

# RUIDOSO NEWS

**FIRE DANGER  
LOW**

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010 • OUR 63RD YEAR, NO. 93 • 75 CENTS

**INSIDE**



**1B SPORTS**

The boys of spring step into the box

**6A EDUCATION**

Going i-tech

**4A OPINION**

Revisionist history

**4B LINCOLN COUNTY**

Carrizozo teacher makes the Top 10

**INDEX**

- Classifieds . . . . . 8-10B
- Comics . . . . . 7B
- Community Page . . . 2A
- Crossword . . . . . 7B
- Education . . . . . 6A
- Letters . . . . . 4A
- Lincoln County . . . 4B
- Obituaries . . . . . 5B
- Opinion . . . . . 4A
- Police . . . . . 5, 6B
- Real Estate . . . . . 9B
- Sports . . . . . 1, 2B
- TV . . . . . As Seen on TV
- Weather . . . . . 2A



## \$320,000 for manual

DIANNE STALLINGS  
[dstallings@ruidosonews.com](mailto:dstallings@ruidosonews.com)

Although Ruidoso village councilors previously balked at paying a dime more than \$200,000 for a manual to guide them in the operation of the new \$36 million wastewater treatment plant, they may have to settle for a higher price tag.

As a result of negotiations, a new figure of \$320,000 was recommended by village staff for approval to members of the Joint Use Board that oversees the plant. The figure represents a reduction from the original submission of \$347,000, but is \$120,000 in excess of the council's cap.

### Village negotiates 'reduction' for instructions to operate new wastewater treatment plant

Ruidoso Village Manager Debi Lee told JUB members, "We were instructed by the mayor and council not to exceed \$200,000 on the training manuals, but that was an arbitrary number with the intent to negotiate the cost down and to ensure they accomplished three items as cost effectively as they can."

Those items are the operational maintenance manual, the start-up training and assistance, and video taping services, she said.

Lee said she and Village Special Projects Director Justin King met

with Michelle Salas, RWWTTP project manager for Molzen-Corbin & Associates, the design and engineering firm handling plant construction. The prices on the three items were negotiated down from \$224,000 to \$208,400, and from \$75,000 to \$65,300 for the first two items, respectively, she said, recommending the JUB authorize the expenditures. The cost for the last item remained the same.

"Village staff has to go back to inform the council," Lee said. "We believe we have a successful negotiation."

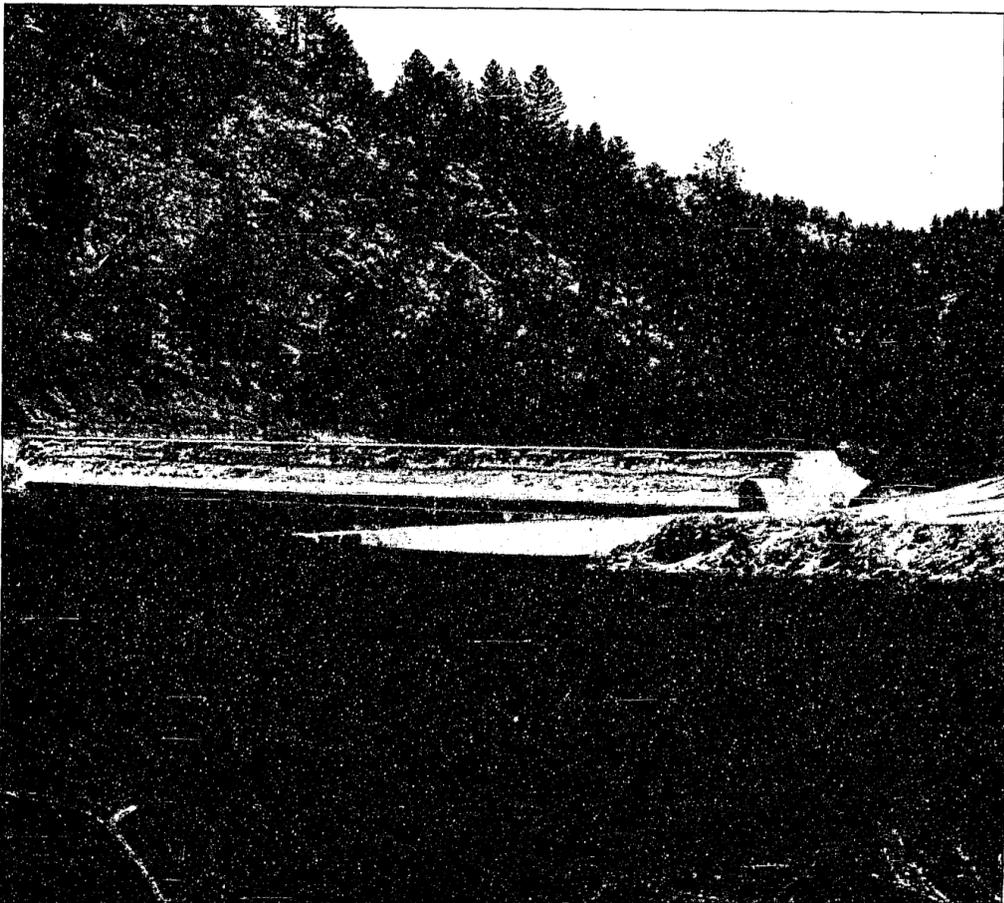
In a letter to Mayor Ray Alborn, Salas wrote that the estimated amount for startup training assistance was reduced by \$9,700, because of a math error in the company's spreadsheet. The only negotiated cut was \$16,600 for the manual.

JUB Member Carol Virden, Ruidoso Downs City Clerk, offered a motion to approve the new price, but wanted the tag line that if less was spent, the difference would be refunded to the JUB. If more was spent, the company would be compensated.

The motion was seconded by JUB member Dave Parks, a

See **MANUAL**, page 5A

## FEEDING THE RIVER



COURTESY DAVID TREMBLAY

The Bonito Lake Reservoir was full enough Sunday to produce a flow over the spillway, feeding the Rio Bonito, a welcome sight to those living along the streambed. As he photographed different areas, Tremblay walked through snow up to his knees for the shots.

## County: Racetrack survey isn't ours

DIANNE STALLINGS  
[dstallings@ruidosonews.com](mailto:dstallings@ruidosonews.com)

Within a few hours Monday, Lincoln County officials tracked down the initiator of a telephone survey on a proposed race track tax subsidy.

County commissioners don't want people to think the county authorized the survey and the county is paying for it.

County Manager Tom Stewart wrote commissioners he heard reports about a telephonic survey being conducted on the question of enacting a gross receipt tax to retain the Ruidoso Race Track and Casino business.

"The County of Lincoln's name is being used as the initiator of the survey," he said. "This is not true, and

the county has commissioned no such survey and has not been consulted."

Shortly after, he reported back to commissioners that, "The aforementioned telephonic survey was commissioned by Ruidoso Downs Racing."

Contacted at his office in the county courthouse in Carrizozo, Stewart said Commission Chairman Tom Battin tracked down the information. To ensure the county's name will not be associated with the effort, "They will retrain their people who are asking the questions," Stewart said.

The state Legislature passed a bill that would allow the county commission to schedule an election on whether to impose up to a quarter of one percent

business retention GRT, in 1/16ths of one percent increments.

As part of his monthly report to commissioners last week, Stewart said on Feb. 25, in anticipation of the governing signing House Bill 203, authorizing the additional GRT imposition by election, he wrote the state Taxation and Revenue Department asking when that staff will complete a model ordinance that must be adopted verbatim 75 days in advance of an election. The governor signed the legislation March 4.

### September vote?

"If commissioners wish to entertain the adoption of an ordinance and a subsequent election by the people, there is a very specific

timeline that must be adhered to," he told commissioners. "I took the worse case time constrained scenario, that of trying to impose the GRT on Jan. 1, 2011. I believe if that is desired, commissioners must consider adopting the ordinance and resolution calling for a special election at the end of June 2010 with the election in September."

A special election could cost about \$25,000.

"If the issue is to be considered at the November general election or later, the tax could not be imposed earlier than July 1, 2011," Stewart said.

He's waiting to see how the county will be impacted by another bill increasing

See **SURVEY**, page 5A

## RHS student shot at Camelot

Victim in critical condition; suspect still unidentified

JIM KALVELAGE  
[jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com](mailto:jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com)

A shooting at an apartment on Ruidoso's southeast side critically injured a Ruidoso High School student Friday night.

Ruidoso police were called to unit F-1 at the Camelot Place Apartments, 210 Camelot Dr., after the teen was wounded by someone who investigators said had walked into her apartment about 6:40 p.m.

Iesha Gallegos, 18, was shot once in the abdomen, and taken by ambulance to the Lincoln County Medical Center.

Later she was transferred to the University Medical Center of El Paso. Police said Gallegos was admitted into the hospital's intensive care unit. An update on her condition was unavailable Tuesday.

A suspect in the shooting has not yet been identified, but Ruidoso Detective Ray Merritt said investigators are looking at several people.

Noting the case is an ongoing investigation, Merritt said additional information would be released later.

### Joint investigation

"I can tell you this is a joint investigation between the Ruidoso Police Department, BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) Police at Mescalero, and the FBI," said Merritt. "We're all collaborating on this investigation."

Anyone with information about the shooting is asked to contact Detective Art Nelson at 575-258-7365.

A counselor at Ruidoso High School was working with students on the incident.



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# THE COMMUNITY PAGE

## IT'S CHILE IN HERE

### Alto Lakes meets

The regular meeting of the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District Board is set for 9 a.m., March 25, in the Conference Room of the ALW&SD Office, 214 Lake Shore Dr., Alto.

### Alto Lakes zoning

Members of the Alto Lakes Special Zoning District Commission will conduct a Regular meeting at 9 a.m., April 1, in the Stag Room at the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club, 1 Mulligan Drive, Alto.

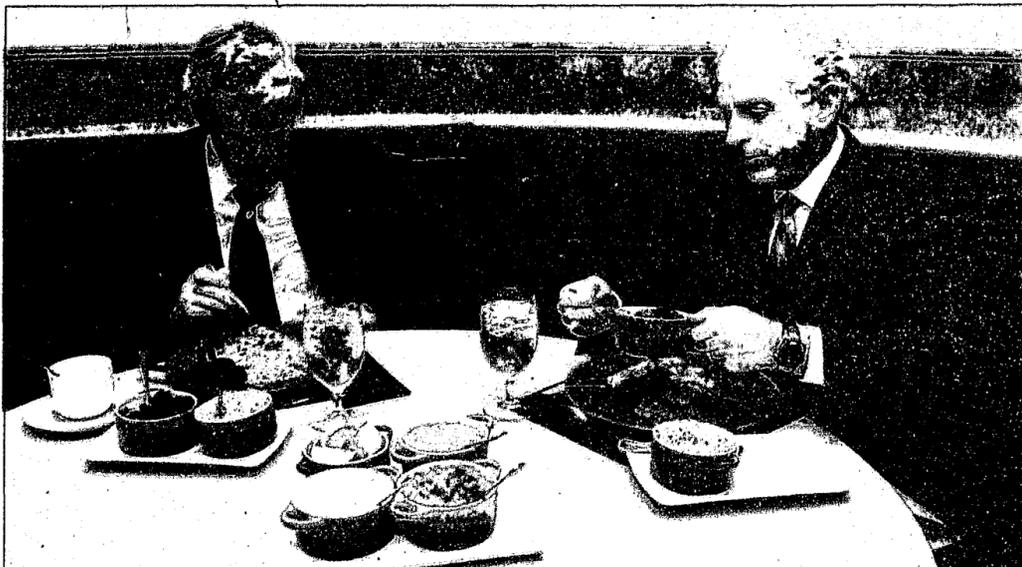
The final agenda for the meeting will be published at least 24 hours prior to the meeting and will be posted on the bulletin board of the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club.

### LCMC board

The next meeting of the Lincoln County Medical Center Board of Trustees is scheduled for 6 p.m., Monday at the LCMC Hospital Conference Room.

### Alpine Village

The Alpine Village Water and Sanitation District will meet at 5:30 p.m., April 5, in the district's building



**U.S. Senators** Jeff Bingaman (D-New Mexico), left, and Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) sit down Tuesday for a New Mexico-style meal in the Senate cafeteria. Bingaman announced earlier this month the arrival of green chile to Capitol Hill. Bingaman worked with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture and the Senate cafeteria to help bring the New Mexico staple to the Senate community. As a result, the entire month of March has been designated as "Green Chile Month" in the Senate cafeteria and has been celebrated by featuring green chile on the menu and educating customers about the New Mexico pepper. Following green chile chicken enchiladas, for dessert they had green chile chocolate gelato.

at 112A Alpine Meadows Trail.

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

Additionally, the agenda may contain discussion regarding committees to address the Conservation Plan, Capacity Assessment, and revising the Bylaws and Regulations.

All residents of the district are welcome to attend. Agendas are available at least 24 hours prior to meeting time. Monthly meetings are held the first Monday of the month.

### Free tax help

Free tax preparation is offered to middle to low income individuals and families of all ages.

The help comes from IRS certified volunteer tax counselors and auxiliary personnel under the auspices of AARP.

Help has been offered nationwide for 42 years and in the Ruidoso area for the past 20 years.

This year, the service will be available through April 11 at the Ruidoso Senior Center on Thursday and Friday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. till noon.

For those outside the Ruidoso area, contact your local Senior Center to schedule a local tax preparation day in your town.

### No Easter chicks

Officials with the New Mexico Department of Health and the New Mexico Livestock Board advise families to avoid potential exposure to

Salmonella by not giving baby chicks and ducklings to children as Easter gifts.

Easter this year is on April 4.

In the past four years, New Mexico experienced 15 Salmonella cases related to baby chicks. Many of the cases were in young children.

Even without possible illnesses, the baby ducks and chickens also face grim survival statistics, and if they do make it, soon outgrow the "cute" stage, leaving families with the animals that survive, looking for other homes where they can be placed.

"Children have become infected with Salmonella when parents keep the baby birds inside the house and allow their small children to handle and smuggle with them," said Dr. Paul Ettestad, state public health veterinarian at the

Department of Health.

"In other cases, parents did not wash their hands properly after handling the birds and gave the infection to their children indirectly."

This year, several other states are investigating Salmonella cases related to baby chicks. Ettestad said many chicks and young birds carry Salmonella in their droppings, and it is difficult to know if animals are carrying Salmonella because they will not usually show signs of illness.

"While there are many legitimate reasons to purchase baby chicks to raise for food, we are asking feed stores around the state to strongly discourage people from buying baby chicks as pets, especially if they have young children," Ettestad said.

