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RUIDOSO NEWS

**FIRE DANGER
LOW**

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17, 2010 • OUR 63RD YEAR, No. 83 • 75 CENTS

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Downs forum in disarray

JIM KALVELAGE
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Several dozen Ruidoso Downs voters got to hear from candidates for city council seats Monday night. But only three of the five council aspirants offered their views and answered questions during a forum organized by the group Citizens Committee of Ruidoso Downs.

Candidate Thomas Chavez and current city councilor Dean Holman were the only hopefuls to appear in person. Former mayor and council candidate Bob Miller participated telephonically from Roswell, where he was said to be in

Citing bias by the organizers, two of the five city council candidates boycott event

rehabilitation after breaking an ankle. Judy Miller delivered questions over a speakerphone for her father-in-law.

Candidates Joe Blaney and Tommy Hood avoided the forum. Blaney said he was glad he passed on the forum.

"When you have a group of people as polarized as this group there was no way the event was going to stay above board. When the cham-

ber (Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce) was involved I would have gladly accepted the invitation."

Blaney said on Tuesday that what he had heard about the forum was "just the way I thought it would be."

Incumbent city councilor Tommy Hood said he also was a no-show because of the forum's organizers.

"The people putting it on, I don't know who they all are," said Hood. "I thought these people are very biased and political."

Hood said the city was wrong to tell the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce that their services were not needed because a forum was going to instead be in the hands of the citizens committee.

The three other candidates who fielded questions at the gathering favored state legislation that would allow a Lincoln County gross receipts tax that would fund a gaming tax credit for the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino, in an effort to keep the racino in

See FORUM, page 8A

MARDI GRAS FUN



COURTESY SHELLY BRACK

Rebecca Martinez prepares to lead the "parade" at Saturday's Mardi Gras at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

Two skiers rescued from the mountain

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Two wayward skiers were rescued Saturday morning, after spending a chilly overnight in the deep snows of the northern Sacramento Mountains.

Ryan Adair, 27, and Catherine Murphree, 23, both from the Dallas area, had gone to Ski Apache Friday and had gotten off course, and traveled beyond the resort's boundary. The father of one of the skiers notified police when they failed to return back to the family home near Cloudcroft.

"Their car was still in the parking lot (at Ski Apache) after closing last night," New Mexico State Police Lt. Eric Garcia said Saturday. "A search was

planned, but the snow conditions were too difficult to really bring in searchers at night."

State Police Officer Sam Houston found Adair's car in the lot, said White Mountain Search and Rescue (WMSAR) member Tony Davis.

"The usual sweep of the mountain, the daily routine at closing time each day, had already been performed, but the staff of Ski Apache conducted an additional search of the ski area, as well as a search outside the boundary to the north, but no skiers or tracks were found," wrote Davis and WMSAR base camp officer Joyce Westerbur.

About 11 p.m., Friday, search and rescue organizations were mobilized,

with an incident commander from Las Cruces was brought in to direct the operation.

During the night, searchers from the U.S. Border Patrol used night vision goggles and heat detection equipment to scour Ski Run Road, but there were no signs of the couple. WMSAR members Rich Adams, Bob Dragoo and Mark Younger searched a possible location for the pair without success.

Early Saturday morning the Ski Apache Ski Patrol performed another sweep of the area. Ski Apache operations director Justin Rowland and ski school manager Larry Schneider searched the southern border of Apache Bowl. Two

See SKIERS, page 8A

Track bill goes to Senate floor

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A bill in the state legislature, that supporters argue is necessary to keep the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino in Ruidoso Downs, was expected to go before the full Senate last night or sometime today.

Casino. For several years officials with the racetrack and casino have contended they are unfairly taxed when compared with tribal casino revenue sharing to the state that is spelled out in gaming compacts with New Mexico's Native American tribes and pueblos.

Ruidoso News online track poll corrupted; see today's editorial, page 4A

The Business Retention Gross Receipts Tax bill received unanimous support from the Senate Finance Committee on Monday.

"It was reported on the Senate floor this morning," Ruidoso Downs city lobbyist H. John Underwood said Tuesday. Underwood, a former legislator, has been part of a concerted effort to provide gaming tax relief for the racetrack and casino.

The bill was approved by the House without any nay votes late last week.

Rep. Zach Cook (R-Ruidoso) is a cosponsor of the measure.

"This is an important piece of legislation for the economy of Lincoln County and the surrounding area," said Cook. "I'm proud to be able to give the people of Lincoln County the opportunity to go to the polls and determine for themselves the future of our community."

The bill would allow the Lincoln County Commission to ask voters in a referendum if an additional gross receipts tax should be imposed.

Revenues from the new tax would finance a gaming tax credit for the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and

Ruidoso Downs Racing President and General Manager Ann McGovern said last year it was not a "bluff" and the track would leave Ruidoso Downs without "tax parity."

In November 2009 the track submitted a request to the New Mexico Racing Commission, seeking to relocate to Doña Ana County.

The maximum amount of the new gross receipts tax allowed in House Bill 203 would be one-quarter of one percent, in increments of one-sixteenth of one percent.

"You never know until it's a done deal," Underwood said of Senate passage of the bill.

"Until it's passed on the floor we're working on it. But so far, so good."

Hours are of the essence. The legislature will conclude their 30-day session at noon tomorrow.

"Time is the issue," said Underwood. "With the Senate and the House at juggernauts over the budget, there's a possibility the bill may never get heard by the Senate."

While New Mexico has five, and soon to be six, horse racing tracks with casinos, House Bill 203 was crafted to apply only to the racino in Lincoln County.

WIN! WITH!

DON WILLIAMS

VOTE TO ELECT DONALD A. WILLIAMS FOR MAYOR

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

VOTE



The Ruidoso News catches up with Michelle O'Brien of Michelle's in Midtown. The News' Kelly Capece presents O'Brien with \$1,000 she won in the November Big Deal Drawing. Excited, O'Brien said this was a great start for 2010.

Advertisement for Jerry Shaw's 'Experience Knowledge Dedication' featuring a photo of an elderly man and text about a committee to elect.

Cemetery Board

A regular meeting of the Ruidoso Village Cemetery Board is set for 11:30 a.m.,

Advertisement for Allen Theatres listing showtimes for 'Valentine's Day', 'Percy Jackson', and 'Wolfman'.

today in Council Chambers at Village Hall, 313 Cree Meadows Dr.

The agenda includes adoption of a resolution to comply with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. A closed session is planned to discuss the purchase, acquisition, and/or disposal of real property and/or water rights by the village.

Road block

A road block of Highway 380 west of Carrizozo will occur from 6:15 - 8:15 a.m., Wednesday, at mile markers 48 and 3.

Times are subject to change.

Relay rescheduled

The American Cancer Society Lincoln County Relay for Life Kickoff was canceled due to heavy January snow.

The kickoff has been rescheduled for Feb. 20 at the Community Youth Center Warehouse from 2 - 4 p.m.

Enjoy the festivities and sign up your team for the relay, scheduled for June 4 and 5

GtSWA board

The Greentree Solid Waste Authority Board will

hold its Feb. 23 board meeting at 2 p.m. in the new administrative offices of the new Greentree Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center east of Ruidoso Downs.

The new facility, including the meeting and training room, is located at 26590 Highway 70.

The Transfer Station and Recycling Center is currently not open to use by the general public but is expected to be later this Spring following completion of construction and final inspection by the NM Environment Department Solid Waste Bureau.

The public is invited to attend the board meeting.

For more information, contact the GtSWA office at 378-4897 or toll free at 1-877-548-8772.

Meet the authors

A meet the authors event for the book, 'Sharing Moments Over Tea: The Journeys of Four Women', is scheduled for 1 - 3 p.m., Friday at the Dolan House in Lincoln.

For more information, call 575-653-4670, or 575-354-2746.

Re-enactment

The public is invited to honor the past at the Ruidoso Public Library through a historical re-enactment of the life of a Fort Stanton soldier presented by Mike Bilbo, the Fort Stanton Live re-enactor coordinator.

The event takes place at 2 p.m., today, at the library.

Bilbo, attired in the campaign clothes of the period, portrays an Infantry corporal with the CO. A, 1st Regiment of the New Mexico Volunteer Infantry. His troop is re-occupying Fort Stanton in 1862 under

Kit Carson and Raphael Chacon after the Confederate soldiers have left.

After Bilbo's presentation, the public will be able to purchase a DVD produced on the 'History of the Fort' by Joseph & Carolyn Arcure. It includes the 'Song of New Mexico' performed by the Flying J Wranglers.

Proceeds of the DVD go toward the preservation of Fort Stanton.

Also, a new book, 'Fort Stanton, An Illustrated History' by Lynda Sanchez, with photography by David Tremblay, will be for sale. A portion of the proceeds of both media go to the Friends of the Library.

Bilbo is with the BLM Roswell Field Office as the Cave Specialist, with the Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area as his duty station. Bilbo is also an avid geocacher and recently presented a Geocaching program at the Library.

Ruidoso Public Library is located at 107 Kansas City Rd.

Sonic booms

Officials with the 49th Fighter Wing have announced the flying schedule through 21.

Sonic booms could occur Feb. 17, from 8:45 to 10:30 a.m., 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. and 6:15 to 7:45 p.m.; Feb. 18, from 11:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. and 6:15 to 8 p.m.; Feb. 20, from 9 a.m. to noon.

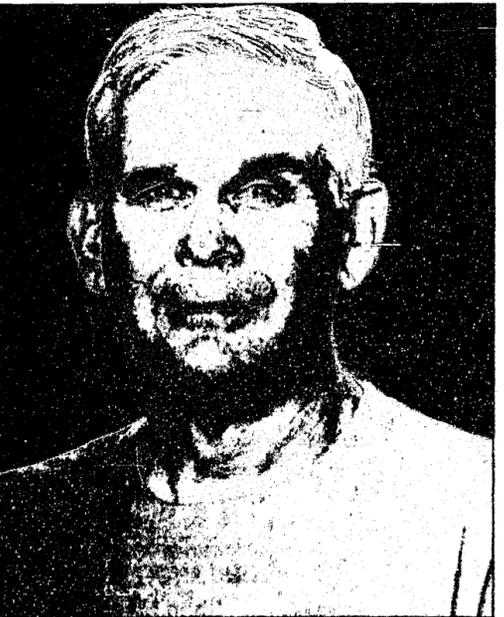
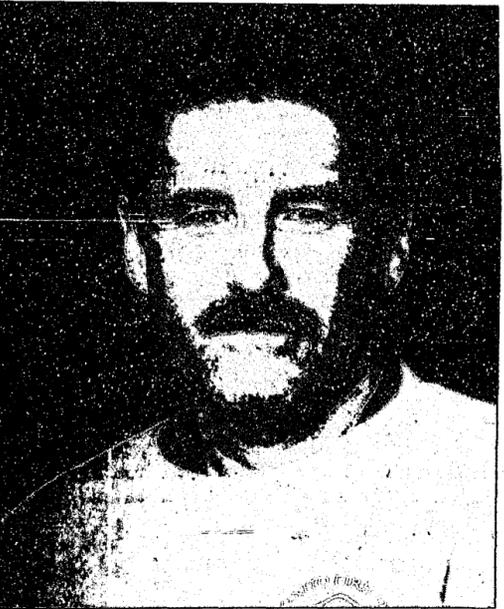
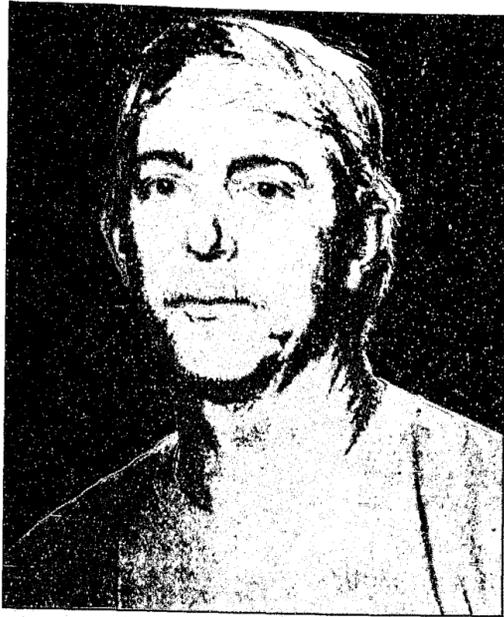
At this time, no flights are scheduled for Feb. 19 and 21.

Schedules can change based on a variety of reasons and scheduled times do not always mean sonic booms will occur.

For additional information, visit the Holloman Web site at www.holloman.af.mil.

City Bank New Mexico advertisement featuring a 7-day AccuWeather forecast, regional city weather map, almanac, and national forecast for Feb. 17, 2010.

Bonito Volunteer Fire Department banquet awards



The Bonito Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) held its annual banquet at Kokopelli Golf Club on Feb. 9.

Receiving years-of-service awards were:

- Rick Hall (safety captain), 40 years with BVFD and Ruidoso Fire Department;

- Robby Hall (assistant chief/EMT) and Chet Southard (vehicle maintenance lieutenant/EMT), 30 years with BVFD and Ruidoso;

- Mark Stambaugh (firefighter), 20 years with BVFD;

- Lisa Bartley (firefighter/EMT) and Carl Bartley (fire chief), 10 years; and

- Rye Eikanger (firefighter/EMT), Chuck French (deputy chief/EMT), Mark Gowdy (deputy chief/EMT), and Steve Lanik (firefighter), 5 years.

The department responded to 118 fire personnel calls and 58 EMT calls in 2009.

This included 26 vehicle accidents, 23 wildland fires, 20 smoke and fire alarms, 12 structure fires, 10 carry outs, 10 agency assists, seven unattended campfires, five dumpster fires and five false alarms.

Bonito VFD now has 36 members and three new pieces of equipment; a 2010 Rosenbauer on a Lonestar chasis 3,000 gallon pumper tanker which is housed at the Sonterra Station, a 2009 Dodge truck rescue vehicle also at Sonterra and a 2009 Dodge Type 6 (brush truck) Engine at Copper Canyon Station.

Bonito VFD will be participating with New Mexico State Forestry in the Resource Mobilization Plan this wildland fire season with five Type 6 Engines (brush trucks), three water tenders and two structure engines.

If called upon, crews will be available to respond locally, state-wide and beyond.

Visit the Bonito Volunteer Fire Department Web page at www.bonitofire.com for more information.



Left column, top to bottom: Carl Bartley, Rick Hall, Chet Southard, Mark Stambaugh.

Right column, top to bottom: Lisa Bartley, Robby Hall

COURTESY JOSEPH ARGURE

RE-ELECT JIM STODDARD



- Works to equalize residential water rates
- Asks tough questions, demands straight answers
- Ruidoso needs his experience and leadership
- Insists Ruidoso gets equitable wastewater treatment fees

We Support Jim Stoddard

- David & Connie Boehm
- Sally Burkstallar
- Dr. Lynn Willard
- Wayne & Cheryl Metcalfe
- Tom Lutterman
- Adam & Brooke Chavez
- Dr. Jim Miller
- Bill & Jamie Stroud
- Bruce & Toni Rimbo
- James Stephens
- Joe & Christine Citarelli

"As the Mayor, it has been my privilege to observe Jim Stoddard up close and personal. Jim has done an outstanding job for our community, Ruidoso has shown much progress and a lot of that has to do with Jim."

