

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2011 • OUR 65TH YEAR, NO. 19

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Land management alliance sought

Otero County seeks support from Lincoln County after disaster declaration

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Although Lincoln County isn't experiencing the severity of problems with federal agencies claimed by Otero County officials, county commissioners expressed empa-

thy at a meeting last week and a desire to more closely coordinate in the future with their neighbors on mutual issues.

However, as was reported Friday on www.ruidosonews.com, the commission took no action at a special June 13

meeting.

They listened to Otero County Commission Chairman Ronny Rardin as he walked them through his board's recent approval of a disaster declaration for Otero County. Rardin said the local legislation plants the legal

seed for the county to immediately reduce the fire danger on the Lincoln National Forest. And, down the line, the county will move into full-fledged logging on the national forest to produce enough money, an estimated \$14 million sustainable annu-

al harvest, to offset any loss of federal support experienced from bucking the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

By declaring an emergency state, the county is not bound by federal restrictions, such as the

Endangered Species Act, just as firefighters battling the recent blaze near Mayhill were exempted, he said.

According to the adopted legislation, the Forest Service largely was unre-

See LAND, page 10A

State continues review of foster mom's murder

CYFD, hospital look for 'overt contributing factors'

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When two 15-year-old girls in Treatment Foster Care placed in the home of Evelyn Miranda in San Patricio were charged with her murder June 9, questions started flying about agency procedures and oversight.

Should the girls, one of whom had a prior violent charge against her, been placed in a psychiatric hospital or residential program setting instead, some people have asked. One state official said securing approval for the more expensive option from the Medicaid-managed care organization isn't always possible.

A distinction quickly was drawn by state officials between regular foster care overseen by the New Mexico Department of Children, Youth and Families for abused, neglected or abandoned children, and the Treatment Foster Care program operated by Mesilla Valley Hospital in Las Cruces for children with behavioral problems.

Contending CYF's regulatory scope does not include direct oversight of the Treatment Foster Care program, a spokesman said the agency however, "is taking an active role in evaluating this tragedy to ensure standards of practice were followed."

Attempts were unsuccessful to gain comment from state Sen. Rod Adair,

See STATE, page 9A

Judge assigned to case

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The case of the two teens accused of killing a foster mother in San Patricio has been assigned to District Judge William Brogan. The reassignment to the Division IV judge came Friday afternoon.

As was reported on www.ruidosonews.com Friday, Lincoln County District Judge Karen Parson has been excused from the trial of 15-year olds Alexis Shields and Desiree Linares.

District Attorney Diana Martwick has charged the two together for the murder of 53-year old Evelyn Miranda.

The teens are charged with tying Miranda's hands and feet, smothering her, stealing her car, cell phone and laptop computer.

Nine charges, which Parsons said at their arraignment June 10, add up to 97 years in prison if the girls are convicted of the allegations. A grand jury found last week that there is sufficient evidence to try the two for the crimes. They do not have attorneys yet.

DONALDSON COMPLEX FIRE



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Fire blazes on a ridge south of Hondo in the Alamo Canyon area Tuesday afternoon. Lightning ignited two blazes on the Donaldson and Skeen ranches at about 2 a.m. and by 8 p.m. the fire had burned about 15,000 acres. As of about 5:30 p.m., four outbuildings and one primary residence were threatened. As of about 8 p.m., precautionary evacuations were being conducted for Alamo Canyon by Lincoln County Sheriff's Department and Lincoln County emergency services. See www.ruidosonews.com for updates.

Ruidoso Downs gears up for rain, fire

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Bring on the rain. Ruidoso Downs is ready. Ruidoso Downs Public Works Director Cleatus

Richards told the City Council Monday that barriers are in place and diversion ditches widened. "We have basically completed all the work that we can do at this point to pre-

pare for the rains and any potential flooding that might happen," Richards said. The work to prevent flooding has been done in the areas adjacent to the

Lincoln National Forest where the White Fire burned the covering vegetation in early April. The area has been reseeded and

See RAIN, page 9A

Village of Ruidoso to review housing impact fees

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The time is coming up for another re-evaluation of impact fees charged by the Village of Ruidoso for infrastructure needed to serve new construction. John Cornelius, a village planning commissioner, said during a

commission meeting last week that he found a conflict between a section in the village's Comprehensive Plan that encourages use of impact fees to develop affordable housing, and the Development Fees Act that specifically prohibits using impact fees for such projects. Village Acting Planning Director Bob Decker said impact fees can be

used to expand water and sewer service into an area designed to serve affordable housing, but cannot be used for the housing itself. "The village could waive impact fees to make a housing project more affordable," said Cornelius, a

See FEES, page 9A

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Fireworks ban

As the Fourth of July approaches and visitors pour into Lincoln County, officials with the Bureau of Land Management are reminding the public that use of fireworks is illegal on public lands.

Fireworks also are prohibited in Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs, anywhere in the Lincoln National Forest and on state trust land.

A Fire Prevention Order was issued by the bureau stating that it is illegal to carry, discharge or otherwise use fireworks on BLM-managed lands. Fireworks are only one of the causes of wildfires, especially on rangelands. The order also prohibits incendiary bullets, tracer ammunition, and exploding targets; and burning, igniting or causing any tire, wire, magnesium, plastic or any other hazardous or explosive material.

The BLM previously implemented fire restrictions and they are in effect in many New Mexico counties. Other local, county, state and federal agencies have imposed fire restrictions, as well. Specific information about fire restrictions may be obtained by visiting: www.nmfireinfo.com or www.publiclands.org/fire-news/NM.php, or call 1-877-864-6985.

Violations of the fire restrictions or the Fire Prevention Order banning the use of fireworks on public lands can result in fines and/or jail time. Violators can also be liable for the costs of damage and suppression associated with extinguishing the wildfire.

Firefighters have had a busy fire season this year, and the fire activity is expected to continue until the summer rains are well-established. Dry lightning storms often precede the monsoon season and that can significantly increase the workload for wildland firefighters. The public can reduce the number of

human-caused fires by simply following all fire prevention measures that are in place. To report a wildfire, call 9-1-1.

Concerned citizens

The mission of Concerned Citizens for Capitan Development, a newly formed volunteer group, is "to provide information and support for development in the best interests of the community."

A current major economic and environmental challenge facing the Village of Capitan is the proposal by a real estate development company, Conquest Investments, to create a Business Park on a 21-acre property facing East Highway 380 across from the Village's wastewater treatment plant.

Concerned Citizens are pro-growth; however, members say they feel that growth should be responsible, deliberate and beneficial to the entire community of Capitan.

Concerned Citizens is considering the kinds and number of businesses that would locate in Capitan as well as the ability of the Village of Capitan to provide water and sewer to the Conquest project.

Concerned Citizens will present their questions in meetings of the Capitan Planning Board and the Village of Capitan Trustees and Mayor.

For information on development issues confronting the Village of Capitan and their impact on the community, to submit questions to be presented to the Planning Board or mayor and trustees, or participation with Concerned Citizens please contact the group at www.citizens4-development@yahoo.com.

Community events

Tuesday
• 6-12 year old Summer Reading programs at the Ruidoso Public Library; Dutch

LOW COST MAMMOGRAM PROGRAM



Lincoln County Medical Center Administrator Al Santos, left, signs a screening agreement for the annual Altrusa campaign against breast cancer. Seated is Altrusan Judy Griffin and standing is Pam Gervais, Altrusa Club President.

Agreement reached between Altrusa Club, LCMC

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Officials with the Altrusa Club of Ruidoso and the Lincoln County Medical Center reached an agreement last week regarding the 2011 Low Cost Mammogram Program.

In early March, Al Santos, administrator of the hospital in Ruidoso, said with changes in health care funding, the county facility couldn't continue to absorb the \$65,000 cost associated with the annualy offered discounted mammograms.

Altrusa representatives pointed out the non-profit group's aim is to save lives

and they had no revenue stream to offset a \$210 per test fee.

During the next three months, the two sides negotiated and they decided that the program will be reduced to two weeks, Oct. 3 through Oct. 14.

Appointments will be limited to 150 women, instead of the 320 possible appointments in previous years.

The appointments will be available on a strictly first-come, first-served basis.

Although the price of the mammograms will be raised to \$75 from the previous \$55, Altrusa officials agreed to fund the extra \$20 per patient to keep the

price to the public at \$55.

Altrusa also will continue to bear the cost of educational materials such as breast cancer informational brochures and breast self-exam instruction cards; the cost of printing and postage for reminder cards; and the cost of publicity.

The program will offer routine mammograms to women between the ages of 30 and 64, who either reside in Lincoln County or have a doctor in Lincoln County.

The program will be limited to patients who do not have health insurance, or who have health insurance with a high deductible or that does not cover routine mammograms.

As in past years, the pro-

gram is not eligible for insurance reimbursement.

For 2011, appointments will be made directly with LCMC, and will be accepted starting Sept. 1.

More information, including the phone number for appointments, will be publicized soon.

Judy Griffin with Altrusa Club of Ruidoso said Santos warned the price will have to go up again for the 2012 program.

"At this time, it is not known how much of an increase will be needed, or how the increase will be funded," she said.

For more information, call Griffin, Altrusa Club of Ruidoso, at 575-937-5437.

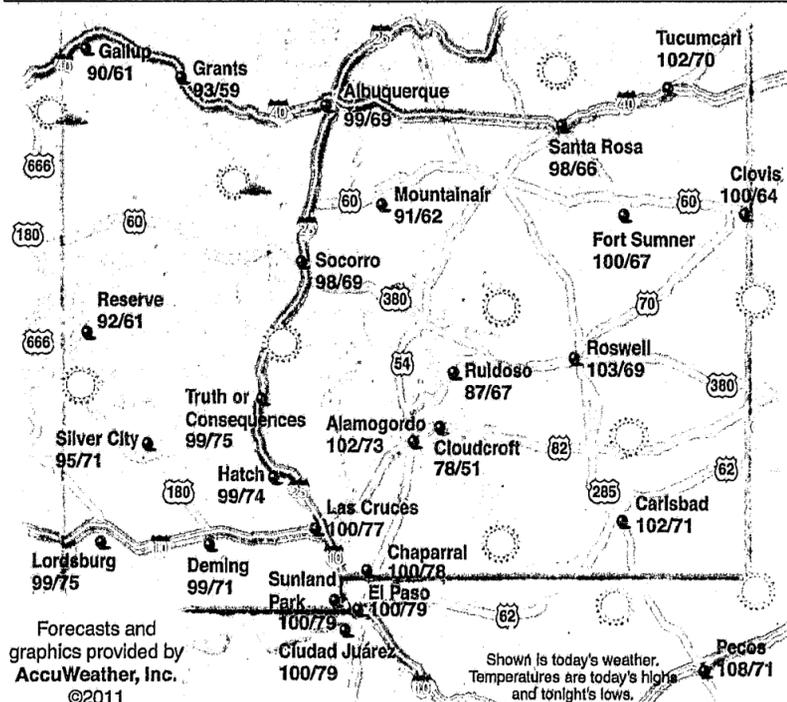
AccuWeather® 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

AccuWeather.com

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
RealFeel 89° Humidity 26% Breezy with plenty of sunshine Wind: S 10-20 mph	RealFeel 89° Humidity 27% Sunny, breezy and pleasant Wind: S 10-20 mph	RealFeel 86° Humidity 37% Mostly sunny and breezy Wind: S 10-20 mph	RealFeel 80° Humidity 46% Breezy and pleasant with sunshine Wind: SSE 10-20 mph	RealFeel 82° Humidity 49% Mostly sunny Wind: S 7-14 mph	RealFeel 84° Humidity 46% Sunshine and patchy clouds Wind: SSE 7-14 mph	RealFeel 87° Humidity 43% Partly sunny, a t-storm; warmer Wind: SE 6-12 mph

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

Regional Cities



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2011

Sun and Moon
Wednesday: Sunrise/Sunset 5:57 a.m./8:15 p.m.
Wednesday: Moonrise/Moonset 4:20 a.m./7:01 p.m.

Moon Phases
New First Full Last
Jul 1 Jul 8 Jul 15 Jul 22

Extremes
Monday's National High/Low: (For the 48 contiguous states)
High: 117° in Chandler, AZ
Low: 27° in West Yellowstone, MT
Monday's World High/Low:
High: 118° in Iranshahr, Iran
Low: -8° in Summit Station, Greenland

Almanac

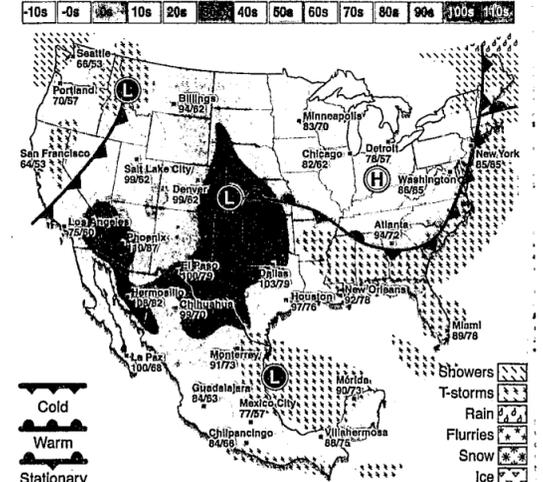
Ruidoso
Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
High/low 88°/66°
Normal high 82°
Normal low 46°
Record high 96° (1994)
Record low 31° (1969)
Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.05"
Normal month to date 1.89"
Year to date 0.88"
Normal year to date 7.15"

Pollen:
Grass Low
Trees Moderate
Weeds Low
Mold Low
Predominant Pine Tree

Alamogordo
Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
High/low 106°/72°
Normal high 95°
Normal low 65°
Record high 108° (2011)
Record low 47° (1975)
Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.17"
Normal month to date 0.83"
Year to date 0.63"
Normal year to date 3.52"

Weather Trivia™:
Q: What valuable element does lightning provide to the soil?
A: Nitrogen.