Early symptoms of Salmonella in people include

fever, diarrhea and abdominal pain.

The symptoms develop within one to three days after exposure to baby chicks and their droppings. Other symptoms might be nausea, chills or headaches.

Important preventive measures people can take include the following:

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately after touching live baby poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Adults should supervise hand-washing for young children.

- Don't snuggle or kiss the birds, touch your mouth, or eat or drink around live baby poultry.

- Do not let live baby poultry inside the house or in areas where food or drink is prepared, served, or stored, such as kitchens, pantries, or outdoor patios.

- Do not clean any equipment or materials associated with raising or caring for live poultry, such as cages or feed or water containers, in the house.

- Do not let children younger than 5 touch chicks, ducklings, or other live poultry.

Salmonella are bacteria that can live in the intestinal tracts of humans and other animals. Many different kinds of these bacteria exist, but the most common types in the United States are Salmonella typhimurium and Salmonella enteritidis.

Any raw food of animal origin and some fruits and vegetables may carry salmonella bacteria, as can non-food sources.

Visit a physician if experiencing abdominal pain, fever and/or diarrhea.

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**AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Ruidoso**

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<b>RealFeel</b> 46°	<b>RealFeel</b> 60°	<b>RealFeel</b> 56°	<b>RealFeel</b> 48°	<b>RealFeel</b> 58°	<b>RealFeel</b> 61°	<b>RealFeel</b> 69°
<b>Humidity</b> 50° 28%	<b>Humidity</b> 55° 36%	<b>Humidity</b> 62° 36%	<b>Humidity</b> 54° 28%	<b>Humidity</b> 53° 33%	<b>Humidity</b> 61° 40%	<b>Humidity</b> 65° 44%
Mostly cloudy, showers; colder	Warmer with sunshine	Mostly sunny and breezy	Windy and cooler with plenty of sun	Sunny	Brilliant sunshine	Sunshine
Wind: W 10-20 mph	Wind: WNW 8-16 mph	Wind: SW 15-25 mph	Wind: NW 20-30 mph	Wind: ENE 7-14 mph	Wind: SSW 8-16 mph	Wind: WSW 7-14 mph

**National Forecast for March 24, 2010**

### Regional Cities

Forecasted and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2010

### Almanac

**Ruidoso**  
Statistics through Monday

**Temperature:**

High/low	64°/34°
Normal high	59°
Normal low	26°
Record high	75° (1960)
Record low	3° (1976)

**Precipitation:**

Monday	0.00"
Month to date	1.23"
Normal month to date	0.76"
Year to date	2.96"
Normal year to date	3.24"

**Pollen:**

Grass	Low
Trees	High
Weeds	Low
Mold	Low
Predominant	Ash Tree

Source: Eddie L. Gaines, MD, of the Allergy & Asthma Clinic

**Alamogordo**  
Statistics through Monday

**Temperature:**

High/low	71°/29°
Normal high	69°
Normal low	40°
Record high	85° (1967)
Record low	20° (1952)

**Precipitation:**

Monday	0.00"
Month to date	0.07"
Normal month to date	0.37"
Year to date	1.54"
Normal year to date	1.67"

**Weather Trivia™:**

Q: How long do the vertical rays of the sun stay in the Northern Hemisphere?

### Sun and Moon

Wednesday: Sunrise/Sunset  
7:02 a.m./7:17 p.m.

Wednesday: Moonrise/Moonset  
1:30 p.m./3:06 a.m.

### Moon Phases

First Full Last New

Mar 23 Mar 29 Apr 6 Apr 14

### Extremes

Monday's National High/Low:  
(For the 48 contiguous states)

High: 88° in Death Valley, CA  
Low: -4° in Angel Fire, NM

### Extremes

Monday's World High/Low:

High: 112° in Nawabshah, Pakistan  
Low: -42° in Summit Station, Greenland

# County, residents discuss Ranches of Sonterra roads

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

About a dozen residents of Ranches of Sonterra last week asked Lincoln County commissioners to help with their deteriorating roads.

County Manager Tom Stewart explained that in December 2005, the commission approved five years of cooperative projects using Local Government Road Fund dollars. This year, attention should have focused on Alto, but Stewart said that unfortunately, snow removal resulted in enough damage to necessitate an immediate return to Sonterra Phase III, because roads redone in 2006 that county officials hoped would hold up degraded quickly.

Road Superintendent Albert Hernandez worked up several proposed projects using money from two different state cooperative funds directing \$73,854.70 to 0.32 miles of Caprock Court in Sonterra III, \$180,116.44 for 0.69 miles on Pecos Court and San Pablo Heights in Sonterra III and \$71,900 for 1.898 miles of the Palo Verde Slopes school bus route. Stewart said that after driving the roads, he concurred with Hernandez' suggestions.

The state pays 75 percent of the cost.

He proposed \$313,166 of additional work covering 1.28 miles on Chama Canyon and Tierra Nueva Drive in Sonterra III, but warned the list of roads in bad condition continues to grow as citizens complain about the serious effects of the heavy snowfall and clearing work this winter.

The intent is to finish Sonterra III before returning to Sonterra I, the oldest unit, where there are some other roads to clean up, Stewart said. "The photos of Pecos Court are representative of the roads we're doing," he said. "I hesitate to say they were paved. They were chip sealed (a mixture of oil and rock) and on close examination of what's left on those roads, I doubt they were a half-inch deep and that's why they're breaking down."

Sonterra resident Dick



Dick Mastin, far left, was among Sonterra residents who addressed the County Commission on roads.

Mastin told commissioners a couple of years ago most roads in Sonterra were repaved. The asphalt was thick and held up well with snow removal. "I'm here to talk about the rest of the roads," he said. While roads in Unit II were repaved, the oldest roads in Unit I are in bad shape.

"I live on Altamira Court. I bought the property in 1995. The roads have never been redone and there has been a lot of traffic and snow removal and that really tears up the road quite a bit. That's especially true when the asphalt only is this thick," he said, holding up a chunk of broken road material. "It's all coming apart. Although Unit III is newer, they are in just as bad shape."

Mastin said about 30 percent of the homes in Sonterra are on the non-repaved roads in poor condition. He handed out sheets with color-coded road conditions and a list of street names showing priority, based on the number of homes.

Two-thirds of Altamira was paved, but then the pavement stopped and 13 houses are on the unpaved portion, he said.

Brian Vincent from Pecos Court thanked Stewart for his attempt to come up with a plan to improve the roads. "Pecos Court has indeed gotten severely worse this year, going from patched asphalt to mud and gravel," he said. He asked when the paving on

Pecos would occur now that the road with 10 houses is on a project list. Stewart said in 2011, when he receives the budget for the work.

Vincent said he appreciates Stewart moving the project up from 2012 to 2011, but, if "any money falls out of the sky," he asked that it be used to do the project earlier.

Mastin estimated Sonterra off Airport Road contains about 175 homes with 50 percent not occupied year-around and 30 percent situated on non-paved roads.

Commissioner Dave Parks said, "The biggest problem is when we go back in, it's almost like building a new road. I was

impressed with the roads done years ago. They were done well. If we're going to do these, we ought to do them well too, not patch and create ongoing problems." However, it will be tough to find the money for that kind of work, he said.

Now that the commission has addressed Caprock Court to San Pablo Heights, Tierra Nueva, Pecos Court and Chama Canyon, Stewart said he could ask Hernandez to prepare cost estimated on the rest of the roads.

"As money becomes available in the next fiscal year, we could add on as we can afford it," he said, estimating about another \$318,000 would be needed to do the remaining roads

in Sonterra Unit 1. "Albert will have to check and do actual costs on Altamira, Cimarron Trail, Winterhawk Heights, Gaucho and Sacramento Circle. Ultimately, we would add them to the 2012 list, and if we have money, address those priorities."

The additional roads under the \$313,166 list presented Tuesday don't have to wait until 2011, he said. "We can address them earlier as soon as we have a budget for next year. They are not attached to the state cap-coop money."

When one residents warned that heavy rains could make the roads impassable, Commission

Chairman Tom Battin said staff will take another look and see if the county can get to the worst first.

Stewart said a good time to check back would be at the commission budget meeting the third Tuesday in May when he would have a more definite plan in place.

"I wish we had a funding source where we could get equipment out there tomorrow," Battin said. "I know it's a tough situation. Unfortunately, we have a lot of road situations around the county, but that doesn't help you get out of your driveway."

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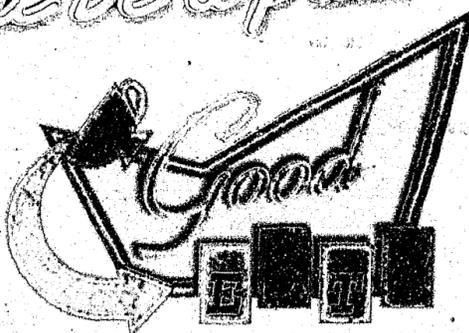
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## RUIDOSO NEWS

104 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 128 Ruidoso, N.M. 88345  
Telephone (575) 257-4001 • Fax (575) 257-7053

LISA MORALES GENERAL MANAGER, EXT. 4118  
lmorales@ruidosonews.com

MARTY RACINE EDITOR, EXT. 4107  
mracine@ruidosonews.com

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e-mail: editor@ruidosonews.com • online: www.ruidosonews.com  
A MediaNews Group Newspaper.

### NEWSROOM

Dianne Stallings ..... General Assignment reporter, Ext. 4108  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com  
Jim Kalvelage ..... Reporter, Ext. 4109  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com  
Mike Curran ..... Sports editor, Ext. 4111  
mcurran@ruidosonews.com  
Julie Carter ..... County reporter, Ext. 4110  
jcarter@ruidosonews.com  
Jesse Hanson ..... Entertainment, Vamonos editor, Ext. 4112  
jhanson@ruidosonews.com  
Member New Mexico Press Association, NAA, Inland Press Association  
Chris Gonzales, Circulation Coordinator Ext. 4106  
cgonzales@ruidosonews.com

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# OPINION

## RUIDOSO NEWS

Lisa Morales, publisher

Marty Racine, editor

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### OUR OPINION

## 'Historic' bill comes with some revisionism

Whatever you think of healthcare reform legislation signed into law Tuesday, and whatever its consequences down the line, the person responsible for orchestrating the vote in the House of Representatives needs a history lesson.

In her plea to pass the bill Sunday, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi likened healthcare reform to the great historical landmarks of Medicare and Social Security.

While those who have paid into those "entitlements" have come to rely on them, we remind Madame Speaker that Medicare is riddled with fraud and waste and that both pro-

grams are broke and considered unsustainable at current projections.

And, in Pelosi's symbolic gesture equating healthcare reform to civil rights - implying another historic Democratic agenda - fact is, 80 percent of House Republicans and only 63 percent of House Democrats voted for the 1964 Civil Rights Act; at the time, some Southern states remained under the control of segregationist Democrats.

One function of government is to protect our inalienable rights. If health coverage is a right, as Pelosi claims, why does her bill hire 16,500 IRS agents to force it on us?

## Our food supply policy is ridiculous

It all started, for me, with The Great Toilet Paper Shortage of 1973. It was a genuine panic, with shoppers wiping the shelves clean of TP. We didn't learn until later that it started with a Johnny Carson joke on the Tonight Show. Even though Carson apologized and the Scott Paper Co. ran ads showing its factories in full production, the panic continued; it took manufacturers three weeks to restock shelves.

Ever since, I've wondered about the food supply chain. If one joke could upend the system, imagine what energy short-



SHERRY ROBINSON

ALL SHE WROTE

and new varieties, but consumers must do their part. Free trade is well and good, but we should be asking who will feed us in the future? China?

Case two: The U.S. Department of Agriculture for three decades has discriminated against Hispanic farmers and ranchers seeking loans and disaster benefits.

More than 90 percent of this demographic are family or individually owned operations; in New Mexico, they number more than 8,000.

A lawsuit, *Garcia v. Vilsack*, has dragged on for 10 years, and the Justice Department isn't

inclined to negotiate, even after similar lawsuits by black and Native American farmers moved forward.

Case three: The agricultural bully Monsanto has sued farmers for collecting seeds that were unintentionally cross-pollinated by patented, genetically engineered plants. The New Mexico Food and Seed Sovereignty Alliance, which includes three Native American farm groups and the New Mexico Acequia Association, has no use for such seeds and, in fact, tries to preserve their own heirloom seeds against the likes of Monsanto. The alliance has tried three times to protect New Mexico farmers from such actions.

This year, SB 303, the Farmer Protection Act by Sen. John Pinto, a Tohatchi Democrat, would have eliminated buffer zones around fields to ensure against cross-pollination by a patented crop, protected against damages and court costs if farmers unknowingly collect a genetically engineered seed, and established ground rules for field inspections by seed companies. The bill didn't get out of committee.

Dreaming New Mexico ([dreamingnewmexico.org](http://dreamingnewmexico.org)) is cultivating a broad agenda that includes eating local food and preserving farm and ranch lands. They deserve credit for involving a diverse group of players. In a down economy, in a can't-do state, it's refreshing to hear somebody dream big.



### YOUR OPINION/THEIR OPINION

## Healthcare reform sparks responses

**U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-New Mexico):** "This is an historic day - one that will have a very positive impact on New Mexico families. Because of this new law, insurance companies can no longer decide to cancel health care coverage for a New Mexican who has a pre-existing medical condition. New Mexicans will no longer be forced to pay higher premiums to cover the healthcare costs of their uninsured neighbors."

"This law will help contain rapidly rising health care costs that are hitting New Mexico families hard, particularly during this economic downturn. It also will expand affordable and quality care to the hundreds of thousands of New Mexicans who have been living without health insurance. And it will do so in a way that will help us reduce the national deficit by a \$1 trillion over the next two decades. In enacting this legislation, we have taken a giant step forward in fixing our broken health care system."

**U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-New Mexico):** "As the state with the second-highest uninsured rate in the nation, New Mexico can't afford the status quo when it comes to health care. Too many New Mexicans today are struggling to find insurance, or are struggling to afford or to hold onto the insurance they already have. The legislation approved by the House would change that. With this vote, we move another important step closer to giving every New Mexican - and every American - access to quality, affordable health care."

"This legislation won't solve all of the problems we face as a nation regarding health care. But it will help us meet many of the most acute challenges that we face today. It will extend coverage to 32 million Americans; close the prescription-drug doughnut hole for seniors; prevent insurance companies from discrimination based on pre-existing conditions and gender; and reduce the deficit by \$143 billion in the first 10 years."

