

# RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2011 • OUR 64TH YEAR, No. 89 • 75 CENTS

## Babcock Downs chief

HAROLD OAKES  
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### Veteran Ruidoso detective replaces Alfred Ortiz on unanimous vote

The Ruidoso Downs City Council gave unanimous approval Monday to Mayor Tom Armstrong's appointment of Doug Babcock as Police Chief.

"He had the most experience of all the applicants and he is very knowledgeable of our area," Armstrong said after the meeting. "He is very supportive of our community and understands all the problems we deal with here."

Babcock was one of three finalists for the position interviewed Friday, Feb. 25.

"He is just a well-rounded person in law enforcement with all his training and his ideas," Armstrong said. "He had already come up with some ideas to make our police department work more efficiently."

Babcock said on Tuesday morning that he is not ready to make those ideas public yet.

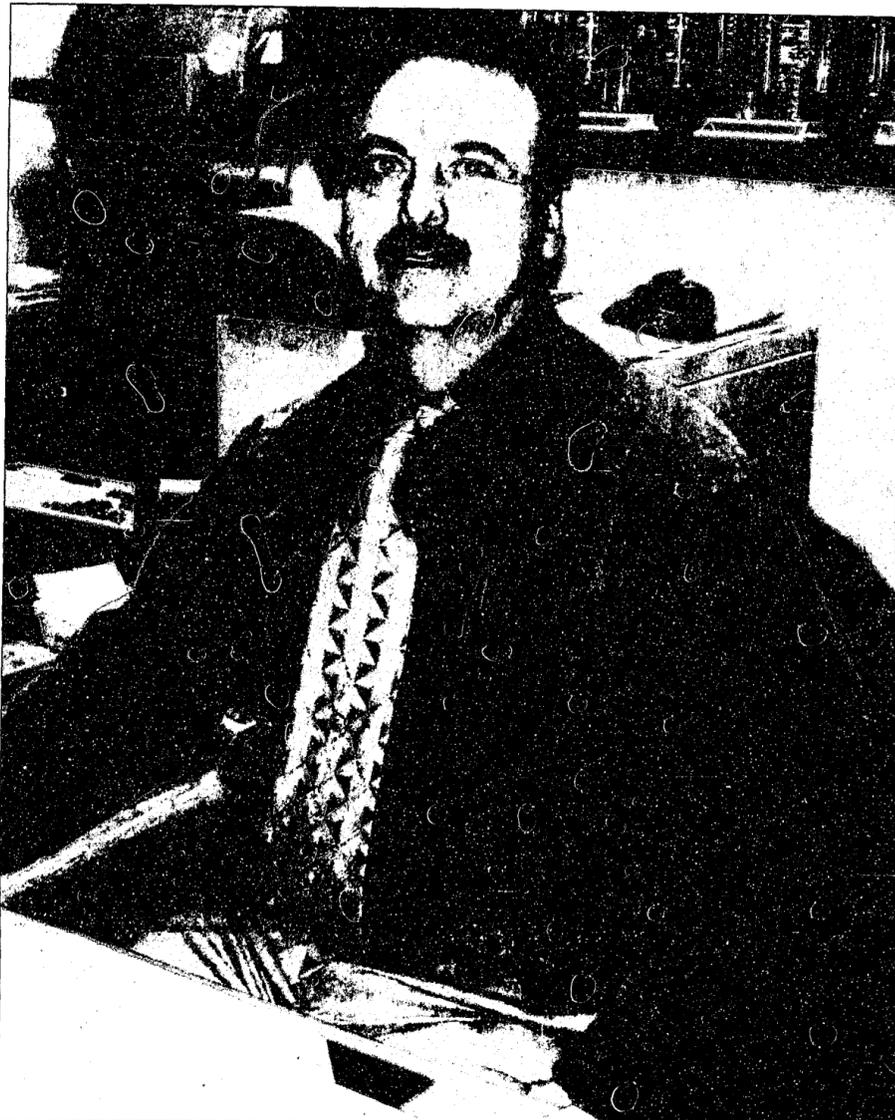
"I think I will wait on the details, but we are looking for very proactive community policing," Babcock said. "I want the citizens of Ruidoso Downs to have a department they are proud of and one they will not hesitate to come to if they have any problems. Law enforcement down there will be fair and balanced."

Babcock has been with the Ruidoso Police Department for 17 years and was one of the finalists for the Ruidoso Police Chief job last year when Joe Magill was hired to replace Wolfgang Born, who retired.

Babcock's departure from the Ruidoso Police Department leaves a vacancy in the Criminal Investigation Division.

"I hate to lose him," CID supervisor Sergeant Wade Proctor said. "He is a really good detective."

"It's going to be a good transition," Babcock said of his departure. "They are going to bring



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso Police Detective Doug Babcock has been named Police Chief of Ruidoso Downs and will be leaving the Ruidoso Police Department after 17 years.

Matt Christian in to fill in, at least temporarily."

Officer Joseph Bailey has been filling in as supervisor of the Downs Police Department since the Nov. 22 firing of Al Ortiz and departure of Corporal Jim Minter to the Artesia Police Department a couple of weeks later.

"It sounds like he stepped right up to the plate when Ortiz left back in December," Babcock said. "I'm sure that was a real eye-opener for Joe. That took a lot of initiative and was good for his department."

"I have no fear that Bailey will come out of this with flying colors," Armstrong said. "He is a lot smarter young man than he ever has been in his life because he has really stepped in and taken the reins."

Armstrong said Bailey had made the corrections within the police department that were needed.

"He is another that looks like he is going to be a well-rounded police officer," Armstrong said.

Bailey has been running a department that has been short of personnel. In addition to Minter's departure, officer Alex Trujillo departed on a military deployment in December and officer April Payan has been on an extended medical leave of absence.

"We definitely want to be full staff," Babcock said.

Armstrong complimented Bailey for reducing the overtime worked by officers in the police department.

"You still have to have adequate coverage but be frugal enough with it that it doesn't get out of hand," Babcock said.

Babcock is expected to be sworn in at the March 14 City Council meeting and begin work the next day.

"I'm looking forward to it," Babcock said. "I think they have a good bunch of people down there."

## Senate OKs study of film industry impact

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — The debate over whether the movie industry is a four-star job generator or a drain on the state's shrinking budget may finally be settled with hard numbers.

State senators on Monday approved a bill to better track whether movie-makers help or hurt New Mexico's economy. The vote was 39-0.

Sen. Timothy Keller, D-Albuquerque, sponsored the measure, which he said is neutral on the film industry but designed to

pinpoint its value to taxpayers.

"We will be able to determine how much is spent on the film industry, and how much return there is on our investment," Keller said during an hour-long floor debate.

New Mexico pays a 25 percent rebate to filmmakers for qualified production expenses. This means that for every \$1,000 a movie producer spends in the state, he is entitled to a \$250 rebate from taxpayers.

Rebates to moviemakers totaled about \$65 million last year, meaning they

spent four times that much in New Mexico on crews, equipment, meals and hotel rooms.

Keller's bill, which now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration, would illuminate a paper trail of costs and benefits.

It also would make fundamental changes to the rebate system.

To qualify, a movie company would have to have "a brick-and-mortar presence" in the state and hire New Mexico labor.

In addition, the industry's expenses and the subsidies it receives would be

open for public inspection on the state's website. Currently, only the bottom-line numbers of the rebates are available, as the state Department of Tax and Revenue says industry receipts are not subject to public records laws.

Economic studies on the movie industry generally have said that its benefits to states are minimal, as jobs are short-term and subsidies negate money spent in the state.

Two studies specific to the New Mexico industry reached vastly different

See IMPACT, page 8A

## Ruidoso adds support for film tax incentives

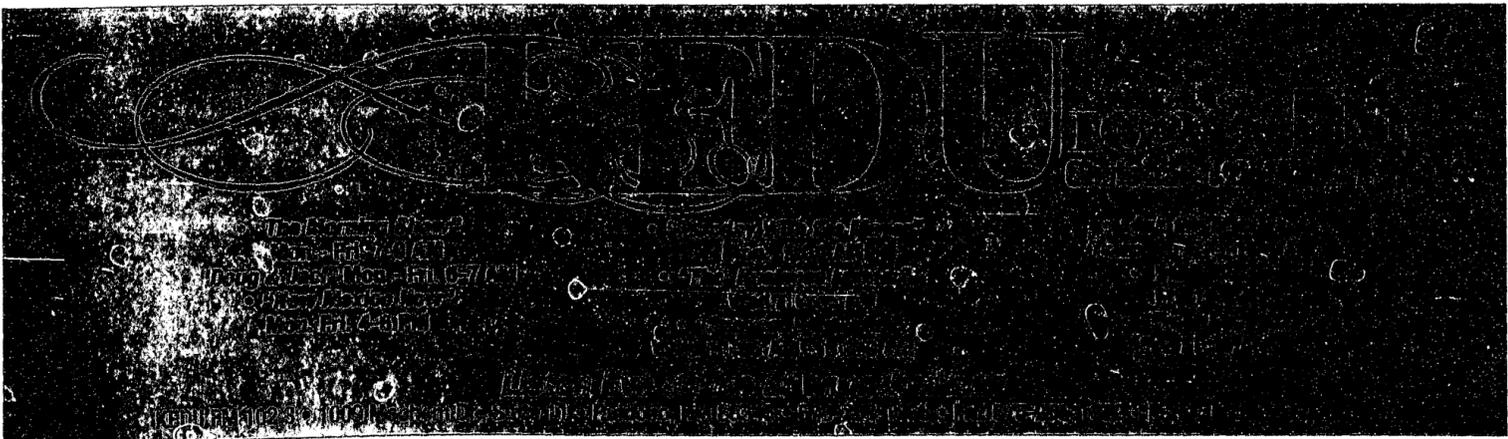
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Falling in line with most of the other municipalities and with the Lincoln County Commission, Ruidoso village councilors last week approved a resolution supporting continued tax incentives for the film industry in New Mexico.

Legislators seem on their way to agreement; days of negotiations on the part of House Republicans resulted in a unanimous vote in the House Taxation and Revenue Committee on a compromise of the state's film subsidy program.

As part of the agreement, the state would pay out no more than \$45 million dollars a year to the film

See TAX, page 8A



Sonic booms

Sonic booms could occur Wednesday, March 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Friday, March 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, March 5, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

At this time no flights are scheduled for Sunday, March 6.

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

For additional information, go to www.holloman.af.mil.

Prescribed burns

The Roswell Field Office staff of the Bureau of Land Management plan to conduct several prescribed burns during the next six to eight weeks, two in Lincoln County around Capitan.

When conducted under controlled conditions, prescribed fire is effective in reducing hazardous fuels, improving wildlife habitat, and helps increase the health of the native plant community.

Firefighters plan to implement prescribed fire activities on the first of three projects that are currently identified for treatment with prescribed fire:

The Cedar Hill Burn project site is located 30 miles northwest of Roswell on Cedar Hill off of Pine Lodge Road in Lincoln County, northeast of the town of Capitan. The overall burn plan calls for treatment of multiple units over several years.

This week, firefighters will begin prescribed fire operations on the 2,500-acre unit that is slated for treatment this year. The estimated time needed to accomplish this project is four days.

Eight Mile Draw prescribed fire project is located about 15 miles northeast of Roswell along the Pecos River. Prescribed fire will

be used to treat a fuel component consisting mostly of Sacaton grass within a 1,100-acre area. This site was previously treated in March of 2007.

Objectives that will be met through the use of prescribed fire include the reduction of hazardous fuels, and improvement of wildlife habitat.

South Mesa prescribed fire project, located at Ft. Stanton in Lincoln County just south of the Sierra Blanca Regional Airport, will be treated with prescribed fire to stop or minimize juniper encroachment.

The fuel component within this 202-acre project consists of grass and juniper that can be treated in one day under favorable weather and fuel conditions.

During ignitions, smoke will be visible from Capitan, Ruidoso and surrounding areas. These projects will be accomplished one at a time during the next six weeks. Ignitions will be conducted only when favorable fuel and weather conditions are present.

While firefighters are igniting fuels, smoke will be visible, however, it is expected to have a short duration, as it lifts and dissipates. Firefighters will monitor emissions closely to ensure that there are little or no impacts to communities or sensitive areas.

For additional information, contact Loretta Benavidez, Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist at 575-749-3278.

Information and updates about these prescribed fire projects will be posted on www.nmfireinfo.com

Polaco graduates

Air Force Airman Erick G. Polaco, above photo, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman from Ruidoso Downs completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military disci-



pline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Bertha Randolph of Ruidoso Downs, N.M.

Polaco graduated in 2005 from Ruidoso High School, and received an associate degree in 2007

from Universal Technical Institute, Phoenix, Ariz.

Pipe disposal

Free disposal for broken hot water heaters, washing machines, pipes and dishwashers damaged during the recent subzero weather by frozen and burst pipes is now available for the next 60 days at the Greentree Solid Waste Authority [GSWA], at its new location across from Duds and Suds on east Highway 70 in

Ruidoso Downs.

Broken appliances need to be transported to the new GSWA Transfer Station and Recycling Center. Inform the GSWA staff about the white goods or appliances damaged and the customary disposal fee will be waived.

Disposal fees are being waived during this period of time to assist homeowners and small business owners hard hit by the recent weather.

For more information, contact the Greentree Solid Waste Authority office at 378-4697; toll free at 1-877-548-8772 or via email at gswa@greentreeswa.org.

Democrats meet

The Democratic Party of Lincoln County will hold its next monthly meeting on Thursday, March 3, at the Pizza Hut on Mechem Drive.

You may order from the menu. Social hour begins at 5 p.m. and the business meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Letita Monyoya will be the guest speaker.

Alto Lakes

The Alto Lakes Special Zoning District Commission will meet at 9 a.m., March 3, in the Stag Room

at the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club, 1 Mulligan Drive, Alto.

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

Richey named

A Lincoln County resident was named to New Mexico's Cultural Properties Review Committee.

Gov. Susana Martinez announced Saturday that Reginald Wade Richey was one of four appointments to the committee.

Richey is the principal of an architecture and environmental graphic design firm in Lincoln. He is also the president of Rio Bonito Preserve, a non-profit organization established to encourage conservation and protection of historic and cultural resources in Lincoln County.

"The Cultural Properties Review Committee plays an important role in preserving New Mexico's culture and history," Martinez said.

"It is important that as we lay the groundwork for a more prosperous future, we also make sure that we do not lose sight of our rich past."



A Ruidoso Street Department crew fills in a major hole created by broken pavement and erosion at the intersection of Cree Meadows Drive with Hull Road. The fill work also provided some shoulder space without a drop-off. Street Department Director J. R. Baumann said the work began Wednesday and was scheduled to wrap up Thursday.

DIANNE SSTALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

Table with 7 columns: TODAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY. Includes RealFeel, Humidity, and Wind information.

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.

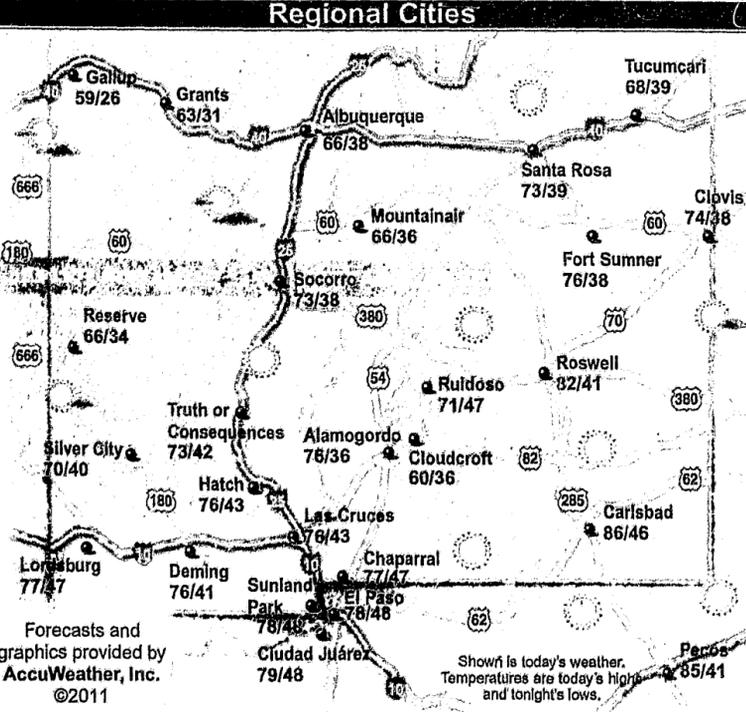


Table with 2 columns: Sun and Moon, Moon Phases. Includes sunrise/sunset and moonrise/moonset times.

