

RUIDOSO NEWS

2511 Sudderth Dr.
Ruidoso, NM 88345

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • FRIDAY, FEB. 11, 2011 • OUR 64TH YEAR, NO. 84 • 75 CENTS

Contract questioned

Vote to extend contract of Superintendent Harris by the Ruidoso Municipal School District may not have been legal, according to the state's Foundation for Open Government

JIM KALVELAGE
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Superintendent contract extensions made by the Ruidoso Municipal School District board, absent proper notifications on the agendas of two previous meetings, were ratified Tuesday by the board.

But whether the extensions are legal has come in for question.

The contract extension votes were

taken during a meeting last month, and at another board meeting held in January 2010, according to board meeting minutes. Both involved contract renewals for Superintendent Bea Etta Harris.

But because the action was not on the agenda of the two previous meetings, the votes were improper, said Sarah Welsh, executive director for the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government.

Welsh said ratification is the proper way to correct action errors. But she ques-

tioned if the wording "Approval to ratify previous actions of board taken in the absence of property notice" was proper.

"If I'm the public, how am I supposed to know what action they're ratifying?" Welsh said.

"They still have never voted legally on the superintendent's contract. The point is to alert the public that we're going to vote on the superintendent's contract. They still have never put on an agenda an action item, voting on the superintendent's con-

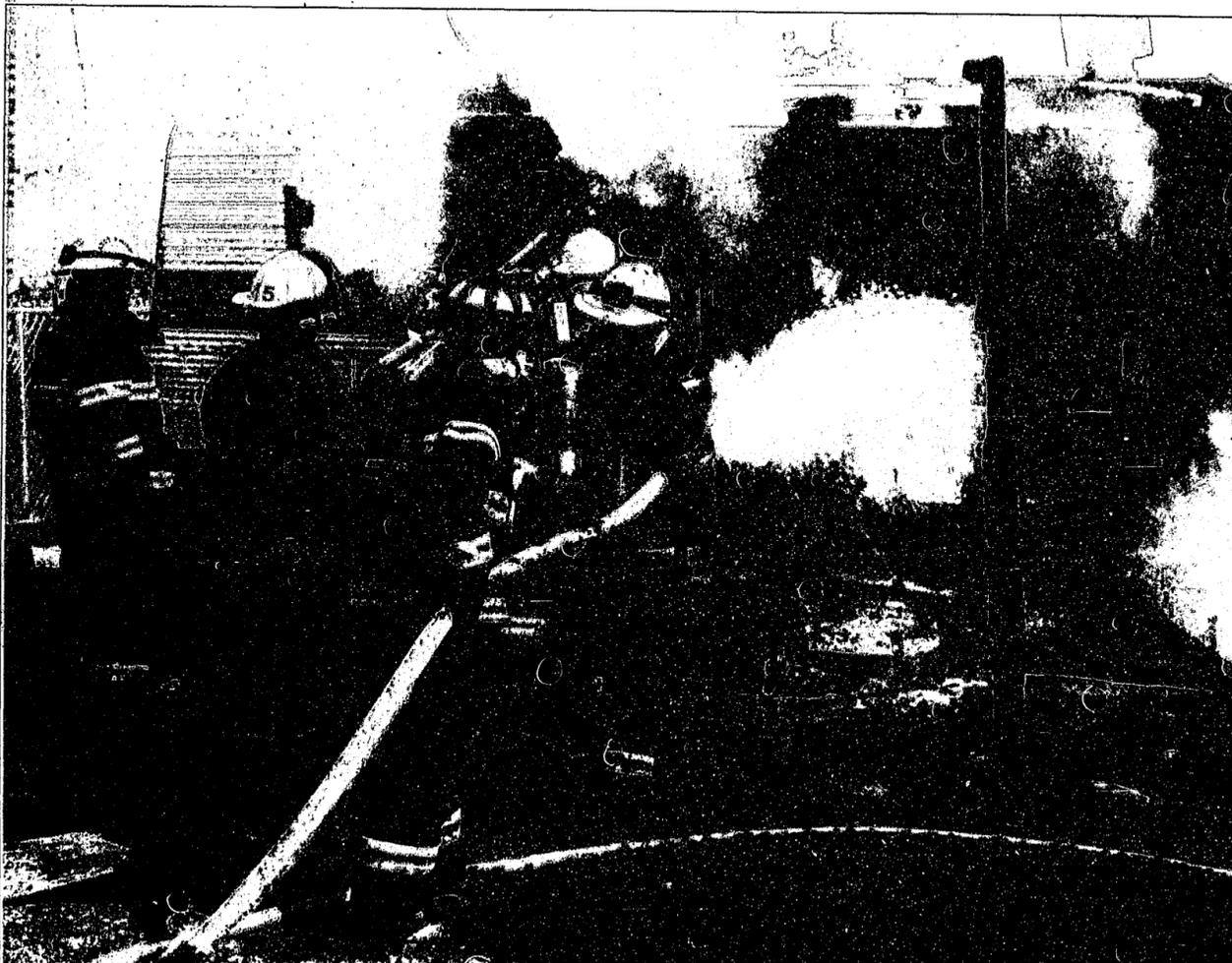
tract."

The agenda item posted immediately before adjournment at the board's Jan. 12, 2010 meeting was a closed session, in part to discuss the superintendent's contract. The next action item was to adjourn.

The minutes of the meeting stated the board returned to open session following the closed to the public segment and board member Rafael "Rifle" Salas made a

See VOTE, page 11A

RV FIRE IN THE DOWNS



DANA TERLECKY/ FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Firefighters from Glencoe and Ruidoso Downs Volunteer Fire Departments pour water into a Recreational Vehicle that caught fire Thursday morning at the corner of Rawhide and Verna in Palo Verde Slopes, East of Ruidoso Downs. This RV was connected to a second RV by a porch and a couple were living there. Lincoln County Emergency Manager Travis Atwell said the couple had put a pot of water on to boil and went to the store. The RV was filled with smoke when they returned. This was the second fire in just over 12 hours. On Wednesday evening at about 8:30 p.m., an abandoned building at Highway 286 and Hondo burned. Atwell said that fire appeared to have been started by kids.

WATER CRISIS

Part of Upper Canyon shut off

DIANNE STALLINGS
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Ruidoso village crews spent most of Thursday disconnecting water service in the upper portion of Upper Canyon in a continuing effort to locate and fix leaks in the water system, allowing storage tanks to recoup major water losses from broken pipes experienced from Monday through Wednesday.

"We have to do that so we get them water again in Upper Canyon," said Village Manager Debi Lee. "We turn every one off and then start to turn them back on in stages, because we still anticipate leaks and will check each as we go."

"Police and firemen are out there talking to business owners. We're working around the clock, so it may be less than 24 hours to 36 hours before water service is restored."

Because village storage tanks at Alto Crest continue to gain water, now up to 22 feet after being down to a three-hour supply, Lee hopes the dedicated effort since the beginning of the week is paying off.

"We're still on a roller coaster," she said.

Any setback could throw the village into a planned phased shut-off of more neighborhoods, possibly the entire village.

The storage tanks depth usually is 50 feet. "If as we're turn-

See CRISIS, page 8A

Integrity of track vote goes to county commission

DIANNE STALLINGS
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Before she won a seat last November on the Lincoln County Commission, Kathryn Minter filed a complaint with New Mexico Attorney Gen. Gary King, saying the process followed in a Sept. 21 special "mail-in" election

places the integrity of state elections at risk.

Now seated on the commission, Minter is part of the board responding to a query from Christina Sanchez, Secretary of the State Ethics Division. The item is part of the county commission's agenda Tuesday under the manager's report.

Minter in late October asked King to immediately take possession of all materials relating to the special election, where voters approved a business retention gross receipts tax to offset some of the tax burden of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Billy the Kid Casino.

She asked the attorney general

to investigate the legality of a political action committee paying for the special election. A group in favor of passage paid more than \$30,000 to cover the expense of the special election.

As well as other unspecified voter and election fraud activities,

See TRACK, page 11A

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JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

New Mexico State Forestry's Dan Ware initiates a discussion during one of the classes at last week's Sierra Blanca Wildland Fire Academy in Ruidoso.

Fire academy

More than 250 firefighters and others who could be activated when a wildland fire erupts have been in Ruidoso this week, learning at the 10th annual Sierra Blanca Wildland Fire Academy.

Ruidoso Convention Center and two village fire stations, provides training and education that meets national standards for wildfire suppression.

The classes, which began Jan. 29 and conclude on Saturday, start each day with a general assembly in the convention center's

exhibit hall.

The courses range from basic firefighting and wildland fire behavior to tactical decision making in wildfire.

Attendees come from fire departments around New Mexico and beyond. Some firefighters are from Michigan and Florida.

Started 10 years ago by the Ruidoso Fire Department, the academy now includes the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mesquero Apache tribal government, New Mexico State Forestry Division and Lincoln County Office of

Emergency Management as partners. All the cooperators shoulder the costs of bringing in instructors and use of the facilities.

"If people try to get along, good things will happen," said Harlan Vincent, the assistant fire chief for the Ruidoso Fire Department.

ual Assistance and Public Assistance programs.

During the assessment, the team will collect estimates of the expenses and damages such as the amount and type of damage; threat to public safety and people's health; how many people may be displaced and for how long; the extent of insurance coverage; the extent of business losses; the extent of infrastructure damages; impact to critical facilities; cost of emergency workers' overtime; need for debris removal; and damage to roads, bridges or public facilities.

The governor's office reviews the results of the PDAs and then decides whether the damage is beyond state and local recovery capabilities. The findings could be used by Gov. Susana Martinez to support a request for a presidential declaration.

The request for a presidential declaration is then submitted in writing by the governor to the president through FEMA's regional office. In this request, the governor certifies that the combined local, county and state resources are insufficient to meet the emergency situation and that the situation is beyond the state's recovery capabilities.

The request is reviewed at FEMA's regional and national level. A number of factors are considered and FEMA provides the president with an analysis of the situation and a recommended course of action.

Office closed

The Sacramento Ranger District Office will be closed until Monday, Feb. 14, to allow crews to work on repairs due to water damage.

Forest specialists have relocated to the Lincoln National Forest Supervisor's Office in Alamogordo and the Alamogordo Dispatch Interagency Center, located at White Sands Regional Airport.

Please call the Lincoln National Forest Supervisor's Office for any forest information to include fuelwood permits, map sales or to locate District employees at 575-434-7200, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tax e-filing

The Internal Revenue Service opened its electronic filing in January with a reminder to taxpayers that e-file remains the best way to get fast refunds and ensure accurate tax returns, particularly following several tax law changes in December.

For people seeking free electronic options to do their own taxes, IRS Free File offers something for almost everyone through two formats: brand-name software to e-file or online fillable forms.

People must access Free File through the IRS Website at www.irs.gov and click on Free File or Free File Home - Your Link to

Free Federal Online Filing. You can read more about Free File at www.freefile.irs.gov.

At the Ruidoso Public Library are a dozen public computers where you can use the IRS Free File. If you wish to keep paper records, the library does charge for printing a paper copy (15¢ per page).

The library also offers free Wi-Fi allowing you to use your own laptops to access the IRS website.

The Ruidoso Public Library is located at 107 Kansas City Rd.

Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Go to www.yousemore-

com/ruidosopl.

FEMA assessment

Officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Region 6 office will assess the damage in New Mexico from recent winter storms and record low temperatures.

Representatives from FEMA, the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the U.S. Small Business Administration and county and local officials are making plans for a Preliminary Damage Assessments, the first step for a state in determining whether to request a Presidential declaration.

The PDAs will include assessment of damages to both residences and community infrastructure through FEMA's Individ-



COURTESY STACY HAMILTON

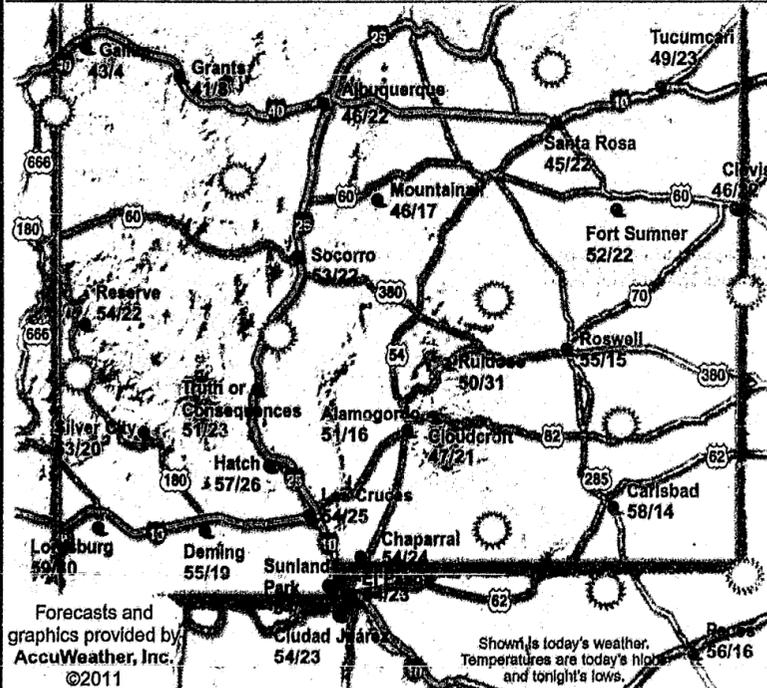
Mule deer come away from a snack of tree branches with faces full of snow during the recent storm. Some stood on their hind legs to reach the tastiest morsels.

AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
RealFeel: 58° Humidity: 36%	RealFeel: 62° Humidity: 28%	RealFeel: 66° Humidity: 28%	RealFeel: 64° Humidity: 32%	RealFeel: 59° Humidity: 22%	RealFeel: 55° Humidity: 29%	RealFeel: 47° Humidity: 31%
50° 31° A full day of sunshine Wind: NNW 4-8 mph	57° 43° Bright and sunny Wind: WNW 6-12 mph	66° 37° Nice with plenty of sun Wind: WNW 7-14 mph	63° 44° Plenty of sunshine Wind: W 6-12 mph	61° 41° Nice with plenty of sunshine Wind: WSW 8-16 mph	61° 39° Mostly sunny Wind: SW 12-25 mph	56° 34° Mostly sunny, windy and cooler Wind: SW 15-25 mph

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

Regional Cities



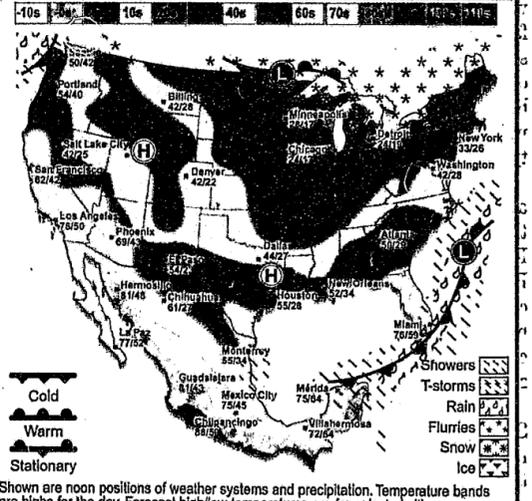
Almanac

Ruidoso
Statistics through Wednesday
Temperature:
High/low 23°/1°
Normal high 52°
Normal low 21°
Record high 66° (1962)
Record low -5° (1980)
Precipitation:
Wednesday 0.00"
Month to date 0.72"
Normal month to date 0.36"
Year to date 0.72"
Normal year to date 1.68"
Pollen:
Grass Absent
Trees Low
Weeds Absent
Mold Low
Predominant Juniper
Source: Eddie L. Gaines, MD, of the Allergy & Asthma Clinic

Alamogordo
Statistics through Wednesday
Temperature:
High/low 38°/22°
Normal high 59°
Normal low 32°
Record high 76° (1957)
Record low 16° (1974)
Precipitation:
Wednesday 0.00"
Month to date 0.46"
Normal month to date 0.18"
Year to date 0.46"
Normal year to date 0.95"

Weather Trivia™:
Q: What is snow burn?
A: A burn caused by the sun's rays reflected off snow.

National Forecast for Feb. 11, 2011



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are for selected cities.

National Cities			Regional Cities		
City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Abilene	50/24/s	62/35/s	Albuquerque	46/22/s	51/29/s
Anchorage	23/1/c	13/-5/pc	Artesia	57/21/s	64/28/s
Aurora	50/29/s	53/34/s	Chama	41/11/s	46/15/s
Austin	55/20/s	62/26/s	Clayton	48/21/s	57/32/s
Baltimore	40/24/s	46/25/s	Cloudcroft	47/21/s	54/17/s
Boston	26/25/s	36/28/s	Farrington	39/11/s	45/19/s
Chicago	24/17/c	33/28/pc	Hobbs	56/21/s	60/29/s
Dallas	44/27/s	62/37/s	Los Alamos	43/20/s	49/15/s
Denver	42/22/s	56/32/s	Portales	51/22/s	56/28/s
Des Moines	32/20/pc	35/25/s	Raton	46/11/s	54/17/s
Detroit	24/19/sn	31/28/sf	Red River	36/7/s	43/7/s
El Paso	54/23/s	59/27/s	Ruidoso	50/31/s	57/43/s
Las Vegas	62/39/s	64/40/s	Santa Fe	40/17/s	49/22/s
Los Angeles	78/50/s	78/50/s	Silver City	53/20/s	58/23/s
Minneapolis	26/17/c	34/28/c	Taos	39/4/s	44/11/s
New Orleans	52/34/s	57/36/s			
New York City	33/26/s	40/29/pc			
Philadelphia	37/26/s	43/27/pc			
Phoenix	69/43/s	75/45/s			
Reno	54/27/pc	61/28/pc			
San Francisco	62/42/s	61/44/pc			
San Diego	73/46/s	74/49/s			
Seattle	50/42/c	48/39/r			
Seattle	68/36/s	71/37/s			
Tulsa, OK	34/22/s	43/32/s			
Wash., DC	42/28/s	44/30/s			
Wichita	38/21/s	43/21/s			
Yuma	71/46/s	78/46/s			

Sun and Moon		Moon Phases	
Friday: Sunrise/Sunset 6:51 a.m./5:44 p.m.	Friday: Moonrise/Moonset 11:15 a.m./12:55 a.m.	First	Full
Wednesday's National High/Low: (For the 48 contiguous states) High: 80° in Naples, FL Low: -45° in Antero Reservoir, CO	Wednesday's World High/Low: High: 108° in Abu Na'ama, Sudan Low: -67° in Oymyakon, Russia	Last	New
		Feb 11	Feb 18

EYES WIDE SHUT



COURTESY DAVID TREMBLAY

Baced against record sub-zero temperatures in Lincoln County, a small junco shut its eyes tightly, maybe with images of Miami in its head.

County agenda

The president of the Lincoln County Fair Board, which manages the county fairground in Capitan, is scheduled to review with county commissioners the basics of a master plan for improvements at the facility.

The county recently acquired more land around the existing fairground and Fair Board President Billy Bob Shafer will attend the commission meeting that begins at 8:30 a.m. at the county courthouse in Carrizozo.

County Manager Tom Stewart wrote in a memorandum to commissioners that he prepared a draft master plan request for proposals for the fairground and for the road department yard. Because no money currently is in the budget for the plan, with commission approval,

he would release the RFP before the end of the fiscal year with sufficient time to work funding into the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

He anticipates an April release of the RFP with an award at the May 17 commission meeting, and a contract award by June 1.

Other items on the agenda of public interest are a discussion of a draft ordinance banning feeding of mule deer requested by Commissioner Mark Doth, a report on redistricting efforts by County Clerk Rhonda Burrows and comments on the county employee compensation study by Stewart.

The deer ordinance states that, because residents are worried deer feeding may contribute to an increase in the predator population and activity in the county, they are asking commissioners to consider

an ordinance prohibition. Deer fed by humans also are drawn into heavy vehicular traffic areas and are killed or cause accidents. Pets can become involved in conflicts with deer and be injured.

Feeding is well established as being detrimental to the animals and causes a public nuisance and safety hazard, the ordinance states. Therefore, commissioners with passage of the ordinance, would prohibit intentionally attracting or feeding deer on all lands

within the county boundaries, including privately-owned land or land owned by the United States government, but excluding land within the county's five incorporated municipalities.

"This ordinance shall make it illegal for any owner or occupier of land to purposely or knowingly place, feed, bait or in any manner provide access to food, or allow any device or any fruit, grain, mineral, plant, salt, vegetable or other material or sub-

stance, which is likely to be consumed by deer, to be placed outdoors on any public or private property for the purpose of attracting or feeding deer within the county," the proposed

ordinance states.

Violations would be punishable by a fine or up to \$300 and/or imprisonment of no more than 90 days for each offense.

-Dianne Stallings

Lincoln Co. Community Theatre
Presents a Special Fundraising Event!
"A Bad Year for Tomatoes"
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The "Warehouse"
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Ticket at the door or at the Chamber: \$10
L.C.C.T. (501C3) is representing all of Lincoln Co. at the State Competition in Artesia this March. Come support the cast and crew or mail donation to PO Box 2005, Ruidoso 88355

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OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

Rena Walsh, general manager
Marty Racine, editor

A MediaNews Group Newspaper. Published every Wednesday and Friday

OUR OPINION

The 'roller coaster ride' continues

Emotions up, down over water prospects

The roller coaster ride, as Village Manager Debi Lee, calls it, regarding Ruidoso's precarious water situation continues.

