

# FIRE DANGER EXTREME! RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011 • OUR 65TH YEAR, NO. 24 • 75 CENTS

## Martinez applauds first-responders

### Governor recognizes officer for valour during fire

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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Standing in a room full of law enforcement officers and firefighters Thursday, New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez presented the Governor's Outstanding New Mexico Public Service Award to Aaron Frost.

The Ruidoso Police Department corporal was off duty June 16 when the

Swallow Fire broke out in the Pinecliff subdivision and "his brave actions led to the safe evacuation of a local family."

Frost was driving with his son when he noticed several trees on fire near a home. He rushed into the house and helped a grandmother and two grandchildren, who never saw or smelled fire or smoke, evacuate to safety.

Ultimately, the fire burned 10 acres and nine homes in the Ruidoso area.

Martinez lauded the extra awareness of their surroundings that firefighters and police officer possess. Her husband wore a law enforcement uniform for 30 years, and she "understands the risks confronted everyday."

Turning to Frost as they stood in one of the meeting

rooms of the Inn of the Mountain Gods, Martinez thanked him "for your service everyday."

Reflecting on the season of fires in New Mexico and her visits to many of the sites, the governor said, "Unfortunately, you can smell a firefighter a block away" as their clothing and skin become saturated with

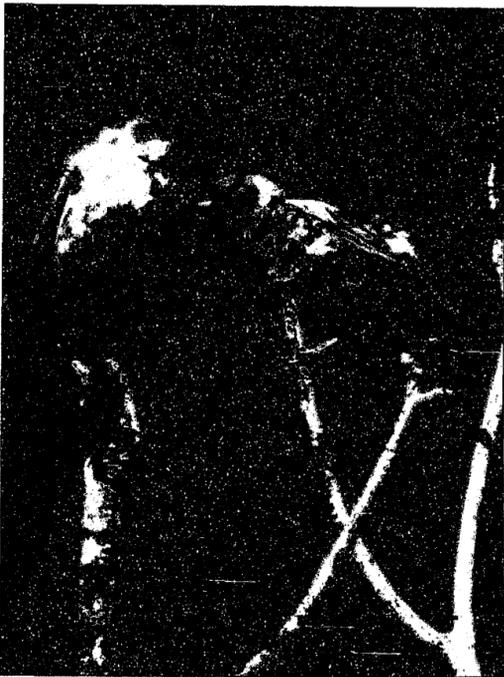


DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez presents Ruidoso Police Cpl. Aaron Frost with the Governor's Outstanding New Mexico Public Service Award at a ceremony Thursday.

See FROST, page 14A

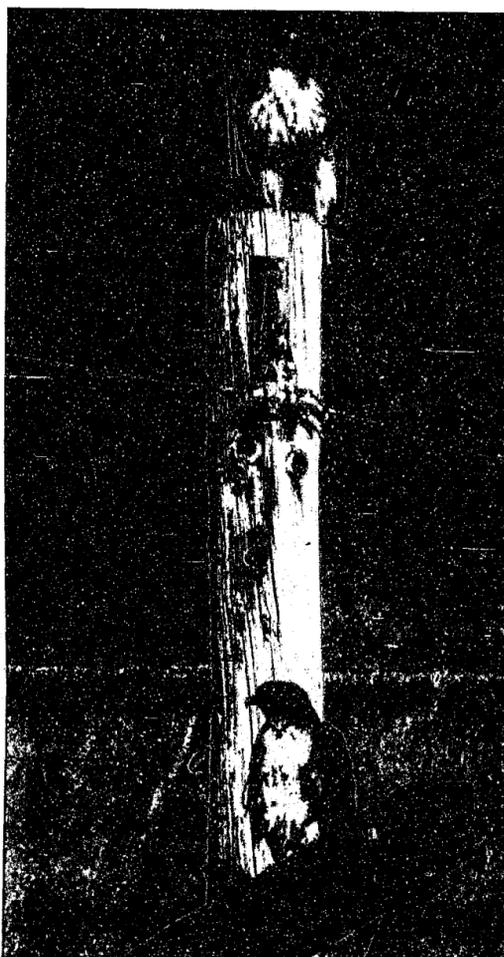
## BIRDS OF A FEATHER



Above, confounding photographer David Tremblay, an American kestrel and a male Bullock's Oriole seem to be best buddies as they perch near one another. After some seemingly affectionate exchanges between what usually would be predator and prey, they flew off together in harmony.

At right, two Red-tailed hawks get a "bird's-eye view" of the area while perched on a utility pole.

PHOTOS COURTESY DAVID TREMBLAY



## State contract deal was more 'pay to play'

### Agreement for \$30,000 increased to \$5.8 million

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A State Investment Council contract with a law firm that started in 2005 with compensation "not to exceed \$30,000" was amended six times, taking the total amount paid by 2010 to \$5.8 million.

"It just looked to me it was more of this kind of pay-to-play stuff," New Mexico Sen. Tim Jennings, D-Roswell, said Thursday. "You know, it was people just circumventing the law where they shouldn't be doing this."

Jennings, whose district includes southeastern Lincoln County and northeastern Otero County, asked the Attorney General's Office to look at the legality

of the contract between the State Investment Council and the Paul, Hastings, Janofsky, & Walker LLP law firm. The global law firm was to provide legal services involving investments.

In an opinion dated June 14 and posted on the Attorney General's website Tuesday, July 12, Assistant Attorney General Elaine P. Lujan said she believed the state's procurement code was violated.

"The scope of the contract with the law firm eventually encompassed more than just investment-related legal services," Lujan wrote. "The expanded scope of work provided for services that are more akin to attorney litigation expenses ... and there-

See DEAL, page 14A

## Monsoon season opens with flood warnings for area

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The monsoon season turned on this week in and around the Sacramento Mountains.

Afternoon rains on Tuesday and Wednesday turned into flash flood warnings for sections of southern Lincoln County and northern Otero County.

At the River Ranch RV Park between Ruidoso Downs and Glencoe, the Rio Ruidoso rose quickly Wednesday afternoon. Spilling over the banks, the river overtook much of the park for a time. Joel Parsons, the husband of park manager

## Ruidoso gears up for possible flooding

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After helping their neighbors in Ruidoso Downs fill sandbags, Ruidoso firefighters began today preparing the heavy hedges against flooding in their own backyard.