AccuWeather.com

Table with 2 columns: Almanac, Ruidoso. Includes statistics through Monday for temperature, precipitation, and pollen.

Table with 2 columns: Almanac, Alamo. Includes statistics through Monday for temperature, precipitation, and pollen.

Table with 2 columns: Weather Trivia, Q: March will end sheepish if it comes in like what? Answer: A lion.

National Forecast for March 2, 2011

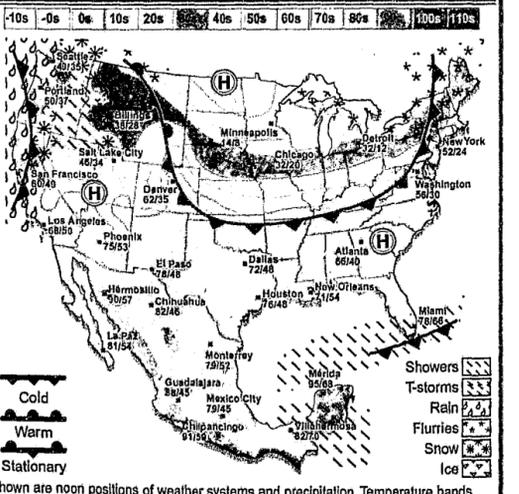


Table with 2 columns: National Cities, Regional Cities. Lists cities and their weather forecasts for today and Thursday.

Table with 2 columns: Mexican Cities. Lists Mexican cities and their weather forecasts for today and Thursday.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2011 'F' Th doso porter mal V U.S. Thurs non-p nizati Th up lil to tal the offere said Sunny Robie expla help deser traini cued staff way t time were owne chari they in th had dogs staff NM. anytl and for Slong- Ki of th teers pupp day. six-w al Vi dogs nent Si pets lage lovin "F given curru AVN work have time situat pets tion shel vehi tion " ing Cad whe cati or l has tim kep tire fulf dog Wh ad son an we fou Ar the dru cot it an ho su ke cu 9 of

# 'Espresso Angels' volunteer at animal rescue

FROM REPORTS

Thirteen Starbucks Ruidoso employees and supporters descended on Animal Village New Mexico on U.S. 70 near Alamogordo Thursday to support the non-profit pet-rescue organization as volunteers.

The volunteers showed up like "Espresso Angels" to take adoptable dogs to the weekly K9 classes offered at Animal Village, said one of the founders, Sunny Aris. Store Manager Robie DePalma-Cordero explained the decision to help by saying, "Nobody deserves to benefit from training more than the rescued dogs right here. My staff and I felt that the best way to spend our volunteer time was to help dogs who were abandoned by former owners. With training and charm school manners, they have a better chance in their new homes. We had as much fun as the dogs did, and the whole staff loves Animal Village NM. We had never seen anything like this place, and a real no-kill shelter for Southern New Mexico is long-overdue."

Kim Cadwallader is one of the trainers, who volunteers her time to offer puppy classes each Thursday. The cost of \$60 for a six-week class helps Animal Village NM rescue more dogs and cats from imminent death, Aris said.

Since Dec. 1, 2010, 153 pets rescued by Animal Village NM were adopted to loving, committed homes.

"Equal impact should be given to the fact that with currently housed pets, and AVNM's foster home network, more than 400 pets have been removed in that time from life-threatening situations," Aris said. "The pets saved come from situations including imminent shelter euthanasia, abuse, vehicular accidents, starvation and hoardings."

"I feel good about helping shelter pets," explained Cadwallader. "I know that when any dog is communicating effectively with his or her guardian, that dog has a better chance of a lifetime commitment being kept. I'm always happy and tired when I leave, and feel fulfilled about what each dog or puppy has learned. When I see they've been adopted, I know I had something to do with that, and that my time is really well spent!"

Animal Village NM co-founders, Nancy Berg and Aris, both of Ruidoso, share the joy of their life-time dreams of a no-kill shelter coming true.

It's 24-7, it's exhausting, it's expensive, it's joyful and tragic at times. We just hope that enough financial support comes in so we can keep on saving these precious lives," Berg said.

The purchase of almost 9 acres on U.S. 70/54 south of Eagle Ranch Pistachios



"It's a God thing," beams Robie DePalma-Cordero, above left, holding her new puppy. Below, Tony and Lexy Lucero take Buddy to class.



was an expensive proposition, she explained. "We've spent more than half a million dollars, and the renovations and additions for the pets' comfort, safety and good health are unending. There are many naming opportunities that we hope families and businesses will take advantage of. Our beautiful 'meet and greet' park is used for folks to introduce their current dogs to prospective dogs, also for K9 classes, birthday parties and summer camps for children. Our new log-cabin hospital unit will be named after a donor, and help to save the lives of sick or injured pets."

"Also available for naming are our beautiful 'Bunkhouse' boarding kennels, and our new adoption center. The pavilion, gazebos where people can sit with their adopted pets, walking trails, all are available as naming opportunities with substantial donations."

This is a great way opportunity for those families or businesses who want to create a compassionate legacy. Their business or family name will be seen that way for decades to come, by millions of people each year who drive by Animal Village NM on this highway."

The co-founders won't stop at rescuing pets, but have exciting plans for more services and events at the facility to rescue more

animals. "Everything we do, including boarding pets at reasonable rates, low-cost shot clinics and spay-neuter programs, concerts, pet fairs and rummage sales, bring more people to see our adoptable pets," AVNM director Aris said. "We will never make profit, unless you see it the way we do, that our profit is the hearts who are rescued. We pick up the broken promises by former owners who left them to die, brush the promises off, and find loving homes where that promise will be kept by loving, committed guardians, this time around. We have folks now who, knowing they will not be able to offer a 'forever home' to a dog or cat, choose to help us by fostering an animal in need for a short time, and instead of dumping the pet at the pound when they leave, have helped them instead to be in safe forever homes. Our foster parents feel good, knowing that they are teaching a positive lesson to their children about true love and commitment to God's four-legged babies."

Aris said an exciting and inspiring way to feel the heart of Animal Village NM is to visit their Facebook page, where adoption stories, photos and videos are posted. New guardians share stories about potty-training, keep the AVNM

staff up to date on progress and challenges and make plans for events as a committed group.

"When someone adopts from us, they become part of the village, part of a family, and they tend to come back and stay in touch," Aris said. "Many are now volunteers also. They know that we care deeply about their new pets, and always will, and that knowing they're doing well can make a tragic experience, like losing a puppy or injured pet, bearable for our staff. Our heartbreaks and our victories are shared by our adopters as a family, we laugh and cry together, and many litters are reunited already in puppy classes at AVNM. Our adopters and the wonderful homes our pets are in now make it a dream come true."

"I had so much fun, and these folks take such good care of the animals," said Terra Wallace of Starbucks Ruidoso. "The training is cool, and the animals responded so well, we could all tell they go on lots of walks, and they all seem so happy here. If I was going to adopt, I would totally adopt here. This is the kind of shelter I want to support, where I would save two, because they'd go rescue someone else. When I think of some of the things I waste my time on, it makes this day even more special

to me, knowing I helped a rescued dog even a little bit to get into his new home."

A happy surprise twist was waiting for big-hearted Robie DePalma-Cordero, who still was heartbroken over the loss two weeks ago of her beloved pit bull "Bella" to kidney failure. While volunteering, Robie found a beautiful pit bull puppy just saved from euthanasia that day and being delivered to Animal Village NM. Along with eight other dogs, including long-haired and short-haired Chihuahua adults and puppies, and a golden

retriever puppy, this young pit bull arrived with her sister during K9 class.

"It's a God thing," beamed DePalma-Cordero, holding her new puppy with happy tears running down her face. "That's all I can say. Thank you, Animal Village for what you do!"

Animal Village NM is open seven days a week, by appointment on Monday and Tuesday, at 7246 U.S. 70/54 near Alamogordo. To adopt, volunteer, or donate, join them on Facebook, visit and donate on-line at AnimalVillage-NM.com, or telephone 575-937-2509.

Thank you Ruidoso for your continued support over the years!!  
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# OPINION

## RUIDOSO NEWS

Rena Walsh, general manager  
Marty Racine, editor

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### OUR OPINION

## Film industry initiative is long overdue

There's no question that New Mexico's policy of tax incentives has helped usher the state to a front-row seat in the film industry.

Whether taxpayers are getting their money's worth is still open to question among reasonable parties; two studies in the state have reached conflicting conclusions.

Last year, Rep. Dennis Kintigh of Roswell, a conservative Republican, was the lone voice in the wilderness arguing against a continuation of the tax rebates - which, after all, were associated largely with the administration of Gov. Bill Richardson, a liberal Democrat and a politician with an eye for sexy projects.

Kintigh has been joined by a few others this year, but we're nowhere closer to gleaning the truth of the situation.

Philosophically, we can see both sides. The film industry has been good to Lincoln County, and we hope it's a major component of our future clean economy.

We also don't like groveling for industry and certainly don't want taxpayers receiving a poor return on their investment.

A new bill in Santa Fe (see page 1A) may shed clarity. It calls for transparency, sound statistical analysis and intriguing mandates for Hollywood. We'll like it even better if it gains bipartisan support.



### YOUR OPINION

## Participation in performing arts is good

To the editor:

IN AN EFFORT to demonstrate professionalism and ethical behavior, the music teachers of the Ruidoso Municipal Schools have attempted to keep school business and personnel matters out of the newspapers. In light of the numerous articles submitted by school administration, printed by the newspapers, and the recent *Ruidoso News* editorial, we find it necessary to set the record straight on the percentages, numbers, and condition of our programs.

There have been statements made concerning the number of students participating in the programs, focusing particularly on the high school band. The number stated in the Feb. 8 *Free Press* and again in the *Ruidoso News* on Feb. 23 was "like other schools in the state, the high school band should field 25 percent of the student body."

This percentage is not supported by state or national data. Following is current data from successful band programs in New Mexico.

Music Educators National Conference (MENC) states that 15 percent is the national goal for participation in high school music programs combined. Currently, our high school program

includes 16 percent of the student body. This exceeds the national guidelines, proving we agree with editor Marty Racine that our community should hold our performing arts programs to high standards when he wrote that the arts are "among the basics of a well-rounded curriculum in preparing teens for the real world where accountability, rehearsal, and teamwork count."

Mrs. Staski questioned our level of participation in music events. Here is data to exemplify the level of participation by Ruidoso band and choir students:

Solo and Ensemble - exceeds 90 percent, band and choir

All-State - 13 percent of the choir and 17 percent of the band were selected for all-state participation this year.

District Large Group Festival - All groups consistently earn a division 1 or 2 rating.

State Contest - Choir has won 2nd and 3rd place trophies in AAA competition. The band earned three 3rd place trophies and one 4th. Ruidoso MS choir competed for the first time last year winning 1st place.

Increase/Decrease of programs - In 3 years, band enrollment is down 10 percent, compared to the high school enrollment decrease of 11 percent.

Choir shows an 8 percent decrease to the high school's 11 percent decrease.

Currently, Danny Flores and Waynta Wirth teach 174 students daily in grades 6-12 in the performing arts areas of choir and drama.

In addition, Mr. Flores is responsible for 104 students in non-performance areas. Together, the two teach and are responsible for recording progress of 278 students. Gary Shaver and Bill Lamb, collectively, offer 11 periods of music classes daily, serving 230 students.

Choir and band are much like an athletic program. These programs must be developed from the early years through high school. The team teaching concept has been instrumental in building exemplary programs for the Ruidoso Municipal School District for the past nine-plus years. For quality programming and best use of music personnel, team teaching must continue.

Ruidoso Municipal Schools  
Music Faculty:  
Laura Bryant, Waynta Wirth,  
Bill Lamb, Danny Flores and  
Gary Shaver

Editor's note: See graph below furnished by the letter writers to make their point.

High School	Student Population	Students in Marching Band	Band to School Population
Mayfield	2,400	235	9%
Ocate	2,075	200	9%
LCHS	2,326	120	5%
Silver City	711	65	9%
Cobre	400	25	6%
Santa Theresa	1,327	80	6%
Deming	1,400	90	6%
RUIDOSO	600	35	6%
Grants	850	40	5%
RUIDOSO MS	475	98	21%

## Performing arts teachers well respected

To the editor:

RESPONDING to recent articles and editorials concerning Ruidoso's High School music programs, I want to add clarification about their status.

The current low enrollment at the high school level is a direct result of an administrative decision, made five years ago, to implement a remedial-reading program in Middle School at the expense of Electives.

Any student not proficient in reading was pulled from Electives and placed in a remedial-reading program or bilingual program.

An example of how this decimated the Beginning Band Class in that first year was a drop from 84 beginners in sixth grade to 17! Moreover, this administrative decision devastated enrollment for Band and Choir all three years of its tenure. As a result,

we now have low enrollment in the high school programs; skills already learned by other students intimidate beginners at the high school level and make recruitment more difficult.

Having taught choral music for 41 years in the public schools in Texas and New Mexico, (three years in Ruidoso), with nationally recognized choirs, I cannot understand the high school principal's concept of not allowing the high school band director the opportunity to effectively increase the enrollment in the high school program by team teaching with the middle school as opposed to "baby-sitting" classes with no connection to music. Every small school in the U.S. with an excellent music program does so by the effective use of team teaching.

Why is this being discouraged?

Even though enrollment was so negatively affected by that administrative decision, the quality of instruction has remained at an excellent level for those student enrolled. I wholeheartedly support our present middle and high school music teachers; they are well respected by their peers in the music field, throughout the state, for their ability to teach young people the art of music performance and reading.

Dan Hood  
Past President American  
Choral Directors Association  
New Mexico  
Past President Texas Music  
Educators Association  
Representative to the Kennedy  
Center Partners In Education  
Program  
Former Choral Director  
Ruidoso Schools  
Ruidoso

## Kintigh grandstands on legislators' retirement bill

Rep. Dennis Kintigh enjoys his role as conservative gadfly, and he's not above a little grandstanding when he thinks his cause is righteous. But sometimes the Roswell Republican can really annoy his fellow lawmakers.

Kintigh's bill (HB 18) to increase legislators' contributions to their retirement plan earned praise from the *Albuquerque Journal*. After all, the Legislature is requiring public employees to raise their contributions. Lawmakers enjoy a good pension, so it's only fair.

Except that it's more complicated. The state's biggest newspaper allowed that our lawmakers are unsalaried but receive \$150 per diem. That handsome-sounding per diem doesn't go far in Santa Fe. Not only are they unsalaried for their legislative work, many forgo their regular income during the session or put their businesses on hold. So there's a personal cost, as well.

Rep. Dennis Roch, a Texico Republican, joked that he wanted an amendment "to contribute an amount equal to our salaries." The bill passed two committees unanimously because lawmakers were probably afraid not to.

Last week in the House, however, Rep. Eliseo Alcon rose to protest: "Other than patting ourselves on the back to say we're good boys and girls, what are we doing this for?"

Kintigh responded, "This is the one area where we can contribute out of our own pockets to make this a healthier economy." He explained that taxpayers put \$2.4 million into the legislative pension plan every year. By increasing each legislator's contribution from \$500 to \$600 a year, "we are reducing the burden on our constituents."

Alcon argued that even if they each threw in an additional \$500, it still wouldn't matter. Actually, they're both correct. It reduces the taxpayer bite by an insignificant amount. The bill passed 56 to 13.

Opposition may also reflect their hours. The session has

shifted into high gear. Days are long, and the state's business now occupies weekends. A bug is working its way through the Legislature's tired ranks, resulting in some lawmakers barely able to stand and speak and others too hoarse to defend their bills. Just the day before,

Kintigh had rankled the body with comments on a bill to add a judge in New Mexico's Eighth Judicial District.