National Forecast for June 29, 2011



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

National Cities			Regional Cities		
City	Today H/L	Thu. H/L	City	Today H/L	Thu. H/L
Ablene	103/73/s	105/72/s	Albuquerque	99/69/s	95/68/s
Anchorage	66/56/sh	68/55/sh	Artesia	102/72/s	102/71/s
Atlanta	94/72/s	92/72/s	Chama	84/51/t	82/46/s
Austin	100/71/s	96/71/s	Cloudcroft	102/64/s	99/63/s
Baltimore	85/62/s	85/63/s	Clayton	78/51/s	79/45/s
Boston	82/63/pc	80/63/s	Farmington	98/65/pc	93/59/s
Chicago	82/62/s	84/69/t	Hobbs	103/68/s	107/64/s
Dallas	103/79/s	102/79/s	Los Alamos	86/56/t	85/54/s
Denver	99/62/pc	100/68/t	Portales	101/64/s	102/65/s
Des Moines	83/71/s	93/75/pc	Raton	96/55/s	95/57/s
Detroit	78/57/s	80/63/s	Red River	74/48/t	76/44/s
El Paso	100/79/s	99/77/s	Ruidoso	87/67/s	86/63/s
Las Vegas	102/80/s	95/79/s	Santa Fe	96/59/s	93/59/s
Los Angeles	75/60/pc	77/63/pc	Silver City	95/71/s	94/70/s
Minneapolis	83/70/s	92/74/pc	Taos	92/54/s	90/48/s
New Orleans	92/78/t	94/78/t			
New York City	85/65/pc	84/63/s			
Philadelphia	86/64/s	84/65/s			
Phoenix	110/87/s	108/85/s			
Reno	68/53/t	84/60/s			
San Francisco	64/53/pc	67/53/pc			
San Diego	71/63/pc	71/65/pc			
Seattle	66/53/c	63/51/pc			
Tucson	104/79/s	103/80/s			
Tulsa, OK	98/77/t	104/75/s			
Wash., DC	86/65/s	86/66/s			
Yuma	104/81/s	101/82/s			

Mexican Cities		
City	Today H/L	Thu. H/L
Acapulco	88/77/t	88/75/t
Cancun	88/75/t	90/77/c
Chihuahua	99/70/s	97/70/s
Ciudad Juárez	100/79/s	99/77/s
León	82/61/t	82/61/t
México, DF	77/57/t	75/57/t
Monterrey	91/73/t	84/70/t
Morelia	83/64/t	80/66/t
Oaxaca	81/63/t	79/61/t
Pto. Penasco	95/73/s	99/78/s
Tijuana	77/61/pc	75/63/s

Alto Lakes looks at short-term rental regulations

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Regulation of short-term rentals of housing units in the Alto Lakes community may be on the horizon. The Alto Lakes Special Zoning District Commission may consider an ordinance and possible licensing fee for the activity.

The Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club's community covenants and the community's zoning ordinances do not allow the use of residential properties for business or commercial purposes. But residential rentals are taking place. Some Alto Lakes property owners contend short-term rentals should be considered commercial or business activities, stated a position statement from the district's commission. But a couple of court rulings several years ago essentially negate the ordinance's ban on the short-term renting of residential zoned property.

"As regards (to) a review of recent case laws, primarily the case of 'Mason Family

Trust plaintiff vs Devaney defendant,' a suit filed by (Ben) Mason against (Matt) Devaney to stop short-term rentals of a second home in the Upper Canyon area of Ruidoso, Devaney had occupied the home for brief periods and contracted with a local property management firm to handle rental of the property," the position statement states. "Judge Karen Parsons' court in Carrizozo ruled in favor of Devaney, that this was a right of home ownership, and that continuation of short-term rentals was allowed within the deed restrictions of the area. Mason appealed to the Court of Appeals of the State of New Mexico. The Appeals Court's conclusion would likely lead the reader to the interpretation that short-term rentals are not commercial business activities and are not forbidden in single-family zoned districts such as the Alto Lakes Special Zoning District."

Parsons determined in 2008 that Devaney's short-term rental of his property

did not violate deed restrictions. On appeal, the justices wrote, "A deed restriction for dwelling purposes only, does not demonstrate an intent to prohibit a short-term rental for dwelling purposes. Nor, in our view, does this commercial or business use restriction preclude the economic aspect of an owner's vacation home which is also partially used as a short-term rental for dwelling purposes."

The court stated while Devaney's renting of his property as a dwelling on a short-term basis may have been an "economic endeavor," it was unreasonable to determine the activity was forbidden by the language of deed restrictions. The discussion continued that the deed restrictions did not forbid short-term rental for dwelling purposes.

Pointing to dictionary definitions, the justices noted to dwell is "to remain for a time." A house is "a building that serves as living quarters for one or a few families."

The Alto Lakes Special

Zoning District Commission, in proposing a possible policy, said they were led to believe that transient rental occupancy of dwellings in some cases does not constitute a visitor-oriented commercial use in the district's residential areas.

The chair of the special zoning district commission, Terry Porter, said they are looking for input and discussion from members of the community.

The commission may in the future decide the regulations after public input at their twice monthly meetings. The ordinance might look at a special rental license permit, maximum occupancies for transient rentals, off-street parking requirements, having rental units post contact persons and information about community matters, such as fire restrictions and water conservation, as well as other matters.

The position statement said the paper was not law but for information and discussion purposes.

Some of Alto Lakes is in the Lincoln County/Ruidoso Extraterritorial Zone.

"We're looking at duplicating or mirroring what Ruidoso Village has done as far as transient rentals," Porter said. "We have the obligation to look into that as (special zoning district) commissioners in the ETZ (Extraterritorial Zone) of Ruidoso. We're doing what

the ETZ Commission was supposed to do and they haven't met in two years. We know that there's a bunch of people out here that rent. We know we get some complaints. We also know there's no vehicle for people to complain. So we're just looking at would that permitting process that Ruidoso worked up work up here, or a modified version of it?"

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County to take on state on White Oaks sign issue

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With state officials pushing two issues that Lincoln County commissioners consider unreasonable, those departments are about to find out just how it feels to be bucked off a wild government mustang.

Heading a county already known for its independent, anti-regulation and debt-free approach to government, commissioners are taking a stand on a White Oaks turn-off sign.

For years, the county has paid the New Mexico Public Lands Office to place a colorful illustrated turn-off sign to indicate the road to the historic settlement of White Oaks.

A few months ago, a state Department of Transportation official contacted the commission informing the county that a complaint had been filed and the sign must come down because it contains

references other than directional information. Another fee also was owed, the official said.

County Manager Tom Stewart tried to compromise by redesigning the sign to eliminate any particular commercial promotion but to keep the mood. He wrote the DOT on May 20, asking for guidance to bring the sign into compliance.

"On May 31, I received a phone call from (Michael) Otero (with DOT) advising me that the only thing that would be permitted is 'White Oaks, 9 miles,' with no illustrations. With that in mind, I told him, 'You know what, forget it. DOT will have to remove the sign and bill the county.'"

"Confronted with such a response, he advised that he would seek additional guidance from a federal expert in the Highway Beautification Act. I await his decision in writing."

Complicating the situation, Stewart said he received a new bill for the

annual fee of \$600 from the state Land Office. He said he is dragging his feet on payment of that fee until he receives a written decision from the DOT.

"I think it's just ridiculous having only White Oaks and the mileage,"

Stewart said.

Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo suggested contacting a local rancher, who has land adjoining the highway and asking to put the sign there but Stewart said it still would fall under the Beautification Act rules.

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In county (Lincoln, Otero) 3 months.....\$20 6 months.....\$26 1 year.....\$40
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OUR OPINION

County cooperation is common sense, overdue

A two-way street needed between Otero, Lincoln

The recent presentation by an Otero County official before the Lincoln County Commission regarding coordinating efforts to clean up the surrounding forest and reduce fire danger is a smart move. And it's overdue.

Otero County Commission Chairman Ronny Rardin made a presentation about his county's move to approve a disaster declaration that will allow the county to immediately reduce the fire danger on the Lincoln National Forest.

This opens the door to future full-fledged logging that is expected to generate enough revenue to make up for any loss of federal dollars that could occur for making an end run around the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Dire circumstances call for drastic actions, to be sure, even though Lincoln County seems to have a better relationship with Smokey

Ranger District. But it seems that it shouldn't take dire circumstances for county officials to reach across borders to pool resources and address shared issues.

As Lincoln County Commissioner Jackie Powell pointed out, Lincoln County had asked for Otero County's help in funding a community forester to aid in thinning the forest.

But apparently the request fell on deaf ears.

A chagrined Rardin said Otero County would look at the issue again.

Too many times politics, egos and arrogance on all levels of government have gotten in the way of resolving issues in common sense, cost-effective fashions.

We believe this is a step in the right direction for both counties considering the current fire danger.

We hope they continue down the path of cooperation on common issues after the danger is over.



Time for responsible forest management

Recently I had the opportunity to visit Ruidoso—one of my favorite regular stops as I travel through New Mexico and listen to constituents. I have been informed that the drought conditions this spring have prompted Forest Service officials to close access to the forest in the name of safety for all residents.



STEVE PEARCE
 CONGRESSMAN, R-N.M.

Even the exercise trail located immediately outside the forest service office is off limits to locals and tourists.

I am told that the decision to close the forest means fire danger is extreme.

This impacts the community tremendously by stifling tourism and recreation—primary sources of income for the area.

With the Wallow Fire still burning in eastern Arizona and western New Mexico, with lives and property at risk, it is obvious that our forests throughout the region are currently in peril.

Tourism is likely to drop significantly in Lincoln County

this summer if the forest remains closed, dramatically affecting local jobs and paychecks.

Last weekend, I spent time with constituents, local officials, and fire-fighters in Luna, which was recently evacuated due to fire.

With lives and livelihoods on the line, it is important to ask the tough questions about how we got here.

Healthy forest management has been prevented by a barrage of environmental lawsuits that hamstring the Department of the Interior and advocate reckless policies.

As a result, logging is banned, we lose thousands of jobs, and forests become heavily overgrown, creating ideal conditions for a quickly-spreading, uncontrollable fire. Thousands are left without work, and the forest becomes even more imperiled.

A recent article by Ted Williams, a self-proclaimed "environmental extremist," said that groups like the Center for Biological Diversity

and the WildEarth Guardians give "every environmentalist a bad name," with their lawsuits and agendas that cripple forest management.

He said that these have turned suing the government into an industry, and do so completely at the expense of wildlife.

While in the area last week, I spoke with representatives of the Mescalero Apache Tribe.

They tell me that the spotted owl is flourishing on the reservation because they have been responsible in cutting and thinning their forest over the years.

The Mescalero Tribe's success story should be implemented in the Lincoln National Forest.

The failure of the Forest Service to manage one of our nation's greatest resources is a disgrace.

I have submitted a bill in Congress calling for the immediate return of logging to the area while protecting the spotted owl in sanctuaries.

If action is not taken soon to change the course of our unhealthy forests around these local communities, our fate

See **FOREST**, page 5A

YOUR OPINION

Economic development trail

To the editor: The Ruidoso Valley Economic Development Corporation is very pleased to see that the plans for expansion of recreation trails are proceeding in earnest. At the Ruidoso Valley Economic Development Corporation, we believe that diversification of

our economy is key to improving the welfare of citizens and visitors to Lincoln County. Further, we believe the outdoor recreation and multi-use trail initiative is a key element in this diversification effort.

We've had time to review

See **TRAIL**, page 5A

THE STREETER, BY ERIK BEARER

Q: With the business retention tax falling short, should there be additional support for the Racetrack?



BJ White
 Ruidoso

"There's already several casinos in the area. I just don't know why we keep paying to help them compete."



John O'Reilly
 Ruidoso

"I don't think they should be getting any additional breaks beyond what they have. We're helping them out a lot already."



Bill Bridge
 Ruidoso

"Not all seasons are equal. It'll pick up when the weather cools down and the fires stop — especially if the gas prices drop."



Evelyn Smith
 Somerset, Texas

"I don't want the track to leave. A lot of people, including myself, come here in the summer just for the races."



