise. Republicans, determined to torpedo reform no matter what, weren't bargaining in good faith, but moderate and conservative Democrats were, so the developing plan did reflect divergent views.

Then, with the clock ticking, the leadership caved to the demands of extortionists. What we got was not compromise but a payoff.

That's the way Congress has gotten used to doing things, and we shouldn't be happy about it. We never crabbed here as long as St. Pete was arriving with a sleigh full of goodies, but when the beneficiaries are in Nebraska and Louisiana, we cry foul.

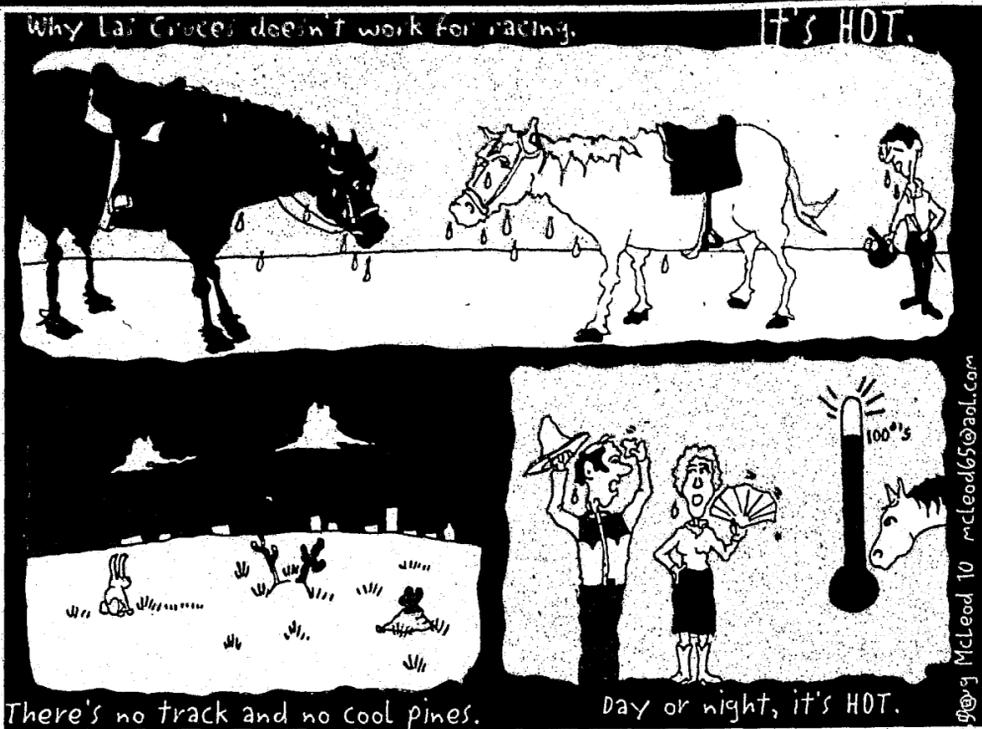
There's a phrase I'm starting to find suspect: win-win. We've heard so many times that deals are win-win, we've come to expect that every agreement will allow all sides to be a winner and nobody has to give anything up.

Life doesn't work that way. Each of us makes compromises every day, and we understand our team will lose sometimes. Congress should play by our rules.

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SHERRY ROBINSON
ALL SHE WROTE



YOUR OPINION

A little advice, from the sidelines

To the editor:

TIMING is everything and unfortunately the timing for me this election is difficult. John Lennon said it best: "Life is what happens to you when you're busy making other plans."

It is with this notion that I regret to inform my supporters that I will not be running for local office this year. After coming only nine votes short in last year's run I immediately began planning for this election as so many of you approached me with encouragement.

However, timing has presented a lifetime opportunity for my wife Marilyn and me that will make it impossible to properly serve the community and capitalize on this moment in our lives.

Blessings seem to come into my life in full disguise and I expect that this is another one as it has all the attributes – bad timing, huge significance and incredible challenge. I, of course, will continue to volunteer as I can and intend to run for office here in the next election if timing is willing.

I believe that I have a great deal to offer in helping guide our village into the unfamiliar that is our future. As I will not be participating in the forums and

sharing my thoughts with you and the candidates directly I would like to extend some hard-earned advice for those worthy individuals who are stepping up to run for office this time.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "The best executive is one who has sense enough to pick good people to do what he wants done and self restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it." This applies to us. We have a great village staff and a very capable village manager. Task the manager, develop a business plan; set goals and flesh out measurements, then get out of the way.

Let her do her job. That's what we pay the manager to do and frankly we now have one who really appears to know what she is doing. She will, in turn, task and measure her staff and based on a lifetime of experience doing this I am convinced that things will improve around here exponentially. This was to be one of my main platforms for candidacy. Never underestimate the power of good morale and know that an empowered staff is one whose morale cannot be marginalized.

Another piece of unsolicited advice I would offer is for Council and the new mayor to remember

that Ruidoso is many things to many people, but the one thing that paves the streets, funds emergency services, fills our restaurants, boutiques and theaters and keeps Ruidoso ticking is tourism. Do not divert funding from marketing. Do not finish Wingfield Park. Do not do anything that damages in any way the balance we have in lodging and the environment.

Do protect the economy. Do use the Ruidoso Valley Economic Development Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce as advisory boards on all matters financial. Do use the brain trust that abounds in Ruidoso and encourage new people to sit on boards and committees as a new perspective is needed to keep us healthy. Do be completely honest and speak openly about your agenda during the campaign.

Finally and most importantly: Once elected *do not* promote any agenda that you did not disclose during the campaign. We have all had our fill of that on the local, state and especially the national levels.

Thank you to all of you who have supported my efforts through the years. I won't be far away and I will be back soon.

Chuck Duncan
Ruidoso

Ruidoso's tourism services lacking

To the editor:

WE HAVE a home in the Ruidoso area and visit monthly. I find it interesting the articles this last year on trying to increase tourism.

My husband and I have conversations about this when we drive into town around 5:30 p.m. and the downtown stores are closed up tight. You see people walking the streets window shopping because after a winter day of skiing or dinner there is nothing else to do unless you go to a bar.

Likewise in the summer: After a day of hiking or the races there is nothing to do in the evening.

We have a 12-year-old godson who wants to come with us, but we always put him off because there is nothing for him to do. We arranged for him to go to a summer camp last year in Cloudcroft to keep him entertained.

We have traveled a lot in our life, mostly to mountain towns, and have always been baffled in Ruidoso by the business owners that want tourists but are not open when tourists would like to come to their stores.

For example, in other mountain tourist towns, the business-area stores are open until 9 p.m., keeping the street alive with people and activities year-round. They may be sipping a hot cider, browsing in a bookstore, going to

a movie – one with an up-to-date sound system that you can understand what people say.

In the summer, there was horseback riding and hiking trails. This is another sore subject for us. In any National Park we have been in you could easily get a map of the hiking trails, their difficulty, mileage, type of trail, how to get there, whether it is good for kids, etc.

We've hiked trails across the U.S., so we are familiar with that type of information. We have gone to the Forest Service in Ruidoso and they show me on a forest topographic map (like I could read that) where there are some trails, discuss among themselves and guess how long it is and tell me it's not marked but you go that-a-way.

I have found some trails from locals, and the visitor center has a map but no directions how to find the trail. If you find the trail, they are not marked along the way with how far you've gone, so you never know – "am I almost there?"

When I mention this to the park service and ask if there is anyone that can at least mark the trails with a name or number, how long it is and make a list where they are, the reply was "Wouldn't that be nice? With the cutbacks we don't have the man-

power for this."

I bet you have a whole community of volunteers that could be put into place to tackle a project like this.

Is there anywhere for cross-country skiing? Not everyone wants to race down a mountain.

I love Ruidoso and you have everything here other mountain tourist towns have, so why not use it or get it? Maybe all the new proposed tax money should not go for advertising but for giving the tourist year-round activities that we can advertise.

Ask the tourist. Who would know better what the town needs to keep them returning!

Janet Lane
Ruidoso

OUR RIGHT TO KNOW

The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

'Budget Townhall' to study fiscal solutions

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

A New Mexico Budget Townhall is set for 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 5, to give residents a chance to question their legislators about the state budget and the legislative session that begins Jan. 19.

New Mexico legislative sessions begin the third Tuesday of the first month of each year. This year, the session runs 30 days and is supposed to deal only with finances, which is a major issue as the state faces a \$650 million deficit. Legislators already met in October to begin cost-cutting and revenue boosting measures which could include more taxes, higher fees and cuts in services. A longer 60-day session is conducted in alternating

years. The short session will end at noon Feb. 18.

The townhall meeting will be conducted at the Gateway Church of Christ, 2709 Sudderth Drive in Ruidoso. Sitting on the panel will be elected officials from the counties of Lincoln, Chaves and Otero.

The purpose of the event sponsored by the Lincoln County Tea Party Patriots is to look at some of the most challenging budget issues to develop creative methods to handle them. Citizens can ask their legislators about their position on reinstating the gross receipts tax on groceries as a means of boosting state revenue.

When the governor a few years ago advocated removing the tax, he balanced the action by increasing several user fees in the

state. If the GRT is levied again, will people in New Mexico end up paying both higher fees and a GRT on food?

Business owners, county and municipal officials and employees are encouraged to attend and participate with questions. The forum is non-partisan with the purpose of informing and educating citizens of New Mexico about the budget.

Radio broadcaster "Harvey T." Twite will moderate. Refreshments will be furnished. Seating is available for about 300 people and a large crowd is anticipated.

Organizers of the event said in an effort to create a bi-partisan panel, several Democrats were invited to participate, including State Sen. Timothy Z. Jennings from Roswell, who repre-

sents a small portion of Lincoln County; State Sen. John Arthur Smith from Deming; State Rep. Nathan P. Cote from Las Cruces; and State Rep. John A. Heaton from Carlsbad. However, they responded that they were unable to attend. But organizers invite people from all parties to participate in the discussion.

Legislators who have indicated they will attend the session are:

• State Rep. Zachary J. Cook, a Republican from Ruidoso representing portions of Lincoln and Otero. Cook is a member of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee, the Interim Ethics Committee and the Judiciary Committee. He is an advisor on the Economic and Rural Development Committee.

Cook is an attorney and took over as representative in 2008 after his predecessor resigned and he was appointed by the governor. He is running for election in 2010.

• State Rep. Nora Espinoza a Republican from Roswell representing the counties of Chaves, Lincoln and Otero. She is a member of the legislative Health and Human Services Committee and an adviser on the legislative Education Study Committee and the Water and Natural Resources Committee. She has served as a state representative since 2007.

• State Sen. Rod Adair, a Republican from Roswell, representing the counties of Chaves and Lincoln. He sits on the Indian Affairs Committee, Courts, Corrections and Justice Commit-

tee and the Finance Committee. Adair also is an adviser on the Economic and Rural Development Committee; the Water, Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee; the Legislative Finance Committee and the Natural Resources Committee. Adair is a demographer and has served as a senator since 1997.

• State Rep. Dennis J. Kintigh, a Republican who represents the counties of Chaves, Lincoln and Otero. He is a member of the Health, Government Affairs and Judiciary Committee. He also is an adviser on the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee and on the Legislative Health and Human Affairs Committee. He is retired and was sworn into office in 2009.

Vallejos retires as the county's chief deputy clerk

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

She doesn't look much older than she did 27 years ago when she first was hired by Lincoln County at the age of 19.

But Loree Vallejos is retiring as chief deputy clerk from the County Clerk's office at the end of the year.

At the County Commission meeting earlier this month, County Clerk Tammie Maddox gave Vallejos a tearful send-off.