Mayor L. Ray Nunley

Jim Stoddard Ruidoso Village Council

Straight Talk, Solid Experience

Paid for by the committee to elect Jim Stoddard; Greg Cory - Chairman

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OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

Lisa Morales, publisher
Marty Racine, editor

A MediaNews Group Newspaper. Published every Wednesday and Friday

OUR OPINION

Track-tax poll scammed

Support for track tax stages huge 'comeback'

On Friday, the *Ruidoso News* posted a readers poll on our Web site that asked: "Do you support an increase in the Gross Receipts Tax to subsidize the Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino operation?"

The question refers to an effort in the New Mexico Legislature that could pave the way for a county vote on the issue sometime this year. The House bill passed last week; the Senate bill, as of this writing, was still pending.

The poll, which was to run through Wednesday, was apparently scammed and corrupted, and it has been removed from our homepage.

According to a poll tracker, the vote as of 9 a.m., Monday, was 186 against and 76 in favor of a tax hike. That is, the "No" votes were leading by more than 2-1.

Between 4 p.m. and 5:58 p.m., Monday, 136 "Yes" votes flooded in, versus 4 "No" votes. An issue that had been trailing for more than three days by at least 2-1 suddenly had a 34-1 ratio in favor.

Viewed another way, in the first three days, 262 total votes were recorded; within a 24-hour period after that, 400 votes came in. Such activity raised a red flag.

On Tuesday, the editor of the *Ruidoso News*, with a little help from his friends, did some detective work and proved that the poll could be manipulated by unlimited voting from the same computer.

It's easy. When you vote, the poll creates a cookie in the computer's Temporary Internet Files. Simply locating that

cookie and deleting it allows you to vote again.

It's a four-step process: Find cookie, delete cookie, refresh homepage, vote; repeat as necessary.

Even faster, we then determined that if you set your browser to block cookies from the *Ruidoso News*, you could vote rapid-fire till you drop.

A readers poll is designed as much for entertainment value as it is a scientific measure of community sentiment. And, indeed, it's a given that an Internet poll can be used anywhere in the world by those who could not otherwise materially participate in an election in Lincoln County.

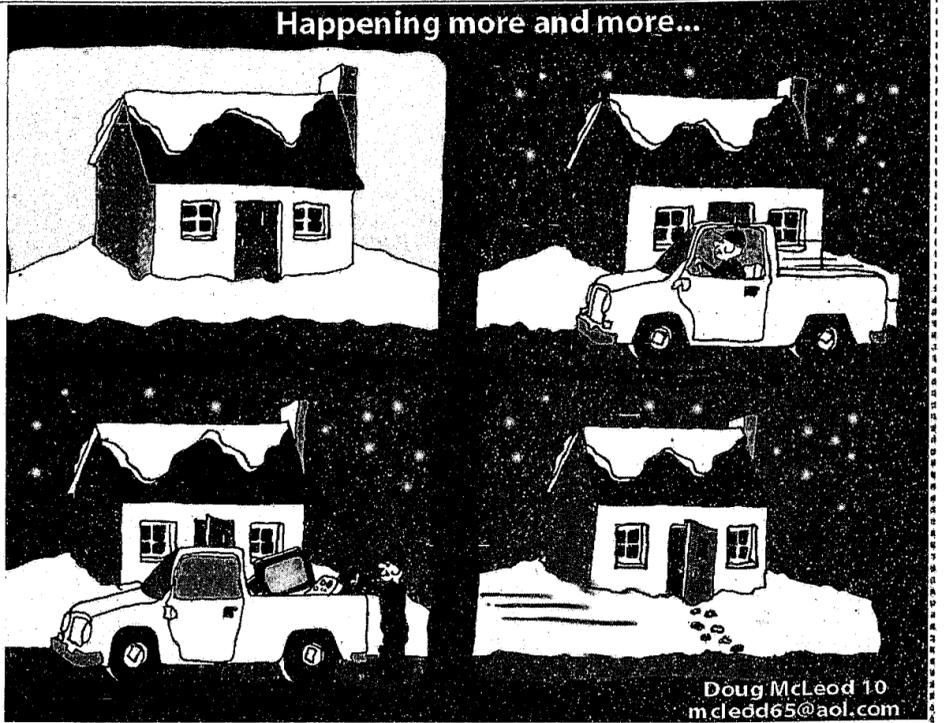
But the track debate is too important and controversial to accept tampering. We rely on the integrity of the voters, and when somebody breaches your trust, the *Ruidoso News* must take action and apologize for disseminating an inaccurate perception of the public mood.

KEDU-FM radio in Ruidoso has been running a similar track poll since Jan. 1. The poll, says General Manager Harvey Twite, uses both cookies and an IP verification, an extra mechanism that tracks IP addresses unique to each computer location.

The KEDU poll has consistently shown a 2-1 ratio against a tax increase to subsidize the track. As of 11 a.m., Tuesday, 961 votes had been cast, with 287 (30 percent) for and 669 (69 percent) against, with 5 undecided (1 percent).

The Web site is kedu.us. Below is a tracking chart showing Monday's spike in votes between 4 and 6 p.m.

Date: 2/15/2010			
Time	Total Votes	For	Against
9:00 a.m.	262	76	186
3:00 p.m.	298	98	200
4:00 p.m.	299	99	200
5:10 p.m.	344	144	200
5:30 p.m.	369	168	201
5:38 p.m.	389	188	201
5:42 p.m.	398	194	204
5:43 p.m.	400	196	204
5:44 p.m.	401	197	204
5:45 p.m.	405	200	204
5:47 p.m.	408	203	204
5:50 p.m.	419	215	204
5:52 p.m.	424	220	204
5:53 p.m.	425	221	204
5:54 p.m.	427	223	204
5:55 p.m.	432	228	204
5:56 p.m.	436	232	204
5:57 p.m.	438	234	204
5:58 p.m.	439	235	204
6:03 p.m.	439	235	204
6:34 p.m.	441	237	204
6:57 p.m.	444	240	204
7:20 p.m.	446	241	205



Doug McLeod 10
mcleod65@aol.com

YOUR OPINION

Film subsidy issue at least has interest

To the editor:

THIS SESSION I introduced House Bill 52 to repeal the generous film subsidy funded by the New Mexico taxpayer. The fate of this bill was the same fate as the identical bill I introduced in 2009, tabled in the first committee.

The big difference this year was what happened after my bill died; public interest did not die.

Two senators from the other party have introduced legislation to cap the subsidy. Furthermore, there have been numerous articles and editorials on the film subsidy. Most recently, both the *Albuquerque Journal* and the *Santa Fe New Mexican* featured front page articles.

These articles have focused on new economic studies that show we are not getting a fair return for your dollar. Recent editorials have called for more transparency. The cry is for the public to be able to see exactly what we are paying for.

I have heard and concede that some individuals have profited and some communities have seen temporary increases in business activity, but at what cost and who pays?

In this time of economic turmoil, we the legislators need to be good stewards of your money. This subsidy needs to be examined closely.

My Web site, www.dennis-kintigh.com, contains studies on the film subsidy, both pro and con. Just click on the film subsidy icon to find them.

I urge voters to become informed, read, learn and let their voices be heard.

Dennis J. Kintigh
State Representative District 57

Warming trend

To the editor:

MR. HARALSON, in a recent letter to the editor, is mistaken in saying that the earth's temperatures have been going down since 1998.

Just google "hottest 10 years on record 2009" and you will find, for example, "The decade of 1998-2007 is the warmest on record, according to data sources obtained by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)."

Mr. Haralson also ignores one of the more significant changes that has occurred in the last 50 years - the 0.5 degree Centigrade increase in the temperature of the waters in our oceans. The specific heat of water is 4,200 joules per kilogram per degree C of heating.

So a half-degree increase is 2,100 joules per kilogram (or 0.001 cubic meter of water). The extra heat added per cubic meter

is a thousand times higher, or 2.1 million joules.

The water temperature decreases with increasing depth, but is uniform for the first 100 meters (that's a conservative estimate, see www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/earth/Water/temp.html&edu=high).

The surface area of the earth's oceans is roughly 3.6 times 10 to the 14th square meters (3.6 E14), so a 100 meter thick layer is 3.6 E16 CUBIC meters (Wikipedia.org/wiki/Ocean).

Multiply by 2.1 million joules/cubic meter and you get 7.6 E22 joules. Compare this with the total energy use in the United States in 2005, which is roughly 1 E20 joules.

So that 0.5-degree C temperature increase has caused an energy increase in the top 100 meters of the ocean's surface of approximately 760 times the US annual energy consumption.

As for Haralson's claim that those fickle scientists were in an uproar about global cooling in the 1970s, "Thomas Peterson of the National Climatic Data Center surveyed dozens of peer-reviewed scientific articles from 1965 to 1979 and found that only seven supported global cooling, while 44 predicted warming. Peterson says 20 others were neutral in their assessments of climate trends."

And it was 1957 when Roger Revelle and Hans Seuss published their ground-breaking article on global warming.

Ellen Wedum
Cloudcroft

Coverage not fair

To the editor:

I READ IN AN earlier *Ruidoso News* edition about the arrest and charges brought against the former editor of this publication. I also saw the photo and thought maybe this was a bit too much coverage or certainly more than is usually reported in such matters.

However, the Feb. 3 front page headline, "Weekly publisher fired" and the subsequent article is somewhat disturbing. Isn't someone still "innocent until proven guilty" in the U.S.A.?

If you think this is a matter of no consequence, then consider how you and other readers would feel if you were accused of something (maybe you're guilty; maybe you're not) but you have to hire a lawyer, face public humiliation, and lose your job, to boot!

Meanwhile, your accuser has avoided this media scrutiny. Not fair! you say. Well, it could happen to you.

Remember, you don't have to

be guilty to be accused. Ms. McGovern and her employers at the *Ruidoso Free Press* merit no applause for their hasty reaction to the situation. There were certainly other alternatives available.

Unless we protect each individual's rights, then yours and mine are in jeopardy as well.

Sue Barse
San Antonio, Texas

Editor's note: However the court rules in this case, it will be duly noted in the *Ruidoso News*. In the meantime, the arrest of a well-known public figure is front page news.

The food police

To the editor:

OUR NEW MEXICO lawmakers are telling us what kind of food we should eat by placing a gross receipts tax on certain foods. As an example, they want to tax white tortillas and white bread, but will not tax whole grain tortillas or dark bread.

This is just another progressive movement to take over our lives and tell us what to eat and drink. I think that for our lawmakers to make this decision is unconstitutional.

Our lawmakers passed a medical marijuana law that allows potheads to eat marijuana-laced cookies, but wants to tell us white bread is bad for us.

People in this country are getting obese because more people are not getting the exercise they got a few years ago. Our children go to school, sit on their bottoms all day, go home and sit on their bottoms watching television or playing with their computers.

Kids today should have play periods in school, the same as we had years ago. I ran around with seven or eight kids growing up, and not one of these kids was obese. We ate all the junk food we could get our hands on.

Jack Hemby
Ruidoso Downs

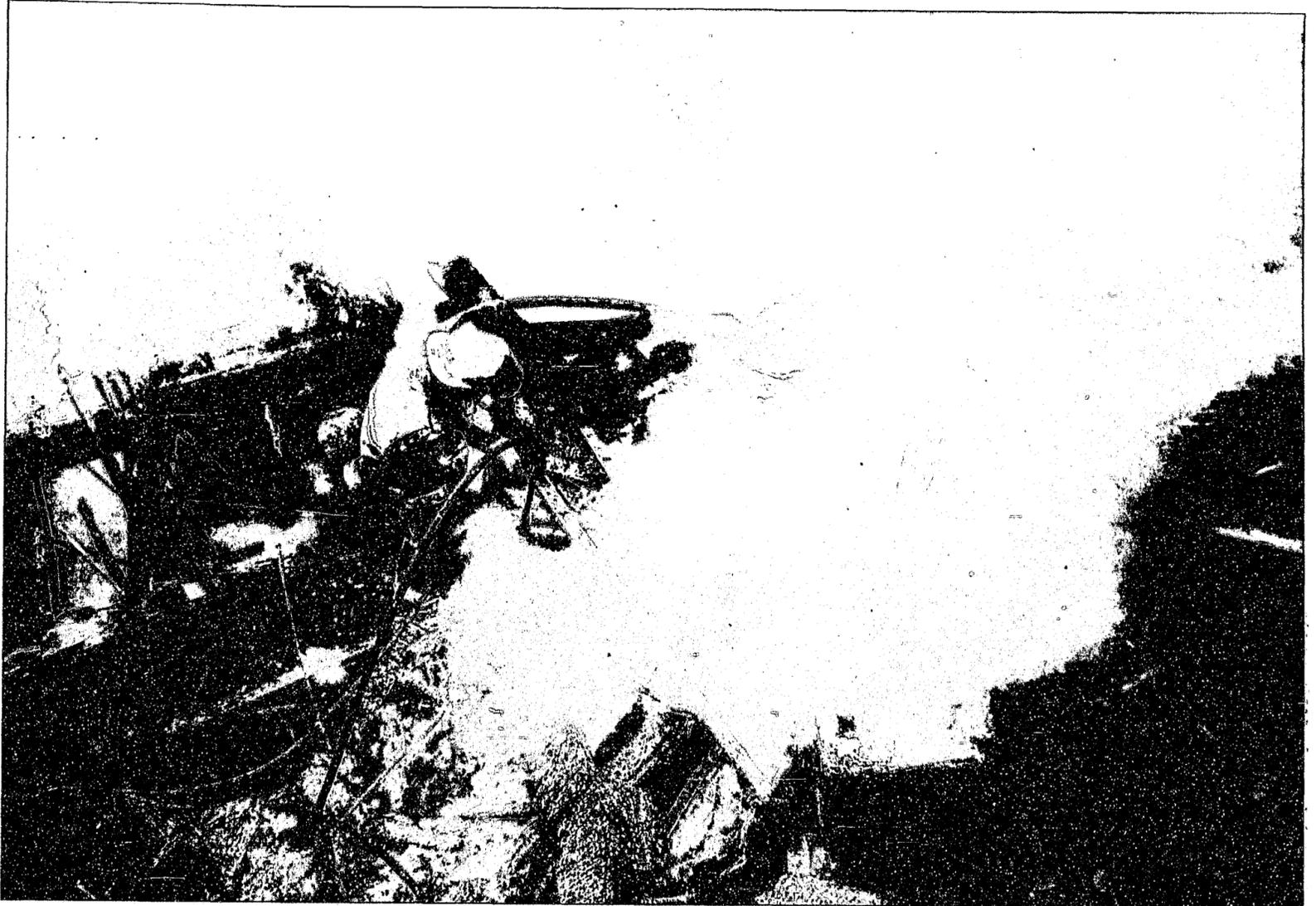
OUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Open Meetings

In recognition of the fact that a representative government is dependent upon an informed electorate, it is declared to be public policy of this state that all persons are entitled to the greatest possible information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those officers and employees who represent them. The formation of public policy or the conduct of business by vote shall not be conducted in closed meetings.

All meetings of any public body except the legislature and the courts shall be public meetings, and all persons so desiring shall be permitted to attend and listen to the deliberations and proceedings...

NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1



COURTESY BVFD

Bonito Volunteer Fire Department Assistant Chief Robby Hall deals with hot spots after a fire raged through a house in Alto Friday.