Josie Powell
 Ruidoso

"I don't care for taxes any more than the next person, but the track is vital to the county's economic health. A lot of people rely on it."

THE FACEBOOK STREETER, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/RUIDOSO-NEWS/



Introducing the "facebook Streeter question" — We ask the same question above on our facebook page. Those responding agree their responses can be reprinted in the print edition of the Ruidoso News. Responses follow as they appear on facebook:
Sheree Hendrix

Whigham — No. Enough is enough. Let Hubbard find funding some other way. He could always sell the big house he lives in or sell the 150+ horses he has in Tularosa...what a joke. Or we could just rename Ruidoso "Hubbardville". He is a shrewd, ruthless, very successful businessman

who has the ability to manipulate people to get his way. It needs to stop. And yes, you may print this.
Sue Maness — No! because to begin with if he didn't have enough funds to continue to run the track in Ruidoso then he absolutely could not have build another facili-

ty to house the race events anywhere else. And he does not need our money to run this track. I am against "giving" this man our funds to mismanage for a longer run. If he cannot manage on what he has, he should shut it all down and be done with it as we will have to do with our other

businesses if we run out of funds.
Linda Stearns Gibson — Absolutely, we have to take Hubbard completely out of the picture and do what you have to do to safe our community.
 If we lose the track it's going to effect our entire county.

YOUR OPINION

Martinez strikes out

To the editor:

For the third time, Republican Gov. Susana Martinez has lost a legal dispute over her arrogant abuse of her executive responsibilities.

The New Mexico Supreme Court invalidated a line-item veto by the governor that reduced an appropriation from \$150,000 to \$50,000 for a housing program.

The governor did that by striking a single digit — the "1" in the \$150,000.

The justices unanimously said the governor exceeded her constitutional powers and ruled that the \$150,000 will be available in the state budget for oversight of the state's low-income housing program.

Changing the AMOUNT of an appropriation is the same as writing legislation, which is solely the responsibility of the legislative branch of our state government.

Previously, the New Mexico Supreme Court ruled against her when she attempted to prevent the implementation of both a rule aimed at curbing greenhouse gas emissions and a measure which would control pollution from the dairy industry.

Then the Court ordered that two members of the Public Employee Labor Relations Board be reinstated, declaring her arbitrary removal of them to be an unconstitutional abuse of her authority.

Is a fourth strike coming up?

The justices said they will rule later on the second disputed veto, in which Martinez rejected an estimated \$128 million tax increase on businesses to pay for unemployment benefits.

Both the Association of Commerce and Industry and the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce strongly supported this bill.

The unemployment program is projected to run out of money in early 2012, and the higher taxes were to take effect in January 2012.

Insolvency of the program could trigger an even higher federal tax

burden on businesses.

The state Constitution allows line-item or partial vetoes in bills that appropriate money for specific programs or services.

However, legislators contend the unemployment legislation didn't allocate any specific amount — making the tax veto improper.

All these court cases cost taxpayer money. Martinez should learn to do her job.

Firing two cooks is not going to make up for all this costly litigation.

Ellen Wedum
Cloudcroft

Pleasing the ACLU

To the editor:

If people think the AC-LU is a good organization, here is a few tips to keep you on their good side:

1. Remove Jesus Christ from your everyday life.

2. Do away with Christian and conservative colleges.

3. Hire only liberal college professors who want to teach our kids the wrong things.

4. Do not think of placing a cross on the grave of your son or daughter who died fighting for this country.

5. Have extra seats at your sons or daughters memorial so all the nuts can curse them for being in Iraq.

6. Bury the Ten Commandments in a deep hole.

7. Never listen to Fox News.

8. Do not mention Ronald Regan being a better man than George Soros.

9. Do not use the words "Under God" in the pledge of Allegiance.

10. If your state is burning up from grass or forest fires, do not pray for rain.

11. Never use the words, "illegal immigrants," always use the words, "undocumented workers."

12. Never say a prayer for the players before a football game.

I could give you lots more tips, thank God, I am running out of writing paper.

Jack Hemby
Ruidoso Downs

gain so much.

Perhaps the most exciting element of this initiative is the tremendous public support of the project.

Based upon this support we feel that the community will be fully behind this project as it continues to evolve.

However, we also realize projects of this magnitude require funding and commitment from various entities.

The RVEDC respectfully requests the commitment and support from the community for this viable initiative.

If additional information should be necessary please don't hesitate to contact our offices directly.

In gratitude for your hard work in our community,

Eugene Heathman
President
Ruidoso Valley
Economic Development
Corp.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Where there's smoke, there's fireworks

Down the street, kids have already started celebrating Independence Day. And why not? They have three big fireworks stands within a few blocks.

Also down the street is a half-burned shrub, the first casualty, conjuring old memories of my brother and his friends setting the vacant lot next door on fire with their fireworks. And that's nothing compared to the million acres-plus torched in New Mexico and Arizona during the worst fire season in years.

After months without rain and weeks of hot winds, the great outdoors is one big mass of what fire professionals call fuel loads. Around the state, we are one careless act from disaster. Government entities large and small have responded with bans and restrictions, and police in some municipalities will be on the lookout for aerial-style fire works and noisy ground devices.

And forget about fireworks in the national forests, national parks, and state lands, many of which are closed.

Some communities have prohibited outdoor grilling and smoking, using a chainsaw, welding and

camping. There's hardly a place left to grill that Fourth of July hot dog.

And yet the big white tents are doing a booming business. Fire chiefs across the state

would like to ban all fireworks this year, which is prudent, but state law doesn't allow a complete ban. For years frustrated firefighters have urged legislators to get tough, but no. So communities are left with their restrictions, and even the governor can only ask people to not use illegal fireworks.

She has said she will support tougher fireworks legislation during the January session.

Speaking of fireworks, we have the eruption of news sparked by the arrest

of respected UNM political science professor Chris Garcia for his alleged role in an online prostitution ring.

I worked at UNM for four years doing PR, and one of my assigned areas was science.

I tried to imagine the serious men I knew in the Physics Department, men whose research was so complex it couldn't be explained to above average mortals, in the business of, uh, procurement. I couldn't picture it. Neither could anybody picture the distinguished Garcia as "BurquePops."

This is a man who was not only acting president of UNM but could have been president if he wanted — he's that well regarded.

Hal Rhodes, my writing colleague and founder of this syndicate, has known Garcia for 41 years, since a young Garcia joined UNM fresh out of grad school. Grappling with his shock and sadness, Hal still holds Garcia in the highest esteem as a scholar.

There's great pain on campus right now — another blow to faculty and staff morale. But here's what New Mexicans need to remember: In spite of everything, professors will teach, students will learn,

and the business of higher education will go on.

Speaking of education, I heard from reader Jack Jekowski, an engineer with a long involvement with school improvement. The Coalition of Excellence and Math and Science (<http://www.cesame-nm.org>) has studied the concept of grading schools.

"In general we believe the technique may have some merit, but is fraught with potential land mines, much like No Child Left Behind if the methodology for calculating the school grade is not done properly," he writes. "It has the potential for further alienating the teachers as well if the process is not understood and supported."

Measurement of school success must weigh such variables as demographics and poverty, he says. This is work in progress.

Speaking of variables, reader Jesse Monsey recalls that Hobbs's "City with an Assured Future" promotion didn't go as planned. On billboards with the slogan, vandals from neighboring towns painted out the U in "assured," which delivered quite a different message. These days, Hobbs is the EnergyPlex.

Blame Legislature for lax laws on fireworks

WALTER RUBEL
wrubel@lcsun-news.com

The Las Cruces City Council is taking some undeserved heat from those who would like to see a total fireworks ban this year. Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Thomas wants you to know that the city has done all it can, under state law.

"Any further restrictions on fireworks would require a change in state law," Thomas said in a press release last week. "At this time there is no indication from the governor's office that any legislative action will be taken prior to July 4, 2011."

Gov. Susana Martinez held a press conference with various fire officials last week in which she pleaded with residents to refrain from using fireworks this year. But, other than placing restrictions on state lands — which has already been done — pleading is about all the

governor can do.

The Fireworks Licensing and Safety Act gives municipalities and county governments the authority to limit sales to so-called "safe and sane" fireworks and restrict ignition of fireworks during drought conditions to barren spots with a water source available. But they cannot impose a total ban. And the governor's only authority is over state land.

In 2003, three teens lighting fireworks in the Albuquerque bosque threw a lit firecracker on a cotton pile from many of the cottonwood trees in the bosque. The resulting fire charred about 700 acres, and resulted in 600 people being evacuated from their homes.

In response, Sen. Dede Feldman, D-Albuquerque, introduced legislation the next year that would have given both the governor and local governments the authority to ban fireworks sales and use during times of extreme drought and fire

danger. Dozens of fire officials from throughout the state traveled to Santa Fe to testify in support of the bill.

"We're not trying to put the fireworks industry out of business. We're trying to keep houses safe," said Beth Clark, chief of Bernalillo Fire and Rescue. "We need to look at this as not a fireworks issue but as a fire issue."

It didn't matter. The bill died in the Senate Public Affairs Committee, due primarily to concerns from Roswell senators Tim Jennings, a Democrat, and Rod Adair, a Republican, that any state ban could have an adverse impact on Longhorn Manufacturing Co., a small fireworks manufacturer in Roswell.

"Yes, fireworks are dangerous, but I don't hear a thing from these fire marshals about cleaning up the forest," Jennings argued. "They come after the one thing that sticks out, and that's fireworks. If we're going to do this and ban fireworks, let's ban cigars, too."

The debate then devolved into a discussion of forest management practices, the alleged indifference of Albuquerque lawmakers toward the state's rural economy and even cockfighting, the hot issue of the day.

"It's amazing, the two things people try to squash in New Mexico are cockfighting and fireworks," complained Sen. Raymond Kyser, R-Farmington.

And, based on that logic — if you can call it logic — both the governor and local municipalities have had their hands tied.

It's too late to change the law this year. If you're upset about this, and want to see changes made before next year, don't waste your time calling the mayor or the governor. They can't help you. Call your senator or state representative.

Walter Rubel has been a newsmen for more than 25 years and is managing editor of the Las Cruces Sun-News.

TRAIL

FROM PAGE 4A

the case studies provided by Mr. Thurston and agree that when the expansion is complete, Lincoln County will benefit greatly from this new and exciting element in our economy. Lincoln County has unique and abundant natural resources.

The expansion plans leverage these resources in a cost efficient way.

The RVEDC finds no "downside" to these plans. In fact, upon looking closely at the advantages, it appears these efforts, with sustained community support will create a completely new outdoor recreation segment that will attract thousands of new visitors to Lincoln County.

Best of all, it can be accomplished with little or no continued cost to the municipalities who stand to

FOREST

FROM PAGE 4A

will almost certainly be the same as that of our friends west of here, where the Wallow Fire is devastating hundreds of thousands of acres.

The leadership of Otero County in this debacle should be commended. Otero County officials have taken action; recently they approved the creation of an "Emergency Forest Plan" to begin logging ten to twenty thousand acres of forest around Cloudcroft.

This commonsense decision will lead to responsible forest management, reducing the threat of fire and bringing much-needed jobs to

the area. The Otero County Commission should be commended for their efforts, and other local governments should follow suit by refusing to tolerate reckless mismanagement of their lands.

Instead of fighting fires and watching our homes and resources go up in flames, imagine where we could be if the Forest Service would harvest our valuable timber, create jobs, and save our forests. Instead of policies that make economic sense and protect our forests, we continue to spend Forest Service revenues fighting fires created by decades of failed policies. It is time for the government to change course—or we will continue to watch our forests burn and our jobs go overseas.

Helen Jeanette Tarver[®]
1925-2011

Helen Jeanette Tarver, 86 of Ruidoso was born on January 12, 1925 in Mobile, Alabama to John Rudolph and Ernestina Caledonia (Spradley) Smith and passed away on June 25, 2011 in Ruidoso.

Helen attended school in Mobile, Alabama and after graduation she married Arnold R. Tarver on November 24, 1946 in Mobile. Arnold worked in the aircraft industry as a pilot, instructor and designer, which involved moving. After living in Mobile the two moved to Alexandria, Louisiana and from there moved to Wichita, Kansas in 1951 they moved to Castroville Public Schools. In 1961 they moved to Midland, Texas where they lived until 1972. She was employed at the Permian Corporation Oil Company as a Key Punch Operator. In 1972 they moved to Ruidoso and Helen worked at the Ruidoso State Bank while supporting Arnold in home building. After working in Ruidoso the two retired and stayed in Ruidoso. She was a wonderful and loving wife and mother. She loved to read and dance. During WWII she was a member of a dance team with the USO.

Helen is preceded in death by her parents and her husband of 60 years Arnold R. Tarver in 2006. She is survived by her son: Scott Tarver of Ruidoso and her daughter: Sharon "Shay" Anne Mathew and husband Wesley of Costa Mesa, CA.