Interim Fire Chief Harlan Vincent said he set a target of 100 sandbags filled daily and they are available at the main fire station on Sudderth Drive and Paradise Canyon, and at

Sherry Parsons, said the water

was almost up to his knees.

"When the water comes up it

gets scary out here," he said.

"For a lot of people out here this

is their homes. And when the

Station 2 on White Mountain Drive,

The sandbags may be used to prevent flooding and mudslides as a result of the Swallow Fire inside the village or on the sections of the White Fire that impact the village, and along the Rio Ruidoso or other potential drainages that could flood in a heavy prolonged downpour, Vincent said.

"We have our contingency plans for each," he

See BAGS, page 11A

destroyed out here. And we thought we were safe now. We thought they had done some work up here on the river but evidently it came up a little faster than they ever expected it to again. It rose in about 10 minutes."

His wife said precautions were taken.

"Everybody's prepared just in case," Sherry Parsons said that afternoon. "A lot of people have pulled their cars up to higher ground."

The director of Lincoln County's Office of Emergency

See FLOOD, page 11A

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**Gala preparations**

In preparation for its annual fundraising gala, the Hubbard Museum of the American West will be closed to the public beginning at noon Friday, July 22, and all day Saturday, July 23. The museum will reopen at 9 a.m. Sunday, July 24.

The fundraiser, themed Wild, Wild West — Journey to Statehood, will be July 23. The event includes a full dinner, hosted bar and dancing to the music of the Graham Brothers. It also features live and silent auctions and a raffle. A list of auction items can be found on the museum's website, www.hubbardmuseum.org.

Reservations for the fundraiser are \$130 per person or \$1,250 for a table of 10. To reserve a spot, call 575-258-5919 or 575-378-4142, ext. 223.

**Road closure**

U.S. Highway 380 will be closed to traffic between Carrizozo and San Antonio for part of Monday morning, July 18.

White Sands Missile Range officials said the road blocks, at mile marker 49 west of Carrizozo, and mile post three, near San Antonio, will be established at 9 a.m.

The road is expected to remain closed until 11 a.m.

The road blocks and their times are subject to change.

**Uniform sale**

Students who will be attending Ruidoso Middle School this fall are encouraged to attend the RMS Vintage Uniform Sale.

Here is how it works -

- If you donated any items last spring — you may get one free item or you may "Buy 1 Get 1 Free" meaning you may buy one shirt and one bottom and get one of each for free. (Total of two shirts and two bottoms.) After that, all items are regular price. If you did not donate last spring, donations are still accepted.

- New students to RMS may receive one free shirt and one free bottom. After that, all items are regular price.

- If you did not donate, but would like to purchase items — feel free to come in. All prices are as follows:

All used items are \$3 and new items are \$4. Sale items are \$1.

All students are limited to purchasing 6 items.

Donations of old uniforms are still appreciated.

Vintage Boutique will be open for business on Wednesday, July 20, and Thursday, July 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. and also will be open several days after

**GYPSY STORYDANCER**



Terry Alvarez as "The Gypsy Storydancer," provides entertainment through story-dance, capturing the attention and imagination of children with fairy tales, folk tales and contemporary stories celebrating "One World, Many Cultures" at the Capitan Public Library. Using music, rhythm, movement, costuming and puppets, she creates magical stories. Alvarez has performed for the library's summer reading program for 10 summers. The library at 101 E. 2nd Street can be contacted by calling 575-354-3035.

COURTESY

August 1.

Times and days will be available by calling 575-257-4051.

**Community meets**

The Sacramento Mountain Village has scheduled its annual FriendRaiser and Auction from 2 to 4 p.m. July 24 at Cree Meadows Country Club.

There will be talk, music, door prizes and snacks.

There is no charge for this social event, where those who attend can learn how they can remain in their own Lincoln County home and enrich their lives as they grow older.

The group is a network of independent seniors who provide physical, emotional and intellectual support by volunteering their time and talents to each other.

For more information call 575-258-2120, or go to www.sacmntvillage.org.

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**CORRECTIONS**

In Wednesday's edition, in a picture that included Sam Donaldson at the Humane Society Furr Ball, Deborah Christopherson, a pharmacist at Lincoln County Medical Center, was misidentified.

**SMILE! Your mom chose life!**



**THE GIFT OF GIVING**



COURTESY MARGIE BLUE

Seven girls recently attended an "un-birthday party" for Gabriella Delgado to benefit the Lincoln County Food Bank. Instead of presents, the girls brought donated items to the party for the food bank. The party included a trip to the food bank where the girls participated in filling boxes. From front, left, are: Brinna Leach, Kieki Murillo, Abby Navarrette; in back, from left, are: Jessy Reding, Analiese Navarrette, Gabriella Delgado, and volunteer Tom Ross. Participant Kayleigh Murillo is not pictured.

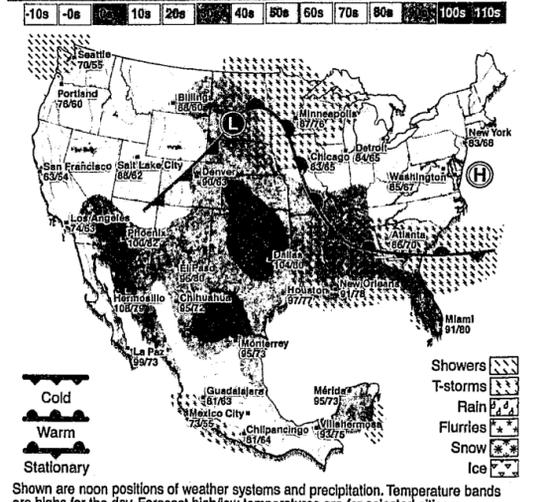
**AccuWeather® 7-day forecast for Ruidoso**

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
RealFeel 89° Humidity 32%	RealFeel 86° Humidity 42%	RealFeel 86° Humidity 36%	RealFeel 87° Humidity 27%	RealFeel 89° Humidity 33%	RealFeel 88° Humidity 33%	RealFeel 91° Humidity 51%
82° 63° A t-storm around in the afternoon Wind: SSE 7-14 mph	82° 63° Breezy with partial sunshine Wind: SE 10-20 mph	83° 61° Breezy with brilliant sunshine Wind: SE 10-20 mph	82° 61° Sunshine mixing with some clouds Wind: SSE 8-16 mph	82° 60° Mostly sunny Wind: S 7-14 mph	82° 64° Chance for an afternoon t-storm Wind: S 7-14 mph	84° 62° Partly sunny Wind: SW 4-8 mph