Three escape Alto Lakes house fire: structure destroyed

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Three occupants of an Alto Lakes home were able to escape without injury, as the structure was largely leveled by fire late Friday Night.

The blaze, at 105 Wild Turkey Ct., gutted much of the living area of the three-story residence.

The garage area of the home, however, was mostly spared fire damage.

"The fire was through the roof and windows when

firefighters got there," said Kathryn Minter, with the Bonito Volunteer Fire Department.

It was estimated the home was 75 percent overtaken by flames when the first department unit arrived shortly after 11 p.m.

"The three guys in the house got out OK," said Minter. "They were staying there while they were remodeling a house next door."

An investigator with the New Mexico Fire Marshal's

office was at the location on Saturday. The likely cause of the blaze was the fireplace, said Minter. A claim adjuster with the insurance carrier was also expected to review the damage.

Fifteen firefighters from the Bonito department responded with two engine trucks, two water tenders, a new 3,000-gallon pump-er/tanker, and a wildland attack truck.

Several tall pine trees around the home were lost, and Minter said there had been a worry that the

flames could spread into the canopy of trees in the area of the Deer Park Woods subdivision.

Departments assist

The Bonito fire department also received assistance from the Ruidoso Fire Department, who sent two engine/tenders and four firefighters.

The Capitan Volunteer Fire Department sent two people and a water tender to help deliver water to the locations.

A Lincoln County EMS

ambulance and the coordinator in the Lincoln County Office of Emergency Services were also at the scene.

The Sierra Blanca Disaster Relief Team responded to provide the non-injured victims and firefighters with hot and cold drinks and snacks. The team's Arthur Hoopes said the Pinecliff Village condos in Ruidoso provided emergency lodging for the three men.

The owner of the home also owns another resi-

dence next door. Both houses were being remodeled. Minter said there had been a concern the fire could spread to the adjacent structure.

Most fire personnel and equipment were cleared from the scene at 3:30 a.m. Saturday.

Bonito Volunteer Fire Department assistant chief Robby Hall monitored the location through the night and Bonito crews were again called out at 8:30 a.m. to help with smoldering debris.

Lincoln County not promoted on cable channel's New Mexico Dream Home site

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Resident Kathryn Minter told Lincoln County Commissioners she examined a Web site on the Home and Garden Channel's Dream Home and could find no mention or advertisement of home occupations opportunities in Lincoln County.

Perfect opportunity

She recalled that while making a pitch for \$4,000 as the county's portion of a study for alternative economic development in Lincoln and in Otero County, Mark Lautman in October said the unveiling of the dream home in San Pedro Overlook, a 625-acre protected nature reserve between Albuquerque and Santa Fe, was a perfect opportunity to tout the area for home-based jobs.

The environmentally-sensitive house is to be given away in March. Lautman, Chief Principal in Community Economics Laboratory, is conducting an economic development study for the two counties concentrating on home-based and related industry jobs.

Contacted last Tuesday, Lautman said when the HGTV Dream Home

came up, he talked to the producer about featuring a "work at home" office and the network officials were excited about the idea. Lautman said he went to the state Tourism Department for some financial support to help promote the concept, but, "we were too late" in the annual financial cycle. The department already had committed the available \$3 million and the state is strapped for any extra cash.

Still committed

However, HGTV officials still are committed to helping popularize the at-home job industry, he said. Recruiting from outside the state probably is least important in developing the industry, Lautman said.

The aim should be people here now who have skills and could work out of their homes, if someone organized an opportunity for them, he said. The idea is to create employment with sales outside the local economy without the expense of building something like an industrial park.

"This may be the only thing that works when the baby boomers retire and they can't replace us," he said.

"There could be thousands of jobs, if we can figure how."

The nonprofit company was awarded a federal grant to help pay for setting up some pilot programs in communities, Lautman said.

But the numbers have to show the expense would be worth the return to the counties, he emphasized.

Proving what jobs are created from an organized program will be tough and deciding how to implement a program, who does it and the type of program are questions yet to be answered, he said.

Will report back

Lautman said he is scheduled to report back to the county commissions in Otero and Lincoln in March.

Lautman was chair of New Mexico Economic Development Corporation. Connections to several business were listed on the Internet, including the master plan project Mesa Del Sol in Rio Rancho, New Mexico Community Capital in Bernalillo, Santa Teresa Real Estate Development Corp. and Business Facilities in New Jersey.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

Comprehensive plan partly utilized

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Although deadline dates were omitted when Ruidoso village councilors adopted an amended Comprehensive Plan 2010 last month, some policies already are being followed under the objectives of tying all land use and daily decisions of the village to the plan.

Members of the Planning and Zoning Commission commented at their last meeting that they appreciated a memorandum from staff on a site development application that detailed its consistency with the CP 2010.

Also this month, staff is to begin including an analysis justifying inclusion of projects in the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Project list of the village's annual budget by showing they are consistent with the goals, objectives and policies in the CP 2010.

From there, however, the proposed timelines and assignments become tougher. At their meeting last Tuesday, councilors set a public hearing for March 9 to consider attaching the deadline dates, but said a workshop should be scheduled for the four candidates who win the March 2 municipal election for council and mayor to allow them a voice in the schedule.

As now proposed, by

September 2010, staff should present a revised zoning map that documents all zoning district changes approved to date with annexation.

Staff should begin code language changes this month to implement the goals and objectives of CP 2010. They include correcting inconsistencies in minimum lot sizes between new subdivisions and resubdivision of existing lots in the R-1 single-family residential zoning district; revising parking requirements to be more in tune with today's land use needs; clear up requirements for outdoor sales in all zoning districts; remove "cascading" use allowances in the C-2, neighborhood commercial, and C-3, Midtown commercial, zoning districts and substitute specific uses; zone all recently annexed areas; present a draft of the Future Land Use Map by July for adoption by the council no later than December and complete a comprehensive rewrite of Chapter 54 and supporting chapters to ensure consistency of the zoning code to CP 2010.

The new zoning map will include separating R-1 and C-2 into subzones that better reflect the conditions in various areas of the village. A location for C-4 industrial uses should be designated and C-3 boundaries revised. And those changes should be present-

ed for adoption by February 2011.

Expanding the use of a Planned Unit Development overlay zoning district to encourage innovative land use changes in existing developed areas also is listed as a policy.

The CP 2010 is to be reviewed by the village planning commission in July 2011, for possible adoption by the council and every two years after that. Quarterly reports are required on progress in meeting the goals, objectives and on implementing policies.

Other elements of CP 2010 deal with economic development, water, recreation and open space, transportation, environmental and history, energy conservation, higher education, arts and culture, regional cooperation, capital improvements, and future land use to allow a "moderate amount of planned redevelopment, infill and sustainable growth that complements the natural and cultural landscapes and has compatible visual character with historic development."

Copies of the CP 2010 can be obtained from the administration office of the village at 313 Cree Meadows Drive or can be downloaded at the village Web site at www.voruidoso.com.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

EDUCATION

RMSD facilities master plan underway

JIM KALVELAGE
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Work toward a re-vamped facilities master plan is getting underway in the Ruidoso Municipal School District.

"It's time for it to be redone, it's been five years" said schools superintendent Dr. Bea Etta Harris. "So we've had one meeting with the Blue Ribbon Committee in January."

The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 25.

"In a third meeting we will do a tour of the

schools," Harris told the education board.

The committee in the middle of the last decade recommended a prioritized list of needs in the district.

The district's financial advisor, Charles Casey, was expected to meet with school officials this week to provide an update on the structuring of debt to finance future projects, said Harris.

Casey Financial Consulting has assisted school districts on general obligation bonds, including the Ruidoso Municipal School District in the past.

In February 2006 district voters approved \$26 million dollar in borrowing to carry out the previous facilities master plan that included construction of a new middle school. The new campus opened in August 2009.

Casey provided financial assistance in issuing the bonds in April 2006, October 2007 and September 2008. The three issues totaled the voter approved \$26 million.

A brief preview of possible upcoming needs in the district's facilities and infrastructure was part of a

presentation by Harris on current issues.

"As part of the (current) facilities master plan, the storm draining at the high school has come also to a halt with the weather," said Harris. "If we had one good week of weather they think they could finish. That's how close they are."

At the new middle school, corrections to the construction are also waiting for good weather.

Harris said a bid for acoustics at the school is a big step in addressing that problem. Fixing the road in front of the middle school,

and addressing a retaining wall, are also talking place.

"I think that we may need to have the Blue Ribbon Committee deal with the middle school, the playing field, the landscaping, and what we want to do about a road."

A second access to the campus was in the original plans for the middle school.

School board president Susan Lutterman questioned abundant snows this winter that had slide off roofs at the Sierra Vista Primary School.

"It slid straight down the walls," said Harris.

"They sent me a lovely little slide show of all around the building. It was sort of incredible to see what happens when you don't have eaves on a building. There's just no protection at all."

Harris said she had wished the Blue Ribbon Committee could have toured the primary school on that day. "You can't believe it until you see it," Harris said. "It slides off the roof and came half way up the windows."

School custodians from every facility worked to reduce the amount of snow against walls and windows.

MILITARY MEETS WHITE MOUNTAIN STUDENTS



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

New Mexico National Guard Major Joe Fletcher talks with fifth grade students in Ruidoso about leadership qualities last Friday. Behind Fletcher is a guard helicopter that landed earlier in the parking lot of the schools campus along White Mountain Drive. After the talk, students were allowed to peer inside the chopper. Students at the school are sending cards, candies, books and Bibles to helicopter mechanics stationed in Afghanistan.



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso VFW Post 12071 vice-commander Bill Robinson (right) presented its Teacher of the Year honor to Ruidoso elementary educator Alicia Annala last Friday during a ceremony at the White Mountain school campus in Ruidoso. Annala, a fifth grade instructor at the school, has also been active in Veteran's Day assemblies at the school for years. The VFW post designates an instructor annually as its Teacher of the Year.

Teen Spotlight

Teen Spotlight is honored to feature area teens that have made an impact in their community.

McKensy Nall is the next teen in the Spotlight. Nall is the daughter of Laura and Mike Leineweber and is currently in her senior year at Capitan High School. Nall is involved in a variety of activities at her school and in her community.

At Capitan High School, Nall is proving to be a determined, dedicated student as she will graduate one year early. She is enrolled in several Advanced Placement classes and is an active member of National Honor Society.

Nall works hard to influence the other students in her school to make positive choices.

After attending the fall Light the Fire Youth Leadership Summit, Nall founded Team Noble (an anti-bullying campaign).

This group has grown to several students who are spreading their message in Capitan. Nall presented to the school board about her campaign and she and another student developed a lesson that they used with the fourth grade classes. This lesson will be used with other grade levels in the future.

Nall is also involved as a community advocate. She is an active member of the Lincoln County 4-H Club, is the vice-president of her chapter, and shows horses.

She was the 2009 Lincoln County Rodeo Queen and participates in rodeo. In addition to these activities, Nall enjoys photography and has done missionary work in Mexico.

One of Nall's teachers said, "Because McKensy is trying to graduate early, she is working really hard this year. That strong drive to succeed will definitely



MCKENSEY NALL

serve her well in her future endeavors, especially given her outgoing, bubbly personality."

This statement speaks to her drive and giving spirit. Nall lists influences in her life as her Christian friends, her family, and God.

Future plans include studying religion at New Mexico State University and participating in Air Force ROTC.

Afterwards, she plans to serve her country in the Air Force. As one can see, many children, peers, and adults have benefitted from the leadership and outgoing altruistic endeavors of McKensy Nall.

Teen Spotlight is sponsored by Lincoln County DWI Prevention.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

History Day

Have you ever wondered what life was like before television, the assembly line, exercise shoes, the microwave oven, basketball, penicillin, the vacuum cleaner or public schools?

Middle and high school students around New Mexico are working on project that illuminate the impact of innovations on all kinds on life in our society.

The students are preparing for National History Day in New Mexico competition on April 23. The best of the best projects will be judged and winners will go on to the international competition in Washington, D.C.

Students prepare projects in a variety of formats on a common theme.

The 2010 theme is Innovation in History - Impact and Change. Projects may be in the form of exhibit, performance, documentary, web site, or research paper.

To reach the state contest in Albuquerque, students compete first at their own schools and then at one of three regional contests, including in Las Cruces on March 3.

Visitors are welcome to observe the judging of performances and documentaries, and may view the exhibitions.

About 300 students are expected to compete around the state, and 50 to 60 will go on to the international competition, which is

set for June 12 to 17. For more information contact New Mexico History Day coordinator Trevor Carter at 505-277-3474, or e-mail historyday@nmhum.org.

Dean's list

Four students from the Capitan area made the Dean's List for the fall semester at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales.

They are: Everett E. Autrey, business administration major; Ashley R. Dubose, political science major; Anna-Marie Friberg, elementary education major; and Kallie Dawn Griffin, sciences major. All graduated from Capitan High School. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must take a minimum of 15 hours with a 3.25 grade point average.

Founded in 1934 and with a current enrollment of approximately 4,600, ENMU offers more than 70 majors leading to associate, bachelor and master degrees

Ancient practices

Marty Lane will teach a class on the practical applications of three habits incorporated into the lives of those in the Early Christian Church: Lectio Divina, Daily Examen and the Centering Prayer.

Lane has been a pastor in Ruidoso for 26 years and she has an avid interest in reviving these helpful

habits into daily living. The class will be held in Room 119 at the ENMU-Ruidoso campus on three consecutive Saturdays beginning Feb. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. The fee is \$25 or \$15 for seniors. Registration is required before Thursday, Feb. 18 and may be made by calling the ENMU-Ruidoso Community Education Office at 257-3012.

Sweepstakes

Local educators have a chance to win up to \$10,000 for themselves and a matching \$10,000 for their school in a Horace Mann Companies sweepstake.

Timed to help get 2010 off to a good start for teachers and schools, the "Educators run away with \$65K" sweepstakes goes through April 20. Teachers in the Ruidoso schools are encouraged to obtain an entry code by visiting with their local Horace Mann representative, Kezia Price, and then going to horacemann.com to complete an online entry form.

"The dual prize component in this sweepstakes reflects our commitment to educators and education by providing cash for winning educators plus money to fund an educational need of the winner's choice," said Price. A total of \$65,000 will be awarded, from the grand prize to lesser amounts. Horace Mann is a national insurance company that focuses on educators' financial needs.

Read us on the Web

www.ruidosonews.com

Hubbard Museum of the American West makes economic pitch

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What began as a presentation on the economic and cultural impacts of the Hubbard Museum of the American West turned into a plea to avoid further funding cuts for the facility.

The museum is owned by the City of Ruidoso Downs, after R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard gave the property to the city in August 2005.

"There's been a lot of discussions about the museum and cutting costs and being a team-player within the city," Jay Smith, the museum's director, told city officials. "Since 2005, when I became the director of the museum, we have cut one-and-a-half positions. We have combined two positions that were full-time to create three part-time posi-

tions. That savings alone for those actions was \$85,000 a year."

Smith said the museum has been without its full staff since May 2009.

"In 2005, when I came here in October, one of the first things I was to do was to look at the budget and start to trim," said Smith. "That budget at the time was \$1.5 million. That was not a city budget. That was from the Hubbards. Basically in the last four years I have cut \$500,000. That's 33 percent."

Smith said when he was hired, there was a promise to provide the museum with \$150,000 from the city's general fund annually for 10 years. The period was called a timeline to move toward economic sustainability.