Emotions are up one minute, down the next, seemingly paralleling the fluctuating levels of water in tanks supplying the village.

After an alarming Monday this week, a reassuring Tuesday and a worrisome Wednesday, Thursday's mood among village officials and residents was one of guarded optimism. A valve leak had been detected, and leaks in homes continued to be accounted for.

But that doesn't help residents and business owners who remain without water, and it doesn't guarantee the outcome this weekend during a thaw that might worsen the situation.

Fact is, Ruidoso's water system is a complex web of pressure points and supply lines dictated by rugged terrain that includes a granite subsurface. The sequential "phases" of the system means that water service to some will not be restored until all major breaches are repaired.

This (near) crisis is not over. We hope for the best.

For now, New Mexico still on the casting couch

Eight years ago, like many a small-town girl or boy, New Mexico hopped on a bus to Hollywood looking for stardom and big money.

To a great extent, there have been a lot of lights, cameras and action.

But have we truly made it to the Big Time? Or, like many a small-town girl or boy, have we sold our soul and found ourselves in the, uh, adult film industry, figuratively speaking.

For eight years, the state's been kicking cash back to filmmakers at the rate of 25 cents on the dollar.

Twenty-five percent. If the state's film industry is accurate, movie magic's generated \$1.2 billion — \$150 million a year.

In return, we've returned nearly 230 million taxpayer dollars.

According to printed reports, those are about the only numbers that come close to being actual. Other numbers, like total number of jobs created, for example, jump around and change depending on the source, and like a Robert Altman film, we're too often left wondering just what we're seeing.

Oh, one other number we're fairly certain about: \$200 million — roughly the state's budget shortage.

So, with these numbers appearing in 3-D on Gov. Susana Martinez's desk, she's decided to trim the incentive for Hollywood from its current 25 to 15 percent. Martinez says that will save the state \$25 million in the coming fiscal year.

That the film industry has had good fortune in New Mexico is undeniable. Films like *3:10 to Yuma*, with Russell Crowe and Christian Bale, and the Coen Brothers' *No Country for Old Men* and *True Grit*, have proven our scenery runs the gamut, from inspiring to desitute. Quite attractive, all in all.

More than 150 major productions have been filmed in part or completely here.

Still, we have those vague numbers darting about: How many jobs are really tied to the

movie industry here? How much bang for the buck are we getting?

Two different studies produced vastly different results. But there are things we can derive. The previous administration took a gamble on an industry that's perceived as hip and cool. It's also notoriously fly-by-night. The landscape's littered with states that lowered themselves onto the casting couch trying to get a part in this \$60 billion industry only to be chucked aside, soiled and used.

The fear now is that if we drop the incentive rate in an attempt to get our fiscal house in order all the movie hipness will go elsewhere. That's the business partner Richardson & Co. tossed us in bed with.

There is nothing sexy about our oil and natural gas industry. The only thing you can say is that for most of this state's life it has consistently provided a good bit of money to the state's general fund — 21 percent in 2008, less lately.

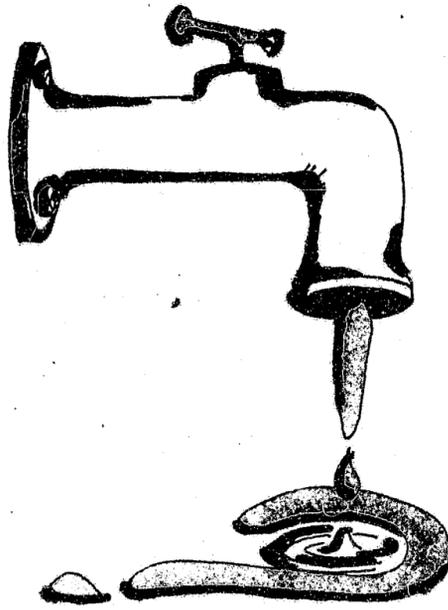
But various factors are working against the sector today. Some are global. If the Saudis pump more oil the excess cuts the price of a barrel.

And then there is growing regulation. First, huge areas of known reserves are off-limits.

This past November, sidestepping the Legislature and with the vocal support of the Richardson administration, New Mexico's Environmental Improvement Board ginned up a set of cap-and-trade regulations and passed them into law on a 4-3 vote.

It's another nail, with eco-fascists fighting for the hammer. But it fit well into the previous administration's love of the hip and now — regardless of the consequences. Martinez seems less interested in cool and more concerned about saving jobs and services.

I'm guessing the movie incentive will come in at 20 percent, bipartisanship and all. Then we'll see precisely what kind of corporate partner we've hit the couch with.



Doug McLeod 11
Ruidoso News

YOUR OPINION

Honoring our heroes

To the editor:

HELP END ABUSE for Life (HEAL) and the Nest Domestic Violence Shelter proudly announce the nominations for the 2011 HEAL Heroes with Heart Awards.

The winners of each Heroes category will be announced at the Heroes with Heart Awards Gala on Monday, Feb. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

The event is free to the public.

The nominees are:

Pastor Hero:

- a. Vickie Widener
- b. Tim Gilliland
- c. Phil Jones
- d. Community United Methodist Church

Elected Official Hero:

- a. Rod Adair
- b. William T. Battin

Doctor Hero:

- a. Dr. Debra Hewitt
- b. Dr. DiMotta

Community Organization Hero:

- a. Joan Zagone — Leadership Lincoln
- b. Optimist Club
- c. Terri Trotter — Altrusa International, Ruidoso
- d. Curt Dimberg — Lions Club
- e. Sydney Calhoun — Sacramento Mountain Village
- f. Ski Apache Disabled Skiers

Business Hero:

- a. First Savings Bank
- b. Wal-Mart
- c. Evergreen Cleaners

Female Hero of the Year:

- a. Debbie Haines-Nix
- b. Linda Tobkin

Male Hero of the Year:

- a. Johnny C. Gray
- b. Dean Fowler

Arts & Crafts Hero:

- a. Judy Pekelsma
- b. Ruidoso Dance Ensemble
- c. Ruidoso Regional Council for the Arts

Animal Hero

- a. Linda Henderson
- b. Dr. Lynn Willard

Employee Hero

- a. Dorsey Grover
- b. Yvonne Sanchez

Student Hero

- a. Students Against Destructive Decisions — RHS
- b. Phi Theta Kappa — ENMU

Environmental Hero

- a. Debra Ingle

For further information about the event, please call the Nest at 575-378-6378.

Hope to see you at the Heroes with Heart celebration!

Coleen Widell

Executive Director

Help End Abuse for Life

Ruidoso Downs

Ronald Reagan, environmentalist

ED QUILLEN
Writers on the Range

Few Western environmentalists were celebrating the centennial birthday of our 40th president (Feb. 6), though maybe they should have.

Ronald Reagan, who held office from 1981 to 1989, once famously claimed that "trees cause more pollution than automobiles do." He appointed James G. Watt, an advocate of commercializing much of our public lands, as Interior secretary. Campaigning in 1980, he told a Salt Lake City audience to "Count me in as a (Sagebrush) rebel."

The "Sagebrush Rebellion" had started in Nevada the previous year, with the goal of helping Western states take control over their federal land. But it lost momentum after Watt announced a "Good Neighbor Policy" to give locals more input on federal land management. Little really changed on that front. The big change in the West — the move away from a commodity-extraction economy — was a byproduct of Reagan's economic policies. It was unintentional, but enduring.

In 1980, the West was booming on account of high commodity prices, especially minerals. Gold was pushing \$800 an ounce with silver approaching \$30. Like many other mountain settlements, my town of Salida, Colo., was prospering. Many residents commuted 75 miles to work at the gigantic Climax molybdenum mine near Leadville, which employed 3,000 people at good union wages with excellent benefits. Closer to town was another union shop, the Monarch quarry, which supplied limestone to the immense CF&I,

steel mill in Pueblo, Colo. CF&I also had coal mines near Trinidad and an iron-ore quarry in Wyoming.

But then high interest rates and high unemployment at the start of Reagan's first term discouraged demand for automobiles, so the U.S. auto industry hit the skids. Demand for steel and copper plunged, along with demand for molybdenum, used to harden steel. The Reagan administration also fought successfully against inflation.

People buy gold and silver during inflationary times, and when the inflation rate drops, so does demand and thus the price. Gold fell to about \$300 an ounce, and silver to \$5. Mines, mills and smelters throughout the West shut down. Climax scaled back in 1981, and then halted entirely. CF&I stopped primary steel production in 1982, and closed its mines and quarries. Elsewhere in Colorado, Creede's Homestake silver mine shut down in 1985.

In Butte, Mont., copper production halted at the Berkeley Pit in 1982. U.S. Steel closed its Atlantic City, Wyo., iron mine in 1983. The copper smelter in Douglas, Ariz., closed in 1987. In Idaho's Silver Valley, thousands of miners lost their jobs during the Reagan years.

In some parts of America, the 1980s may have reflected Reagan's campaign theme of "Morning in America." But in the West, it was more like "Mourning in America." Overall, the nation's gross domestic product grew. It doubled and then some, 108.2 percent, from 1980 to 1990, from \$2.7 trillion to \$5.6 trillion in 2005 dollars, according to the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis.

But little of that growth hap-

pened in the West. During the early '80s, Wyoming's economy, as reflected in its gross domestic product, grew only 21.8 percent, less than a fifth of the national rate. That was the nation's worst economic performance, and Montana was the next-worst at just 48.4 percent. New Mexico, Idaho, Oregon, Colorado and Utah all trailed the national GDP growth rate. Perversely, the West responded by giving Reagan even bigger margins when he was re-elected in 1984.

And yet, ironically, Reagan was a boon to our environment, simply because when mines, mills and smelters shut down, they don't pollute nearly as much. Further, Reagan canceled Jimmy Carter's synfuels program, which would have turned much of the West into an industrial sacrifice zone. He also put a stop to the MX missile system, which would have torn up a fair chunk of Utah.

Beyond that, those who stayed in the West had to find new ways of gaining a livelihood. The switch was wrenching as much of the rural West moved from extractive industries to amenity tourism — which has its own problems but does value clear air, clean water, flourishing wildlife and scenic vistas as assets worth protecting.

Even though there was a lot of pain out here during the 1980s, we've ended up in a cleaner place. So Western environmentalists ought to join in celebrating the centennial of Reagan's birth — even if our reasons might be different from most people's.

Ed Quillen is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, a service of *High Country News*. He is a freelance writer in Salida, Colo.

GUEST COMMENTARIES

Nature reawakens our deeper instincts

By CATHY EISEN
Feb. 6, 2011
Nogal House
Indian Divide, NM

On the heels of an epic storm we have all gained a new perspective, as well as a heightened respect for the elements that created it.

Crisis has a way of doing that; it jars our sensibilities and opens our eyes to the broader picture, the very one we so often forget to observe.

It is the same that gives our lives their value and is the very essence of our joy and sorrow, yet we overlook it in lieu of far more mundane concerns.

It seems that, for the better part of our populace anyway, as long as our immediate needs are met we disregard the necessity that that entails; it is a given. If we are warm, well-fed and the shower works, a change in the weather is but a minor inconvenience: "Damn, it's cold today!" we grumble, start the car a little earlier than usual and go on our way.

Nature can reawaken those deeper instincts that are all but ignored these days. Monday morning I stepped outside before the sun broke over the crest of the hill and was greeted by what I titled to be a Zen like morning. A light grey cloud hung in the sky shadowing the last sliver of the moon, still aligned with Venus in the early dawn, and a raven was suspended in the midst of

it, his flight paused in the morning breeze; Zen.

The air was balmy and moisture-laden and I thought of spring even as it spoke of storm.

Before I left the house I replenished my wood pile by my stove; in spite of the temperatures nearing 50 degrees, the very air held a warning. I joked with a friend in Nogal as he, like everyone else, was bringing in wood, but I read the water meters also; something about those clouds.

By late afternoon it was snowing and I decided not to do laundry; I hadn't listened to the weather, but I bought extra groceries – it'll blow over, but just in case.

When I got home I filled my buckets and drained the water line from the tank by the windmill.

Later that evening I complained to a friend, "I am disappointed that the stars have come back out and the storm has passed; I wanted to get snowed in so I could write."

Tuesday morning there were four inches of snow on the ground, the mountains were in the clouds. I wrote, "Be careful what you wish for," and brought in more wood.

Writing became a challenge as the bitter cold draft through my living room surpassed any chill that I have ever had in this house over the eight years I have lived here. When I climbed up on the couch to put a towel in the space on the ceiling where the paneling is warped I



Be careful what you wish for, I wrote, and brought in more wood.

looked out through the attic to the sky; never thought of that before!

Suddenly my rustic dwelling crumbled in shackdom and I felt more like some homeless soul huddled in a ruin than a smug mountain woman! Even with the woodstove packed with walnut I was cold; I hung extra blankets over doors and windows.

For three days then I huddled by my woodstove as the temperatures plunged to 10 below zero and stayed there, the daytime highs barely rising as

the sun was shielded by the snow. In spite of the cold drafts through my fragile abode I felt myself lucky: the generator grudgingly started each morning; the woodpile if diminished was still plentiful; and the buckets of water that hold my usual supply remained unfrozen. My son and most everyone else had none.

My rancher friends quipped that "No ranches would be closed due to the storm, please say a prayer..." and I pondered a friend's comment regard-

ing my lifestyle, as well: "You live closer to the way they lived one hundred years ago than anyone else I know." Some of us do!

This morning it has warmed to 20 degrees and the storm has passed. I stepped out the door to feed the birds and bring in more wood; the birds flew off when I rounded the corner and have yet to return. I know now that the crisis is over and I can save the birdseed for the next storm; they have gone back to their routine. I don't like to feed the birds even if I enjoy watching them; I am gone too often to be a reliable source of food for them. My feeling is that they, as I, are better off fending for themselves than relying on some false sense of security. Better to be prepared for the worst.

I am reminded of that by this storm for those who relied on the services that they so take for granted were left without other resources; I was not. Even if my comforts are fallible, I can take the blame; I shall either fix my roof and wall or move somewhere else – simple as that.

Herein lies the perspective: For all of us. I feel fortunate that I live as I do. Even if my house has lost some of its charm over the last few days, rustic is still in; drafts and leaks are not!

I still have some water and so does my horse; there are a lot of folks and critters who do not! Many of the people that I know

burned wood and stayed warm; there were a lot of others who didn't. There were rolling blackouts; my generator ran and I don't rely on propane or natural gas – no impact here, but for almost everyone else the lesson stands clear: There is much to be grateful for.

If I had a wish for the day it would be this – that everyone of us would take the time to consider what we have all just been through and pause for a moment to say thanks that we made it.

I have no doubts that there will be deaths and losses associated with this storm; humans and livestock have borne the brunt of it. None of us were unaffected, some far more so than others.

Ironically it is those of us who live the closest to the elements who most likely suffered the least, though we all had to work at it. I didn't have to go out and break ice or feed cattle and horses; but a lot of folks did. The ranchers and all of the folks that provide for all of our services worked double time, but they took it in stride, all a part of life.

For everyone else it was a genuine hardship and we all need to remember that a scant 100 years ago it was one helluva lot tougher! I think we often forget that; it is why I live as I do, so that I don't. Sometimes it takes a storm of epic proportions for that perspective to become clear.

Hunting becomes a rich man's game

Laura Paskus
High Country News

A lifelong resident of the southern New Mexico town of Deming, Ray Trejo has hunted ever since he could walk. It's a family tradition he shares with his wife and both their sons, who are now in their 20s.

But about 15 years ago, Trejo's luck started running out in the pronghorn hunting-license lottery. "I was always led to believe – from (the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish) – that that was because of the drought we were under, and that there was less antelope tags being given," says the bowhunter.

Then, a few years ago, Trejo learned that private landowners control most opportunities to hunt pronghorn (commonly called antelope) – even on public lands where they hold grazing allotments. New Mexico's Antelope Private Lands Use System (A-PLUS) gives participating landowners "authorization certificates" that they can then auction, trade or sell to hunters and outfitters, often for thousands of dollars.

The buyer can then use the certificate to purchase an actual hunting license for the land from the Department of Game and Fish.

New Mexico landowners received 4,004 antelope certificates in 2009, according to records obtained by the nonprofit New Mexico Wildlife Federation. In contrast, just 1,785 licens-

es went into the lottery system. Because state law mandates that a certain percentage of those go to out-of-state applicants, some 12,711 New Mexico hunters competed for just 1,432 licenses.

"No one here had any idea the degree to which our licenses had really been privatized," says Jeremy

Vesbach, the group's executive director. "It has turned into a system where 70 percent are being resold rather than everybody getting an equal chance with the draw."

States are supposed to manage wildlife in trust for the public, he adds, with hunters funding it through taxes and fees.

Many New Mexico hunters say the system is unfair. In 2005, sportsmen tried to reform similar rules for elk, but failed when both landowners and the Department of Game and Fish resisted. Last fall, they asked the agency's seven-member commission to reform the antelope program. Vesbach wants New Mexico to adopt the system other Western states use: distributing tags through a lottery and having hunters pay trespass fees to willing landowners.

That method encourages landowners to improve habitat – those with trophy bucks can charge higher fees – but they don't profit directly from the public's wildlife. Montana reformers achieved a similar goal in the recent election, passing an initiative that increased big game license fees for

out-of-state hunters by about \$200. It also abolished outfitter-sponsored licenses, thereby increasing the number of big-game tags available to locals.

At least a few of New Mexico's Game Commission members are in favor of reforming A-PLUS, which has been in place, though not codified, for decades. Commissioner Kent Salazar believes tags should be the property of the state, not something that private citizens can distribute.

At the commission's October meeting, he also proposed amending the system so certificates can

only be used on a rancher's private land, and not on adjacent public-lands grazing leases. "That passed," he says, "but there was such an uproar at the meeting that we decided to revisit it." Then, at a Dec. 9 meeting in Clovis, the commission voted 4-3 to codify A-PLUS essentially as is, without amendments.

The existing program works well for landowners, argues Darrel Weybright, New Mexico's big game program supervisor. Ranchers, who own most of the state's antelope habitat, are "happy to participate because meat prices are down, and it's

hard to make a living in a semi-arid landscape," he explains. The extra money they earn is a hedge against selling out, subdivision and habitat fragmentation.

"Based on the free market, they can sell to who they want," says Weybright. And New Mexican hunters could also buy the authorization certificates, he adds, although not many do. That may be because most are what Vesbach calls "blue jeans" hunters, who can't afford premium prices.

Weybright admits the situation is difficult, but calls it a "wonderful study of social issues meeting

wildlife management." Despite the commission's decision, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation plans to continue trying to reform the system. Any commissioner can request that a rule be reconsidered, says the group's spokesman, Joel Gay, and new commissioners selected by the incoming governor might think less favorably of the program.

Ray Trejo isn't optimistic. Hunting families are losing their enthusiasm for big game draws, he says, because they don't ever win. "If we're not careful, we'll be extinct, and it'll be a rich man's game."





721 Cochran Dr.
Ruidoso, NM
575.257.4010



CHUCKS PICK OF THE WEEK

Eight time national award winner, Chuck Gurvitz, has been in the grocery business for 38 years. His experience has taken him from Indiana to the British West Indies to Ruidoso. Chuck will be awarded "Merchandiser of the Year" of all 6 AWG Warehouses where Chuck buys his produce from. Chuck has an exceptional ability in merchandising and is very creative with new ideas. He is the "Produce Guru" of Ruidoso. Each week the Ruidoso news will feature "Chucks Produce Pick of the Week". Chuck will pick a produce item and explain how to select the item and how to prepare it.

Chucks produce Pick of the Week - California Cuties

California Cuties are two varieties of Mandarins. Before a mandarin can earn the Cuties label, it must meet rigorous standards for sweetness, peelability, and absence of seeds. Kids love Cuties because their naturally loose skin makes them a cinch to peel, no need for mom and dad to help them. One more reason to love Cuties, no seeds to spit out or clean up! Cuties are available November through April.

Recipe:

Cuties salad with fennel, feta, and honey citrus dressing.

Great as a starter or an entree topped with grilled chicken or shrimp.

- Makes 4 entrees or 6 starter servings.
- 1 lg. or 2 sm. Fennel bulbs. Trimmed
 - 6 Cuties
 - 6 cups spring mixed greens
 - Honey citrus dressing (recipe follows)
 - 3/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

Directions: finely shave fennel with a sharp knife or mandolin and crisp in ice water for 10 min. Spin dry before using. Cut peel off Cuties, trim away all white pith, then cut 1/4 in. thick slices. Set fruit aside. Toss greens and fennel with 1/2 cup of dressing to coat nicely. Top with sliced cuties and sprinkle with feta.