"Today there is sad news for Lincoln County and good news for others," Maddox said. "Loree has worked for the county 27 1/2 years and is retiring. The county has been fortunate to have her all those years. You will not find anyone with more integrity, honesty and loyalty."

"I wanted everyone to know how much we will miss her and her dedication. I think we all feel the same. She knows the clerk's office inside and out. She's like a human computer. We ask her for everything. She opens a drawer and pulls out a paper with the answer. I think we will realize after she is gone how much we depended upon her."

Vallejos told commissioners that county government is all she's known since she was 19. "I've worked with four different clerks," she said. "I was hired by Jane McSwane originally."

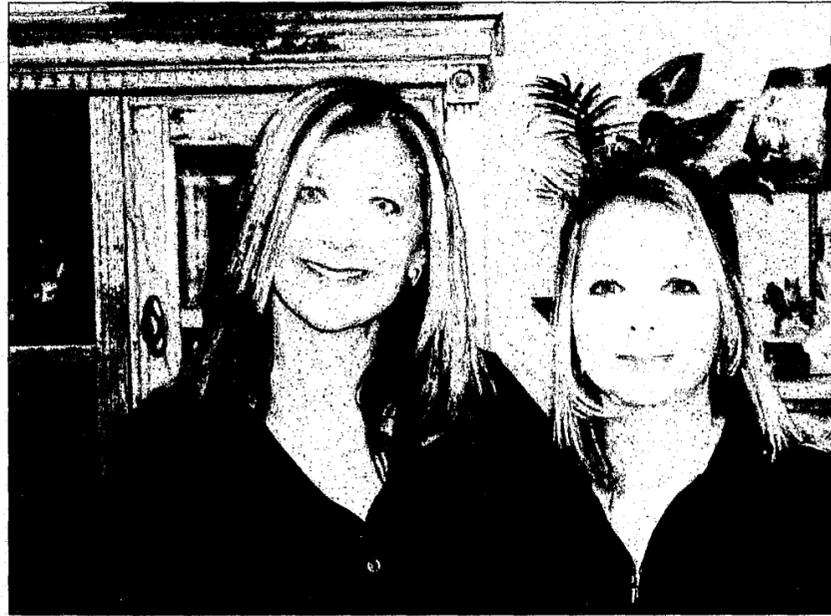
"It's been a good career for me. I was hired part-time to work for an election

and I've been here ever since. I thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to work for the county of Lincoln. It's been good to me."

Vallejos is married with three children and one grandson, almost 3 years old. Her two daughters graduated from college. One works in Silver City in radiology and the oldest lives in Las Cruces with her grandson and is a health coordinator at Oñate High School. Her son will graduate from high school in May.

"I haven't made any commitments yet," Vallejos said Monday of her future. "I plan to just catch up with things at home for a couple of months."

County Treasurer Beverly Calaway added that Vallejos didn't confine her help to the clerk's office,



Loree Vallejos, right, seen with Lincoln County Clerk Tammie Maddox.

COURTESY BEVERLY CALAWAY

her new chief deputy, Rhonda Burrows, who previously worked in different capacities for the county, including as administrator of the Indigent Health Care Fund. She left to work for a private attorney, but is set to rejoin the county Monday.

"We're all looking forward to having her in our office," Maddox said. "She's been there before and as much as we will miss Loree, we look forward to working with Rhonda."

she would pitch in wherever and whenever she was needed. "We all will miss her," she said.

Maddox also introduced

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116 S. Evergreen, Ruidoso, NM
Coffee and snacks 9:30 - 10:15 am
Service 10:15 - 11:30 am
For more information, call Marilyn at 257-8912 or Chuck at 973-3319

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Happy New Year

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EDUCATION

Old Ruidoso Middle School to get new name

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

The former Ruidoso Middle School could get a new title.

"I would very much like to name it something else besides the old middle school," said Dr. Bea Etta Harris, the district's superintendent.

"We're moving Region IX (Education Cooperative) into it. We have special ed offices over there. And, we're going to have meeting rooms over there. So I was thinking the other day we would love people to know where it is. We can name it Horton something. Horton Annex. Horton Center. Horton Complex."

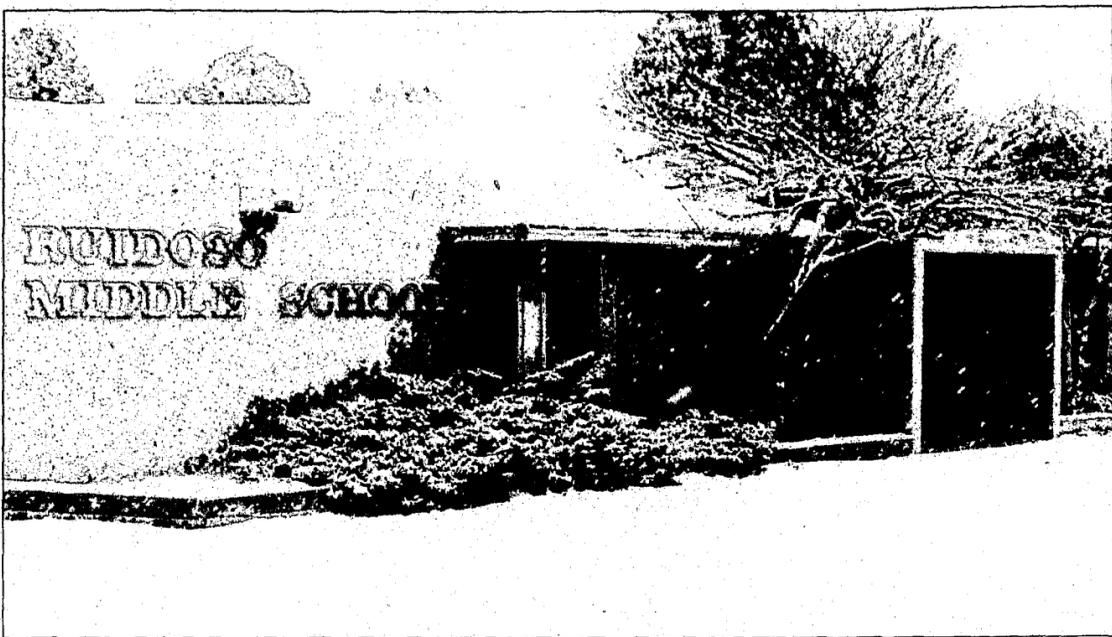
The former school, on Reese Drive, is adjacent to Horton Stadium. There are two gymnasiums at the old campus and a cafeteria. Harris said the cafeteria could be used for rental

purposes and student activities, such as Kids Night Out.

"It would be nice to refer to it as something," Harris said. "When you say Horton everybody knows where Horton Stadium is," said school board president Susan Lutterman.

Harris said the district is without a policy for naming schools and other district buildings. The education board may vote on a name during its January meeting. Harris said others might have thoughts on a name.

A new middle school opened four months ago. The campus, on 30 acres north of Ruidoso High School, added sixth grade to the former facility's seventh and eighth grade population. Voters in the Ruidoso Municipal School District approved \$14.5 million dollars in borrowing in April, 2006, for the



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

The former Ruidoso Middle School campus is getting some new uses and will receive a new name.

new school and maintenance needs at other schools. The New Mexico

Public School Facilities Authority also advanced nearly \$8 million for the

campus over the past four years.

It took two years to con-

struct the new campus. The former middle school is more than 50 years old.

New Year's resolution that will help others all year long

A typical New Year's resolution involves things like losing weight, giving up a bad habit or getting more organized.

While those goals are important to the person making them, Lincoln County Literacy Council (LCLC) is asking the people of Lincoln County to expand their 2010 New Year's resolutions and help their fellow community

members.

Nationwide, one in seven adults cannot read, write or do math above an elementary school level. LCLC is part of a national network of literacy organizations offering critical education programs that help American adults learn to read and write.

Volunteers in the program help teach adults basic literacy, GED, prepa-

ration, math and English as a second language.

"We exist through the help of dedicated community volunteers," said Susie Morss, Literacy Coordinator. We match trained volunteers with adults so they can form long-term bonds and work together to continue building the students' reading, writing or language skills.

"It is a longer term com-

mitment than a one-time volunteer project, but the benefits to both people are invaluable and have an exponential impact. Presently, 20 volunteers are assisting adult learners reach their goals."

LCLC is a member of ProLiteracy, the world's largest organization of adult basic education and literacy programs, and is one of 1,200 community-

based organizations that make up the ProLiteracy network.

"Literacy literally has the power to change lives," said David C. Harvey, president and CEO of ProLiteracy. Particularly in this economy, adults need literacy to help them be competitive for jobs and to help keep themselves and their families healthy. By helping these adults

gain the education they deserve, we're helping them and their children come together to solve problems and create stronger neighborhoods and communities."

For more information on becoming involved with the Literacy Council, call 630-8181. For information on supporting adult literacy, visit ProLiteracy's Web site.

Free lunch program grows

An effort to have more New Mexico children participate in free or reduced cost meals at school will begin in January.

The New Mexico Human Services Department will match children of families enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Temporary Assistance for Need Families (TANF) program with the state's Public Education Department, to automatically include them in the National School Lunch Program.

"Children who participated in either the SNAP or TANF programs automatically qualify for the National School Lunch Program," said Kathryn Falls, Human Services

Department secretary-designate. "We believe a monthly match of new children participating in either program will allow more New Mexico children access to nutritious meals during the school day when they need energy the most."

SNAP and TANF cases the past year have grown by thousand each month. In October 2009 there were 162,604 kids being helped in SNAP, a 23 percent increase from the same time last year, and 1,845 more children participating than the month before.

In the Ruidoso Municipal School District, 59.8 percent of students were receiving free or reduced cost meals during the

2007-08 school year, according to the latest numbers from the Public Education Department. The Capitan Municipal School District was at 53.6 percent. Carrizozo schools were at 76.5 percent. Cloudcroft stood at 43.6 percent. The Hondo Valley School District was at full participation in the National School Lunch Program. Statewide the level was 63.6 percent.

"Conducting these matches on a monthly basis means less of a chance of a child missing a meal during the school day because they don't have the money to pay for it," said New Mexico Education Secretary Veronica Garcia.

- Jim Kalvelage

Profiles of senior citizens - Par Ward

EDITOR'S NOTE: Students in the freshman English class at ENMU-Ruidoso have written profiles on seniors in the community. The students generated their own questions and contacted a person for an interview from the Mescalero Care Center, the Senior Center in Ruidoso, and from the Sacramento Mountain group.

SONJA LONDON
For the Ruidoso News

Entering the home of Par Ward, I notice that the floor was of earthy browns with tinges of green scattered about. Bone white walls reflect the light coming in from the windows high up by the ceiling, where an ivy plant on a vintage stove in the corner is stretching to reach.

The kitchen was recently remodeled along with the new walls and floor. The inside was original adobe and filled the house with dust.

In 1976, Par Ward bought a piece of pasture in Nogal from a cowgirl named Fern Sawyer, who, in her day, 1946 or 1948, was a world champion cowgirl.

She was a cutting horse expert who would beat all the men in competition. She smoked a pipe and had a mouth like a sailor. Par Ward put a teepee on his land and began to build a home out of adobe, never getting a loan from the bank.

He lived in his teepee before building his home, having set up camp in Cedar Creek. One day in

front of Brunell's, Nancy Fleharet's dog jumped in his car. He apparently didn't like girls very much so Par agreed to take him off her hands.

He was a big terrier who Par named Starter. Later that night while at the drive-in theater across the highway from the track, his recently acquired dog ran off. He thought "Oh well," having only had the dog for a few hours, but when he got to his teepee in Cedar Creek Starter was waiting for him. Starter stayed with Par for five or six years, even moving with him to UNM.