Memorial donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memorial Donation, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. No services are planned at this time. Condolences may be made at www.lagrone-ruidoso.com

La Grone
Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso
341 Sudderth Dr.
Ruidoso, NM 88345
575-257-7302

EDUCATION

Board looks at shelters, other needs

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

An idea of erecting school shelters at some school bus stops in the Ruidoso area got support and recommended alternatives to help protect kids going to and returning home from school.

Last month Ruidoso Municipal School District Board Member Cecil Davis pitched the shelters after a U.S. Highway 70 motel operator said he would construct a shelter for students.

But Matt Bryant, with Lincoln Transportation, the company that provides school bus services in the district, told the board there are other ways to improve student safety to and from school.

"We have a small history

with those in town," Bryant said of school bus stop shelters. "There used to be one at Porr and Mechem. It was a gazebo that was put up years and years ago."

When Mechem Drive was widened more than 10 years ago the gazebo was eliminated.

Bryant said there are nearly 400 bus stops for Ruidoso school students, with the biggest stops at Porr and Mechem drives, near Mechem and Sudderth drives, the top of Sudderth Drive, along U.S. Highway 70, and a couple of locations in Ruidoso Downs.

He said the school bus routes are set up to keep students from ever having to cross the busy highway.

"I don't believe you can put shelters up at every stop in town," Bryant said.

"There are some pros and cons."

Safety, shelter from the weather, and better organization were listed as the pluses. Negatives, said Bryant, were the potential for vandalism, ownership of the land, and costs.

"Our main concern is safety," Bryant said. "There's no doubt that shelters can improve safety. But I do think there are some things expense-wise that could improve the safety of our school bus system a lot more. As of right now, funding is below the 1995 level. Way below it, in fact. Not many in this room haven't had a raise in 17 years. As school bus operations we've lost money for the last 17 years."

Bryant offered two alternatives he said would improve student safety.

New radios

"Our two-way radio system has been obsolete since January. We lost operational use of it. As of the end of 2011, all two-way communications has to go to high frequencies. Our radio system was installed in 1995 when we first got here and it's basically garbage. We'll be throwing all that away because it doesn't work."

In asking the school board to pay \$20,000 to \$30,000, Bryant said he was financially unable to replace the radios.

Video systems

"The other thing that we're seeing on our buses, if we want to consider making them better and safer and cut down on parent concerns, is student discipline. I get calls all the time about students having troubles on the bus. 'Can we see the video?' I have video boxes and one camera."

Bryant estimated the cost of video surveillance at \$400 to \$800 per bus.

"I think, if we're looking at making our system safer, and making it safer for all students, not just a select group of students at not just one or two or a dozen stops, we want to look at hauling 1,800 plus kids a day, we could make all 1,800 safer with those two items. I think shelters are a good idea. There's a level of safety that it's going to have. I'm not against it."

But Bryant said his company would not build the bus stop shelters. Schools Superintendent Bea Etta Harris said

putting up shelters would need to go before Ruidoso's Planning and Zoning Commission. She also noted some of the locations are state property while others are village land, resulting in different regulations. A rendering of a shelter had a cost of approximately \$13,000.

Davis said the general manager of the Motel 6 was presenting the school bus stop shelter idea to other lodgers along U.S. Highway 70.

"He was going to start with donations with the motels, with a community effort," Davis said. "Maybe we could cut that cost down where everyone that wanted to join in, get the school involved."

Davis said he would ask the Motel 6 general manager to address the board.

ENMU-Ruidoso offers political science course

FROM REPORTS

With the 2012 presidential election heating up, Eastern New Mexico University is offering a timely course during its second four-week session, beginning July 5, titled "Power Games: Politics and Media."

The three-credit course is an interdisciplinary analysis of the relationship between politics and the media. It ties political science and communications together and gives students the opportunity to learn about the way the world is being shaped.

Power Games will be offered in two separate sections. One, Political Science 330, will be taught by long-time political science professor Sue Strickler. The other, Communication 330, will be taught by the newest addition to the Department of Communicative Arts and Sciences, Amanda Gatchet.

The difference in the course content between the sections will be minimal. It is cross-listed between communications and political

science so that those needing credit in either will have an option.

With the current trends in media and its interdependent relationship with politics, this course allows students to gain an understanding of how politics and media work.

"This course provides an overview of the media's role in American political life," said Gatchet. "In doing so, we will focus on several broad themes: the relationship between the media and government; the process of news making and how it shapes the content of political news; the effects of the media on public opinion and voting behavior; and critical changes to the media environment currently taking place."

"We will pay special attention to the content of the news we encounter daily—health care reform, Obama's birth certificate, protests in Libya and Egypt, the rise of the Tea Party Movement, or Congressman Weiner's unfortunate tweets."

Gatchet said the course will be helpful because,

"The traditional college demographic, young people ages 18-24, have historically stayed away from the polls and typically don't watch or read what would be considered traditional news. This course is important because it asks students to read the news, pay attention to the political world around them, and think critically about the types of mediated messages we get every day."

President Obama is the first president of the United States to use email in the White House, according to Gatchet. "Studies have shown that young people are more likely to get their political news from television shows like The Daily Show and the Colbert Report. Celebrities like Donald Trump can dominate political news agendas. All of these things have an important and immediate impact on how we understand the political world and the role of the media in that world," she says.

For more information on signing up for the course, call the ENMU Registrar's Office at 575-562-2175.

CREE LADIES SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED



COURTESY PHOTO

Betty Blair, left, and Ruth Speegle, right, presented Cynthia Davina Schleck the 2011 Cree Meadows Ladies Association scholarship at Cree Meadows Golf and Country Club recently. The Cree Meadows Ladies chose Schleck to receive the \$1,200 scholarship based on her participation in academics, athletics, community projects and extra-curricular school activities. Schleck will be attending the University of New Mexico, where she plans to study to become a pediatrician. She then plans to return to Ruidoso as Dr. Schleck.

Taking education outside

FROM REPORTS

ALAMOGORDO — The U.S. Forest Service recently awarded more than \$71,000 to the Lincoln National Forest's Southern New Mexico Children's Forest (SNMCF) initiative that will provide local community children more opportunities to experience the great outdoors.

The Children's Forest program will help local youth learn about nature, and build a lasting commitment to conservation and land stewardship.

The programs may include training teachers in curricula such as Project Learning Tree, Project WILD, and Project Archaeology for kids and families. Work will begin during the 2011-2012 school year.

"The value of expanding our programs for children must not be underestimated," said Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. "Young people are tomorrow's stewards of our public lands, and we have a duty to help them develop a lasting connection and compassion for conservation of America's great outdoors."

The existing Youth A.C.T.I.O.N. (Appreciating, Connecting, and Thriving in Nature) Coalition is the local seed from which the

Children's Forest concept grew.

The coalition is a group of agencies and organization representatives with a mission to engage youth in fun and educational outdoor experiences, and promote healthy lifestyles and stewardship of our natural world. Alamogordo's 2011 Earth Day Festival offered an opportunity for the Youth ACTION Coalition to share messages and activities with children and adults alike extolling the value of appreciating and connecting with the natural world around us.

If you would like more information, or participate in the Youth ACTION Coalition, please contact Peg Crim, at perim@fs.fed.us, or 575-434-7231.

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Family thankful for community after Swallow Fire

ERIK BEARER
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Walking through the remains of houses and looking at the slurry-red streets, Cliff Drive in south Ruidoso seems to retain some of that incredible heat from the fire that ravaged it on June 16.

Strange scenes poke out of the ruins - a stove lurks beneath the brick tower of a chimney, frying pan still on the burner. A lawn mower lists on burned wheels before a green lawn as melted power lines give testimony to the intensity of the fire.

Nine homes along Cliff Drive, Mockingbird Lane, and Swallow Drive burned before firefighters and responders from across the county managed to contain it.

Yet the Swallow Fire left behind not only rubble, but also a renewed community spirit. This is especially true for Luis Espinoza and his family, owners of Hall of Flame restaurant. Espinoza was on his way to Tularosa to pick up green chilies when he began getting calls from friends and relatives telling him that his house might be on fire.

"Being that far away -- it was scary," Espinoza said.

His wife, Cyndi, and daughter Anyssa were safe at work but their children of 2 and a half, 7, and 9 years old were still in the house, along with their grandmother. Fortunately, Ruidoso Police Officer Aaron Frost and Frost's son, Zack, were around.

"My son and I were heading out when I saw the smoke coming from the

Swallow Drive area and knew something was wrong," Frost said.

Though off duty, he and his son immediately drove to the area where the fire was making its way up Cliff Drive. Directing his son to check houses farther up the block for residents, he headed towards the Espinozas.

"The backyard was on fire, the trees were burning, the fence was burning, and the house behind them was on fire," Frost said. "All I could see behind them was flames and smoke."

Arriving at the door, he found the family unaware of the fire. Frost said he quickly got the family out of the house and into their car, sending them to safe ground. Frost said he tried to move the truck, but nobody had keys to it and he regretfully had to leave the Hall of Flame pickup behind. After checking a few other houses, including a fellow officer's, he returned home to put on his uniform before returning to the scene.

"We knew the family from when they first came here - they're amazing people and it was a great thing to be able to help them," Frost said of the Espinozas.

Luis returned from Tularosa and he and Cyndi met their evacuated family members at the nearby Department of Motor Vehicles while Anyssa remained at work.

"My family got out, and that's the most important thing," Espinoza said. "The insurance covers most of it, the saddest part is that our dog Kiki didn't make it out."

The Espinozas moved to

Ruidoso eight years ago from California to be closer to their family and opened Hall of Flame two years later. Espinoza said that though they have been around some fires, none have come so close to home.

"I want to thank the entire village -- we want to be there for them like they have been there for us," said Espinoza, seconded by his daughter Anyssa. "If something like this had happened anywhere else, I don't think the community would have been so supportive. The people here are probably why I want to keep living in Ruidoso."

And the community of Ruidoso certainly deserves a big "thank you" -- people have come forward with money, donations of household items, and emotional support for the family after the fire, Luis said.

For now the Espinoza family has found a nearby home and have begun moving in. "We closed that night and opened the next morning," Espinoza said with pride, reassuring residents and customers that they are, and will continue to serve up some great burgers.

Firefighter revisits his own 'gut check'

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

When the call went out for all Ruidoso firefighters to battle the Swallow Fire on June 16, the assignment turned out to be especially stressful for John Herring, whose home was in the target area.

"It gives me goose bumps every time I think of it," he said Wednesday. "Our house is right up the alley on Mockingbird and our neighbor's house burned down. My daughter had a picture in her window and its edges were charred. That's how close the fire was. I didn't know that until days later. It was an eerie feeling."

Herring, who's been with the Ruidoso Fire Department five years and has lived on Mockingbird Lane for about three years, said when the captain gave orders to protect the houses on the west side and stop the fire, he followed them, even though he knew his

own house was nearby. "It was a gut check," he said. "But I had orders I had to follow."

His wife was at work and his children at a day care center, which relieved some anxiety for their safety. But his dog was tied up and he couldn't get that out of his mind.

"Fortunately, animal control went around to the houses," he said. "They picked up my dog and took it to the Humane Society shelter."

While Herring was trying to save homes in one area, another firefighter, Jared Wilson, was ensuring Herring's home was protected along with others on that block.

Interim Ruidoso Fire Chief Harlan Vincent said Wilson was working on another structure and noticed that some hay in the back of Herring's pickup truck across the street in his driveway was burning.

"(Wilson) put out the fire (in the truck and moved it) and was in communication with a slurry plane and guided him in to drop retardant on the fire. On John's street everybody's house is red (from the slurry)," Vincent said. "One woman was cleaning her house after the fire and left one side red. Someone asked her why and she told them it was God's reminder of how blessed she is."

Nine houses burned within the first two hours, seven were second homes, but two were primary residences.

Herring said his house is red.

"It's a nice color and cleaning it is nothing compared to the people who lost houses," he said. "We were really lucky. Someone was looking out for us for sure."

Investigators tied the origin of the fire to a homeless encampment and are asking help in locating similar camps in the village and Ruidoso Downs.