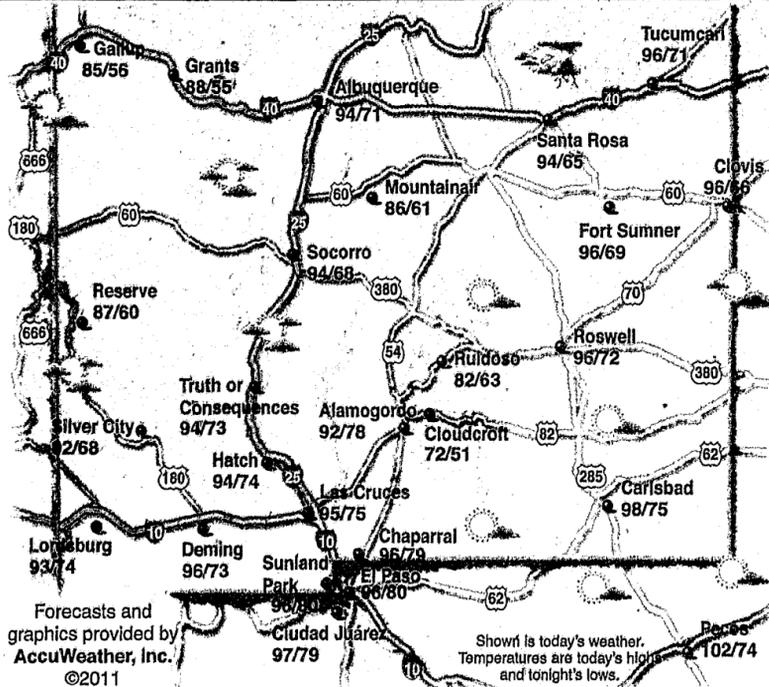
RealFeel Temperature® is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation and elevation on the human body. Shown are the highs for the day.

**AccuWeather.com**

**National Forecast for July 15, 2011**



**Regional Cities**



**Almanac**

**Ruidoso**  
Statistics through Wednesday  
Temperature:  
High/low ..... 79°/57°  
Normal high ..... 80°  
Normal low ..... 49°  
Record high ..... 94° (1958)  
Record low ..... 41° (1975)  
Precipitation:  
Wednesday ..... 0.17"  
Month to date ..... 1.67"  
Normal month to date ..... 1.38"  
Year to date ..... 2.55"  
Normal year to date ..... 8.80"

**Alamogordo**  
Statistics through Wednesday  
Temperature:  
High/low ..... 97°/66°  
Normal high ..... 93°  
Normal low ..... 67°  
Record high ..... 107° (1958)  
Record low ..... 53° (1975)  
Precipitation:  
Wednesday ..... 0.43"  
Month to date ..... 0.43"  
Normal month to date ..... 0.80"  
Year to date ..... 1.06"  
Normal year to date ..... 4.47"

**Weather Trivia:**  
Q: Where on Earth have the most deadly storms occurred?  
A: The Bay of Bengal.

**National Cities**

City	Today	Sat.
Abilene	100/74/s	104/73/s
Anchorage	71/57/s	66/55/sh
Atlanta	88/70/t	84/71/t
Austin	99/73/pc	101/73/s
Baltimore	85/63/s	86/65/s
Boston	82/65/s	85/69/s
Chicago	83/65/pc	90/71/pc
Dallas	104/80/pc	102/80/s
Denver	90/63/t	95/65/t
Des Moines	88/74/t	91/75/s
Delroit	84/65/pc	88/70/pc
El Paso	96/80/pc	100/80/s
Las Vegas	98/81/s	97/81/s
Los Angeles	74/63/pc	75/64/pc
Minneapolis	87/78/t	93/77/t
New Orleans	91/78/t	92/77/t
New York City	83/68/s	85/68/s
Philadelphia	86/68/s	89/70/s
Phoenix	100/82/s	108/86/s
Reno	82/56/pc	83/56/s
San Francisco	63/54/pc	65/55/pc
San Diego	70/65/pc	70/66/pc
Seattle	70/65/sh	69/55/sh
Tucson	97/72/pc	102/77/s
Tulsa, OK	100/77/pc	104/77/s
Wash., DC	85/67/pc	86/71/s
Wichita	100/75/pc	103/75/s
Yuma	95/77/s	96/81/s

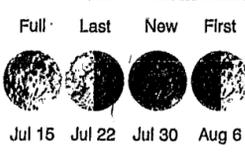
**Regional Cities**

City	Today	Sat.
Albuquerque	94/71/t	95/70/s
Artesia	96/74/s	97/74/s
Chama	83/50/t	85/53/t
Clayton	99/67/pc	97/67/s
Cloudcroft	72/51/s	77/51/pc
Farmington	90/59/pc	95/66/t
Hobbs	98/70/s	98/69/s
Los Alamos	82/58/t	86/59/s
Portales	95/68/pc	94/68/s
Raton	92/58/t	92/61/s
Hed River	74/48/t	79/51/t
Ruidoso	82/63/t	82/63/pc
Santa Fe	90/62/t	94/64/s
Silver City	92/68/pc	93/71/s
Taos	90/54/t	91/55/s

**Sun and Moon**

Friday: Sunrise/Sunset 6:05 a.m./8:12 p.m.  
Friday: Moonrise/Moonset 8:31 p.m./6:29 a.m.

**Moon Phases**



**Extremes**

Wednesday's National High/Low: (For the 48 contiguous states)  
High: 108° in Duncan, OK  
Low: 29° in Bodie State Park, CA  
Wednesday's World High/Low:  
High: 124° in Mitribah, Kuwait  
Low: 9° in Summit Station, Greenland

# County orders bank to clean property

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Although they hold out little hope of receiving a response, Lincoln County commissioners approved citing a bank in Germany as owner of a vacant lot on Bonito Lake Road that has turned into a trash heap.

The bank will have 30 days to respond to the order to clean up the land.

Neighbors, represented by Mathew Midgett, complained to the commission in May about the "deplorable condition" of the lot across from Bonito Lou's and offered to clean it up.