While skiing in Taos during college, he broke his leg and had to be taken to Albuquerque to go to the hospital. His mother was downstairs and a distraught Starter entered the lobby searching for Par. Par was on the ski team while at U.N.M. and after two years he skied first chair.

The humid weather of Paris, Texas, was too harsh for Par's mother, so in 1963 his family moved to Ruidoso. His parents ran the Nob Hill Lodge, and then his mother was head librarian in the closet space of a library at City Hall, and his father worked at the track. His father also started the local Mule Races and the Pony Express Race.

When Par was in the ninth grade, his parents became curators of the Billy the Kid Museum in Lincoln, and he changed schools from Ruidoso to Capitan. His parents were

very supportive of his skiing. His father often accompanied him to the mountain wearing his cowboy boots. He was on the ski team until he began 11th grade at New Mexico Military Institute, then skied only on the weekends.

He graduated from N.M.M.I. in 1971, and using an inheritance from his godfather, Par hitchhiked from Albuquerque to New York City, and then flew to London to backpack through Europe. He traveled from the Arctic Circle to Morocco, religiously calling his grandmother on Sundays as promised, even if it took hours to connect. While in Europe he spent as much time in the mountains as possible, climbing Mount Blanc in France.

He traveled for six months before returning to New Mexico to attend U.N.M., graduating in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in university studies, he has many interests but "doesn't specialize in any one thing."

After graduating, Par joined the Pro Racing Tour for four years while living in Breckenridge. When he quit that he began coaching the ski team he was on as a child. After seven or eight years, in 1990, he joined the ski school at Ski Apache and has been working there since. In 1999 Par met a snowboard instructor from Michigan. They were married in 2000 and have two girls, ages 4 and 8; Par says, "Being a dad is my major accomplishment."

Alternate-ed task force for RMSD

A task force will be assembled to look at alternate education in the Ruidoso School District.

Superintendent Dr. Bea Etta Harris said it is time to look at the issue.

"What do we do with kids that are in trouble, who shouldn't be in the school during the day with all the other kids?" questioned Harris.

Statistically, kicking a student out of school "is bad news" for the student, said Harris.

"Our intent is to keep all kids in school, but we can't keep them all in during the day," said Harris. "We've had Gavilan (Canyon School) for many years. We

also know the stats on alternative education aren't very good."

The Gavilan Canyon School is an alternative day treatment program for students from 11 to 18 years old as a transitional placement before returning students back to the regular classroom.

Associate Superintendent Patty White was asked by Harris to head the task force. Special education transition specialist Gloria Pafford and middle school principal George Heaton will also be on the task force. A parent and a representative from the Region IX Education Cooperative may also be

tapped, said Harris.

"We need to take a really serious look at alternative education and options we might have and what would better fit Ruidoso schools to keep these kids connected," said Harris. "It will be a committee that's really committed to search and study alternative programs, different kinds, what's successful."

A report to the district's education board could be ready in March with perhaps a proposal for a direction in April.

Harris anticipated the task force would meet frequently.

- Jim Kalvelage

TRACK

FROM PAGE 1A

A horse race track in Las Cruces would put it within the state-mandated 80-mile limit. Even if a new horse race track and casino were built on the city's east or west mesas, that would still probably put the facility about 65 miles from Sunland Park.

The Legislature would have to change state law to

shorten the distance between racinos.

"Sunland Park is the most profitable race track and casino in the state. We would be compromising what the state is already getting in profits," Papan said. "It's all about common sense, and it just doesn't make sense to favor one over the others."

Stan Fulton and other officials at Sunland Park Race Track and Casino have declined to publicly comment about Hubbard's

plans to move his racino to Las Cruces. But before the application to move to Las Cruces was filed, Fulton offered to leave New Mexico State University a portion of his estate when he dies, provided no other race track and casino moves into the area.

Julian Luna, executive director of the New Mexico Racing Commission, has said there are other issues that would have to be resolved before Ruidoso Downs moved to Las

Cruces. The process to do that can be a lengthy one, partly because state officials would have to notify all Native American tribes in the state about the proposed move. The tribes would be allowed to comment on the proposal and public meetings would also likely be conducted before the racing commission would make a final decision.

Steve Ramirez can be reached at sramirez@lcsun-news.com; 575-541-5452

Talking points

- Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino filed an application in early November with the New Mexico Racing Commission to move its 2011 racing schedule to Las Cruces.
- A site where the horse race track and casino would be built in Las Cruces has not been announced.
- Ruidoso Downs' 2010 racing season will be from May 28 through Sept. 6.
- R.D. Hubbard, owner of Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino, will attempt to get the New Mexico Legislature to approve tax breaks for his operations during the upcoming 30-day legislative session, beginning in January.

RACE

FROM PAGE 1A

the village and one from Lincoln County. The Village of Ruidoso is responsible for 85 percent of the funding, Ruidoso Downs for 15 percent and the county contributes no financial support. I feel very strongly that the village should and needs to have representation that reflects the level of financial responsibility."

Water remains a high priority for the village and the council needs to search for more ways to develop wellfields to ensure continued growth and prosperity, he wrote.

"The development of real water at the airport wellfield versus acquiring water rights, and development of a pipeline to transport the water into the village can be a reality."

He listed smart growth as another priority, and noted that through ample citizen input, some changes are needed in Planning and Zoning.

He referred to the selection of Village Manager Debi Lee as the "shining light" of decisions by the council. Stoddard said he wants to allow her to do her job without undue interference. He wants to focus on performance and results, not political correctness.

"If elected, I will work very hard to support (Lee's)

efforts to create a leaner and more efficient village government," he wrote.

Stoddard pointed out the advantages of re-electing him as experience, unfinished business, support of the village manager, that being retired, he can devote considerable time to the council, his business experience, the financial challenges confronting the village and its future economic viability.

Stoddard earned a Bachelor's degree in English/History from the University of Nebraska, and a Master's in Education/Curriculum in 1975 and an Education Specialist degree in 1982 in Education/School law from Ft. Hays State University.

His past employment includes being a teacher and coach in Nebraska, Wyoming and Kansas, and a secondary school administrator in Kansas.

He served as Executive Director of the R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard Foundation from 1989 to 2008, when he semi-retired and became a consultant to the foundation.

His other credentials include serving on the board of directors of the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Ruidoso Branch College Board for Eastern New Mexico University, as chairman of the village Parks and Recreation Board, on the village Lodgers Tax Committee, as the village

representative on the Southeast New Mexico Economic Development Board, as mayor pro tempore for two of his four years on the council and on numerous Blue Ribbon committees.

While on the council, he revived an effort to create a river trail along the Rio Ruidoso through Midtown and beyond. A trail system currently is being designed with grant dollars. He also played a significant role in securing necessary road and bridge improvements.

Stoddard pointed out that he is willing to spend his own money to seek reelection, that he does not hesitate to ask questions or challenge the status quo and he is a long-time resi-

dent of Ruidoso.

Some of the items listed under his "vision" for the village included balancing fees for wastewater treatment, offsetting decreases in revenue with reductions in expenses, support of village management and resolution of outstanding exceptions identified in the village's financial audits.

Stoddard is married to Jean Stoddard, assistant general manager of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino. Their daughter, Michelle, is a speech pathologist who lives in Texas with her husband, Matt, and two children. Their son, Chad, is a chiropractor and lives in Tennessee with his wife, Carrie.

WARM

FROM PAGE 1A

"I want to say it's been one of our best winters," said Monique Gandara, a manager at Casa Blanca. "There have been a lot of people."

The reaction was similar at Mr. Burger.

"It's awesome," said owner Manuel Martinez.

Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sandi Aguilar said Christmas to New Years is typically the busiest week of the year.

"We're just happy that we got a lot of snow," Aguilar said. "We haven't had snow like this in years. The girls in the visitors' center are the weather people, taking calls about weather conditions."

Aguilar said lodgers with cabins are mostly full because people like cabins in the winter. There was still a little availability in hotels on Tuesday.

The hardest to decipher indicator is that bookings are at the last minute, said Aguilar. "It used to be four to six months in advance. I think the snow is bringing people that have decided to come in for the weekend."

Aguilar reasoned that the economy was a factor in last minute reservations earlier in the year.

The chamber's kiosk in the 24-hour lobby provides access to findlodgingnow.com, which displays lodging still available in the Ruidoso area for last minute vacationers.

Despite the soft 2009 economy, Ruidoso's lodgers tax revenues have held up. Tally said since the start of the village's fiscal year on July 1, revenues are slightly ahead of last year. And 2008-2009 was the second best on record. Tally added that the current year numbers exclude the ski season.

2009 precipitation total chases 'normal'

JIM KALVELAGE

jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

After a dismal start, 2009 precipitation for Ruidoso will probably go into the record books as somewhat close to normal.

On average the village receives 21.45 inches of rain or liquid-equivalent snow annually, according to information from the Western Regional Climate Center.

Once December numbers are added in Ruidoso should be close to 20 inches for the year.

"That's the way it's looking right now, compliments to an El Niño out there in the equatorial Pacific Ocean," said Ed Polasko, a meteorologist/hydrologist with the National Weather Service in New Mexico.

"It's brought more storms south, from Ruidoso to Cloudcroft, instead of to northern New Mexico."

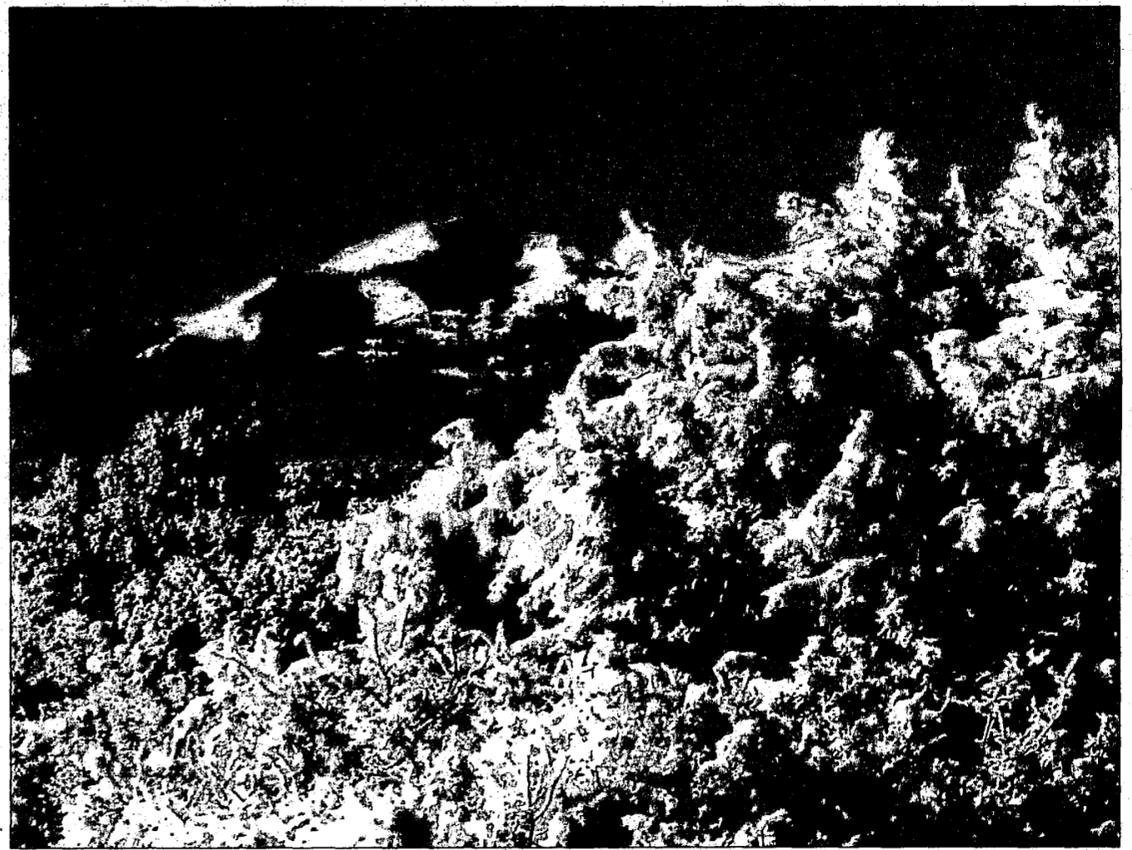
Polasko said an El Niño highly correlates with above-normal precipitation during the winter months. And there were some other high points, with Polasko noting 2009 had some good periods of precipitation.