"The bottom line is this legislation puts American families and small business owners - not insurance companies - back in control of their own health care. As we begin our work this week, it would serve all of us well to remember this: Americans have waited generations for healthcare reform. They are ready for us to act. I look forward to our work in the Senate this week, and to sending this package to President Obama to sign into law."

**Doug Turner, Republican candidate for governor:** "March 21 will be remembered as the day Americans lost great measures of freedom. We are no longer free to choose our insurance. We are no longer free to have a relationship with our doctors that is free of government interference. For a hard day's work, we will now keep far less of what we earn. Our federal government has taken control of one-sixth of our economy."

"Like most Americans, I believe that we need a real and comprehensive plan that will reduce the cost of health care in the U.S., eliminate fraud and waste, and enhance access through the private insurance markets, without raising taxes or imposing fines. This bill fails to deliver."

"Besides failing to address the real problems with our healthcare system, the new healthcare legislation actually threatens with jail time those Americans who choose not to purchase health insurance and imposes fines on businesses who do the same. Can you imagine being thrown in prison for not buying health insurance? Where does the federal government's control over our freedoms end?"

"There were too many closed-door meetings and back-room deals that preceded the approval of this bill. If the bill were so good, would Barack Obama and Nancy Pelosi have had to bribe members of Congress for their support?"

"In addition, the bill increases the burden on states by increasing the amount they pay for people insured under Medicaid. Once the federal government stops fully paying for Medicaid in 2016, states will be required to begin to share the cost of the bill. New Mexico is already bankrupt, and additional, unfunded federal mandates cannot be tolerated. We need a solid, common sense solution that actually brings down costs and removes waste in the healthcare system. This plan is not it."

**Allen Weh, Republican candidate for governor:** "I've been opposed to the Obama health care bill from the start because states like New Mexico will be required to cover the costs of yet another unfunded federal mandate. There is no doubt that parts of our healthcare system need fixing and that reform is necessary, but this is not the way to go. This bill is clearly unconstitutional, and we cannot afford it. As your governor, I will fight every day until this bill is overturned."

"I support healthcare reform that meets the following principles:  
 • Medical decisions should be made between doctors and patients - not the government.  
 • The bill must include serious tort reform.  
 • Insurance companies should be allowed to cross state lines to create competition and provide affordable options.  
 • The bill should streamline administrative processes, the cost of which are eventually passed onto patients."

**Luddy Leong, Ruidoso:** "Finally, we have a health care bill created after about a half century of efforts. Now we'll be able to enter the ranks of all the other civilized countries in eventually providing health care for its citizens."

"Why has it taken so long? I guess everyone has a different answer for that."  
 "Now we no longer have to travel to Costa Rica to avoid our health care and get the state-sponsored health care they have there."

"Our next job is to work to become a united country. Isn't that what everyone wants? Or not?"

**William L. Haralson, Alto:** "Sunday was a very sad day in America, as the liberals in Congress passed a very bad healthcare bill that was opposed by a solid majority of the American people."

"We should learn a lesson from this. When the voters give one party too much power, that party becomes arrogant and operates under the assumption that they have all the answers. The result is a 2,700-page healthcare bill that almost no one has read and those that have find it appalling in its naivete and arrogance."

"The liberals in Washington own this bill: Let them try to govern with it."

# Joint Use Board postpones reorganization effort

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Members of the Joint Use Board that governs the regional wastewater treatment plant are dealing with enough problems without trying to tackle the reorganization of the board structure, they decided.

The substantial completion date for the \$36 million renovated plant to be operable with new membrane filters in compliance with stricter state and federal contaminant discharge standards is March 10, 2011.

On a suggestion by JUB Member Carol Virden, Ruidoso Downs city clerk,

that was put into a modified motion by JUB Member Angel Shaw, a Ruidoso village councilor, members agreed to postpone the issue until the plant is completed.

But Shaw's motion directed the attorneys for the city and for the village to confer on coming up with administrative policies, budget policies and standard operating procedures, to define management responsibility, to clarify how items are placed on the agenda and who may call a special meeting, to detail how the chairman is selected, and to work on a fiscal agent agreement to address audit criticisms

and ensure the JUB can function more appropriately.

The attorneys are to share drafts of their work at monthly JUB meetings first and then funnel the documents to their respective municipal councils for review before any action to adopt or reject.

In offering her original motion to postpone action on reorganization, Virden said JUB Attorney Ned Kendrick initially was asked to find a compromise on the reorganization, but family issues diverted him and that never was accomplished. He then was asked to tell the board what the JUB would have looked

like and how it would have functioned, if by-laws had been set up as intended.

"I think he should proceed with that and postpone the other until construction is out of the way," she said.

Dan Bryant, Ruidoso village attorney, said, "We have serious issues we need to address administratively, but I agree we need to put off reorganization until after construction. But the budget process and administrative issue need to be put together to avoid being barked at by the State Auditor's Office.

"I suggest that John Underwood (Ruidoso

Downs City Attorney) and I proceed on a step-by-step basis and bring back recommendations on each item."

Underwood reminded JUB members the attorneys can only work on task orders, and he suggested each of the two councils task their attorney to begin preparing the items listed that affect the daily operation of the plant to allow the JUB to function effectively. We can bring the information back to our board monthly as they are prepared for adoption," he said.

Officials from the two municipalities disagree on representation on the

board. Those from the village, which owns and operates the plant contend because Ruidoso is responsible for 85 percent of the expenses, the village should have more members on the board.

Ruidoso Downs officials contend the existing two member representation for each town and a tie-breaking vote from Lincoln County is an effective arrangement and protects the city from losing its voice in decisions. The city is responsible for 15 percent of the expenses, based on estimated sewage contribution.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

# Downs mayor Armstrong selected Joint Use Board chair

■ Ruidoso mayor Ray Alborn new vice-chair

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

From the beginning of the meeting last week, motion confusion plagued the first session with new Ruidoso members of the Joint Use Board governing the regional wastewater treatment plant.

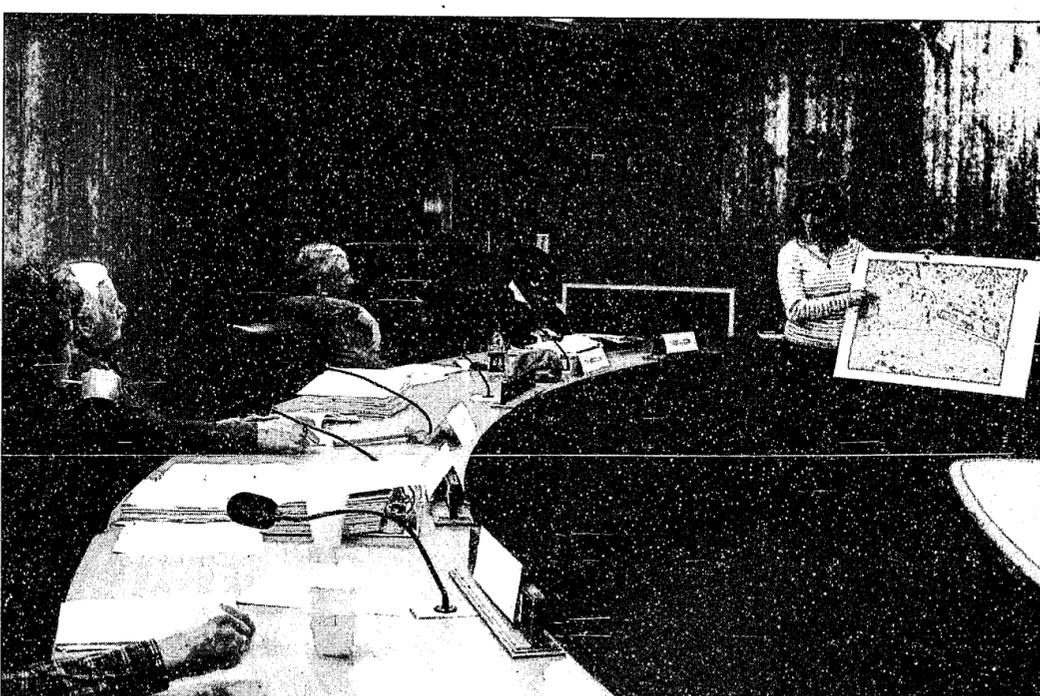
Traditionally, the mayor of Ruidoso has served as the chairman, probably because the village operates the plant, is fiscal agent and responsible for paying 85 percent of all expenses.

But when Ruidoso Village Councilor Angel Shaw, just appointed to the JUB, offered a motion for newly-elected village Mayor Ray Alborn to take over the gavel, JUB Member Carol Virden, who serves as Ruidoso Downs City Clerk seconded the motion, then backed up and said that wasn't what she meant to do.

She tried to add an amendment to Shaw's motion that would have totally changed the intent, putting Ruidoso Downs Mayor Tom Armstrong in the chairman's seat and Alborn as vice chairman, but was advised that would amount to a separate second motion.

However, the amended motion carried unanimously with Armstrong as chairman, Alborn as vice chairman and the Village Clerk or Deputy Clerk serving as board secretary.

Alborn, attending his first JUB meeting, said he and Shaw are "rookies" and are interested in working with everyone to get the wastewater treatment plant up and running. He said he appreciated the efforts of everyone at the meeting.



Michelle Salas, plant project manager for Molzen-Corbin, briefs new members of the JUB on the stages of construction on the \$36 million plant.

DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

Under the financial report, Virden asked for Village Finance Director Nancy Klingman to bring back more details about a few items at the next meeting, but the review was for information only and required no action.

Next up, Michelle Salas, the plant project manager for Molzen-Corbin & Associates, briefed the new members on the stages of construction on the \$36 million plant and identified the use of buildings and basins.

The revised construction schedule because of delays in the first phase moves the previous Dec. 19, 2010 substantial completion date to March 10, 2011 for the plant membranes to be up and running, followed by two months to modify aeration basins.

She explained that the first phase included work on a sludge processing building where the material is sufficiently dried, eliminating the need to

send it to drying beds. Under the second phase, several new stations are being constructed, includ-

ing an electrical building, installation of a coarse and a finer screen to remove solids and transferring the

use of two aeration basins to storage to handle sewage during periods of high flow. Chemicals will be added

in the main processing basin to remove nitrogen and phosphorus to comply with new and stricter state and federal standards for the discharge into the Rio Ruidoso. The material goes through six of the plant's eight membranes.

Last week's temperatures and weather conditions were conducive to pouring cement and doing masonry work previously delayed, she said.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

# Downs satisfied with new members, roles

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Some Ruidoso Downs elected officials feel there will be better harmony on the board that oversees the regional wastewater treatment plant used by Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs.

The five-person board, with two Ruidoso Downs representatives, two from Ruidoso, and one from Lincoln County, was modified following the March 2 municipal election in Ruidoso. New village mayor Ray Alborn and council member Angel Shaw were added to the treatment plant Joint Use Board (JUB), replacing village

councilors Greg Cory and Jim Stoddard.

Cory had decided not to seek reelection. Ruidoso Downs members of the board remained Mayor Tom Armstrong and city clerk Carol Virden.

Ruidoso Downs city councilors Monday approved Lincoln County Commissioner Dave Parks as the fifth member.

Armstrong said approving the county representative has not been done in the past.

"If you go back to the original agreement, each of the municipalities are to vote on the person that is the representative of the county," said Armstrong. "Dave Parks has done a

very good job in the past. He's stayed on track the whole time. It would have been a lot harder to do a lot of stuff if we hadn't had everybody on board."

The JUB last week chose Armstrong as its chair and Alborn as the vice-chair.

"I think it was a good election for us," said Armstrong.

The city's other JUB member, clerk/treasurer Carol Virden, called the March 17 JUB meeting very productive.

"I don't believe the mayor of Ruidoso Downs has ever been a chairman of that board," said Virden. "It was a great meeting."

City councilor Dean Holman, who frequently sits in the audience of JUB meetings, agreed that the reorganizational meeting last week was very good.

"I felt a very optimistic attitude and a very strong spirit of cooperation and I hope that is an indication of things to come" said Holman. "Of course this had some new members and newly elected officials in the village. That was a very cooperative atmosphere that I felt prevailed in the last Joint Use Board meeting. And of course Dave Parks is a part of that. I believe this is going to be a positive board of us working together, the village and the city."

## MANUAL

FROM PAGE 1A

Lincoln County commissioner, who said Molzen-Corbin should work as hard as possible to keep the price down. But JUB Member Angel Shaw, a Ruidoso village councilor, said she's learned, "If you don't specify 'not to exceed' the negotiated-down number," the final cost will come in higher.

Lee said if the JUB doesn't accept the lower price as an amendment to the Molzen-Corbin engineering contract, the full price would prevail and that would defeat the whole purpose of negotiations. JUB Member Ray

Alborn, Ruidoso mayor, reminded members they must report back to both municipal councils for concurrence. The two towns are partners in the plant, although Ruidoso operates the treatment plant, is fiscal agent and responsible for paying 85 percent of expenses.

Village Attorney Dan Bryant said even if the motion contained the words, "not to exceed," if the company spent more, it could submit another amendment for additional payment.

"I'm with Ms. Lee," he said. "If you include that you would cover overages; it defeats the reason for negotiations."

All the figures reflect numbers from a budget,

which is a plan, not actual expenditures, he added.

After a few more unsuccessful attempts to enact better wording, Virden went back to a motion to remove the words "not to exceed," which was seconded by Parks, although he said he thought that defeated the purpose. The motion failed 3-2, with Alborn, Shaw and Parks voting against, and Virden and Ruidoso Downs Mayor Tom Armstrong voting in favor.

Parks then offered a motion for a contract amendment accepting the letter that included the recommendation to approve the new cost figure and adding in, "not to exceed \$320,000." The motion carried unanimously.

## SURVEY

FROM PAGE 1A

the GRT on food sales and eliminating a hold-harmless compensation from the state implemented when the tax was repealed a few years ago.

"I'm still befuddled and wrote Tax and Revenue that we're waiting for their guidance," Stewart said. Analysis from the NMT-&RD about the impact shows the county would lose about \$3,000 under the legislation, Carrizozo would lose about \$1,000, Ruidoso about \$14,000 and Ruidoso Downs about \$50,000.

Capitan would gain \$55,000, but Stewart said

Stewart: "I'm still befuddled and wrote Tax and Revenue that we're waiting for their guidance."

he doesn't understand why. The state is supposed to benefit by \$4 million.