But the county attorney pointed out commissioners couldn't sanction non-county personnel trespassing on private property. Attempts to open a dialogue with Deutsche Bank National Trust by a neighbor to purchase the land have failed, County Attorney Alan Morel reported.

Since then, two quotes were received by the county to handle the clean-up, \$4,650 from Sierra Contracting and up to \$3,000 from Greentree Solid Waste Authority. A third company responded that the job was too big, County Manager Tom Stewart told commissioners at their June meeting.

"You have the option of doing nothing and next year it will be on the tax sale list and the new owner will have to clean it," Morel

**"You have the option of doing nothing and next year it will be on the tax sale list and the new owner will have to clean it."**

Alan Morel  
Lincoln County Attorney

said.

Bank officials failed to pay property taxes on the lot for the past three years, which means unless that bill is covered, the land will be sold at the county's next delinquent tax sale in 2012.

If the bank does not respond to the citation as a health and safety nuisance to clean the land, the county can find a contractor, go in and do the work and then bill the owner or file a lien against the lot, Morel said.

He received a verbal offer from neighbors to pay for the work and if that occurs, a lien would not be filed, but he has nothing in writing for such an arrangement, the attorney said.

"My only problem is getting permission to get on the property," said Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo.

Morel told her that once notice is given, the county has the authority to go in, clean it up and put a lien on the land.

"It still would go on the tax sale, lien or not," Sedillo

confirmed.

"Whoever buys it at the tax sale is subject to any obligations, liens," Morel clarified. "That might keep someone from wanting to buy it, unless it already was paid for by neighbors."

Commissioner Kathryn Minter said the two courses of action could run parallel. Let the neighbor continue to try to purchase the land and the county can pursue a 30-day clean-up notice and possible lien.

"I don't want to go for a year and end up with nothing," she said.

Morel cautioned that the county could spend the money to clean the lot and then have to wait years to collect a reimbursement.

The action also could spark other requests from

people who live around similar lots that have turned into trash dumps.

Sedillo said that Commissioner Jackie Powell opposed the county interfering. Minter said she might feel the same way, "except this is so visible."

In other action, commissioners approved a few changes to the county alarm ordinance to simplify requirements and gave permission for an auction of county surplus equipment either at a sale with a date yet to be determined or through an online Internet bid process.

Stewart explained that any bids on surplus hospital beds probably would come from outside of the United States, so, the internet sale would work best.

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**OUR OPINION**

**GPS bus audit finds waste of taxpayer dollars**

The Global Positioning Systems were intended to give state education officials precise information on the miles driven each day by New Mexico's fleet of school buses.

There was only one problem. After spending \$966,000 on the units, many of them now can't be accounted for, and the ones that can aren't being used correctly, according to an audit by the Legislative Finance Committee.

In 2009, the state Public Education Department, under Gov. Bill Richardson, awarded a contract to Zonar Systems for 2,350 GPS units to be installed in school buses.

Zonar subcontracted with an installer for 100 units. The job should have been done by June 2009, but instead the units are missing.

And they're likely not the only ones, though exact accounting is impossible to do, given the fact that billing records describe only the size and weight of pallets, not individual units.

To make matters worse, Zonar then began charging the state an annual subscription fee of \$212.25 per unit, assuming that all 2,350 had been installed and were up and run-

ning. So, the state first paid for GPS devices that were never received or installed, then later paid a yearly fee for the operation of those phantom units. And, that yearly fee assumed a full year of use, while buses actually only run 187 days in an academic year.

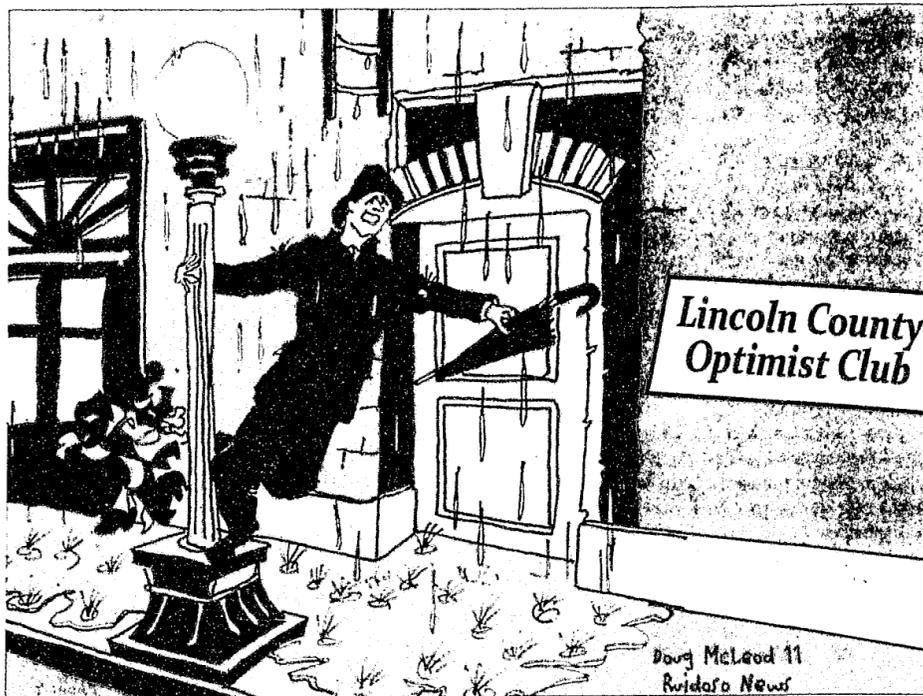
The LFC audit also found that the GPS devices that were installed were not being used as originally intended. Instead of tracking all mileage in a district, only some buses are monitored.

And, there is still no final accounting as to how many of the 2,350 units are missing.

All of this happened at a time when the state was just starting to deal with budget deficits.

The LFC audit has prompted a closer look at school transportation funding. Rep. Ray Begaye, D-Shiprock, notes that there are wide discrepancies from one district to another. Gallup gets \$1.56 a mile, while Raton gets \$6.56. Rio Rancho get \$292 a student, while West Las Vegas gets \$766.

At a time when the state is making deep cuts to education, it becomes critical that waste such as that exposed in the LFC audit be eliminated and every dollar be accounted for.



**Billy the Kid: The man, the myth, the money**

Thursday marked 130 years since Billy the Kid slipped into a darkened bedroom in Fort Sumner, hissing, "Quienes? Quienes?"

Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garrett, who had been searching for the Kid since his daring escape from the Lincoln County Courthouse less than three months earlier, replied with two shots from his revolver.

And while there is wild controversy and speculation to the otherwise, eyewitness accounts show that Henry Antrim, also known as Billy the Kid, crumpled to the floor, dead.

His escape from the courthouse, during which he killed two deputies, sparked the myth of Billy the Kid that would continue to grow along with the conspiracy theories for these same 130 years.

He didn't kill 21 men, one each for every year that he lived, which is a common belief.

But he can be connected to the shooting and killing of four men directly. He was in a group that shot upon and killed five other men and another man might or might not have been killed by a bullet fired by the Kid.

Granted, killing and at least taking part in the slaying of 10 people doesn't exactly exonerate Henry Antrim even by the

muddled morals of ethics of the time in which he lived. But, as often is the case, imposing modern day standards to those held 130 years ago distorts the picture as if it were a faded-out tintype. It often leads to biased and inaccurate conclusions.

There are theories that Pat Garrett shot and killed the wrong man and that Antrim ran off to

hide away and live his life in peace. Besides eyewitness accounts to the contrary, these theories make no sense whatsoever. Billy the Kid had several chances to leave the area after his escape but kept up popping up where he didn't belong or wasn't expected. Those "cameo" appearances ended on July 14, 1881.

There are those who see keeping these myths and stories alive as some how "glorifying" Billy the Kid, ignoring the culture's seemingly endless obsession for the salacious and the morbid. The more abhorrent the behavior, the higher the interest seems to pique. One need look no further than the record-high television ratings Headline News received during the Casey Anthony trial.

The emotional outcry after Anthony was found not guilty shows that fascination in and of itself doesn't equate to glorification. There is justified concerns for her safety after she

gets released.

Go to the courthouse in the townsite of Lincoln. On the lawn you will find markers where deputies J.W. Bell and Robert Olinger fell and died after being shot down by the Kid during his escape. I believe these stone slabs are less a testament to the honor of these men, something much more fitting could have been installed if that were the case, than a monument to our obsession of the morbid.

When people visit Chicago, many tourist go to the Biograph Theater, the site where gangster John Dillinger was gunned down. When they go to Washington, D.C., many visitors not only go to the Smithsonian museums, the National Mall and the White House but also to Ford's Theater where President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

And when those visitors come to Lincoln County, they go to the art galleries, the quirky little shops, they check out the Smokey Bear Museum in Capitan and they go to Lincoln for a bold and bloody taste of local history that includes Billy the Kid.

And perhaps the bottom line in the Billy the Kid story is the bottom line for the state in general and Lincoln County in particular as far as those tourists dollars.

And as far as conspiracy theories go, New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez was born 78 years after to the day that Billy the Kid was gunned down. She was in Lincoln County on Thursday. Hmm ....



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**THE STREETER, BY ERIK BEARER**

Q: What do you think about the push to expand hiking and biking trails?



Gary Goss  
Ruidoso

"I think the more the merrier. We're all hurting because we can't go hiking."



Elizabeth Hubbard  
Ruidoso

"I think it would be great, as long as they don't endanger the forest. It will bring people in."



Herb Brunell  
Ruidoso

"Long overdue! The local clubs' efforts is good; they're working hard and doing really well."



Sarah Fisher  
Ruidoso

"It's a great idea to expand the trails. That will expand local opportunities with tourism."



Tyler Jones  
Ruidoso

"It will give people some incentive to be active and go out and really appreciate Ruidoso."

# Downs plans Fall Festival

JIM KALVELAGE  
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A proposed Fall Fest, to fill a Ruidoso Downs void during one of the evenings of the Sept. 14-18 Golden Aspen Motorcycle Rally, also would help raise funds to build a public restroom at the city's new Riverside Park.

Fall Fest Committee member and Ruidoso Downs Police Chief Doug Babcock said the envisioned annual event at All American Park would be a family-oriented, non-alcohol affair.

"There's not a lot going on that Friday evening until eight," Babcock said of Sept. 16. "An event, sanctioned for the rally, is a dinner at the Flying J, which would take in probably about 200 of the motorcycle rally participants. So you've got thousands of other rally participants here that are out looking for something to do. With the rally being moved to the Inn of the Mountain Gods, I figured this was a good way to bring some of the motor cycle rally traffic back to Ruidoso Downs."

Babcock said it would also be an opportunity for local service organizations to do some fundraising.

"We want to have vendor booth spaces and rent them for \$80. They can do their thing like food, beverages, carnival kind of games, things where they can raise some funds."



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

**Ready, set, go.** Ruidoso Downs Police Chief Doug Babcock sets down the rules for a series of bed races as part of a planned Fall Fest in September.

A car show is being planned. There would be music during the fest supplied by a deejay. Live bands could perform in the ball field area from 8 until 10 p.m.

But the main highlight of the Fall Festival would be the Bed Race Challenge 2011.

"Local clubs, businesses, whoever's interested, they form a team and pay a \$25 entry fee," Babcock said.

"One person rides on the bed and four people push. We want to do this at the basketball complex. They do it in two-bed race heats. And those will go on until we come up with our two final teams. There will also be a judging of the bed designs. They'll be able to

decorate these any way they can and promote their club or organization. We're going to call that the Bed Pan Award."

The rider will have to don pajamas over their regular clothing, and during the contest switch off with the various pushers.

"I want to thank you for thinking out of the box, or the bed," Mayor Tom Armstrong told Babcock. "It will be interesting."

The five-member city council sanctioned the fest plans.

Noting it requires five people to be part of the bed race, City Attorney H. John Underwood suggested the council enter the contest.

"I'm reminded, politics makes strange bedfellows."

# Forest service requesting special project proposals

FROM REPORTS

The Southern New Mexico Resource Advisory Committee issued the last call for proposals for special projects on federal lands under the 2008 Reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-determination Act of 2000.

The deadline for proposals is the close of business Aug. 5.

Members of the RAC will begin reviewing projects for possible funding recommendation during their meeting August 25.

The Secure Rural Schools legislation encourages cooperative agreements with willing federal agencies, state and local governments, private and nonprofit entities, and landowners for protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other resource objectives consistent with the purposes of the act that benefit resources on national forest system lands.

Of the remaining

\$244,000, Lincoln County is allocated \$5,159.