"July was a banner month for Ruidoso," said Polasko.

But the year started out meager, with just one-eighth of an inch in January. That was just ten percent of normal. And last February's three-tenths of an inch was little help, only taking the two-month precipitation measurement to 13 percent of average. It wasn't until May, when more than two inches of rain fell, that the running total reached 64 percent of normal.

June and July also brought above average rains.

And July delivered five-



COURTESY MIKE BILBO

Sierra Blanca at left juts from the frozen limbs of a bush near historic Fort Stanton after heavy snowfall.

inches of rainfall instead of the normal 3.82 inches. At the end of July Ruidoso's seven-month precipitation level climbed to 98 percent of average.

August, October and November recorded below-average precipitation. December is expected to be at or above normal courtesy of several snowstorms, including one on Tuesday that added a couple of inches to the total.

As the month comes to a close, Ruidoso has received the equivalent of more than 1.5 inches of liquid from snows that fell on several occasions during December, including a big pre-Christmas storm.

"We've come a long way," said Polasko. "We

The current El Niño credited for increased snowfall is classified as moderate-to-strong, and it shows signs of hanging around until next spring.

dried out a little bit in November, but soil moisture were about normal going into winter. We should see stream flows this spring, unlike the past two years."

The U.S. Drought Monitor kept the eastern halves of Lincoln and Otero counties, and western Chaves County out of any drought conditions last week.

The seasonal drought outlook suggested no change in the present conditions for most of southern New Mexico through March 2010. Some of the region had been in the moderate to severe drought category this past spring.

The precipitation outlook for the winter would favor southern New Mexico for above normal precipitation during the ongoing El

Niño event. The three most recent El Niño episodes (2002/2003, 2004/2005, and 2006/2007) helped to generate above normal winter precipitation.

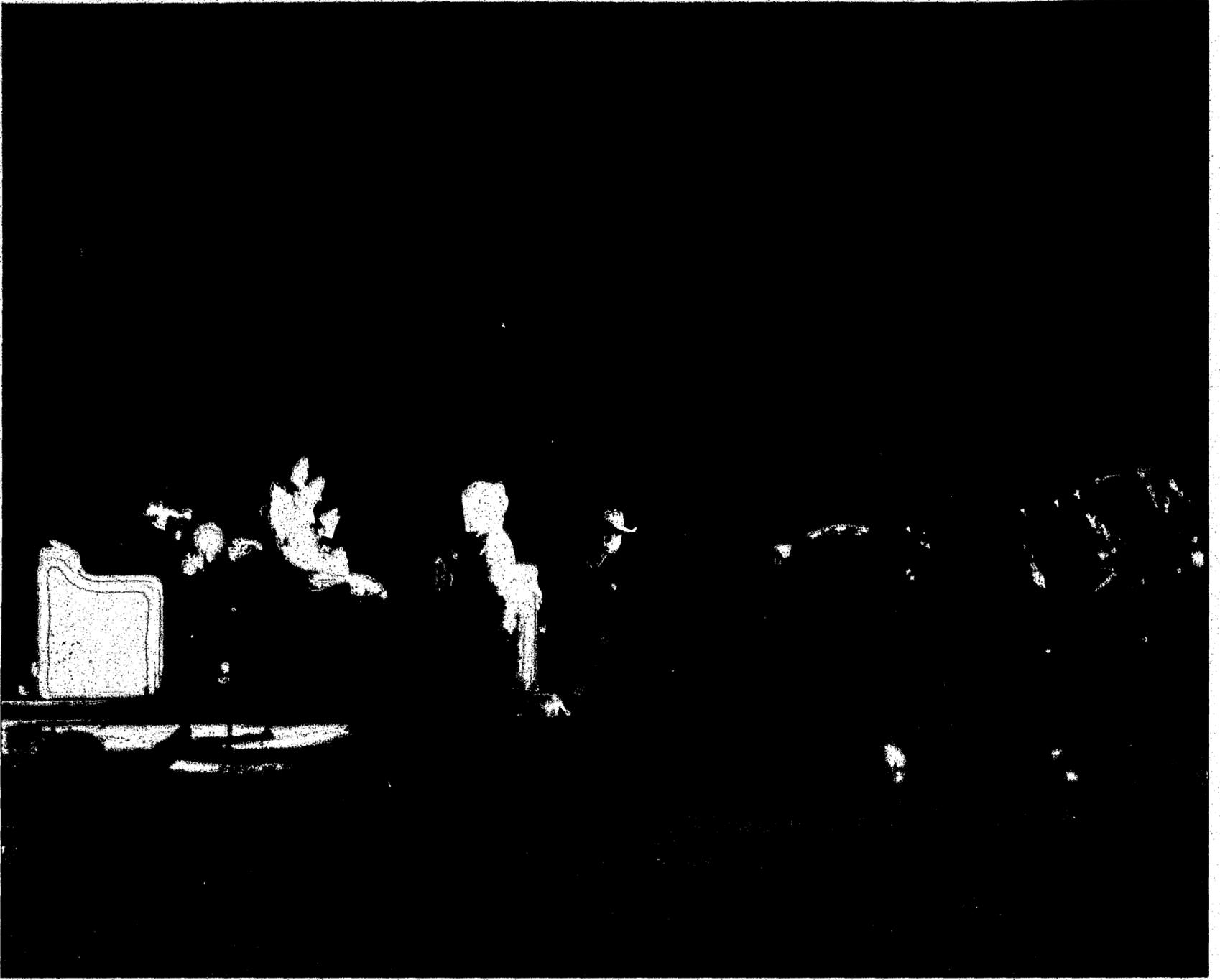
The current El Niño is now labeled a moderate to strong one, and is predicted to persist through the winter and possibly into the spring of 2010, said the National Weather Service for New Mexico.

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BUNDLING UP



DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

Visitors bundle up with blankets for an evening horse-driven sleigh ride down Main Road in Upper Canyon to view the holiday lights. The rides are offered through Martin Luther King weekend Jan. 16-17, by reservation only. Call the Jeter family at D Lazy 2, 575-257-7836.

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Jan 10, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 11, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 12, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
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Jan 14, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
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Jan 20, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 21, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 22, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 23, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
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Jan 25, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 26, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 27, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 28, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
Jan 29, 2010	8:00pm	George Gershwin Piano	UTEP Faculty Recital Hall
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Ruidoso Downs

Village 'Employee of the Year' multiplies to four

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Breaking with tradition, this month Ruidoso village officials decided to name four Employees of the Year in different divisions of municipal government.

While Rodney Griego, Parks Supervisor, probably would be recognized by most long-time residents, because his jobs puts him out in the public supervising the installation of Christmas decorations or parks maintenance, Billy Randolph in purchasing spends most of his work time closeted in a nondescript white building on Center Street. But their accomplishments measured up and were recognized at the village's annual banquet in early December.

Griego was hired by the Parks and Recreation Department in October 1992. The attributes listed as the basis for his selection as the Employee of the Year for Community Services were, "respected, hardworking and even-tempered; saves money, controls costs; well-organized; a planner; volunteers as coach at Captain High School and for the community softball youth league; and takes care of citizens, tourists and co-workers."

Randolph was hired in September 2007 as assistant purchasing agent. He came well-equipped with 23.5 years in buying for Walmart.

Born in Ruidoso, he attended school in Hondo, then Eastern New Mexico University before he was recruited by Walmart. After retiring, "I didn't know what to do," he said, and he decided to apply for the purchasing position with the village. He received the Employee of the Year Award for Administrative Services and his attributes were listed as "team player, pleasant and positive; takes time to help everyone, even when he is extremely busy; responsible and dependable; and he referees basketball."

Mike Morrow, Fire Captain with the Ruidoso Fire Department, was picked for the Emergency Services Employee of the Year.

He was hired in November 2001 and already received the Chief's Award. The points listed as the reasons for his selection were that he is "a team leader, unselfish, fair and hard-working. He was always available, takes pride in his job and stays involved in the community."

Morrow also designed the fire department's Web site.

Fred Payton, village Street Department Foreman, was hired in October 1990. He was singled out for the Infrastructure Employee of the Year Award because he is "a leader in the department, is creative and dedicated."

Payton rebuilt bridges in Upper Canyon in 17 hours after a devastating flood on the Rio Ruidoso damaged or destroyed them in July 2008. Payton remains involved in the community through the State Foster Parenting program.

During the village's annual banquet, several employees also were recognized for their years of service. They were:

5 years, Jamie Gibson,



MORROW



GRIEGO

James Lewis, Carlos Salas, Volosin, Kathy Richardson, Bill Stumpff and Terry Danny Sanchez, Cheryl Louis Prieto, JoAnn Wolfe, Franklin.



RANDOLPH



PAYTON

10 years, Charlie Chavez, Nancy Smith, Alfredo Monarrez, Eric Ament and Jodie Rue
15 years, Doug Babcock
20 years, Bobby Hobbs and Wolfgang Born
25 years, Richard Herrera and Deke LaMay.

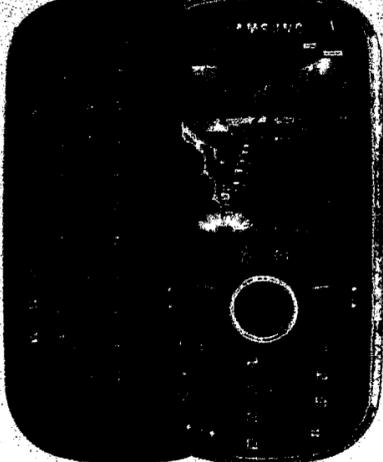
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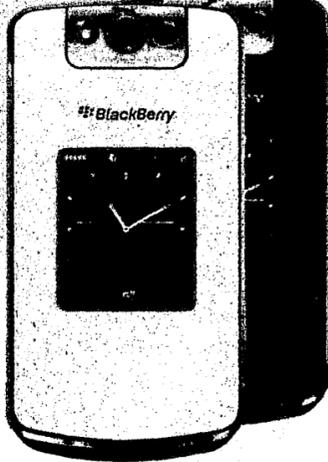
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WINTER SMILES ON RUIDOSO



Large crowds lured by abundant snowfall visited the sledding slopes in Schoolhouse Park this week for sledding, tubing and, for parents (above), watching their children. The crowds boosted the spirits and profits of area shops, restaurants and lodges. For a report on the winter economy, see page 1A.

DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS



Mountain Annie's
the 31st

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PAGE 1B

Local sports highlights of 2009



The Hondo Eagles won the D2-6M crown when they defeated district rival Lake Arthur, 96-70, Oct. 30.



The Ruidoso boys soccer team repeated as D3-1A-3A champions for the second year in a row when they defeated Socorro, 6-3, Oct. 22.



The Carrizozo boys basketball team won the D7-1A title, Feb. 28, by defeating Mountainair in dramatic fashion, 45-44.



The Hondo Lady Eagles are shown shortly after winning the D7-1A basketball title, Feb. 28, 52-35, against Carrizozo. Front, Alicia Nieto. Middle row, l-r, Camille Sandoval, Chanci Lopez, Stephanie Gomez, Montana Prudencio, Angela Prudencio. Back row, Coach Montes, Felicia Chavez, Esther Gonzales, Selena Chavez, Collette Lopez, Rebecca Trujillo, Dede Romero, Coach Holland.