Honey Citrus Dressing makes 2 cups

- 2 Cuties, peeled and segmented
- 1/2 cup cider vinegar
- 2 Tbsp. minced shallots
- 1 1/2 tsp. Dijon Mustard
- 1 1/2 tsp. kosher Salt
- 2 Tbsp. honey
- Freshly ground pepper
- 1 cup olive oil

Directions: Combine all ingredients in a blender and process until smooth. Keep refrigerated up to 1 week.

BUSINESS

Bert conquers Winter Park



Bert Kreischer, known by viewers of the Travel Channel as "Bert the Conqueror," interviews several youngsters who just rode tubes down the slopes at Ruidoso Winter Park Thursday. One of the tubers called the ride "snow flying." In addition to talking with those gliding down snow covered hillsides, Kreischer was to ride on the park's most daring run. The events at Ruidoso Winter Park will be featured later this year on the Travel Channel's "Bert the Conqueror" program.

JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

PNM agrees to a reduced rate increase

JIM KALVELAGE
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What had initially been suggested nearly two years ago as a needed 40 to 56 percent PNM rate hike for the utility's southern New Mexico territory is now trimmed to 10.8 percent.

The state's largest electric utility submitted a rate agreement with state regulators last week.

The agreement was hammered out by PNM, the New Mexico Attorney General's Office and utility staff at the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

PNM said several other interests were involved reaching the agreement, including the New Mexico Industrial Energy Consumers and the City of Alamogordo.

But some other parties involved in the rate case contend they were left out and the agreement should be rejected.

"The (Public Regulation) Commission should reject the stipulation because it is unconstitutional," wrote

Carmela Starace, an attorney for Prosperity Works, a New Mexico advocacy group, in an objection filed with the PRC this week. "Due process was denied to interested parties."

Starace said in December 2010, three parties — PNM, PRC staff and officials with the New Mexico Attorney General's Office — engaged in private settlement discussions that excluded nearly a score of other interveners.

Prosperity Works requested the commission reject the proposed agreement.

Five other organizations this week also balked at the agreement claiming they were not included in the closed door negotiations.

"For the Attorney General — charged with representing the interests of residents and small commercial customers — to engage in secret negotiations on a matter of such great public interest is reason enough to reject the stipulation, especially when the outcome is as significant as that found in the stipulation," said

Steven Michel, an attorney for intervenor Western Resource Advocates.

Michel said the proposed rate increase is the largest in New Mexico history and contrary to public representations by PNM that the increase would only be 10.8 percent, the actual rise would likely be more than 13 percent and more in the future.

Currently, PNM customers in Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs, Alamogordo, Tularosa and several communities in southwestern New Mexico, who were formerly served by Texas-New Mexico Power, have higher rates than other PNM customers.

The agreement would roll the 51,000 PNM-South customers into a single rate structure in step with the rest of the system. It also includes a fuel adjustment clause for PNM-South, the utility said.

"Consolidating rates now lowers the increase in southern New Mexico significantly and protects customers there from the volatility of natural gas

prices," said Pat Vincent-Collawn, PNM president and CEO.

Much of PNM-South's electric production is from natural gas fired generation facilities. In the north, coal fired plants and nuclear are part of the mix.

Instead of the flat rate southern customers now pay, the agreement would bring some bill items already familiar to other PNM customers.

Using a fuel clause, bills would be adjusted up or down once a year to reflect differences between the actual costs of fuel to run power plants or to purchase power.

That feature would appear on bills beginning May 15.

For the average PNM-South customer, the monthly charge would be \$1.39.

The utility said two bill features would reward conservation.

Rates in June, July and August would be higher, to reflect the higher cost of fuel and additional power as demand peaks across

the country.

Rates drop down for the other nine months of the year. A block rate structure for residential customers only would make the first 200 kilowatt hours (kWh) the cheapest.

The next 500 kWh would cost more and use above 700 kWh would be billed at the highest rate. PNM said the conservation plan would protect customers living on a limited or fixed income and rewards conservation.

Overall, PNM residential customers in the south would see an average increase of \$4.03 on monthly bills beginning May 15, and another \$3.39 rise starting January 2012, if the agreement is approved.

The average residential monthly use in New Mexico during 2009 was 642 kWh, according to the federal Energy Information Administration.

Under rate case information supplied by PNM, a household that uses 600 kWh in a month would see the current \$63.04 electric bill rise to \$70.20 during

the non-summer months once both phases I and II take effect. For June, July and August the bill would be \$71.23.

For residential customers who used 200 kWh or less in a month, the only increase would be in the monthly customer charge.

The fixed charge of \$4.02 will rise to \$5. The structure of PNM's seasonal and time of use rates will not change, but the rates will become available to customers in the south.

For the 2011 summer season, the utility will offer budget billing to any customer in PNM-South who is concerned about the rate impact.

The company agreed that base electricity rates will not increase again before 2014.

In 2009 PNM said they needed as much as a 56 percent rate hike because of estimated fund costs.

The increase was trimmed to 21 percent when PNM filed their rate case with the PRC last June. The commission still must approve the agreement.

WOMEN'S PROGRAMS

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Cease and desist order issued to SW Securities

JIM KALVELAGE
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A Dallas-based financial institution, with a banking office in Ruidoso, was ordered by regulators to improve their balance sheets.

In a Feb. 4 order to cease and desist, the U.S. Office of Thrift Supervision told Southwest Securities, FSB (SWS) to halt unsafe or unsound banking practices that resulted in operations with inadequate earnings to cover losses and an excessive level of bad loans. The order also told Southwest Securities to properly administer and monitor loans. The bank said it was working to bring down the level of loans with "defined weaknesses."

The institution was told last year to improve ratios between capital and risk.

"We opened the Ruidoso office two-and-a-half years

ago and have six full-time employees in Ruidoso," said

Greg Cory, SWS regional president for New Mexico and West Texas. "Since we opened, we have made well over \$40 million in loans, primarily to small businesses in Ruidoso. We opened in Albuquerque a year ago. We opened in El Paso two years ago. All three of those offices which I oversee are profitable. All three of them have loans that are performing as contracted. The level of past-due loans is negligible in our region."

Cory said the issue with the Office of Thrift Supervision was largely the result of loans made in the Dallas area.

"Many of those loans were made before we even opened up in Ruidoso," Cory said. "We're profitable in Ruidoso. We're definitely opened for business and continuing to make com-

mercial and industrial loans in Ruidoso."

In addition to the Ruidoso, Albuquerque and El Paso offices, the bank has more than a dozen other locations in Texas, most in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex.

The bank's loan loss provision during the second quarter of 2011 (Oct.-Dec. 2010) was \$6.7 million compared to \$39.5 million in the first quarter and \$4.7 million in the second quarter of fiscal year 2010, according to a Feb. 8 report from SWS. Net charge-offs were \$5.1 million in the fiscal 2011 second quarter, \$29.3 million in fiscal 2011 first quarter and \$3.9 million in the fiscal 2010 second quarter.

SWS said the bank had entered into a formal agreement with the Office of Thrift Supervision to continue taking steps to strengthen the bank's per-

formance and capital position.

"We believe the steps outline in the agreement are reasonable and help ensure the continued strength of the bank, as evidenced by our capital ratios," said James Ross, CEO of SWS Group. "We have worked closely with our regulators and have already implemented many of the requirements outline in this agreement. We have remained in full compliance with the informal MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) and plan to fully comply with the formal agreement as well."

The informal MOU with the Office of Thrift Supervision has been in place since July 2010.

No fines or monetary penalties were associated with the cease and desist order and customer deposits are not affected, SWS said.

County home sales dropped in 2010

JIM KALVELAGE
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Home sales in Lincoln County dropped during 2010, along with prices. It was the fifth straight year of declining numbers.

Vacant property also had a similar trend since 2006.

The 401 residential properties that sold last year represented an almost 50 percent decline from 2005, when 794 homes closed.

The total value of resi-

dential sales was nearly \$94 million last year. That was 41 percent off the \$159 million in sales during 2005.

Inside Ruidoso, 260 homes were sold in 2010, compared with 502 in 2005.

The total of sales in the village was \$53 million versus \$87 million during 2005.

At the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club, the 52 homes that changed hands represented a 57 percent reduction from the 121 sales during 2005.

Sales prices in Alto Lakes were cut in half during the period, to just under \$22 million last year.

In the area from Ruidoso Downs and to the east, home sales peaked at 64 units in 2006.

Last year the number plummeted to 21, though 2008 had seen 18 sales.

Vacant land sales in all of Lincoln County had totaled 560, with more than \$29 million in value during 2005.

Last year the number of vacant properties sold was

at 130, with prices that barely added up to \$7 million.

Across New Mexico, the 13,372 housing units sold during 2010 was a 3.7 percent decline from the year before.

The level was 8.6 percent less than 2008.

The statewide median price of a home sold last year was \$174,900, nearly unchanged from the year before, but 0.6 percent lower than 2008, according to reports from the Realtors Association of New Mexico.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Best destination

New Mexico was the best domestic tourism destination for 2010, voted readers of Global Traveler magazine.

"In the role as best domestic tourism destination, New Mexico definitely delivered," the magazine reported.

The Land of Enchantment's top billing surpassed Arizona, then Hawaii, New York, Louisiana, Florida, Washington, Oregon, Colorado and Texas. In 2009, Arizona had been voted the best domestic tourism spot.

"Our survey is unique from others as our readers have the only say," said Francis Gallagher, publisher and CEO of the travel magazine written for executive business travelers. "Our yearly awards are sought after, highly respected and an unbiased reflection of the best in travel from those who know."

An awards ceremony was held on Jan. 18 in New York.

"We accept this award on behalf of the citizens of New Mexico," said Martin Leger, advertising manager for the Department of Tourism.

"Our great state continues to offer opportunity for new exploration, knowledge and adventure. Diverse cultures have shaped this land, its history and its people. Many choices for a fulfilling vacation exist in all parts of the state and these diverse, cultural resources provide a multitude of intriguing possibilities for our visitors."

Unemployment

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions (NMDWS) announced Wednesday that the state of New Mexico has triggered on to Tier IV of the Emergency Unem-

ployment Compensation (EUC) Act of 2008, effective Feb. 13.

This allows unemployed workers who have exhausted the current maximum of 93 weeks of unemployment insurance benefits to file for up to an additional six weeks of benefits.

NMDWS will be notifying claimants who may be eligible for Tier IV. These are claimants who have exhausted the regular, first, second, and third tiers of federal extended benefits and have not returned to work.

The department will provide instructions for filing for the extended benefit claim, which claimants can submit beginning Feb. 13.

"Once the Department received official confirmation from the U.S. Department of Labor, we worked quickly to prepare for the Tier IV effective date and to communicate the information to potentially eligible unemployed workers," said Celina Bussey, NMDWS Cabinet Secretary Designee.

Tier IV is the last tier of federal extended benefits and is available based on a state's average unemployment rate. New Mexico previously triggered off of Tier IV Aug. 14, 2010 when the state's three month average seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate fell below the required 8.5%. Based on data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics last month, the three month average, seasonally-adjusted rate for Colorado and New Mexico met or exceeded the 8.5% threshold to trigger on to Tier IV of the EUC program.

Monday the expiration of an exchange offer for the notes that were to have been paid off in late 2010.

The exchange replaces the outstanding 12 percent notes for two series of new notes and cash.

The exchange agent said more than \$198 million in existing notes, or 99.16 percent of the outstanding original notes, were tendered. The new notes were expected to be issued this week.

Owned by the Mescalero Apache Tribe, the Inn defaulted on the \$200 million in borrowing in December 2008 when it failed to make a semiannual payment of \$12 million. Payment due in 2009 and 2010 also went unpaid.

The tribe's hospitality businesses include the Inn, a championship golf course, the Casino Apache Travel Center, Ski Apache and a big game hunting enterprise.

Because of the reduced number of bond holders with the new issues, the new notes are not required to be registered under the

IMG refinanced

Refinancing of a majority of the \$200 million in borrowing that built the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino was completed this week.

The Inn announced on

federal or state securities laws.

E-file taxes

Online personal income tax return filing is underway in New Mexico.

The New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department said the online option began two weeks ago.

"E-filing is safe, secure and fast, and most importantly it's easy to use with instant confirmation process," said Demesia Padilla, Secretary-designate of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

"I want to encourage everyone to file their tax returns online. Not only will you receive your refund faster, we can also deposit your refund check into your personal checking or savings account."

The deadline for taxpayers with paper returns is April 18. The deadline for E-filers is extended until May 2. New Mexicans can file their tax returns online by going to www.tax-state.nm.us.

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DIARNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

The seriousness of Ruidoso's water situation shows on village employees at their command center Wednesday evening.

CRISIS

FROM PAGE 1A

ing water back on and we have leaks and it gets to 16

feet, all bets are off and we will have to regroup," Lee said. "We're not taking the chance of the water dropping so quickly as it did the other night. A crew is staying out there all night."

Crews also are working in shifts throughout the night to get water back on in Upper Canyon and tested, she said. Once the village's two 8-inch water lines in Upper

Canyon are thoroughly checked, they must be sanitized before service is restored. That might take 24 hours, she said. "We're working with the state Environment Department,

because we have no contamination that we know of." Check the village website or the *Ruidoso News* for updates, she advised. People who need drinking water can fill 5-gallon con-

tainers at Fire Station Number 1 at the intersection of Sudderth Drive and Paradise Canyon. Nonpotable water is available at Fire Station 3 in Upper Canyon and can be used to flush toilets.

"The Environment Department had a team of nine people who went to every restaurant to do testing and make sure their water was not contaminated," Lee said. "As long as they have water and pass (the test), they don't have to shut down or boil the water. It's Valentine's Day weekend and everybody is busy."

A voluntary and precautionary 5-minute boil water order was announced by the NMED Wednesday evening. Bottled water can be used as drinking water, if restaurant owners prefer, but if they run out of water, they are to cease operations immediately and contact the NMED at 575-258-3272. The order is in place until lifted officially by the NMED.

Water levels in Ruidoso's Alto Crest storage tanks held firm overnight, which was good news for officials fighting to maintain supplies and to avoid cutting off service to any more segments of town.

Lee said crews discovered a 6-foot water line isolation valve spewing water on Yellow Pine Road above Poor Drive and Sierra Mall Thursday morning, and believe it may be a culprit contributing to significant losses in the storage tanks the previous night.

"The temperature is rising, so we anticipate more breaks (as the water lines thaw)," she said.

Service was cut off to more than 400 individual homes throughout the village by Wednesday evening in response to 428 breaks from pipes damaged in record low temperatures. The leaks were reported by neighbors or homeowners, or found by crews of walkers and drivers moving through neighborhoods.

In response, water storage tanks experienced an 11-foot gain from a 7-foot depth Wednesday morning to 18 feet by late afternoon. That was enough to put a hold on moving into a second phase of community segment cut-offs.

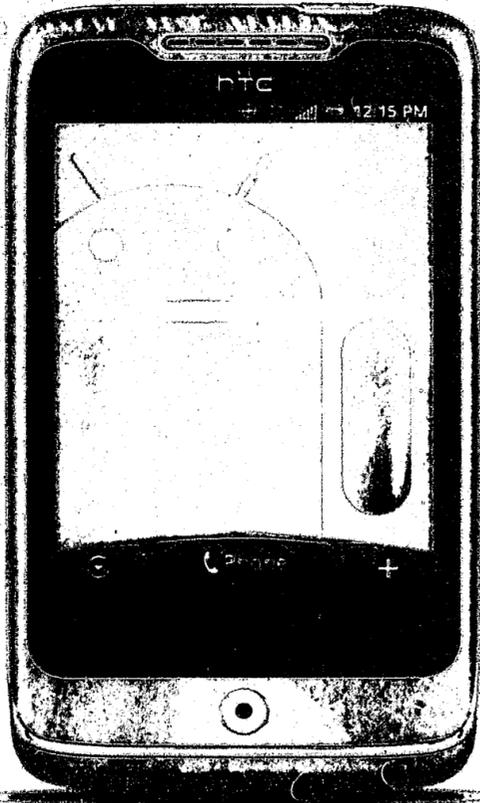
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CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

FROM PAGE 8A

FEMA representatives are in New Mexico in response to a request from the state Office of Homeland Security to declare New Mexico a disaster area. The Ruidoso Village Council also passed an emergency declaration, one of 14 communities in the state to take such action.

The water crisis began after record low temperatures last week froze pipes, cracking some. When the weather warmed, leaks in mostly unoccupied homes, which amount to about 60 percent of the houses in the village, began flooding many structures. Neighbors and village crews started spotting water running down streets and ponding in yards. Crews arrived and turned off water at the meters.

Building Official Shawn Fort was one of the foot soldiers, detecting seven leaks in homes Monday and five more Tuesday.

When the water level in the village's 5-million storage tanks plummeted to a three-day supply Monday, officials, employees and volunteers launched a huge door-to-door effort to locate leaks.

They set up an emergency operations center at the fire station and thought they had turned the corner, but another sudden drop occurred Wednesday morning, leaving only a two-hour supply in the tanks.

Lee said she arrived at her office still confident from the night before that water storage tanks were refilling and that leaks from frozen pipes were being detected and shut off. But when a water crew returned from the Alto Crest storage tanks, she was devastated to hear that a 9-foot loss of water

'It couldn't be much worse'

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Just as lodging owners in Upper Canyon were celebrating some heavy snowstorms for skiers and gearing up for a Valentine Day weekend crowd, they were hit with a water shut-down as part of the effort to sustain the village's supply.

As the first phase of what could become a multiple segment cut-off of water service to find and repair leaks and allow storage tanks to refill, water was eliminated to the upper portion of the historic Upper Canyon area, plus Black Forest, Flume, Perk and Brady canyons.

Terry Christian, who owns Dan Dee Cabins with her husband, said their business marks the line above which all businesses and homes are without water.

"The only lodging below the cutoff line in Upper Canyon is Ruidoso

Lodge and Shadow Mountain," she said. "Everything from Dan Dee all the way up, we're done. I already called people with reservations for the weekend and told them I probably will not have a cabin for them, because we don't know when water may be turned back on. It's a disaster."

Although the village sent police and firemen door-to-door to warn business owners, unfortunately for Christian the officer didn't arrive until a couple of minutes before 2 p.m., when the water went off.

"So there was no way to prepare," she said. "I have a couple of guests here now. They're out doing stuff. I've offered to refund their money and let them leave. An officer told me it could be from 24 to 36 hours."

"We were completely frozen last weekend and lost all that, and now the village shuts us off and we're losing all this. It's a disaster. It's thou-

sands of dollars of losses for everyone up here. It couldn't be much worse."

Dan Dee was opened in 1938, is a landmark for Upper Canyon and offers 13 cabins for guests.

Village Manager Debi Lee said shutting off each structure needed to be accomplished before crews could go unit by unit in Upper Canyon, turning valves back on and checking for leaks in the 8-inch water mains, as well as homes and businesses.

"We're working around the clock, so it may be less than 24 hours to 36 hours," she said. "We will do it in sections and fix leaks as they pop up."

"Once we get through with the 8-inch lines, we must sanitize them. That usually takes a 24 hours period, but we're working with the state Environment Department, because we haven't any contamination that we know of."

depth in the tanks occurred overnight. The tanks serve about two-thirds of the community.

"We only had 800,000 gallons left," Special Projects and Airport Manager Justin King said during a briefing at the Emergency Operations Center Wednesday. "That's just a three-hour supply."

The administrative team immediately implemented the first phase of what could have become a five-phase shut-down of the water system. At 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, they discontinued service to the area in high Upper Canyon, Black Forest and surrounding canyons, because of the interconnection of mains and the high probability a 2-mile stretch along the Rio Ruidoso contained the culprit pipe. The move affected about 750 people.

By noon, the level in the

Alto Crest tanks increased by 3 feet, Mayor Ray Alborn said. By 2:30 p.m., officials postponed moving to the second shut-off phase. The second phase of the cut-off, which would have swept in everything west of Paradise Canyon, including Mechem and Sudderth drives to Casa Blanca, Sierra Cinema and Ponderosa Heights, as well as the Cree Meadows area, was put on hold, as the water level in the storage tanks began to recoup, Capital Projects Manager Randall Camp said.

King said the sequence of shut-off and back-up diversion plans were designed to ensure the Lincoln County Medical Center, the county-owned hospital in Ruidoso, could retain a water supply. He said the hospital would remain functioning until water was gone from the

Grindstone tanks and "they are holding their own."

Any shutdown would have to be accomplished in a sequence from the end of the lines through the middle to the beginning, he said. No section can be reopened out of sequence, he added. "We can't just shut down and then reopen as we move to another area," King said.

Keys to help people open the lids of village meter boxes to see if the dial is spinning and water is leaking will be available at the EOC in the Ruidoso Fire Station at the intersection of Sudderth Drive and Paradise Canyon. In most cases, lids can be opened with pliers, he said.

Village Councilor Gloria Sayers asked if there was any way to mark a home

already checked to prevent duplication, but King said all need to be rechecked and Engineer Bob Decker said a log of locations is being maintained.

King and Camp stressed that an ordinance exists requiring homes to have a shut-off valve on the private side of the meter line, but many older homes do not have those valves.

"We're going to default to the ordinance that says they have to have a shut-off valve on their side of the meter first and then we will turn back on their water," Camp said. "I used to be a plumber and it could take half a day turning water off and on to find all the leaks at a home. They'll get one free turn-on."