Addressing the Legislature a month earlier, Chief Justice Charles Daniels pleaded for another position in the Eighth District, where two judges struggle to keep up with their case loads. When one is disqualified, it

adds the other's burdens. Daniels himself has traveled to the district to help out. The judiciary has already slashed budgets and laid off employees, and judges accepted a pay cut.

The New Mexico Sentencing Commission has said the Eighth District needs another two or three judges. The state needs another 35 judges, but this year Daniels is asking only for this one.

Kintigh made a curious argument about how there must be something wrong with that district, and without knowing more, they shouldn't pay for another judge. He jostled with several lawyer-legislators who supported the bill. Then Alcon, a retired magistrate judge, stood up and blasted Kintigh for his unseemly attack on a judicial district.

The bill passed, 66 to 1. Alcon, an unpretentious, liberal Democrat from Milan, is Kintigh's polar opposite. He has no political postures; Alcon is himself all the time.

"We have a lot of law enforcement people who tear down the judiciary," Alcon told me later, "but you never hear a judge say anything bad about law enforcement. Life is hard enough as it is for those officers. We don't want the public tearing down the judiciary or law enforcement. Kintigh used this bill to make the courts look bad. That's where he got me upset."

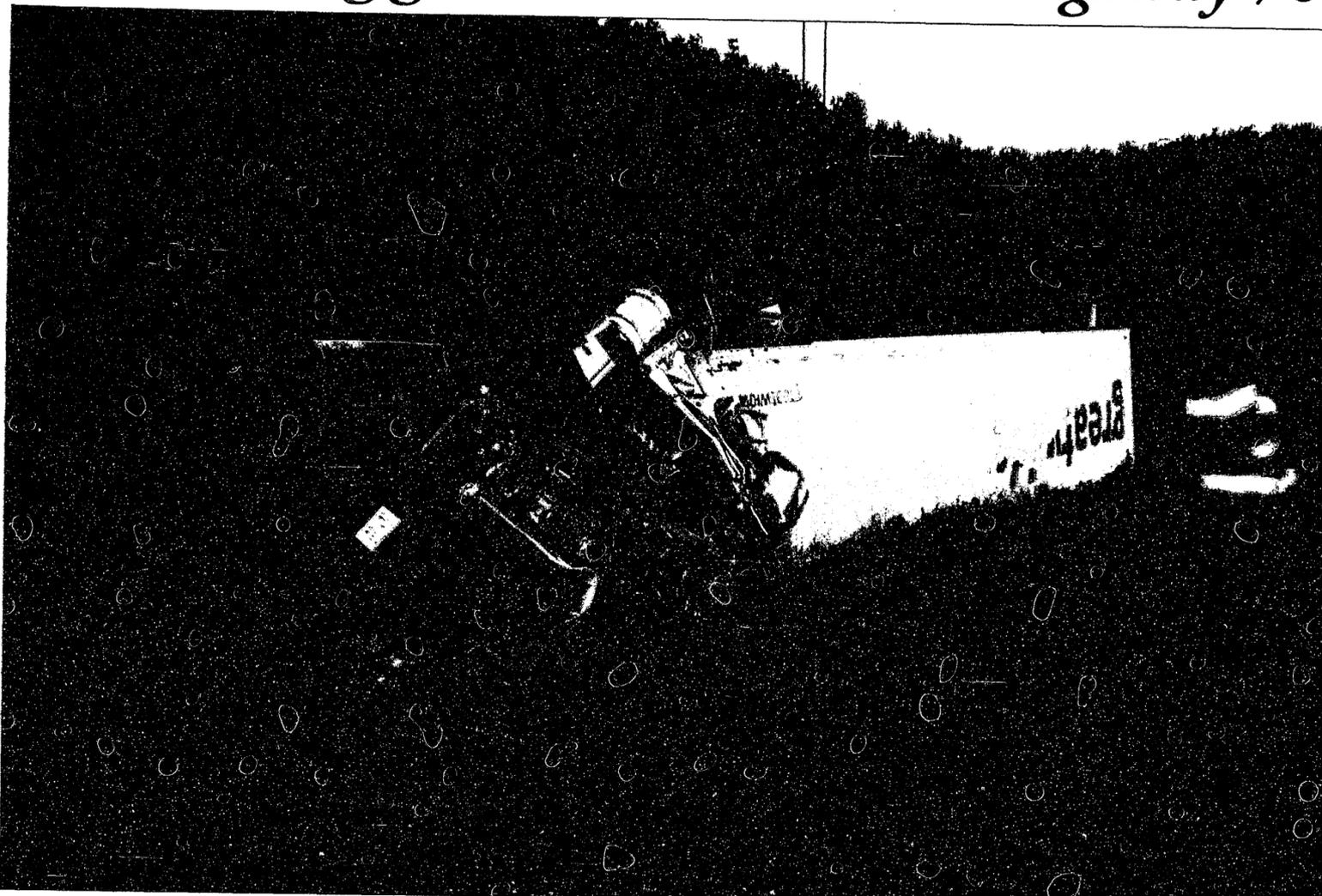
Being a gadfly has its ups and downs.



SHERRY ROBINSON

ALL SHE WROTE

# Semi hauling groceries rolls over on Highway 70



COURTESY ARTHUR HOOPES/SIERRA BLANCA DISASTER RELIEF TEAM

A semi-truck and its trailer were totaled in a rollover Monday on U.S. Highway 70 in Lincoln County. The wreck happened about 4:40 a.m. in the area of Fox Cave. The westbound vehicle went into the ditch and landed upside-down. The truck contained groceries destined for a Ruidoso supermarket. The driver, Marcelo Roman Oregon, 52, of Arlington, Texas, was taken to the Lincoln County Medical Center with minor injuries. He was cited by New Mexico State Police for careless driving. The highway was closed to a single lane until the trailer could be off-loaded and the vehicle rolled onto its wheels and removed from the scene.

## — Lincoln County Commission —

### County wages comparable

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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An employee compensation study submitted in December and showing Lincoln County in good shape on wages and benefits will be used as the basis for future pay and reclassification decisions and for the replacement of departing employees, says County Manager Tom Stewart.

Elected officials who pushed for the study commented about the results at the county commission's meeting last week. County commissioners had asked for a few months to study the results, which showed that out of 40 position classifications compared, 22 were within market, none were below and eight were above the market midpoint.

County Assessor Paul Baca said the study gave him answers to supply to employees. He's thankful.

"I have some minor issues with it, but now I have a range for employee compensation," he said. "Before when two employees questioned their salaries, I had no basis for answer. Morale deteriorates if you can't answer a question and tell them the basis. They may not like it, but at least we have a ba-sis. Let's keep it up to date."

County Clerk Rhonda Burrows said, "I think this gives us the basis and tools for going forward. There were a couple of things I understand, but am not in complete agreement with, such as rather than greater differentiation, making generic titles. In my office, I have a deputy clerk, who also is probate clerk. You see that a lot in small counties, people wearing various hats."

Any new positions in a department should be handled under the rules in the study, she agreed, but

added that she thought Vincent Yermal, who put the study together, took a more data-based approach than talking with employees.

"I'm glad to hear it did help and we can continue to use it," said Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo.

Reading from a memorandum prepared by Stewart, County Attorney Alan Morel reviewed the basis for the compensation study prepared by Yermal of S Resource Incorporated.

The county's compensation was compared to the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, Occupational Employment Agency survey under the New Mexico Workforce Investment Act that includes the counties of Chaves, Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Guadalupe, Lea, Lincoln, Harding, Otero, Roosevelt and Union. Some private sector data and information from the city of Ruidoso Downs and the village of Ruidoso also was requested, he said.

"At the next opportunity for a pay increase, the reclassifications to newly suggested titles can be accomplished," Stewart wrote. "As personnel depart and retire, an opportunity to advertise the position at a suggested higher or lower rate can be considered."

The county plan currently approved by resolution has a classification review program that can be convened to consider adjustments to bring the compensation more in line with the key chart of the study, he added. Yermal offered his services as the county considers adjustments, Stewart wrote.

"Otherwise, with some minor study and suggested adjustment going forward we are in good shape and the study can be used to guide our future actions."

### County approves pared-down wind ordinance

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

A substantially pared-down version of an ordinance designed to regulate the development of wind farms in Lincoln County was approved last week.

Steve Elliott, president of the Corona Landowners Association, told county commissioners the group, whose members own the land targeted for installation of wind turbines to generate power, are pleased with the modified ordinance version, compared to the much longer initial draft.

He suggested there be no changes and thanked county officials for working with the land group.

"I think the ordinance is fair and balanced," he said. "It allows development of wind farms in the county."

County Attorney Alan Morel pointed out that he added to the ordinance a \$1,000 permit fee and \$250 charge for each turbine up to \$10,000, and he received no complaints about the addition from any of the parties reviewing the draft.

County Planner Curt Temple in helping select the fee amount, said he looked at several different ordinances on line across the United States, "And I took the average with a cap."

Commissioner Kathryn Minter said officials in Colorado said one of the major issues is to ensure sufficient property taxes are collected on the land.

"They said to make sure you get the tax value right," she said.

County Manager Tom Stewart said when the companies came into Torrance County and began putting up renewable energy equipment on property there, officials found they were responsi-

ble to direct a portion of the tax generated to school districts, although the county's name goes on any revenue bonds issued, he said.

"Some counties low-balled on the amount of revenue firms wanted in lieu of taxes and will receive very little," he said.

of that when we're looking at a deal."

Commissioner Mark Doth brought up a couple of other subjects that deserve commission attention, he said.

"Someone wants to lay claim that (the Inn of the Mountain Gods) is the

reality is circumventing the whole process," he contended. "Several states are up in arms over what they are trying to do."

"The rule, referred to as Salazar's Christmas surprise, overturns a Bush Administration policy that prohibited unilateral protection of land with wilderness qualities by the BLM. Bush's policy was based on a 2003 settlement that barred the BLM from designating wilderness areas based on expired 1991 policies, he explained.

The order could affect oil and natural gas exploration and production, as well as recreation trails, he said.

"It's a big land grab and I'd like to see a resolution from this commission in the future not to support this secretarial order," Doth said.

The resolution listing potential negative impacts would go to the House subcommittee conducting a hearing on the policy and would become part of the official record.

Stewart said he will draft a resolution for commission consideration at its March meeting.

Commissioner Don Williams suggested Stewart also check with U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce, a Republican from the 2nd Congressional District that includes Lincoln County, who may have introduced legislation "to eliminate the land grab by the BLM."

Doth said he'll check the state of Utah, because he heard several senators filed legislation to overturn the policy and that "Wyoming is in hot pursuit. But New Mexico needs to follow their lead. We need to press from this level up. We have BM land all over the place."

The BLM supervises about 520,000 acres in Lincoln County.

*"I think the ordinance is fair and balanced. It allows development of wind farms in the county," said Steve Elliot, president of the Corona Landowners Association.*

"The caution is the schools deserve a portion of the revenue bonds. They have a right at the table and when the strategy is discussed at the Association of Counties. When a firm asks for revenue bond to put something up, the first step in the process should be to make sure the county is getting a fair deal and they need to negotiate with the schools first.

"Some counties agreed to an amount, only to find out the schools wanted half, yet the county's name is on the revenue bonds."

To avoid that error, if the county receives a request for revenue bonds to be issued, a consultant is available to ensure the county receives a fair deal and negotiates upfront with the school, he said.

To date, no one has asked for revenue bonds, Stewart said, adding that the county assessor is working on the valuation issue. The inclusion may expand to secondary schools, "And we must make sure we consider all

major employer in Lincoln County (although it is located just inside the Otero County line)," he said. "We have the race track, the hospital and the school system." The reference came from an article on tourism initiatives, he said.

The River Walk project along the Rio Ruidoso also is a grant project funded by the Billy the Kid Scenic Byways program and not under the Ruidoso Village Council, he pointed out.

"The next issue is one of grave concern for the county," he told the board referring to the U.S. Interior Department Secretarial Order 3310.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar issued an executive order in December dealing with Bureau of Land Management property, in abundance in the county. The rule defines wilderness characteristics and directed the agency to do "everything in its power to protect (wilderness areas)," Doth said.

"What they are doing in

# EDUCATION

## Computer security classes offered at ENMU-Ruidoso

JIM KALVELAGE  
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ENMU-Ruidoso has joined an elite group in computer security. Online courses from the community college now provide computer and networking security classes. A certification program will follow.

"Over a year ago we had a request from Texas Tech that wanted to know if we had a computer network security program here at the university or if we knew of any in New Mexico," said ENMU-Ruidoso Director of Information Technology Stephen Miller. "We said no, but it sounds like an interesting program and I have a lot of interest in security."

Miller has an employment history of running networks and setting standards for network security. "I started looking into it and found out that there really wasn't much available online. They were looking for an online certification program."

Miller said he believes there may be just one other distance learning program on cyber security certification in the country.

The college formed a steering committee from corporate America, government agencies and academia which pulled together information. Miller tracked down textbooks and developed an online course curriculum. The program was approved by the ENMU Board of Regents in December.

It is a 15-hour program of five courses that range from cyber security fundamentals, security defense

and counter measures, to business continuity and disaster recovery.

The program prepares students with computer and networking experience or prerequisite computer courses for entry-level computer networking security technician jobs.

Miller said the cost of the online program fits with ENMU-Ruidoso's standard of being among the lowest tuition charges in New Mexico.

"Just take the program classes at the University of Maryland that would be comparable to what we have in our certification class. It would cost about \$15,000 to complete those five classes. We're only looking at \$2,200 to \$2,500 for those five classes, and that includes the books."

Miller said the program is a way to bring revenues into the community college at a time when state funding is being cut back.

The computer and network security courses are already in place for those who want to acquire credits. A self-paced certification program will be rolled out in several months.

"We're targeting professionals in the industry with the self-paced class. Military, as well as like San-dia Labs. New Mexico's a great place because of all the high-tech. But outside of New Mexico, the feedback I've had from the National Security Institute in Washington, D.C., is this could be something that could take hold all across the U.S. We're not trying to target this for anybody outside of the United States

unless it was maybe an ally."

Miller said former Director of National Intelligence Michael McConnell said last year that if the country entered a cyber war today, the U.S. would lose. He said companies and government are moving to greatly improve security.

"I worked in the engineering department, in the control area, where we had refineries and chemical plants," Miller said of past employment at Exxon Mobile. "Those get tied into the network and that's one of the biggest concerns that we have. Right now, in the U.S., you can shut down power grids. You can shut down all of the ATMs. You can potentially maybe even explode refineries and chemical plants. Those systems can be accessed, maybe not directly, but indirectly if you can get into the corporate network."

Those concerns have government and businesses training and hiring to increase security.

"The statistics for security-related computer jobs is the second highest in the IT environment," Miller said. "There is more demand and it is growing more and more."

The materials in each course will evolve over time.

"I get emails from different security sources including Homeland Security and I try to share that information. At the end of each semester I rework the classes to be more up-to-date because this stuff changes so fast."

## KNOWLEDGE BOWL WINNERS



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

Eight regional school districts competed in the annual Knowledge Bowl that wrapped up Feb. 23 at the Ruidoso Convention Center. The varsity team from Capitan captured first place, followed by Ruidoso in second and Cloudcroft third. Cloudcroft's JV students were first, followed by Ruidoso and Tularosa. Eighth graders from Tularosa finished first, then Ruidoso and Cloudcroft. The seventh grade competition had Hondo Valley on top, followed by Ruidoso and Corona. In the sixth grade, it was Capitan first, Corona second, and Tularosa third. Above, the Capitan Varsity team, under the direction of Robert Castro, placed first in all but one meet throughout the season, capturing both the year-end title and the district title. Above, Capitan Varsity team members, l-r, Logan Eshom, Kaitlin Keaton (behind Eshom), Serena Darden, Caleb Uzzell and John Goodwin show off their newly-won trophy.