More photos on page 2B



The Siggins brothers, Lane, left, and his brother Josh, of the Lincoln/Hondo area, proudly display their 2009-won saddles. Both won the state championship, June 24, in Payson, Ariz., in team calf roping (Lane as the heeler, Josh as the header). Josh also won the top spot in tie-down roping and won another tie-down title a week later at the Junior Rodeo Association event in Globe, Ariz., June 19-20.



The D4-3A Ruidoso softball champions strike a pose shortly after defeating Lovington, 10-0 and 9-2, May 8. Front row, l-r, Shelby Walker, Jordan Mowdy, Alisha Trujillo, Claudia Morales, Maribel Villegas, Maritza Nava, Alaitia Enjady, Brandi Guevera, Catherine Landry, Gabrielle Smith and Marjanél Vigil. Back row, Ray Vasquez, Angela Hatch, Jordan Frierson, Aimee Vasquez, Khicky Fernando, Karrie Wren, Sal Beltran.



Area trainer Paul Jones doubled down and won the All American Futurity with Running Brook Gal on Labor Day and took the All American Derby the day before (Sept. 6) with Inseperable. On July 18, he won his third Rainbow Derby with Inseperable.



FILE PHOTO

The Carrizozo volleyball squad won the D7-1A title on Oct. 31, when they downed Mountainair, 3-0, to finish with a perfect 9-0 district mark.



FILE PHOTO

Steve Hightower, left, of Ruidoso, won the Flat 20-miler of the 3rd Annual Tour de Ruidoso with a time of 56:00.



FILE PHOTO

R.D. Hubbard officially applied for permission to move Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Billy the Kid Casino on Nov. 19 at a general meeting of the New Mexico Racing Commission in Albuquerque. As majority stockholder in the track, Hubbard is seeking a tax break from the New Mexico state legislature. In lieu of that, Las Cruces has been mentioned as a possible new site for his operations.



FILE PHOTO

Jockey G.R. Carter was voted into the Ruidoso Downs Racehorse Hall of Fame in June. Carter, who purchased a home in Ruidoso last summer, won his 3,000th Quarter Horse race on Oct. 3, at Los Alamitos Race Course in Cypress, Calif.



FILE PHOTO

Hondo football coach Brandon Devine was voted Coach of the Year in D2-6M.



FILE PHOTO

The Capitan softball team placed third in 1A-2A state finals.

PLEASE ADOPT ME!

NEW ADOPTION FEES: All cats are now \$40. The fee includes spay/neuter, booster vaccinations, rabies vaccination, and microchip. We are also proud to now have an "in-your-prime" program: animals 5 and older adopted by persons 50 and older are half the normal adoption fee (\$40 for dogs and \$20 for cats). Still includes spay/neuter, booster vaccinations, rabies, and microchip.



SKIPPER

Skipper is a handsome Bernese mountain dog mix. He is 6 years old, therefore qualifies for the shelter's Senior Program. Skipper is very friendly and walks excellent on the leash. He plays well with other dogs and is okay with cats. Skipper does exceptionally well with children as he is very gentle. Skipper also seems to be housebroken! He is neutered and current on all his vaccinations and weighs 65 pounds.

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MAY

May is a young, friendly cat with a very mellow and easy going demeanor. She is short haired, tortoiseshell in color and has bright yellow eyes. May has had several different homes in her short life and we are hoping to find her a permanent one! She is about one and a half years old, spayed and current on vaccinations. May is great with other cats and very friendly with people. She is also a very small cat, weighing 6 pounds.

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CLAY

Clay is a good looking pit bull about 1-2 years old. He is very friendly and outgoing. Clay does well with other dogs as well. He weighs about 60 pounds.

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ANNIE

Annie is a very cute black and white mix. She is about 4 months old as of 12/8/2009. Annie is the most shy of her litter but is very sweet. She will probably mature to about 50 pounds or so.

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BESSIE

Bessie is a cute Doberman mix, about 4 months old (as of 12/8/09). Bessie is very friendly and playful. She is already spayed and current on her vaccinations.

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SCOTTY

Scotty is a playful, sweet kitten and is about 4 months old (as of 12/22/09). Scotty is very friendly and loves to play with other cats and kittens.

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MADORI

Madori is about 5 months old and very sweet. She loves to be petted and is very easy going.

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Trestle with a view

Groups brainstorm to make landmark more accessible

ELMA K. ÖSTERREICH
Alamogordo Daily News

Looking for answers, various Forest Service, community members and information collectors met earlier this month to talk about the future of the Mexican Canyon Trestle.

Did Billy the Kid ever cross the trestle? How many people did it take to build it? Did you ever walk across the trestle?

Ian Scott, landscape artist with contractor J.F. Sato, asked those questions and more of participants in

a workshop conducted at the Sacramento Ranger Station.

The Forest Service and consulting contractor Belt Collins, of Boulder, Colo., brought participants together to talk about ideas related to the restoration of the trestle, a project funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The workshop brought forth a variety of individuals who had history, archaeology and human interest to add to the process.

The Forest Service and

the contractor were looking for ideas and history to help them decide how people could become familiar with the trestle and its part in the history of the area.

"This is an opportunity to do something really neat," Scott said. He was manning the interpretive idea section of the workshop.

Scott was looking at what kind of displays should be available for the public when they stop to look at the trestle.

He asked if people have an interest in the history of the area, construction of

the trestle or the nature of the surroundings and tried to get an idea of what the most interesting subjects would be.

Other sections at the event included everything from how parking should be handled along U.S. Highway 82 for those who want to stop and look at the trestle to where walking pathways should be located.

One of the biggest puzzles involved was the question of whether visitors should be allowed to walk on or across the trestle and how to accomplish it safely.

Lynn Melton, a Rails-to-Trails supporter, was on hand at the event to give his ideas and listen to what people had to say.

"One of the things that really impressed me was the openness to ideas," Melton said. "Nobody said 'Listen stupid,' or 'We already decided ...' Everyone was tossing out ideas."

One of the questions, Melton said, is how to get people across the Mexican Canyon Trestle.

For example, one idea was to build a parking area and a "gateway" about a quarter-mile to the west

where there is about 40 to 50 parking space potential, as well as a welcome station where people can learn about the trestle and Cloudercroft area.

"It was a really a good meeting, in my view," Melton said.

"It was an open design meeting."

It is not too late to make suggestions about the area and trestle view.

For more information or to share input, contact Peg Crim, with the Lincoln National Forest, at 434-7231 or via e-mail at perim@fs.fed.us.

Wampler Foundation Event offers run/walk in memory of 6-year-old

MICHELLE SCHARMACK
Alamogordo Daily News

For those whose New Year's resolution is to exercise this coming new year can start the year off right with the Zach Track, a 1K fun walk and wheel, a 2 K walk or a 5K or 10K run, open to all ages Jan. 2, 2010.

Registration for the race is a \$25 donation with all proceeds benefiting the Stephen Wampler Foundation which helps send disabled children to summer wilderness camps that help impact the lives of the children.

"What the Wampler Foundation does is teach disabled children, in a fun and supportive environment alongside other children with similar disabilities, that they are capable and can do so much more than they think," said

Rosemarie Ferrara, coordinator for the event.

The idea for the event came to Ferrara one night while she was looking for templates for her business Web site, when she stumbled upon the Wampler Foundation site.

Ferrara said when she finished viewing the videos with interviews from the children who attended the camps, she made a donation.

As an afterthought, Ferrara wanted to do something more to help the foundation. With permission from her best friend, Gloria Barnes and family, Zach Track was set in motion.

Zach Track is named after Zachary Barnes, a 6-year-old boy, who was born with cerebral palsy, a neurological disorder affecting body movement and muscle coordination.

When Zach was born, the doctors told his parents that there was chance he may not be able to walk, but by the time he was 3, he proved his doctors wrong.

"Zach was mischievous, smart and fun," said Ferrara. "He was just a normal kid in almost every way, just the same way other children and adults with disabilities are."

After just over six weeks of planning and arranging, Zach Track has over 100 participants signed up, with participants from out of state supporting the cause.

Ferrara said that some of the participants that are unable to make it the day of the event are honoring the day differently. A few guys in Afghanistan are doing weight lifting in place of the walk/run.

In the next few years,

Ferrara hopes to turn this event into a marathon and expanded this into a national event held all over the United States.

"This is an event that people do not see very often," said Ferrara. "An event that involves disabled children and adults to celebrate fitness and life. We are really looking forward to this event."

For the Barnes family, this is the first holiday season they have been looking forward to in years.

Zach was born Dec. 29, 1994 and he passed away Dec. 31, 2000.

"We are honored that Rosemarie has decided to hold this event in Zach's honor," Gloria Barnes said. "This is a very positive and uplifting event that has exceeded our expectations."

For those who are interested in the event, but not the walk, wheel or run, vol-

unteers are needed to help hand out water at the various water stations along the route or just cheer for the participants as they pass by.

Zach Track details

Donations to the Zach Track fund are accepted at any of the First National Bank locations, Loco Credit Union or through the AlamoShape Web site.

Zach Track is Jan. 2, 2010, beginning with registration at 8 a.m. with opening ceremonies starting at 9 a.m. at AlamoShape, 700 First St. in the Granada Shopping Center.

The walk, wheel and run route will be clearly marked beginning at AlamoShape in the Granada Shopping Center. Events will continue up First Street, turning onto Scenic Drive and looping

around back to AlamoShape.

All disabled children and adults are welcome to participate in the 1K walk/wheel for free.

Participants will receive a "I did the Zach Track T-shirt" and a water bottle.

Door prizes will be given out as well as free food from Stella Vita.

Daniel Park, from Las Cruces, will provide the music for the event. Preregistration is going on now, but interested participants can still register the day of the race beginning at 8 a.m.

Opening ceremonies begin at 9 a.m.

For more information, visit www.alamoshape.com or www.race360.com and search for Zach Track.

For more information on the Wampler Foundation, visit www.wamplerfoundation.org.

Impact report calls for White Sands to change how it uses land

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE - An environmental impact statement for White Sands Missile Range proposes changing land uses to expand testing capabilities for new missions.

The impact statement was released Monday by the Department of the Army and examines various alternatives, and selects expanded testing as the preferred alternative.

Other alternatives include keeping test capabilities at current levels or doing construction on the range to support testing.

The document discusses environmental impacts to

air quality, soils, water resources, biological resources, socio-economic resources, transportation and utilities, and identifies ways to mitigate them.

The impact statement was prepared to analyze the environmental and socioeconomic impacts that will be needed to support new mission requirements and new test and training capabilities at WSMR.

Alternatives examined in the impact statement include changing land use to expand testing for Brigade Combat Team modernization formerly known as Future Combat Systems - and similar pro-

grams, construction of range infrastructure projects to support testing, potential future stationing of a Heavy Brigade Combat Team (HBCT), or comparable unit, at WSMR, and designation of additional off-road maneuver areas for testing and training.

Under the "No Action Alternative," current test capabilities and levels of operations would be maintained.

According to a WSMR news release, Alternative 1, or the preferred alternative, would adopt land use changes to support enhanced test mission and training activities and

implement infrastructure projects to support new test missions.

Since the publishing of a draft environmental impact statement early this year, the Army's proposed plan to station a Heavy Brigade Combat Team (HBCT) at WSMR in 2013 has been dropped.

However, all elements of potential future HBCT stationing are now analyzed in

Alternative 2 of the impact statement to provide information as a baseline for future stationing decisions.

Learn more

• A final environmental impact statement for White Sands Missile Range was released Monday.

• The documents are available for public review at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho

Ave., Las Cruces.