Projects must be located on, or benefit, the Cibola Magdalena Ranger District, Coronado Douglas Ranger District, Gila, or Lincoln National forests. Funding would be available no earlier than the fall of 2011.

Proposals will be recommended by the RAC to the designated federal official, Al Koss, based on each affected county's available Title II money. All applicants must contact the affected national forest district ranger at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/contact/forestoffices.shtml> prior to submitting a proposal for their input and to obtain the list of required elements for a complete proposal package.

The required items document can be found at the Southern New Mexico RAC website [https://fsplaces.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/secure\\_rural\\_schools.nsf/RAC/Southern+New+Mexico?OpenDocument](https://fsplaces.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/secure_rural_schools.nsf/RAC/Southern+New+Mexico?OpenDocument).

The types of proposals eligible for funding may

include:

- Road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration;
- Soil productivity improvement;
- Improvements in forest ecosystem health;
- Watershed restoration and maintenance;
- The restoration, maintenance, and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat;
- The control of noxious and exotic weeds; and
- The re-establishment of native species.

Proposals in hard copy should be mailed to Patti Turpin/RAC coordinator at the Lincoln National Forest Supervisor's Office, 3463 Las Palomas Road, Alamogordo, New Mexico, 88310, after input has been received from the affected district ranger and include the items required by the RAC.

For more RAC information, or to learn more about proposing projects and how to submit them electronically, contact RAC DFO, Al Koss, at 575-536-2250 or RAC Coordinator, Patti Turpin at 575-434-7230.

# Clerk changes fees

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Fees charged by the Lincoln County Clerk's office changed this month under an adopted resolution to bring them in line with New Mexico state law.

The new fee schedule includes a flat fee of \$25 for all documents filed in the clerk's office that require 10 or fewer entries to the county recording index; \$10 for any document filed in person by someone named on the document, which requires 10 or fewer entries to the county recording index; and a flat \$25 fee for all plats filed under the same number of entries.

Previously, the recording fee was \$9 for the first page and \$2 for each page thereafter.

The \$10 provision was included in the bill to accommodate the average individual who is party to a deed transfer and comes in person to file that deed, said County Clerk Rhonda Burrows.

She told county commissioners at their June meeting, the 2011 state Legislature passed Senate Bill 369, which defined changes related to the duties of a county clerk.

The changes, including fees, took effect July 1.

The county needs to standardize the fees charged in all county offices, she said. The county clerks in New Mexico already convened a working group to standardize fees in connection with title companies and banks.

"As departments adjust to the increasing demand for electronic copies of records, it has become apparent that there is a need to develop specific fees for transfer of records electronically and policies to collect fees electronically

**"It is not our intent to profit from this."**

Rhonda Burrows  
Lincoln County Clerk

for a variety of services provided by the county," Burrow said. "The clerk's office in conjunction with the county treasurer and county assessor are working to develop procedures to address these needs."

She's conferred with County Treasurer Glenna Robbins and with County Assessor Paul Baca, Burrows said.

"As we move into the technological age, it becomes more and more challenging for the clerk's office as custodian of official records," she said. "In years past, we provided a paper copy or fax with a small fee. Now we have the ability to e-mail those documents at no cost by scanning them. But we are charged with trying to recover the cost of equipment maintenance."

The issue is how to collect a \$1.50-per-page fee when information is sent electronically.

"How does that person reimburse the county?" Burrows asked. "It's not practical for us to mail a bill. We need some way within the county to collect electronically."

Commissioner Kathryn Minter wondered if a charge for electronic information is warranted.

"This is the public and you are working all day," she said. "I can see (a fee) if paper is involved, but if it is electronic how do you determine when it is not part of your day-to-day (duties)? If you are adding staff and that adds cost (she can understand)."

"It is not our intent to

profit from this," Burrows said. "But there is not a day in the office when we don't have an issue with a personal computer." The time involved in going back into old records and scanning them is immense, she said.

"We're looking to scan all the old commission minutes and put them online to make them more available to the public and I think a fee is warranted," especially when dealing with a commercial entity, she said.

Minter asked how Burrows distinguishes between routine work and extra work.

"These are taxpayers," she said. "Maybe, we can distinguish between living in Lincoln County and (somewhere such as) California."

Commissioner Mark Doth, who offered the successful motion to approve the new fee schedule in line with state figures, backed Burrows stance on costs involved, saying software, time, programming and maintenance all add up.

Yet electronic capability was supposed to save the county money.

"Maybe we should go back to paper copy and mail it," Minter said.

Burrows said the county saves money by e-mailing and the customer saves by paying \$1.50 instead of driving to the county seat of Carrizozo, where the county courthouse is located.

A change in law now may allow the county to establish a direct account at a local bank where people could pay their bills for e-mailed information.

"We could update the county website," Burrows said. "I think it is time for the county to move forward on that. It's difficult for me to set up payment for \$1.50."

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# BUSINESS

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## Catch the Kid game announced

FROM REPORTS

A \$10,000 reward is being offered to the person who can catch Billy the Kid.

The state Thursday announced a Catch the Kid contest that will have participants traveling to locations around New Mexico for clues and searching for loot. While every county in the state will have locations to provide the clues, nine locations will feature special events. Old Lincoln Days, in the historic town where Billy the Kid

escaped after killing two deputies, will be on the tour for Aug. 6.

One of an array of prizes during the manhunt will be a two-night stay in Ruidoso. Four people will get a king suite at the Lodge at Sierra Blanca, meals at the Dream Catcher Café, passes to the Flying J Wranglers chuckwagon dinner and show, and entry to the Hubbard Museum of the American West.

Catch the Kid, put together by the New Mexico Department of Tourism, goes into September.

## Ruidoso physician elected

FROM REPORTS

A Ruidoso physician has been elected as one of four new officers to the American Board of Family Medicine.

Arlene M. Brown has been a member of the board of directors since 2007. She will serve the American Board of Family Medicine on the Executive Committee as its treasurer. Brown will also be the chair of the board's Bylaws Committee and chair of the Audit/Finance Committee.

In addition, she will sit

on the Communications/Publications and the Maintenance of Certification for Family Physicians committees.

The American Board of Family Medicine is the second largest medical specialty group in the U.S.

Brown has been a practicing family doctor with more than 20 years of caring for her patients and her community.

She has taught medical students, residents and mid-level students. She is a recipient of the New Mexico Family Doctor of the Year award.