## Choir students named to All-State

Ruidoso High School Choir students were named to New Mexico All-State Treble Choir performed magnificently at Popejoy Hall, University of New Mexico, Jan. 8, said teacher Waynta Wirth.

Under the direction of Sharon Hansen from the Peck School of the Arts in Milwaukee, the choir presented a wide variety of musical styles.

"Our Ruidoso students are to be highly complimented for their accomplishment as auditions and rehearsals were quite rigorous, but well worth it to perform with the finest young voices in New Mexico," Wirth said. "There were 140 voices named to Treble Choir and 240 to Mixed Choir from high schools throughout the state of New Mexico."

Ruidoso High School students named to All-State Treble Choir were Shelby Ashburn, Mariah Diaz, Jacqueline Pride, and Abby Proctor. "Music literature performed by this outstanding choir was var-

ied, difficult, and beautifully performed," said Wirth.

"She Weeps Over Rahoon" was a particular favorite of some performers and the audience enthusiastically enjoyed "Alley Cat Love Song."

Foreign language pieces included: "Gloria" from "Missa Kenya," "Ubi Caritas" in Spanish, Felix Mendelssohn's "Laudate Pueri Dominum" in Latin, "Kresnice Slovenian Folk Songs," and perhaps most difficult in French, "Roulez, Jeunes Gens."

All-State for younger students was held in Las Cruces the last week of January and nine Ruidoso students were named to these choirs.

The Elementary Choir, made up of fourth through sixth graders, performed a delightful variety of challenging music. They sang from "Ave Maria" in Latin, pieces in Spanish and Polynesian Torres Strait Island music.

The program also included technically challenging pieces such as "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" and "Georgia on My Mind."

Ruidoso students named to this choir were Briana

Stoddard, Sierra Edmister, Blake Bright, Wakineyla Little Spotted Horse, Khaliya Sago, and Hannah Tester.

"Many members of the audience were emotionally moved by the sheer beauty and diversity of the music," Wirth said.

The Youth Choir was comprised of seventh through ninth graders including Ruidoso students Taylor Wapaha, Andi Harrelson, and Kody Rowe.

The repertoire for this choir included Handel's "Music, Spread Thy Voice Around," as well as many foreign language pieces such as "Son de Camaguey" in Spanish, a Hebrew piece, "Shiru," "Dide ta Deo," and "Kyrie" in Latin and Italian.

Directors Wirth and Danny Flores said they were proud of not only the accomplishment of these selected students, but with their work ethic, level of responsibility, and vision.

Both directors said the entire choral program at Ruidoso Schools is enriched as students participating in All-State return with experiences, insights, and techniques to be shared in local choirs.

### EDUCATION BRIEFS

#### MS Word class

Learn to create, edit, save, and print documents with Microsoft Word 2007 on Friday, March 4, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m..

The new "ribbon" spell check, the thesaurus, graphics management, and

simple tables will be covered in this one-afternoon class. The fee is \$45 or \$35 for seniors.

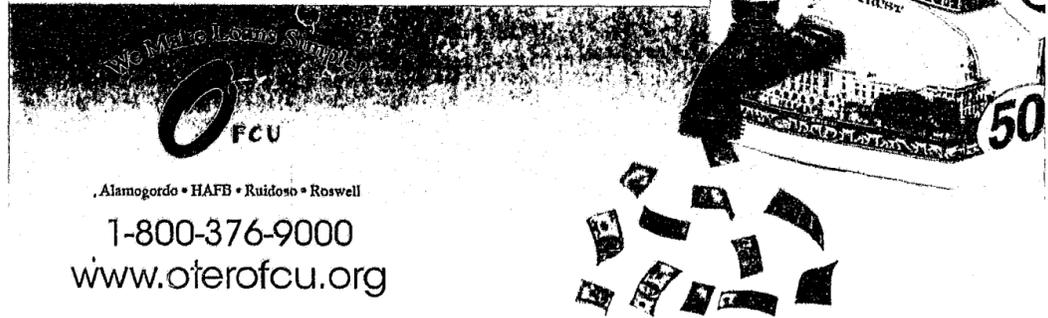
#### Fabric to dye for

Hand-dyeing fabrics enhance the creative process of quilting. Used

with other fabrics, hand-dyeing, over-dyeing, and painting fabric with dyes open up endless possibilities for sewing projects. Barb Morrison will teach the class on March 9 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m..

The fee for the class is \$35.

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# BLM reforming policy on wild horses, burros

Lengthy process follows extensive public input

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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Director of the Bureau of Land Management Bob Abbey Thursday announced that following an extensive public process, the agency is accelerating fundamental reforms to how it manages wild horses and burros on public lands.

The proposed strategy includes reducing the number of wild horses removed from the range for at least the next two years; reaffirming the central role that the National Academy of Sciences' on-going review of the program will have on science-based management decisions; increasing adoptions; significantly expanding the use of fertility control to maintain herd levels; and improving its care and handling procedures to enhance the humane treatment of the animals.

The BLM will continue to oppose the killing or slaughter of wild horses or burros as a management practice.

Officials with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said they are encouraged by the BLM announcement that it is accelerating the implementation of long sought-after reforms to how the agency manages America's wild horses and burros.

"The BLM's announcement is a result of intense public outcry to save America's wild horses,"

said Matt Bershadker, senior vice president of ASPCA Anti-Cruelty. "The ASPCA will be watching closely to ensure the BLM lives up to its new promises."

Bershadker added, "The ASPCA reminds the American public that more than 15,000 wild horses and burros are still slated for round-up over the next two years, adding to the tens of thousands of wild horses currently languishing in long-term holding pens."

"However, we are encouraged that the BLM is taking the necessary steps to correct its inhumane and fiscally irresponsible policies before these iconic horses are completely eradicated, and we look forward to greater transparency in all aspects of the BLM's wild horse program."

Late last year, the ASPCA filed suit in New York against U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar to challenge the BLM's illegal roundup of the Piceance-North Douglas Herd in Colorado. The BLM continues to violate the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, which was passed to protect wild horses and burros from capture and preserve the land used by them, Bershadker said. More than 19 million acres originally designated for wild horse use have slowly been whittled away for cattle grazing, making them both the victim and target for removal.

The use of helicopters to run the terrified horses

over miles of rangeland has resulted in serious injuries and several horse deaths.

"We've taken a top to bottom look at the wild horse and burro program and have come to a straightforward conclusion. We need to move ahead with reforms that build on what is working and move away from what is not," Abbey said.

"To achieve our goal of improving the health of the herds and America's public lands, we need to enlist the help of partners, improve transparency and responsiveness in the program, and reaffirm science as the foundation for management decisions."

"It will take time to implement these reforms, but as a first step we are aiming to increase adoptions and broaden the use of fertility control. And while we do this, we are reducing removals while NAS helps us ensure that our management is guided by the best available science."

The reforms respond to the input of more than 9,000 members of the public, who commented on last year's Wild Horse and Burro Program Strategy Development Document through public meetings and written statements.

Specifically, the BLM proposes to:

- commission the National Academy of Sciences to review previous wild horse management studies and make recommendations on how the BLM should proceed in light of

the latest scientific research.

The NAS review is expected to be completed in early 2013. Specifically the study will look at the methods for population modeling, the annual rates of population growth, fertility control methods, evaluation of carrying capacity of various lands to support wild horse herds, genetic diversity in wild horse herds, and predator impact on wild horse population growth.

- release within the next 30 days specific procedures by which members of the public can apply to enter into partnerships with the federal government for long-term care of wild horses that are removed from the public rangeland.

- significantly increase the number of mares treated with fertility control from 500 in 2009 to a target of 2,000 in each of the next two years during the NAS study, pending sufficient budget allocations.

Abbey said the BLM's ultimate goal is to make various fertility control measures the primary means to maintain healthy population levels.

He said the BLM intends to work closely with the Humane Society of the United States to implement and monitor this expanded effort.

- reduce the annual number of wild horses removed for at least the next two years from 10,000 to 7,600, a level that would essentially maintain the current number of wild horses and burros on the

range.

The NAS review would be completed in early 2013. Abbey said that while drought or other emergencies may require the removal of more than 7,600 animals, the BLM has decided to adopt this more conservative approach pending input from the NAS regarding the number of horses than can be safely and humanely left on the open range.

In addition, Director Abbey said the BLM will continue to strengthen areas on which it has already started. These include:

- Enhance humane animal care and handling practices. The agency will conduct thorough reviews and add appropriate controls to the agency's contracts and policies to strengthen humane animal care and handling practices.

This will apply to both gathering contracts and short-and long-term holding facility contracts.

- Promote volunteerism in the management of wild horses. The proposal calls for increased engagement of the public by enhancing public outreach, recruiting local volunteers to assist in monitoring the health of the rangelands where animals roam, and encourages partnerships to increase herd-related ecotourism.

- Improve transparency and openness. Abbey also said it is important to reaffirm throughout the agency the BLM's fundamental commitment to transparency in all facets of the

wild horse and burro program.

This includes increasing public viewing opportunities during gathers and at short-term corrals and long-term care facilities to the highest extent possible without compromising the safety of staff, members of the public, or the animals. The BLM is also committed to the accurate, prompt, and public release of information related to the program.

An analysis of the public's comments and a detailed proposed implementation strategy will be posted Monday at [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov). The public is invited to review and provide comments to the BLM on this strategy through March 30, 2011, and should be submitted by e-mail to [wildhorse@blm.gov](mailto:wildhorse@blm.gov) with "Comments on Strategy" in the subject line.

"This document reflects our commitment to work with all stakeholders to ensure that viable herds of wild horses and burros remain on our nation's public lands for generations to come," Abbey said.

"We share a common goal to improve the wild horse and burro program and the health of the public lands we manage. Achieving this goal will require a determined focus on reform, new ideas, and opening a new chapter in the management of wild horses, burros, and our public lands."

The BLM manages more land — more than 245 million acres — than any other federal agency.

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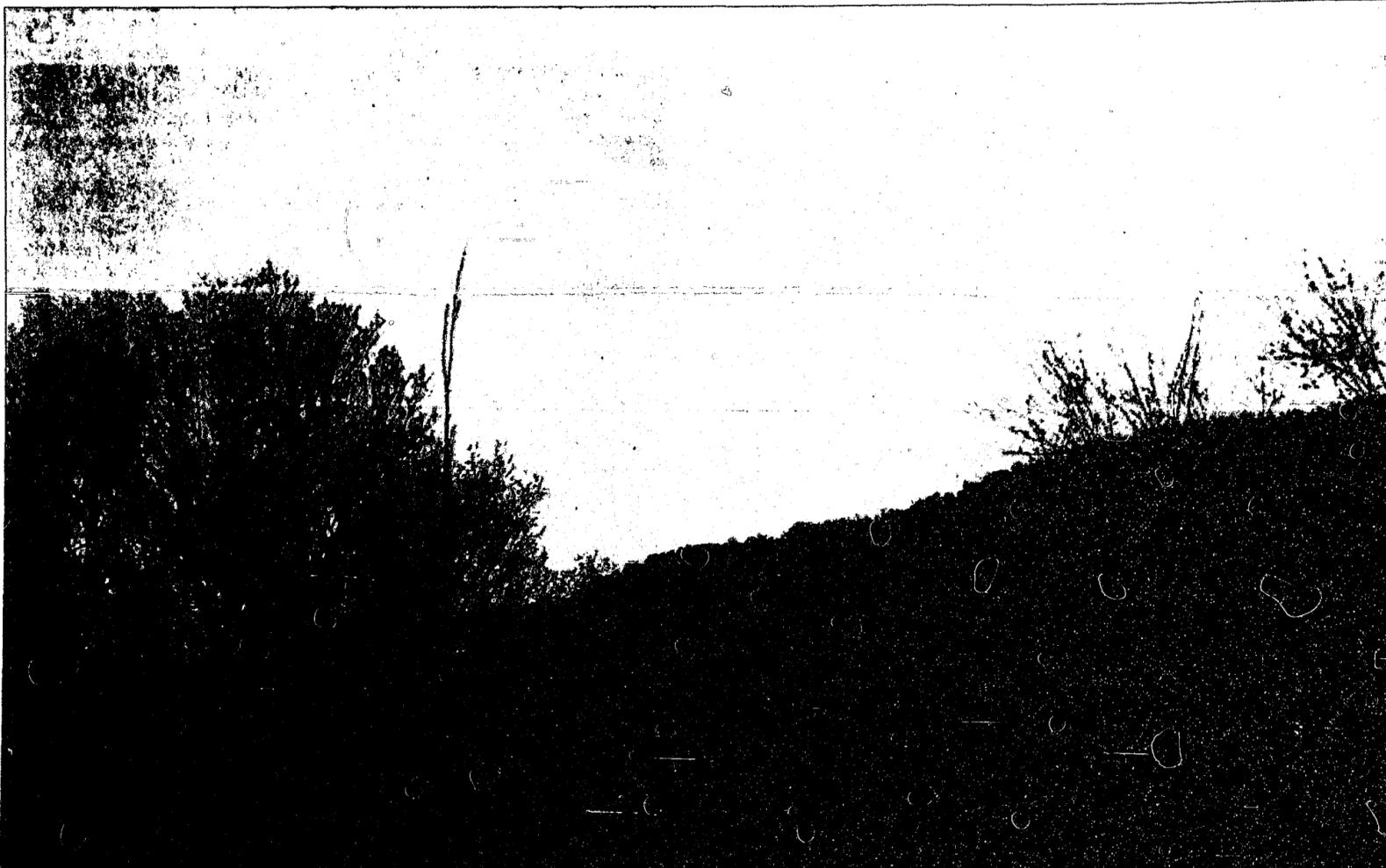
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# PARALLEL CONTRAILS



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

The contrails produced by two jets form parallel lines Tuesday morning in the sky east of Ruidoso Downs.

## TAX

FROM PAGE 1A

industry in a single year.

The 25 percent tax rebate would be retained, but could be spread out over several years. The compromise will free up more than \$20 million dollars to be used for vital services in school classrooms and to help protect health-care for the elderly and the poor.

The bill next goes to the floor of the House of Representatives, but some advocates are working to up the limit to \$65 million, contending it is more realistic considering the cost of an average film production.

Senate Bill 44 passed the State Senate unani-

mously and now also goes to the House. This bill calls for a study on the economic impact on the film industry and the effectiveness of the film tax incentive. It also tightens up the residency requirement. Only taxable expenses to resident businesses and workers are eligible for the 25 percent tax rebate and one of the requirements is a physical address, no more post office boxes.

The local economy of Carrizozo already directly benefited from the lure of tax breaks to production companies when portions of the film, *The Book of Eli*, starring Denzel Washington was shot there two years ago.

The tax incentives, a favorite program of former governor Bill Richardson, a

Democrat, are on the chopping block of Republican Gov. Susana Martinez. The governor wants lawmakers to reduce a film production tax credit, which would save an estimated \$25 million that could be used to offset possible budget cuts.

Commenting on the approval by the council, Dirk Norris, director of Digital Media Development of Lincoln County, said, "Ruidoso is the fourth of Lincoln County's five municipalities to pass a resolution in support of the state film production incentive. This sends a clear message to the state, the film industry, and to our own elected officials at all levels that Lincoln County thinks the film industry is a good thing for New Mexico and for Lincoln

County."

"Our residents and businesses recognize that the film industry is an economic development opportunity and an educational opportunity. Films bring money," Norris said. "They pay for hotel rooms and transportation, rent properties, buy materials at lumber yards and purchase antiques and art. They utilize restaurants and caterers. This is much like the tourist industry but they also hire local talent and workers."

"As long as the 25 percent film production incentives remain in place, the film industry will grow. And with that growth will be more jobs and the need to train people to fill those jobs. There is a great educational opportunity here as well. One statistic shows that high school students enrolled in film and media programs have a 96 percent graduation rate, as

opposed to the state average of 50 percent. Ten thousand students are either graduated or currently enrolled in film and media courses throughout the state. Lincoln County could be training people as well and in fact, Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso now offers two courses, in acting and in film editing. The potential for growth in this area is huge, and the possibility that residents can train and then work right here in Lincoln County is strong. The areas of film post production, for instance sound mixing and editing, are expanding and there is a great effort to bring and create more of this work to New Mexico."