Local building supply and hardware stores are

trying to keep pace with the demand for plumbing supplies, he said.

Camp said most of the homes already shut off did not have valves on the private side of the line, although they have been required for the past 20 years. A bulb or gate valve will work.

Hardware stores should have an ample supply of the valves in 3/4-inch or 1-inch size, which are used by 90 percent of the homes in the area, King said. They're plastic and suppliers keep 50 to 100 in boxes, he said. "I don't think it will be a big supply issue. You just cut a pipe and put in a valve and they're done."

Alborn complimented the efforts of employees and volunteers who went out on the streets Monday night, with a pizza break courtesy of Dominos, Pizza Hut, and Café Rio; water from Walmart and cinnamon twists from Realtor Jennie Dorgan.

Several calls came in about people walking around property with flashlights and the public had to be reassured about the motives of the teams checking for leaks and looking at meters, he said. He also thanked Lincoln County Manager Tom Stewart for attending emergency meetings and volunteering county personnel to help.

Emergency Services Director Travis Atwell and Coordinator Joe Kenmore brought in 4-wheelers to reach some homes where road access was a problem, the mayor said.

The Emergency Operation Center can be reached at 575-257-4116 or 575-630-0204.

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HEALTH & LIFESTYLE

Mayor Alborn proclaims 2011 'The year for health'

ANDREA REED
LCCHC Coordinator

On Jan. 25, the Village of Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn proclaimed 2011 "The Year for Health."

The goal of the proclamation is to place "health" as a priority for the new year as organizations and institutions begin shaping their 2011 goals and activities.

The proclamation, initiated by the Lincoln County Community Health Council (LCCHC), recognizes health and wellness as a priority for maintaining the quality of life of Ruidoso residents and visitors and recognizes it takes leadership to promote healthy change.

Defined in the proclamation are the components of health which are made up of emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual wellness for all ages, races, genders and financial classes.

Ruidoso is experiencing an increase in leadership through joint efforts supporting physical wellness.

One event includes the LCCHC's annual Fitness Challenge which began

January 24.

The challenge, which partners with health agencies such as the Ruidoso Athletic Club (RAC), Ruidoso Physical Therapy Clinic, and the Community Youth Warehouse is a seven-week contest encouraging area residents to engage in healthy activities.

These include eating their recommended fruits and vegetables, watching less television and computer time, getting their daily hour of fitness and lessening their sugar, alcohol and tobacco intake.

Groups of support

Events such as the Ruidoso Sprint Triathlon & Kids Triathlon on June 11, as well as efforts by the Ruidoso Trails Coalition to promote hiking and mountain biking, is a great way to utilize resources and promote healthy lifestyles that benefits physical health.

That will potentially contribute to the areas financial health as well.

Another organization taking leadership in promoting health is the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce who is organizing the Mountain Wellness

Experience.

This event, spearheaded by Georgia Underwood, will take place July 28-30.

It will work similar to the Art Loop in which residents and visitors will have the opportunity to tour traditional and non-traditional health resources in the county.

This will contribute to the physical and emotional wellbeing of area residents and visitors and add to the areas financial wellbeing by promoting the area as a health and healing destination.

Several agencies have taken the initiative to promote environmental wellness by creating recycling programs, conservation and renewable energy.

These organizations include ENMU, EcoServants, the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Lincoln County Renewable Energy Initiative.

Also important to our health is our ability to socialize which allows people to build their capacity for intimacy and cultivate a support system of family and friends.

This is a priority for the LCCHC who is working to promote "family stabilization."



Participants in the Fitness Challenge take part in a group stretch before a Goal Setting Workshop intended to give participants tools for success in creating healthy habits.

tion."

The LCCHC believes that if we had stronger, healthier families, we would avoid other issues such as suicide, substance abuse and family violence.

Many groups contribute to the spiritual wellbeing of Ruidoso such as the numerous church and spiritual

organizations that add a sense of joy and belonging and promote caring for loved ones and those in need.

These agencies fill a role that gives area residents a sense of meaning and purpose and takes care of a portion of the population that is without.

With the proclamation in mind, the LCCHC is encouraging other agencies, organizations, employers and institutions to consider health a priority and implement health as a component of their mission. It is by sharing in a mission of community health that we will find success together.

Living life to the max in an uncluttered environment

Barbara Tako is the author of *Clutter Clearing Choices* (O-Books), an exceptionally motivating and witty book that is filled with great advice on how to get organized.

At this time of the year it is especially helpful as many of us get ready to switch out winter clothes for spring and summer ones, but no matter what time of the year - Tako has it seasonally organized to make our lives easier; clearing out at the end of the year for goal setting in January, organizing papers at tax time, and so on. Realizing that we are all

unique, she offers many choices for readers to pick from.

Tako is no stranger to audiences and is well-recognized by corporate giants, such as 3M, Medtronic, Target and Securian, who use her expert speaking skills and her humorous, common sense advice to help their employees take control of their lives - knowing that a cluttered worker is rarely as productive as an organized one.

She reinforces that "feel good factor" that comes from donating cast-offs and helping someone else

out. We can all relate to how clutter develops a life of its own and Tako's entertaining writing style offers readers motivating ways to 'take their life back' and pick which mode of de-cluttering works best for them.

Not nearly so organized in her earlier years, Tako believes she could have been related to Oscar in "The Odd Couple." She kept everything forever, believing that "you never know when you might need it." She credits her "so-clean-you-could-eat-off-the-floor" mother-in-law with her metamorphosis.

Witnessing time and

time again the boundless energy this amazing woman always had for family and friends was an inspiration for Tako to get organized in order to do the same.

Clutter Clearing Choices is a humorous, authentic, entertaining, and informative book on clutter clearing, home organizing, and simple living.

A former columnist, television and radio guest, and writer, Tako has definitely done her part to give us the tools to simplify and reclaim our lives - and it's all wrapped up in a hilarious and amazing little book.

This entertaining writer hopes that by making readers more organized, they will take more time for themselves and their health.

Tako is currently undergoing chemotherapy and radiation for breast cancer and has taken on the role of advocate, never missing an opportunity to encourage women to get regular mammograms.

She is donating a portion of the proceeds from book sales to cancer awareness and research. Visit this inspiring woman on her website at www.clutterclearingchoices.com

Diabetic Cooking

A free Cooking School for diabetics, their families or caregivers is being offered March 10, 17, 31 and April 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m. The course, presented by Lincoln County Home Economist Marsha Palmer and Registered Dietitian Carolyn Felder, will include preparation and sampling of meals, recipes, resource notebook and cookbook.

Attendance is required at all four classes and space is limited in the Culinary Arts classroom at Ruidoso High School. To register, call the Lincoln County Extension office at 575-648-2311.


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FRIDAY, VO FROM PA motion intend years a Second the cor ap-pro membe For meetin atgly was ag with p topic. But meetin returni board Gladde extend dent's 2013 a 2011 A st Rhond TE FROM PA she asl gate ho in Ruid and re the el tered b residen when must a reside. "Alt ions) I or, one have o cial ele approv believe our sta and thi allowed danger future." She interve vate cit limited sons, sh of, any offered contact are con ation. Sanc falls un State, Chairm Jan. 2 receipt against Pro lin J ikalve EA pipelin from drainag New M Fe Riv Fe Cou middle has bee "Berr matted years Mexico Engine are-fee than 2 ally, fr Summe 150 mil The dent, R had sa good Summe needed water t that di water t ulation In reques Mexico John l applica overbr

VOTE

FROM PAGE 1A

motion to extend the superintendent's contract for two years at the current salary. Seconded by Frank Sayner, the contract extension was approved by all five board members.

For the Jan. 11, 2011 meeting, the item immediately before adjournment was again a closed session, with personnel listed as a topic.

But the minutes of the meeting indicated after returning to open session, board member Kerry Madden Eastep moved to extend the superintendent's contract through 2013 at the current salary. A second was made by Honda Vincent and the

motion was unanimously approved.

At Tuesday's meeting, when reaching the action item called "Approval to ratify previous actions of board taken in the absence of proper notice," Eastep expounded by reading from a paper:

"During the January 12, 2010 and the January 11, 2011 board meetings, appropriate notice was provided that the board would discuss a personnel matter in closed session," Eastep said. "Pursuant to the open meetings act, the board did not take action in either the 2010 or 2011 meetings. The board inadvertently failed to provide notice that it would be taking action on the personnel matter that was discussed in closed ses-

"There's no way for the public to know what they were going to vote on unless you did your own inquiry, did a lot of legwork. That's a major responsibility [the board] has."

sion for either the 2010 or 2011 board meetings, specifically the extension of the superintendent's contract. Upon reconvening in open session after the Jan. 12, 2010 board meeting, the board took action to extend the superintendent's contract through 2012 at the same salary as the existing contract. And by appropriate motion, second and unanimous vote, the board extended the superintendent's contract through 2012. Upon reconvening in open session after

the January 11, 2011 board meeting, the board took action to extend the superintendent's contract through 2013 at the same salary as the existing contract. And by appropriate motion, second and unanimous vote, the board extended the superintendent's contract through 2013. I move to ratify the actions taken in open session at the January 12, 2010 board meeting regarding the extension of the superintendent's contract through 2012 at the

same salary as requested in the superintendent's then existing contract. And at the January 11, 2011 board meeting, regarding the extension of the superintendent's contract, through 2013, at the same salary as was requested in the superintendent's existing contract."

The motion was seconded by Frank Sayner and was supported by the entire school board.

Welsh said the board's agenda needed to avoid

being vague.

"That's what they're supposed to avoid. They're supposed to be reasonable specific. There's no way for the public to know what they were going to vote on unless you did your own inquiry, did a lot of legwork."

Welsh said the procedures put in question the contract extensions. She noted hiring and retaining a superintendent is one of the most important duties of school boards in New Mexico.

"It not just like the routine consent agenda. That's a major responsibility they have."

Board President Susan Lutterman said the ratification procedure was spelled out by legal counsel.

A Ruidoso News exclusive

TRACK

FROM PAGE 1A

He asked King to investigate home owners, who live in Ruidoso only seasonally and registered to vote in the election, then registered back at their full time residences. She noted that when registering, they must attest to "an intent to reside."

"Although many (actions) I believe were illegal, unethical, none would have occurred, if this special election had not been approved," she wrote. "I believe that the integrity of our state elections is at risk and this special election, if allowed to stand, will set a dangerous precedent in the future."

She asked his office to intervene, because as a private citizens her access is limited. For privacy reasons, she did not list names of anyone involved, but offered to supply them if contacted. She said people are concerned about retaliation.

Sanchez, whose division falls under the Secretary of State, wrote Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo on Jan. 28, acknowledging receipt of the complaint against the commission

and enclosing the documentation supplied. She listed the various state statutes with which entities must comply to conduct an election.

For her office to determine if any of the actions violate statutes, the county should provide a written response within 20 days, she wrote.

If any of the referenced laws appear to have been broken, the complaint will be turned over to the attorney general.

"As a side note, our Bureau of Elections Director Bobbi Shearer is a resident of Lincoln County and voted in the referenced election," Sanchez wrote.

"As such, she has elected to remove herself from involvement in this investigation to avoid any conflict of interest."

The investigation will be handled by Chief of Staff Ken Ortiz.

County Manager Tom Stewart's reply Feb. 3, was concise.

"To the best of our knowledge, in the conduct of this election, the Board of County Commissioners committed no illegalities," he responded. "If there were instances of voter fraud, they were done without the knowledge or approval of (the commis-



Minter: "Although many actions I believe were illegal or unethical, none would have occurred if this special election had not been approved. This special election, if allowed to stand, will set a dangerous precedent for the future."

sion). With regard to the PAC, this organization reimbursed the county for the conduct of the election and no law could be found to preclude this reimbursement. Additionally, the complainant states that she has information she will only provide to your

investigators." Stewart requested Sanchez conduct whatever further investigation she deemed appropriate and local officials will cooperate with the efforts of her office.

The debate over passage of the 3/16th of one cent

GRT divided residents of the county, especially the village of Ruidoso. Those in favor argued the casino and track could not compete with Indian gaming, which is taxed much lower, and without the support, the racino might move and economically damage the community.

During the five-year life of the tax, the county would have time to seek other industries and businesses, and the track owner also

could look for ways to improve his business.

Those against contended the track/casino owner is a wealthy man and knew the financial risks, that a move was unlikely because of the hurdles involved, that public money should not be used to support private enterprise and that the community needed to develop more economic diversity and reduce its dependence on the track and casino.

Proposed Pecos Valley Pipeline to Santa Fe denied

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A proposed private pipeline, to transport water from the Pecos River drainage area in eastern New Mexico to the Santa Fe River for use in Santa Fe County and cities in the Middle Rio Grande area, has been denied.

Berrendo LLC had submitted an application two years ago with the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer to move 6,600 acre-feet of water, or more than 2 billion gallons annually, from wells near Fort Sumner through an about 30 miles of pipeline.

The company's president, Ron Green of Roswell, said the plan was a good deal for the Fort Sumner area and was needed to provide drinking water to parts of the state that do not have enough water to sustain their population growths.

In turning down the request Tuesday, New Mexico State Engineer John D'Antonio said the application was "vague and verbroad," and he was

compelled to deny it.

"While I appreciate the applicant's vision to augment water supplies to the fastest growing area of the state, this application lacked specificity in a number of key areas making it difficult to evaluate impairment or whether granting it would be contrary to conservation or detrimental to the public welfare," D'Antonio said.

The application had been protested by Chaves County and other communities in southeastern New Mexico, as well as the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission, the State Land Commissioner, and the Bureau of Reclamation and others.

Those against the pipeline argued the draw-down of water could impact individual wells and would have an adverse impact on agriculture in the area. Other objections were that it could negatively impact the habitat of the federally protected Bluntnose Shiner that lives in the Pecos River north of Roswell.

The decision can be appealed by Berrendo LLC.

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ROUNDHOUSE ROUNDUP

Bill would require specialty training for police in dealing with the mentally ill

MILAN SIMONICH
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — One former soldier's short life and violent death have ignited a political debate about how well police officers are trained to deal with mentally ill people.

Kenneth Ellis III served as an Army infantryman in the Iraq war. He later became an adversary of police in Albuquerque, where he held a handgun and threatened officers outside a convenience store in January 2010.

A policeman shot and killed Ellis after he stepped out of his vehicle, gun still in hand.

Ellis had drug problems, and officers previously had served him with a warrant on a narcotics charge.

After his death at age 25, police learned he also had post-traumatic stress disorder.

Relatives said Ellis was wounded in an explosion that killed his closest friend in the Army.

Months after Ellis' death, a grand jury ruled that the police shooting was justified. Officers called what happened "suicide by cop."

At least two state legis-

lators, though, wonder if Ellis' life had to end that way.

Rep. Edward Sandoval, D-Albuquerque, and Sen. David Ulibarri, D-Grants, are sponsoring a bill that would mandate 40 more hours of specialized training for every certified police officer in New Mexico.

They want officers to develop skills to "effectively interact with people suffering from mental impairments."

These might include autism, schizophrenia and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Police officers, under pressure and dealing in milliseconds, would benefit from more training, said the former soldier's father, also named Kenneth Ellis.

"It is a travesty that my son served his country in war and came back here and was killed. This bill is for law enforcement, but civilians are the ones who will benefit most from it," he said.

Richard Williams, police chief of Las Cruces, said his department already has developed a 40-hour crisis intervention training program in addition to what officers go through in the academy.

Many departments are doing this type of additional training already, he said.

"Is it a good thing for law enforcement? Sure, anytime we can de-escalate a potentially violent situation it is good for everybody."

He said about one-third of fatal shootings by police are similar to the one in which Ellis died.

Rep. Dennis Kintigh, a retired FBI agent and former interim police chief of Roswell, criticized the bill during an emotional committee hearing this week.

"I was over the top," Kintigh, R-Roswell, said Wednesday in an interview.

"My frustration was that people were crafting a solution with zero input from law enforcement."

He said he thought the bill had great potential to help people, provided that training programs were put in place with the expertise of police.

Instead, he said, the sponsors had relied only on people with experience in mental health treatment and advocates for military veterans.

"It's not a bad idea, but it stands to reason that law enforcement should be

included," Kintigh said.

Ulibarri said Ellis' tragic story motivated him to cosponsor the bill.

The measure is HB 93, but he prefers to call it the Kenneth Ellis III bill.

It cleared the House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee, despite concerns from Kintigh. The bill's next stop is the House Judiciary Committee.

Ulibarri said the bill's intent is to help police defuse those confrontations whenever possible.

"We're not trying to compromise their safety," he said in an interview. Rather, he said, more and better training might save lives and keep the peace.

Kintigh said he wanted police involved because the best of them already stop many ugly confrontations from escalating to violence.

"Truthfully, there's another aspect here — maturity," he said. "Often-times experienced officers can make a better judgment."

Santa Fe Bureau Chief Milan Simonich can be reached at msimonich@tmnnp.com or 505-820-6898. His blog is at <http://elpasotimes.typepad.com/newmexico>.

Governor says to push the challenged students

MILAN SIMONICH
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — Teachers must demand more from students who at the bottom of their class, Gov. Susana Martinez said Tuesday.

In a speech to both houses of the state Legislature on Hispanic Culture Day, Martinez said expectations are higher than ever, and they should extend to every student.

She told of growing up in a home of modest means and deciding that her drive, not her skin color, would determine how far she went.

Now Martinez is the nation's first Hispanic female governor and a source of inspiration, said House Speaker Ben Lujan, D-Santa Fe.

Martinez, 51, said today's students must be challenged by teachers reach higher and do better. This, she said, is especially important in motivating those in the bottom quarter of their class.

"We should strive to inspire the future generations through our work ethic and determination to do what's right, so that they can make their own discoveries and leave their own imprints on history," she said.

But for this to happen, she said, New Mexico must reform its school system.

Specifically, teachers and the rest of a school's staff must be more aggressive in intervening to help students before they fall so far behind that they lose hope.

"By focusing our time and resources on students who are performing at the bottom 25 percent of their classes, we'll equip them to master the basics," Martinez said.

These students also must embrace learning by staying after school for academic help and by attending summer school for remedial instruction, she said.

Martinez promised that the state would provide additional teacher support and training to make sure that students who need the most help get it.

Otherwise, she said, children who cannot read well in the early grades will continue to falter as classes get more advanced. Those kids, she said, frequently become dropouts without much of a chance at a happy, fulfilling life.

The reformed New Mexico education system must give every student the help he or she needs to graduate from high school and go on to college or the workforce, Martinez said.

This, Martinez said, means "giving them what our parents and grandparents dreamed for us — opportunity."

Former astronaut withdraws as cabinet nominee

MILAN SIMONICH
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — Former U.S. astronaut Harrison Schmitt tonight withdrew his nomination for a cabinet position under Gov.

Susana Martinez.

Schmitt, 75, refused to undergo a mandatory background investigation.

The state senators said they would not confirm him on that basis.

Martinez said his

refusal left her no option but to withdraw his nomination for the \$105,000-a-year job as secretary of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department.

Schmitt did not respond

to requests for comment.

He has a Ph.D. in Geology from Harvard, walked on the moon in 1972 as part of the Apollo 17 mission, and was a one-term U.S. Senator from New Mexico.

Calling 911 for domestic violence help encouraged

MILAN SIMONICH
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — Every victim of domestic violence must call 911 for help, even if she is in the country illegally, Gov. Susana Martinez said Thursday.

A dozen Democratic legislators last week criticized Martinez for her executive order mandating that state police question suspects about their immigration status.

They said this could discourage women from seeking help in abuse cases.

Martinez never mentioned her order or her critics during a 10-minute speech before the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

She emphasized that she wanted victims to seek immediate help, and said they have no fear of retribution from police or other parts of the government.

"We want everyone to pick up that phone," Martinez said.

State Rep. Moe Maestas, who prosecuted domestic violence cases for five

years, was among the legislators who said the governor's executive order could dissuade victims from seeking help.

Maestas, D-Albuquerque, also spoke to the coalition Thursday. He did not revive his criticism of Martinez as she sat nearby.

But Maestas previously denounced Martinez's executive order.

In domestic violence cases, Maestas said, both people can be suspects as police sort out what happened.

This means Martinez's order to question suspects about citizenship could cause a victim may risk her safety instead of calling for help, he said.

Martinez, in her speech and in another part of her executive order, said victims and witnesses to crimes would get help from government.

Her order stated that victims and witnesses should have access to the justice system "without fear of deportation or other immigration consequences."

Background checks for EMTs

MILAN SIMONICH
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — A bill that would require criminal background checks for paramedics and emergency medical technicians cleared another hurdle Tuesday.

Members of the Senate Public Affairs Committee passed the measure, the second committee to endorse it.

The sponsor, Sen. Sander Rue, R-Albuquerque, said in an interview that he was optimistic it would become law. His bill would require appli-

cants and license holders under the Emergency Medical Services Act to submit to a national criminal background check.

They would have to pay for the investigation and fingerprinting, but the fee could not exceed \$75, according to Rue's bill.

He said he decided to push the measure because of a case in which an EMT from the Albuquerque area got into trouble elsewhere, and police discovered he already had a criminal record.