"I know it was a former administration," he said.

"That was one of the reasons that I came here and I agreed with that plan and I still do. But in the past four years that \$150,000 has been trimmed all the way down to \$80,000."

Smith acknowledged the funding for museum operations is still Ruidoso Downs taxpayers' monies from the city's general fund. But he told the mayor and city councilors the \$80,000 level represents a 47 percent cut in four years.

"And I dare to say there is no other department that has come anywhere close to those numbers. So when you ask us to be 'team players' I believe we have been more than just team players."

"And I would also say those numbers represent about a \$216,000 valuation over the last four years that would have taken care of a

number of museum needs. So we have been working very hard to ensure the tax dollars spent and the economic impact of the museum has been realized. I would also like to say, in the defense of myself and the museum, is that if you go back through every city council meeting, the museum has never once asked for an additional dime for any special project, any infrastructure activity, or anything."

The economic turnaround the past two years prompted Smith to make some cuts.

"What about the future? You know, the future is never completely clear," said Smith. "But I will say with every degree of confidence that every person on the senior staff of the museum continually works towards operational efficien-

cies. And yes, there are some areas that could be improved. And we're looking those."

Input from city officials and residents would be "welcome" Smith said.

"We have not even had the museum for five years. So we are just half way through a plan that was to take 10 years. And yes, we have cut substantially since that period of time. And I feel very strongly that we've done a very good job of trying to handle the situations as they arose."

City councilor Tommy Hood said Smith and his staff have done an excellent job.

"Anytime you can trim a budget like this, that's hard to do."

While Smith said the Hubbard Museum's cultural impact on the community was hard to measure,

the economic pluses are clearer.

Two-thirds of visitations to the museum were from non-New Mexicans.

"That's tourism," said Smith.

The museum has a staff of 15, with an annual payroll of about \$400,000. Overall operational spending in Lincoln County during 2009 was a bit more than \$700,000.

"Your dollars, and the dollars that we generate, are more than going back into the Lincoln County system," said Smith. "For each of those dollars that go back into the system, they recirculate three times."

Smith said clearly the museum is an important business in Lincoln County even though it is a department in the city.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

County enthusiastic about proposed expansion at Holloman AFB

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Proposed expansion of activity and a modification of mission at White Sands Missile Range was greeted with enthusiasm by Lincoln County commissioners.

"The Army proposes to augment its capabilities at WSMR to support future testing and expanded training missions," according to an executive summary received by the county and discussed by County

Manager Tom Stewart and commissioners at their meeting last week. "To accomplish this the Army proposes changes in land use on (the range) to allow for expanded off-road maneuvering."

The proposed action also includes land use changes to expand built-up areas for housing and community functions, infrastructure, mission support and administrative facilities to support (an infantry gunnery unit) or comparable unit at the range in the

future."

The proposed action also would result in adoption of a flexible capabilities-based land use and airspace strategy plan able to accommodate rapidly evolving customer needs, support current and future mission activities and support test and training efforts."

Commissioner Dave Parks asked Stewart, who retired from the Pentagon, when the F22s would be leaving and other types of aircraft would be coming in

to Holloman Air Force Base and the missile range.

10 years away

"They're talking years," Stewart said. "The military usually is dealing with five to 10 years out. Lockheed Martin has to start construction of F35s (Lightning fighter). It will be some time. I was impressed with the Reaper and the Predator (both unmanned aerial vehicles). They have 116 earlier Predator models and 28 Reapers. They have tremendous loitering

time. "The bad guys look up and don't see anything and all sudden, there's a missile in their laps."

"When I was there for a function, the commander stated that most of the people flying drones were 19 to 22 years old and grew up playing electronic games and that qualified them," Parks said.

"I'm glad to hear my grandson will have some job opportunities," Commission Chairman Tom Battin said. "It's good to see

new technology come to Holloman, because it guarantees it will be there in the future."

Stewart said the county received two "very large volumes" of a Final Environmental Impact Statement for Development and Implementation of Range-Wide Mission and Major Capabilities at White Sands Missile Range, essentially the outline for future operations at the missile range.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

Council likes changes at regional airport

Kudos were offered by Ruidoso village councilors to the director and employees at the village's Sierra Blanca Regional Airport for improvements completed since May.

Director Justin King, who also handles special projects for the village such as replacement of bridges wiped out in the July 2008 flood on the Rio Ruidoso, said when he took over, the major audit issues were fuel accounting and inventory. He put checks and balances in place, and now takes a monthly inventory. "But I can do it daily or any time," he told councilors at

their meeting last week.

Amounts purchased and sold are balanced when tank levels are measured. The tanks are not metered, so the they must be "stabbed" manually for measurements, he explained. Because the fuel comes from east Texas, as much as a 500-gallon difference may occur because of moving from a hot to a cold climate, he said.

Recently, a 2,000-gallon difference was discovered, but because of the more accurate and frequent accounting, it quickly was determined a number was transposed on the stick

reading.

"The checks and balances are working," he said.

"I appreciate your tenacity to do it right," said Councilor James Stoddard.

"You have to have discipline to do it," Councilor Greg Cory agreed.

In other airport-related issues, councilors approved an agreement between the village and W. H. Pacific Inc. to perform engineering services under the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program and the New Mexico Department of Transportation, Aviation Division.

Three firms responded to the request for proposals. On Dec. 8, the council approved a contract award for engineering services at the airport to two firms, because several times when only one firm was on contract, it was too busy to respond to projects in a timely manner, according to King.

The council last week approved agreements with W.H. Pacific, which built the original airport on the mesa, and with Delta Airport Consultants Inc.

- Dianne Stallings

A Ruidoso News exclusive

Village street crews scrambling to repair potholes

The driver swerved wildly to the left, then back to the right, then rode the middle line.

He wasn't drunk or distracted. He was driving down Paradise Canyon.

The potholes on that major connector between Sudderth Drive and Hull Road are becoming legend as road crews try to keep the growing canyons filled with patching material.

"We send crews out almost every day," Street Department Director J.R. Baumann told Ruidoso village councilors last week.

A resurfacing project on Paradise was advertised at the end of January and the bid opening is scheduled for Feb. 26, he said. The work would begin with warmer spring temperatures.

Councilors said they are deluged by complaints from residents trying to dodge the holes that seem to deepen each time new material is added, and then washed or worn away by snow, rain and tire chains.

"Potholes. We've got lots of them, Baumann said, and not just on Paradise,

although it is the first stop each day.

The latest patch material is a concrete mixture, he said, adding, "I'm not wild about that," because the resurfacing method involves churning up the old asphalt and recycling into a new surfacing spread.

"This has been a harsh winter," Baumann said. "We usually go through about 80 tons of patching, and this year, we've already used 500 tons. I'm on my eighth truckload of cold mix when I usually use two. The state Department of Transportation is out working filling potholes on Mechem and Sudderth. We fixed some on Country Club Drive (Feb.8)."

People also call to complain about entrances and parking lots in shopping centers, but he explains to them that is private property and the village can't use public equipment, material or labor.

Baumann said he's been using a winter blend cold mix, and is on the waiting list for more, but the demand is heavy for the

mix all over New Mexico.

Public Works Director Randall Camp said personnel from Sierra Blanca Regional Airport, the Solid Waste Department and the Water

Department helped free up road crews by handling snow removal in parking lots for municipal property.

- Dianne Stallings

A Ruidoso News exclusive

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FORUM

FROM PAGE 1A

Ruidoso Downs.

"The citizens would decide that at a referendum," responded Holman. "And I'm going to be for whatever the citizens of Lincoln County want to do."

The legislation, now before the New Mexico Senate, would let the county board of commissioners place the taxing question on a ballot for the voters to decide.

"I'm totally in favor of an increase in the gross receipts tax," said Miller. "Keeping the track here is an absolute necessity. I'm totally in favor of helping (RD) Hubbard with the racetrack and casino."

Deciding a business retention gross receipts tax would be a "big question" for residents in the area, said Chavez.

"I don't know if that will fix the track, I really don't," he said. "I am in support of the track staying here because that is the backbone of our summer months. But I personally would be against raising the GRT."

A question that asked if candidates felt at least one citizen should be on the city's budget committee brought a 'but-if' response from Miller.

"I don't know why there should be a private citizen on the budget committee because the councilors are elected by the people. But I would be willing to go along if the majority of the council says there should be a citizen on the budget committee."

Chavez said he would probably be opposed to the idea.

"The citizens elect the



Dean Holman, left, and Thomas Chavez were the only candidates who attended Monday's forum in person.

councilors to make these decisions," said Chavez. "They have their workshops for budget decisions. They're welcome to come in and talk over the budget."

But incumbent Holman took another direction.

"I would not support a citizen on the budget committee. I think there should be at least two. There are citizens out there that know more about budgets than any of the councilors. The bottom line is it's the citizens' money."

A question about the lease that provides Lincoln County with the Ruidoso Downs Senior Center, which is in turn operated by the county, heard Miller state that he is in favor of the status quo.

"It's our building," said Miller. "I feel like the county has done us a big favor in taking over the senior citi-

zens' center as it is." Holman said the senior center has seen a lot of misinformation.

"When people have a vested interest they only give you half the story," said Holman. "We were just told it can't be used for anything else because a grant specified for use as a senior center."

Holman said a state official told him that the seniors-only use specified in the grant was for 10 years, and that time has run out.

Having additional venues at the center was suggested by Chavez.

"I favor reutilizing the building and rewriting the contract (with the county), said Chavez. "It's there for a good cause, the senior center."

But Chavez said a new contract would allow other

programs at the location.

Asked if any of the three had been charged in New Mexico with a crime in the past 10 years, Holman said "no."

"I have definitely have not been arrested on any charge in the court in the state of New Mexico."

Miller said the same was true for him.

"Never ever, ever. Not even for a parking meter ticket."

The answer was different from Chavez.

"Yes I have, but it was deferred and taken care of," responded Chavez. There was no elaboration.

With dried-up state funding for local projects, Chavez said looking for federal programs could help. He said as a past Ruidoso employee he learned the ropes for applying for grants.

Miller agreed, pointing to other funding sources. With new development in Ruidoso Downs the former mayor said the city should be "pretty stable."

Holman said he has been extremely frugal with city money and continued restraint would be prudent. But he felt the city did not have to make spending cuts right now.

All three candidates said they favor mandatory spaying and neutering of dogs and cats to address the number of animals at-large in the city.

A question about a manager's position for the city was accepted by the trio, after all agree to field some questions submitted by the Citizens Committee of Ruidoso Downs. The consensus was a manager is unnecessary.

"They're only good for

large cities," said Miller. A manager is just too much power."

The former mayor said he could favor an administrative assistant if it became necessary.

A return to a city manager was rejected by Holman as well.

"A city manager has too much power. They have the power to hire and fire. The council is giving away a lot of the power that the council should keep control of."

Agreement with Holman's stand was voiced by Chavez, who noted there is a lot of work for top staff at city hall.

"But I don't want to put that work on an administrative assistant as well. Now I think the work should be spread out throughout some of the department heads and distributed evenly."

On the topic of the city's Hubbard Museum of the American West, Chavez praised the facility, noting much of its funding is derived from non-profits and fundraisers.

"I would still be in favor of funding this facility," Chavez concluded.

But Holman said the museum needed to be weaned from city funding.

"If anything, we need to try to really look at the city funding less and the museum becoming more self-sufficient, if at all possible."

Miller agreed the museum should be self-supporting on a number of fronts.

"I'm for funding the museum to a certain point. I'm for helping the museum because they're nationally known."

On March 2 voters in Ruidoso Downs will select two of the five candidates to fill upcoming four-year terms on the city council.

First in the Ruidoso News

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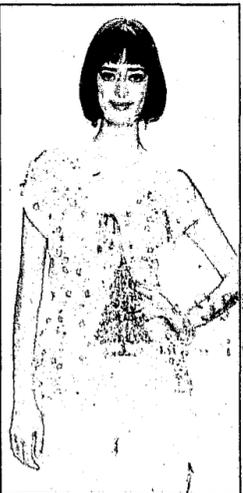
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SKIERS

FROM PAGE 1A

sets of ski tracks were found leading into a ravine below Sierra Blanca.

A New Mexico National Guard Blackhawk helicopter was requested to search from the sky. And the all-terrain rescue vehicle acquired by the Lincoln County Office of Emergency Services was brought in because of the deep snow.

"The discovery of the sets of tracks by Rowland and Schneider had narrowed greatly the area the helicopter would have to search, and soon after it arrived in the Ski Apache environs the missing skiers were spotted," wrote Davis and Westerbur. "The couple, and their gear were winched aboard as the

copter hovered. A medic aboard the helicopter examined the couple and found them hungry and tired, but otherwise OK."

The Blackhawk landed on the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club links, near the clubhouse, where Adair and Murphree were escorted to a waiting vehicle.

Westerbur attributed the happy outcome to the skiers' savvy.

"First of all, the two subjects of the search were young, athletic, experienced skiers and in very good condition. As night fell and it became apparent to them that they would be out all night, they found a large boulder and scooped out the snow on its downwind side. They lined the snow with pine branches for insulation and despite overnight temperatures in the lower 20s, were able to

stay warm by huddling together. These survival skills allowed them to continue on in the morning.

"During the night, the young man heard what at first he thought was an elk bugling. He remembered that this is not the season for elk to bugle, and realized the sound was probably from searchers looking for them. He got up and yelled, but heard nothing further."

Rowland and Schneider were lauded as true heroes.

"Their discovery of the tracks and efforts to follow the tracks down through complicated terrain narrowed the search area down to where the helicopter could readily find the lost skiers. Search and rescue could not help but be impressed by the dedication of all the Ski Apache personnel."

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Planning & Zoning Commission sheds light on sign ordinance

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

It's been driving Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commissioner Bill Hirschfeld up the wall.

He remembered the commission denying a backlit sign and was sure the village's land use ordinance section dealing with signs was changed to ban that type. But when he read the ordinance, he couldn't find any prohibition, nor could he find it mentioned in the meeting minutes.

But a story that appeared in the *Ruidoso News* May 26, 2004, outlines exactly what happened.

The manager of Cree Meadows Golf and Country Club at that time was denied permission to use a backlit sign marking the entrance to the business.

First he was turned down by then-Ruidoso Planning Director Charles Rennick and when he appealed, the denial was upheld by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

In offering the motion to back Rennick's decision, then-member Brad Trep-tow pointed out that the impact on neighbors must be considered. Board members Phillis Barnett and Vicki Williams both mentioned that a wooden sign with spotlight illuminating the lettering would be "classier" in keeping with a country club.

Rennick explained the club manager encountered much more than he originally bargained for when Cree applied for permission to put up the sign. H. John Underwood, who at the time served as village attorney, reviewed the information and discovered



Commissioner Bill Hirschfeld did some research on backlit signs and found conflicting results.

the sign would sit on village right of way, as did much of the upper level parking for the club.

Cree officials eventually received permission to lease the right of way, but had to redesign the configuration for parallel parking and added more spaces to the side of the clubhouse.

Rennick said while the sign might not bother the Baptist church across the street, a new home is being built that would be affected. Harvey Foster, who served on the commission at that time, talked about

limiting the hours the sign could be illuminated, but conditions were not attached to approval.

The club manager contended the spotlights would present more of a distraction to drivers than a backlit sign.