Norris recently traveled to Santa Fe with Leadership Lincoln officials.

"I told both State Sen. Tim Jennings (D-Roswell) and State Sen. Rod Adair (R-Roswell), as well as the lieutenant governor that

Ruidoso was the fourth municipality to show it's support of the film industry. Corona, Capitan, Ruidoso Downs, and now Ruidoso have all said, 'We want films in Lincoln County. Please bring us your money.'"

In other action under the Ruidoso consent agenda, councilors approved without discussion in a single vote:

- to schedule a public hearing on March 29 for an ordinance amending the village municipal code Chapter 54 dealing with land use to apply zoning to annexed properties.

- to schedule a public hearing on March 29 for an ordinance amending the village municipal code of Chapter 54, land use, sections dealing with permitted and conditional uses in each zoning district, changing the approach from a cascading reference to listing each individually.

## IMPACT

FROM PAGE 1A

conclusions. One found that the state got back just 14 cents for every dollar spent on movies. The other said the state received \$1.56 for every dollar of

investment in the film industry.

Sen. John Arthur Smith, D-Deming, said Keller's bill would eliminate all guesswork and show precisely whether movies are a good or bad deal for taxpayers.

Newly appointed Sen. Bill Burt, R-Alamogordo, said he was convinced the

industry would look good when all the numbers were crunched.

He said his area had benefitted from temporary jobs and spending by crews during the filming of *Transformers 2* and other movies.

In the House of Representatives, various members are trying to cap the rebates for moviemakers at \$45 million a year.

Republican Gov. Susana Martinez has argued that the "subsidy" for Hollywood takes away money from classrooms and other basic needs.

She wants to cut the rebate from 25 percent to 15 percent, an idea that has not gained favor in the Legislature.

Keller said the staff overall gives about \$1.3 billion in annual tax exemptions, deductions or credits to various industries.

His proposal to create a measuring stick on benefits of the movie industry is SB 44.

Santa Fe Bureau Chief MILAN SIMONICH can be reached at [msimonich@tmnp.com](mailto:msimonich@tmnp.com) or 505-820-6898. His blog is at [nmcapitolreport.com](http://nmcapitolreport.com).



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---	--

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WEDNESDAY

# Do

■ Issue a museum of Jim Kofakis

JIM KALVELAGE

Some citizens in Ruidoso want more hiring departments. The design while design Museum of West inter Kofakis as director.

City council members have many applications for the job. "The issue a museum of in house Clerk Capitan house, Martinez interviewed and May myself, and the interview Armstrong Kofakis modifications." The job advertised "So you the quality man over museum?" "Are you accomplished months of ideas and tions that would give want to that position Armstrong has shown

# Ko

JIM KALVELAGE

"Interior moved from title at the Downs' House of the Kofakis is director. City Council

Jim Kofakis

EL C (TH) Stretch Mex first in Europ the U serv 15 prima Port and

# Downs councilors want more say-so in hiring

Issue arises out of museum appointment of Jim Kofakis

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Some city council members in Ruidoso Downs want more involvement in hiring department directors. The desire was voiced while designating Hubbard Museum of the American West interim director Jim Kofakis as the museum's director.

City councilor Gary Williams questioned how many applicants applied for the job.

"The process was to issue a vacancy to the museum director and post it in house," responded City Clerk Carol Virden. "In house, Mr. Kofakis was interviewed for the position and Mayor Armstrong, myself, and payroll/personnel (manager) conducted the interviews and Mayor Armstrong felt that Mr. Kofakis meets those qualifications."

The job opening was not advertised elsewhere.

"So you're satisfied with the qualifications of said man over there to run our museum?" asked Williams. "Are you going on what he's accomplished the past few months or for some of the ideas and recommendations that he has come up during this process that would give you a desire to want to continue him in that position?"

Armstrong said Kofakis has shown an ability to

lead the museum.

Williams told the mayor that the city council was able to participate in the hiring of another city department director.

"Was an opportunity given to any of the other council members to be a part of the process this time? Is there a reason why not?" Williams asked the mayor.

Armstrong said the process was done in-house.

"But still it's a director's position," responded Williams. It should at least have some kind of representation from the councilmen just to see how it was accomplished. You know, I don't mind hiring transit drivers, I don't mind hiring secretaries, I don't mind hiring public works people on a recommendations from staff and from your office.

"But we're talking about a director whose involvement on a department is a little more in-depth. I think council members should have some kind of an awareness on how that was accomplished."

Williams said he wanted more openness.

"I hate to say it, but we basically sold our soul to get in on the police chief's interview process and that's a director's position. I just would like to see when we hire directors in the future that any member of this council should be a part, maybe not a direct part, but at least in the process of knowing how this is being done."

Virden said the public works, museum, planning and zoning, and finance directors do not fall under the Fair Labor Standards Act and last year the city council revised the personnel policy to remove those directors from being appointed positions.

Williams said he understood filling those positions, as well as the city clerk and police chief, were at the recommendation of the mayor.

"But this is a director's position. The responsibility about being part of leading a department is a little bit more of an awareness for us. I'm just asking as a member of the council that we be part of the process. I don't want to be kept out of the loop."

Williams added that he believed it is a little bit "irresponsible" for the city to leave the council without a say on who a director should be.

City attorney H. John Underwood suggested spelling out the process of hiring directors in the city's policies and procedures instead going piecemeal. The municipal clerk and police chief are appointed positions, with recommendations from the mayor.

City Councilor Tommy Hood agreed with Underwood.

"I think the council would feel more involved," Hood said.

"If we have another one we'll make sure that that happens so we don't have to sell our souls again," responded Armstrong.



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso Downs City Councilor Gary Williams expressed his annoyance over being left out of the loop on some city hirings.

# Kofakis hired as director of the Hubbard museum

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

"Interim" has been removed from Jim Kofakis' title at the City of Ruidoso Downs' Hubbard Museum of the American West. Kofakis is now the facility's director.

City Council was unani-

mous Monday in approving Mayor Tom Armstrong's recommendation.

"He's always been a part of the working of the museum," Armstrong told the council. "He's been like a rock for the museum, holding it as stable as it could be. He's also here since he was moved into this posi-

tion. He has shown that he has the ability to bring our museum forward, and when I say forward just to make sure the museum doesn't spend money unwisely."

Kofakis was hired in August 2006 as the museum's special events and fund raising coordinator.

He was appointed interim director in July 2010 by Armstrong, following the resignation of Jay Smith. Kofakis continued to be in charge of fundraising and development at the museum while assuming the interim director's title.

As the museum director Kofakis will receive an

annual salary of \$56,130. He has a degree in business administration and economics.

"He has other ideas and is moving them forward," Armstrong said of Kofakis. "People can see a lot of the items that needed to be done in the museum to bring our people in, the tourists, and just make it more popular."

Smith resigned last summer after he had pleaded with the city to refrain

from additional funding cuts for the museum. He said in April 2010 that he would pursue new opportunities.

"Everything changes and evolves with time," Smith said at the time. "What was once a good fit is no longer a good fit."

Smith had been brought in shortly after the museum was given to the city in August 2005 by Ruidoso Downs Race Track owner R.D. Hubbard.



JIM KOFAKIS  
INTERIM MUSEUM  
DIRECTOR

JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

Jim Kofakis was all smiles Monday after being named director of the Hubbard Museum of the American West.

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# Spotlight on Business

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**Spotlight on Business "Meet the people"**  
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# RUIDOSO NEWS

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# SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 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](http://www.skiapachesnowreport.com)

Tickets: Season passes are normally available by phone at 464-3800.

Snow past 48 hours: 0 inches  
Season total: 59 inches

Mid-mountain snow: 20 inches  
Snow surface: Spring conditions

Weather for Wednesday: Sunny skies. High 69F. Winds W at 10 to 15 mph. Wednesday evening, clear skies. Low around 45F.

Winds W at 5 to 10 mph.

Weather for Thursday: More sun than clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.

Groomed runs: Bunny, Easy Street, Ramp, Top Notch, Lower Deep Freeze, Capitan Lite, Lower Moonshine, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Chino, Moonshine Gulch, Elk Ridge and Bull Run.

Lifts open: No. 2 (open to Midway), No. 3, No. 4, No. 5. Gondola: open

### Results

#### Boys basketball

Monday, Feb. 28

District 3B playoffs

Hondo 63, Corona 20

Saturday, Feb. 26

District 4B playoffs

Reserve 68, Carrizozo 56

Friday, Feb. 25

District 7-1A Championship

Hagerman 85, Capitan 35

Thursday, Feb. 24

District 4-3A playoffs

Lovington 62, Ruidoso 27

#### Girls basketball

Saturday, Feb. 26

District 4B playoffs

Carrizozo 53, Reserve 45

District 7-1A Championship

Hagerman 38, Capitan 33

Thursday, Feb. 24

District 4-3A playoffs

Lovington 57, Ruidoso 48

District 7-1A playoffs

Capitan 37, Mescalero 31

### Sports On Tap

#### Basketball

##### Girls

Friday, March 4

State playoffs

Taos at Ruidoso, 6 p.m.

Mescalero at Fort Sumner, 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 5

District 3B Championship

Team TBA at Hondo, 2 p.m.

##### Boys

Wednesday, March 2

District 3B playoffs

Lake Arthur at Hondo, 6 p.m., winner will play at Valley Christian Friday at 6 p.m.

District 4B playoffs

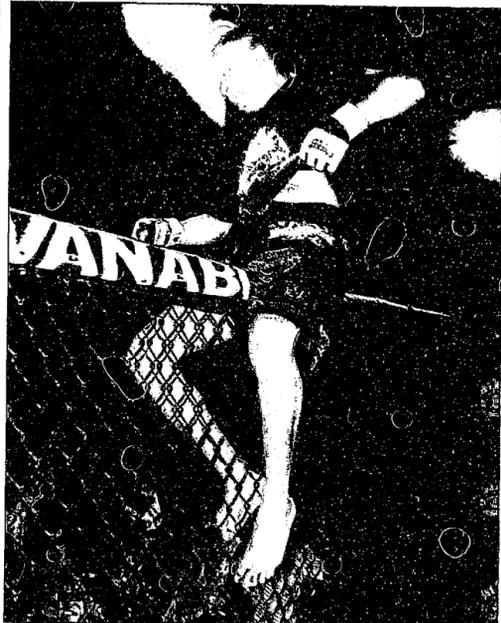
Carrizozo at Reserve, 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 5

State playoffs

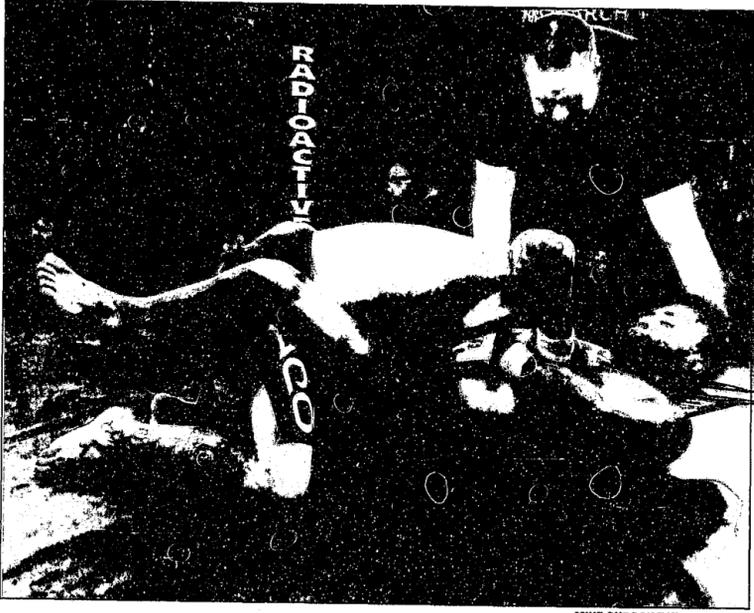
Ruidoso at Sandia Prep, 5 p.m.

Capitan at Cliff, 3 p.m.



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Coty "Ox" Wheeler celebrates his big win with his loyal fans.



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Wheeler wins the main event Saturday night as he forces Mike Chupa to submit on a guillotine maneuver as the referee steps in to end the fight.

## 'Ox' wins main bout at IMG

*Saturday's Warrior Challenge at Mescalero presented 18 'Dukes of Destruction' in physical anarchy*

MIKE CURRAN  
[mcurran@ruidosonews.com](mailto:mcurran@ruidosonews.com)

Just in case you were wondering how the Wheeler/Jackson-promoted cage fights fared at the Inn of the Mountain Gods (IMG) Saturday evening you may rest easy. When King of the Cage and IMG tentatively ended their contractual arrangement, Mescalero/Ruidoso native Coty "Ox" Wheeler and Greg Jackson, of Jackson's MMA gym in Albuquerque, put together the fight card for Saturday's event.

Initially, spectators trickled in slowly as they have in the past for the KOTC octagon occurrences, but by 7 p.m., when the first match got under way between Landon Vanata (0-0) and Juan Fabian Salas (2-0) in the 155-pound class (in the first of four scheduled amateur fights), the hall was filled to overflowing.

Vanata (fighting out of the Jackson MMA camp) showed discipline, paid attention to his corner

and won a unanimous decision over Salas in the three, three-minute rounds.

The subsequent match had Ray Martinez (0-0) and Fernie Garcia (0-1, of El Paso) doing battle in the 135-pound division. Garcia earned a unanimous three-round decision mainly on his ground game exploits, which featured escapes, kicks and offense. He knew what to do with his hands and feet and showed confidence before the fight even began.

In the third clash, John Sparks of Albuquerque took out Julian Nevarez of El Paso on a rear naked choke at the 1:57 mark of the first round in a 155-pound class fight.

In the last amateur duel of the evening two 140-pounders saw combat as Nick Gonzales (6-1) of Albuquerque and Adam McGurk (6-2) of El Paso mixed it up in the octagon. Both fighters were evenly matched standing up and on the ground. Both warriors went at it full tilt for all three rounds and in the end Gonzales got the win on a



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Brendan Weafer enjoys his victory over Bruce Ries in the 155-pound class.

29-28, 30-27 and 29-28 decision by the three ringside judges.

After a brief interlude, the professional fights kicked off with Brendan Weafer (4-3, from Albuquerque) taking on Bruce Ries (2-0, of Pueblo, Colo.) in a 155-pound match of three five-minute rounds. Reportedly, the 27-year-old Weafer is a college graduate with experience in finance before deciding to give cage fighting his

full focus.

Weafer was all business from the get-go and vanquished Ries at the 33-second mark of the first round on a TKO.

Fight No. 6 featured Vadiano La Luz (0-2, of Albuquerque) pitted against Matt Madrid (2-2, of Silver City). Ringside personnel believed La Luz was losing the 185-pound

See **FIGHTS**, page 2B

## Local district/state playoff basketball picture

MIKE CURRAN  
[mcurran@ruidosonews.com](mailto:mcurran@ruidosonews.com)

In district action both the Capitan girls and boys teams finished in second place; Hondo teams are still vying for a top district spot; the Mescalero girls' team was seeded for a state playoff bid; each of the Carrizozo squads are still in the district picture and the Ruidoso hardwood teams begin state competition this weekend.

### Ruidoso

The tough part of D4-3A play is there are only three teams in it - Ruidoso, Lovington and Portales.

#### Girls

On Feb. 11, the Lady Warriors downed Lovington at home, 56-47, but in last Thursday's district playoffs the Ladycats took the measure of the Lady Warriors, 57-48, putting the Ruidoso girls out of contention.

To date the Ruidoso girls finished the regular season



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

The Lady Tigers were awarded their second place district trophy Saturday at Hagerman.

and district competition with a 15-10 overall record and were 1-3 in district.

Because of their schedule and record they were seeded into the state playoffs and will entertain No. 10-ranked Taos in Ruidoso at 6 p.m.

#### Boys

In the first round of dis-

trict contention, the Warriors lost to Lovington, 62-27, and to this point carry an overall record of 10-15.

Because of their scheduling and wins over some larger schools they were seeded into the state playoffs for the second consecutive year. Saturday they

will travel to Albuquerque to face off against Sandia Prep at 5 p.m.