Under the Omnibus Tax Bill, state gross receipts and compensating tax rates would increase by one-eighth percent (0.125 percent) from 5.0 percent to 5.125 percent. The hold harmless distributions for local option GRT on food would be repealed and local option GRT would be applied to food to replace the revenue loss of the distribution.

With the changes, the average tax rate on food would be slightly more than 2 percent. The state

hold harmless distribution of the 1.225 percent to municipalities on food beginning Fiscal Year 2012 would be reduced by 0.175 percent to 1.05 percent.

"The bill would somewhat exacerbate pyramiding, the imposition of GRT on business purchases that will be taxed again on business sales," according to the analysis. "Raising the GRT rate and taxing food at local option rates without any other changes to New Mexico's overall tax system would make the tax structure more regressive."

A Ruidoso News exclusive

# EDUCATION

## Speech therapy goes i-tech with Synapse Apps

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A Nogal company has launched a new iPhone application they see being a technological breakthrough for speech therapy.

Synapse Apps, LLC has released their PocketSLP, which is aimed at creating an engaging atmosphere for speech therapy.

Card decks and paper illustrations have long been the tools of the trade for speech-language pathologists (SLPs), who are aware of the problem of maintaining the attention of children during therapy sessions.

"Children who would scarcely sit still for more than a minute using cards would stay engaged for an entire session when using applications on the Touch," said Corey Walker, a practicing SLP and president of Synapse Apps.

"Watching small chil-

dren manipulate and interact with iPhone applications was nothing short of remarkable. That's when I knew we were on to something big for our profession."

PocketSLP offers 22 of the most prominently targeted phonemes and consonant blends.

Therapists or parents can select one or more phonemes that can then be targeted in the initial, medial and final word positions or all positions at once.

As the child attempts to say the word or sentence that corresponds with a picture image, interactive scoring occurs.

PocketSLP users will have access to over 400 striking and unambiguous images.

At any time during viewing the images a button can be pushed to reveal two detailed diagrams indicating the specific tongue

positioning for the phoneme being targeted.

Additionally, while viewing the diagrams, an audio recording of the phoneme can be played as the client views how to appropriately produce the sound.

"Most therapists have been carrying around bags of cards for their therapy sessions," said Karen Lopez-Walker, co-founder of Synapse Apps and also a practicing SLP.

"We're very excited that we could bring something to the market than not only replaces card decks, but also gathers and stores data while clients and therapists are having fun. Compared to cards, using PocketSLP is almost like magic for therapists."

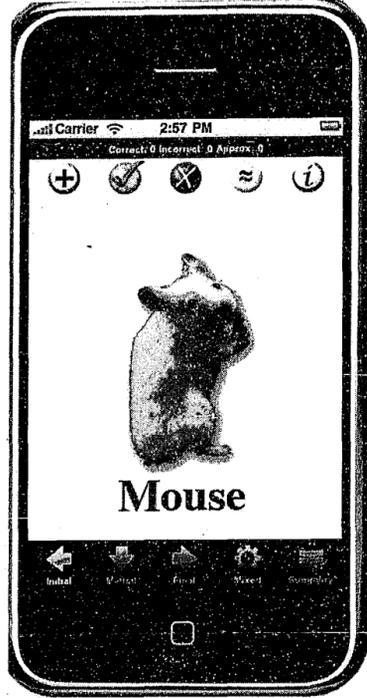
PocketSLP is getting early rave reviews from users. Testimonials offer excited endorsements of the new product.

"This is revolutionary

for the field. I love it! I can't wait to share it with my team of 22 SLPs." - Megan N.

"Very promising. This program is well organized and easy to use. The email function is very useful for documenting and printing progress and for writing comments. My suggestions for update are client's name or initials included in e-mails, e-mailing previous score reports, and saving comments to score summaries instead of just in e-mails." - Jennifer

"Love it! This program is not just for therapists, it's also for parents that want to have an active role in their child's development. My son loves it and the touch screen makes it easier to interact with it.



Also the email feature is great. I can keep track of his progress. Thank you for developing such a great program at such a good price." - Todd B

The Web site PocketSLP is <http://pocketslp.com>. The

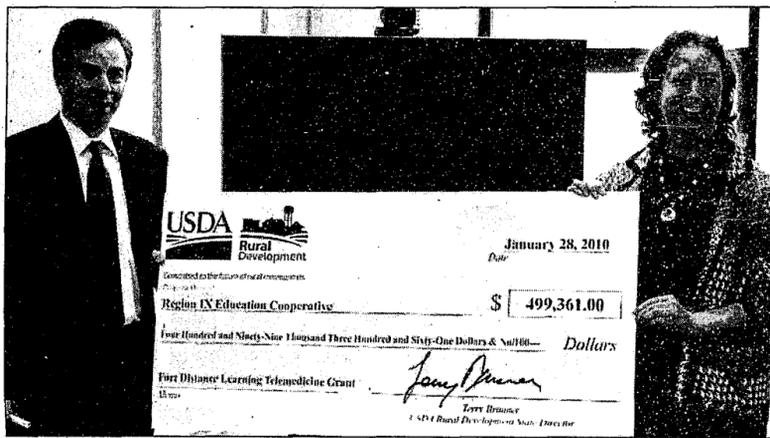
app is available through Apple's App Store for \$29.99.

## ALTRUSA DONATES



COURTESY

Altrusa International of Ruidoso presented Ruidoso High School with a \$200 donation for their annual Academic Awards Banquet honoring students that maintained a 3.5 or higher grade point average this school year. Altrusa also donated \$100 to the high school's Project Graduation, a parent-sponsored after graduation party. Accepting the awards banquet donation are high school principal Stan Lyons and secretary Doris Dettmer (both on the right). Barbara Gorman (far left) accepted the donation for Project Graduation from Altrusa member Doris Wallace.



## Region IX gets \$500K USDA grant

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

\$499,361 to Region IX.

Distance learning opportunities will expand in schools in Lincoln and parts of Otero counties.

A ceremonial check was presented to the Region IX Education Cooperative in Ruidoso on March 12.

The grant, awarded through the USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, delivered

expanding telecommunications, educational resources and computer resources in the Ruidoso area." By expanding on the second phase of the cooperative's distance learning system, the program will connect seven school district and Eastern New Mexico University campuses in Ruidoso and Roswell. The money will extend video-conferencing among the schools.

expanding telecommunications, educational resources and computer resources in the Ruidoso area."

By expanding on the second phase of the cooperative's distance learning system, the program will connect seven school district and Eastern New Mexico University campuses in Ruidoso and Roswell. The money will extend video-conferencing among the schools.

## ENMU COMMUNITY EDUCATION

### Energy efficiency

Dr. Jim Miller will teach home and business owners how to save money by applying inexpensive and practical energy tips. Free or low-cost home and small business energy audits and eligibility for weatherization assistance programs will be discussed. The class is at ENMU-Ruidoso, March 24, from 5:30-9 p.m. The fee is \$15, or \$10 for seniors. Pre-registration is required by calling the Community Education Office at 257-3012.

### Make a movie

Movie Maker is included

with Windows XP and enables users to edit video. Robert Walshe will introduce the basics of the program in a class on Saturday, March 27, from 9-11 a.m. The fee for the class is \$25 and registration is required by March 25.

### Tin punching class

A class in Spanish Colonial punched tin will be March 27, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Basic tin punching techniques, materials used, and the history of the traditional New Mexican art will be taught by lifelong Tularosa resident and artist Cynthia Prelo-

Riedlinger. The class will be repeated on April 10. The fee is \$95, or \$75 for seniors. Included are all materials and the use of time punching tools.

### Concealed carry

A concealed carry permit class on March 27 and 28, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The class meets all the New Mexico requirements to apply for a concealed carry handgun permit. A live firearm demonstration of competency will be required. The fee for the class is \$150, or \$125 for seniors. Seating is limited and registration must be made by March 25, at 257-3012.

## Spring Fling at Ruidoso High School

TESSA TALSMAN  
RHS Journalism

RHS is holding a Spring Fling Monday, March 29, through Friday, April 2.

It is a competition among students grouped into teams and takes place Monday through Thursday during lunch.

Each team must have six members and compete in three of the activities,

which include Wii competition, tug-of-war, dodge ball, flag football, shopping cart race.

There will also be three-on-three basketball and a three-legged race.

Teams must have the same lunch and a team name. Team uniform is optional.

On Friday, April 2, the final competitions will take place, along with a volley-

ball tournament (winner plays against RHS Staff team), career fair, tailgate party and awards, which will be given to first, second and third place winners in each activity.

Additional awards will be given for best effort, most unique, best sportsmanship and most appropriate uniform.

Team signups begin Monday, March 22.

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# Forest officials update county on Cibola travel

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

With more than 400 miles of roads listed for the Mountainair District of the Cibola National Forest, from gravel down to two ruts, Forest Service officials are trying to eliminate those no longer useful or appropriate for motorized travel.

District Ranger Karen Lessard reminded Lincoln County commissioners last week that she first spoke to them about the district's mandated travel management plan two years ago, but the process was interrupted by a major fire in the Manzano Mountains. She was back to brief commissioners, because a small portion of the Mountainair District of the Cibola falls within Lincoln County near the town of Corona. The majority of the district is in Torrance County.

The Cibola includes the Datil, Gallipias, Magdalena, Bear, Manzano, Sandia, San Mateo, Mt. Taylor and Zuni Mountains; four wilderness: the Sandia Mountain, Manzano Mountain, Withington, and Apache Kid; and is divided into four districts: the Mt. Taylor District, the Magdalena District, and Sandia District and the Mountainair District that includes the Gallinas and Manzano Mountains.

The comment period on the environmental assessment for travel management on the Mountainair District ends April 3, Lessard said. It is published on the Cibola National Forest Web site. Many comments already have been received, she said. "Some complained there still were too many roads and others that there were too few," she said.

Lessard dispelled rumors that 86 percent of the roads in the forest were to be closed to the public and more than 90 percent of the forest closed to camping. People holding permits for use of the forest will not be affected based on the terms of their permits, Lessard said.

Many of the roads proposed for closure no longer exist. Some were developed in the 1930s. "We went out to pinpoint whatever appeared on the maps and to meet with people who might use them or want them for recreation," Lessard said. "We eliminated 62 percent of what were termed roads. Many were redundant and crisscrossed along slopes in the 1920s and 1930s, or paralleled main roads. Some created access across private lands

and must be closed, because the public can't get to them."

Campers and hunters are allowed to go off-road for hunting. "We're not changing off-road camping, except in the wilderness," Lessard said, again emphasizing the closures pertained only to motorized vehicles. "We identified areas that were especially popular for people off-road where they can get a more primitive experience and still be environmentally sound."

But Commissioner Jackie Powell said she expects "a big outcry" in the first hunting season, because as she reviews the alternatives, "This is a big change and for people who live outside the area. They wouldn't know to attend the meetings (or to submit comments)," she said.

Lessard said all the local hunting guides are on the district mailing list and many other outreach actions were taken to notify hunting groups and individuals hunters.

Four alternatives are listed in the EA. The second calls for no action and cannot be selected, but is included for comparison, she explained.

Alternate 1 includes refining the location of motorized dispersed camping locations and removing four roads from public use, as well as impassable segments of two others roads.

Other points of the alternate include:

- changing 2.2 miles of closed roads to roads open for use by all motorized vehicles.

- adding 6.1 miles of decommissioned and unauthorized roads to the system and designate as open to motorized use by all classes of vehicles.

- constructing 2.7 miles of roads to reroute around private land where Forest Service does not have access through a right-of-way easement. They would be designated as open to all vehicles.

- reconstructing segments of four forest roads to provide motorized access.

- designating motorized dispersed camping corridors on 14.7 miles adjacent to system roads, the corridors consist of 150 feet from each side of the road.

- changing the designation of 303.9 miles of forest National Forest Service roads now open to the public to restricted administrative use.

- amending the plan to prohibit all cross-country motorized travel on the district, except where shown



*Lessard: "We identified areas that were especially popular for people off-road where they can get a more primitive experience and still be environmentally sound."*

on the official map.

Combined with previous decisions, Alternative 1 would result in a motorized system with 178.5 miles of NFS roads for public motor vehicle use.

Alternative 3 responds to complaints that more motorized access and recreational opportunities are needed. It designates additional roads and provides motorized trail and dispersed camping corridor designations. The alternate also would:

- allow cross-country motorized big game retrieval for elk and mule deer in the Gallinas Division and mule deer in

the Manzano Division along 63.6 miles of roads during the big game hunting seasons. And the forest plan to prohibit other cross-country motorized travel.

- add 2.7 miles of decommissioned and unauthorized roads to the system.

- construct 2.7 miles of roads to reroute around private lands.

- change 25.7 miles of roads to motorized trails for vehicles 65 inches in width or less, essentially all terrain vehicles, motorcycles and utility vehicles; and another 25.4 miles to motorized trails with a coincident designation.

- reconstruct segments of four forest roads for motorized use.

- designate motorized dispersed camping corridors on 24.1 miles adjacent to system roads.

- change the designation of 250.4 miles of NFS roads now open to the public to restricted to administrative use only.

Combined with previous decisions, alternative 3 would result in a motorized use with 239.5 miles of roads and motorized trails. Of that number, 188.4 miles would remain open to all vehicles and 1.1 miles changed to trails with some coincident designations.

Alternate 4 answers objections to new road construction and road reconstruction, avoiding impacts to natural and heritage resources, and reducing the area for dispersed camping. The alternate would:

- designate motorized dispersed camping corridors on 10.4 miles adjacent to system roads. In the Manzano Division, camping would be allowed 150 feet on each side and in the Gallinas 300 feet from each side, except where the corridor is designated along only one side of a road.

- change the designation of 344 miles of NFS roads open to the public to restricted or administrative use.

- amend the plan to prohibit cross-country motorized travel on the district except where shown on the official map.

- change the road density to a maximum of 1.9 miles of roads per square mile average for all management areas in the dis-

trict. When combined with previous decisions, this alternative would result in a motorized system with 127.4 miles of roads open to the public.

All the alternatives provide access for permitted activities according to the terms of written authorization, such as fuel wood gathering, forest product gathering, mineral exploration and development, maintaining water developments, and recreational events.

Emergency fire suppression and special orders by the forest supervisor provide for exceptions.

Nancy Rose with the USFS said the first year of enforcement will be aimed at education. In selecting terms for the final order, the forest supervisor may choose one alternative or combine features from several, Rose said.

Proposed maps are available at the Mountainair District Office and at the Lincoln County Administration Office in the county courthouse in Carrizozo.