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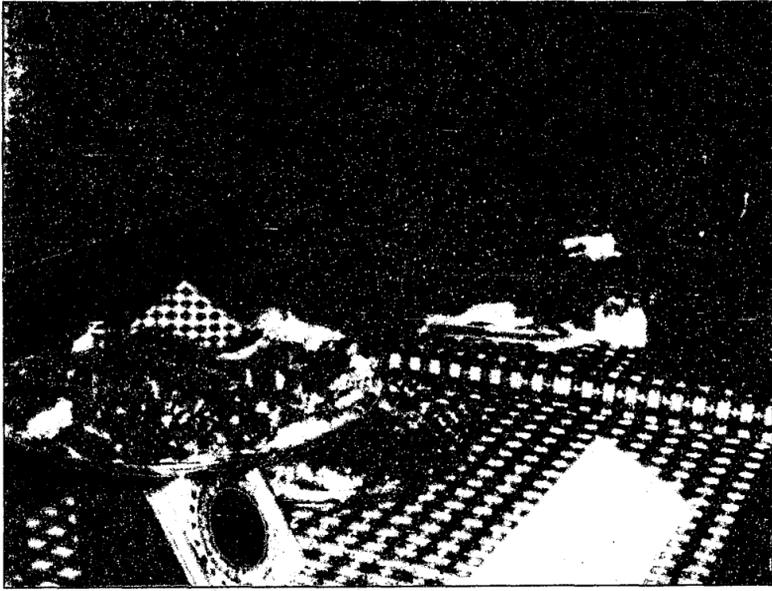
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TOP TACO COP



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Officer Ryan "Action" Jackson from the Mescalero Police Department won the Smokey B's Restaurant Indian Taco Challenge Tuesday at the Casino Apache Travel Center. Jackson was the last officer eating at the end of the challenge. Officer Matt Christian from the Ruidoso Police Department was the first to throw in the napkin after eating about two pounds of the six-plus pound giant Indian Taco. Ruidoso Downs Officer Darrell Chavez beat a quick retreat to the restroom with less than five minutes remaining in the one-hour contest. Jackson ate more than four pounds of the taco to claim the title and the \$500 prize from the Inn of the Mountain Gods for the Mescalero Little League Program. Anyone who eats the behemoth Indian Fry Bread based taco in an hour, without getting sick, gets it for free and their picture will join Jackson's on the wall of the restaurant.

Deputies nab burglary suspect in Carrizozo

HAROLD OAKES
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department filed charges of residential burglary, receiving stolen property and larceny against Jason Allen Christ-

ensen in Magistrate Court Thursday. Lincoln County Deputy Sheriff DeAnna Preston charged Christensen, 39, with burglarizing a house in the 700 block of B Avenue June 19, stealing an 18-speed bicycle June 16

and having possession of several pieces of stolen jewelry and personal items June 19.

The burglary and possession of stolen property charges are felonies, so Christensen faces trial in Carrizozo District Court, again.

Christensen pleaded no contest to a charge of attempted burglary in District Court July 2010 and received a 364 days in jail sentence. He had been charged with burglary in February 2009.

Christensen pleaded no contest to a charge of receiving stolen property in November 2009, during his jury trial on the charge, and received an 18-month sentence, with credit for 344 days time served. He was released from jail in Sept. 2010.

ACLU not ready to challenge DNA law

MILAN SIMONICH
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE - The ACLU has no plans to challenge a new law requiring defendants to provide DNA samples in all felony arrests in New Mexico.

A Santa Fe newspaper said the ACLU would sue to block the law, which takes effect Friday. But in an interview Tuesday, the ACLU's spokesman said the report was incorrect.

"We believe we were misquoted," said Micah McCoy of the ACLU in Santa Fe. "We are exploring a lawsuit, but we don't have any plans to file."

New Mexico already requires those arrested in certain felonies - including murder, rape and burglary - to provide a DNA sample. The new law will expand DNA collections to every felony case.

But it also will carry greater protections for defendants than the original law did.

Starting Friday, the state crime lab will not process a DNA sample

unless a court finds probable cause for the arrest. If no such finding is made, the lab will destroy the sample.

Sen. Vernon Asbill, R-Carlsbad, said in an interview that the revamped law better safeguards the rights of defendants. He said he was surprised that the ACLU would even consider a lawsuit, given that the Legislature took it upon itself to improve the law by building in more protections for suspects.

But McCoy said the ACLU is no fan of the expansion of police powers to collect DNA.

"It's still not a good law in our eyes," he said.

One of the ACLU's concerns is that even people arrested in obscure fourth-degree felonies will be swabbed for DNA samples when they are booked.

Asbill said collecting DNA in every felony case - no matter how benign the charge sounds - will save lives.

A man arrested for forgery, theft or drug possession also may be a rapist

or killer, Asbill said. The quick, painless DNA swab will pinpoint violent people after they have been arrested in white-collar cases, he said.

Asbill sponsored the expansion of the measure, known as Katie's Law. It was named for one of his late students, Katie Sepich.

She grew up in Carlsbad, where Asbill was superintendent of schools. At 22, while a graduate student at New Mexico State University, Sepich died at the hands of a rapist.

DNA pinpointed her killer three years later, after his conviction in a burglary. At the time, New Mexico did not collect DNA samples upon arrest.

The Legislature also approved a law requiring palm printing in felony arrests. Unlike the law to expand DNA collections, it sailed through with no controversy.

Santa Fe Bureau Chief Milan Simonich can be reached at msimonich@tnmnp.com or 505-820-6898. His blog is at nmcapitolreport.com.

Shooting an accident; charges filed on teen

HAROLD OAKES
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman said Monday that charges have been filed in what appears to have been the accidental shooting of two brothers at Carrizozo High School June 16.

Zimmerman has charged Nicolas Chavez, a juvenile, with possession of a deadly weapon on school property and negligent use of a deadly weapon.

Chavez reportedly discharged a rifle from inside a truck at the Carrizozo High School track at about 8 p.m. June 16. The bullet went through the door of

the truck and struck the 17-year old and 12-year old brothers who were together near the running track.

As of Friday, the 12-year-old remained hospitalized, according to Zimmerman. The bullet reportedly struck him in the left side, in front of the kidney and lodged just above his stomach, missing all the vital organs.

Shrapnel or bullet fragments reportedly struck the 17-year-old in the leg.

"There is no reason to doubt that the shooting was accidental," Zimmerman said on Monday. She said the charges have been filed with the Juvenile Probation and Parole

Office.

Chavez reportedly told Lincoln County Deputy Sheriff Rex Beard that he did not know the .243-Winchester rifle was loaded until it went off, shooting through the partially open driver's door of the pickup. Chavez reportedly said he was moving the rifle from the back seat of the truck to the front floorboard when it discharged.

Beard reported Chavez said he knew he was not supposed to have the weapon on school property.

Zimmerman called the charge of possession of a deadly weapon on school property the most serious charge against Chavez.

Ruidoso Municipal Court correction

Correction: In the May 27 Ruidoso Magistrate Court warrants Paul L.

Whipple, 38, was listed as having a warrant. There was no warrant for

Whipple, it was an administrative error in posting information at the court.

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RUIDOSO NEWS

SUCCESS

STATE

FROM PAGE 1A

R-Roswell, who represents most of Lincoln County. But state Rep. Nora Espinoza, R-Roswell, said while she personally had not looked into the situation that led up to the death of Miranda, she would secure answers to questions posed by the Ruidoso News.

In response to her inquiry, Enrique Carlos Knell, CYFD communications director, reiterated previous comments that the incident was isolated "and really is an aberration. It is not typical of the challenges faced in foster parenting, whether for CYFD foster homes or the Medicaid services Treatment Foster Care."

He continued in a letter to Espinoza dated June 24, "Since the morning this happened, CYFD staff has been working with Mesilla Valley Hospital and others to perform a careful review of this tragedy from a regulatory perspective for any possible indication of overt contributing fac-

tors."

On the morning "this happened," the teens allegedly tied up Miranda's hands and feet, smothered her, and took her car, cell phone and laptop computer. Miranda, 53, was a resident of San Patricio, Knell said. Mesilla Valley was fully cooperative throughout the review.

Direct oversight or supervision of individual TFC parents and their homes does not fall to his agency, he wrote. That role belongs to the Treatment Foster Care agency that licenses each TFC parent and home.

Children, Youth and Families' regulatory role for TFC agencies is one of oversight and monitoring to ensure each substantially complies with both regulations governing the licensure of such homes, as well as the regulations governing service delivery to children.

"CYFD has a vested interest in ensuring that the treatment agencies and providers serving the children, youth and families of New Mexico are providing the best possible care," Knell wrote.

Screening process

In response to a question about how the children/youths are screened, Knell said the referral source seeking the services would make contact with agencies requesting their consideration of the child or youth for their program.

The referral source usually would have either current clinical screening documents and/or historical clinical documents to provide to the prospective agencies, he said.

"These two sets of documents are used initially in the agencies screening," Knell said. "If the agency assesses it may be able to provide the (client) with applicable services to meet their needs, the agency then is required to perform their own clinical screening assessment of the client based upon the child's current clinical and acuity of needs."

The Treatment Foster Care program also must assess if any current TFC parents might be able to meet the individual child's needs safely and effectively in a community-based setting, he said.

"This is the TFC agency's responsibility to assess if they can and should request an initial admission authorization from the Medicaid managed care organization Optum," Knell said.

He was asked if any clients are determined to be too dangerous or too much of a risk for placement. Knell replied that based on the TFC agency's assessment of the ability to safely treat a given client, taking into consideration current and historical risk factors associated with a child/youth, "there are absolutely times TFC agencies deem a child/youth too dangerous to be safely treated in TFC services."

In these situations, the client may be referred for a higher level of care such as residential treatment or acute psychiatric hospitalization.

Knell added, "There are

time that the referral source or agency encounters significant problems getting Optum to approve a higher level of care request for high risk children." On the TFC parents side, agency screening is governed by the Protective Services/Foster Care Bureau and its Child Placement Agency regulations, Knell said.

The screening of parents includes an extensive Home Study process to secure a license from the TFC agency as a TFC home, he said. "There are regulatory requirements for each TFC agency related to the training requirements of its TFC parents," Knell said. "These training requirements include significant front-end training for each TFC parent as well as annual training requirements."

The court does not direct the specific program or site of services, Knell said.

"These are recommendations to the judge at the disposition of a juvenile case," he said. "The court just requires that a service is put in place based on behavior health needs of the client."

TFC agencies undergo annual certification surveys covering service delivery and personnel Licensing and Certification Authority of the CYFD, and annual licensing surveys by the Protective Services/Foster Care Bureau, Knell said.

The staff is to have at least monthly contact with a TFC family, more often depending on the needs of the client, Knell said.

As for whether adequate resources are available, Knell said only one type of preauthorized service is paid per youth.

Parents are mentored on a regular basis by the TFC agency under contract.

Knell said he would need to do some research to determine how many other incidents of violence have occurred in the program over the last two years.

"We have hard copies of incidents, but (need to) define by type, which will take time to sort," he said.

RAIN

FROM PAGE 1A

covered with straw.

"We have placed 56 (jersey barriers) in the Spaghetti Flats area," Richards said. "In Parker east, we put five jersey barriers and four mafia blocks. We have also, I believe, delivered 50 jersey barriers to the race-track."

Jersey barriers are modular concrete barriers normally used to separate lanes of traffic during road construction. "Mafia blocks" are hollow, concrete blocks.

Armstrong said the city had to have help in getting the barriers.

"We had made contact with Lynn Ditto, with the office of Sen. Jeff

Bingaman," Armstrong said. "We had basically run aground with trying to acquire some of these jersey barriers. They made it very easy for us to get these jersey barriers."

Armstrong said that County Manager Tom Stewart also helped in getting the barriers.

"We were able to get 200 of these from Hondo and from Tularosa and they were bringing some from Las Cruces," Armstrong said. "We were very grateful to get these."

Richards said they had placed 135 barriers and the balance is in the Public Works yard to be placed as needed, once the rains begin.

"We also completed a trench along North Drive with the consent of the property owner."

Drainage ditches along

Highland Lane also were widened.

"We have bagged about 2,000 sandbags at this point," Richards said. "A little over 500 of those have been picked up by property owners to protect their wells and other property."

Armstrong said the city had received 10,000 sandbags.

"If there are other needs, we would ask that someone step up and ask for them," he said.

With the problems of flooding addressed on the north side of the city, Armstrong said he also is addressing the continuing threat of fire on the south side.

"We knew where the problem areas were and we have addressed them," Armstrong said. "We are working on the areas

south of the highway with Sen. Bingaman's office and others in the area."

Armstrong said the city would be applying for some grants to help with the fire mitigation efforts.

"Looking forward to getting that done so everyone can feel a bit safer," Armstrong said. "It doesn't take anything to start a fire."

Armstrong asked that residents and visitors be careful and said that the police department would be watching closely for violations of the fire restrictions.

"We have always had no fireworks in our area here," Armstrong said.

"It is not only if you caught lighting them off, if you are in possession of fireworks, it is a violation," Police Chief Doug Babcock said.

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FEES

FROM PAGE 1A

builder.

The amount collected each year in impact fees is modest, Decker said, especially in the last few years when construction and development activity dropped off because of the poor economy and over-

building.

"It takes years to collect enough to do any water and sewer expansions, although the fees are a help," he said. "We need to update the fees. It's time to go through another cycle of evaluation."

Village Building Official Shawn Fort said impact fees, including new meter installation,

water, sewer and wastewater service, add up to about \$7,000 per home.

"That's cheaper than a septic tank and a well," Cornelius said.

Cornelius also said he thinks "rain catchment systems" should remain an option for homeowners and not be required, as suggested by some advocates in the Comprehensive Plan.



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Inn of the MOUNTAIN GODS CASINO & RESORT
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CASINO APACHE

LAND

FROM PAGE 1A

sponsive to reducing or eliminating the conditions that created the state of emergency. Federal officials were more concerned about the Mexican spotted owl than the people who might or did lose homes during a wildfire in the unhealthy national forest, Rardin claimed.