#### Capitan

Both of the Tiger teams finished up in second place in D7-1A.

That's not too shabby considering powerhouse Hagerman is included in

the mix.

#### Girls

Coach John Devine has done a good job with the Lady Tigers this season, especially when you consider he lost two frontline starters in Kirsti Davis and Jamie Fields to injuries.

Last week they played three district playoff games

getting by Gateway Christian, 49-24, on Tuesday, beating a tough Mescalero Lady Chiefs squad Thursday, 37-31, before losing at Hagerman Saturday, 38-33.

In Thursday's game against Mescalero, eighth-

See **HOOPS**, page 2B



JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Capitan Tigers receive their D7-1A second place award Friday at Hagerman.

# FIGHTS

FROM PAGE 1B

battle until midway through the second round when La Luz took Madrid out with an armbar at the 1:42 mark.

The seventh contest of the evening could have arguably been viewed as the best fight of the night. Tommy Truex (7-3, out of Albuquerque) faced off against J.R. Sotelo (2-4, of El Paso) in a 155-pound matchup.

This was a bruising, physical war in which Sotelo took command from the opening bell. Halfway through the first round Sotelo landed a flurry of left

and right crosses which visibly stunned Truex on his feet. For a few seconds it surely look as though Truex was going down for the count.

He somehow survived Sotelo's onslaught and at the 4:37 mark of the first round reversed the entire fight with a Kimura leg hold on the El Paso fighter. The stocky Truex showed considerable stamina and survivability.

The next-to-the-last fight of the evening saw Frank Gomez, out of Albuquerque, face off against Alfredo Herrera (2-1, from Hobbs) in a 145-pound tilt. Gomez took this one at the 1:45 mark of the first round with a crucifix.

The fans on hand were

animated throughout the evening but the main event of the night between Mescalero/Ruidoso native Coty "Ox" Wheeler (13-3) and Mike Chupa (4-5, El Paso) brought them to a crescendo of boisterous endorsement.

More than a half-dozen Native American pow-wow drummers chanted and put down a heavy beat on a single ceremonial drum as a lone Apache dancer wowed the approving crowd.

Wheeler is a talented 135-pound cage fighter but he's also savvy in the ways of marketing and knows how to play up to the spectators.

His entrance did not let his many fans down. Now all he had to do was take

care of business and defeat Chupa in the ring.

And there was another reason he needed that victory: The popular local fighter is currently between contracts with the UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) and a loss Saturday could have put his next contract in jeopardy.

Wheeler did not disappoint. In the initial round he showed focused cage control with good take-downs, stayed on top and landed a bunch of close-range elbows.

Chupa had a good guard and made Wheeler work for what he got.

With barely 15 seconds gone in the second round Wheeler applied a guillotine maneuver to Chupa



"Ox" Wheeler poses with James Flores who will fight March 5 in Vegas

and it was all over to the uproarious approval of his many friends and fans in the audience.

Of the nine fights, Greg Jackson MMA fighters won eight of the contests. Only Fernie Garcia (in the sec-

ond amateur bout of the night) was able to overcome one of the Albuquerque-based fighters.

Unsubstantiated reports have the Wheel-er/Jackson group returning to IMG in the future.

# HOOPS

FROM PAGE 1B

grade athlete Georgia Lynn Eldridge (Where has she been hiding?) scored 18 points, while Kaitlin Keaton dumped in 11.

Mescalero took the first quarter, 12-6, but Capitan grabbed a 17-16 lead at the half.

Going into the last period of play the Lady Tigers clung to a 28-26 advantage before winning by six at the final buzzer.

The Capitan girls applied defensive pressure throughout the contest and Mescalero missed foul shots when they were sorely needed.

In spite of an 11-12 overall record, and more importantly, a 5-4 district record, the Lady Tigers were not seeded into the state playoffs.

## Boys

The Tigers, under head coach Johnny Carson, had a good year and have played to this point with a credible 13-8, 4-3, record.

The unfortunate thing is they had to play district juggernaut rival Hagerman (26-0, at the time) Friday and lost, 85-35.

The writing was on the wall in the first quarter of the contest when Hagerman jumped out to an 18-4

lead in the first eight minutes of action.

Then some good/bad news - the Tigers were given a No. 15 seed in state playoffs against 26-0 Cliff Saturday at 2 p.m.

## Hondo

Coach Brad Holland is riding the crest of the basketball wave so far this season with two consistently good teams.

One or both could conceivably win a district title.

## Girls

The Lady Eagles savaged Lake Arthur in district action Thursday, 64-31, got a bye and now sit in the catbird seat awaiting a survivor for the district championship in Hondo Saturday at 2 p.m.

To date they are 16-9 overall, and better yet, are 6-0 in D3-B.

## Boys

The 17-10, 7-2, Eagles entered the district playoff picture Monday with a 63-20 win over Corona. Wednesday they will entertain Lake Arthur at 6 p.m. Last Friday the Hondo boys lost at Lake Arthur, 39-37, but beat the same team in Hondo on Feb. 1, 60-46.

It looks like the Eagles like home cooking and if that's true they could do well.

The winner of that game will play Valley Christian

for the district championship in Roswell Friday at 6 p.m.

## Carrizozo

Head coach Billy Page has had his Lady Grizzlies successfully foraging for wins this year and they are a legitimate contender for the district playoff title.

The boys will be traveling in their quest of the district playoff championship.

## Girls

The Lady Grizzlies beat archrival Reserve Saturday at home, 53-45, for an important district playoff win. Earlier, on Feb. 12, the Carrizozo girls lost at Reserve, 48-47.

Those two games, to some, prove the advantage of home field when two teams are fairly evenly matched.

Because of the split with Reserve, the Carrizozo girls will have played the same team for a third time this season Tuesday at Magdalena.

The winner of that contest will host the district championship Saturday at 6 p.m.

The loser will entertain Quemado Thursday at 6 p.m.

As of this writing, the Lady Grizzlies are 15-6 overall with a 3-1 record in D4-B.

State playoff action for girls will begin Tuesday in

Albuquerque.

## Boys

As of now, the Grizzlies are 10-13 overall with a 0-4 district record. Because of the latter, they will now have to travel if they expect to come out on top in the district playoffs and salvage their season.

Saturday they lost to Reserve at home, 68-56, for the second time this year and will have to journey to the same team Wednesday for a 6 p.m. district playoff contest.

The winner of that battle will go to Quemado Friday in a 6 p.m. game for the title. State playoffs for the boys will begin in Albuquerque Wednesday, March 9.

## Mescalero

In the past two years, the athletic program at Mescalero High School has improved in stature, coaching and talent.

Competitors should not take the football team, track team or the basketball teams lightly. That could be a fatal mistake.

## Girls

The Lady Chiefs are a good example of this. They are a resilient, physical lot that usually give as good as they get. But in D7-1A there are just two problems for them - Capitan and Hagerman.

The Mescalero girls

entertained the Lady Tigers Thursday and went down to defeat, 37-31. The entire contest was a battle. It marked the second time this year they lost to Capitan.

The two Hagerman clashes were another story. On Feb. 4, they beat the Lady Bobcats at home, 49-47, but lost at Hagerman Feb. 15, 49-24.

There you go with that home field advantage thing again.

Still, the Lady Chiefs finished the regular and district playoff season with genuine 15-11, 4-2, records. That, and their competitive scheduling, could have been the reason the NMAA awarded them a No. 16 seed in the state playoffs.

Now, their toughest challenge is ahead of them as they travel to 23-3, 5-1, Fort Sumner Friday for a 6 p.m. fight.

## Boys

The Chiefs finished the year with a 5-18 overall record and were 0-5 in district play. Still they have some talented athletes on their team - such as junior center Godfrey Cordova, who would be welcome on any school's D7-1A team.

Although the Chiefs did not get a seed to the state playoffs, more will be heard from this team next year as some of the other players mature - such as the

sophomore brothers, Aaron and Tahari Kaydahinne.

## Corona

Coaches, Nicky Huey (girls) and Ronnie Duns-worth (boys) do the best with what they have. Unfortunately, they have to face some tough competitors in Capitan, Hondo, Carrizozo and Reserve.

## Girls

Considering who they play, the Lady Cardinals had an adequate year with 9-10, 3-2, records.

This 10-girl roster had three seniors, one junior, two sophomores, two freshmen and two eighth-graders. Alicia Palomarez, Cassandra Sanchez and Judith Torres will graduate but by that time, the Huey's, Christian, Taylor and Allysanne should be battle-hardened veterans and fill the shoes of the graduated seniors.

## Boys

With season-ending 2-19, 1-7, records these boys surely know the meaning of never-say-die. Their two wins came over Mountainair and Vaughn. Out of this year's nine-man roster they will lose four seniors - Jose Hernandez, Jordan Huey and Shawn and Jake Kinnick. Juniors, Troy Dial, Christopher Frandsen and Sheldon McKibben will have to step up and fill that void.

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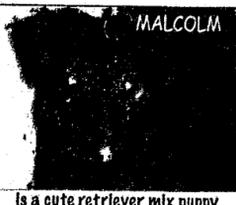
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**PENNY**

Is an affectionate, outgoing adult cat who desperately needs a home. She has short hair and is black and white in color. Penny is already spayed and current on her vaccinations. She does very well with other cats, loves to be brushed, and wants nothing more than a warm lap to curl up on.

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**MALCOLM**

Is a cute retriever mix puppy, about 5 months old. He is very friendly and plays very well with other dogs. Malcolm also walks great on a leash and would do very well with children

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**LEVI**

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**SPEEDY**

Is a cute short haired kitten, about 10-12 weeks old. He is very playful and friendly.

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**RICHIE**

Is a cute, friendly kitten, about 10 weeks old. He has medium length fur and is a grey tabby with just a bit of white on him.

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**DIXIE**

Is a tall, slender cat with short black fur. She is a young adult, probably around 1-2 years old. Dixie is friendly and does great with other cats and kittens.

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Dear Dianne:  
 This was an especially fine article...and the accompanying cover photo was magnificent. I do not know how often you are congratulated for the work you do, and the craft with which you do it. Not often enough, I'll wager. What I do know is you singlehandedly report on most of the meaningful events in the life of this unique place, and you've been doing it fairly and honestly for years. It's a great tradition, the small town newspaper. In many respects it provides a unifying continuity that no other institution brings to a community. And the Village of Ruidoso, New Mexico would be a decidedly poorer place without you and Marty and the gang. Thanks for being such a wonderful chronicler of the region and its history. Happy New Year!

—Ben Young Mason  
 Los Angeles, \* Santa Fe

Marty:  
 Your editorial Friday was exceptional. Thank you for having the cajones to speak boldly regarding the GRT.

—Buck Buchanan  
 Ruidoso

Thank You Julie!  
 Julie thank you so much. Bonita's story is beautiful. And you picked two great pics of her. I hope that it will make people think and realize that dogs are part of a family and you just can't throw them out. I also hope it helps them see what can happen when everyone works together to do something. Everyone was important--it couldn't have been done without everyone who was there as they were needed. Also thank you for the article on the raffle.

—Barbara Culler  
 Carrizozo

Dear Julie:  
 When I finally sit down and read the weekly papers, I am amazed, astonished and in awe at the thoroughness and beauty of your articles covering our events! A whole page of Christmas for our little burg!  
 Thank you ever so much!

—Judy Fitz  
 Carrizozo

Dear Rena:  
 Wanted to make a comment on Marty's article in the Friday paper. The article was very well written and spoke the absolute truth about the GRT issue. As you may know this was the best election money can buy. There was some misrepresentation on both sides which is unfortunate, however, this was the most divisive issue that I know of that has been before the village. I personally am very glad Marty set the "record straight".

—Jamie Estes  
 General Manager  
 KEDU Radio  
 Ruidoso

Dear Trina:  
 Could you do me a small favor please? Would you please tell Marty how much I loved his editorial in Friday's paper! I tried to call him today, but I gave up on the switchboard.

—Thanks,  
 Jonie Zagone

Hello Julie:  
 Just wanted to tell you how much I enjoy your writings in your columns You have a great talent and know what you are talking about...

—Thanks,  
 Kim W. Blakey

Dear Julie:  
 Good morning! Thanks sooo much for the basketball pics! It is so thoughtful of you and very appreciated on this end. Also, I was one of the people feeding the "Golf Course Dog". I was so glad to hear she was OK, as she had disappeared on us! Have a great day and I will see you this weekend...

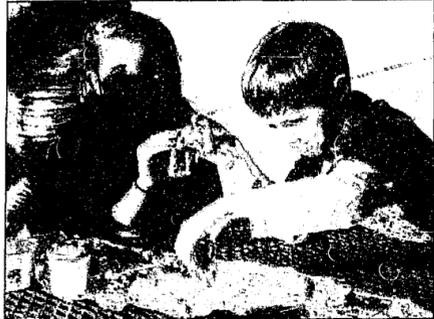
—JoAnn Goodwin  
 Capitan

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# LINCOLN COUNTY

## Celebrating FFA Week in Capitan



Capitan FFA members celebrated National FFA Week, Feb. 18-25. One day was dedicated to teaching elementary things about different facets of agriculture and about FFA itself. The students learned to swing a rope and rope a "dummy." They made butter by shaking cream in a jar until it formed a ball of butter. They formed farm animals from clay and learned about the different critters that live on ranches and farms.

COURTESY CAPITAN FFA



## Najera tops Horse Contest at Hot Springs FFA event

JULIE CARTER  
jcarter@ruidosonews.com

The 2011 FFA Career Development Events (CDE) have begun with the first of the scheduled seven held in Hot Springs Saturday, Feb. 26. Capitan and Carrizozo FFA Chapters were the only two Lincoln County schools to compete.

For many of the FFA members, this was their first CDE as young, first-year members. Some teams are not complete with four members, making aggregate scores lower and placing teams further down the list due to a lack of a four-score total.

Carrizozo's FFA Horse judging team topped 23 other teams in the event with 786 points; eleven points ahead of Belen with 775.

Team members are



ARTURO NAJERA

Cirsten Barela, Arturo Najera, Tiffany Vega and Marshal Wilson.

Najera was High-Point Individual over all (84) with 275 points, edging out Beth Floyd, of Belen, with 273 points. Marshal

Wilson was fifth.

Capitan's #2 Horse Team, Jayden Daniel, Mitchell Edgington, Maggie Rich and Adriana McWilliams placed 14th while the Capitan #1 Horse Team was 16th. Those team members are Kaleb Cleckler, Bryanna Parker, Wade Stearns and Kaydn Traylor.

In Crops, Carrizozo team of Kylie Gaines, Fernando Najera and Lauren Smith placed 10th. Gaines was seventh High Individual.

With 32 teams in the Ag Mechanics event, Capitan's team #1 (Walker Bymoan, Sam Edington, Justin Owen, Layne Southard) placed 14th and Carrizozo placed 26th (Fernando Najera) Capitan's team #2 (Jayden Daniel) was 31st.

Carrizozo's Entomology team of Joel Ferguson,

Micah Hamilton, Fernando Najera and Lauren Smith placed seventh out of 13.

Najera was 10th High Individual of the 39 competing.

In Farm Business Management, Carrizozo's team of Fernando Najera, Lauren Smith and Marshal Wilson placed fifth. Wilson was 13th High Individual.

The Horticulture Produce Contest had 21 teams. Carrizozo's Team #1 placed eighth with Emily Comstock, Kylie Gaines, Lauren Smith and Jacie Thornton. Carrizozo Team #2 was 20th with Dillon Najera.

Capitan's team was 17th with Maggie Rich. Gaines was 14th High Individual and Rich was 19th.

Capitan's Livestock team, Kaleb Cleckler,

Christian Sweat and Forrest Sweat, placed 8th of 17 teams.

In the Meats Evaluation contest, Carrizozo was 7th of 11 teams with Cirsten Barela, Joel Ferguson and Jacie Thornton.

Capitan's Team #1 in the Wildlife contest placed 13th of 36 teams with Walker Bymoan, Justin Owen, Layne Southard and Kaydn Traylor.