More information on the project is available from Erin Hudson, Travel Management Project Leader, Cibola National Forest, 2113 Osuna Road N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87113 or by calling 505-346-3900.

Written or electronic comments on the proposed action must be submitted to Nancy Rose at the same address and telephone number or faxed to 505-346-3901, or e-mailed to commentsouthwestern-cibola@fs.fed.us.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

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## WHEELS OF DREAMS

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## New sidewalk on Highway 70 already deteriorating in spots

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Sidewalks along sections of U.S. Highway 70 in Ruidoso Downs were a topic before city councilors Monday.

The cleaning of the concrete walkways riled one councilor. And a new sidewalk segment, east of the Walmart, will have sections redone.

"Because of settlement in several areas of the sidewalk along Highway 70, it was determined they would not be acceptable and are going to have to be removed and replaced," public works

director Cleatus Richards of the just more than one-half mile of new sidewalk on the south side of the highway.

A post-completion inspection of the project was conducted two weeks ago, before accepting the work done by FNF New Mexico, LLC.

"The highway department, Dale Graham from my office, and the engineer conducted that inspection. They were all basically in agreement on the same issues. I reviewed it with the engineer after that inspection.

"We're going to probably

close the project down for about 20 to 30 days awaiting good weather, and then allow them to come back in and remove and replace the areas of sidewalk that have settled down."

Richards said another FNF New Mexico project, along West Drive, had very few problems.

All sidewalks along U.S. Highway 70 are being swept by city crews.

"That normally is a highway department obligation, but I haven't seen any effort on their part," Richards told city councilors.

"The sidewalks were in

pretty bad shape and we've accomplished most of it. Because of the dust, we started using a water truck."

He said the work involved removing the residue left behind from the winter months.

Mayor Tom Armstrong said the sidewalks "were a real nightmare" and needed cleaning.

"We understand that we had a lot of snow and ice," Armstrong said of the past winter.

"We had to readjust for this to get the sidewalks clear."

But city councilor Rene

Olivo felt the New Mexico Transportation Department should pay the city for the cleanup.

"Are we getting reimbursed for cleaning the sidewalks for the state?" asked Olivo.

Richards responded,

"Nope." "In other words we're donating about \$900 dollars to the state," said Olivo. "As far as I know three days have been worked by our crew. Thursday, Friday and today's Monday. And they still haven't finished."

Olivo said instead of cleaning sidewalks, the

public works crew should deal with side streets in Ruidoso Downs.

"There's some of the streets here, particularly Turkey Canyon, that's got more gravel than my driveway. Does the city clean that? No."

Olivo said the streets need to be a first priority.

"Who walks on the sidewalks here, particularly Turkey Canyon, that's got more gravel than my driveway. Does the city clean that? No."

Olivo argued cleaning the sidewalks disregarded the needs of city residents.

The streets would see attention "soon," Armstrong told Olivo.

## Upper Hondo Basin could be affected by water rights lawsuit

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

The outcome of an almost four-year-old lawsuit over water rights could have a huge impact on future development in closed water basins, such as the Upper Hondo.

Lincoln County Planning Director Curt Temple said the New Mexico Court of Appeals heard arguments in the case last month.

A holder of senior water rights in southwestern New Mexico's Mimbres Valley sued the state over a 1972 law that requires the Office of State Engineer to approve all requests for new home wells, regardless of the impact on nearby

senior water rights holders. Sixth Judicial District Judge J.C. Robinson, in July 2008, ruled the domestic well permit statute was unconstitutional. The state engineer's office appealed the decision.

"I've been getting some emails from the county attorney in Sandoval County, because they're watching it pretty closely too," Temple told the county's planning commission. "They said an opinion could come in a week to six months."

Senior water rights holders Horace and Jo Bounds had argued issuing well permits damages their water rights.

"They upheld that because they said under

state law you have to check for impairment, and the state engineer's office is not checking for impairment before they give out a domestic well permit," Temple said of the district court's ruling.

"They're saying if someone owns a couple hundred acre feet of water rights on a farm there in the valley, and someone sold off their water rights next door and everybody is getting a domestic well permit, is it going to impair the guy there with the water rights already?" said Temple.

The Appeals Court decision will be "big" said Temple, and likely be taken another step to the New Mexico Supreme Court.

Planning Commission chair Fred Hansen questioned possible impacts to Lincoln County's subdivision ordinance.

Temple said a decision to uphold the lower court's ruling could require property owners to purchase water rights to drill a domestic well.

Currently the state engineer's office is required to issue a domestic well permit, which allows one-acre foot of water annually, for a one-time \$125 fee. Before the law was changed several years ago a \$5 fee provided up to three-acre feet a year.

"If you want to buy five acres in a subdivision, that's fine," said Temple. "But you buy one acre of

water rights to go along with that, or a third of an acre, or whatever you need, and quit getting free permits from the state engineer's office," Temple said of the possible lawsuit's outcome.

An acre-foot of water rights allows the use of about 326,000 gallons annually.

"Is that going to have any impact on current subdivisions where no wells have been drilled?" asked Hansen.

Temple responded affirmatively, restating that the purchase of water rights would be necessary.

"That will have a big affect," said Temple. "It will make property in Lincoln County worth a lot more if

it already has a well on it."

Temple added that a property owner could also be required to hire a hydrologist and an attorney to prove their planned well will not impair existing wells. He said that would add to the cost of developing a new home.

In their more recent reviews of subdivision applications, the Office of State Engineer has been adding a caveat that mentions the Mimbres Valley lawsuit and the potential need for water rights in the future.

The Planning Commission directed Temple to include an update on water issues on their agenda for upcoming monthly meetings.

## Conservation act designed to protect agricultural, ranch lands

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

One of the bills signed

this week by Gov. Bill Richardson aims to protect land, water, wildlife, and working farms and ranches

across New Mexico.

The Natural Heritage Conservation Act, passed during the recent legislative session and sponsored by State Sen. Carlos Cisneros (D-Taos) will establish a program to enable the state to issue grants to fund conservation easement and restoration projects on private lands.

"For the first time will have a permanent mechanism for funding conservation projects across our state," Richardson said at

the signing ceremony for the NHC Act.

"I am also pleased that we were able to secure \$5 million during the legislative session, so that we will be able to start funding these important initiatives right away."

Despite the state's current financial problems, New Mexico House Speaker Ben Lujan (D-Santa Fe) said it was important to earmark land for conservation.

**Voluntary agreements**

With conservation easements, willing private landowners voluntarily enter into agreements with qualified conservation organizations or public agencies to restrict subdivision, development and certain incompatible uses of the land in order to protect the wildlife, agricultural, scenic open space, cultural and/or recreational values of the subject lands.

Landowners who grant easements retain ownership of their land and can continue to farm, ranch and engage in other traditional forms of land use that are consistent with the

purposes of the easement.

They can also lease, sell or pass their land on to their heirs, but the easements run with the land and are binding on all future landowners.

"Every year, New Mexico is losing thousands of acres of productive farm and ranch land along with the associated conservation values they provide to unbridled growth and development," said Larry Winn, Chair of the New Mexico Soil & Water Commission.

"We view conservation easements as a way to keep agricultural land in family ownership and in production, and as an important option for farmers and ranchers to consider as an alternative to simply selling, subdividing and developing their lands."

"Easements are as much a tax and financial planning tool as they are a conservation technique for private landowners," said Scott Wilber, Executive Director of the New Mexico Land Conservancy, a statewide non-profit land trust based in Santa Fe.

**Tax incentives**

He noted that landowners can receive significant federal and state tax incentives by donating part or all or the value of a conservation easement, but added that in a state like New Mexico where many of the landowners are land-rich and cash-poor, particularly within the agricultural

community, tax benefits alone are not always enough to get the job done.

"Conservation easements and restoration cost money," Wilber said.

"A combination of state funding and tax incentives will further enhance the ability of conservation organizations, public agencies, municipalities, land grants, tribes and soil and water conservation districts to work with private landowners to conserve their lands."

**To help funding**

The program created by the NHC Act will also help leverage other sources of conservation funding, through federal programs such as the Land & Water Conservation Fund, the Farm Bill, the Clean Water Act, the USDA Farm & Ranchland Protection and Forest Legacy programs, as well as state wildlife grants and local conservation funding from New Mexico's cities and counties.

Studies have shown that New Mexico misses out on about \$20 million in federal land and water conservation funding each year, because it does not have adequate state matching funds.

Advocates of conservation easements say by creating the new program, New Mexico is capitalizing on a major opportunity to draw more resources to the state to help preserve its natural, agricultural and cultural heritage.

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Ms. Wittman received her physician assistant masters' degree from Samuel Merritt University in Oakland, California.

To schedule an appointment at Carrizozo Health Center, please call (575) 648-2317. Carrizozo office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Corona office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays.

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# Wildfires break out; damage contained

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

The first wildland fire of the year on the Lincoln National Forest's Smokey Bear Ranger District was snuffed out Monday afternoon.

A second blaze, on private property in the San Patricio area, was extinguished Tuesday.

Monday's Pancho Canyon Fire was human-caused, said the district's assistant fire management officer Terry Garner. The fire was reported about 1 p.m., four miles east of the Baca Campground, at the base of the Capitan Mountains. It burned 4.5 acres.

### Drying out

Despite abundant snows this past winter the landscape can quickly support the spread of flames.

"The grasses are drying out," said Garner. "Especially in the lower areas. As soon as you leave town it can be dry. Even here in town, as I look out my window, the grasses are dry enough to burn," Garner said from the Smokey Bear District Ranger office in Ruidoso.

Three Lincoln National Forest fire crew members along with three firefighters from the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department responded to the blaze.

Garner said the fire risk right now is not very high. But he added that he would not be surprised to see additional fires start, though not as intense as they can be later in the spring and summer.

### Got out of hand

On Tuesday about 1.5 acres burned at a property on El Valle Loop, said Lincoln County Emergency Services director Travis Atwell.

"The property owner was burning two small piles when it went uncontrolled," said Atwell. "The problem was it was never

called into the sheriff's office."

Three fire trucks from the Glencoe Volunteer Fire Department, and two trucks from the Hondo Volunteer Fire Department responded to the fire and quickly knocked down the flames.

### Man cited

Chris Contreras was cited for improper handling of fire.

Atwell said it is required that the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department be notified before any outdoor burning.

"All he had to do is call it in to let them know so they will get all the information," said Atwell.

Atwell concurred with fire officials with the national forest's Smokey Bear Ranger District that some parts of Lincoln County are dry. He said that is especially the case in the Hondo and Ruidoso valleys, and north of the Lincoln area.

### Red flag warning

The National Weather Service had issued a red flag warning for Tuesday across the southeastern section of New Mexico, including a part of eastern Lincoln County. Breezy and dry conditions created the critical fire weather conditions.



Crews mop up a fire near Baca Campground Monday, top photo. At left, charred grass marks the spot of a fire that broke out Tuesday in San Patricio after a man burning two small piles could not keep them from spreading.

COURTESY PHOTOS

## Fort Stanton Museum to open in new quarters

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Members of Fort Stanton Inc. are rolling up their sleeves dusting, cleaning glass display cases and polishing brass artifacts in anticipation of the reopening of the Fort Stanton Museum in a new building with much more space.

Volunteers will man the museum from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday; and from noon to 4 p.m., Sunday.

The historic building in the 1855 State Monument was restored and members invite residents and visitors to step back into local history.

With plenty of picnic tables on the grounds, pack a big lunch and enjoy the atmosphere at the fort with family and friends.

Fort Stanton is about 13 miles northeast of Ruidoso and can be reached by Airport Road, New Mexico 220, from NM48 or from U.S. 380 between Capitan and the Lincoln Historic District.

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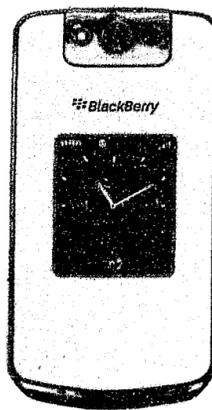
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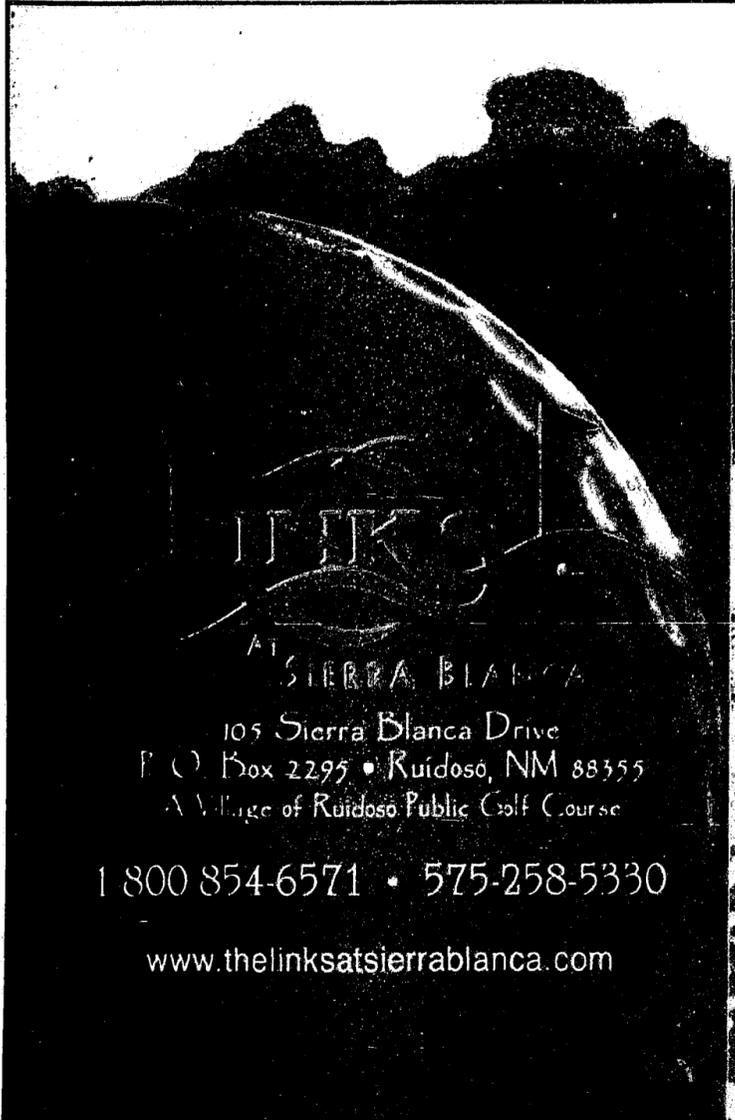
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# SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 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. until April 11. 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.: 0 inches  
Season total: 227 inches

Weather for Wednesday: Snow likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 46. West wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. Wednesday evening, a 30 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 25. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Weather for Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 55. West wind between 5 and 15 mph. Thursday evening, mostly clear, with a low around 31.