## PNM plans to fight PRC

MILAN SIMONICH  
Texas-New Mexico Newspapers

Can the state Public Regulation Commission tell an electric company how to run its business if the firm is obeying the law?

The commission, in a 5-0 vote, ordered Public Service Company of New Mexico to buy more wind power and use it to supply electricity.

The company, typically called PNM, is challenging the directive as excessive and expensive government interference.

With about 500,000 customers, PNM is the state's largest electricity supplier. Like all utility companies in New Mexico, it is bound by state law to diversify its

energy portfolio by providing solar, wind and other alternatives to coal and natural gas.

But the law allows utilities to meet the renewable energy requirement in two ways: It can buy the power, or it can purchase renewable energy certificates from another company that generated more than its share of alternative energy in New Mexico during the last four years.

PNM wanted to buy the certificates for wind, thereby controlling its costs and putting money in another utility's account.

But the commission, led by Democrat Jason Marks, said it would not accept more paper certificates from PNM. It wanted wind

**"Paper compliance does not achieve the goal of generating more renewable energy."**

Jason Marks  
Public Regulatory Commission

power.

"Paper compliance does not achieve the goal of generating more renewable energy," Marks said.

A company spokeswoman initially said PNM would spend \$5 million or \$6 million annually to meet the commission's order by purchasing wind power from a New Mexico plant. But the company last week

altered its stand and said it would fight the commission's order.

PNM executives say they were following the law, and should not be ordered to change course to suit the commissioners' desires.

The company wants Marks and the other commissioners to reconsider the order.

Even the staff of the Public Regulation Commission says the company's original energy plan complied with the law.

If the commission holds firm, the company could appeal to the New Mexico Supreme Court.

Such legal battles typically take more than a year for a ruling.

## Start up business gets state help

JIM KALVELAGE  
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Production of a new medical device, which makes it easier for patients who are weak or lying down to drink water, is underway in Ruidoso Downs. A couple of state programs are helping to get the manufacturing process going.

Candice Makowski got the idea for her KakH2OPak when her father was bedridden and pretty much unable to use a pitcher of water and a cup to drink on his own. She recalled the hydration packs sometimes used by bicycle racers.

"We took the bladder out of a sport hydration system that people use for hiking and biking and strung it up on the trapeze hanging above his hospital bed and fed him the tubing," Makowski said in an article that appeared in the Nov. 5, 2010, *Ruidoso News*. "And there was a transformation, just the peace that settled over him that he was able to get control again of something so simple as taking a drink of water."

A bite valve at the end of the tubing allows a patient to control when the water flows and when it stops.

Nurses at the Lincoln County Medical Center and with Ruidoso Home Care

and Hospice told Makowski that the invention was great.

That led to applications for patents and the creation of MakInnovations LLC, a company lead by Candice, Cicelee and Ginny Makowski. An assembly line at the new business in Ruidoso Downs means three jobs have been created.

The New Mexico Job Training Incentive Program board this month approved \$26,500 in funding to help train for the jobs.

"As we strive to create jobs in New Mexico, the Job Training Incentive Program provides a great opportunity to assist companies as they expand in the state," said Economic Development Department Cabinet Secretary-designate Jon Barela. The Economic Development Department administers the program.

"We are pleased that companies like MakInnovations invest in hiring and training New Mexicans."

Candice Makowski applauded the Job Training Incentive Program as well as another assistance program through the New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

"A representative came down and helped us arrange our entire assem-



COURTESY PHOTO

Candice Makowski demonstrates her patient hydration system that has gone into production in Ruidoso Downs, creating several jobs.

bly line," Makowski said of partnership's help. "We are in production."

The manufacturing program is a public/private partnership that works with New Mexico's small and medium sized businesses.

The Job Training Incentive Program reimburses qualified companies for a portion of training costs associated with job creation.

The award, which can cover up to 75 percent of a trainee's wages for as long as six months, factors in the number and complexity of jobs, the wages paid, and the business location.

To qualify, new or

expanding companies must either create a product in the state, or provide a non-retail service with 50 percent of the company's customer and revenue base outside New Mexico.

The eligible jobs must be full-time and year-round. The trainee must be a new hire to the company and have been a New Mexico resident for at least one continuous year before being hired.

"It's going to significantly help us out in the first half of our year," Makowski commented about the training program. "The three jobs are 75 percent reimbursed through the program."

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# Pearce targets FEMA map errors

## Congressman contends mistakes could cost residents

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com



Pearce

Amid mounting objections to flood plain maps produced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., is offering a possible hedge.

The Republican from New Mexico authored one of several amendments approved as part of House Resolution 1309, the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2011.

His amendment addresses a policy in which FEMA officials currently ignore certain levees in drawing their flood maps. That policy created flawed flood maps, calls into question the credibility of the mapping process and has improperly forced New Mexican families into the flood insurance program, the congressman contends. His amendment would require FEMA to change its policies and recognize

those structures, resulting in more accurate and fair flood maps. The Lincoln County Commission lodged several complaints about the maps produced for this area, citing among other things the lack of updates for the county seat of Carrizozo, the omission of some major roads and railroad tracks, and a failure to consider drainage structure improvements.

In offering his amendment, Pearce expressed concern that many New Mexicans are required to purchase flood insurance although they live in desert areas with extremely low risk of flooding.

"I was contacted by a

constituent in Tularosa, whose home is 70 feet above the river," he said. "Her home is listed in the flood plain, but the river itself is not. I introduced my amendment to help protect New Mexicans from unnecessary costs that arise from these types of errors, and I am happy to see this legislation move forward. I encourage the Senate and the President to pass this legislation so we can resolve flood map issues with common sense approaches."

Pearce said during this difficult economic time, New Mexicans cannot afford to pay for federally mandated flood insurance that they don't need. Pearce's amendment would help remove federal mandates for flood insurance in New Mexico, where he said floods are rare.

Kate Schmucker, legislative director for Pearce, explained Wednesday that the congressman offered

his amendment with a few other representatives while the resolution was being reviewed by the House Financial Services Committee on which he serves.

The amendment added to Section 8, was aimed at changing a FEMA policy that if a levee was under construction, it was to be treated as if it was not there. Schmucker said in February, the agency pulled back from that position, but without a change by Congress, officials there could have re-imposed the approach.