• Written comments can be sent to Catherine Giblin, 124 Crozier St., Building 124, Room B-15, White Sands Missile Range, N.M. 88002.

• Comments can also be sent by e-mail to: wsmreis@conus.army.mil.

• Information: Monte Marlin, WSMR Public Affairs Office, 575-678-1134.

Las Cruces man wins \$65,000 lottery

LAS CRUCES - It's been a banner month for several Las Cruces who have cashed in big on the lotto.

Frank Portillo of Las Cruces got a very nice after-Christmas surprise Monday when he claimed a \$65,000 prize from the New Mexico Lottery. He joins eight other Las Cruces who won top-tier lottery prizes, according to lottery officials.

He cashed in a top prize playing the lottery's "Snowflake Fortunes" Scratcher, a game he selected because it was new

in the store dispenser, according to a news release.

"I felt like a deer running through cold water on a hot summer day," Portillo said of his prize-winning experience. "I felt joy."

Although he played the game on Dec. 13, Portillo waited two weeks to claim the winnings and said he was in no hurry to spend the bank-bound cash. "I'll bring all the money back here next year to show you that I didn't spend any of it," he told lottery officials in Albuquerque.

Portillo purchased the lucky \$5-ticket in Las

Cruces at the Pic Quik No. 18 on South Walnut Street.

During December, eight other Las Cruces residents won top-tier lottery prizes. Gloria Trujillo won \$125,000 playing Roadrunner Cash® while Powerball® players Martha Hill and Gordon Robinson won \$10,000 each.

Scratcher player Oscar Garcia won \$60,000. George Lunsford won \$1,500 while Jovian Markham, Genevieve Zertuche and Cassandra De Leon won \$1,000 each, also playing Scratchers.

Elizabeth Pollard

Hood, died December 12, 2009 after a long and fruitful life. Born in Jacksonville, Florida, on September 26, 1913 to Thomas Pollard and Mabel Vinson Pollard. She was a devoted wife and mother of three.

Elizabeth attended the Georgia State College for Women - now Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, Georgia. After graduation with a B.S. in Chemistry, she was employed in the War Department, Department of Navy, (pre-Pentagon and the Department of Defense) where she met, was engaged and married Lund F. Hood, from Douglas Arizona, and alumni of The Military Academy of the United States (West Point) and the University of Southern California.

Her travels started when Lt. and Mrs. Hood were assigned to the Civilian Conservation Corps in Fallon, Nevada, to West Point, New York, the Panama Canal Zone, Ft. Knox, Kentucky, NMMI (New Mexico Military Institute), Roswell, New Mexico, Washington, D.C., Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, Tokyo, Japan, Okinawa, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and finally Bordeaux, and Orleans, France.

Her interests included sewing, cooking, golf, international travel, crossword puzzles, history and genealogy, and most importantly her family.

The Hood's have resided in Corpus Christi since 1997 when her beloved husband passed away. She has been a resident of Trinity Towers until December of 2009.

She is survived by her children: Elizabeth Hood, Edward V. Hood and his wife Cindy. Elizabeth felt great joy and pride in her grandchildren: James Easterling, Lund Easterling, Elizabeth Corey, Patricia Vaccare, William Nemoff, William Hood, Lauren Hood and Wilhelmina Elizabeth Hood.

Elizabeth P. Hood's ninety six years covered a truly remarkable era in the history of the United States and its military history. Those remaining of this "The Greatest Generation", who share her witness to these times, are few. Our society is diminished by hers and their passing. May we all cherish their memories and their creed of duty, honor, country.

The family is extremely grateful for the care and sense of contentment given to her by the wonderful staff of Trinity Towers and Holmgreen Center, Corpus Christi.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests that memorials be made to: Susan G. Komen for the Cure
Attn: Donor Services
PO Box 650309
Dallas, TX 75265-0309

A burial service for Elizabeth was held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 29, 2009, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.

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www.ruidosonews.com

LINCOLN COUNTY

Age takes on a greater meaning

Having just turned the big 5-0 (office decorated in black and all) things, like age, are taking on new meaning.

A friend of mine recently said a toothache used to mean I had a cavity. Now it means my dentures need adjusting.

I was sitting at my desk listening to some of my old music when the teenager in the room said, "It's just wrong to watch your boss jam out to Funky Cold Medina."

I then turned up the volume on "You can't touch this," and asked if she knew that one?

"Oh yes," she said, "it was on one of those cartoon movies you watch as a little kid."

I wonder what we would have said back in the day at Cowboys (an Albuquerque honky tonk) when we jammed (cowboy style) to "You can't touch this," if we'd have known it would be the music back drop of a kids' movie.

You know? She would not have said that if I had been humming "Amarillo By Morning" or even "Crazy."

Country music doesn't seem to "age" as much as old Rock has. Maybe Country music was always "old."

Have you noticed that the music our mothers said would send us straight to hell is the background music for all the advertisements on TV?

Imagine my surprise to watch "kids" who graduated after I did - now retiring and wondering what to do for the next 30 years.

If you have your own business this is not what you consider. You consider the fact that maybe, if all goes well, you'll have it paid off in the next 30 years.

A friend of mine and I were discussing the merits of "good boxed wine" versus a bottle of wine.

She said that with the boxed wine,

she doesn't have to keep track of what she drank. I said that was a good idea because I had now come to the age where I hated to waste anything, so I look at a half bottle of wine and say, "Oh heck, it won't be any good tomorrow. Might as well."

We used to play drinking games, and we still do - only now it's at home and with ourselves.

I have been a child, mother to a child, grandmother and stepmother.

My granddaughter expressed surprise at my lack of answers to life.

"After all," she said, "you were a kid once right?"

It was the small pause just before the word "right" that made me laugh.

I told her that what she needed to do was write

down everything she knew and all the thoughts she had. She should do it right now, while she knew everything and before she forgot it all, because she, at 17, was as smart as she was ever going to get."

Her cell phone chirped an old AC/DC tune. I recognized it and said I liked that song. She expressed her surprise, looked me over and then said, "I wonder if I would have liked you when you were my age?"

One has to mull the meaning of that statement.

But the ultimate timetable for how things change was expressed to me at a Christmas Party we recently attended.

I asked my friend if they were going to drive home that night? She said yes, it was only two hours home and (without any innuendos at all), if they got a motel room there was nothing to do except go to bed.

WELDA MCKINLEY GRIDER is a Lincoln County native, rancher and business owner in Carrizozo.



Welda McKinley Grider



COURTESY

The Duane Frost family, of Claunch, was named the 2009 New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau Family of the Year. Pictured from left are: Dal Frost, Shelly Frost, New Mexico Farm Bureau President Michael White, Duane Frost and Rankin Frost.

Frosts named 2009 New Mexico Farm Bureau Family of the Year

The Frost family, Duane and Shelly Frost, and their sons Dal and Rankin, of Claunch, and formerly of Grant County, was named the 2009 New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau Family of the Year at the organization's 92nd annual meeting in Albuquerque.

The Frosts manage the Surratt Ranch, a cow/calf operation that covers portions of Lincoln and Torrance counties.

They have been active in Farm Bureau for more than four decades.

Farm Bureau President Michael White, of Dexter, said the Frost family represents "the gold standard" in the areas of leadership and volunteerism.

"Duane and Shelly were raised with the strong values taught by their parents who were ranching and mining pioneers in our state," he said. "They, in turn, have passed these ethics on to their two children who are also pursuing careers in agriculture."

The couple grew up on opposite sides of the Continental Divide in Grant County and met at a

Sheriff's Posse dance where Shelly played fiddle in the band "Girl Country."

Duane graduated from Cobre High School in 1975 and Shelly from Cliff High School in 1976. They were married in 1976 and Duane went to work for the Flying A Ranch.

Shelly then began her college career at Western New Mexico University. She graduated from WNMU in 1979 with a minor in music and a major in accounting.

They began their Farm Bureau career in their county and statewide Young Farmers and Ranchers Committees.

Duane was later elected to the Cliff/Gila/Grant County Farm and Livestock Bureau Board of Directors and Shelly served on the Farm Bureau Women's Committee and was one of the founders of the Frisco Cowbelles in Catron County in 1981.

After Shelly graduated from college, the couple moved back to her family ranch at Big Dry Creek to help run that operation, which covered portions of

Catron and Grant counties.

In 1989, the family moved the ranching operation to Ramon, and got involved with the Lincoln County Farm and Livestock Bureau, where Duane served on the board of directors and later was elected president of the organization.

He currently serves on the state board of directors for the N.M. Farm and Livestock Bureau.

Shelly is active in the Crown Cowbelles and is a volunteer at Corona High School. She also runs the post office at Claunch.

Duane serves on the board of directors of the Central New Mexico Telephone Cooperative and the Lincoln County Natural Resources Advisory Committee. In addition, he was a New Mexico Beef Council director in 2003-2004.

For more than 50 years, the New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau has recognized a family each year that epitomizes the goals and ideals of the state's largest private agricultural organization.

SW Beef Symposium offers tools for cattlemen's decision-making skills

AUDRY OLMSTED
NMSU News Service

TUCUMCARI — Cattle producers can expect to receive the tools they need to better manage their herds at the 2010 Southwest Beef Symposium, Jan. 20-21 in Tucumcari.

The Southwest Beef Symposium is a joint effort between the New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service and Texas AgriLife Extension. The symposium provides decision-making tools to beef producers in the Southwest.

"At the symposium we are going to have a number of nationally recognized guest speakers address animal welfare issues facing the beef industry today.

These speakers will provide insight on how cattle producers can tell their true story of beef production and animal care in a manner that consumers understand," said Clay Mathis, an Extension livestock specialist.

"We are going to talk about animal welfare practices and management throughout the beef industry."

Producers can attend the stockmanship and stewardship session taught by Ron Gill and Curt Pate.

The session offers a unique approach, with live cattle demonstrations to teach effective stockmanship skills and inform cattle producers about the importance and benefits of proper cattle handling.

The techniques capitalize on improvements in the performance of livestock and of the critical role of proper cattle handling in increasing consumer confidence in beef.

Cattlemen will receive a "toolbox" of ideas that will help them sort through and identify the values of technologies in cattle nutrition, health diagnostics, genetics and financial risk management.

Plus, Dale Blasi, of Kansas State University, will present a special session on stocker cattle

health and management.

Jason Henderson, the executive vice president of the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank in Omaha, Neb., will speak about the country's economy and its impact on the agriculture industry.

Lowell Catlett, dean of NMSU's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences will also be a guest speaker at the event.

"The purpose of this symposium is to provide producers more tools and better decision-making skills to manage their operations," Mathis said.

The symposium is Jan. 20-21 at the Tucumcari Convention Center.

The cost to attend the event is \$50 per person. Preregistration is required by Jan. 5.

For questions about the symposium contact Mathis by Jan. 5, at 575-646-8022.

For information about the Southwest Beef Symposium, including the agenda and registration form, visit <http://aces.nmsu.edu/ces/swbeef>.

COUNTY BRIEFS

Capitan Chamber

The Capitan Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center will reopen the first week of January 2010.

Thank you to the community for their continuous support of the Capitan Chamber.

The chamber wishes one and all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Santa photos

Parents may pick up the

photos of their children taken with Santa at the Capitan Public Library.

The library will closed for the New Years Holiday.

For more information or to check open hours, call 354-3035.

Lighting winners

Winners of the Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce Lighting Contest, determined by out-of-town judges, are: 1. Virginia Carbajal, 510 F Ave.; 2. Rose and Steve Wheeler,

108 Lava Loop; 3. Denise Swift, 211 Aspen St.

The winner of the traveling trophy for the best decorated business was Otero County Electric.