Current conditions: Good  
Mid-mountain snow depth: 78 inches

Snow surface: Packed powder, machine groomed

Groomed runs: Bunny, Easy Street, East Easy Street, Moonshine Gulch, Lower Moonshine, Lower Deep Freeze, Ramp, SBT, Snow Park, Capitan Lite, Smokey Bear, Chino, Geronimo, The Face, The Ridge, part of Apache Bowl, Elk Ridge, Bull Run, Game Trail, Wild Onion, Cliff and Elk Lift Line.

Groomers Pic: Capitan Lite  
Lifts open: No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7 (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) and No. 8. Gondola is open 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays).

Snowmaking: No

### Sports On Tap

#### Baseball

Thursday, March 25-27  
Capitan at NMMI tourney, TBA  
Saturday, March 27  
Roswell at RHS, 11 a.m., DH  
Tuesday, March 30  
RHS at Lovington, 4 p.m. DH

#### High School Softball

Thursday, March 25-27  
Capitan at Dexter tourney, TBA  
RHS at Dexter tourney, TBA  
Tuesday, March 30  
RHS at T or C, 3 p.m., DH

### On Deck

#### RHS Golf

The Ruidoso Junior Golf Association, in partners with the Ruidoso Golf Teams will be hosting the third of six scrambles at The Links at Sierra Blanca Golf Course on March 28. The event will begin at 1 p.m. For more info or to sign up call 257-5815 (Cree Meadows) or 258-5330 (The Links).

#### Chee Family Fundraiser

Gina Chee and family will be hosting the 14th Annual March Madness Basketball Tournament on March 26-28 at the Ruidoso Middle School gym. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit Gina's husband, Abraham Chee, Sr., who remains in a Lubbock hospital. Any contributions would be greatly appreciated by the family. A trademark T-shirts for donations given. For further info call Gina Chee at 464-3197.

# Boys of spring impress

## Warriors take second place at Eunice tourney; stand at 4-2 going into Saturday's home DH

MIKE CURRAN  
mccurr@ruidosonews.com

The 2010 version of the RHS baseball team is off to a good start.

They opened the year at the Cobre tournament, March 4-6, with an opening 17-4 loss to Silver High School (4A) but came back the following day with a win over West Las Vegas, 7-4, and finished up with an 11-2 victory over the Cobre JV.

Last week at the Eunice tournament the Warriors took down Lordsburg Thursday, 11-1, and beat district rival Lovington, 10-9, on Friday. Ruidoso and Eunice faced off in the championship game Saturday with the Cardinals taking an 8-4 title victory.

As it stands now, the Ruidoso boys are 4-2, but there's more to that story

than meets the eye.

This season's squad looks to have a potentially solid outfit. They have a reliable core of athletes (hitters and fielders) on the team with which to build upon.

Additionally, the Warriors have speed to burn, both on the base paths and on the field of play.

Mix those ingredients in with first year head coach Gilbert Alvarado, who has over 300 collegiate games under his belt as a player and assistant coach with ENMU-Portales, and RHS might have the makings for a top-flight season.

"We've got some runners on this team," Alvarado said. "Boys like Brendan Flack, Kayle Frierson (the Warriors lead-off batter), Kalamia Davis and Julien Lopez can fly."

"And Cole Davis, J.B. Lewis and Tanner Perrin



The Ruidoso baseball team accepts the second-place trophy Saturday at the Eunice tournament.

can take the extra base when they need to. Jacob Vasquez is faster than I first thought."

Their pitching looks to be a positive, too.

In the 11-1 Lordsburg win at Eunice right-hander Flack took on the mound duties.

In the first inning he walked the first batter and gave up a double to the

next hitter. Once he gave up the two-bagger Flack gave a masterful performance on the rubber and it was all over but the crying for the Lordsburg crew.

Flack got the win and Tanner Perrin had a four-bagger over the left field fence.

"That was an important win because it was a confidence-builder going into

Friday's contest with Lovington," Alvarado said.

Frierson was the starting pitcher in that game with Cole Davis behind the dish.

The Wildcats struck first with five runs in the top of the third inning but the Warriors responded with five of their own in the

See RHS, page 2B

# Record-setting purse projected for Derby

TY WYANT

Ruidoso Downs Track Publicist

This summer's Grade 1 All American Derby projects to be the richest derby in Quarter Horse racing history with an estimated \$1,500,000 purse.

A total of \$1,220,000 is already in the purse for the 2010 All American Derby with two remaining payments and 164 hopefuls eligible.

That exceptional number of eligible horses and two remaining payments assures a record-setting All American Derby. The current record purse for a quarter horse derby is \$1,319,677 for the 1983 All American Derby won by Make Mine Cash.

The connections of the horses eligible to the 2010 All American Derby must

make the April 1 payment of \$800 and the time-of-entry payment to race in the trials.

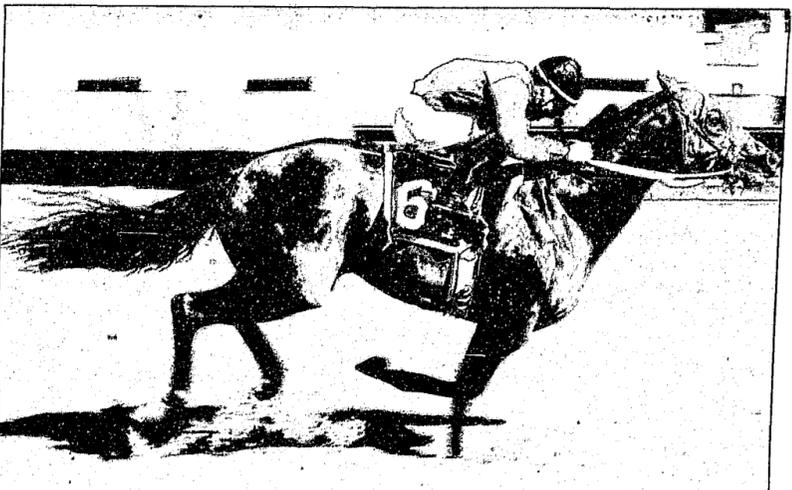
The 440-yard trials will be held on August 20 and the finals will be held on September 5.

The 440-yard All American Derby is the only quarter horse derby to ever offer a \$1,000,000 purse and it should have a 7-figure purse for the foreseeable future.

The All American Derby also awards the winner an invitation to the Grade 1, \$750,000 Champion of Champions.

This year's \$1,500,000 (est.) All American Derby becomes the third richest quarter horse race, trailing only the All American Futurity and the Los Alamitos Two Million Futurity for 2-year olds.

This summer's Rain-



FILE PHOTO

The Paul Jones-trained Inseparable, shown winning the July 18, 2009, Rainbow Derby also won the Sept. 6, Grade 1, \$624,789 All American Derby.

bow Derby and Ruidoso Derby should also have record-setting purses.

The Rainbow Derby is expected to have a purse

exceeding \$800,000, surpassing the \$567,167 awarded in 1982.

The Ruidoso Derby projects to a \$600,000

purse, exceeding the \$388,830 in 2008.

These derby purse pro-

See PURSES, page 2B

# Regulators shoot 'The Legend of the Texas Rangers'

JACK SHUSTER

For the Ruidoso News

"They could ride like Mexicans, trail like Indians, shoot like Tennesseans, and fight like the Devil" was a common description of the Texas Rangers.

They helped tame the West and made themselves legends. Nearly 40 participants, spectators and waddies joined the Lincoln County Regulators on Saturday morning, March 13 to shoot "The Legend of the Texas Rangers," the theme of their March Cowboy Action Shooting match.

Sixteen shooters came from as far away as Las

Cruces and they all came armed with six guns, lever guns, and scatter guns for some Texas-style rip-roarin' fun.

Cowboy Action Shooting is the fastest growing family shooting sport in the world.

"The Legend of the Texas Rangers" began at 9:30 am with Kiowa Mike of Nogal, playing the National Anthem on his authentic cavalry bugle and everyone reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. After a safety briefing, the shooting started.

Competitors shot four stages based on the great "Battle of Plum Creek," "Los Diablos Tejanos," "Sam Bass" and "Special

Force," all seminal events in the lives of the Texas Rangers as they transitioned from Indian fighters to Lawmen.

Stages were designed by Special Constable John Steele of Ruidoso, with historical scenarios written by Ruidoso's Sgt. Shuster. Match Director was John Steele. Timer operators were John Steele and Alto's Rowdy Lane. Sgt. Shuster handled registration and scoring.

On the First Stage, shooters assisted the Texas Rangers in the "Battle of Plum Creek," the 1840 defense against the Comanche, the Lords of the South Plains, described as the finest light cavalry in

the world.

Shooters began with the statement, "This is only the beginning." Taking First Place on the first stage was John Steele, followed by Rowdy Lane and Nogal's own Nogal Kid in that order.

A clean stage, no misses, was achieved by Saddle-tramp from La Luz, Matt Clark from La Luz, Ruidoso's Angelo Pete, Kiowa Mike, Nogal Kid, Rowdy Lane and John Steele.

Stage Two started in the town of Buena Vista during the War with Mexico, under the Texas Rangers, when the command of Sam



COURTESY

John Steele shooting in the Lincoln County Regulators' Wild Bunch match.

See SHOOT, page 2B

# RHS

FROM PAGE 1B

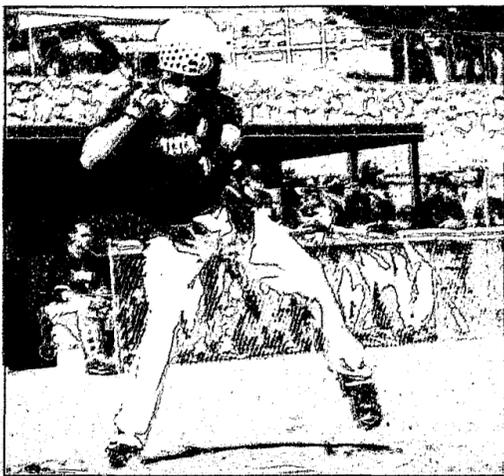
bottom of the same inning. RHS found themselves down 9-6 going into the last of the seventh but came up with the four needed runs to beat their arch-rival district foes by one run.

Cole Davis finished the game in relief and got the win. Flack went 4-for-5 and Perrin collected a walk-off homer to left field.

That come-from-behind win put the Warriors in the championship contest Saturday.

Against Eunice Perrin started on the mound and lasted until the fourth when Flack came on in relief.

The Cardinals scored six runs in the fourth inning and went on to take the



COOKIE FLACK/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

**Brendan Flack** pitched and won the first game at Eunice.

first place trophy.

In that tournament Cole Davis didn't record an out as a hitter until the third game.

Coming off of their second place win in Eunice the Warriors will next hit the

field Saturday for a double-dip starting at 11 a.m. at home against Roswell.

Tuesday Ruidoso will travel to Lovington for a return engagement double-header with the Wildcats beginning at 4 p.m.

# LOCAL FIGHTERS SET TO GRAPPLE



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

**High Altitude Kombat** fighters from Ruidoso will participate in the Southwest Grapplefest III event Saturday in Albuquerque at Cleveland High School. This will be a submission grappling competition, featuring combatants from youth to masters (Black Belts) divisions. The competitions will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 6 p.m. Shown are, l-r, Albert Harris, Casey Saenz, James Flores, Andrew Vasquez, Mike Nelson and Javier Rubio.

# PURSES

FROM PAGE 1B

jections backed by money already deposited indicates that three of the

four richest 2010 derbies will be held at Ruidoso Downs this summer.

The 2010 season begins on Friday, May 28 with daylong Ruidoso Futurity trials and Ruidoso Derby trials will

be contested on Saturday, May 29.

The prospects for the 2011 All American Derby are also very bright with an estimated purse of at least \$1,300,000 and that purse could reach the

\$1,500,000 mark.

Horses maintaining eligibility for this summer's All American Futurity are also eligible for the 2011 All American Derby.

"The futurity and

derby programs at Ruidoso Downs are not only record setting, but continue to set the standard in Quarter Horse racing," said Ruidoso Downs' majority owner R.D. Hubbard.

"This shows the confidence horse owners have in our futurities and derbies during these challenging economic times."

For further information, including making payments, call 378-4431.

# SHOOT

FROM PAGE 1B

Walker were sent behind the lines by General Zachary Taylor to spy on Santa Ana's Mexican army.

They earned the name, "Los Diablos Tejanos." Competitors began with the line, "It's payback time, amigos."

John Steele took first in that stage with Rowdy Lane in second place and Capitan's Gunsmoke Cowboy coming in third.

A clean stage was shot by Matt Clark, Nogal Kid and Capitan's Capitan Regulator.

The times were changing for the Texas Rangers as they transitioned from Indian fighters to Lawmen, and they were coming up against cattle rustlers, horse thieves and train robbers on Stage Three, "Sam Bass."

Cowboys and cowgirls found themselves in Round Rock facing the gang of Sam Bass and joining the Rangers in warning the

outlaws, "Lower your guns and raise your hands."

Gunsmoke Cowboy took third place, Rowdy Lane came in second and the winner of stage three was John Steele.

Ruidoso's Doc Lecter; Mile High Bandit from Chaparral, Saddletramp, Nogal Kid, Rowdy Lane, Gunsmoke Cowboy and John Steele all accomplished a clean stage

In the Fourth and final Stage, contenders joined the Texas Rangers' "Special Force" in patrolling the border in 1875.

It was a time of Indian raids, cattle raids and outlaw raids back and forth across the Rio Grande.

Shooters assisted the Texas Rangers in a battle with horse thieving border raiders in the Rio Grande Lower Valley and begin with, "Stay on your own side, horse thief."

That stage was bested by Gunsmoke Cowboy, followed by John Steele and Tomahawk from Organ.

Clean shooters with no misses were Alto's Frank

Coe, Doc Lecter, Matt Clark, Tomahawk, Nogal Kid and Gunsmoke Cowboy.

Top Gun for the four stage "Legend of the Texas Rangers" Cowboy Action Shooting match was John Steele with Rowdy Lane in second and Brushy Bill of Alamogordo in third place.

Both Nogal Kid and Matt Clark were awarded Mescalero Apache Clean Match Arrows for having no misses in the entire match.