Rue's proposal is SB 116.



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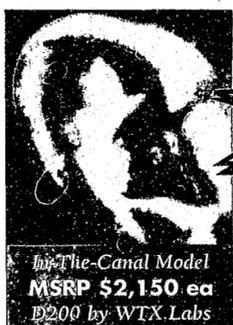
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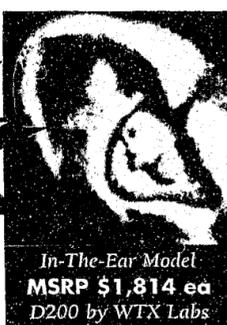
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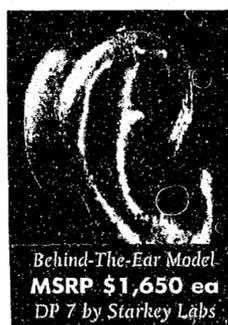
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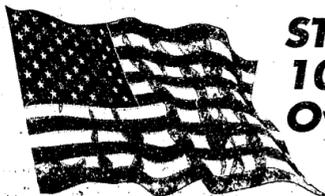
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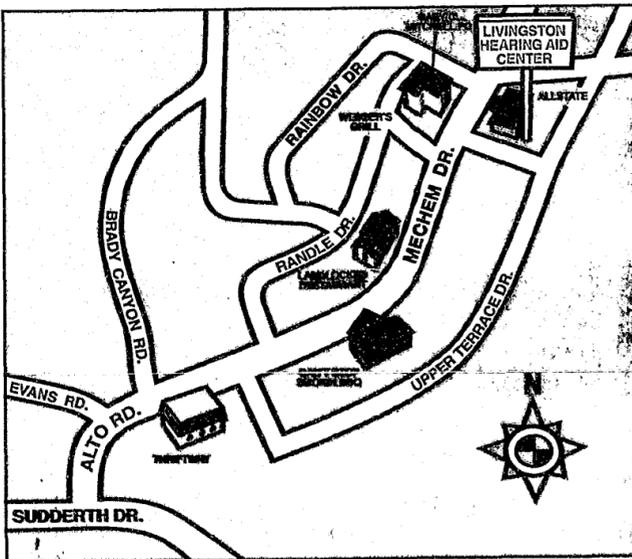


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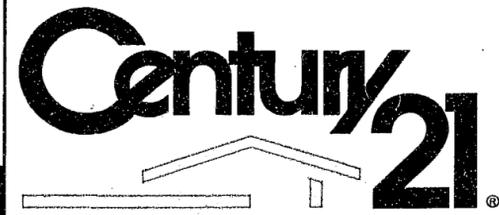
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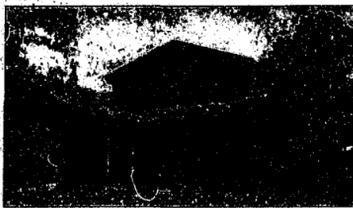


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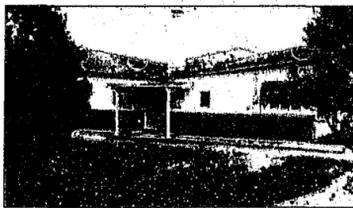
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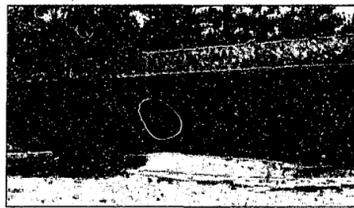
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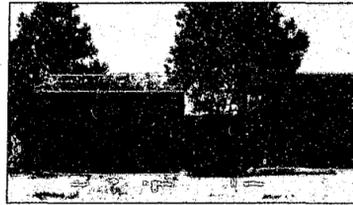
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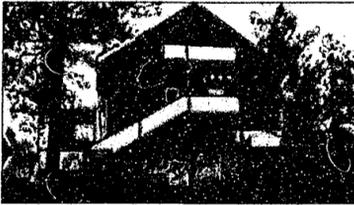
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GREAT VIEWS - PRISTINE CONDO Top of Ruidoso w/Views of Mescalero Lake & Sierra Blanca from decks. Turkey & deer abound in these quiet mountain woods. Only mins from town. Pristine condition - 2 FPs, new paint, living area floors, counter tops. \$244,500. #107347



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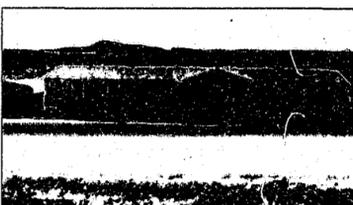
TOWN HOME WITH VIEWS Remodeled town home, 3/2 + bonus room. 4-Decks, FP, fully furnished. No assoc dues. Storage shed 10'x16'. Elevator (outside), great full time or rental property. Has new exterior paint. \$169,900. #105316



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RUSTIC CABIN IN THE WOODS Hardwood floors, huge lot, plenty of light & 2 car garage tool 2 Br with office. Home is being sold on a short sale. \$139,900. #107317



COOL CABIN - FABULOUS VIEWS Sierra Blanca views - huge beams - unique & lots of potential - 2 huge moss rock fireplaces - neat location@Sierra Vista. Cast iron cook stove - shop/garage - gazebo with BBQ. Original owner/builder. \$139,900. #107781



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SPORTS

FRIDAY, FEB. 11, 2011

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PAGE 1B

side
line

Ski Report

Ski Apache
The snow resort is open daily 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. You may call 464-1234 for the latest ski report and information. The ski report is culled from www.skiapachesnowreport.com
Tickets: Season passes are normally available by phone at 464-3600.
Snow past 48 hours: 1 inch
Season total: 56 inches
Mid-mountain snow: 40 inches
Snow surface: Packed powder
Snowmaking: No
Weather for Friday: Mainly sunny. High 44F. Winds WNW at 5 to 10 mph. Friday evening, clear. Low 26F. Winds W at 5 to 10 mph.
Weather for Saturday: Sunshine. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the mid 30s.
Groomed runs: Bunny, Easy Street, Ramp, Lower Deep Freeze, Top Notch, Capitan Lite, Lower Moonshine, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Chino, Wild Onion, Screaming Eagle, Gondola Lift Line, Moonshine Gulch, SBT, Bull Run, Game Trail, part of Apache Bowl, Elk Ridge and Buckhorn Game Trail.
Lifts open: No. 1, No. 2 No. 3, No. 4, No. 5 and No. 8. Gondola open, weather permitting

Results

Boys basketball
Wednesday, Feb. 9
Capitan 73, Mescalero 58
Tuesday, Feb. 8
Hondo 68, Carrizozo 63

Girls basketball
Wednesday, Feb. 9
Mescalero 54, Capitan 50
Tuesday, Feb. 8
Carrizozo 55, Hondo 40

Sports On Tap

Basketball
Girls
Friday, Feb. 11
Gateway at Mescalero, 7 p.m.
Capitan at Hagerman, 5 p.m.
Carrizozo at Quemado, 5 p.m.
Lovington at Ruidoso, 5:30 p.m.
Fort Sumner at Hondo, 5 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 12
Carrizozo at Reserve, 3 p.m.
Portales at Ruidoso, 5:30 p.m., main gym
Monday, Feb. 14
Hagerman at Mescalero, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 15
Mescalero at Hagerman, 5:30 p.m.
Capitan at Gateway, 5 p.m.
Vaughn at Corona, 5 p.m.
Boys
Friday, Feb. 11
Gateway at Mescalero, 5:30 p.m.
Capitan at Hagerman, 7 p.m.
Carrizozo at Quemado, 7 p.m.
Lovington at Ruidoso, 7 p.m.
Fort Sumner at Hondo, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 12
Carrizozo at Reserve, 5 p.m.
Portales at Ruidoso, 7 p.m., main gym
Monday, Feb. 14
Hagerman at Mescalero, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 15
Mescalero at Hagerman, 7 p.m.
Capitan at Gateway, 7 p.m.
Vaughn at Corona, 7 p.m.

On Deck

Little League Baseball
Registration for Ruidoso Little League Baseball will take place Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Community Youth Center Warehouse, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For information contact Brian Mosher at 937-8749.

Gun Club Meeting

Ruidoso Gun Club will be holding an annual general meeting at the gun range Feb. 27, at 2 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is twofold: To bring the membership up to date on the issues concerning the lease with the Forest Service which will include the Forest Service requirements of an Environmental Stewardship Program and the plan to meet those requirements. The reason to hold the meeting at the range is to show the membership the areas requiring work and with a cost estimate of the dirt work needed to meet the lease agreement with the Forest Service. Election for officers of the Gun Club will be held. Nominations can be made at the meeting. Elected officers will take their positions in March. If you have a topic for discussion it may be included by emailing aclontz@me.com. Please attend if you can. The environmental stewardship program is key to maintaining the Club lease.

Tigers, Chiefs rivalry lingers

After two tough hoops wars on Monday all four teams battled again Wednesday

MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

The Capitan/Mescalero basketball series is fast developing into a highly competitive intra-district rivalry between the girls and boys from each school.

Monday the four teams faced off against each other in Capitan with the Tigers squeezing out a 51-50 victory while the Capitan girls dominated the Lady Chiefs, 46-34.

Wednesday's games at Mescalero were no less interesting as the Tigers controlled the contest 73-58, while the Lady Chiefs revenged themselves from Monday, 54-50.

Boys

The key to the Capitan victory was the first half of action as the Tigers rolled

out to a 19-10 lead going into the second quarter and led 36-20 as both teams hit the locker rooms at the half.

The Chiefs tried to mount a comeback in the last eight minutes of play, outscoring the Tigers, 25-16, but by that time the die was cast and Capitan won by 15.

"We played better than we did Monday," Capitan head coach Johnny Carson said.

"In fact, the game at Mescalero was probably the best complete game we've played this season."

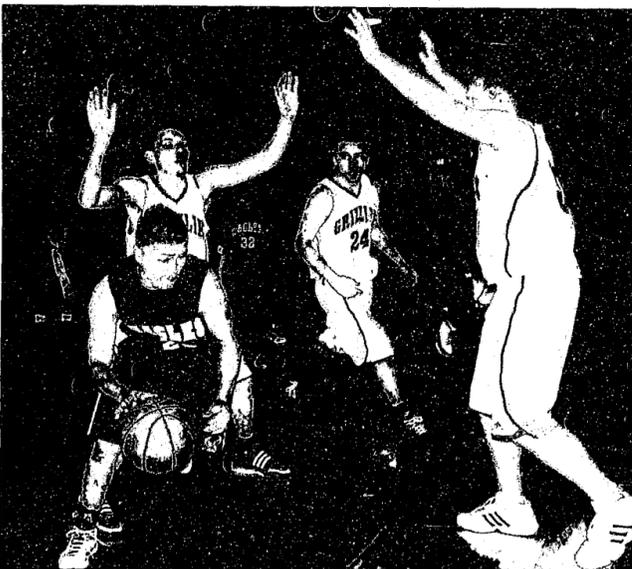
In double-digits for the Tigers, Dustin Blowers was the night's high scorer with 21, including four 3-pointers, followed by Rudy Chavez with 14 and Chris Pine with 10.



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

See RIVALS, page 2B

Capitan's Strait Sedillo, right, tangles with Mescalero's Godfrey Cordova in the Tigers' 73-58 win.



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Hondo's Christian Guillen tries to get around Zozo's Mark Vigil (behind him), Marshall Ventura (No. 24) and Wade Sultermeier.



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Zozo's Sarah Ferguson goes for a steal in the Grizzlies' 55-40 win over Hondo.

Carrizozo, Hondo teams split

MIKE CURRAN
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

Hondo traveled to Carrizozo Tuesday evening with the boys and girls teams splitting, as the Eagles outlasted the Grizzlies, 68-63, and the Carrizozo girls suppressed the Lady Eagles,

55-40, in tough non-district clashes.

Girls

The Lady Grizzlies increased their overall winning record to 12-5 (0-0 in district), while the Hondo girls go to 12-8 and 2-0 in district.

The Carrizozo girls

established an early dominance as they rushed out to a 13-6 lead going into the second quarter.

They continued their double-digit-per-quarter scoring ways with 10 in the second period of play as both teams went to the locker rooms with the Lady Grizzlies on top, 23-13.

The Hondo girls could only muster nine points in the third eight minutes of action but the hometown girls dumped in 16 to take a 17-point advantage going into the last quarter.

The Lady grizzlies equaled their third quarter output as the Lady Eagles finally came alive and put

18 points on the scoreboard but it was too little, too late and Carrizozo took a 15-point victory for their ninth win in a row.

"The Lady Grizzlies were relentless on defense," Carrizozo head coach Billy

See SPLIT, page 2B

Title holder hungry for more

JASON GROVES
Las Cruces Sun-News

LAS CRUCES - Austin Trout stalks his opponent from the other end of the ring.

In the next instant, Trout is on his knees taking shots to the body and covering his head to protect himself.

On this day, less than 24 hours after returning to his native Las Cruces as the 154-pound WBA champion of the world, the opponent was 3-year-old Elijah Trout-Guzman at a Doña Ana



NORM DETTLAUF/SUN-NEWS

Las Cruces resident Austin Trout is the new World Boxing Association super welterweight world champion.

See BOXER, page 2B

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-Joseph A. Zagone

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RIVALS

FROM PAGE 1B

Mescalero junior Godfrey Cordova dumped in 20. The Tigers continue their impressive winning ways with an 11-5 overall record and remain undefeated in district action at 2-0.

Their big test will come Friday at Hagerman at 7 p.m.

Mescalero's loss Wednesday now puts them at 5-15 and 1-5.

The Chiefs will battle district rival Gateway at

home Friday at 7 p.m.

Girls

Admittedly, the Lady Tigers hung close to the Mescalero girls the entire game but they only outscored the Lady Chiefs in the last quarter, 15-12. Mescalero grabbed the first-quarter lead, 12-9, and increased their advantage at the half, 29-22.

Both teams fought to a 13-13 standstill in the third.

In the last quarter the Lady Tigers needed to score eight more than Mescalero but could only muster a three-point advantage and lost the contest by four.

Mescalero's Valerie Garcia was the night's high scorer with 19, M'Linn Hanks dumped in 11 and Deandra Balatche hit double-digits with 10.

Three Lady Tigers hit doubles as Jamie Fields pumped in 17, Kaitlin Keaton chipped in 13 and Scheryiah Romero added 10.

The Lady Chiefs now go to 12-9 overall and improve their district record to 1-1. They will face district foe Gateway Friday at 5 p.m.

The Capitan girls are currently 7-9 and 1-1. District rival Hagerman will be their next battle Friday at 5:30 p.m.



Kaitlin Keaton, right, and Valerie Garcia came together hard with 17 seconds left in the game. Both players are reportedly OK.



Chris Pino, left, Rudy Chavez, No. 20, Logan Eshom, No. 3, Jaylynn Balatche, No. 35, Eric Pena, No. 31, and Dustin Blowers, No. 15, head for the ball.

SPLIT

FROM PAGE 1B

Page said.

"They press each other defensively and that has been a key factor in our wins this year. I hope we're peaking at the right time. We don't take anyone for granted. We just try to take it eight minutes at a time."

Foul problems played a factor in the girls game.

"The Hondo girls played well but got into foul trouble almost initially," Hondo head coach Brad Holland

said. "The Lady Grizzlies got ahead early-on and that was that."

Four Carrizozo players hit double-digits as Kristi Gensler struck for 15, Stephanie Zamora and Kelly Gensler each dumped in 12 and Shelly Gensler chipped in 11. Seven-of-11 'Zozo players scored.

For Hondo, only Felicia Chavez hit the "doubles" mark with 10 but eight-of-14 players put points on the board.

Boys

The Eagles grabbed their biggest lead of the

entire game when they jumped out to a 19-12 first-quarter lead.

The Grizzlies intensified their output in the second eight minutes of action by outdoing their Hondo rivals 21-16 and both teams went to the locker rooms at the half with the Eagles only up by two, 35-33.

When the Eagles hit the floor in the third quarter they maintained their poise, pumped in 15 points to 'Zozo's 12 and coasted into the last period of play with a 50-45 advantage.

In the last eight minutes of floor action both squads

dumped in 18 and the visitors came away with the five-point win.

"The Eagles shot well in the first half," Holland said. "The boys made 19-of-23 free throws (Luis Mantaño was nine-out-of-10). Without that we might not have left Carrizozo with a win. It was a good ballgame."

As in the girls game, foul problems were a concern but this time it was Carrizozo's turn to re-load.

"The Grizzlies played a fairly solid game," Page said. "One of our leading scorers, Mark Vigil, fouled

out in the third quarter but Tavi Nash and Wade Sultemeier stepped up and took control of the situation. Eight-grader, Josh Ventura, came off the bench and scored eight points."

For the Eagles, four players hit doubles as Mantaño reached a game-high with 22, Adrian Vasquez and Christian Guillen each dumped in 11 and eighth-grader, Billy Candelaria, contributed 10 to the cause. Six-of-13 Hondo players scored.

The Grizzlies had two players hit doubles as Nash

and Sultemeier each put 18 on the scoreboard. Seven-of-11 Grizzlies scored.

Hondo will have played a D3-B clash at Corona Thursday and will entertain district rival Fort Sumner Friday.

The girls will play at 5 p.m. and the boys will start at 6:30 p.m.

The Carrizozo squads will see their first D4-B battle at Quemado Friday with the girls starting at 5 p.m. and the boys at 7 p.m.

The following day Carrizozo journey's to district rival Reserve for 3 and 5 p.m. games.

BOXER

FROM PAGE 1B

gym.

As a professional boxer, Trout hasn't been knocked to the canvas in 22 fights.

The 25-year-old defeated Mexican fighter Rigoberto Alvarez on Saturday in Guadalajara, Mexico.

It was his first fight in nearly two years - a period in which Trout could not provide for Elijah or his other two children.

"I was desperate to fight," Trout said.

"There were times where I felt like taking a dummy fight or a dummy deal, which would have been a desperate move but I was never that desperate.

"It was strenuous and

very mind exhausting. I didn't believe the fight was going to happen.

"I didn't think it was going to happen until we got to Guadalajara."

"When you are in the boxing business, you have to love it," said Louie Burke, Trout's trainer. "When you aren't in there fighting, you get depressed and frustrated."

"People think that being in the ring is the hardest part. The hardest part is the politics."

After beating Taronze Washington in November of 2009 for the WBC Continental Americas crown, Trout became the top contender to Miguel Cotto's title. But Cotto soon was moved up to the newly created Super division, diluting the talent pool even more

and adding yet another belt.

Trout was first slated to fight Japanese fighter Nobuhiro Ishida for the interim belt with hopes that a fight with Cotto would be on the horizon. Then Trout was on hand as Cotto defeated Yuri Foreman before vacating the 'regular' title and wiping out the possibility of a fight against Cotto anytime soon.

"Now he's a mandatory for Cotto, but a guy like Cotto would likely give up a belt rather than fight a guy like Austin at this point," said Chris Cozzone, who covers boxing in New Mexico for fightnews.com and is working on a book on the history of New Mexico boxing.

"He is going to have to get a couple of big fights to prove to Cotto that he is a guy the

networks would pay to make happen."

While prepping for a fight with Ishida, Golden Boy Promotions stepped in, promising a bigger show with television money if Trout would step aside and await the winner of an Alvarez/Ishida bout.

"Golden Boy never came through with the big show," Burke said. "The money turned out to be what it was because Austin went to Guadalajara (Alvarez's hometown)."

"Taking a fight against a lesser opponent would have meant losing his mandatory title shot as the No. 1 contender."

"That's his livelihood," Burke said.

"If he had taken a fight, he would have lost the mandatory position and in reality, probably wouldn't have gotten a world title shot for another two or three years. Life gets desperate because you want to provide for your family."

Trout put the construction of his own legacy on hold to benefit others while picking up a nice paycheck at the same time.

Trout sparred with WBC 160-pound champion Sergio Martinez and Antonio Margarito.

"Going to those camps helped me a lot," Trout said. "My managers helped me a lot. I was just grinding. It wasn't easy."

The Alvarez win did just as much for Trout's career as it did his pocketbook.

"It wasn't a lot of money, but with this purse, he was

able to pay everyone what was loaned to him for the last year," Burke said.

Saturday's unanimous decision victory should lead Trout to bigger and better things.

"It's opened up all the doors," Burke said. "We couldn't get him any fights but now with a title, all of these names are starting to come up."

"He makes it look easier than it is, but he has always fought tough guys, maybe a level below, but now everyone he faces will be world class."

Trout rattles off potential opponents as if he's working the speed bag in the gym.

While the possibilities are as endless as they are exciting for Trout's camp, one thing is certain.

"Give me a couple weeks off and then get back at it," Trout said. "Forget a lay off. I did that already. I'm glad I could shake that rust off with this fight. Now I want to keep getting sharper and sharper."

The most intriguing opponent would be WBC No. 1 contender Julio Cesar Chavez, Jr.

"He has Top Rank (promotions) behind him and it's a big promotional company but I don't think he's anything special, which is why they have given him the opponents they have," Trout said.