"Is the (federal) government really doing the job government was set up to do?" Rardin asked during the special Lincoln County Commission meeting. "Absolutely not. It's doing a horrible job. Look at the condition of the forest, the land and rivers."

The arrangement somewhere along the line was turned backwards, he said.

"I had been taught wrongfully to let them do (the job) and then we do the best we can to coordinate with them," Rardin said. "But the state never gave up those rights. The state held on to those rights. We are closest to the people. Yet over the years, we've allowed the federal government to encroach on our rights. We can keep going that way, but I can no longer look constituents in eyes and say I'm doing a good job."

"We can't kick them (the federal agencies) out. They're part of the family with a real purpose. The federal government has a place to be, but not in the day-to-day lives of the people in a county. That power was given to you in the Constitution. You have most authority, because you are closest to the people and can make laws that affect their daily lives immediately."

After extensive research, documentation shows that Holloman Air Force Base is an example of an exclusive federal interest because the land actually is deeded to the federal government and the U.S. Congress accepted it from the state, the commission chairman said.

But proprietary interest, the arrangement under which the bureau and Forest Service managed the land, means the state never gave away its police power, he contended.

Lincoln County commissioners need to decide if they are satisfied with the handling of several issues by their federal partners, he said.

"We're not trying to kick anyone out, just realign management of the land," Rardin said. Without a change, "They are going to destroy Otero County. They haven't managed the land, they've just put in more regulations."

Unlike bureaucrats, if people don't like the way county officials manage the land, they can vote the commissioners out of office, he said.

His commission accumulated more than 130 documented federal cases in which federal authority was challenged and the U.S. Supreme Court ruled for the challengers, Rardin said.

For a decade people have been asking the wrong question.

The right question is, "Show me your authority. They can't answer you," he said.

Rardin urged support for House Bill 567 intro-

duced in the January legislative session by state Rep. Zach Cook, (R-Ruidoso), that would require the state to take primary responsibility for listing, protecting and managing endangered or threatened species but didn't make it to the floor for a vote; and for House Memorial 48, which passed, and assigned an interim committee to explore options on how best to stimulate the state's economy, specifically revitalizing the forest products industry.

But Lincoln County

Commissioner Jackie Powell said for the past 10 years Lincoln County has been aggressive in thinning forests and exercising good land management.

"We've done a couple hundred thousand acres at least, in three to five years. We do private (landowner) thinning through the community forester program. We had asked Otero County's cooperation (in covering the salary of the community forester), but we were notified in last few weeks, it was not budgeted."

The county also initiated a program to control and eradicate invasive weeds, she said.

"We tried to get Alamogordo and Otero to help with the invasive weeds around Bonito Lake (Alamogordo-owned property within Lincoln County). It's going on now and we asked for your help and you refused us. We cooperate with Chaves and Eddy County on invasive weeds too and the poison hemlock that killing cattle in valley. We have a good relationship with the parks and recre-

ation departments in towns. What's missing is the help from Otero County."

Rardin pleaded a misunderstanding and agreed with Powell the two programs are needed.

He said he would put the community forester issue back on his commission's agenda but he said he couldn't speak for the city of Alamogordo on the Bonito Lake weeds. "I give you my commitment to listen to your problems and take them to the commission. It's absolutely essential to work together."

Sedillo added that the county also maintains good communications with officials in the Smokey Bear Ranger District of the Lincoln National Forest.

New Mexico's lowest point, Red Bluff Lake, is 2,817 feet above sea level.

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Pro Baseball

Wednesday, June 22
Osos 6, White Sands 3
Thursday, June 23
White Sands 7, Osos 6,
Friday, June 24
Osos 11, White Sands 6
Saturday, June 25
White Sands 11, Osos 8

Sports On Tap

Race Track

Ruidoso Downs Race Track holds racing Friday through Monday. Post time is 1 p.m. each day. Parking is always free.

Pro Baseball

Wednesday, June 29
Carlsbad at Osos, 4:05 p.m.
Thursday, June 30
Carlsbad at Osos, 4:05 p.m.
Friday, July 1
Carlsbad at Osos, 4:05 p.m.
Saturday, July 2
Carlsbad at Osos, 4:05 p.m.
Sunday, July 3
Osos at Roswell, 7:05 p.m.
Monday, July 4
Osos at Roswell, 4:05 p.m.

On Deck Wilderness Camp

Monday, June 27, the Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department will begin their annual Wilderness Camp starting at 9 a.m. and lasting until 5 p.m. The camp will run Monday through Friday and last seven weeks. The cost is \$95 per week with lunch provided. Activities included are horseback riding, swimming, nature hikes, crafts and field trips. For more info call 257-5030.

SADSP Tennis Fundraiser

The first annual "Raise a Racket" Senior Doubles Tennis tournament will be held June 27-July 1 to benefit the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers Program (SADSP). The tournament will be for players over 50 years of age and will be played at Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club, KoKopelli Golf, Tennis and Social Club and the Ruidoso Parks and Recreation courts. Competition matches will feature women's doubles, men's doubles and mixed doubles. Entry fee is \$40 per event and all proceeds go to SADSP, which is one of the oldest adaptive ski schools in the country. It depends on fees, grants, donations and fund-raisers to operate. The program is in need of a "bi-ski," which enables a non-ambulatory person to sit and experience skiing with the aid of a volunteer. The Raise a Racket tournament hopes to raise \$4,000 to purchase a new and updated bi-ski for next season.

All American Futurity to set record at \$2.6 million

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

TY WYANT
Ruidoso Downs Race Track

The Grade 1 All American Futurity, already North America's richest race for 2-year-old horses of any breed, will set yet another record in 2013 when the total purse money projects to reach \$2.6 million, up from \$2.4 million in 2011 and 2012.

The winner of the 440-yard Labor Day classic in 2013 will receive an all-time record \$1.3 million.

The 2013 running of the Grade 1 Rainbow Futurity becomes quarter horse racing's newest seven-figure race with the purse reaching \$1 million from the current \$700,000.

The 2013 running of the Grade 1 Ruidoso Futurity will rise to \$750,000 from \$500,000.

"Ruidoso Downs leads quarter horse racing with record-setting purses," said Ruidoso Downs chairman R.D. Hubbard, "The All American Futurity sets an all-time record this Labor Day with the \$2.4 million purse and the \$2.6 million purse in 2013 continues to raise the standard.

"It is the iconic race in

quarter horse racing and combined with the Rainbow and Ruidoso futurities make for the most compelling series of races in quarter horse racing.

"In North America, this is the largest purse (All American Futurity) of any breed of horses. We want to make sure all these purses remain strong."

The total purses for the 2013 running of the All American, Rainbow and Ruidoso Futurities — the All American Triple Crown — will reach \$4,350,000 which surpasses the purses of this year's thoroughbred triple crown which is comprised of the Kentucky Derby (\$2 million), Preakness Stakes (\$1 million) or Belmont Stakes (\$1 million).

The 2014 runnings of the All American Derby, Rainbow Derby and Ruidoso Derby will maintain the strength they have built over recent years. The Grade 1 All American Derby projects to have a \$1.3-million purse, the Grade 1 Rainbow Derby is estimated at \$700,000 while the Grade 1 Ruidoso Derby projects to have a \$650,000 purse.

"The owners and trainers have reacted positively



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso Downs Race Track owner, R.D. Hubbard, left, and Assistant Manager Shaun Hubbard announced Friday that the total purse for the 2013 All American Futurity will be \$2.6 million, up from \$2.4 million in 2011 and 2012.

to our derby program," Hubbard said.

Purses for each futurity are capped and overages automatically go to the following year's derby program when the futurity horses race as three-year-olds.

"Due to the success of the Triple Crown program (futurities), the derbies were becoming bigger than the futurities (because of

the capped excess futurity monies which are transferred to derbies)," Hubbard said. "The trainers and owners wanted to see the futurities increased but didn't realize we already had a plan in process to do just that."

Futurity caps raised

The All American Futurity will establish a new record winner's share

of \$1.2 million this year and that will be eclipsed by the \$1.3 million earned by the winner in 2013.

If a horse wins all three of the futurities then that horse will earn \$2,175,000 in purse money, plus take the \$4-million All American Triple Crown bonus. The purse money and the bonus money combine for a

See INCREASE, page 2B

My Homey wins Thoroughbred Futurity

TY WYANT
Ruidoso Downs Race Track

Odds-on favorite My Homey withstood a rousing late challenge from 25-1 longshot Gerda's Home to win the \$136,426 Mountain Top Thoroughbred Futurity on Sunday afternoon at Ruidoso Downs.

My Homey and jockey Jorge Martin Bourdieu worked every step of the five furlongs to gain the victory.

My Homey tried to gain a clear early advantage, however Miss Desert Freeze pressured him down the backstretch and around the turn.

Miss Desert Freeze could not maintain contact and faded entering the stretch while My Homey appeared to be on his way to a clear victory while Gerda's Home was gearing up his bid.

The Joe Martinez-riden Gerda's Home raced off the pace and began his long move entering the turn.

He gained striking position in the final strides

before coming up a neck short at the finish.

The Papis Aldavaz-trained My Homey was timed in :59.84.

Band Of Glory was more than four lengths behind the top-two finishers for third.

My Homey, a gelding by The Way Home, was sent off as the 3-5 favorite in the Mountain Top Thoroughbred Futurity after a stunning 11-length victory in his Mountain Top Futurity trial.

Miss Desert Freeze was also in that trial and did not supply the early pressure that she mustered in the futurity.

My Homey was able to control the race and rolled under the wire with a :59.60 time, the only horse in the three trials to record a time under one minute for the five furlongs.

Owned by breeder Steve Prather with Bessie Prater and Aldavaz, My Homey scored his third win from five starts and has a third-

See RACES, page 2B



COURTESY RUIDOSO DOWNS RACE TRACK

My Homey, on inside, holds off a challenge from Gerda's Home to win Sunday's \$136,426 Mountain Top Thoroughbred Futurity.

place finish in the Copper Top Futurity at Sunland Park in April.

The \$68,217 first-place check from the Mountain Top Futurity raised his career earnings to \$86,480.

Overnight Stakes

In the \$19,300 Tricky Dust Overnight Stake at 870 yards earlier on the program, the quarter horse Bye Bye Jess sur-

vived a speed duel with A Deadly Choice and held off a bid by the thoroughbred All Man to get the win as a 12-1 outsider.

Jockey Miguel Perez-riden Bye Bye Jess raced the 870 yards in :45.75 to win by a diminishing one-and-three-quarter lengths.

All Man rallied to defeat third-place finisher A Deadly Choice by three-

and-one-half lengths.

Leroy Martinez's Bye Bye Jess, a five-year-old gelded son of Dashin Bye, scored his fourth 2011 win from eight starts.

He won at the \$6,250 claiming level in February at Sunland Park and came into the Tricky Dust off a second-place finish in a conditioned \$15,000 optional-claiming race as the 3-2 favorite.

Tri-super carryover at \$32,510 for Friday races

TY WYANT
Ruidoso Downs Race Track

The tri-super carryover at Ruidoso Downs reached \$32,510 for Friday's racing program after there were no winning tickets on Monday afternoon.

Friday is the next racing program at Ruidoso Downs. Racing runs Friday through Monday with a 1 p.m. first post time.

The tri-super wager consists of selecting the correct top-three finishers, in order, in the fourth race and the top-four finishers, in order, in the sixth race.

When there are no winning tickets, pool money is carried over to the following racing program, therefore the pot grows with each day there are no winning tickets.

Friday's fourth race offers quarter horses racing at 350 yards with 10 entrants and the

sixth race follows with 10 thoroughbreds competing over five-and-one-half furlongs.

Each race is for New Mexico-bred maidens.

The Fourth of July weekend stakes action features fastest-qualifier Feature Honor in the \$53,757 Adequan Ruidoso

Derby Challenge on Saturday and two-time champion Noconi racing in the \$30,000 Higheasterjet Handicap on Sunday.

Saturday night, country music duet Steel Magnolia performs at Ruidoso Downs starting at 8 p.m.

36TH ANNUAL KACHINA DOLL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 36th Annual Kachina Doll tournament was held at Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club, June 13-16.

Co-chairpersons Linda McKinley and Karen Kilroy and their committee ran a most enjoyable tournament despite very windy conditions. A putting contest and a skills challenge preceded a welcome party, June 13. The Alto men's swim team provided the evening's entertainment.

Don Bryant and his pro shop staff and Glen Denny, greens superintendent, and his staff did a wonderful job to make the Kachina Doll Tournament a memorable time for the 70 teams that participated.

Winners over the whole field, with a gross score of 214, were Joyce McBride and Marian Barker.

Low net winners were Claudia Jeffreys and Jane Sprulell with a 187.