Winners of the age based categories included 10-year old Capitan Regulator taking top Buckaroo, best Cowboy was Mile High Bandit, first Wrangler was John Steele, most excellent Senior was Nogal Kid, best Silver Senior was Rowdy Lane, and superior Elder Statesman was Doc Lecter.

Top shooter in the B-Western costume category was Brushy Bill and top Senior Duelist was Matt Clark.

The "Legend of the Texas Rangers" Cowboy Action Shooting match was

followed by a single stage Wild Bunch Action match, a new Single Action Shooting Society competition using 1911 Pistols, Lever Action Rifles, and 1897 Pump Shotguns.

Top Gun in the Wild Bunch Match was John Steele, followed by Brushy Bill and Gunsmoke Cowboy.

Tomahawk and Brushy Bill both shot that one clean. Winner of the Tradition category was Brushy Bill and tops in the Modern category was John Steele.

Cowboy Action Shooting is a multifaceted amateur shooting sport in which contestants compete with firearms typical of those used in the taming of the Old West: single action revolvers; lever action rifles; and side by side double barreled, pre-1899 pump, or lever action shotguns.

The shooting competition is staged in a unique, characterized, Old West style.

Contestants shoot in several one-to-four gun

stages in which they engage steel and/or cardboard targets. Scoring is based on accuracy and speed.

The truly unique aspect of Cowboy Action Shooting is the requirement placed on authentic period or western screen dress.

Each participant is required to adopt a shooting alias appropriate to a character or profession of the late 19th century, or a Hollywood Western star, and develop a costume accordingly.

The April Cowboy Action Shooting match for the Lincoln County Regulators will be on Saturday, April 10.

The Match Fee is \$10, cash or check. SASS rules will apply. There will be a \$3 one day insurance fee for non-members of the Ruidoso Gun Club.

Competitors will need a minimum of 40 pistol cartridges, 40 rifle cartridges and 16 or more shotgun shells.

Shooters not fully equipped are invited to borrow the firearms of the experi-

enced. All ammunition must be lead only. For the Wild Bunch Match, shooters can bring any 1911 style handgun, any pump action shotgun, and any pistol caliber lever gun.

Participants and spectators are urged to bring a sack lunch, non-alcoholic beverages and lawn chairs. Anyone up to helping set up targets and getting the Old West town ready for the match is invited to stop at the range at 3:30 on Friday afternoon. Membership in the Lincoln County Regulators may be also purchased at the event.

The Lincoln County Regulators dress Western, shoot western and never use their real names. It's the closest you can get to the Old West short of a time machine.

For information about the Lincoln County Regulators and Cowboy Action Shooting, call or email Regulator Special Constable John Steele at 937-3023 or srwood@valornet.com or click on www.LincolnCountyRegulators.com

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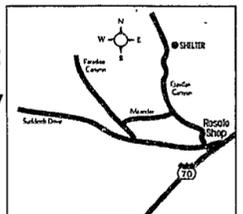


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**ZEKE**  
Zeke is a large, handsome guy with very unique coloring. He is very mellow and is happy to just "go with the flow." Zeke gets along great with other cats and would also make a great lap cat. He has big, beautiful blue eyes and short hair. Zeke weighs about 12 pounds and is an adult.

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**RIA**  
Ria is a very pretty Border Collie mix. She has a medium length, wavy coat which is all black except for a splash of white on her chest and white on her toes. Ria loves to play with other dogs and gets along well with cats. She is very gentle and kind. Ria weighs just over 30 pounds. We are certain she will make an excellent pet.

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**BOOTH**  
Booth is a great, friendly chow mix. He is young, probably still under a year. Booth is good with other dogs and loves people. He weighs 57 pounds.

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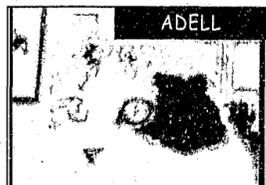
**HOLLY**  
Holly is a shy but very sweet black lab mix. Holly came to the shelter after living on her own and taking care of her puppies during the cold winter months. She weighs about 40 pounds and is spayed and current on all her vaccinations.

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**BECKETT**  
Beckett is a very handsome lab mix. He is fairly young, about 1 year old. Beckett is very shy, but does get along great with other dogs. He weighs just under 50 pounds.

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**ADELL**  
Adell is a very pretty long hair tortoiseshell and white cat. She is about 3 years old, spayed and declawed on her front paws. Adell is very sweet and mellow.

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**KELLY**  
Kelly is a pretty 5 month old kitten. She is solid black and has short hair. Kelly is very sweet and friendly.

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# LINCOLN COUNTY

## Ivins is top science teacher

JULIE CARTER  
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

Ten teachers from across the United States were named for their unique plan to reach students in underserved communities and to inspire excellence in independent scientific research.

Carrizozo's Science instructor Ashley Ivins was named as one of those top 10 teachers.

Society for Science & the Public (SSP) announced their selection of the second class of the SSP Fellows Program earlier this month.

"I got an email from Mary Jo Daniel at the Public Education Department Math and Science Bureau that encouraged teachers to apply," said Ivins. "New Mexico was represented by a teacher last year from Carlsbad that was selected and I remembered reading about him (Raymond Nance) on the Public Education Department Web site and what a great program he was able to build. I didn't think I would actually be selected but I thought I'd give it a shot."

Competitively selected from a large entrant pool of high school science and math teachers from 46 states and two U.S. territories, each Fellow will receive: (1) \$8,500 in 2010 directly for their classroom and community; (2) full support to attend the Fellows Institute to be held July 26-30, 2010, in Washington, DC; and (3) ongoing training and resources from SSP.

"A big part of this award is mentorship," Ivins said in explaining the monetary award and its intended use.

"Carrizozo has a wealth of community members who are very talented and willing to work with kids. Each and every time that I've asked for help and support they have reached out and supported our program.

"I'd like to create a more formal program of mentorship to get the community involved to help kids do research, real research that can make a difference in our community.

"One of the goals in this program is to teach students that they can make a difference, the great thing about being a scientist is that it doesn't always require formal training, just a sense of wonder and a little guidance."

The 2010 class of Fellows includes teachers selected are: Ashley A. Ivins, Carrizozo Municipal Schools, Carrizozo, Marie A. Aloia, Bayonne High School, Bayonne, N.J.; Anne Artz, The Preuss School UCSD, La Jolla, Calif.; Sydney Bergman,



COURTESY

Ashely Ivins, Carrizozo Schools, is named as one of the top 10 science and math instructors in the country.

School Without Walls, Washington D.C.; Kathleen Dwyer, Maplewood Richmond Heights High School, Maplewood, Mo.; Randa Flinn, Northeast High School, Oakland Park, Fla.; Richard Anthony Fox, Charlestown High School, Charlestown, Mass.; Michael Lampert, West Salem High School, Salem, Ore.; Tim B. Lundt, Mat-Su Career & Technical High School, Wasilla, Alaska; Melanie Schwarzbach, Box Elder High School, Box Elder, Mont.

"Education has been and is the highest priority of my administration," said Governor Bill Richardson. "I know that great teachers are at the heart of a great education system. I congratulate Ashley Ivins who has proven that she is not only a great teacher here in New Mexico, but that she is one of the great teachers in the country. New Mexico is proud of all that she has accomplished as an outstanding science teacher and I know that she will use this award to continue to inspire students for years to come."

Through a generous grant from Intel Corporation, the SSP Fellows Program provides funds and training to selected U.S. science and math teachers who serve under-resourced students, to enable interested and motivated students to perform high-quality, independent scientific research.

Married and a mother of a daughter and a son, Ivins is a 1999 Capitan High School graduate.

She earned her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Education from Eastern New Mexico University in 2002 and a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction with an Emphasis on Distance Learning and Technology from New Mexico State University in 2004.

She is currently continuing her education as a stu-

dent at NMSU, New Mexico Tech and ENMU.

"One of the things that I think made my application stand out is the fact that ever since I began teaching six years ago, I've been in the constant pursuit of increasing my knowledge and expertise," Ivins said. "I've taken advantage of all the training and experience that has been available to me and really made sure to internalize everything that I've learned. My teaching style now is very different than when I started and my vision for the future of education is not traditional.

"I really work hard to make my classroom 'lecture-free' and experience-based. I love pushing kids to think outside the box, giving them scenarios and making them think, getting them outside the classroom and into the field.

"I also believe it is important for students to be able to write about what they learn and be able to apply mathematics. It hasn't always been (and it is still not) easy to convince others that teaching and learning is different now than when I was a student even.

"It's also not easy to convince students who are accustomed to traditional teaching that they can have fun when they are learning.

"It's also hard to push them to think but it's something we are making great progress at though. I've been able to keep doing what I love and helping kids learn despite it sometimes being an uphill battle."

Ivins said she was "shocked" at at being chosen for such an honor.

"I see this as an opportunity for my greatest challenge to design a way for this program to be really pivotal for our students and community and doing something positive."

A Ruidoso News Exclusive

## ST. PADDY'S CONCERT



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Silver and Wood musicians Elaine McBrannen and Sherry O'Savas entertained 35-40 people with Irish tunes at the Ben Franklin Gallery on St. Patrick's Day. Steve 'Paddy' Fortelny, gallery owner, hosted the lunchtime event where guests brown-bagged lunch and enjoyed tea and cookies.

## FFA teams score well in Cruces

JULIE CARTER  
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

Lincoln County FFA chapter teams are in full swing in the Career Development Events (judgments) held weekly prior to the state contest in April.

Teams from the state traveled to Las Cruces on March 13 and in spite of inclement weather and treacherous road conditions, a number of them were able to attend the Roswell event March 20.

Coming up on Saturday, March 27 is the Quemado contest, followed by contests at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales March 30-31.

Results from the Las Cruces event are as follows:

**Ag Mechanics (30 teams):** 10. Carrizozo Team #1: Kylie Gaines, Ryan Guevera, Fernando Najera, Kenneth Vega; 15. Carrizozo Team #2: Daniel Hernandez, Arturo Najera, Wade Sultemeier, Casey Vega;

Individual scores (91 entered): 30. Ryan Gue-

vara; 37. Kyle Gaines

**Crops (18 teams):**

11. Carrizozo: Kylie Gaines, Johnathan Smith, Lauren Smith; Individual (61): 17. Kylie Gaines;

**Entomology (7):** 2. Carrizozo: Alexa Borowski, Fernando Najera, Johnathan Smith, Wade Sultemeier;

Individual (25): 4. Alexa Borowski; 6. Fernando Najera; 9. Wade Sultemeier

**Homesite (9):** 8. Carrizozo: Tanner Huston, Stefan Najer;

Individuals (26): 5. Tanner Huston;

**Horse (33):** 14. Carrizozo: Lane Carter, Shayna Gallacher, Arturo Najera; Individual (72): 37. Lane Carter 40. Arturo Najera

**Horticulture Produce (14):** 3. Carrizozo #1: Jordan Hill, Don Myers, Stefan Najer, Lauren Smith; 8. Carrizozo #2: Jacie Thornton, Tiffany Vega, Joshua Ventura;

Individuals (50): 7. Lauren Smith; 11. Jacie Thornton 13. Don Myers

22. Stefan Najer 25. Josh Ventura 28. Tiffany Vega 29. Jordan Hill;

**Land (14):** 11. Carrizozo: Tanner Huston; Individual (40) 15. Tanner Huston

**Livestock (25):** 19. Carrizozo: Joel Ferguson, Marshal Wilson; 21. Capitan: Haley Montes; Individual (80): 8. Marshal Wilson 9. Joel Ferguson 11. Haley Montes;

**Meats (8):** 2. Carrizozo: Alexa Borowski, Sarah Ferguson, Shayna Gallacher, Mason Huston; Individuals (19): 2. Shayna Gallacher 8. Alexa Borowski 9. Mason Huston 16. Sarah Ferguson;

**Wool (8):** 2. Capitan: Jenna Cleckler, Haley Montes, Kirsten Wilson, Jnae Wood; 3. Carrizozo: Joel Ferguson, Sarah Ferguson, Shayna Gallacher, Tessa Hendricks; Individual (28): 1. Jnae Wood 3. Haley Montes, 8. Joel Ferguson 10. Tessa Hendricks 14. Jenna Cleckler 15. Shayna Gallacher.

## Carrizozo Works elects new officers

Carrizozo Works Inc., an economic development organization for Carrizozo, elected officers as mandated by their by-laws on March 18.

Carrizozo Works was formed two years ago and is one of only two communities in Lincoln County certified by the State Economic Development Department. The mission of Carrizozo Works is "... to improve the quality of life in Carrizozo, N.M. and surrounding areas, through careful planning, education and open communications, so as to encourage community development, economic growth, and cultural diversity."



COURTESY RICHARD T. BRYANT

New Carrizozo Works officers are l-r, Lucy Rickman, Patsy Sanchez, Bonnie Soley and Linda Rodriguez.

Elected were Bonnie Soley, president; Linda Rodriguez, vice president; Patsy Sanchez, secretary; and Lucy Rickman, treasurer.

The remaining board of directors include Fran Altieri, Walter Hill, Dave LaFave, Ray Dean and newest board member Dennis Vega. Serving as executive director is Dirk Norris. The new officers have been members of the Carrizozo Works Inc. since it's inception.

Carrizozo Works Inc. participated in the State's Economic Development Department's "Certified Communities Initiative"

and after a rigorous application process, became certified in March of 2008.

The application process requires the community to take an inventory of it's work force and buildings, analyze it economic status, create a business plan, and create a rapid response team that will assist businesses when they show an interest in locating in the town.

More recently Carrizozo Works Inc. has participated in the Leadership Lincoln Clean Energy Initiative where several of those committees are chaired by Carrizozo Works Inc. board members.

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## Alamo doctor goes back to court Fires cause minimal damage

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A jury will decide if an Alamogordo doctor should pay for the cost of raising a Tularosa couple's child following an unsuccessful sterilization procedure.

The New Mexico Court of Appeals last week reversed a 2008 judgment from 12th District Court Judge Frank K. Wilson. The judge had dismissed the case after Dr. Steven L. Wenrich argued he had informed Cynthia Provenchio that she was still fertile after an unsuccessful tubal ligation.

In 2002, Provenchio consented to have a tubal ligation performed by Wenrich after the delivery of her fourth child.

According to court documents, Wenrich tied what he thought was Provenchio's only intact fallopian tube.

But a pathology report indicated the tissue was actually a ligament, not a fallopian tube. Wenrich advised Provenchio that he did not ligate the fallopian tube and she could therefore still get pregnant.