Rennick disagreed, saying the spotlights must be positioned not to cause a glare for drivers.

Trep-tow said he checked out several other collector streets in the village and none of them have backlit signs.

"I don't see how this

commission can set a precedent," he said.

Commissioners discussed not only the Cree sign, but signs with moving lights and messages, because of their potential danger distracting drivers.

Apparently, the latitude allowed Rennick and the commission falls under several sections of the ordinance.

One section states that regulations are set forth with the intention of preserving the special qualities inherent in the village that attract tourists and residents, and that are the basis of the village's economic stability and growth.

Another section states all signs erected within the village must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate officer of the village before being installed. Still another states, "No signs shall be erected or main-

tained on or over public property unless licensed by the council, subject to approved criteria."

Under the a section dealing with illumination, the ordinance states that light from an source intended to illuminate a sign must be shaded, shielded or directed so that the brightness won't adversely affect the safe- vision of pedestrians or vehicle operators on public or private streets, drive- ways or parking areas and, "shall not adversely affect any surrounding premis- es."

The illumination also should not interfere with the effectiveness of any official traffic signs or signals.

Signs using revolving lights, beacons, strobe lights or spotlights specifi- cally are prohibited.

A *Ruidoso News* exclusive

Ruidoso News obtains list of top taxpayers in Lincoln County

DIANNE STALLINGS
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"I'm a taxpayer in this county," is a phrase often repeated during a litany of complaints at public meet- ings.

But few people probably know just who the top tax- payers are in Lincoln Coun- ty.

Since 1989, the county's tax roll swelled from \$278.95 million to \$1,019,442,539, nearly a 350 percent increase, County Assessor Paul Baca said Tuesday. Over that same time period, 5,567 more parcels were added to the tax roll as new subdivi- sion lots were developed, increasing the number from 24,794 to 30,361.

At the request of the *Ruidoso News*, County Treasurer Beverly Cala- way provided public tax records showing the top 10 residential and the highest 10 nonresidential payers of property tax in the county,

and the value of their prop- erty.

Checking old newspa- pers from 1992, the top resi- dential property value was \$647,568 and owned by William R. Burgess of Alto. He was followed by R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard at \$474,670.

Utilities dominated the list of nonresidential prop- erty tax payers, led by Texas-New Mexico Power Co. of Fort Worth at nearly \$8.25 million and taxes of \$117,388, and Ruidoso Sunland Inc. of Ruidoso Downs at \$7.9 million and taxes of \$108,080.

Property taxes in New Mexico are paid on one- third of market value and are subject to other deduc- tions such being a primary residence and the owner being a veteran.

Today, the Hubbards are 34th on the list of resi- dential property taxpayers and the Burgess' Second Family Limited is 19th.

The names topping the

The names topping the residential list represent mostly corporate ownership, instead of individuals.

residential list represent mostly corporate own- ship, instead of individuals. City Bank, a Texas bank- ing corporation, is number one paying \$66,255 in prop- erty taxes this year.

Next comes the late Jacqueline Spencer Mor- gan for the Spencer Theater Trust paying \$22,987 in property taxes. Third is Pinecliff Village with a taxable value of \$952,678 and paying \$22,347; Rio Hondo Land & Cattle Company, limited partnership with a taxable value of \$1.090 million and paying \$20,164; Crown

Point Owners Association Inc. with a value of \$709,225 and paying \$16,635; Camelot Place Apartments with a taxable value of \$705,848 and pay- ing \$16,556; CDS Rain- makers development with a taxable value of \$793,816; Ladera Apartment Homes Limited with a taxable value of \$551,681; Tierra Del Oso Limited Partner- ship with a taxable value of \$619,013; and Scott Martin and Jill Yates with a tax- able value of \$1.2 million.

On the nonresidential side, the utilities trumped again.

Union Pacific Railroad Company headed the field with a taxable value of \$8.9 million and paying \$208,609 in property taxes. Second was Transwestern Pipeline Co. with a taxable value of \$8.87 million and paying \$181,647. Third was El Paso Natural Gas Co, with a taxable value of \$5.6 million and paying \$115,901.

Ruidoso River Resort LLC came in fourth with a value of \$3.2 million and paying \$92,588, and City Bank is fifth paying \$73,407 in property taxes.

Ruidoso Downs Racing Inc., owned by the Hub- bards, was listed as sixth with a taxable value of \$1.82 million and paying \$61,786 in property taxes.

The remaining four in the top 10 nonresidential property tax payers are

Retail Trust III with a value of \$1.8 million and paying \$61,389; Trans- western Pipeline Co. with a value of \$2.4 million and paying \$58,871; Zia Natur- al Gas Co. with a taxable value of \$1.94 million and paying \$56,068; and Alto Land Developers Inc., with a taxable value of \$2.24 million, paying \$55,400.

Baca said in reviewing past tax rates, he was sur- prised to see property own- ers in the Ruidoso village taxing district in 1984 paid \$56 per thousand of taxable value, because of a high debt. Of that amount, \$24 went to repay the village's debt. By 1989, the rate declined to \$37 per thou- sand, although that still topped today's rate of \$26 per thousand, he said.

A *Ruidoso News* exclusive

County manager shovel-ready

Drivers creeping down New Mexico Highway 37 after a huge snowstorm probably did a double take, wondering if that really was Lincoln County Man- ager Tom Stewart out shov- eling snow from the entrance to a driveway.

He was answering a complaint about a blocked driveway called in by the daughter of an elderly cou- ple, but since that day, county commissioners keep asking if he will swing by their homes after the next snow and dig them out too.

Stewart said the call came in from the daughter who lived in Texas when he already was swamped with calls from people asking when county plows would take care of their roads.

"I told her we cannot remove snow with county equipment from private driveways, but she wouldn't let go. She wanted the plow to come back and remove the row of snow created when it cleared the road," Stewart said. "I was up to my tail in calls and I

lost it. I told her we have 8,000 driveways in the same condition and our goals was to get the main roads open. She said she asked the plow diver politely to come back and open the driveway, but he didn't. She said her parents were elderly and couldn't do it themselves. Every time a plow goes by, the same condition is created.

"I finally said, 'Tell you what. Give me the address and I personally will do it.'"

The woman called him an expletive, Stewart said.

"I was angry, but I always carry a shovel in my car and I went out immedi- ately (from the courthouse in Carrizozo) and removed the snow," he said. "It took about five minutes to do it. (The amount) was nothing compared to what some people deal with. Unfortu- nately, it continued to snow and probably a couple of hours later, they had the same situation.

"It was just one of those mornings."

-Dianne Stallings

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NM Homes Sell Feb 25th & 26th

OTHER AREA AUCTIONS
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• 706 Center Ave
3BR 1BA 1,598+/- sf.
ROSWELL, NM
• 711 Sherrill Ln
4BR 2BA 2,144+/- sf.

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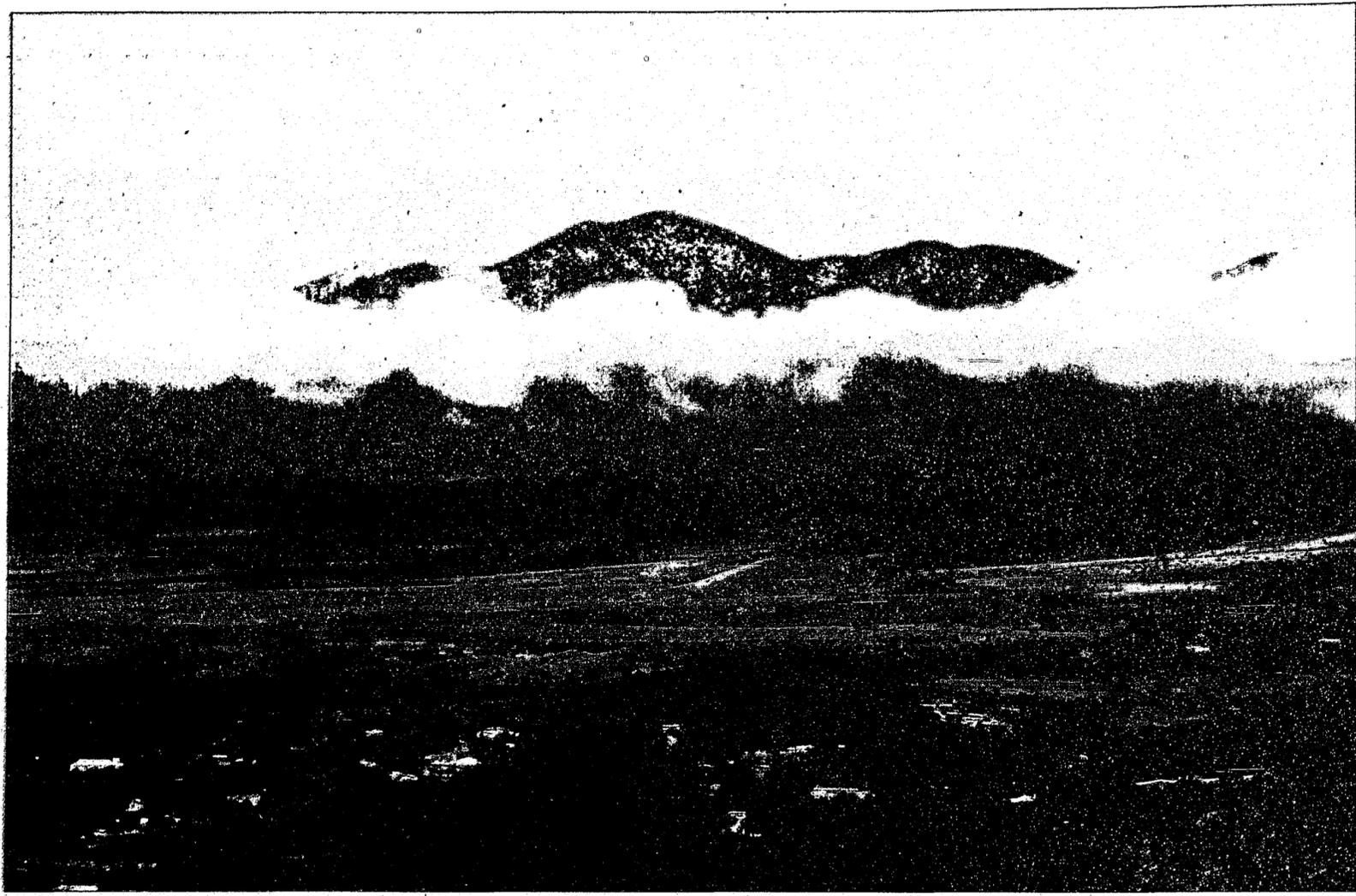
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PARTLY CLOUDY



COURTESY DAVID TREMBLAY

Heading to Albuquerque on New Mexico Highway 37, photographer David Tremblay stopped about 9:45 a.m., Thursday, for an incredible shot of Carrizo Mountain, which at 9,619 feet was looking down on a low-lying cloud hovering over the settlement of Nogal.

'Sidewalk to nowhere' is extended, kind of

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

What a critic called "the sidewalk to nowhere" is defended, by the public works director in Ruidoso Downs.

After a couple of months of work, crews are putting the final touches on the new concrete walkway along a part of U.S. Highway 70.

The original plans called for sidewalks on both sides of the highway, from the area of the Zia Natural Gas Company headquarters to the Walmart area.

The new section is only on the south side of the highway.

"It was inadequate funding," said public works director Cleatus Richards. "I got as far as I could with the funding that was available."

The sidewalk is just over a half-mile long, going from Walmart east to the area where Service Lane's west connection is with the highway.

The project was funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program and other sources said Richards.

"I am working on additional funding," Richards added.

The contractor on the sidewalk extension recently completed the return of highway lighting standards and has some grading work to finish on the backside.

The critic equated the sidewalk to the "bridge to nowhere," which was proposed to replace a ferry between the town of Ketchikan, Alaska and an island that contained the area's airport and about 50 residents.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

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SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17, 2010

CALL US: MIKE CURRAN, SPORTS EDITOR • 257-4001 EXT. 4111 • MCCRAN@RUIDOSONEWS.COM

PAGE 1B

side line

Ski Report

Ski Apache

The snow resort is open daily 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. You may call 464-1234 for the latest ski report and information. The ski report is culled from www.ski-apachesnowreport.com

Tickets: Season passes are normally available by phone at 464-3600.

New snow past 48 hrs.: 2 inches
Season total: 155 inches

Weather for Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 51. West wind between 5 and 10 mph. Wednesday evening, partly cloudy, with a low around 28. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Weather for Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52. West wind around 10 mph. Thursday evening, partly cloudy, with a low around 28.

Current conditions: Excellent
Mid-mountain snow depth: 60 inches

Snow surface: Powder, machine groomed

Groomed runs: Bunny, Easy Street, East Easy Street, Moonshine Gulch, Lower Moonshine, Lower Deep Freeze, Ramp, SBT, Capitan Lite, Chino, Meadows, East Meadows, Geronimo, Upper Deep Freeze, The Face, The Ridge, part of Apache Bowl, Elk Ridge, Game Trail, Bull Run, Trench and Lincoln Lift Line Groomers Pick Trench

Lifts open: No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7 open Saturday, Sunday and holidays and No. 8 Gondola is open Friday through Sundays and holidays.

Snowmaking: No

Results

Boys Basketball

Thursday, Feb. 11

Hondo 71, Mountainair 69
Carrizozo 65, Corona 29
Tatum 73, Mesalero 40

Friday, Feb. 12

Ruidoso 67, Dexter 61
Carrizozo 65, Vaughn 29

Girls Basketball

Thursday, Feb. 11

Hondo 45, Mountainair 41
Corona 62, Carrizozo 49
Tatum 50, Mesalero 48

Friday, Feb. 12

Carrizozo 53, Vaughn 16
Saturday, Feb. 13
Artesia 59, Ruidoso 45

Sports On Tap

Boys Basketball

Thursday, Feb. 18

Vaughn at Hondo, 7 p.m.
Carrizozo at Mountainair, 7 p.m.
Mesalero at Gateway, 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 19

NMMI at Ruidoso, 7 p.m.
Capitan at Mesilla Valley, 8 p.m.
Mesalero at Lake Arthur, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 20

Mountainair at Corona, 6:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball

Thursday, Feb. 18

Vaughn at Hondo, 5 p.m.
Carrizozo at Mountainair, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 19

Capitan at Mesilla Valley, 6:30 p.m.
Mesalero at Lake Arthur, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 20

Ruidoso at Portales, 7 p.m.
Mountainair at Corona, 5 p.m.

On Deck

Co-Ed Volleyball

The Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Dept. will have the Auxiliary Horton gym (old Middle School) open for volleyball on Mondays and Wednesdays through March 10. It counts for anyone who signed up in the "Walk in the Woods" fitness program and it's free. For info call 257-5030.

Little League Sign-up

There will be three Little League baseball sign-ups starting Tuesday, Feb. 23 from 5-7 p.m. at the First Methodist Church warehouse, Thursday, Feb. 25, 5-7 p.m., at the Capitan High School cafeteria and Saturday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the White Mountain Intermediate School cafeteria. To register, each participant must bring one proof of age original document issued by the state, feds or vital statistics, and three or more documents that show the address of the legal resident. Only cash or checks are accepted. For more info call Christine at 808-1677.