Championship Flight

1st Gross — Yapp/Walker	222
2nd Gross — Kilroy/Perrine	226
3rd Gross — Van Tussenbraek/Hardin	229
1st Net — McGaughey/Jowitt	192
2nd Net — Bowers/Walker	196
3rd Net — Dobbins/Emerson	200

First Flight

1st Gross — Ragland/Young	243
2nd Gross — Lagasse/Wundra	244

3rd Gross — Ingram/Farley Scott	248
1st Net — Simpson/Cameron	197
2nd Net — McKinley/Belt	199
3rd Net — Zelt/Johns	203

Second Flight

1st Gross — Bayless/Hunley	250
2nd Gross — Jumonville/McGuire	252
3rd Gross — Summers/Boynton	262
1st Net — Beyer/Merek	193
2nd Net — Crook/Kinyon	206
3rd Net — Way/Schideler	207

Third Flight

1st Gross — Heaton/Blackman	256
2nd Gross — R. Reynolds/Cain	265
3rd Gross — Bryant/Williams	266
1st Net — Lacewell/Markham	201
2nd Net — Peoples/Palmer	205
3rd Net — Connor/Hanson	205

Fourth Flight

1st Gross — Fraley/Mitchell	262
2nd Gross — Henson/Skar	268
3rd Gross — Carroll/Shehan	268
1st Net — Palla/Walters	199
2nd Net — Bishop/Orsini	199
3rd Net — Ziegler/O'Shaughnessy	207

Fifth Flight

1st Gross — Esstman/Cassels	271
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Joyce McBride, left, and Marian Barker were the overall winners at Alto Lakes Kachina Doll Tournament, June 13-16.

2nd Gross — Brown/Brown	278
3rd Gross — Hanson/Cowart	286
1st Net — K. Brown/Lombardi	195
2nd Net — Pugh/Bauman	201
3rd Net — McLaughlin/Winterroud	209

INCREASE

FROM PAGE 1B

total of \$6,175,000, easily making the winning horse the all-time leading money-earning quarter horse.

The all-time leading money earning quarter horse is 2008 All American Futurity winner Stolis Winner at \$2,196,291. Nine of the top-10 all-time leading money-earning

quarter horses are All American Futurity winners.

"Ruidoso Downs always attracts the premier quarter horses and these purse increases reflect our dedication even in these difficult economic times," said Hubbard.

"We are able to increase these purses because of the continuing support that horsemen show in Ruidoso Downs and our futurity and derby program. We are very thankful for their

support."

At Friday's 1 p.m. news conference, in which Hubbard announced the upcoming increases in purses, he also had other thoughts pertaining to Ruidoso Downs Race Track and the state of racing overall.

"We're up over last year — at all-time highs (for race nominations)," Hubbard said. "Even though the number of horses bred is down (less foals) the nominees for races are up.

Attendance (this year) is up 10 to 12 percent. The handle (amount bet) is up about the same percentage."

As for a profit or loss this season a Ruidoso Downs Race Track, Hubbard had this to say: "We expect a loss this year."

Maintenance costs — repairs to pipes (from the freeze in the second week of February, 2011), \$70,000 in track restorations and \$200,000 in

other improvements were cited as some reasons for the expected loss.

When asked if he was still worried about a fire hazard at the track Hubbard replied, "We're worried about water, now. We don't want the barn areas to wash out (in anticipated summer rains)."

To that end, Ruidoso Downs Race Track is working with the U.S. Forest Service to refurbish two run-off holding areas in canyons behind the race

track.

Additionally, the Forest Service has been dropping hay and seeding the affected areas, which encourage the run-offs.

"The track and the U.S. Forest Service have been working together to clean out the water retention ponds in two of the offending canyons," Ruidoso Downs General Manager Jean Stoddard said.

"This would greatly reduce potential damage to the barns."

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ROCCO

has a wonderful disposition and good looks to match it! He is about four and a half months old, already been neutered and received all his vaccinations. Rocco walks well on a leash, is excellent with other dogs and puppies and very gentle with people. He will make an excellent family pet

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SASSY

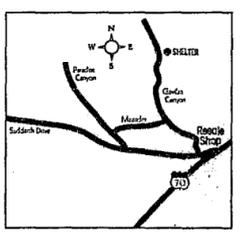
is a beautiful kitten and is about 10 weeks old. She was found all by herself on the side of the road in a busy subdivision. Sassy has medium length hair and has tortoiseshell and white colorings. She is well socialized and is sure to bring a smile to your face!

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BURTON

is a laid back dog, weighing about 37 pounds. He was found running loose in the Nogal area and was picked up by a county Sheriff Deputy. Burton was dirty, exhausted and in pretty bad shape when he got to the shelter. He is now cleaned up and much happier. Burton has blue merle and white markings with both ears being black and a big black spot on his back.

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TRINA

is a small (8 pounds) terrier mix and is 1 year old. She has wire hair, is black with tan points. Trina is a little apprehensive with new people and very unsure of other dogs.

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FORTUNE

was found abandoned with her 4 puppies left to fend for themselves. Animal control brought her to us and we were easily able to get weight on her and get her ready for adoption. She is a real sweetheart and love to play with toys. Fortune weighs about 60-65 pounds.

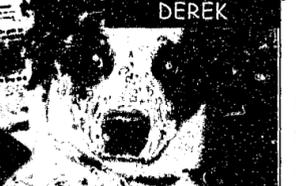
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LAMBCHOP

is a pretty Chow/Heeler mix. She is solid white/cream and has a medium/long length coat. Lambchop was surrendered to us because she did not do well with the owners chickens. She does do well with other dogs and would be much happier in a home where she gets much more attention than she was before. She is spayed and current on her vaccinations as well.

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DEREK

is a handsome, and a little shy, heeler mix. He is 5 months old and was found as a stray in Capitan with his 4 littermates.

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RUIDOSO NEWS



ATLAS

is a very handsome short haired lilac point cat. He was found abandoned in a carrier on the shelter doorstep on May 19. Atlas has since been neutered and gotten up-to-date on his vaccinations. He has beautiful blue eyes and is very people oriented.

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BREEZE

is a cutie, about 10 weeks old. She was found with 3 other kittens in Ruidoso Downs. Breeze is quite friendly and ready to go to a great home.

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SMOKEY

is a beautiful smoke colored cat with a wonderful disposition. He was found loose here in Ruidoso and now he is available for adoption. Smokey gets along well with other cats and is quite affectionate. He is still young, about a year old

SPONSORED BY
JOANIE HOLT



MARCO

is a cute smoke grey and white kitten, about 8 weeks old. He was found with his littermates abandoned and soared underneath a home in Ruidoso Downs. He is now happy, healthy and ready to go to a good home.

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MALONE

is a great cat with a wonderful personality. He loves people and is very affectionate. Malone is about 1 year old and has handsome grey tabby markings.

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Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce: Annual Membership Reception & Awards Presentation



Sally Canning, left, receives a Beautification Award for her ongoing creation of Laughing Sheep Farm. A recent expansion and live music every weekend puts this fine and exotic dining experience on everyone's list. Kathy Alexander presented the award.



A fine time was enjoyed by all at the Jockey Club during the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Membership Reception and Awards Presentations; from left, Skip and Debbie Haines-Nix, owners of the Sanctuary by the River, Tom Histon, Sanctuary by the River, Anne Reveley, president elect for the Chamber of Commerce, Jan Butchofsky, Sanctuary by the River, and Lyn Crawford, general manager of the Jockey's Club and owner of Dreamcatchers.



Linda McLaughlin receives the Past President Award as the outgoing president for the Ruidoso Valley Greeters Club from Kathy Alexander



Volunteer of the Year Holly West accepts her award from Chamber of Commerce Events Coordinator Kathy Alexander during the Shine On! Awards Presentation at the Jockey's Club Thursday, June 23.



Sanctuary on the River owners Skip and Debbie Haines-Nix accept a Beautification Award from Ruidoso Chamber's Kathy Alexander. Skip and Debbie gave new life back to an old empty building and created a fantastic sanctuary for Ruidoso residents and visitors.



Jockey Club hostesses Bella Amezcua and Whitney George, both of Mescalero, did an outstanding job in service with a busy crowd



Linda McLaughlin receives the Past President Award as the outgoing president for the Ruidoso Valley Greeters Club from Kathy Alexander



Entertainment provided by Shine On! included Delaney Davis, 20, who lives in Ruidoso; other performers were Amanda Byer, Jennifer Lewicki, Rich Chorne, Reggie Peninger and Sally Canning, who sang a beautiful desert song.



Dan Wimberly and Wally Murillo, owners of Ski Ruidoso Ski Shop and Game Room, accept a Beautification Award from Kathy Alexander for renovating and beautifying the old Carpet Connection building.

Got Faces & Places photos? Send them along with contact information to tvestal@ruidosonews.com

Mountain Annie's Center for the Arts, Renaissance & Revolution Art Gallery opening

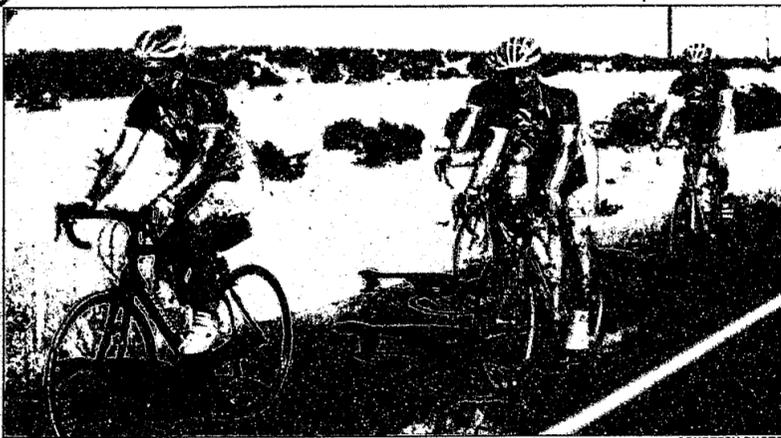


Mountain Annie's Center for the Arts, Renaissance and Revolution Art Gallery, opening June 24 thru June 26, attracted a vibrant crowd. From left, Madeleine Sabo displayed her wood turned vases and ceramic bowls, Jamie and Shirley Estes, owners of Mountain Annie's, Lynette Walkins, whose artwork is in the background, and Elaine Parks.



Renovations have updated Mountain Annie's Center for the Arts. Here is the view looking out of the foyer with wonderful glassworks and stained glass.

LINCOLN COUNTY



COURTESY PHOTO

Journey of Hope cyclists continue their 4,000-mile fundraising ride.

Journey through 'Zozo

A team of cyclists participating in Journey of Hope, presented by KRG Capital, will arrive in Carrizozo on Wednesday, July 6 as a stop on their 4,000-mile cycling event across the country to raise funds and awareness for people with disabilities.

The team will arrive at New Horizons Development Center at 12:30p.m. for lunch, as well as a friendship visit.

Journey of Hope is a program of Push America, the national philanthropy of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity, which raises funds and awareness for people with disabilities.

The Journey of Hope team consists of men from Pi Kappa Phi chapters

across the country. The team will cycle an average of 75 miles per day, a total of 4,000 miles, beginning in Seattle (June 8) and San Francisco (June 12) and ending in Washington, D.C. on Aug. 13.

For the team, the real journey will not be on a bike, but spending time with the people for whom they are riding.

The Journey of Hope team members will have spent every afternoon with people with disabilities in many different community events and activities.

These cyclists are striving for community inclusion of people with disabilities and are helping to break the barriers of society that keep people of all

abilities from living life to the fullest.

Push America was founded in 1977 with the hope of committing its members to enhance the lives of people with disabilities.

With the combined efforts of sponsors and individual team members, this year's Journey of Hope will raise more than \$550,000 on behalf of people with disabilities.

Push America and Pi Kappa Phi have fundraised over \$15 million to date and continue to be on the cutting edge of the disability movement.

For more information on Push America please visit www.pushamerica.org

-from reports

NRA course graduates

DANA TERLECKY
for the Ruidoso News

A National Rifle Association firearms instructor course was held last weekend at Post 79 American Legion in Ruidoso Downs.

With the exception of

Sandra the class included old and grizzly hunters; Ms Carrier did not have a problem keeping order in the class.

The course included the basic NRA Instructor course and the specific disciplines of Rifle and Pistol.

Although not a require-

ment, all the participants are or have plans of teaching local groups of young people.

Many are recipients of grants from the New Mexico Friends of NRA that are used to purchase ammunition, safety items and other equipment.



DANA TERLECKY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

from left, Sandra Locke, Dave Locke, Wayne Ellison, Dave Mader, Coralie Carrier and Doug Reynolds.

4th of July weekend

Carrizozo Music in the Parks is sponsoring a free concert on Sunday, July 3 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at McDonald Park or the Carrizozo Woman's Club in case of rain. Paul Pino and the Tone Daddies will be performing New Mexican music. (paulpino.com)

Carrizozo Little League will sell snacks and refreshments to benefit Carrizozo ball field improvements.