Saul Alvarez, Rigoberto's younger brother and the WBC's top contender at 154 pounds is another name out there. Saul Alvarez has already vowed revenge for

his brother's loss publicly.

Pondering such matchups shows that Trout made the right decision when playing the waiting game. The WBA belt is sure to attract the fighters Trout has been training for his whole life.

"Now they have a reason to fight me," Trout said. "Before, it was taking a big risk."

While Trout's reputation on a national level is just starting, he became just the fourth world champion from New Mexico. Trout joined Bob Foster, Danny Romero, and Johnny Tapia as New Mexico-born world champions.

But with the advent of the super division, as well as the four most recognizable belts, a world title does not mean what it used to.

With young Albuquerque prospects on the horizon, as well as Trout's peers from Las Cruces, perhaps he has also opened doors for other boxers in the state.

"World titles mean less every decade, but the fact is, that Austin is just starting out," Cozzone said. "He did have a relatively easy time getting a title fight, but on the other hand this is the beginning and if he is going to be around for awhile, he could get several title fights. He could get more than Danny or Johnny did."

"It's big for New Mexico because there hasn't been anybody of this caliber since Danny and Johnny. It could be the beginning of a mini Golden Age for New Mexico."

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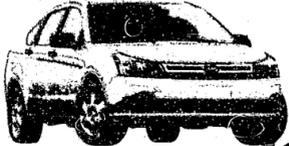
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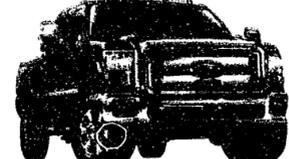
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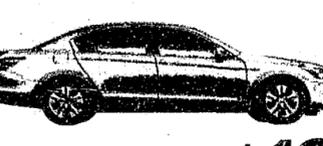
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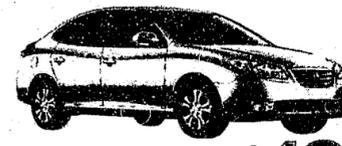
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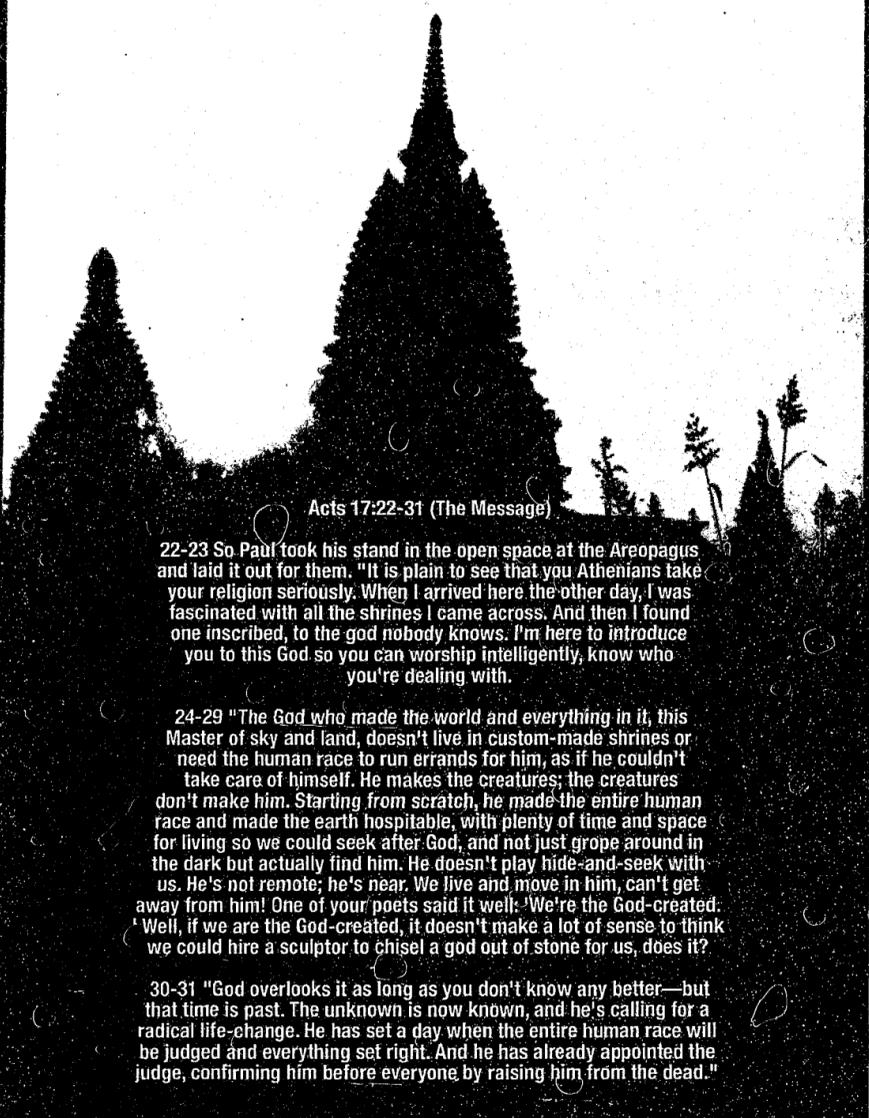
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Acts 17:22-31 (The Message)

22-23 So Paul took his stand in the open space at the Areopagus and laid it out for them. "It is plain to see that you Athenians take your religion seriously. When I arrived here the other day, I was fascinated with all the shrines I came across. And then I found one inscribed, to the god nobody knows. I'm here to introduce you to this God so you can worship intelligently, know who you're dealing with.

24-29 "The God who made the world and everything in it, this Master of sky and land, doesn't live in custom-made shrines or need the human race to run errands for him, as if he couldn't take care of himself. He makes the creatures; the creatures don't make him. Starting from scratch, he made the entire human race and made the earth hospitable, with plenty of time and space for living so we could seek after God, and not just grope around in the dark but actually find him. He doesn't play hide-and-seek with us. He's not remote; he's near. We live and move in him, can't get away from him! One of your poets said it well: 'We're the God-created.' Well, if we are the God-created, it doesn't make a lot of sense to think we could hire a sculptor to chisel a god out of stone for us, does it?

30-31 "God overlooks it as long as you don't know any better—but that time is past. The unknown is now known, and he's calling for a radical life-change. He has set a day when the entire human race will be judged and everything set right. And he has already appointed the judge, confirming him before everyone by raising him from the dead."

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RUIDOSO CHURCHES

SOVEREIGN GRACE La Quinta Inn 2115 W HWY 70 410-937-8888	Church 126 Church Drive, Palmer Gateway. Wayne Joyce, Pastor.	CHURCH OF CHRIST Gateway Church of Christ 415 Sudderth, Ruidoso, 257-4381.	Congregacion Hispana de los Testigos de Jehova 1102 Gavilan Canyon Rd., 336-4147, 378-7095.	Presbyterian Church Corona United	Bilingual* ~ Translators Available ~	"Vida Eterna" Pastor Rev. Ramon Robledo. 207 East Circle, Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346, 361 E. Hwy. 70, (505) 378-8108. Email: revrobledo@lycos.com
GODS PROMISE MINISTRIES 1200 Sudderth Pastor TJ Owens 575-937-4148	BAHA'I FAITH Baha'i Faith Meeting in members' homes. 257-2987 or 258-5595	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LDS Church of Jesus Christ LDS Ruidoso Ward, 1091 Mechem Bishop Jon Ogden, (505) 258-1253 or (575) 258-1253.	JEWISH / HEBREW Kehilla Bat-Tzion & Hebrew Learning Center, Inc. -2204 Sudderth Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345 505-257-0122.	Presbyterian Church Nogal Presbyterian Church Reverend Bill Sebring.	Centro Familiar Destino 304 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345, (575) 257-0447. Services are bilingual.	J Bar J Church 40 Hwy 70W, 575-257-6899 Pastor Charles W. Clary. E-mail: jbarjcountrychurch@ruidoso.net
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN RUIDOSO Fr. Fred Griffin, Priest 25974 Highway 70 Ruidoso, NM. For more information, call Char Jagoe @ 257-1561	BUDDHIST Buddhism of the Lotus Sutra George Brown 257-1569	Church of Jesus Christ LDS Mescalero Branch , 671-4630. Wayne King, President, 505-434-0622.	LUTHERAN Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 1120 Hull Rd. 258-4191 shlcruidoso.org	REFORMED CHURCH Mescalero Reformed Mescalero. Bob Schut, Pastor. SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST	Christ Church in the Downs Ruidoso Downs, 378-8464. Al and Marty Lane, Pastors.	Miracle Life Ministry Center Ron Rice & Catherine Callahan, Ministers Available 24 hours for healing prayer. 354-0255 e-mail miraclelife@ruidoso-online.com
Mescalero Family Worship Center Pete J. Luna, Sr. Pastor Elden D. Stitty, Assoc. Pastor 464-4741	CATHOLIC St. Eleanor Catholic Church Ruidoso, 257-2330. Reverend Al Galvan.	EPISCOPAL Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount 121 Mescalero Trail, Ruidoso. Rev. Judith Burgess Rector 257-2356. Website: www.eclc.us	METHODIST Community United Methodist Church Junction Road, behind Wells Fargo Bank. Todd Salzwedel, Pastor.	UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP Sacramento Mountains Unitarian Universalist Fellowship , Call 336-2170 or 354-0602 for location.	Church Out of Church Meeting at the Flying J Ranch, 1028 Hwy. 48, Alto. Pastors: Tim & Julie Gilliland. Mailing Address: 1009 Mechem#11 Ruidoso 88345. Phone 575-258-1388. Please check the website for additional information: www.churchoutofchurch.com. <i>Keepin' it simple... Keepin' it real!</i>	Peace Chapel Interdenominational (ULC) Alto North, 336-7075. Jeamsie Price, Pastor.
First Assembly of God El Paso Road, Ruidoso 257-2324. Rev. E. Thomas Kearns, Pastor.	St. Theresa Catholic Church Corona. Sunday Mass: 6 p.m.	St. Anne's Episcopal Chapel in Glencoe.	PENTECOSTAL Apostolic Pentecostal Assembly , Retired Pastor and author Harry A. Peyton	Sacramento Mountains Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Rick Smith, 682-2999. E-mail: RickS@americanmissionary.org	Cornerstone Church Cornerstone Square, 613 Sudderth Drive, 257-9265. John & Joy Wyatt, Pastors.	Racetrack Chapel Horseman's Entrance, Hwy 70, 505-378-7264. Chaplain Darrell Winter.
BAPTIST Canaan Trail Baptist Located just past milepost 14 on Hwy. 48, between Angus & Capitan. Roland Burnett, Pastor.	Our Lady of Guadalupe Bent. Father Larry Gosselin.	EVANGELICAL THE LIGHTHOUSE Christian Fellowship church, 1035 Mechem Dr. 258-2539	Abundant Life United Pentecostal Church of Ruidoso 613 Sudderth Dr. Unit D. Pastor, Art Dunn, Youth Pastor, Nathaniel Dunn. Free home Bible studies.	Calvary Chapel 127 Vision, next to Cable Co., 257-5915. Pastor John Marshall.	Cowboy Church Preacher Buster Reed of Amarillo. Call 378-4840 for more info.	NON-SECTARIAN Spiritual Awareness Study Group Minister: George N. Brown, Ph.D. U.L.C. 257-1569
First Baptist Church 270 Country Club Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345. (575) 257-2081.	St. Joseph's Apache Mission Mescalero. Father Paul Botenhagen, OFM.	FULL GOSPEL Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship Int'l. K-Bob's Hwy. 70 in Ruidoso. Ron Rice, 354-0255, e-mail fgbmfi@ruidoso-online.com	Presbyterian First Presbyterian Church 101 Sutton Drive (Nob Hill), Ruidoso, 257-2220. Tony Chambless - Pastor. www.ruidosopres.com	Casa de Oracion Comunidad Cristiana, Ruidoso 304 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso, NM 88345 (505) 257-6075. Pastor: Carlos & Gabby Carreon. *All Services are	Foot of the Cross Christian Ministries 2812 Sudderth (Pine Tree Shopping Center) Pastor, Phil Appel. For more info please call 937-8677 or visit our website at www.thefootofthecross.org	Men's Bible Study, Band of Brothers Call 937-0071 For Times And Location
First Baptist Church Ruidoso Downs. Randy Widener, Pastor.	St. Theresa Catholic Church Corona. Sunday Mass: 6 p.m.	Mission Fountain of Living Water San Patricio	JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES Ruidoso - Kingdom Hall 1102 Gavilan Canyon Rd., 336-4147, 257-7714.	Grace Harvest Church 1108 Gavilan Canyon Rd, 336-4213. Iglesia Bautista	Non-Sectarian Spiritual Awareness Study Group Minister: George N. Brown, Ph.D. U.L.C. 257-1569	The 1st Iglesia Apostolica de la Fe en Cristo Jesus in Ruidoso NM, Located at: 613 Sudderth Dr. Suite D Phone: (575) 937-7957 • (575) 973-5413
Mescalero Baptist Mission Mescalero.	102.3 The Dove					

CAPITAN & LINCOLN CHURCHES

BAPTIST Trinity Southern Baptist Church (south on Highway 48) Mt. Capitan Rd. 354-2044. Mel Gnatkowski, pastor 808-0607	CATHOLIC Sacred Heart Catholic Church Capitan, 354-9102.	FOURSQUARE Capitan Foursquare Church Highway 48, Capitan. Harold W. Perry, Pastor.	CHURCH OF CHRIST Capitan - Highway 48. Les Earwood, Minister.	EPISCOPAL Episcopal Chapel of San Juan in Lincoln
MOUNTAIN BAPTIST Church Independent-Fundamental KJV. 145 E. Grandview - Capitan - (505) 937-4019		METHODIST Capitan United Methodist Church Pastor Jean Riley and the congregation of Capitan United Methodist. White Oaks and Third in Capitan. 505-648-2846.		

CARRIZOZO CHURCHES

ASSEMBLY OF GOD Carrizozo Community Church (A/G) Barbara Bradley, pastor. Corner of C Ave. & Thirteenth.	CHURCH OF CHRIST Perry Zumwalt, minister. Ave. C at 12th, Carrizozo, NM.	NON-DENOMINATIONAL Christ Community Fellowship Capitan, Highway 380 West, 354-2458. Ed Vinson, Pastor.
BAPTIST First Baptist Church Hayden Smith, Pastor.	EPISCOPAL St. Matthias Episcopal Chapel Carrizozo, 6th & E Street.	
CATHOLIC Santa Rita Catholic Church 648-2853. Father Franklin Eichhorst.	METHODIST United Methodist Church Parish Trinity - 1000 D. Ave. 648-2893/648-2846, Carrizozo. Johanna Anderson, pastor.	

MESCALERO

NON-DENOMINATIONAL The Word of Life Church Rev. Chuck, Fulton, pastor/648-2339. 711 'E' Ave., Carrizozo, NM. Affiliated w/the Evangelistic Assembly Church.	CARRIZO CHRISTIAN Fellowship Leonard Kanese-wah III, Pastor. 56 White Mt. Dr., 3 mi. W. of Inns of the Mountain Gods Mescalero. 464-4656
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RELIGION

Shepherd of the Hills welcomes new pastor

Members and friends at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church of Ruidoso welcomed their new pastor, Rev. Thomas Schoech, at his installation service on Sunday, Jan. 30.

Friends came in from Albuquerque, Roswell, Alamogordo and as far as Oklahoma. A luncheon following the installation service.

Rev. Randall Golter, president of the Rocky Mountain District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), installed Rev. Schoech, with the elders of the congregation participating in the service.

Rev. Schoech graduated from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis with a Master of Divinity in 1979.

His first pastoral call was to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor, Mich. where he served as associate pastor for 20 years.

Returning to school, he

earned an MBA degree from Washington University in St. Louis in 2002. He then joined the staff of the LCMS Foundation, working as a major gifts officer of LCMS World Mission.

In 2007-08 he served as the vacancy senior pastor at St. John Lutheran Church, and then as interim campus chaplain at Concordia University, both in Seward, Neb.

He joined the staff of the LCMS Rocky Mountain District as director of development in 2008.

In November 2010, he entered the Intentional Interim Ministry program, a program designed to help congregations through periods of major transition.

His first call as intentional interim pastor is to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church.

Rev. Schoech will serve the congregation as its full-time pastor, and also in his

role as intentional interim pastor; he will work with the congregation as an advisor, helping the congregation work through its past and make plans for the future.

Pastor Schoech is expected to serve as an interim pastor for approximately 8-12 months at Shepherd of the Hills helping lead the congregation to a renewal of its mission and ministry.

Members of Shepherd of the Hills would like to thank the caring congregations in the Lincoln County and Mescalero Ministerial Alliance for all their prayers and support; with special appreciation to Pastor Todd Salzwedel, Pastor Tim Gilliland, Pastor Bobby Barnett and others for making a special effort to welcome Pastor Schoech.

The congregation is excited to start this new chapter in service to our Lord and community.



COURTESY

Rev. Randall Golter (left), president of Rocky Mountain District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod install the new Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church pastor Rev. Thomas Schoech on Jan. 30.

When anxiety threatens, put your worries in God's hands

Q. The doctor has put me on medicine for my anxiety, but I'm not sure it does much good. My wife tells me to read the Bible and pray, and I do sometimes, but I can't see that it really helps, either. What am I missing? Am I wrong to take this drug?
- D.G.

anxiety; it may be one of the ways God uses to help you.



Billy Graham
MY ANSWER

Our minds and our bodies are enormously complicated; sometimes things don't work the way they should, and medicine may be necessary.

But the most important discovery you can make is that God loves

you just as you are, and therefore you can commit every fear and every worry into His hands.

If He didn't love you, you'd have no reason to do this - but He does love you, and therefore you can.

If He loved you enough to send His only Son into the world to die for you, won't He continue loving you, both now and forever? Begin by turning to

Jesus Christ and asking Him to come into your life.

Then ask Him every morning to remind you of His love during the day -- and when anxieties threaten to overwhelm you, thank Him once again for His presence with you.

In addition, let the Bible's promises fill your mind and heart.

The Bible says, "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Send your queries to "My Answer," c/o Billy Graham, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, 1 Billy Graham Parkway, Charlotte, N.C., 28201. You may also call 1-(877) 2-GRAHAM.

To send an email, visit the Web site for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association: www.billygraham.org.

Helping in a time of need

What a storm we had last week. With record low temperatures and good snowfall, we experienced weather unlike any that I have seen in my ten years in Ruidoso.

What I would like to do in this week's column is give a "hat's off" to all our public service workers in the village.

First, our village employees deserve our thanks for working tirelessly to keep our streets as passable as possible during the week.

Sure, there were some areas that had to wait their time, but they could not clear all the streets all at once.

Then, there were the water workers who kept everything going in spite of the freezing temperatures.

Yes, some folks lost their water service, but it wasn't the fault of the

water workers that pipes in their homes froze up.

Then, we have to give thanks to the Zia Gas employees for continued gas deliveries to our homes and businesses. We did not experience the loss of natural gas as did other cities in the state.

We did experience a two-hour loss of electric service to our house on Tuesday morning, but I was led to believe that it was because of a rolling "brown out."

Whatever the situation, we fared far better than other communities.

Old timers in Ruidoso told me that winters in the past had experienced weather conditions like we had last week.

Whatever the case, we probably were not prepared for the extremely low temperatures and the

abundant snowfall.

Our Ski Apache has been blessed beyond measure with good snow and the people are coming up to ski and snowboard.

So, in spite of the inconveniences, there may be blessings that come economically from all the inclement weather. Our forests need the moisture, and, if we have a windy spring, the moisture will keep the fire danger in check.

We are helping folks as best we can to get their pipes thawed out and water restored to their homes.

That is where family, friends, and churches can help out. And remember, that some of our senior citizens don't have anyone to help them. Be aware of others and their needs.

You don't have to be State Farm to be a good neighbor. You can give others help for today and hope for tomorrow.

Clarifications
By CHARLES CLARY
RUIDOSO PASTOR



Donald L. Brothers

Donald L. Brothers, 68, of Palmer, AK died January 31, 2011 at home from complications from lung cancer.

Don was born September 18, 1942 in Dayton, Pennsylvania, the son of Clair and Jessie Elizabeth (Neville) Brothers. He attended school in Punxsutawney, graduating with the Punxsutawney High School class of 1960.

In June of 1960, Don began his career serving our country in the United States Air Force. On January 26, 1962 he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Wilson in Wichita Falls, Texas. In his 21 year career in the Air Force the family lived in New Mexico, California, Mississippi, Minnesota, Japan and Alaska. Don also served in Turkey and Thailand.

Following his September, 1981 retirement from the Air Force, Don worked for MCI in Salt Lake City, UT and Phoenix, AZ. He retired from MCI in 1998 and the family moved to Capitán, New Mexico where Don was active with the American Legion and served for 1 year as Commander. In August of 2008, Don and Mary moved to Alaska where Don enjoyed woodworking, photography, fishing, bowling and being with his family.