CPL Book Sale

The Capitan Public Library will host their monthly \$5-a-bag book sale, Saturday, Jan. 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Complimentary coffee and cookies will be served.

For more information, call 354-3035.

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George Tippin
MAYOR
Village of Capitan

Phone: 354-7021
Email: george.tippin@myspace.com
As told by George Tippin

The Holiday Open House at the Carrizozo Heritage Museum, held on Dec. 18, was a place for neighbors and friends to visit and enjoy the pre-holiday ambiance. L-r, Steve Fortelny and Deb and Rick Geary shared a moment in conversation.

POLLY CHAVEZ PHOTO



NM Hay Conference returns to Ruidoso, Jan. 14-15

AUDRY OLMSTED
NMSU News Service

Resource-use efficiency, profitability, alternative cropping and marketing options will highlight the New Mexico Hay Association's 2010 Southwest Hay and Forage Conference in Ruidoso Jan 14-15.

"Tough economic times, high input costs and the ever-increasing strain of limited resources make it very challenging for forage producers to remain profitable or even survive," said Mark Marsalis, a Cooperative Extension Service agronomist with New Mexico State University.

"Getting the most out of every drop of water and unit of fertilizer and producing a clean, high-quality product are more important now than ever before."

This year's conference will address these and other issues and will provide information to help growers maximize profits and sustainability in their operations, Marsalis added.

One of the highlights at the conference will be discussion of the New Mexico Noxious Weed Free Forage Program.

This program gives growers a value-added product with their weed-free hay and may be a good alternative way to market hay and add stability for growers during times of large price swings in the conventional hay market.

"Many federal, state and local agencies are requiring the use of certified noxious weed-free commodities, such as hay, on their lands," said Tracey

Carrillo, director of the NMSU Seed Certification Program.

Other topics at this year's conference include an update on the NMSU Alfalfa Breeding Program, the latest in low-lignin and Roundup Ready biotechnology advances in alfalfa, as well as some of the common pests encountered in 2009. An irrigation session will feature presentations on the benefits of drip irrigation in forage production and the economics associated with drip irrigation in forage systems.

In addition, a New Mexico Department of Agriculture representative will give an update on the latest rules and regulations associated with pesticide applications and reporting.

Similar to last year's conference, the program

will include talks on forage crops such as corn grown for silage and small grains grown for both hay and silage.

"Each year, more producers are growing alternative hay and silages in addition to or in place of their traditional alfalfa hay operations, and the New Mexico Hay Association wants to provide farmers educational opportunities in these areas," Marsalis said. "It is important that alfalfa hay growers know the other forage options that are available to them and those that will grow well in New Mexico."

Presentations on types of fertilizers and placement and planting practices will round out the program.

The two-day conference will have a large-machinery trade show featuring

the latest in farm equipment, as well as booths with various alfalfa and forage-related products, two sponsored meals, women's interest sessions involving crafts and entrepreneurship, a social hour and entertainment provided by comedian Jerry Carroll.

"The conference offers attendees access to a wide variety of the most up-to-date information and technology," said Justin Boswell, executive director of NMHA.

"This event is a destination for a number of vendors and industry persons and offers attendees access to company representatives and their products, even very large equipment, all under the same roof."

The event will provide New Mexico Pesticide

Applicator continuing education units (CEUs). Texas Pesticide Applicator CEUs have been applied for as well.

The conference starts Jan. 14 at 9 a.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center. Preregistration is \$55 per person. After Jan. 5, registration costs \$75. Attendees can register at the door for \$75.

For more information on the conference, visit www.nmhay.com or contact Gina Sterrett by phone at 575-626-5677 or by e-mail at nmhay@yahoo.com or contact Boswell at 575-840-9908 or juboswel@yahoo.com. Marsalis can be contacted at 575-985-2292 or marsalis@nmsu.edu. Contact Sterrett for a copy of the registration form. Booth space is still available.

USDA implements new crop disaster program

www.ruidosonews.com

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA has implemented the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) in accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill.

Vilsack also encouraged producers to visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office beginning on Jan. 4, 2010, to participate in the program if they suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year.

"This program is an important component of the farm safety net and will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses due to natural disasters," said Vilsack.

"Producers will receive payments beginning in January, in time to help them with planning for next year's crop."

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses.

The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide.

SURE provides assistance in an amount equal

to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue.

The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm.

Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance, indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance.

In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase require-

ment by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops.

For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision.

Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

In addition to meeting the risk management purchase requirement, a producer must have a farming interest physically located

in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation.

Regardless of a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster.

For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit your local FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

David Bruce Iverson

David Bruce Iverson, 66, of Ruidoso passed away Wednesday, December 23, 2009 in Ruidoso. He was born February 25, 1943 in St. Paul Minnesota and grew up in the Twin Cities. His parents were Orvin and Esther Iverson.

David served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He held degrees from the University of Minnesota and MIT. He worked as a Special Agent for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company for thirty years.

He was a loving and caring companion, father, grandfather, son, and brother. He loved people and never met anyone he couldn't befriend in five minutes. He enjoyed traveling and eating good food. He had a huge, welcoming smile and manner.

He is survived by he devoted companion of fourteen years, Joyce Cox; his son, Lorne Iverson and wife Rose and granddaughters, Kaitlyn and Layla of Elgin, Illinois; his daughter, Barbara Iverson of Prague, Czech Republic; Joyce's son, Steve Cox and wife Jennifer and granddaughters, Katy and Stefani of Pecos, Texas; his brother, John Iverson and wife Grace and nephews, Mark and Nicholas of Minnesota; his brother Jim Iverson and wife Linda and nieces Amy and Mandy of Minnesota. He is preceded in death by his parents and daughter Elizabeth.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. The family has requested memorials to the Ruidoso Public Library and the Ruidoso Humane Society.

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

Prayer service for Richard Carlson Kayitah Jr.

42, of Mescalero will be Monday, Dec. 28, at 6:00 PM in St. Joseph's Mission at Mescalero where the funeral mass will be on Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 10:00 AM. Burial will follow at the Mescalero Cemetery.

Richard passed away Friday, December 25, 2009 at Mescalero. He was born September 7, 1967 at Mescalero and had lived there all of his life. He worked as a wildland firefighter for BIA and as a ski technician at Ski Apache.

He is survived by two brothers, Sheldon Kayitah and Keith Kayitah; a sister Ilona Williams; a nephew, Christopher Kayitah and a niece, Krystal Kayitah.

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

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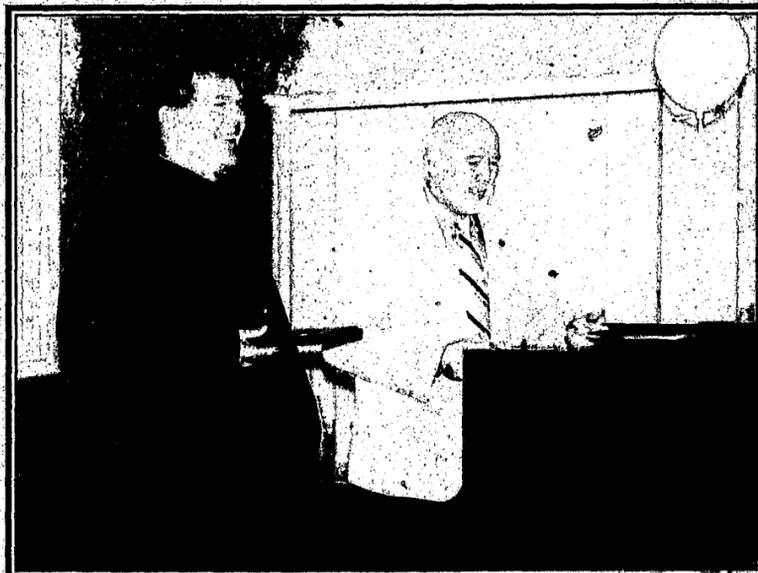


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We offer screened Topsoil with our 100% organic Compost Blended Right in U-Pick up or we deliver!
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"Peace of mind, for your piece of heaven."

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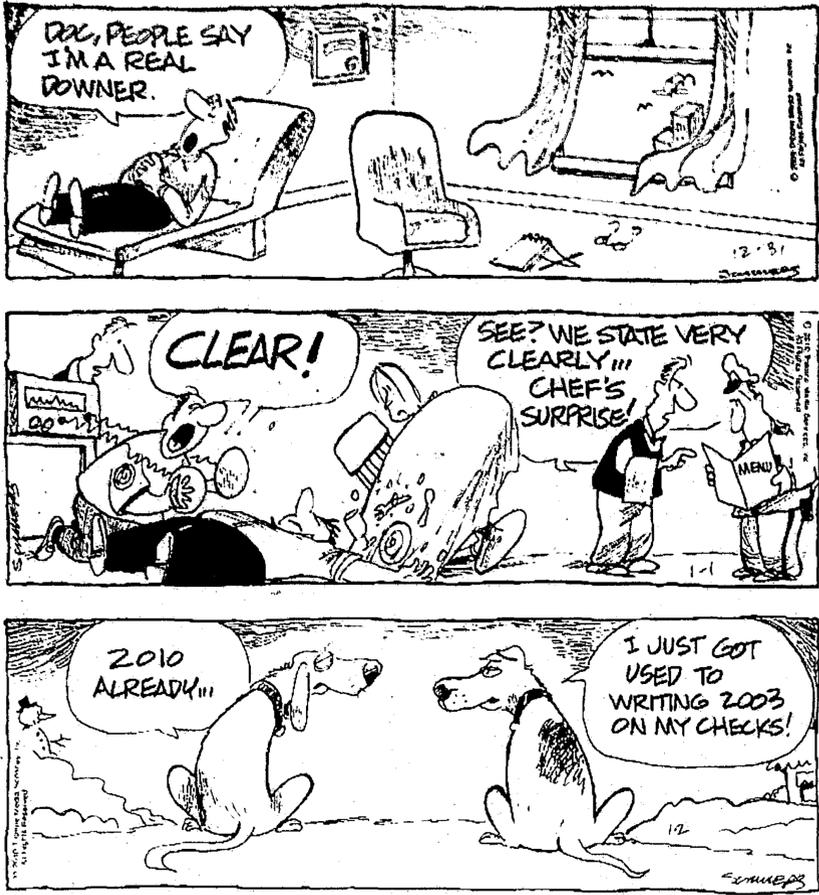
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□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	X ₈	L ₁	M ₃	B ₃	□	Double Word Score
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
A ₁	O ₁	O ₁	N ₁	S ₁	S ₁	B ₃	□	RACK 2
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
A ₁	E ₁	T ₁	L ₁	N ₁	C ₃	C ₃	□	1st Letter Triple
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
A ₁	E ₁	Y ₄	H ₄	R ₁	T ₁	B ₃	□	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 226
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 "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary 4th Edition.