The next concerts in the summer series are scheduled for July 31 and Aug. 14. For more information

please visit www.carrizozomusic.org

New Horizons Developmental Center in Carrizozo is having a yard sale on July 4, in its parking lot. New Horizons is located on the corner of Eighth Street and E Avenue, across from the clinic. Hours are from 8 a.m. to noon. All profits will go to benefit New Horizons which is a non-profit organization that provides care for developmentally disabled adults. Donations welcome. For

information contact Beth Hightower, 575-648-2460

4th of July Deep Pit BBQ brisket dinner with all the trimmings at Valle del Sol, just east of Carrizozo. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fireworks to follow at dusk. Tickets \$7 presale at Carrizozo and Ruidoso Chambers of Commerce, or \$8 at the gate. Dinner sponsored by Carrizozo Market. Fireworks presented by Carrizozo Volunteer Fire Department. For information call 575-648-2788.



COURTESY PHOTO

Riders display a map of the courses at Twentynine Palms High School in Twentynine Palms, California.

The last days of Navajo Lodge

The Navajo Lodge, a familiar landmark in Ruidoso, was the site of many county-wide social events for many years.

The Navajo Lodge was torn down after being abandoned.

All that remains of the three-story, Pueblo Revival-style place are a "Dead End Ahead" sign, a grove of sky-high pine trees and a new street sign: Navajo Drive and Leach.



Historical Potpourri
By Polly E. Chavez

The Navajo Lodge was located on the backside of today's Mountain Annie's on Sudderth Street.

A portion of the former Navajo Lodge is on property now owned by Jamie and Shirley Estes, new owners of Mountain Annie's Center for the Arts.

Chatting with former Ruidoso Mayor Lloyd L. Davis, I learned that a large portion of that area was called the

Navajo Tract that included the site where a condominium now is located,

Mountain Ski Shop, The Bay Window Boutique, and Brownd Eyed Girl, The Olive Oil Shops and Starbucks.

Lloyd was a teen when his father, Lloyd Sr., and his mother, Daisy, purchased the Navajo Lodge.

The March 31, 1950, Ruidoso News records that the Navajo Lodge was sold by the Boyce family to Lloyd L. Davis, a former Ruidoso resident, and until recently, a farm-owner at Abernathy, TX. "The lodge, started in 1924, will be operated on the same policies as in the past," Mr. Davis is quoted.

A photograph of the Navajo Lodge, in its glory can be seen in a book, "Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs" by Lyn Kidder and Herb Brunell.

Ruidoso News in 1947 has this to say of the Navajo Lodge: "In 1924 Mrs. R.L. Boyce and the late Mr. Boyce started a new business in Ruidoso. At that time Ruidoso was made up of the post office, Wingfields home, the one there today, and



POLLY E CHAVEZ/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

A dead end sign is all that remains of the Navajo Lodge.

five or six privately owned cabins right near the Mescalero Reservation."

When first built, the main building of the lodge was made up of a kitchen and dining room. The guests stayed in cabins built along the bank of the river.

A piano was brought to

Ruidoso Valley by Mrs. Boyce's father, Frank Coe. Bands played for many dance events.

By the way, here are additional history tidbits of last week's history column about the Lutz Building 1917: I.M Rapp of Trinidad, Colo., constructed the building for Lutz.

Audrey Paton, manager of Gallery 401, housed in the Lutz building, believes that Rapp also constructed La Fonda in Santa Fe.

Henry Lutz was also Carrizozo's first mayor. The municipality was incorporated in 1917, but that's for another history column.

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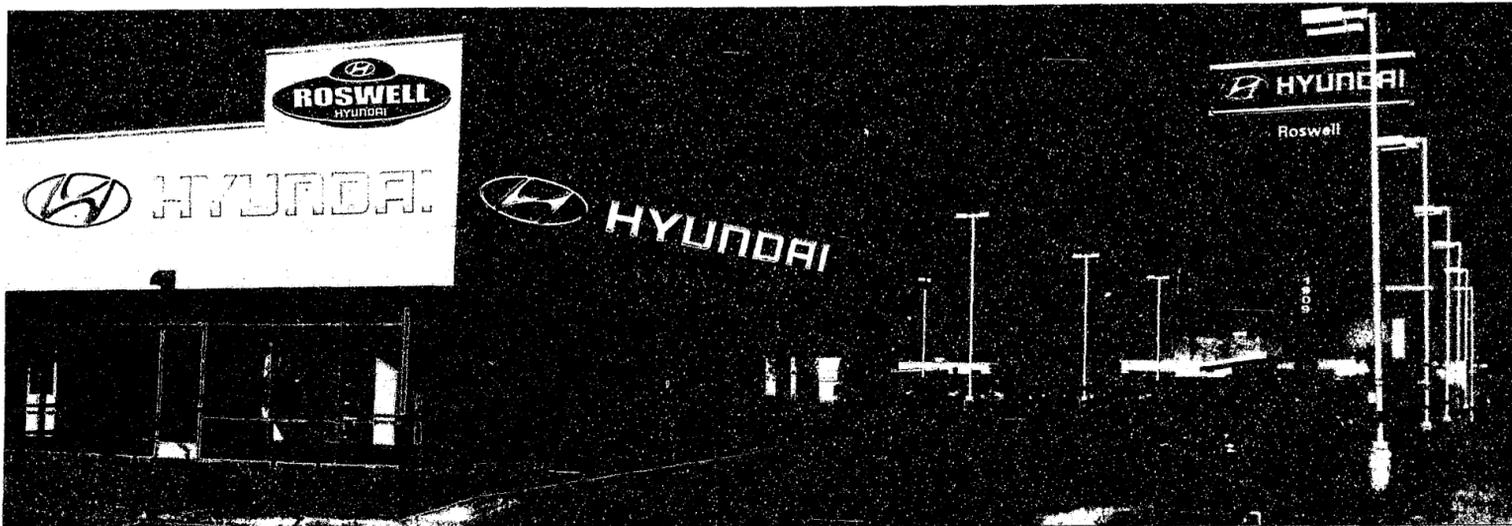
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ROSWELL HYUNDAI GRAND OPENING!



Owner/Founder of Krumland Auto Group, Thomas Krumland, opens doors to newly renovated Roswell Hyundai dealership in Roswell NM.

Russ Royval, GM of Roswell Hyundai, proudly announced the grand opening of their store June 27, 2011. The store is located at 1909 W. 2nd

Street in Roswell, NM and is now open to the public. Mr. Royval is proud to announce the addition of the the all-new 2011 Hyundai Equus. "It's not

that we broke the mold, we just didn't use one." The Hyundai Equus is an award-winning 385-hp, 4.6L Tau V8 engine. ZF® premium 6-speed automatic

transmission. And of course, rear-wheel drive. Engineered to leave its mark on the luxury performance sedan market.

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2011 Model Year Values

Model	Year	24-30 Month Guaranteed Resale Value Percentage	31-36 Month Guaranteed Resale Value Percentage	37-42 Month Guaranteed Resale Value Percentage	43-48 Month Guaranteed Resale Value Percentage
Accent	2011	50.0%	43.0%	39.0%	34.0%
Azera	2011	48.0%	42.0%	38.0%	36.0%
Elantra	2011	61.0%	58.0%	52.0%	49.0%
Elantra Touring	2011	55.0%	50.0%	47.0%	42.0%
Equus	2011	55.0%	48.0%	44.0%	40.0%
Genesis	2011	55.0%	48.0%	45.0%	41.0%
Genesis Coupe	2011	56.0%	53.0%	49.0%	44.0%
Santa Fe	2011	55.0%	50.0%	47.0%	44.0%
Sonata	2011	58.0%	50.0%	47.0%	43.0%
Tucson	2011	56.0%	51.0%	48.0%	44.0%
Veracruz	2011	54.0%	48.0%	44.0%	40.0%

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- If the vehicle is worth more than what we guaranteed, the customer will receive the higher amount. Win-Win. The higher of either the guaranteed value or the current market value can be applied to the purchase of a new Hyundai. The guaranteed value must be applied towards the purchase of a new Hyundai financed through Hyundai Motor Finance (HMF) and only when a customer shows proof of all required vehicle maintenance at authorized Hyundai dealerships.

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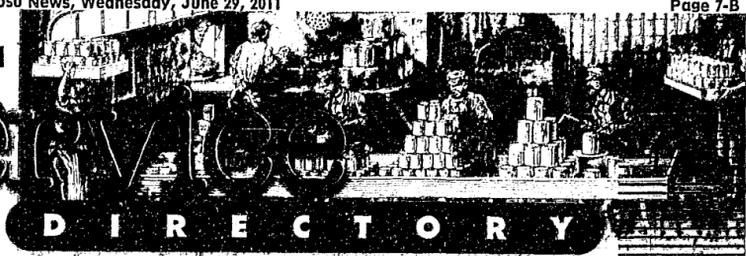


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ALTO LAKES WATER SANITATION DISTRICT NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SCHEDULES AND FEES OF THE ALTO LAKES WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

The Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District adopted Resolution 2011-08 after a public hearing on June 23, 2011.

This Resolution amends previously adopted Appendix A Schedules and will affect all properties located within the Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District boundaries as well as external water customers.

A copy of the Resolution and Appendix A - Fee Schedule may be inspected at the District Office at 214 Lake Shore Drive, Alto, NM 88401 or online at www.AltoLakes.net.

The original copy of Resolution 2011-08 has been filed with the Lincoln County Clerk.

Gary Parker, Secretary Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District

#9413 AT (6129) (716) (713), 20

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 & Sanitation District, Lincoln County, New Mexico will meet on Monday, July 11, 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 participate in the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance of the Alto Lakes Water and Sanitation District amending the schedule of conservation levels and restrictions based upon a variety of conditions or triggers, determining operational water delivery capacities as monitored by District Management.

Following the Public Hearing, the District Board may choose to adopt or take the proposed Ordinance. If the Board does so, the Ordinance may be so indefinitely, in which case it is brought back in the future. The Board will publish the Ordinance in a specific future date, time and if so, the Board may again consider the Ordinance for adoption without such republication.

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

Gary Parker, Secretary Alto Lakes Water & Sanitation District

#9415 2T (6129) (716)

STATE OF NEW MEXICO IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LINCOLN COUNTY

In the matter of the Petition of MERCELYN N. MERCER

For change of name of the minor child of DYLAN PATRICK HEFFEL-FINGER-MERCER

NO. CV-2011-180

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND NOTICE OF HEARING

COMES NOW the Petitioner and hereby gives notice that a Petition for Change of Name was filed in Corrales, Lincoln County, New Mexico on the 21st day of June, 2011, requesting that the name of the minor child's name be changed from DYLAN PATRICK HEFFEL-FINGER-MERCER to DYLAN PATRICK HEFFEL-FINGER-MERCER.

Furthermore, Petitioner hereby gives notice of a hearing on the Petition for Change of Name, which shall be held before the Honorable Karen L. Parsons at 1:15 pm on the 14th day of August 2011 at the Lincoln County Court House in Corrales, New Mexico where the Petitioner will request the Court to sign the final Order changing the minor child's name.

DYLAN PATRICK HEFFEL-FINGER-MERCER

1st April N. Mercer 165 Conover Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345

jobs 200-232

General Help Wanted 230

Looking for part-time work? Need something to do while the kids are in school? Retired from a full time job and not ready to go home? National Greeting card company needs part-time merchandiser for the Ruidoso Area. Must have own phone and transportation. Reply to: ammerchandisers@yahoo.com

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Journeyman Lineman Alamosordo, NM

PNM is seeking a Journeyman Lineman in our Alamosordo division. Incumbent will perform all duties expected of a Journeyman Lineman and work under extreme conditions during emergency call-out or outage conditions.

Applicants must possess High School diploma or equivalent, current journeyman lineman certification, Ability to use aerial lifts and line trucks, and understand switching procedures.

Construction drawings and specifications, electrical "one line. Successfully complete written and practical skills assessment evaluation. Experience in rubber glove and hot stick live line work.

Class A Commercial Drivers License and valid drivers license. Must have valid description of job requirements and to apply on-line, refer to the PNM web site at www.pnm.com. On 2011 deadline to apply for this position is June 26, 2011.

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Classifieds 257-4001

The Lincoln County Juvenile Justice Board (LCJJB)

is seeking to contract to provide trauma assessment and treatment services to juveniles referred by the Lincoln County Juvenile Probation Office.

Required services: professional service requirements include life cycle management in accordance with accredited practices, from initial screening to identify youths that are acting on symptoms of trauma or PTSD.

Services will be for up to 10 clients at any given time. The LCJJB will provide funding for staff training, operations, administrative support and screening instruments.

The successful bidder will be expected to bill Medicaid or private insurances for direct treatment for the clients.

Administrative support service requirements include maintenance of behavioral health records in accordance with professional standards; coordination of funding to include setting up and managing Medicaid funding; maintenance of financial records in accordance with NM State Accounting practices and submission of invoices and progress reports as required.

Proposal must describe applicant's credentials, knowledge and ability to help develop, implement, and manage a program of this type. Staff qualifications and licensing must be clearly stated and described. Proposals must be sent to LCJJB, P.O. Box 887, Alto, NM, postmarked by July 1, in order to be considered.

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Restaurants & Clubs 247

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