Capitan Team #2 with Sam Edington, Wade Stearns, Kirsten Wilson and J'nae Wood was 21st. Capitan Team #3 with Mitchell Edgington, Adriana McWilliams and Oliver Schultz Placed 25th.

In Wool Evaluation, Capitan Team #1 placed fourth of 15 teams with Christian Sweat, Forrest Sweat, Kirsten Wilson and J'Nae Wood.

Capitan Team #2 with Bryanna Parker and Oliver Schultz placed 11th.

Of the 44 individuals competing in Wool, J'nae Wood was sixth High Individual, Kirsten Wilson was 12th, Bryanna Parker 17th and Forrest Sweat 20th.

No local teams competed in Dairy, Forestry, Homesite Evaluation, Land, Landscape Design and Pasture & Range.

Teams are gearing up for the next CDE, March 5, in Carrizozo.

Hosted by the Carrizozo FFA, this CDE is the largest in the state with more than 600 students attending from all corners of the state.

Additional CDEs follow in Las Cruces, Portales, Quemado, Roswell and ending at the state contest at NMSU March 29-April 1.

### COUNTY BRIEFS

#### Smith's Israel

Hayden and Cheryl Smith will give a power point presentation on their recent trip to Israel.

The presentation will be at the First Baptist Church of Carrizozo at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 6, 2011.

The public is invited to attend.

## OH SAY CAN YOU SEE?



The Capitan Schools' choir, directed by Duwayne Shaver, sang the National Anthem before every basketball game played on the home court.

JULIE CARTER/RUIDOSO NEWS

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# NM Senators say health department is 'corrupt'

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — Dr. Catherine Torres sat in silence Monday as state senators said the agency she is taking over is filled with corruption and cronyism.

Torres, a pediatrician from Las Cruces, is Gov. Susana Martinez's nominee to run the state Department of Health. Torres went before the Senate Rules Committee, which advanced her nomination while denouncing the health department.

Sen. Kent Cravens, R-Albuquerque, said for years he had heard of problems with contracts and spending practices in the health department, but minority Republicans were hamstrung from investigating or correcting them.

"There's a lot of corruption, a lot of money wasted," Cravens said. "... A lot of people out there have learned to game the system."

Sen. Michael Sanchez, D-Belen, offered a more specific complaint.

He said people within the health department told him the qualifications for an executive-level job in Valencia County recently were rewritten twice to tailor them to a specific person.

Sen. Peter Wirth, D-Santa Fe, said he had filed a complaint about a contract from a constituent.

The allegation, by Gregory Bundrick, a licensed independent social worker, is that the department wanted to "lower the level of care" for people with developmental disabilities, and it knew it could achieve that end by hiring an out-of-state company for assessments.

Bundrick, also at the hearing, said the contract was for more than \$500,000, and that the recipient was "predetermined" by executives in the health department.

"It took a lot of courage for him to come here," Wirth said Bundrick.

As the hearing wound toward a close, Sen. George Munoz, D-Gallup, asked Torres if she would fire the person who rewrote a job

description for purposes of cronyism.

Torres, 48, eventually said that, if she had proper evidence, she would terminate the employee.

Torres also said she was still evaluating resumes, and had not signed off any appointment, including the one Sanchez said was rigged.

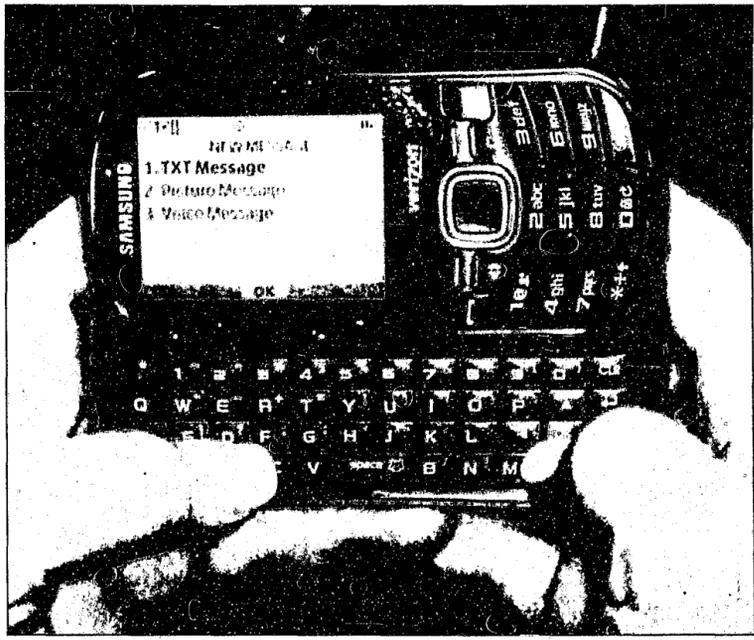
Sen. Stuart Ingle, appearing to distance himself from the relentless criticism of the department, said he had learned every story has two sides.

Then he and the others endorsed Torres to run the department, offering as much in the way of condolences as congratulations.

"I applaud you for taking the job. There's not one any tougher," said Ingle, R-Portales.

Torres' nomination is still subject to confirmation by the full Senate. She would make \$122,500 a year as secretary of health.

*Santa Fe Bureau Chief Milan Simonich can be reached at msimonich@tmnp.com or 505-820-6898.*



# House approves ban on texting while driving

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — One man's fight against text messaging on roadways cleared the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

Rep. Antonio Lujan, making his fourth try to outlaw texting while driving in New Mexico, saw his measure carry 58-7. The bill goes next to the Senate.

Lujan, D-Las Cruces, said he wants to outlaw the use of cell phones while driving, but a bill that strong

would not have survived.

The state's biggest cities, Albuquerque, Las Cruces and Santa Fe, already ban motorists from using hand-held cell phones.

Those laws prevent texting, but they are not strong enough in Lujan's view.

"All the research shows that it you are as much at risk of getting into an accident if you use a hand-held or hands-free device," he said. "You make about 30 decisions a minute while you're driving, so any phone is a distraction."

Lujan's anti-texting bill nearly got through both houses of the Legislature before, but a late amendment stalled it and the session expired.

He said he hoped to win this year on texting, then come back next session with a stronger bill.

"I haven't given up on a bill to ban cell phones," he said.

*Santa Fe Bureau Chief Milan Simonich can be reached at msimonich@tmnp.com or 505-820-6898. His blog is at nmcapi-report.com.*

# NM looks to chiropractors to meet need for primary-care providers

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — New Mexico needs more primary-care medical providers, and select chiropractors moved a step closer Friday to qualifying for those jobs.

The House Judiciary Committee voted 9-6 for a bill that would allow advanced practice chiropractic physicians to prescribe and inject drugs, and to perform diagnostic procedures.

Dr. Grant La Farge, a pediatric cardiologist and medical director of the New Mexico Medical Board, tes-

tified that his organization had no opposition to the bill.

But numerous chiropractors did, saying a move toward primary care went against the "drugless healing philosophy" of their practice.

They questioned how chiropractors would even qualify because just one of the country's 18 chiropractic colleges offers the necessary training outlined in the bill.

Brian Hesser, a chiropractor in Las Cruces, supported the bill.

He said it would create opportunities for those chi-

ropractors who want obtain a master's degree in a medical field.

He said he is studying, in part through on-line courses, for a master's degree as a family nurse practitioner from Samford University in Alabama.

Hesser said he already has limited authority to prescribe medication because of his training as an advanced practice chiropractic physician. Much of his work is in sports medicine.

The bill is sponsored by House Speaker Ben Lujan, D-Santa Fe.

It is HB 127.

# Corporal punishment bill fails

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — A bill to outlaw paddling in public schools failed Monday on an 18-18 vote of the state Senate.

Sen. Cynthia Nava, D-Las Cruces, proposed eliminating corporal punishment as a legal form of discipline under state law.

Senators from rural areas resisted her, saying discipline policies ought to be left to local school boards.

More than half of the state's 89 school districts have enrollments of fewer than 1,000 students.

Senators who opposed Nava said acceptable discipline policies in those places may differ from urban areas, which stopped paddling long ago.

Nava, herself the superintendent of the Gadsden Independent School District, wanted to ban spanking and leave school districts with four other forms of punishment.

They are "in-school sus-

pension," school service, out-of-school suspension and expulsion. Though Nava lost the battle, she may not be beaten.

Six senators were absent Monday during the vote on corporal punishment. Also missing was Lt. Gov. John Sanchez, who as president of the Senate normally would have broken the tie vote.

Nava may ask that her bill be reconsidered when more senators and Sanchez are in the chamber.

Her proposal is SB 319.

# Third graders: can't read, won't pass

SANTA FE — The state would force about 4,000 students a year to repeat the third grade, under a bill approved Tuesday by the House of Representatives.

Children not proficient in reading would be held back, and their parents could not veto the decision, as is possible now.

The bill, sponsored by Democratic Rep. Mary Helen Garcia of Las Cruces, carried 62-5. It next goes to the Senate.

New Mexico's fourth-graders are among the poorest readers in the nation, according to a variety of tests and surveys. Garcia said the bill would begin to change that by retaining struggling third-graders and helping them through "intensive remedi-

ation." The bill also would place greater demands on teachers in the early grades, so that they do not let children reach third grade without reading proficiently.

Only about 1 percent of the state's 25,000 third-graders are retained now. Republican Gov. Susana Martinez calls this "social promotion," in which students who have not mastered the basics are moved ahead anyway.

Martinez wanted to stop social promotions by holding back underperforming students but legislators considered that plan too drastic. They settled instead on a compromise proposal, in which third-graders who fare poorly on

an assessments test would be forced to repeat that year of school.

Critics of the bill said it does not ensure that more money would be available to help districts that would need additional teachers and even more classrooms to help students who are retained. If the bill becomes law, it would go in to affect in 2012-13.

*-Milan Simonich*

Santa Fe is the highest capital city in the United States at 7,000 feet above sea level.

## Edward Lee Pfingsten

Edward Lee Pfingsten, age 81, died on Thursday, February 24, 2011, in Abilene, Texas.

He was born on October 13, 1929, in El Paso, Texas, to Charles and Lucille (Miles) Pfingsten. He graduated from Tularosa High School in 1947. On October 3, 1952, Ed was united in marriage to Margaret Hobbs, in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He served from the United States Air Force after twenty years of service. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. Edward and Margaret farmed and ranched in Blaine and Comanche Counties for over forty years. He was the County Surveyor for Comanche County for over twenty years. He was a Registered Public Surveyor for many years, founded Pfingsten Surveyors, and later sold real estate for Arrowhead and Co.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Pfingsten Blanket; children, Cynthia Robey of Temple, Texas, and David Brooks of Early, Roy and Cheryl Pfingsten of Blanket, Nelda Pfingsten of Simi Valley, California, Joyce and Wayne McGlothlin of Temple, and Suzanne and Nelson Sattler of Comanche, Rob and Cecelia Pfingsten of Salado, Jimmy and Dee Robison of De Leon; twenty grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. He is also survived by sister-in-law, Clara and Dee Simpson of Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Audra Lea Chastean.

Graveside Service for Edward Lee Pfingsten was 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 27, 2011 at Rose Church Cemetery, Blanket, Texas, with Rev. Gerald Burns officiating. Comanche Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

View and Sign Guest Book at [www.comanchefh.com](http://www.comanchefh.com)

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Graveside services for Rose "Rosanna" Caudle, 101, was Monday, February 28, 2011, at 10:00 AM in Forest Lawn Cemetery of Ruidoso. She passed away Thursday, February 24, 2011 in Alamogordo, NM. She was born November 9, 1909 to Robert and Lurana Nethery in Crawford County, Illinois. She moved from Indiana to Texas in the early 1930's. Over the years she moved between Texas, New Mexico, Nevada and Arizona, but she would always eventually return to Ruidoso, her favorite location and where she felt most at home. She is survived by two sons, Jerry Caudle and his wife Susan of Canadian, Texas and Bobby Caudle and his wife, Judy of Ruidoso; daughter-in-law, Durette Caudle; grandchildren, Jodi Creager, Waylon Scott, Tanya Caudle Morgan, Doka Caudle Cullender and Kerl Caudle; nieces, Paula Nobles-Fraleigh and Judy Turner; and several great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Lurana; brothers, John, Frank and Hap; sisters, Viola, Mary and Esther. The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude and appreciation to the caretakers at Betty Dare Good Samaritan Home in Alamogordo and Ruidoso Care Center in Ruidoso and to her doctors and nurses at Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center in Alamogordo.

The family has requested memorials to the Humane Society of Lincoln County, PO Box 2832, Ruidoso, NM 88355. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.lagronefunerals.com](http://www.lagronefunerals.com).

# Shooting being investigated

HAROLD OAKES  
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

Ruidoso Downs police are investigating an incident in which a woman was shot at a home on Parker Drive Monday evening.

"She suffered a gunshot wound to the right shoulder," Ruidoso Downs Police Corporal Joseph Bailey said Tuesday. "She has been transported to Thomason Hospital in El Paso for treatment."

Bailey would not identify the victim and said that until they are able to talk to the woman, they are not sure if a crime had been committed.

New Mexico State Police crime scene investigators



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso Downs Crime Scene Investigator Bill Dunlap approaches his vehicle in front of the home on Parker Drive where a woman was shot Monday evening. New Mexico State Police Crime Scene technicians were called in to assist in the investigation.

are assisting in the investigation.

"They have a lot more

tools than we have in our Crime Scene Unit," Bailey said.

## RUIDOSO MAGISTRATE COURT WARRANTS

Issued Jan. 31 - Feb 24  
Lavonica F. Apachito, 32, 327 Mesquite Drive, Mescalero, N.M.  
Kyle Baltazar, 25, Bia Drive HS 280, Dulce, N.M. (three warrants)  
Lonnie C. Cole, 37, 908 W. Summit, Roswell, N.M.  
Robert E. Dutchover, 44, Box 19, San Patricio, N.M.  
Jon C. Gist, 32, 1751 W. Hadley #231, Las Cruces, N.M.  
Daniel Haquetorejel, 25, 6549 Stoneman Drive, North Highlands, Calif.  
Percy V. Herrera, 43, 127 Reese Drive, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Warren Hurtgen, 34, 103 Bewley Lane, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Matthew Kadin, 22, 4210 South Harmony, Amarillo, Texas  
Todd D. Kizer, 34, 171

Brady Canyon, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Cecilia Lapaz, 31, 4 Chiquito Court, Mescalero, N.M.  
Mariano Morones, 35, 45 West Wells RIAC, Roswell, N.M.  
Cory D. Olivas, 18, 207 Carters Lane, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Craig F. O'Neal, 61, 13, Parkway Drive, Chickasha, Okla.  
Oscar Ontiveros, 27, 4630 Bonds Court, El Paso, Texas  
Max G. Palmer, 22, 1824 Wood Lane, Ruidoso Downs, N.M.  
Jeffrey R. Renteria, 25, 140 Porr Drive, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Blaine Robinson, 31, 107 Birdbasket Drive, Mescalero, N.M. (two warrants)

Lemuel A. Rocha, 34, 218 San Carlos, Mescalero, N.M.  
Rene R. Sanchez, 42, 221 Grove Place, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Shane Schartzter, 37, 524 First Street, Ruidoso, N.M.  
Amber L. Spitty, 22, 192 Juniper Drive, Mescalero, N.M.  
Antonio R. Trujillo, 27, 120 Calle el Corte, San Patricio, N.M.  
Robert T. Wallace, 41, 163 Highway 70, Ruidoso Downs, N.M.  
Joshua S. White, 29, 985 Shakespeare, Las Cruces, N.M.  
Jeremy Wood, 23, 110 Rim Road, Ruidoso, N.M.  
*Warrants are issued for failure to pay fines, failure to appear in court or probation violation.*

# No compensation for injured worker

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A Ski Apache worker, who said he was injured in a January 2009 fall in an area of the ski resort, outside the Mescalero Apache Reservation boundary, continued to be denied workers' compensation.