In addition to Mary, his wife of 49 years, Don is survived by three children, Donald Scott Brothers of Palmer, Tamara Ann Brothers of Palmer, Robert William Brothers of Wasilla, his brother, William Raymond Brothers and his wife Maxine of Alexandria, Virginia and his pride and joy, Don's nine grandchildren: Senior Airman Kevin M. Brothers who is stationed in Balad, Iraq where he serves his country in the United States Air Force, Kyle Andrew Brothers, Warren Chad McNeil, Connor Justin McNeil, River Dawn Brothers, Jordyn Elisabeth McNeil, Willow Rose Brothers, Cloud William Brothers and Sirius Ash Alexander Brothers.

His parents, Clair and Jessie and one brother, Warren Clair preceded Don in death.

Full military honors were conferred upon Don in a graveside service on, Friday, February 4 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fort Richardson National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made either to Mat-Su Hospice or the American Cancer Society. Valley Funeral Home of Wasilla was in charge of the arrangements.

Lee McKenna

Lee McKenna, 85, beloved wife, mother and friend died February 11, 2011. She was born Barbara Lee Holmes May 24, 1925 in Harrisonville, Missouri. Lee and one brother were raised in Kansas City and Oklahoma City. While attending Southern Missouri Teachers College in Lawrenceville during WWII, Lee met and married Army Air Corps Aviator Jack McKenna of Kansas City. She spent her childhood in Tulsa and Dallas, where she studied art and gave birth to two daughters. The McKennas relocated to Alto, NM in 1953. Lee became active in Alto Civic Projects and sat for many years on the Board of Field Office of the Human Society of Lincoln County. A warm, witty, bubbly woman with a quick sense of humor and unassailable integrity, Lee was the Rock of Gibraltar to her family and many friends. She is survived by her husband of 67 years and one daughter. Services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday, February 12 at Sacred Heart Church in Capitán; reception to follow services at 12:30 pm at Alto Lakes Golf & Country Club. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the Human Society PO Box 2832, Ruidoso, NM 88355.



LINCOLN COUNTY

Ring, ring ... cowboy calling

In the aftermath of the bitter cold and heavy snowfall at the ranch, relationship "moments" often result in the proverbial "cussing a blue streak" to hilarity that knows no bounds.

Locking the classic ranch couple up together for days on end is rarely the picture of marital harmony.

Frozen water lines, livestock drinkers with a foot of ice to be broken, vehicles that won't start or stay running and drifts filling every road going anywhere to do anything keep moods teetering on the brink of the dark side.

Cabin fever only intensifies the powerful desire to choke the life out of anything moves, breathes or speaks.

The flatbed pickup stuck smack in the middle of the road for two days was a testimony to the situation. Buried in snow as high as the bed of the truck, it begs the question, "Why would anyone just drive off into a drift like that?"

His wife is quite clear about the answer. "Three days in the house with me is why."

One wife took up fiddle lessons during her house-bound winter. If he gets on

her nerves hanging around the house with irritating suggestions, such as mentioning that the kitchen tile she installed needed realigned, she simply begins practicing her scales on the fiddle with the greatest enthusiasm.

Another cowboy's wife wrote this missive. "We have cabin fever, too. Jack does everything in "overkill" mode. Just like he puts two chains on every gate, he also wraps every

in enough insulation to make polar bears sweat. However, the drain from the washing machine escaped him. I washed this morning, flooded the utility room. So I put the clean clothes in the dryer and shut the utility room door. It will dry out and be dry for years before he ever goes in there."

A ranch bride reporting in from the frozen outback of the county said her phone stayed busy. Ring, ring ... It was a call from the Boss man.

"That was the story all day yesterday," she said. "Bring a battery, bring a truck, come drive, or 'Help, I'm stuck again.' Just got another call first thing this morning. What now?"

What she heard on the



PHOTO COURTESY RHONDA TULLY, CEDARVALE, N.M.

other end of the phone was, "Help, I am locked in the pump house and, well, the door knob fell off again and I can't get out!"

Without a pause her mind flashed to things she shouldn't say, "He should have fixed that darn door a very long time ago, and maybe put siding on the pump house so the water doesn't freeze up."

She pondered her options. "Do I go let him out, or not?"

After two days without water, he had finally gotten everything thawed and his bride was back in the running water business. However, the tempera-

tures were still dropping below zero at dark, so that night at bedtime she ask if he thought they should leave some water dripping, "just in case."

Almost offended, he declared, "Of course not. I have everything where it will not freeze up."

You can guess how that went. By morning his statement proved to be wrong but no one was mentioning it, mostly.

Because she was snowed in at the ranch and out from her job in town, she was not surprised when, one more time, she heard the phone. "Ring, ring ..."

"What?" she answered, knowing where this was headed.

"Oh, you're home," the Boss said to her.

"Hello? I am answering the phone, aren't I?"

"Oh, well run down the road quick and shut that gate going into the Smith Place. I'm coming up the road with cows and don't want them to dive off through that gate into that pasture. Use the feed truck. It's parked right out front."

She sighed. The feed truck, the one you can't get out of without rolling down the window with great difficulty to get to the outside

door handle because the inside one no longer exists. He did say "quick" so she jumped in her car, thinking at the moment it was a best choice. It wasn't.

As she trudged back to the house, leaving her car in the drift where it was stuck, her thoughts wandered to her Mary Kay consultant. "I need to ask her how long that new Masque Hydrant Aux Fruitas will take to renew my frozen complexion."

Ring, ring ...

Julie can be reached for comment at jcarter@ruidosonews.com or "Ring, ring ..."

COUNTY BRIEFS

Extension club

Carrizozo Roadrunners Chapter of the Extension Association of New Mexico meets at 1 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 17, at the Otero Electric Coop office community room on 12th Street in Carrizozo.

Lincoln County Extension Home Economist Marsha Palmer will present a program on Heart Health. The meeting and program are open to anyone interested. For information call 648-2311.

Feral hogs

The Upper Hondo Soil and Water Conservation is helping to sponsor a workshop to bring awareness for the growing feral hog problem in the state and in Lincoln County.

There will be a half-day workshop on Feb. 18, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Lincoln County Fair Grounds in Capitan.

Topics to be discussed include:

- wild pigs: biology, and history;
- feral hogs: impacts, disease concerns, regulations, control;
- control techniques;

Representatives from

the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, U.S. Forest Service and the New Mexico Livestock Board will be available to address specific questions.

For more information, contact the Lincoln County Extension Office at 648-2311.

Blood drive

The Carrizozo High School is sponsoring a Blood Drive, Tuesday, Feb. 15, 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., at the school at 800 D Ave. in the Multi-purpose Room.

United Blood Services - the State's only community blood provider - put out a critical appeal as a result of the drop in donations due to the recent extreme winter storms.

Because of the storms throughout the state, a majority of blood drives have been canceled and people have not been able to make it in to the centers to give blood.

This has had an extremely adverse impact on the blood supply. UBS estimates that their supplies are 70 percent below what is needed.

To make an appointment, call Carol Wilson at 575-648-2346 ext. 135,

call 1-888-676-LIFE to schedule an appointment or check www.unitedbloodservices.org for more information.

Volunteer donors must be at least 17, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, be in good health and are encouraged to eat a hearty meal before the donation. Sixteen-year-olds may donate with Parental Consent.

Woman's Club

The Carrizozo Woman's Club Annual Valentine Bake Sale will be held on Friday, Feb. 11, from 9 a.m. until noon at the Wells Fargo Bank at 401 Central Avenue in Carrizozo.

There will be cakes, pies, cookies, breads, muffins and many other home-baked items.

The proceeds from the Bake Sale go to the Scholarship Fund.

Each year the Carrizozo Woman's Club awards a scholarship to a deserving high school senior to help with the expenses of college.

Fairboard meeting

A Lincoln County Fair Board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 16 and a Junior Livestock Superintendents' meeting prior to that at 6 p.m. to discuss rule changes.

The meeting will be held in the brick house across the canyon south of the fairgrounds.

The meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend.



COURTESY

The Village of Corona passed a resolution supporting the continuance of the 25 percent film incentive. L-r are Corona Mayor William Hignight, Councilor Cal West, Village Clerk Janet Verna, and Councilors Sherrill Bradford and Sam Seeley.

Corona supports the film industry

JULIE CARTER
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

The Village of Corona's governing body passed a resolution in support of the film industry in New Mexico and Lincoln County.

The resolution urges the New Mexico State Legislature to maintain the existing film tax credit incentives in support of Senate Bill 2011-44.

For more information, visit the New Mexico State

Film Office online at www.nmfilm.com or the Lincoln County Film Commission website at www.filmcnm.org.

Firetruck award

The Corona Fire Department was awarded \$327,500 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant program.

The money will be used to purchase a pumper for the fire department,

according to information from the office of U.S. Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM).

"Equipping a fire department so that it can be prepared for any emergency is costly," the senator said. "This grant will help the Corona Fire Department invest in an essential piece of safety equipment."

Last month Bingaman announced that the Corona Fire Department received a separate \$49,305 grant for operations and safety programs.



Peter and Sonny's
PO Box 890, 400 Central Ave
Carrizozo, NM 88009
(575) 618-2784, Fax (575) 648-2789

Read us on the Web
www.ruidosonews.com

RUIDOSO POLICE BRIEFS

Feb. 3

1 p.m. - Officer Tyrel Tyson responded to the Thunderbird Lodge at 201 Mechem Drive for a report of an animal bite.

Tyson reports that Ruidoso Fire Department EMS personnel were treating a 52-year old woman for puncture wounds on her arm. The victim reportedly told Tyson that two brown dogs attacked her.

A witness said she was across the road and saw two dogs, tied together, run across Mechem Drive and attack the woman, who was walking a small dog.

A passer-by stopped to help, reportedly kicking the dog that was attacking the woman's leg, which caused the dog to attack him. This pulled the other dog off the victim.

Jon J. Clark, 56, reportedly approached Tyson and said the dogs were his. Clark reportedly said he slipped on the ice while walking the dogs and lost his hold on their leash.

Tyson cited Clark for vicious animal and the dog that bit the woman's arm was taken to the Humane Society to be quarantined.

Tyson reports the woman said the dogs had attacked her before and he found a police report to confirm this.

Feb. 4

9:05 p.m. - Officer Steve Corbin responded to the 200 block of White Mountain Meadows for a report of stolen snowboards.

Corbin reports the victim said he had left four

snowboards beside the door and went to dinner at about 7 p.m. The snowboards were gone when he returned at about 8:45 p.m.

Corbin reports the victim said the custom snowboards are valued at \$600 each and the bindings on each board are worth \$200 each.

Feb 5

5:40 p.m. - Corporal Aaron Frost reported that he noted the licenses on the blue Ford pickup truck in front of him at the traffic light at Mechem and Sudderth was expired.

Frost reports that he checked the license number through his computer and found it was for a GMC pickup.

Frost reportedly then confirmed the license registration through dispatch and pulled the vehicle over at Diamond Shamrock on Sudderth Drive.

Frost reports the driver, Clint S. Skeen, 23, of Picacho, New Mexico, presented a Texas driver's license and said that he had apparently confused the plates when he put them on the trucks.

Frost reported that Skeen did not have proof of registration or proof of insurance and the sticker on the plate appeared to have been damaged on purpose.

Frost cited Skeen for fictitious license, no proof of insurance and no proof of registration.

Frost reported that he then began to inventory the vehicle for towing and found a varmint rifle. He

reportedly asked Skeen if there were any other weapons in the vehicle and Skeen said there were not.

Frost reported that he found a brown prescription bottle under the console of the vehicle and recognized the smell of marijuana. Skeen reportedly told Frost the console was broken and would not open. Frost said it would open and showed him the bottle.

Skeen then reportedly admitted there was a handgun under the cushion of the console and said the marijuana was for personal use.

Frost reportedly then found the handgun, a multi-colored pipe, a chromed skull grinder, two packs of Zig Zag cigarette papers and three other containers of marijuana seeds and residue in the console.

Frost cleared the handgun through NCIC and arrested Skeen on charges of possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Skeen posted a \$1,500 bond and was released.

Feb. 6

1:28 a.m. - Officer James Urban responded to 2408 Sudderth Drive for a report of a stolen vehicle.

Urban reports the victim said he went out and started his truck, then realized he had forgotten his jacket and went back to get it.

Urban reported the victim said he saw a truck that looked like his drive south on Sudderth without

See BRIEFS page 8B

RUIDOSO MAGISTRATE COURT CASES

Cases for Feb. 7

Charles Niederstadt appeared in court and pleaded no contest to a charge of attempt to issue a worthless check under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Mandy Denson and Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman.

Under the agreement, the State amended the charge from felony issuance of a worthless check and Judge Lorena LaMay sentenced Niederstadt to 50 days in jail, time served, and 314 days of supervised probation.

LaMay also ordered Niederstadt to pay a \$100 bench warrant fee and \$73 in court costs.

Roberto Coronado appeared in court and pleaded no contest to charges of attempt to contribute to the delinquency of a minor and shoplifting, under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman.

Under the agreement, the State amended the charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor and Judge Lorena LaMay sentenced Coronado to 24 days in jail, time served, 340 days of supervised probation and a \$300 fine for the attempt to contribute to the delinquency of a minor charge.

LaMay sentenced Coronado to 14 days in jail, starting Feb. 7, 168 days supervised probation and a \$200 fine for the shoplifting charge. LaMay ordered the probation on this charge to

run consecutive with the probation on count one.

LaMay also ordered Coronado to pay \$126 in court costs and ordered him to not enter Walmart property.

Sherman Trujillo appeared in court and pleaded no contest to a charge of public affray under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman.

Under the agreement, the State dismissed a charge of resisting, evading or obstructing an officer and Judge Lorena LaMay sentenced Trujillo to four days in jail, time served, 178 days of supervised probation and a \$100 fine.

LaMay also ordered Trujillo to find a job by March 7, 2011 and remain employed and to pay \$73 in court costs.

Jorge Devora appeared in court and pleaded no contest to a charge of minor in a licensed establishment under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Special Agent Lou Mallion.

Under the agreement, the State dismissed a charge of minor in possession of alcohol and Judge Lorena LaMay sentenced Devora to 182 days of unsupervised probation and a \$400 fine.

LaMay also ordered Devora to pay \$73 in court costs.

Cody Johnson appeared in court and pleaded no contest to charges of attempt to commit forgery, resisting, evading or obstructing an officer and

concealing identity under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman.

Under the agreement, the State amended the charge of forgery to attempt to commit forgery.

On the attempt to commit forgery charge, Judge Lorena LaMay sentenced Johnson to 14 days in jail, time served, 350 days of supervised probation and a \$200 fine.

For the resisting, evading or obstructing an officer, LaMay sentenced Johnson to 364 days supervised probation consecutive with count one and a \$200 fine.

For concealing identity, LaMay sentenced Johnson to 182 days of supervised probation, consecutive with the probation on count one, and a \$100 fine.

LaMay also ordered Johnson to pay \$179 in court costs.

Stephen Chino appeared in court and pleaded no contest to a charge of possession of marijuana under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman.

Under the agreement, the State amended the charge from possession of marijuana in a school zone.

Judge Lorena LaMay sentenced Chino to 182 days of unsupervised probation and a \$50 fine.

LaMay also ordered Chino to pay \$148 in court costs.

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Tues. March 8th (YISD, EPISD)
Wed. March 9th (Socorro, New Mexico, Private, West Texas)
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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 7B

any lights and then his truck was gone when he got to the parking area.

The truck is a silver 2008 Toyota Tacoma SR-5, 4-door, with chrome rims.

12:48 p.m. - Officer Snodgrass responded to Taco Bell for a reported gunshot to the leg.

Snodgrass reports that when he arrived he found the victim sitting on the floor with a pool of blood under his leg.

The man's wife reportedly said they had finished eating and were walking out when her husband stopped to look at a magazine. She reportedly said she heard a loud bang, her ears began ringing and her husband was bleeding.

The man reportedly said he had recently gotten a concealed carry permit and had put the gun in a holster. When he bent over to look at a magazine the gun discharged, striking him in the leg.

Snodgrass reported that the man was transported to LCMC for treatment.

He also reported that Taco Bell employees had called 911 and attempted to help the man.

6:06 p.m. - Officers were dispatched to El Alto Lodge on Mechem Drive for a report of a violent domestic incident.

Corporal Aaron Frost reports the victim had blood on her face, particularly around the nose and mouth and was visibly upset, her hands were shaking and she was crying. Frost also reported there were visible red marks and welts on her neck.

The woman reportedly told Frost that former boyfriend Manuel Blackmon, 35, had walked into her apartment, without knocking, and hit her in the face with a closed fist.

The victim reportedly said Blackmon then jumped on top of her and began strangling her. She allegedly said he stopped just before she passed out.

She allegedly said Blackmon then rummaged through her things, took her cell phone and calmly walked out.

Officer Larry Smith stopped Blackmon at Wiley

and Cree Meadows Drive a few minutes later.

Frost reports Blackmon waived his right to remain silent but denied attacking the victim and taking her phone.

Frost reports that there was a phone matching the description the victim gave of the phone Blackmon allegedly took, in Blackmon's car. The phone was reportedly broken in half.

Blackmon reportedly did acknowledge having a problem with jealousy that he cannot control.

Frost charged Blackmon with aggravated battery on

a household member, aggravated burglary of a dwelling, criminal damage to property of a household member and interfering with communications.

Feb. 7

7:58 a.m. - Officer Josh Snodgrass responded to a report of graffiti at Schoolhouse Park.

Snodgrass reports he later responded to reports of graffiti at 600 White Mountain Drive and at Lincoln Tower that was similar in design and color.

9:38 a.m. - Corporal Mike Weaver responded to an apartment in the 100 block of Jack Little Drive for a report of a battery that occurred earlier.

Weaver reports the 73-year old victim reportedly said a neighbor was going to take her to the store Saturday, Feb. 5, because of the weather and because he parks in front of her apartment.

She reportedly said she saw him drive up when she was getting ready. She reportedly said about 10 minutes later, he knocked on her door and she put on her jacket and opened the door.

Allegedly, he waited until she closed the door and grabbed her by the jacket and dragged her across the yard to the car. She reportedly said she could barely keep her feet under her and had to grab the passenger-side mirror to keep from falling when they reached the car.

She then reportedly told him she decided she didn't want to go to the store and he grabbed her jacket again, pulled her loose from the mirror and dragged her back to the door of her apartment and left.

Weaver reported that the woman had bruises on her right wrist, forearm and on the top of her right foot.

Weaver talked to the neighbor, 76-year old Lanny Perkins, and reported that Perkins said he was just holding on to the woman's jacket to keep her from falling.

Weaver issued Perkins a non-traffic citation for battery and completed a criminal complaint for aggravated battery.

1:55 p.m. - Corporal Mike Weaver responded to a report of domestic violence in the 1800 block of Sudderth.

Weaver reports the incident was verbal and no citations were issued.

Feb. 8

9:54 a.m. - Corporal Mike Weaver took a report at the Ruidoso Police Department of a larceny.

The victim reportedly said her brown coin purse, containing a few coins, her driver's license and a credit card had been taken.

Weaver reports that she said her credit card had been used at Burke's Outlet for \$1.56 and at a Shell Gas Station for an unknown amount.

The victim had reportedly cancelled the credit card.

3 p.m. - Corporal Mike Weaver reportedly found two morphine pills in the right front pocket of Tara Blake, 31, while booking her at the Ruidoso Police Department.

Weaver notified officer Josh Snodgrass. Snodgrass reportedly contacted the Mescalero Apache Hospital to verify that Blake did have a prescription for morphine.

Snodgrass reports she did have a prescription and he secured the pills.

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Romance Review

Valentine's Day

Monday, February 14

From tragedy to love

My story has a little bit of everything in the categories you are talking about. Here goes:

My little brother was killed on September 3, 1979, Labor Day weekend in a head on collision with a drunk driver in northern New Mexico. His fiancé at the time was a young lady by the name of Debra Brace. She was stationed with the Army in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. As she flew into El Paso airport for the funeral services I was instructed by my family in Tularosa, New Mexico to pick her up and drive her to Tularosa. I was attending UTEP and working in El Paso at the time. After the funeral services I again drove her back to El Paso for her departure back to Fort Jackson. Two months later after her basic training she was assigned to Fort Bliss as her first assignment. Again, my family asked if I would get in touch with her and show her around El Paso as she didn't know anyone there. I agreed. We met at a restaurant in El Paso, had dinner, and were married two months after that on February 8, 1980. We were ten years apart in age and totally different people in attitudes, upbringing, and culturally different. She was Anglo, I was Hispanic. The first celebration of our marriage was on Valentine's Day, February 14, 1980.

Throughout our careers we worked together in every job we had. We were never able to have kids so we were not just a married couple, we became best friends as well. In the year 2000, living in Albuquerque, she was diagnosed with MS (Multiple Sclerosis). It ended her career as a Wal-Mart manager and she was devastated with what the disease would do to her. Today, February 8, 2011, we celebrate our 31st wedding anniversary. Our lives changed dramatically in 2000. She went to trying to deal with the disease. I hired a psychologist, a naturopathic medical advisor, and caregivers. I learned and gave her my total attention. Today she is doing well, has a great attitude, and above all, I love her more than you could ever imagine. She is my reason, my world, my Valentine, and still my best friend.