Spring Soccer Signups

The Lincoln County Youth Soccer League will hold signups on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tuesday, Feb. 23, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the White Mountain Elementary School cafeteria. Ages 4-14 (must be 4 by 7/31/09 and 14 on 7/31/09). Absolutely no late registrations. Online registration is available at



Referee Herb Dean holds up the hand of winner Andrew Vasquez.



A victorious James Flores stands with KOTC President Terry Trebilcock.

Cage fights go nationwide

Friday's KOTC event at Inn is seen by U.S. audience

MIKE CURRAN
mcurrana@ruidosonews.com

As advertised, last week-end's King of the Cage (KOTC), 12-bout MMA extravaganza at the Inn of the Mountain Gods (IMG) turned out to be a "corker," replete with all you might expect from such a show.

The marketing hype between bouts and during the fights was top shelf, including the introduction of the combatants by ring announcers, "Big Poppa Schnake" and Mike Adams, live coverage on large in-the-hall screens and the music and hoopla that has come to be expected at these "happenings."

Ring referees, Herb Dean and Tony Rosales were on hand to handle the important responsibilities in the octagon.

Dean, once a combatant himself, was asked what aspect of the sport he liked and his answer was thoughtful and direct.

"I've been involved in cage fighting since its inception," he replied. "And what I like about it is I was able to beat an opponent with my mind and body. I was able to win by using intelligent, coordinated actions and reactions."

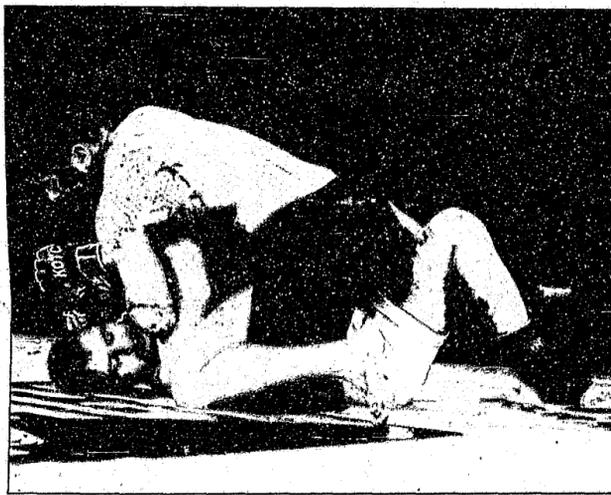
This marked the first time a KOTC fight-card was nationally televised.

Recently, Mark Cuban, chairman and co-founder of HDNet, Mark Burnett of "Mark Burnett Presents: King of the Cage" and KOTC entered into a multi-year partnership agreement to televise live KOTC events every month.

Friday's IMG spectacle was the initial effort among these parties.

In all, there have now been five KOTC appearances at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, with each growing in popularity and attendance since the first.

The Nov. 28 fights were sold out and, due to the HDNet televi-



Andrew Vasquez, of Ruidoso, scored a second round TKO over Brian Chavez.

sion addition, this time the crowds were overflowing. Their tandem, equipment trucks with up-link capabilities were readily visible outside the doors of the Convention Hall.

In the first bout of the evening, Ruidoso resident Andrew Vasquez took on former village native, Brian Chavez, who now lives in Houston, in the 170-pound class.

Vasquez stunned Chavez midway through the second round

with a stand-up right knee and got on top of the Houston fighter as they both hit the ground.

Dean quickly stopped the bout as Chavez was clearly dazed and awarded the local fighter a TKO.

Vasquez now has a record of 4-1. In the 230-pound Cruiserweight title bout, Tony Bonello of Sydney, Australia, defeated California's Mike Bourke early in Round 1 on a tap-out from a tri-

See FIGHTS, page 2B

Ruidoso Warriors repress Demons

MIKE CURRAN
mcurrana@ruidosonews.com

The Warriors got back on the winning side of things Friday evening by taking down the visiting Dexter Demons, 67-61.

With the win they improved their overall and district marks to 8-14 and 2-4, respectively.

Dexter, did well early, matching RHS basket for basket and slowed down the offensive efforts of the Warriors.

The nip-and-tuck style of play on the hardwood continued, nearly to the end of the contest when the visitors went up by one.

"I called a time out at that point," Ruidoso head coach Dennis Davis said. "It worked out for us because the boys went back

out on the floor with an aggressive nature.

"We got some transition scoring baskets and went back on top. When the Demons led, 61-60, we pumped in seven to their zero.

"They just couldn't sink the shots they needed to. Our boys did what they had to do. We needed this win."

Ralph Miranda was high scorer with 25 and Andrew Gilliland played a good game by grabbing a bunch of rebounds.

"Andrew sprained his ankle early in the fourth quarter," Davis said. "I took him out for a while but sent him back in after a short break.

"He continued pulling in rebounds by jumping up, pulling the ball in, and then landing on his good



Daryl Carr looks to sink a free throw in the Warriors' 67-61 win.

foot. Sometimes he looked like a stork out there."

The 7-point victory over the Demons sent the Warriors off the floor with confidence going into the contest with Lovington (19-

4, 6-0), which they will have played Tuesday evening.

Friday, the Warriors will close out their regular scheduled season at home against NMMI at 7 p.m.

For more photos see page 2B

MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

JULIE GILLILAND/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

CARRIZOZO BOYS-GIRLS DOWN VAUGHN IN MAKEUP GAME



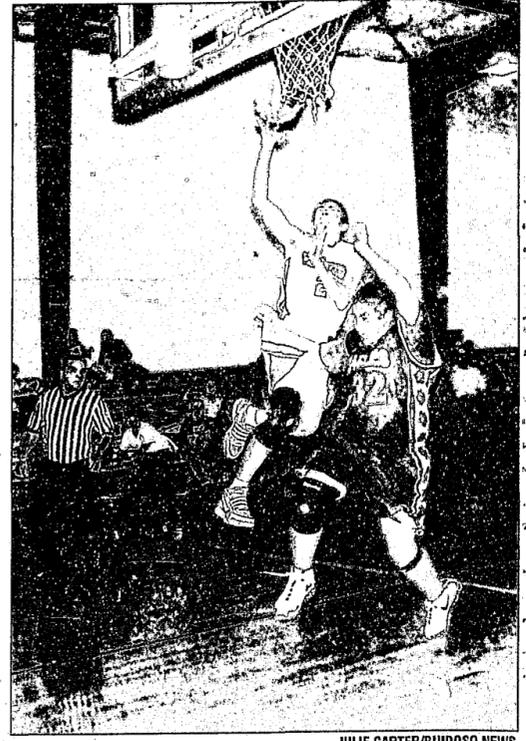
Cody Ventura fights for the basketball.

JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS



Jordan Hill contributes to Carrizozo's 53-16 win over Vaughn.

JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS



Tavi Nash goes for two in 'Zozo's 65-29 win Friday over Vaughn.

JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

FIGHTS

FROM PAGE 1B

angle choke hold.

In the third fight of the evening, Ruidoso's James Flores, in his amateur debut, stopped Alamo-gordo's Jeremiah Crosby in the beginning stages of Round 1.

With Crosby on the canvas and Flores standing, Flores rained down punches while bent over, causing referee Rosales to halt the proceedings before Crosby sustained any further damage.

Flores was credited with a TKO and now goes to 1-0.

In the televised main card part of the evening's bouts Quinn Mulhern, of Santa Fe, went into the 170-pound class fight with an 8-1 record against Louisiana's Rich Clementi at 45-15-1.

Mulhern scored a TKO win late in the second round.

In the 135-pound Bantamweight title bout, Albuquerque's Joe Coca faced down Tucumcari belt-holder Abel Cullum.

Both fighters went right to it with some standing punches and then went to ground.

At the 2:09 mark of the first round Coca tapped out from an armbar allowing Cullum to keep his belt.

In the Heavyweight title bout, Albuquerque's Tyler "The Beast" East faced off with title-holder Tony Lopez of California.

The blonde-haired East, at 6-foot 6-inches looked in

the peak of shape as did the 6-foot 5-inch, 225-pound Lopez.

Once the fight got under way, East looked to be the more technical of the two, repeatedly delivering wicked high side-kicks to the head and shoulders of Lopez.

Lopez is a proven tough cookie and when the fighting duo went to ground the Californian forced East out on a tap out from an armbar with 4:54 left in the 5-minute round, thereby retaining his belt.

In the interim 145-pound Bantamweight title fight, California's Victor Valenzuela at 9-4-2 challenged current belt-holder Donald Sanchez of Albuquerque at 20-9.

The first round (scheduled for five 5-minute rounds) was dominated with on-the-feet boxing and sporadic kicks.

About a minute into round two the Albuquerque fighter took Valenzuela down and remained on top for the rest of time period.

The third round was dominated by Sanchez again as both combatants went to the canvas with the belt-holder raining down blows on the challenger.

With 4:05 gone in the fourth round Sanchez scored a TKO over the game Californian and kept his belt for now.

In the last televised bout of the night, two heavyweights entered the 21-foot octagon with Mike Kyle of San Jose, Calif., facing down Rochester, Minn., Fighter Travis Wiuff for

three scheduled 5-minute rounds of mayhem.

Kyle set the pace early but Wiuff responded with a nice take-down of the San Jose fighter mid-way through the round.

Nearing the end of the first 5-minute mark Kyle escaped Wiuff's clutches to end the round.

At the conclusion of the subsequent round the Californian delivered a crushing punch to Wiuff's head and he went down as the gong sounded.

Wiuff needed help from his corner people to get to his stool and was unable to respond at the opening bell of the third round. Kyle was awarded the win on a TKO.

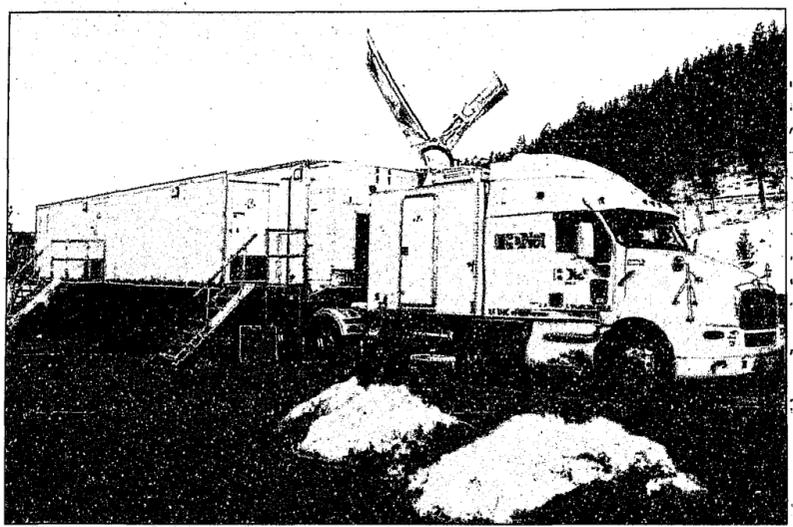
In the after card of the televised fights Alamo-gordo's Boy Morgan took out Joey Frank, in the first round of a battle between two 160-pounders, with a right upper-cut at the 2:07 mark.

In the 175-pound division, Ruidoso's highly touted Javier Rubio went up against Joey Lujan.

After winning his initial professional fight, Nov. 28, at IMG, Rubio was looking for another victory ... but it was not to be as Lujan gained a rear-naked choke hold on "Sweet Face" and forced him to tap out early in the first round.

Ruidoso's Levi Price had also worked hard for his fight with Eddie Armendariz in the 155-pound division combat.

The first round saw both fighters kick/box for half of the 5-minute round before



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

The 12-bout KOTC event at the Inn was beamed across the U.S. by HDNet.

Price took Armendariz down to the canvas with the Ruidoso warrior on top for the rest of that round.

In the next 5-minutes of action, both combatants again went to ground with Armendariz on top this time.

Price's adversary rained down blows on him but the local fighter answered with upward punches of his own.

Rosales stopped the bout at the 2:25 mark of that round and awarded Armendariz a win by TKO.

Announcer "Big Poppa Schnake" was so impressed with Price's courage and fortitude that he told the overflow crowd on hand he had never seen any cage fighter throw such wicked punches while on his back.

This was the Ruidoso fighter's debut professional bout and he will have to



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Albuquerque's Donald Sanchez retained his interim Bantamweight belt with a fourth round TKO over Victor Valenzuela.

wait until the next time to get his initial win.

In the last fight of the evening, Alamo-gordo's veteran fighter Brad Nordquist went up against Roswell's Richard Villa in a 170-pound bout.

The referee stopped the

fight in the first round and awarded Villa the victory.

KOTC and HDNet have already announced their intentions to return to the Inn of the Mountain Gods for another nationally televised bout-filled card on May 14.

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The Republican Party of Lincoln County will hold Precinct Caucuses to elect delegates to the Lincoln County Republican Pre-Primary County Convention for the purpose of electing delegates to represent Lincoln County at the New Mexico Republican Pre-Primary State Convention in Santa Fe. All Lincoln County Republicans are urged to attend Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 AM 301 County Club Road, Ruidoso Registration begins at 9:00 AM Paid for the by Republican Party



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NM farmers lobbying for liability protection

STACI MATLOCK
The New Mexican

A group of New Mexico farmers and heritage seed advocates are lobbying hard to get a bill through the Legislature that would protect them from liability if their fields are cross-pollinated by patented, genetically engineered seeds.

It is the third time farmers have tried to get a similar bill passed, but this time it has the backing of Gov. Bill Richardson, who put it on his call for the session.

Senate Bill 303, known as the Farmer Protection Act, was withdrawn last week by the Senate Judiciary Committee and sent to the Senate Conser-

vation Committee. Under the bill, carried by Sen. John Pinto, D-Tohatchi, farmers would not have to create buffer zones around their fields to protect from cross-pollination by a patented crop.

It also protects farmers from damages and attorney fees if they "unknowingly come into possession" of a genetically engineered plant.

Finally the bill establishes ground rules for when the supplier of genetically modified seeds can inspect fields.

The New Mexico Food and Seed Sovereignty Alliance failed to get a similar bill, introduced by Sen. Carlos Cisneros, D-Questa, two years ago. Sen. Cisco

McSorley, D-Albuquerque, carried the bill last year, but it died in committee after New Mexico Department of Agriculture Secretary Miley Gonzales said he was concerned the bill, as written, penalized farmers who chose to use genetically modified seeds.

This year the alliance started talking to legislators and the governor about the bill months before the session started, according to Paula Garcia, executive director of the New Mexico Acequia Association.

The acequia association, and three native American farm groups - Traditional Native American Farmers Association, Tewa Women United and Honor Our Pueblo Existence - make

up the alliance. The bill was drafted by Isaura Andaluz, an Albuquerque beekeeper who also runs the nonprofit Cuatro Puertas, and the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Food Safety.

Genetically engineered seeds have been a controversial subject among farmers and seed companies for years.

Seeds can be genetically modified in a lab to resist common pests and diseases, helping farmers protect crops.

But the engineered seeds are patented by the companies, such as Monsanto, that develop them.

Farmers who use patented seeds aren't

allowed to save seeds and replant them from year to year.

Farmers can be sued if the company thinks they're using patented seeds without permission.

Some small-scale New Mexico farmers use vegetable and crop seeds grown for generations in the same geographic area.

They worry the long-adapted genes in their heritage seeds could be changed if cross-pollinated by genetically modified crops.