Following the injuries, Eric Pena went to Tribal First, an Indian Country provider of workers' compensation and the New Mexico Workers' Compensation Administration. Tribal First denied Pena's claim on the basis that he was engaged in "horseplay" when he was injured. A mediator with the WCA recommended dismissal of the claim because the state lacked jurisdiction. A workers' compensation judge

agreed noting the Mescalero Apache Tribe was protected from suits under sovereign immunity.

In appealing the decision to the New Mexico Court of Appeals, Pena contended sovereign immunity does not apply to state workers' compensation claims involving off-reservation injuries, New Mexico's Workers' Compensation Act does not exempt Indian tribes, Tribal First waived sovereign immunity by participating in the state workers' compensation proceedings, and a gaming compact between the tribe and the state gives WCA jurisdiction over the dispute.

The appeals court responded tribal immunity is "absolute" and any waiver must be "unequivocally expressed" and not implied.

The court notes the case was similar to another Ski Apache worker injury incident decided by the appellate panel.

"As this court held, 'all current New Mexico case law reiterates one consistent principle - that sovereign immunity, unless abrogated by Congress, must be expressly waived by the tribe.'"

Even Tribal First's response to the WCA claim did not amount to a waiver of sovereign immunity because "waivers of sovereign immunity cannot be created by implication through activities such as participation in the state's workers' compensation program."

The appeals court also said the gaming compact does not waive immunity in workers' compensation claims.

## RUIDOSO POLICE BRIEFS

### Feb. 16

10:15 a.m. - Officers Tyrel Tyson and David Gallegos responded to a report of a violent domestic taking place in the parking lot at Lawrence Brothers IGA on Mechem Drive.

A witness reportedly told Tyson that a white Jeep, now parked in front of ENMU-Ruidoso, tried to run over a man walking through the parking lot.

Tyson reports approaching the woman in the Jeep, who he reported to be agitated and emotional. She allegedly said she had been arguing with her boyfriend and slapped him in the face.

The man then, according to her, punched her in the face. She said she parked behind his car to prevent him from leaving and then followed him as he walked toward ENMU-Ruidoso.

The boyfriend reportedly agreed with most of the

woman's version of events, but said she also kicked him in the back.

A witness reportedly confirmed that the woman kicked the man in the back.

Tyson arrested Vanessa Bowater, 21, on a charge of battery on a household member.

Gallegos cited Eric Bearer, 24, for battery on a household member.

Tyson reports that, after consulting with Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman, he also charged Bowater with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for allegedly trying to hit Bearer with her car.

### Feb. 17

12:50 p.m. - Officer Eric Ament responded to De Carol Design at 2616 Sudderth for a report of a larceny.

Ament reports the clerk told him a woman came in, asked for a specific

bracelet, which the clerk removed for a locked jewelry case and showed her. The woman then reportedly asked to see another bracelet, which the clerk went upstairs to retrieve.

While the clerk was upstairs the woman said she would be back with her husband and left.

The clerk discovered a bracelet missing from the jewelry case when she came back down stairs.

The woman was described as being 5-foot, 7-inches tall, weighing about 150-pounds, with shoulder-length blonde hair and carrying a large, red purse.

### Feb. 19

8:33 a.m. - Graffiti was reported in the 2900 block of Sudderth Drive.

8:39 a.m. - Graffiti was reported in the 700 block of Mechem Drive.

10:20 a.m. - Graffiti was reported at Black Forest.



## Thank you

The students and staff of ENMU-Ruidoso would like to thank all of our scholarship contributors! Thanks to these donors, we awarded \$45,715 to students in scholarships for the Fall 2010 semester. We would like to recognize the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for their support:

Alto Lakes Golf & Country Club  
Aqqaluk Trust  
Billy the Kid Byways  
Carol Beechie  
City Bank Ruidoso  
Cliff Currier and the Contributors of the NM Land & Title Association Scholarship  
Curtis Williamson  
Danny Flores  
Deborah Hewitt, MD  
Dr. Martha Ellis  
Dr. R.A. Beechie  
Dr. Stephen Otero  
Dr. Steve Ellis  
ENMU-Ruidoso Community Choir  
Flora Daszczyzak  
Gene Burdine  
Ho-Chunk Nation  
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization)  
Martha Buse  
Mary S. Martinez  
Mescalero Apache Schools  
Mildred Mastin  
Miles Caddell  
NMCU Education Foundation  
Otero County Electric Education Foundation

Otero Federal Credit Union  
Region VI Head Start Association  
Richard and Gloria Lara of Classic Industries, Inc.  
Ruidoso Regional Council of Arts  
Ruidoso White Mountain Clinic  
Schlotzsky's  
Special Events Resource Group, Inc.  
The Altrusa Club  
The Contributors of the Daniel P. Austin Memorial Scholarship  
The Contributors of the Wesley Brown Memorial Scholarship  
The Hubbard Foundation  
The Lincoln County Community Foundation  
The Mescalero Apache Tribe  
The NM Department of Higher Education  
The Ruidoso/Lincoln County Association of Realtors  
The Title Company  
The Unitarian Universalist Scholarship Fund  
Zia Natural Gas Company

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ACCOUNT REMAINS OPEN FOR FUTURE USE

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Telephone Hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 104 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, NM 88355

Walk-In Business Hours: 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m., We accept most major credit cards.

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advertise call 575.257.4001

Legal Notices 152

#9254 AT (3)2, 9,16 (3) 23

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, et al., vs. THE BANK OF NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY, SUCCESSOR TO JP MORGAN CHASE BANK N.A., et al.

Plaintiff, vs. ELIZABETH J. KEMP, Defendant.

AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE ON FORECLOSURE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above-entitled Court, having appointed me or my designee as Special Master of said matter to sell, has ordered me to sell the real property (the "Property") situated in Lincoln County, New Mexico, commonly known as Highway 380, Lincoln, New Mexico 88338, and more particularly described as follows:

A TRACT OF LAND IN THE SW 1/4 SE 1/4 OF SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 16 SOUTH, RANGE 16 EAST, NMPM, LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, DESCRIBED AS BOUNDARIES FOLLOW: BEGIN AT POINT AND FROM WHICH THE SECTION CORNER OF SECTION 17 BEARS S 69° 16' 51" E, A DISTANCE OF 59.99 FEET; THENCE N 55° 43' 27" W ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF US HIGHWAY 380, A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET; THENCE S 12° 00' 00" E, A DISTANCE OF 200 FEET; THENCE S 82° 00' 00" E, A DISTANCE OF 182.00 FEET; THENCE N 12° 00' 00" E, A DISTANCE OF 46.13 FEET; THENCE N 57° 14' 00" E, A DISTANCE OF 112.00 FEET; THENCE N 70° 00' 00" E, A DISTANCE OF 64.00 FEET TO PLACE OF BEGINNING.

The sale is to begin at 12:15 p.m. on April 12, 2011, outside the front entrance of the Twelfth Judicial District Courthouse, City of Carrizozo, New Mexico, at which time I will call for the highest and best bidder for cash in lawful currency to the United States of America, the Property to pay expenses of sale, and to satisfy the judgment principal and costs of this sale.

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association, et al., as Successors to the Bank of New York Trust Company, et al., as Successors to the JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A., et al., as Trustees.

The sale is subject to rights of assessment and assessments, and to the one (1) month right of redemption in favor of the Defendant(s) as specified in the Judgment filed herein.

Falsol Sukhyanv Special Master 2222 Parkwest Drive, N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120 (505) 228-8484

#9255 AT (3)2,9,16,23

ALTO LAKES WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Alto Lakes Water and Sanitation District, Lincoln County, New Mexico will meet and hold a public hearing on the following ordinance at a regular meeting held on March 24, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room of the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District located at 214 Lake Shore Drive, Alto, NM. All interested persons are invited to attend and partici-

Legal Notices 152

ate in the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance of the Alto Lakes Water and Sanitation District amending Alto Lakes Water District Ordinance providing a revised calculation method for back Credits and replaces the requirement for a customer to stop Waste Valve with a Water Shutoff Valve.

Following the Public Hearing, the District Board may choose to adopt or table the proposed Ordinance. If the Board does table the proposed Ordinance, it may do so indicating in which case if it is brought back in the future the Board may take to a specific future date, time and place and if so the Board may consider the Ordinance for adoption.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available at the District office located at 214 Lake Shore Drive, Alto, NM during the following hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Gary Parker, Secretary Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District

#9256 3T (3)2,9,16

ALTO LAKES WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

The Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District adopted Ordinance 2011-011 on March 24, 2011. The Ordinance amends previously adopted Ordinance 2011-011 and will affect all properties located within the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District boundaries as well as all residential water utility expansion projects. The Ordinance amends the rate of a water utility expansion project from five percent to ten percent. The Ordinance also amends the connection fee from \$100 to \$150. The Ordinance also amends the connection fee from \$100 to \$150.

The original copy of Ordinance 2011-011 has been filed with the Lincoln County Clerk's Office. Copies are available from the County Clerk during normal business hours. The effective date of the Ordinance is March 24, 2011.

Gary Parker, Secretary Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District

#9257 1T (3)2

LEGAL NOTICE

The Eastern New Mexico University Board of Regents will meet on Friday, March 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the ENMU-Ruidoso campus. The Board will consider a resolution to amend the Board's Bylaws. The public is invited to attend the meeting. The meeting will be held in the Executive Conference Room, 201 West Main Street, Ruidoso, NM 88355.

#9258 2T (3)2,4

INVITATION FOR BID

The Town of Carrizozo Board of Trustees will receive and consider bids for the project above Bonito Lake, including 16.09 acres of White Mountain Wilderness. The project area lies about five miles northwest of Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Actions are proposed that would protect and enhance watershed, recreational and forest values, and decrease potential for high-intensity stand-replacing wildfire in the Project area. Implementation of the Proposed Action would result in long-term benefits to natural resources by reducing risk of wildfire and improving wildlife and riparian habitat.

The project includes a non-significant amendment to the Lincoln National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan to exempt this project from certain forest plan standards and guidelines for sensitive vegetation (SVO) and riparian objectives (VGO). Specifically, in order to meet the project conditions and purpose and need identified in the project, a partial retention plan is being developed during or after restoration treatments are implemented on the proposed amendment to the project and would not apply to the project in the Lincoln National Forest.

Approximately 16,000 acres of the Project area are located in the wildland-urban interface area identified in the Greater Ruidoso Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The Greater Ruidoso CWPP is a working group collaboration of the Smokey Bear Ranger District to prioritize areas for treatment of hazard-

Legal Notices 152

ous fuels. The inclusion of the Bonito Forest Restoration Project area would further enhance and strengthen the intent of the Greater Ruidoso CWPP.

The Proposed Action and associated analysis can be obtained from the Smokey Bear Ranger District, 201 West Main Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345. The comment period ends 30 days following the date of publication of this legal notice in the Ruidoso News. This publication date is the effective date for calculating the time to submit comments. Those wishing to comment on this proposal should not rely upon stated or implied deadlines provided by any other source. Comments should be submitted to the project manager or other staff member listed in the Proposed Action and amendment to the CWPP. Comments may be submitted in word (doc) or pdf format (pdf), text (txt), and hypertext (htm) language (html).

Comments must be submitted to Bonito Forest Restoration Comments, Project Office, P.O. Box 288, Cloudcroft, New Mexico 88317. Comments may be submitted by email in word (doc) or pdf format (pdf), text (txt), and hypertext (htm) language (html). Comments may also be submitted by hand delivered weekly between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Smokey Bear Ranger District, 201 West Main Drive, Ruidoso, NM. To be eligible for application, each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comment or submit a letter of identity upon request. Names and addresses of commenters will be posted in the public record.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

#9259 1T (3)2

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#9260 1T (3)2

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#9261 1T (3)2

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#9264 1T (3)2

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jobs 200-232

General Help Wanted 230

SUMMER JOBS AVAILABLE! Looking for hard working, energetic people to work in all positions available. Bussers, wait staff, cocktail & kitchen help. Please call 575-378-4446

Positions avail working with developmentally disabled individuals please call 257-4672 or apply at 229 Rio st.

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MOTEL & Taking Applications for HOUSEKEEPER at 112 Hwy 70 W. Ruidoso, NM

Housekeeping

Only housekeepers needed. Excellent pay and bonuses APPLY in person Tues-Thur. 220 Rio Drive, Ruidoso.

Management/Supervisory 241

Manager Position available in Ruidoso. This position requires good management skills. They should be able to read and understand financial statements. Preparation of Annual Budgets, and ability to direct a major and diverse operation. This individual will be required to communicate and interact effectively with people; have a strong personality to achieve this is a fast paced environment. Interested parties should send resume to PO Box 1101, Ruidoso, NM 88345

Restaurants & Clubs 247

Help Wanted at Michelin's Restaurant

Part Time Full Time Cooks Servers Dishwashers Apply Within No Phone Calls

Restaurant/Clubs

KFC is looking for dependable shift supervisors. Please apply in person. Ask for Pauline 331 Sudderth, Ruidoso

Business Manager / Floor Manager needed! Computer skills a must. ALOHA experience a plus. Must be willing to work weekends/holidays during the summer. Please call All Bills Paid. 575-937-3059

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2br, 1 ba. \$650/mo. 3br/1ba, 200 sq. ft. paid 937-3059

Large 2 bedroom apt. Washer/dryer, Nice yard. Conveniently located off Mechem. No pets. \$650 month plus gas & electric. 575-808-0213

La Tierra Apartments 55+ community. Income restricted. Now leasing 1 bed - rooms & 2 bedrooms. Please call 575-258-1277 for information.

Mountain Alps Condo, 2br/1ba newly remodeled, 700+ sq. ft. Washer/dryer, range, dishwasher, fireplace, Capitan views, basic cable, water included. \$600, 575-257-0440

Now leasing! 2 br. Wash/dryer hook-ups Free water. 973-9833

Townhouses/Condominiums 342

2br, 2ba all furnished Condo 1st & last month rent 575-937-0768

113 Lower Terrace Duplex for Rent 1bd/1ba, unfurn. \$500+ util. Call John Cornelius 937-9918 or James Paxton 937-9307

Unfurn. Home - General 352

2/3 br house. Bills paid. Central location. 575-937-9160 lw505@hotmail.com

2 br/2ba fenced yard, w/d hookups, fireplace. 575-937-2891

2br 1 bth \$800+ utilities FirePlace, garage 575-430-7009

3 br, 2 ba, fp, w/d & lg deck \$873/mo + dep. 233 Fir Dr. Ponderosa Heights, 937-0381

3br, 2ba, \$800/mo. No smoking. 575-746-2990

Unfurn. Home - General 352

Whispering Bluffs Condo 2 bedroom/2 bath 2 levels, close to Links And schools \$850/mo + electricity and gas furnished

Palisades JUST REDUCED 1 bedroom 1 bath Shared great room Close to Links and schools \$550/mo furnished

Spring Rd 3 bedroom / 2 bath Fenced back yard Pets on approval Available March 1 \$1100/mo + utilities

Wingfield 1 bedroom / 1 bath Fenced back yard Pets on approval Available March 1 \$495/mo + utilities

Keyes 2 bedroom/2 bth duplex Close to midtown \$800/mo + utilities

Pfinsten Rd Nogal Newly remodeled 3 bedroom 2 bath cabin Great horse and goat property on 3 acres \$850/mo + propane and electricity

Hummingbird Cabins would like the opportunity to manage your mountain home, longterm or vacation rental. Sharon 258-3555

Unfurn. Apts. - General 314

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Unfurn. Apts. - General 328

1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$500 mo, \$300 deposit 5500 depos. Call 575-937-3059

2 Bd, Gas/water pd. Appl, central loc, W/D hookups, no pets, FF \$550 deposit. Call Lesa Reed 505-263-2362

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**Auto For Sale 917**

BMW Active Hybrid '10 X6 #11279A \$68,998 915-613-5684 BMW

BMW Active Hybrid '10 X6 #11279A \$68,998 915-613-5684 BMW

BMW M6 '07 stk #B11264B \$52,998 915-613-5684 BMW

BMW M6 '07 stk #B11264B \$52,998 915-613-5684 BMW

BMW Z4 '09 stk #LN2330 \$47,577 915-613-5684 BMW

BMW Z4 '09 stk #LN2330 \$47,577 915-613-5684 BMW

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