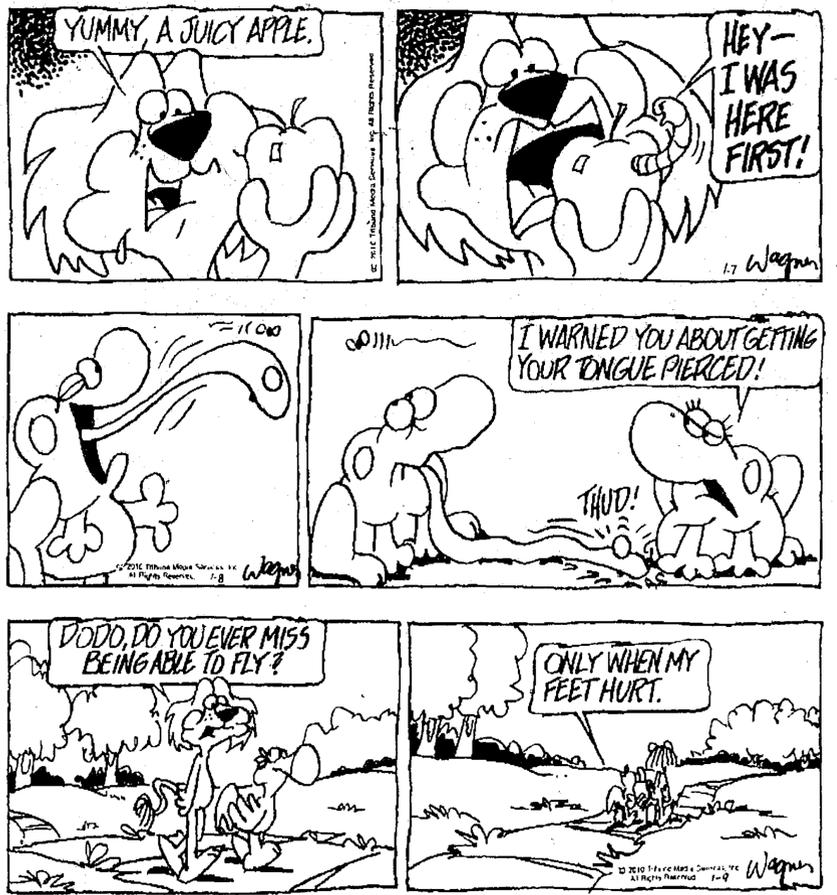
For more information on books, clubs, tournaments and the school program go to www.scrabble-assoc.com or call the National SCRABBLE® Association (631) 477-0033. 12-30



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RUIDOSO NEWS

ANIMAL CRACKERS



RUIDOSO NEWS

104 PARK AVE.
RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO 88345
(505) 257-4001
www.ruidosonews.com

JUMBLE

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

CHACO

ESTAE

TAYFUL

CUDISS

Answer here: "□□□□□□□□□□"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argillon and Jeff Knurek



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

SUDOKU
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

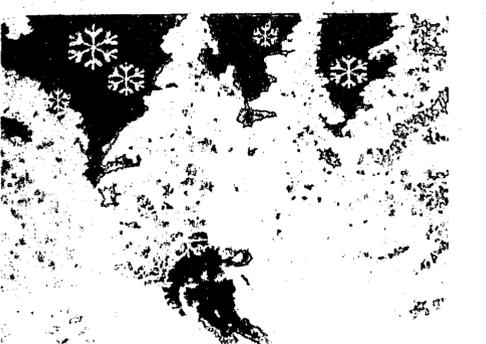
Level: 1 2 3 4

7				2				
			3				6	2
	3	9		1			7	
9	6	2					9	8
	8	5					2	1
	9			8			4	2
8	2				4			
				6				8

SOLUTION TO TODAY'S PUZZLE 12/30/09

7	1	6	8	2	5	3	4	9
5	4	8	3	9	7	1	6	2
2	3	9	4	1	6	8	7	5
4	6	2	7	5	1	9	8	3
9	7	1	2	3	8	6	5	4
3	8	5	6	4	9	2	1	7
6	9	7	5	8	3	4	2	1
8	2	3	1	7	4	5	9	6
1	5	4	9	6	2	7	3	8

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



Think Snow!!!

Jumbles: COACH TEASE FAULTY DISCUS
Answer: When the drama students put on a play, it was a — "CLASS" ACT



Sell Your Merchandise FAST!



100-152

100-232

239-250

300-383

400-502

600-668 & 2550-4137

700-725

799-816

900-921

Legal Notices 152

#8897 4T (12)16,23,30 (1)6

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF LINCOLN STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ALTO LAKES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, INC., a New Mexico Corporation,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SERGIO MARTINEZ and LAURA MARTINEZ, husband and wife,

Defendants,

CV 2009-00253 Div. III

AMENDED NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF SUIT

TO: SERGIO MARTINEZ and LAURA MARTINEZ, husband and wife.

GREETINGS:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in the District Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico, a certain cause of action wherein the Alto Lakes Golf & Country Club, Inc. is the Plaintiff and you are the Defendants, the same being Cause No. CV 2009-00253, Division III.

The object and purpose of the said suit is to foreclose a claim of lien against the following described real property:

Lot 42, Block 3, SERRA BLANCA SUBDIVISION, Unit 7, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-officio Recorder of Lincoln County on October 10, 1967.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that unless you enter your appearance or file pleadings herein on or before February 15, 2009, the Plaintiff will make application to the Court for a Decree by Default, and Decree will be rendered against you as prayed for in the complaint.

The name of the Plaintiff's attorney is Richard A. Howland, P.A., whose address is 1221 Mechem, Suite 2, Ruidoso, New Mexico, 88345.

DISTRICT COURT CLERK

Elizabeth Ysasi Deputy

Legal Notices 152

#8905 3T (12)23,30 (1)6

ALTO LAKES WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE

The Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District adopted Ordinance 2010-01 on December 17, 2009.

Ordinance 2010-01 amends previously adopted Ordinance (s) and will affect oil properties located within the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District boundaries as well as external water customers.

Amendments in force, provides enforcement provisions when solid waste is deposited outside of the Alto Lakes Solid Waste Transfer Station (Section 8), and provides regulatory provisions affecting the disconnection of service (Section 6, 7, and 20).

The original copy of Ordinance 2010-01 has been filed with the Lincoln County Clerk. Copies of the Ordinance are available from the County Clerk during normal business hours. The effective date of the amendments is January 22, 2010.

Dave Winans Secretary

Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District

#8911 4T (12)30, (1)16,8

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

SAFE DEPOSIT SELF STORAGE UNIT #18

Miscellaneous items, Flat Top, Kitchen Table & Chairs

Last known owner: Joseph Simon PO Box 1606 Ajo, NM 88312

Sole to be held at Self Storage located at 108 Alpine Village Road in Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345.

The sale will be held on January 9th, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

All Sales Final. Written lump sum bids only. Lienholder reserves right to bid. Items must be removed same day immediately following sale.

DISTRICT COURT CLERK

Elizabeth Ysasi Deputy

Legal Notices 152

#8898 4T (12)16,23,30 (1)6

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF LINCOLN STATE OF NEW MEXICO

JACKS NICKENS, a married man deceased,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JERRY GREEN and TERRY D. GREEN,

Defendants,

CV 2009-00363 Division III

AMENDED NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF SUIT

TO: Jerry Green and Terry D. Green,

Defendants,

GREETINGS:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in the District Court of Lincoln County, State of New Mexico, a certain cause of action wherein Jacks Nickens is the Plaintiff and you are the Defendants, the same being Cause No. CV 2009-00363, Division III.

The object and purpose of the said suit is to quiet title of the following described real property in the name of the Plaintiff:

Lot 12, Block 10, SERRA BLANCA SUBDIVISION, Unit 12, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, New Mexico on April 29, 1971.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that unless you enter your appearance or file pleadings herein on or before February 15, 2009, the Plaintiff will make application to the Court for a Decree by Default, and Decree will be rendered against you as prayed for in the complaint.

The name of the Plaintiff's attorney is HAWTHORNE, P.A., whose address is 1221 Mechem, Suite 2, Ruidoso, New Mexico, 88345.

DISTRICT COURT CLERK

Elizabeth Ysasi Deputy

Legal Notices 152

#8914 3T (12)30 (1)16

ALTO LAKES WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE

The Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District adopted Ordinance 2010-01 on December 17, 2009.

Ordinance 2010-01 amends previously adopted Ordinance (s) and will affect oil properties located within the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District boundaries as well as external water customers.

Amendments in force, provides enforcement provisions when solid waste is deposited outside of the Alto Lakes Solid Waste Transfer Station (Section 8), and provides regulatory provisions affecting the disconnection of service (Section 6, 7, and 20).

The original copy of Ordinance 2010-01 has been filed with the Lincoln County Clerk. Copies of the Ordinance are available from the County Clerk during normal business hours. The effective date of the amendments is January 22, 2010.

Dave Winans Secretary

Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District

#8914 3T (12)30 (1)16

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All Sales Final. Written lump sum bids only. Lienholder reserves right to bid. Items must be removed same day immediately following sale.

DISTRICT COURT CLERK

Elizabeth Ysasi Deputy

jobs 200-232

Education 222

Mescalero Apache School is looking for qualified applicants for the following positions:

High School English Teacher

POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

***All Certified positions and Coaching positions require a valid license from the NM Public Education Department.

***All positions require background checks and clearance from any criminal charges prior to employment.

***Selection for employment will be based on the Mescalero Apache Tribal Ordinance 06-02.

For additional information and application:

Mescalero Apache School
Mescalero Office
P.O. Box 230: 249 White Mountain Dr.
Mescalero, NM 88340
Phone: (575) 464-4431 Fax: (575) 464-4822

General Help Wanted 230

jobs 200-232

Education 222

Mescalero Apache School is looking for qualified applicants for the following positions:

High School English Teacher

POSITIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED

***All Certified positions and Coaching positions require a valid license from the NM Public Education Department.

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Mescalero Office
P.O. Box 230: 249 White Mountain Dr.
Mescalero, NM 88340
Phone: (575) 464-4431 Fax: (575) 464-4822

General Help Wanted 230

Need to sell something? Call 257-4001

Ruidoso News Classifieds Today

Office/Clerical 242

General office assistance

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Must enjoy interacting w/ people on phone a big plus!!

*Punctual, hard working, Dedicated individual

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Restaurants & Clubs 247

Restaurants/Clubs MICHEL ENAY'S Cooks, Dishwasher, Hostess & Servers Needed. Apply within 72 hours Sudderth No phone calls please

Employment Wanted 261

Laborer wants any kind of work. Lot cleaning etc. Reasonable. Call Steve, 257-2774. 7pm-8pm

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Townhomes/Condominiums 342

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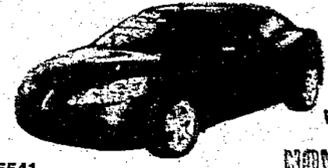
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2007 TOYOTA COROLLA



Stock #5424
 Auto, LE Pkg., A/C, CD, Power Windows, Locks, Alloys, Low Miles
 was \$15,745
now \$13,388

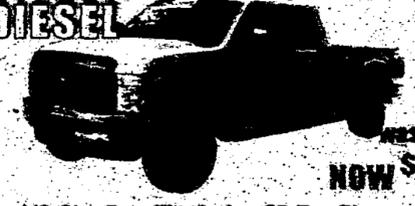
2008 NISSAN ALTIMA



Stock #5426
 2.5 S, Safety Curtain w/ Side Airbags, Select Shift Auto, Tint, Nice!
 was \$18,675
now \$14,977

USED 4X4'S/DIESELS

2008 FORD F250 4X4 CREW CAB DIESEL



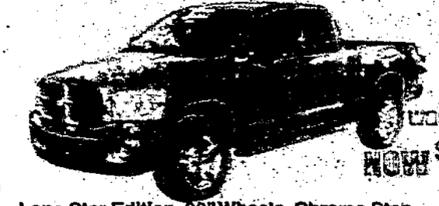
Stock #810422
 Auto, A/C, Step Bars, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Tow Pkg., 100k Warranty, One Owner
 was \$39,990
now \$33,855

2008 F250 DIESEL CREW CAB 4X4



Stock #8J0121
 King Ranch, Navigation, Moonroof, 20" Wheels, 100k Warranty
\$15,00 OFF

2007 DODGE RAM CREW CAB 4X4



Stock #5549
 Lone Star Edition, 20" Wheels, Chrome Step Bars, Loaded!
 was \$27,295
now \$25,985

2006 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4



Stock #610511
 Renegade, Auto, Custom Hardtop, Soft Top, 16, Only 13k Miles, Like New!
 was \$21,500
now \$18,689

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