A fertility test in 2003 confirmed that, and in January 2005, she gave birth to her fifth child. Provenchio and her husband then sued Wenrich, asking for damages for the "reasonable expenses necessary to raise their fifth child to the age of majority."

Wenrich sought to dismiss the case and Wilson agreed that the doctor had undisputedly informed Provenchio of her continued fertility.

But the appellate panel, in reversing the dismissal, said there may be negligence by both the doctor and the woman.

"Juries should be al-

lowed to resolve the questions involved on the basis of the jury instructions on proximate cause and apportionment of fault," the justices wrote.

Noting Wenrich appeared to concede that he was negligent in performing the sterilization, the Court of Appeals determined a reasonable jury could conclude that the negligence had something to do with the resulting pregnancy.

But they added that Provenchio, who was told the tubal ligation was unsuccessful, failed to take reasonable steps to prevent a pregnancy and also contributed to the conception of her fifth child.

In ordering the district court to schedule a trial, the Court of Appeals said the extent of each party's responsibility for the pregnancy is for a jury to decide.

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Two fires last week in Ruidoso caused minimal losses.

A house fire Saturday morning in the Upper Canyon was detected quickly because of a smoke alarm system.

Fire chief Tom Gavin credited the continuously monitored smoke detection system at the residence at 828 Main Rd. for possibly saving the entire structure.

The alarm company called 9-1-1 at 6:53 a.m. Three fire engines were at the location six minutes later.

The source of the smoke was traced to the basement of the home where Gavin said it was firefighters found the furnace on fire. That forced smoke throughout the dwelling through the heating system's ductwork and triggered the alarm. The furnace was disconnected.

An investigation pointed

to poorly spliced wiring at the furnace that had arched and burned insulation.

No one was home at the time. Damage was estimated at \$1,500.

A fire in Midtown on March 16, resulted in damage estimated at less than \$5,000 damage to a minimal complex.

Firefighters were sent to the location at 2306 Sudderth Dr., just before 2 p.m. The fire was in remote and confined section of the building's roof and was quickly put out.

Gavin said a five-hour investigation was unable to determine a conclusive cause.

While an electrical contractor and the village's electrical inspector conducted an evaluation of the building's electrical system, no evidence of an electrical problem near the fire's origin could be found. Restoring the power produced no further fire.

Spontaneous combus-

tion was also considered in the investigation. Gavin said a very rare set of conditions could have started the fire.

He said the old building had seen termite activity in the past, and a combination of termite waste, soil and wood fiber was found deposited in the roof joists and hollow spaces in the area of the fire.

Similar to potting soil, such mixtures contained a high percentage of organic material that can spontaneously ignite from heat, such as sun hitting the flat roof.

"The self heating is often associated with ignition processes resulting from the inability of the organic material itself to dissipate the heat," said Gavin.

The official cause of the fire was listed as "undetermined."

Businesses in the mini-mall were impacted by the fire because power to the building was turned off by PNM.

## Felon with firearms and drugs arrested

A Ruidoso man was arrested on March 19, after police found the convicted felon with a rifle, ammunition, suspected narcotics and drug paraphernalia at a home he owned.

What was initially a civil peace keeping at 538 Sudderth Dr. turned into a criminal complaint and the arrest of Edmond P. Herring, 41.

When police arrived for the civil standby shortly after 5 p.m., officers were told that Herring, a previously convicted felon, was in possession of firearms.

An investigation led to the issuance of search warrant for the property, and the discovery of the forbidden items.

Herring was charged with being a felon in pos-

session of a firearm, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was booked into the Lincoln County Detention Center.

An investigation by the Ruidoso Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division is continuing, said Det. Sgt. Ray Merritt.

## Seven weekend accidents snow-related

Snow that fell from Friday night and into Saturday morning created problems for motorists. At least seven accidents, including one rollover, were reported Saturday morning between 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. around Lincoln County.

U.S. Highway 70, in the Riverside area, accounted

for four of the accidents.

"They were weather related, because of snow packed and icy roads," said Lincoln County Under-sheriff Robert Shepperd. "After the sun came out and the salt trucks were out, it cleared up at about 11 a.m."

Other accidents happened on U.S. Highway 380

west of Carrizozo, in the parking lot of Ski Apache, and on New Mexico Highway 48 at Sun Valley Road in Alto. New Mexico State Police handled most of the accident reports. Captain Keith Duncan said there were no injuries in the cases they responded to. "They were all weather related," said Duncan.

## Driver arrested for 9th DWI after crash

ROSWELL - Jay Barton, 42, of Gallup was arrested for the 9th time on DWI charges after he crashed the vehicle he was driving. Just after 8 p.m., on Saturday, March 13, Barton lost control of the vehicle and rolled over on

285 from the northbound lanes across the median and onto the southbound lanes of the highway near Roswell.

He was transported to Eastern New Mexico Medical Center where he was treated for minor

injuries.

Records show that this is his 9th arrest for DWI and that he had a valid driver's license at the time of the crash.

He was arrested and booked into the Chaves County Detention Center.

## Spring Super Blitz continues through Sunday

SANTA FE - New Mexico's "Spring Super Blitz" began March 12 and continues through Sunday, March 28. This year's "Spring Super Blitz" includes increased DWI enforcement and features a new ad campaign which highlights the difficult decisions about the consequences faced by family

members when a loved one has been arrested for DWI.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation and law enforcement agencies throughout the State increased DWI operations and mobile electronic signs along roadways featuring various messages to include "Super Blitz March 12-28 Cops Are Every-

where."

Increased law enforcement is accompanied by a new media campaign that sends a powerful message about the consequences of getting arrested for driving impaired.

Federal funds were earmarked for targeting DWI throughout the end of the year.

## RUIDOSO POLICE BRIEFS

Feb. 20

11:30 a.m. - A woman went to the Ruidoso police station to report an engagement ring and her wedding band had been stolen. She and her husband had been staying at Hotel Ruidoso the previous weekend for Valentine's Day. Police classified the larceny case as a third degree felony, which involves the theft of items valued at greater than \$2,500, but less than \$20,000.

March 1

1:05 a.m. - An officer was dispatched to the emergency room at the Lincoln County Medical Center on a possible "med seeking" person. A woman had gone to the ER for pain medication and gotten a prescription. She said she gave the prescription to another person who had been injured in a snow-boarding incident.

10:16 a.m. - A part-time village resident, who said she uses a property management company to rent out her Ruidoso home when she is not here, went

to police believing she is being short-changed. The woman told police she sometimes failed to receive documentation when the home is rented, and one time she came to Ruidoso and found evidence the home had been rented but she was never notified as required. Another rental homeowner told police he believed he had found discrepancies of about \$8,000 over a one-year period. Yet a third person said checks from the management company had bounced.

March 3

12:22 p.m. - Police responded to a residence in the 100 block of Horton Circle for a report of a family problem. A mother and daughter had been arguing.

March 6

12:32 a.m. - A report of a bleeding woman walking in the 2600 block of Sudderth Drive, screaming for help, resulted in a charge of battery against a household member lodged against her boyfriend. Police found the intoxicated woman had

some deep lacerations, and called for an ambulance. She told officers that her boyfriend had gotten mad and the two returned to a Sudderth Drive cabin they were staying at. At the cabin she said George Paz, 38, of El Paso began to punch her in the face and threatened to kill her. She said she punched out a couple of windows to get away, resulting in the cuts, which required stitches. Paz told police the woman had scratched him.

5:01 p.m. - A resident in the 100 block of Willie Horton Drive called police to report she returned to a home in disarray. The front door was found unlocked. Prescription medications were missing from a bathroom drawer.

March 7

1:49 p.m. - A resident in the 100 block of Cedar Place told an officer that

his home had been burglarized. Police were able to collect fingerprints from a window that may have been an entry point.

4:56 p.m. - A breaking and entering was reported at a home in the 100 block of Ebarb Drive. The homeowner found a broken exterior door window and food and pans on a kitchen counter. He told police it looked like a hamburger and fried shrimp had been cooked up. Six \$1 bills were taken from a bedroom drawer, but nothing else appeared to be missing.

March 8

10:50 a.m. - A call of a violent domestic incident, where the reporting party said a man with a gun was dragging a woman by her hair back into a dwelling in the 100 block of Silverstar Court, proved unfounded. But a 23-year old man at the residence admitted he

was in the U.S. illegally. The U.S. Border Patrol was contacted, and later took the man into custody.

March 9

11:37 a.m. - Police took a report of harassment from a woman who said she had received several threatening and annoying text and voice messages from her ex-husband.

2:53 p.m. - A call to 9-1-1 sent officers to a home in the 200 block of Hemlock Circle. A woman said a man refused to provide her with her car keys and her one-year old child. Police determined that Demitrio Sanchez, 21, of Ruidoso was the primary aggressor

RPD Briefs page 6B

*Betty Ann Smith*

September 21, 1947  
March 18, 2010

Visitation for Betty Smith, 62, of Mescalero, will be Sunday, March 21 at LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. The Rosary will be Monday, March 15, at 9:00 am at St. Joseph's Mission with the funeral mass to follow at 10:00 am

Betty passed away on Thursday, March 18. She was born September 21, 1947 at Mescalero to Marjorie and Amador Martinez II, who both precede her in death, and had lived most of her life at Mescalero. She was a retired bookkeeper for the Mescalero Housing Authority.

She is survived by her four children, Michael Bow Smith; Erika Waters, Pete Amador Rocha & Rose Marie Rocha Begay; thirteen brothers and sisters, Carmen Saenz, Peggy Vigil, Amador Martinez III, Edward Martinez, Cloyce Salazar, Roy Martinez, Jacqueline Calderon, David Melendez, Gina Perez, Maria Saenz, Ruby Lathan, Jessie Martinez and Ben Martinez and six grandchildren.

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*Benny Roller*

**Benny Roller, 75, passed away Thursday, March 18, 2010 in Mescalero, NM. He was born July 9, 1934 in Bradley, OK to Buck and Genita (Shoemaker) Roller.**

**Benny was a longtime resident of Ruidoso and an avid horse jockey, who was well known and loved in that community.**

**Services will be conducted at a later date in Oklahoma.**

**The family entrusted the care of their loved one to Hamilton-O'Dell Funeral Home.**

**To sign the online register book, please visit [www.webfh.com/hamiltonodell.com](http://www.webfh.com/hamiltonodell.com)**

**RPD Briefs**

FROM PAGE 5B

in the incident. He was arrested on a charge of battery against a household member.

**March 10**

4:41 a.m. - A resident in the 300 block of 3rd Street reported his vehicle was stolen. He told an officer

that he woke up and discovered his pickup truck was gone from his driveway since the time he went to sleep the evening before.

10:12 a.m. - A woman went to the police department to report her daughter had gotten harassing messages on her MySpace page. She said about a dozen girls were involved in harassing one another.

5:46 p.m. - A woman

brought items to police she said she found on Wimbleton Road in the Black Forest area of the village.

The items were a wet/dry vacuum and a toolbox with some tools. Police placed the items into evidence for safekeeping.

**March 11**

2:50 a.m. - Officers responded to a domestic incident in the 300 block of

Walnut Drive. Both a man and a woman said there no violence occurred, but the woman said she would seek a restraining order.

10:23 a.m. - A woman who recently moved to Ruidoso reported a case of possible fraud.

She told police she had written a check for \$14,080.56 for replacement windows as a home improvement.

The check was written on Dec. 30, 2009, to Clear Choice Windows and was cashed.

An independent contractor in Albuquerque, America's Best Windows, was to install the replacement windows by the end of Jan. Attempts by the woman to contact the company by email or phone calls were repeatedly ignored, according to the police report.

11:37 p.m. - A Ruidoso man was issued a citation for injury to property and issued a criminal trespass warning for an incident in the 600 block of Del Norte Drive. John Baca, 22, was also arrested for an outstanding warrant.

A woman told police her ex-boyfriend showed up, she didn't want to talk, and he got angry.

A passenger side window on her vehicle was broken out by a large rock.

**March 12**

11:29 p.m. - Approximately \$1,000 in items was reported taken from a rental cabin in the 400 block of Main Road. Police said there was no sign of forced entry. The case was classified as a burglary and a felony larceny.

**March 13**

3:34 a.m. - A resident in the 100 block of Rio Street called police to report he arrived home to find a shirtless man laying on his couch.

He said he grabbed the man and threw him out. A window had been broken out, leading to a case of breaking and entering and criminal damage to property.

**March 14**

3:24 a.m. - A vehicle pulled over on Mechem Drive because of an expired registration resulted in charges against a passenger. Police said the rider seemed nervous and provided an officer with a fake name.

Another officer who arrived at the traffic stop identified the man as Randy Lovitt, 31, of Alamogordo.

He was arrested on three outstanding warrants.

New charges of concealing his identity, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia were lodged against Lovitt after a baggie with a white substance and a small glass pipe were found. The substance tested positive for cocaine.

2:03 p.m. - An absentee homeowner in the 100 block of Lost Mountain Court asked a friend to check on his property.

The friend reported to police that it appeared someone had recently been sleeping in a bunk bed in the home. There were no signs of forced entry and nothing appeared to be missing.

8:10 p.m. - A officer saw a vehicle driven by a man on Country Club Drive slip through a stop sign, finally halting in the intersection after realizing there was a police car there. The officer followed the man onto Mechem Drive, where he reportedly was weaving in his traffic lane. He was finally stopped on Mustang Drive.

A check showed Michael Aguilar, 25, was wanted on an arrest warrant. Told to exit the car, police said Aguilar acted like he was trying to reach for something in a pocket. A knife turned up. The police report stated that Aguilar told the officer he had smoked some marijuana at a friend's house.

A glass pipe was seen on the vehicle's center console. The man's infant son was in the back seat, and a grandmother arrived to take custody of the child. A blood-alcohol test was over the legal limit.

Aguilar was charged with possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving under the influence, failing to show proof of liability insurance and disobeying a stop sign.

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Legal Notices 152

LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2010-03 "District Legal Services" DUE: Thursday April 1, 2010

LEGAL NOTICE #9095 IT (3124) The Ruidoso Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed rezoning of the property located at 229 Sandia Rd. Lot 16, Block 14, Subdivision.

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General Help Wanted 230 To place a classified ad call 257-4001 Ruidoso News online at www.ruidosonews.com

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Office/Clerical 242 Legal Assistant needed; Must possess organizational skills and be self motivated. Experience necessary. Send resume to P.O. Box 2408, Ruidoso, NM 88355

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