Thank you!
Albert Quintana
Ruidoso, NM 88357



Thank You

Goofy,

I just wanted to say thank you for the Valentine's gift last year, our beautiful baby boy. It has been an interesting year to say the least, a lot of lost sleep as well as unimaginable joy.

Our time together has been an adventure. I love you more than I ever thought possible. Thank you.

Our family means the world to me. The three of you are the first things I think of in the morning when I wake up and the last things I think about before I fall asleep. You are my life, my love and my joy, thank you for all that you are.

Love,
EPB

Valentine's Day Weekend

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Feb. 12 -14, 2011

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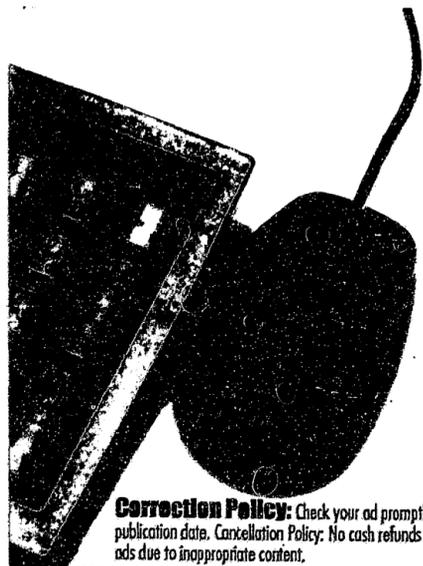
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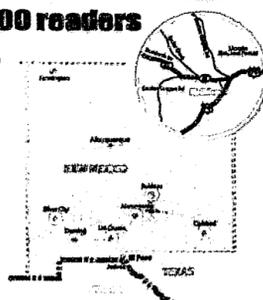
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Ford's Better Idea

By Warren Brown
The Washington Post

The 2011 Ford Explorer is more of a wagon and less of a truck than its predecessors. But it's a fully capable sport utility vehicle — one of the best engineered, best equipped, and arguably safest and most environmentally friendly midsize SUVs made by Ford or by any other vehicle manufacturer.

SUV haters will have to dig deep into their bag of biases to come up with an even mildly plausible reason for hating this one. And the likelihood is that they won't find any.

The facts of the new Explorer speak for themselves:

- Traditionally heavy truck based, fuel consumptive, body on ladder frame construction has been replaced by a lighter, more car-like, unitized body build process. Yet the new Explorer is no less capable than its truck-based forebears, including those first "covered truck" four-wheel-drive Explorers introduced in 1991. It can still plow through sand and mud, rain and snow. It can ford streams and climb

rocks, or simply take you to a grassy picnic knoll or to a campsite where paved roads end. It can also be outfitted to pull a trailer weighing 5,000 pounds

- Back in 1996, in response to criticism that the Explorer was "underpowered," Ford installed a 5-liter, 210-horsepower V-8 engine in the Explorer XLT — the "popularly equipped" model, meaning the one bought by the most consumers. That was a big deal.

The 2011 XLT driven for this column comes standard with a 3.5-liter, 24-valve V-6, which is a substantially smaller engine than the 1996 V-8. But the new V-6 delivers a maximum 290 horsepower and 255 foot-pounds of torque, which means it leaves that old lumbering V-8 in the dust. The new engine is also more fuel-efficient, with a federal rating of 17 miles per gallon in the city and 25 mpg on the highway using regular gasoline.

In the 1996 V-8 Explorer, you were lucky if you go 17 miles per

gallon on the highway and 14 in the city.

- And then there's safety. Let us stipulate that anything made or driven by human beings can end in disaster. We are prone to error. That being the case, the 2011 Explorer is about as good as it gets when it comes to SUV safety.

The new Explorer offers inflatable seat belts in the rear seats, the first available on a mass-market vehicle. Inflatable belts are better than traditional strap models in the matter of dispersing crash energy transferred to the human body. That could mean fewer abdominal and other internal injuries in a vehicle collision. Standard equipment includes electronic stability and traction control, and those work in tandem with a technology — the Terrain Management System (TMS) — borrowed from Land Rover, the British SUV

company once owned by Ford.

It's best to think of TMS as a kind of road-surface butler. In the Normal setting, used on paved roads, it sends more torque to the Explorer's front wheels and serves the rear wheels only when needed (when it is detected via sensors that the rear wheels have better gripping power than the front wheels). The Mud/Ruts setting permits the drive wheels to dig in and pull out of the mess. The Sand (only) setting sends the Explorer into low gear and maximizes Torque, twisting power generated by the engine, to the drive wheels. The Sand/Gravel/Snow setting limits wheel slippage and increases traction on slippery surfaces.

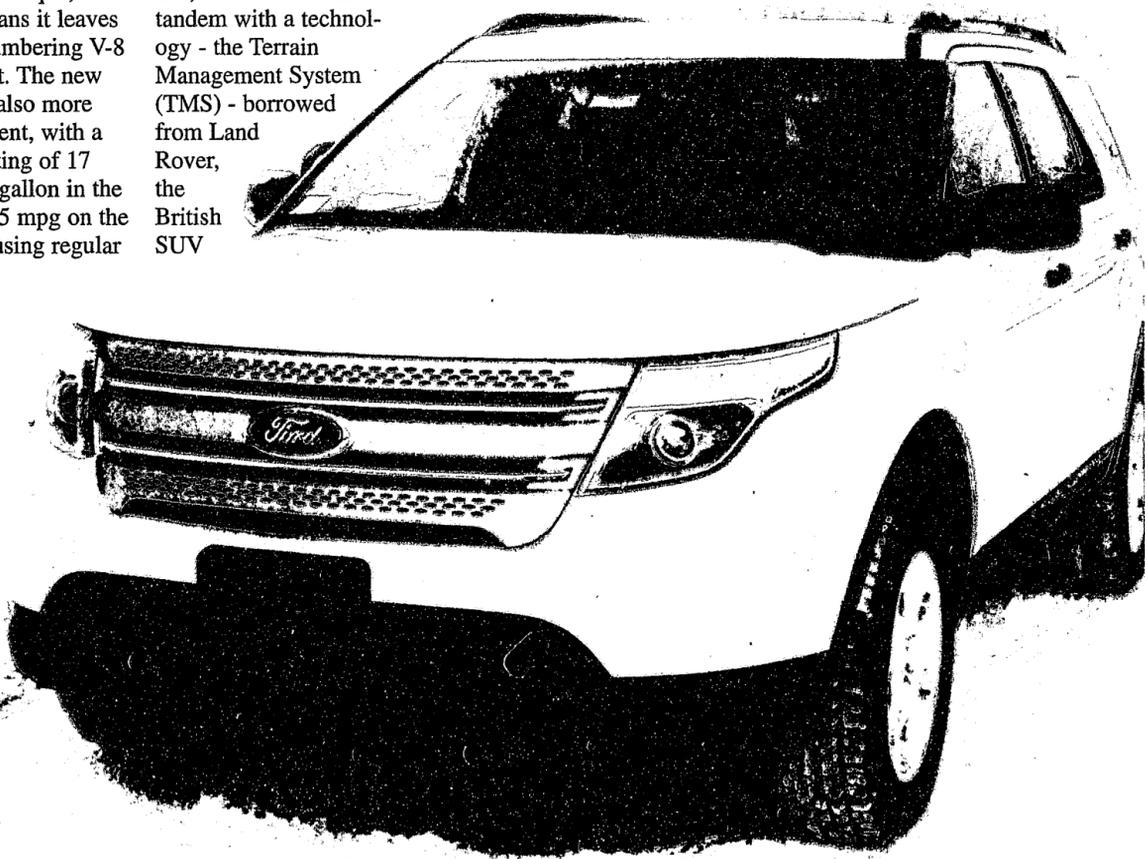
In short, Ford has done a heck of a good job here. It has taken a variety of complaints against traditional SUVs and turned them into pluses. Even the front end of the new Explorer, for example, is designed to do less damage to smaller vehicles in vehicle-to-vehicle crashes.

And Ford did not forget about the touchy-feely good stuff. Fit and finish are excellent, easily among the best in the business. The new Explorer's cabin looks and feels good, even with standard "premium" cloth seats. Amenities abound. Ergonomics — ease of reach and use in the matter of gauges and dials, largely assisted by advanced electronics — notably the trade-

marked My Ford Touch operating system, are best in class.

A quick comment on My Ford Touch (MFT): It changes the tactile interaction between the drive and instrument-panel controls. The twisting and turning of dials is virtually eliminated. Slight touches do the job. MFT fixes the driver voice control when touching proves inconvenient.

It's amazing, simply amazing. Even if you have no intention of buying a sport-utility vehicle, and especially if you remain among those benighted souls who haven't driven a Ford lately because of long-invalid memories of poor Ford quality, you should check this one out. It will very pleasantly surprise you.





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Legal Notices 152

#9236 4T (1)21, 28 (2)4, 11
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY OF LINCOLN STATE OF NEW MEXICO
BANK OF OKLAHOMA, N.A., Plaintiff, vs. JOSEPH I. ONTI-VEROS and SUQUALA M. GANT, two unmarried persons as joint tenants, Defendants.
CV-10-262
NOTICE OF SALE ON FORECLOSURE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above-entitled Court, having appointed me as Special Master in this matter, will order power to sell the property situated in Lincoln County, New Mexico, commonly known as 1597 Wood Lane, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico 88346, and more particularly described as follows:
LOT C-1, THE RUDOSO TRACT, RUIDOSO DOWNS, LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, BEING SHOWN BY THE REDDING TRACT, BEING THE E/2 NW/4 SE/4 SE/4, SEC. 36, T. 14 N., R. 15 W., N.M.P.M. FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK OF LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, ON AUGUST 28, 2000, IN CASE NO. 07, SLIDE NO. 737.
The sale is to begin at 4:45 p.m. on February 25, 2011, on the front steps of the Lincoln County Court House, East entrance, City of Carrizozo, County of Lincoln, State of New Mexico, at which time I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, in lawful currency of the United States of America, the Property to pay expenses of sale and to satisfy the judgment granted by Bank of Oklahoma, N.A., was awarded a Judgment on January 11, 2011, in the sum of \$120,997.77, plus outstanding interest through January 1, 2011, in the amount of \$7,997.97, and accruing daily thereafter at a rate of 3.00% per annum, plus late charges of \$495.00, plus a FHA premium due of \$96.00, plus an escrow balance of \$1,911.83, plus attorney's fees in the sum of \$950.00 and costs through January 15, 2011, in the sum of \$697.69, with interest on the late charges, FHA premiums, escrow advances, plus attorney's fees and costs of this suit at the rate of 6.00% per annum from date of the entry of the Judgment until paid.
The sale is subject to rights and easements of record, to unpaid property taxes and assessments, and to the one (1) month right of redemption in favor of defendants as specified in the Judgment filed herein.
PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS AT SALES ARE TO MAKE THEIR OWN EXAMINATION OF THE TITLE AND THE CONDITION OF THE PROPERTY TO BE CONSULTED THEIR OWN ATTORNEYS BEFORE BIDDING.
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Now until February 28th Ruidoso Ford Lincoln is having a

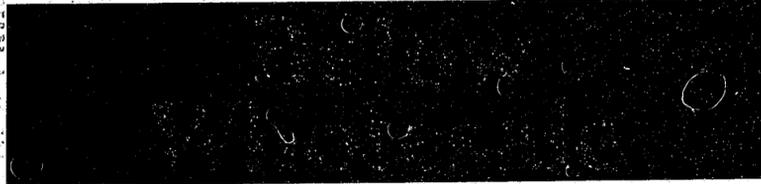
LIQUIDATION SALE!

All vehicles are priced at **BELOW WHOLESALE** or **WHOLESALE. PLUS** you get

FREE LIFETIME MAINTENANCE

There are about 100 Domestic & Import vehicles to choose from and every unit is marked at below wholesale or wholesale price.

1.9% Financing ✓ **Certified Preowned Vehicles** • **6 yr. 100,000 mile warranty** ✓*



- 5362 **08 FORD TAURUS X** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$25,195 NOW \$21,727
3RD SEAT, MOONROOF, LIMITED, HEATED LEATHER \$259/MO.
- 5649 **10 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$25,470 NOW \$22,017
AUTO, CD, A/C, FULL POWER, SPORTY! \$263/MO.
- 5648 **10 FORD FUSION HYBRID 2.5** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$26,345 NOW \$21,757
PW, PL, CRUISE, TILT, 6 CD, SATELLITE, 41 MPG IN TOWN! \$259/MO.
- 9K0121 **07 FORD EDGE SEL AWD** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$26,595 NOW \$22,547
3.5 V6, AUTO, LEATHER, SUNROOF, AUDIO PHILE, SAT \$269/MO.
- 5639 **08 LINCOLN MKZ** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$29,945 NOW \$25,733
AWD, LINCOLN LUXURY \$309/MO.
- 5J4271 **08 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$33,195 NOW \$26,721
EDDIE BAUER, HEATED/COOLED SEATS, MOONROOF, 3RD ROW SEAT \$319/MO.
- 5637 **10 LINCOLN TOWN CAR** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$36,845 NOW \$30,855
LINCOLN LUXURY WITH 7,250 MILES! \$369/MO.
- 5598 **09 FORD E-350 VAN** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$25,170 NOW \$19,995
XLT, 12 PASSENGER, REAR A/C, REVERSE SENSING \$239/MO.
- 5653 **08 FORD F150 CREW CAB 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$30,070 NOW \$26,175
XLT, ALLOYS, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS, TILT, CRUISE, CD, A/C \$319/MO.



- 5622 **09 FORD ESCAPE 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$23,320 NOW \$19,997
XLT, SAFETY CANOPY, ROLL STABILITY CONTROL \$239/MO.
- 5630 **08 MERCURY MARINER AWD** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$24,645 NOW \$21,455
NAVIGATION, MOONROOF, 6 CD \$259/MO.
- 5K4101 **07 FORD EDGE AWD** WAS \$25,675 NOW \$23,727
SEL, DVD, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, LOADED! \$279/MO.
- 5629 **07 FORD EDGE AWD** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$25,815 NOW \$21,747
SEL PLUS, HEATED LEATHER, VISTA ROOF, TOW PACKAGE \$259/MO.
- 5642 **08 CHRYSLER 300 C** WAS \$25,985 NOW \$22,727
HEMI, HEATED LEATHER, MOONROOF, REMOTE START \$269/MO.
- 5647 **08 DODGE CHARGER AWD** WAS \$26,980 NOW \$23,888
RT, DVD, MOONROOF, LOADED! \$289/MO.
- 5650 **10 FORD EXPLORER 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$29,970 NOW \$24,675
XLT, AUTO, A/C, CD, ONLY 39K MILES! \$299/MO.
- 5631 **10 LINCOLN TOWN CAR** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$34,820 NOW \$29,747
LIMITED, LOADED, SAVE \$13,700 OFF MSRP! \$359/MO.
- 5K4251 **07 FORD FOCUS ZX5** WAS \$9,995 NOW \$7,979
SE, 4 CYL, AUTO, PW, PL, CRUISE, TILT, CD \$95/MO.
- 5594 **09 LINCOLN MKX AWD** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$42,745 NOW \$33,533
HEATED/COOLED LEATHER, REMOTE START, NAV, LOADED! \$399/MO.
- 9K0113 **07 FORD FUSION** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$14,545 NOW \$12,797
SE, LEATHER, SPOILER, 6 CD \$159/MO.
- 56321 **07 CHRYSLER 300C** WAS \$23,985 NOW \$21,477
HEMI, HEATED FRONT/REAR SEATS, MOONROOF, LOW MILES, LOADED \$259/MO.
- 56362 **04 DODGE DAKOTA CLUB CAB 4X4** WAS \$14,675 NOW \$12,475
SPORT, GRILL GUARD, STEP BARS, AUTO, A/C, ALLOYS, LOW MILES! \$159/MO.
- 56462 **03 PONTIAC GRAND AM** WAS \$10,285 NOW \$8,725
GT, V6 RAM AIR, MONSOON SOUND, SPOILER, ENHANCED TRACTION, LOW MILES! \$129/MO.
- 5654 **10 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS** WAS \$21,180 NOW \$19,075
LS ULTIMATE, LEATHER, TRACTION CONTROL, SAVE 10,000 OFF MSRP! \$229/MO.

Wholesale

- 6J0861 **04 CADILLAC ESCALADE 4x4** WAS \$25,485 NOW \$23,280
HEATED LEATHER, NAVIGATION, MOONROOF, ONSTAR, LOW MILES \$299/MO.
- 5614 **09 FORD FOCUS** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$14,995 NOW \$11,747
SE, A/C, CD, SAFETY CURTAIN, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS \$139/MO.
- 5J4302 **08 FORD F-150 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$21,495 NOW \$19,222
STX, BEDLINER, TOPPER, A/C, TILT, CRUISE \$229/MO.
- 5644 **08 MERCURY MILAN AWD** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$23,320 NOW \$20,727
PREMIER, MOONROOF, FULL POWER \$249/MO.
- 5634 **10 FORD MUSTANG HARD TOP** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$23,070 NOW \$19,997
4.0 V6, AUTO, LEATHER, SHAKER 500 \$239/MO.
- 5655 **10 FORD ESCAPE 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$24,245 NOW \$22,997
XLT, AUTO, ADVANCETRAC W/ RSC, FULL POWER, ECONOMY! \$279/MO.
- 5655 **09 DODGE NITRO 4X4** WAS \$22,500 NOW \$19,550
SLT, STABILITY CONTROL, REMOTE START, SATELLITE, AUTO, LOADED! \$239/MO.
- 5656 **09 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$45,020 NOW \$42,977
ELITE, MOONROOF, DVD ENTERTAINMENT, NAVIGATION, THX AUDIO, MUCH MORE! \$519/MO.
- 5658 **10 FORD ESCAPE 4X4** ✓ CERTIFIED WAS \$24,245 NOW \$22,997
XLT, STABILITY CONTROL, SAFETY CURTAIN, SATELLITE RADIO, GREAT ECONOMY! \$279/MO.

Wholesale Import

- 3K4122 **02 JAGUAR X-TYPE AWD** WAS \$11,575 NOW \$9,675
LOW MILES, SAFETY CANOPY, FULL POWER, AWD, JAG FOR UNDER 10K, NICE KITTY! \$139/MO.
- 6K4091 **07 TOYOTA COROLLA** WAS \$12,475 NOW \$10,475
CE, AUTO, TILT, CRUISE, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS, 38MPG! \$129/MO.
- 5623 **08 MAZDA 3** WAS \$15,880 NOW \$12,955
AUTO, FULL POWER, ALLOYS, GREAT ECONOMY! \$159/MO.
- 5615 **07 MAZDA MIATA CONVERTIBLE** WAS \$19,975 NOW \$15,747
AUTO, SHIFTER PADDLES, 6 CD, SIDE AIRBAGS! \$189/MO.
- 5640 **2008 VOLVO S40** WAS \$19,450 NOW \$16,855
ALLOYS, SAFETY CANOPY, TRACTION CONTROL \$199/MO.
- 5616 **08 MAZDA MIATA CONVERTIBLE** WAS \$22,800 NOW \$19,977
6 SPEED, SIDE AIRBAGS, FOGLIGHTS, LIKE NEW, ONLY 3,100 MILES! \$239/MO.

You can afford more new or used vehicle at Ruidoso Ford with FREE LIFETIME MAINTENANCE!

2011 FORD FOCUS SE

34 MPG
\$184 per mo.
Power Windows, Power Door Locks, Tilt Steering Wheel, Speed Control, SYNC Voice Activated System and Much More!!

2010 FORD F-150 4X4

SAVE \$7,000!
MSRP \$42,075
RELM DISCOUNT \$2,500 OFF
FACTORY REBATES \$4,500 OFF
SALE PRICE \$35,705

2011 FORD ESCAPE 4 WHEEL DRIVE

SAVE \$3,750!
MSRP \$27,215
RELM DISCOUNT \$750 OFF
FACTORY REBATES \$3,000 OFF
SALE PRICE \$23,465

2010 FORD FUSION HYBRID

41 MPG
\$28,725
RELM DISCOUNT \$1,000 OFF
FACTORY REBATES \$2,000 OFF
SALE PRICE \$25,725

LINCOLN LUXURY

2011 LINCOLN MKZ AWD

MSRP \$54,355
RELM DISCOUNT \$3,500 OFF
FACTORY REBATES \$1,500 OFF
SALE PRICE \$49,355

2011 LINCOLN MKT AWD

MSRP \$59,340
RELM DISCOUNT \$3,500 OFF
FACTORY REBATES \$1,500 OFF
SALE PRICE \$54,340

2011 FORD FIESTA

38 MPG
\$206 per mo.
Sport Appearance Package Including 6 Speed Automatic, Moon Roof, Heated Seats, Ambient Lighting, Sync Voice Activated System and Satellite Radio

2011 FORD EXPLORER

\$1000 REBATE
20% AVAILABLE!
Come And See The All New 2011 Explorer 4wd!

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Payments: 30 down 0 A/C 72 months. Payments not comparable with other
sales. 1 - APR available on selected EPA use. * See Dealer for actual vehicle
you can finance your purchase with Ruidoso. ** Finance coupon to receive lifetime
Maintenance. Offer ends 2/28/11.