Moreover, they worry they could be held liable by the patent owners of genetically modified seeds if their fields are cross-pollinated.

Their fears aren't

unfounded. Monsanto, one of the largest producers of genetically engineered seeds, has sued a few farmers claiming they knowingly collected seeds cross-pollinated by the company's modified seeds.

Courts have found in the company's favor several times, and Monsanto dropped at least one case.

In mid-January, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear for the first time arguments regarding genetically-engineered crops in *Monsanto v. Geertson Seed Farms*.

Contact Staci Matlock at 986-3055 or smatlock@sfnwmexican.com.

Senate measure bumps up county term limits

STEVE TERRELL
The New Mexican

The Senate on Saturday passed a proposed constitutional amendment that would allow county officials in the state - commissioners, sheriffs, clerks, treasurers and assessors - to run for three consecutive four-year terms instead of the two terms under current law.

The resolution passed with a 27-14 vote.

It had bipartisan support.

If the House of Rep-

resentatives follows through and passes Senate Joint Resolution 5, the proposed amendment would be on the ballot in November.

Senate Republican Leader Stuart Ingle, R-Portales, noted that voters in the past have rejected similar measures.

Sen. Pete Campos, D-Las Vegas, said the amendment would allow county commissioners to gain years of expertise on various issues.

He said allowing officials to stay on for 12 years

would help counties deal with increasingly complex subjects including property taxes and elections.

The measure has the support of the New Mexico Association of Counties.

Two former county officials who are now senators spoke in favor of the measure.

These included Sen. Dianna Duran, R-Tularosa, who has served as Otero County clerk, and Sen. Steve Neville, R-Aztec, a former San Juan County commissioner for eight years.

Neville noted that in most New Mexico cities there are no term limits for mayors or city councilors.

No mayor in Santa Fe has served more than two consecutive four-year terms.

But three of the eight current city councilors have. Councilors Matthew Ortiz and Miguel Chavez are in their third terms, while Patti Bushee is serving her fourth.

Some senators from both sides of the aisle were skeptical of the amendment.

Sen. Eric Griego, D-Albuquerque, said county commissions, unlike city councils, basically serve both as legislative and executive branches of government without another branch to provide checks and balances.

Campos argued that state officials such as the state auditor provide that check.

Sen. Mark Boitano, R-Albuquerque, said he saw no compelling need to make the change.

"It seems that term limits have worked well," he

said. Until 1990, county officials were elected to two-year terms and could only serve two consecutive terms.

Those who were elected in 1988 were allowed to serve that two-year term plus two more 4-year terms - a total of 10 years in office.

Contact Steve Terrell at 986-3037 or sterrell@sfnwmexican.com. Read his political blog at roundhouseroundup.com.

Campaign money bill hits snag with time running out

STEVE TERRELL
The New Mexican

With time running out for this Legislature, a bill that would prohibit campaign contributions from lobbyists and state contractors hit a bump in the House of Representatives on Monday.

After debating House Bill 118 for more than an hour, sponsor Rep. Joe Campos, D-Santa Rosa, asked to "roll over" the bill so a proposed amendment could be printed and dis-

tributed. A few minutes later, the House recessed to go into caucus about the state budget, putting off action on campaign bill until today.

With the session ending at noon Thursday, even if the House passes the campaign bill today, it still would have to clear the Senate and its committee process.

Fred Nathan of Think New Mexico remains optimistic.

In "legislative time," Nathan said, there's still

plenty of time for the bill to make its way through the Senate.

Campos said he's confident the bill would pass the House. From there, however, he said, "It all depends on what the Senate wants to do."

Campos confirmed that he'll introduce an amendment to restore some features of the bill that were removed earlier Monday.

Before taking a break from the debate, Campos moved an amendment to allow public utilities to be

able to make campaign contributions.

Campos said the utilities are regulated by the state Public Regulation Commission and don't compete for contracts.

However, Rep. Joe Cervantes, D-Las Cruces, pointed out that utilities do contribute to candidates. According to the Institute of Money in State Government's Web site Followthemoney.com, the Public Service Company of New Mexico's political action committee con-

tributed more than \$77,000 to state candidates in 2008.

Campos said the bill will be amended again to prohibit public utilities from making contributions and to prohibit all lobbyists and state contractors from contributing to political parties.

But one part of the bill that was cut out Monday will remain. That's the prohibition against "bundling" - those who are prohibited from contributing themselves collecting contributions from others to give to

a candidate. If the bill becomes law, bundling still would be allowed.

Rep. Jancie Arnold-Jones, R-Albuquerque, said she was disappointed that bundling had been removed.

"That was an important part of the bill.

Contact Steve Terrell at 986-3037 or sterrell@sfnwmexican.com. Read his political blog at roundhouseroundup.com.

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ELLIE

Ellie is a beautiful blue heeler. She is housebroken, walks well on a leash and loves people. Her favorite thing of all is belly rubs and she will even drift off to sleep as you pet her. Ellie is about 10 years old and would love a nice quiet home. Please don't let her age keep you from adopting her as she is such a wonderful dog.

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SYLVIA

Sylvia is a very petite cat and is probably just under a year old. She is a beautiful short haired grey tabby with big, bright yellow eyes outlined in white! Sylvia has a very loud "motor" and loves to be petted and brushed. She does great with other cats as well.

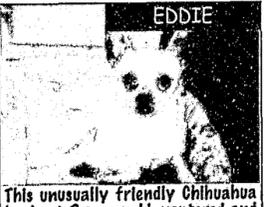
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GENIE

Genie is a very sweet Aussie mix. She is spayed, housebroken and current on her vaccinations. Genie plays well with other dogs and loves people.

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EDDIE

This unusually friendly Chihuahua is about 2 years old, neutered and had all shots. He likes people and other dogs. He does have a congenital problem with his hind leg but he can get around fine and is healthy otherwise.

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KATRINA

Katrina is a big, beautiful short haired cat. She is 6 years old, spayed and current on her vaccinations. Katrina is friendly and does fine with other cats.

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EMERALD

This pretty long-haired black cat was abandoned at the shelter after hours. She is spayed, current on shots and declawed on her front feet. She is great with other cats and very sweet with people.

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ELIJAH

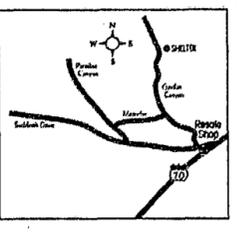
Elijah is a very handsome cat, and is about 6 months old. He is friendly and came from a home with several other cats. Elijah is solid black with just a few stray white hairs on his chest.

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LINCOLN COUNTY

Low gross receipts income keeps council frugal

JULIE CARTER
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

Carrizozo trustees set two special meetings to get a personnel policy and town employee job description voted into place before the changes in the board that will take place at the March 2 election.

The trustees will meet at 10 a.m., on Feb. 17, to pass the job description ordinance and they passed a resolution for the personnel policy on Feb. 10.

Mayor Bob Hemphill gave his mayor's report at the Feb. 8 meeting, and noted that early voting was open Feb. 10 to Feb. 26 during normal business hours for the March 2 election. Absentee voting remains open until Feb. 26.

The town's gross receipts tax, according to Hemphill, is currently at 84 percent of the last year at the same time and 50 percent of what it was two years ago.

"There was a slight gain over last year's at this time, but considerably less than it was two years ago. So the board will continue to need to remain very frugal," he said.

The New Mexico Environmental Department of Occupational Health & Safety Bureau inspected the Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department in October 2009. A letter sent this January congrat-

ulated the department for having no conditions considered hazardous by the inspector or in violation of the OSHA act.

Mayor Hemphill commended Fire Chief Walter Hill and said he needed to be recognized for the clean inspection.

In January 2009, the Town of Carrizozo entered into a water supply agreement with the Nogal Mutual Domestic Consumers Water Association to supply them with an amount of Bonito Lake water if needed for a price set in the agreement.

The association sent the agreed upon annual report to the town. The meter readings provided by the City of Alamogordo showed that the association used no Bonito Lake water during the last year and therefore the association has no outstanding balance with the Town of Carrizozo.

The Valle del Sol improvement district prorated notices were sent out for \$50 for January to June, set with the cycle of the budget.

Hemphill said 218 notices were sent out, 151 have been received and 67 still outstanding. A separate fund was set up for the monies collected from the district because the money can only be used at Valle del Sol.

Hemphill said the money can be used for maintenance, upkeep, im-



provements and equipment. "The town paid for house numbers and street signs out there. We are in the process of reimbursing the town for that now that there is Valle del Sol improvement district funding available."

"We collected approximately \$7,550," said Hemphill. "The next statement we send out just before July 1, we will be more clear on what we need to know from them, like the lot numbers they paying for."

The town's agreement with the developer at Valle del Sol is to take over the streets and maintenance after each phase is 50 percent sold. The assessment district takes in Phases I and II currently with Phase III soon to follow. Hemphill said Phase III was over 40 percent sold out now.

In other business, trustees (with Dennis Dunnun absent) approved 30 business registrations. Two new business registrations were issued to 12th



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Carrizozo trustees Dennis Vega, left, and Dusty Voss, center, will remain on the council for another two years while the seats held by Denfis Dunnun and Max Saucedo (photo at left) will be up for grabs in the March 2 election. Mayor Bob Hemphill will step down to a new mayor.

Street Pottery and Malkerson Modern Gallery. Five livestock permits were approved, all renewals.

Trustees approved the parking plan for the grocery store for Peter and Suzi Wolfe.

The original request made to planning and zoning was for angle parking spots on the side of the store but it was determined it would cause traffic congestion on the street and reduce the street width enough to disallow parking on the courthouse side of the same street.

Peter Wolfe suggested that parallel parking would

be adequate and he was sure GDI, sponsors of the work being done and the store opening, would concur. The P&Z commission unanimously approved the application and recommended approval from the town council.

The Carrizozo Police Department report from Chief Rachel Weiser showed the officers responded to 63 calls in January. Fifty-four citations were issued of which 46 were traffic and four for animal/pet violations. Fourteen cases were logged with 10 misdemeanor offenses and five arrests.

The animal shelter han-

dled a total of 11 pets in January with eight picked up in Carrizozo and three in the county. Four were released to their owners and four sent to rescue shelters.

Municipal Court held 10 trials in January and received and docketed 54 citations and issued three bench warrants. Fines and fees levied were \$3,380.33 with the same disbursed to the Town of Carrizozo.

The Carrizozo Airport report showed a sale of 256.5 gallons of fuel sold in January.

The next regular meeting of the council will be at 6 p.m., Monday, March 8.

MESA students visit Legislature

ASHLEY IVINS
For the Ruidoso News

Six students from Carrizozo High School and Middle School visited the New Mexico Legislature on the annual Math and Science Day to show support for New Mexico MESA (Math, Engineering and Science Achievement) as well as education in New Mexico.

They joined students across New Mexico who delivered letters written by MESA students to senators and representatives to let them know about the success of the Pre-College Program in schools across New Mexico.

The day started with an observation of a committee hearing where students heard the reading of a bill that proposes a computer information system to track students from Pre-Kindergarten through college.

During the hearing they heard debate about student privacy rights as well as the benefits to improving education through such a system.

The students were sur-

prised and interested to learn that some legislation is ultimately about them.

Next they headed to the office of Representative Kintigh where they had the opportunity to sit in a conference room with him and ask him many questions about the committees that he serves on as well as what his typical day is like.

The students learned about the process of reading bills and voting and about the procedures for engaging in conversation on the house floor.

Representative Kintigh then invited the Carrizozo group to be his guests on the floor of the House of Representatives where he introduced them each by name and recognized the work that they were doing in school.

During the afternoon the students showed support in the Senate for declaring Jan. 29 of each year as official "MESA Day" at the legislature.

They were also on hand as the director of New Mexico MESA Toney Begay was presented with this declaration.

Senator Adair come out

of the Senate to visit with our group and talk to each of our students about MESA and math and science education.

He also answered questions about the political process for the students.

The day was completed with a special ceremony where Public Education Department Bureau Chief Dr. Lomax presented Carrizozo Middle School with two certificates of achievement for having the greatest gains in New Mexico on the Science portion of the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment for grades 5 and 7 on the 2009 test.

It was an honor for the Carrizozo students to achieve such a fantastic designation. Students representing Carrizozo on the legislative trip were Jacie Thornton (7th grade), Tiffany Vega (7th grade), Rylah Zamora (8th grade), Arturo Najera (9th grade), McKenna Sandoval (11th grade), and Lauren Smith (11th grade).

ASHLEY IVINS is the Carrizozo Schools middle and high school science instructor.

SMOKEY ON A POLE



COURTESY GEORGE TIPPIN

The Smokey Bear's Hometown Association sponsored a prototype metal cutout of Smokey Bear to celebrate the mascot that most identifies the village of Capitan. The Capitan FFA and FFA Advisor Todd Proctor built the cutout and Ricky Lamay of Lamay Electric installed it on a light pole on the corner of Smokey Bear Boulevard and Stanton Avenue across from the Smokey Bear Historical Park. The Hometown Association ultimately plans to have the cutouts decorating the poles on both sides of Smokey Bear Boulevard the length of the town.

Don't forget to vote
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Sierra Blanca as seen from the westside on Highway 54 south of Three Rivers is a diamond in the desert with a fresh coat of snow earlier this month.

JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

CARRIZOZO SCHOOLS ¡BRAVO!



¡BRAVO! winners at Carrizozo Schools for December were: **Grades K-2**, left: Front: Melissa Barela, Kelsie Guevara, James Hemphill, Robert Lueras, Daniel Najjar, Jameal Garcia, Bella Bartz, Ray Ray Ochoa, and Jacob Parkhurst; 2nd Row: Kaitlin Guevara, All Hernandez, Joanna Vega, Sydney Zamora, Suntana Zamora, Tazia Swift, Dalton King, Ethan Ortiz, Keegan Gattis, and Max Sanchez Top: D'anna Willingham, Mya Zamora, Nathan Montes, Christopher Chavez, and Autsin Vega Not Pictured: Erollyn Lueras
Grades 3-6, right: Front: Angel Miller-Barela, John Wyatt Hemphill, Patrick Hooten, Tristen Barela, Xavier Zamora, and Dominic Garcia; 2nd Row: Steven Archuleta, Dominic Barela, Mikhail Barela, Garrison Ventura, and Alex Randolph; 3rd Row: Detrick Miller, Clayton Swift, Cody Carter, Jared Guevara, Julian Garcia, Precious Hernandez, Kristie Gallacher, and Janae Willingham; Top: Danny Roper, Lashae Lueras, Gracie Hooten, Deline Arteché, Taylor Thornton, Krishelle Montes, Andrea Apodaca, and Hannah Ventura.



Courtesy photo

COUNTY BRIEFS

Public meeting

A public meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 18, in the multipurpose area in Traylor Gym to discuss the possible issuance of education technology notes by the Capitan Municipal Schools Board of Education.

For more information, call the school at 354-8500.

Fair Board meeting

The Lincoln County Fair Board will meet Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m., in the Fletcher Hall Building at the Lincoln County Fair Grounds in Capitan.

The board meeting will be prefaced by a Junior Livestock Committee meeting at 6 p.m., for all livestock superintendents.

FFA planning meet

Carrizozo FFA will hold an organizational and informational meeting to plan the annual Career Development Event and Judging Contests.

The meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 5:30 p.m., in the Ag Classroom at Carrizozo High School.

The contest will be March 6 and good weather has been ordered.

For more information, contact Mike Gaines at 648-2346, Ext. 110 or 430-

3022 or email mike.gaines@carrizozogrizzlies.org.

Coyote Contest

The Hondo Valley FFA is sponsoring a Coyote Calling Contest as a fundraiser for the chapter.

The hunt will be Feb. 20 with registration on Feb. 19, 3-7 p.m. at the Hondo Valley Public Schools Ag Building.

Check in Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Tinnie Fire Department. Fees due upon registration.

The fee is \$50 per two-person team. All New Mexico Game and Fish rules apply.

Hunting is during legal hours only, and no spot lighting or road kills.

First place prize will be 40 percent of the total registration fees.

Pay out will be as follows: 1-10 teams, first place only; 11-15 teams pays first and second place; more than 15 teams pays first through third place.

Seeking WWII vets

Efforts are being made to include Lincoln County World War II Veterans in the Honor Flight Program.

This is a program to fly veterans to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The organizers need to know the name and contact

information for any veteran who would like to and would be able to make a flight. The flight is free made possible through donations.

A national conference is scheduled for Feb. 19, and they would like to know as soon as possible the number of veterans who would like to be included.

For more information, please call Fran Mack at 575-648-5203.

First Friday

First Friday event at the Capitan Library will be March 6 at 7 p.m.

The program will be the story of Jim Beckwourth, brought to life by Edward Wallace in a Chautauqua performance.

Jim Beckwourth may not be as well known as some of the legendary Mountain Men of the American West's 1800s, yet his life has been described as "unbelievable but true." Born a slave in Virginia, he was raised in Missouri, and as an adult he ranged from California to Florida.

His many exploits took him through Colorado and New Mexico.

Jim Beckwourth was a trapper, trader, soldier, scout, explorer and a chief

of the Crow Nation. He discovered what is now Beckwourth Pass in the northern Sierra Nevada mountains, co-founded Pueblo, Colo., and owned a hotel in Santa Fe during the Taos uprising.

Jim Beckwourth's life is described as, "From Slave to Superstar of the old west," by Tom DeMund in his book.

Jim Beckwourth became an American Hero. Please come and meet a figure who helped shape the American West.

This program is being presented with the support of the New Mexico Humanities Council.

Edward Wallace has worked as an "extra" in movies and is a volunteer at El Rancho De Las Golondrinas.

He is a member of Toastmasters International and has attained the levels of Advanced Speaker Bronze and Advanced Leader Bronze. He has conducted workshops and seminars on health and personal growth.

For more information, call the library at 354-3035.

Capitan forum

The Capitan Chamber of Commerce will host two final candidate forums on

Wednesday, Feb. 17, at the Capitan Municipal Schools in Traylor Gym beginning at 6 p.m.

The judicial candidates Forum will start at 6 p.m. and will be a chance for the two candidates to describe their experience and abilities, followed by questions from either the moderator and/or the audience members.

The judicial candidates are write-in William Thompson and incumbent J.D. Roehrig.

The mayoral debate will follow at 7-9 p.m. This will be a moderated session, with each candidate describing his attributes and specific experience, followed by questions from the moderator and the audience.

The mayoral candidates are George Tippin, Jr., Bernhard Reimann and

Sam Hammons.

The public is encouraged to attend and participate. All Capitan candidates will be allowed to leave brochures on a chamber-prepared table for the public to select as they wish.

No other campaigning will be allowed.

'Zozo forum

The Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce will host the second "Meet the Candidates" forum on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., in the Lincoln County Commission Chambers.

Written questions will be submitted to moderator Welda Grider. There are two candidates for mayor and five candidates for two trustee positions. This is the second forum hosted by the Carrizozo Chamber of Commerce.

Beverly Nan Coffman Chavez

January 9, 1938 - February 10, 2010

Mrs. Chavez was born January 9, 1938 in Pampa, Texas and was a 1956 graduate of Pampa High School. She lived in Ruidoso, New Mexico from 1977 until returning to Pampa in 2003. For many years, she owned and operated Top O' Texas Answering Service in Pampa. She was a member of the White Deer Senior Citizens Center and the Bingo Club at Pampa Manor.

She is survived by a daughter: Teri Williams and husband Dennis of Pampa; a son: Chris Coffman and wife Brenda of Sealy; brother: Rick Ramming and wife Nita of White Deer; 3 grandchildren: Joshua Harris, Meredith Coffman and Caleb Coffman; nieces and nephews: R. D. Ramming, Vicki Hillis and Pam Cartwright; numerous great nieces and great nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son: Keith Coffman in 1996; and her husband: Richard Chavez in March of 2003.

Services were held Saturday, February 13, 2010, at 10 am in Carmichael-Whalley Colonial Chapel, with Terry McAffrey of Destiny Center, officiating. Mrs. Chavez was laid to rest in White Deer Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whalley Funeral Directors

Memorials may be sent to Destiny Center, P.O. Box 2410, Amarillo, Texas 79105, or Shepherd's Helping Hands, P.O. Box 1155, Pampa, Texas 79066-1155.



Christopher

"Chris" E. Yparrea
April 11, 1962 - January 29, 2010

Memorial service for Chris Yparrea, 47, of Capitan will be Friday, Feb. 26, at 11:00 am at Capitan Foursquare Church.

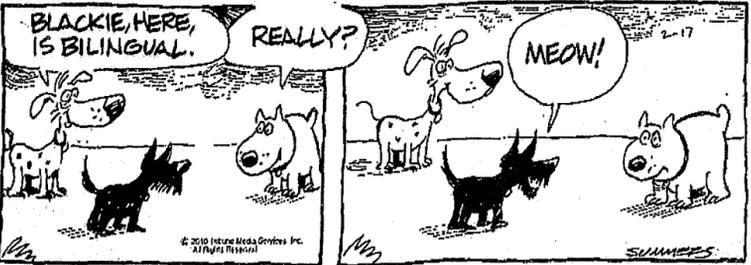
Mr. Yparrea passed away Friday, January 29, 2010 in Ruidoso. He was born April 11, 1962 in Roswell, New Mexico and moved to Lincoln County in 1966 from Roswell. He was born of Basque decent. He was a good friend, would forgive anything and was a Godly man, wonderful husband, son and brother. He married Connie Bruce on December 1, 2007 in Capitan.

He is survived by his wife, Connie; his mother, Marie Mayfield; 5 brothers, Boyce McFarland, Warnock McFarland, Clarence McFarland, Gene Yparrea and Steven Yparrea; 3 sisters, Joy Garner, Jacque McFarland and Diana Yparrea.

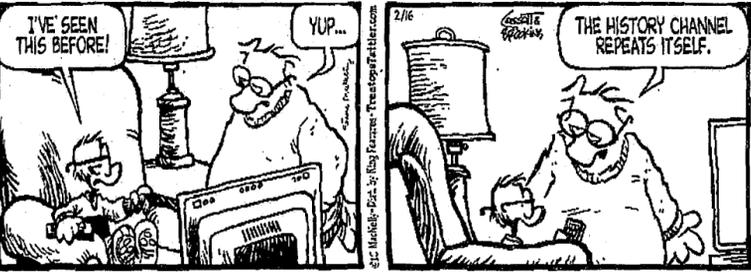
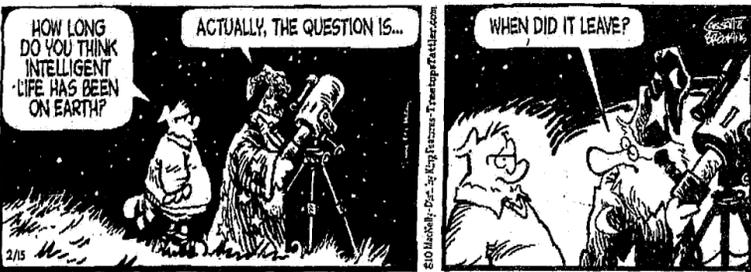
Donald R. (Bob) Shaw

Graveside Services for Donald R. (Bob) Shaw 70, of Capitan, NM will be held at Forest Lawn Cemetery on Saturday, February 20th at 11:30 a.m. Reverend Wayne Joyce will be officiating. Reception to be announced.

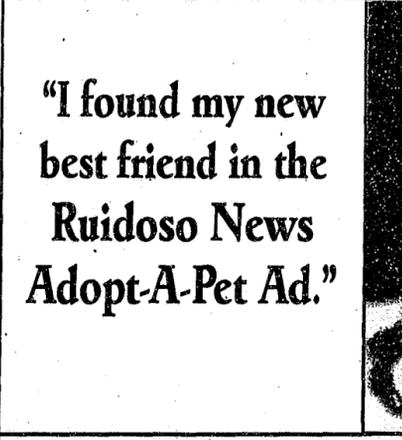
BOUND & GAGGED



SHOE



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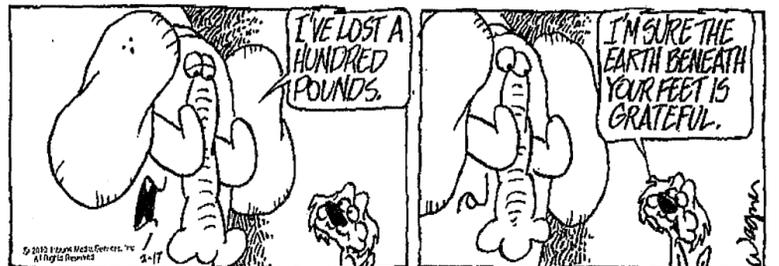
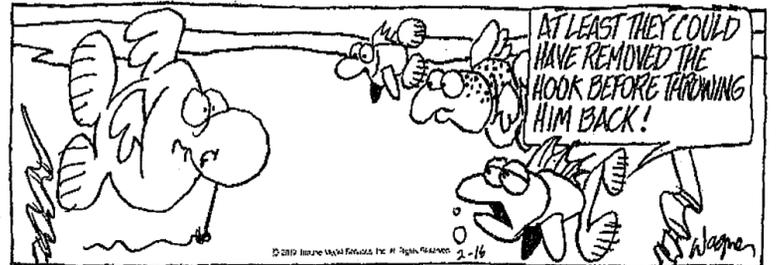


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E ₁	U ₁	T ₁	N ₁	R ₁	C ₃	S ₁	
A ₁	A ₁	I ₁	N ₁	G ₂	R ₁	B ₃	Double Word Score
A ₁	U ₁	T ₁	T ₁	R ₁	G ₂	C ₃	
A ₁	E ₁	O ₁	L ₁	T ₁	L ₁	C ₃	2nd Letter Triple

PAR SCORE 140-150
BEST SCORE 199

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.

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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argilron and Jeff Knurek

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

HANEY
FAFTEY
TEELEY
GAFINC

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

A: A OF

PAR SCORE 140-150
TOTAL 199

RACK 4 = 61
RACK 3 = 9
RACK 2 = 70
RACK 1 = 59

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C	O	L	L	A	T	E

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SUDOKU THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TODAY'S PUZZLE 2/17/10

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

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

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Jumbles: HYENA TAFY EYELET FACING
Answer: What the couple enjoyed when they were bumped to first class — A FLIGHT OF "FANCY"

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Miscellaneous 0600 - 0668

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Livestock & Pets 0700 - 0725
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Recreational 0808 - 0810
Campers, Motor Homes

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Office Space Sales/Rentals, Self Storage

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notices 100-152

Lost Pets 130

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Public/Special Notices 114

Taking bids for Gavilan Field Concession Stand. Running April 10th thru June 10th. Call Steve for Bid Specs at 808-8079

Legal Notices 152

#8956 3T (2)12,17

NOTICE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

COUNTY OF LINCOLN

Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso

Notice of Intention is hereby given by the Ruidoso Branch Community College Board for a regular meeting to be held at ENMU-Ruidoso, 709 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, NM, at 6:00 p.m. on the 4th of March, 2010. Room 119. Copies of the agenda will be available in the ENMU-Ruidoso President's Office, 709 Mechem Dr., 24 hours prior to the meeting.

If you are an individual requiring accommodations with Disabilities Act accommodations in order to attend the Community College Board Meeting, please contact the office of the President, ENMU-Ruidoso, (575) 257-3006 at least forty-eight hours prior to the meeting.

#8973 2T (2)12,17

Region IX Education Cooperative Council meeting - Thursday, February 18, 2010 9:00 am, REC IX Executive Directors Office. The meeting is open to the public. Agenda items include budget adjustments, 2009 audit acceptance and project updates. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, community members are requested to contact the office at (575) 257-2358, if public accommodations are needed.

Gail Jones, Executive Director

#8974 1T (2)17

CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE

NO. 2010-01

Notice is hereby given that the Government of the City of Ruidoso Downs shall conduct a Public Hearing on the regular meeting scheduled for Monday, March 8, 2010, to commence at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall, 122 Downs Drive, Ruidoso Downs, NM for adopting the following Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 MORALITY AND CONDUCT CRIMINAL CODE GENERAL ARTICLE 9 ANIMAL CONTROL SECTIONS OF THE CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ENACTING NEW THROUGH CHAPTER 6 MORALITY AND CONDUCT CRIMINAL CODE ON GENERAL ARTICLE 9 ANIMAL CONTROL.

ARTICLE 9 ANIMAL CONTROL

6-9-1 Definitions

6-9-2 Vaccination

6-9-3 Licensing

6-9-4 Tag and Collar

Legal Notices 152

6-9-5 Prohibited Acts-Animal Nuisances

6-9-6 Impounding of Animals

6-9-7 Animals Which Have Bitten a Person to be Confined

6-9-8 Filing of Complaint in Municipal Court

6-9-9 Release of Impounded Dog-Destruction of Dog

6-9-10 Disposal of Dog of Unknown Owner or Keeper

6-9-11 Dogs Trained to Assist the Blind Allowed in Public Places

6-9-12 Care and Maintenance of Animals

6-9-13 Cruelty to Animals

6-9-14 Confinement or Muzzling of Dogs During Rabies Danger-impounding of Dogs Not Confined or Muzzled

6-9-15 Female Dogs with Animal Control Officer or other Peace Officer Performing Duties

6-9-16 Vicious Dogs

6-9-17 Dog Killing or Injuring Livestock

6-9-18 Interference with Animal Control Officer or other Peace Officer Performing Duties

6-9-19 Instituting or Encouraging Dog Fights Prohibited

6-9-20 Failure to Kill-Penalty

6-9-21 Establishment of a Pound

6-9-22 Keeping of Wild Animals Prohibited

Copies of Proposed Ordinance No. 2010-01 on file in the office of the City Clerk and are available for public review Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

/s/ Carol Virden, MMC City Clerk/Treasurer

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3 Month (\$20.00) 6 Month (\$26.00) 1 Year (\$40.00)

Out Of County:

3 Month (\$27.00) 6 Month (\$32.00) 1 Year (\$47.00)

RUIDOSO NEWS

THE FREEDOM DAILY SINCE 1776

We the People of the United States
in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common Defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Since the founding of our nation, the role of newspapers in our democracy has been crystal clear. We have been, and will continue to be, the eyes and ears of the American people. After all, the right of free speech is meaningless if no one knows what's really going on. That's why more than 100 million Americans depend on their hometown newspapers daily and why today's newsrooms are staffed with dedicated, highly trained reporters and experienced editors who bring you the very best journalism found anywhere, in print and online.

People Depend On
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