The amendment codifies the requirement to consider the effect of levees, but only applies to maps put together in the future. However, the act under Section 3 also contains a provision for communities to opt out of the Flood Insurance Program, which might make sense for some New Mexico desert communities, she said.

# Programs to aid ranchers, farmers affected by fire

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF

Contacted by Lincoln County Commissioner Jackie Powell, a Lincoln Farm Service Agency official provided a list of programs for agricultural producers affected by the Donaldson Fire that ignited June 28 east of Ruidoso.

The programs include the emergency loan program, livestock forage disaster program, livestock indemnity program, emergency assistance for livestock and the non-insured assistance program.

The official wrote Powell that the 2008 Farm Bill requires agricultural producers to purchase insurance for their native grass through the FSA Non-Insured Assistance Program, or if available, from private insurance companies to access FSA Disaster Programs. The exceptions to the requirements are those producers who are determined to be beginning farmers or ranchers, limited resource producers, and socially disadvantaged producers or historically underserved.

Also, for the 2011 crop year, producers may request in writing "Equitable Relief" from the purchase of the required insurance to the FSA County Committee. If approved by the New

Mexico State Committee for Equitable Relief, the producer is eligible to apply for assistance to disaster programs affecting the land.

Other disaster programs such as the Livestock Indemnity Program and the Emergency Conservation Program do not require the purchase of crop insurance.

Farm Service Agency applicants must complete the Adjusted Gross Income Certification form.

"The Otero-Lincoln Farm Service Agency Office continues to assess the damages from this wildfire in anticipation of requesting funds for the Emergency Conservation Program to assist Agricultural Producers in

re-building fences and livestock pipelines," he wrote Powell in a memorandum distributed by County Manager Tom Stewart.

The full list of available programs can be found at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/newsReleases?area=newsroom&subject=land-ing&topic=pfs&newstype=prfactsheet>

## SHARE THE SUCCESS

The Ruidoso News is looking for qualified writers to work on a series of features on local businesses. Success Stories share "what works" for local businesses, in the world of those who make it work.

RUIDOSO NEWS



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### Physical Therapist Joins LCMC Rehabilitation Services Department

Lincoln County Medical Center (LCMC) is pleased to welcome Casey Kirkham, DPT (Doctor of Physical Therapy), to our Rehabilitation Services Department. Casey joins three other physical therapy practitioners who together will provide a wide range of rehabilitation services - including specialized treatments for sports and orthopedics - to Lincoln County residents and visitors.

Casey received his bachelor's degree in Exercise Science from Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah. He recently completed his doctorate of physical therapy at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. In addition to his academic experience, Casey has worked as a student physical therapist and a Physical Therapy Aide throughout Nebraska and Utah.

Casey will see patients in the LCMC Therapy Center, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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<p><b>14.99</b></p> <p>750 ML KRUB2 Vodka, Jeremiah Weed Sweet Tea Vodka or Don Carranza Blanco Tequila</p>	<p><b>5.99</b></p> <p>1.5 Liter Corbett Canyon, Vendange or Foxhorn Wines</p>
<p><b>33.99</b></p> <p>1.75 Liter Wild Turkey 101, Jack Daniel's Black or Pendleton Canadian</p>	<p><b>2/10.00</b></p> <p>750 ML Cooper's Crossing Chardonnay or Shiraz, Triada Chardonnay or Malbec or David Stone Wines</p>
<p><b>16.99</b></p> <p>750 ML Absolut Vodka 80, Beefeater Gin or Seagram's VO</p>	<p><b>9.99</b></p> <p>750 ML Boyle Cabernet, Syrah, Zinfandel, Campo Viejo Crianza or Clos du Bois Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc</p>
<p><b>19.99</b></p> <p>750 ML Crown Royal, Dewar's White Label or Di Saronno Amaretto</p>	<p><b>5.99</b></p> <p>750 ML Schmitt Sonne Liebtraumlich, Gekkeikan Sake or Rex Goliath Wines</p>
<p><b>21.99</b></p> <p>1.75 Liter Jim Beam Bourbon, Canadian Club or Parrot Bay Rum</p>	<p><b>7.99</b></p> <p>1.5 Liter Principato Cabernet, Merlot, Pinot Grigio, Pinot Grigio Blanc, Delicato Wines Delicato Family Vineyard, Monterey, CA or St. Clair Sangria</p>

Alcoholic beverages not available at all Walgreens locations. Liquor prices plus state taxes. Right reserved to limit quantities on all items. Some regular prices may vary in some stores. Rabbits subject to conditions of mt. Clavis and Roswell liquor center closed on Sunday. WALGREENS CO., 2011.

NM Good 7/17 thru 7/23/11

# Lincoln County properties to slight bump in values

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Property values increased 2.3 percent this year without the usual reappraisal because of a stagnant housing market, Lincoln County Assessor Paul Baca reported to county commissioners.

"Our values were \$1,038,781,000 in 2010 and are now \$1,063,180,000 due to new construction and alterations and raises in valuation when property changes hands, 'tax lightning,' as they call it," he said at their June meeting. "I

don't anticipate any large increase or decrease in tax rates because no bonds were passed."

Although 2011 is a reappraisal year when most property owners expect to see their values for taxing purposes increase, Baca said that shouldn't be the case this year.

"I opted not to change our values, because I was afraid a lot would go over (the market value because of the housing decline)," he said during an earlier interview. "Next year, we are going to try to find those that are real low. But the way the market is today, I don't

think we should do that to the taxpayers, and I told the state that.

"There are some that are low. We know that, but we have no method now to determine what those are. Next year (with some coding work), we'll increase the low ones but the listings now are close to our values."

At the June commission meeting, Baca said the state's Central Assessment Bureau certified central assessment values to his office and he sent back his 2011 valuation reports. He should receive the calculated tax rates by September from that agency, Baca said.

His office received 49 protests of values although no reappraisal occurred, he said.

"They think (their house or business values) are high because values are coming down. We look at the market and will change them if we are wrong," he said.

Eight of the protests involve commercial property and 41 residential.

"We had a loss in value of \$3.4 million on our central assessment," Baca said. "I think a lot of that is due to depreciation of railroads and telecommunication facilities because there isn't much new there.

"Livestock increased by \$700,000. Even though the numbers were down, the value (of cattle, horses, sheep and other) was up. Last year, there was a decrease."

County Treasurer Glenna Robbins reported on the county's delinquent tax sale June 15, conducted by the state Department of Taxation and Revenue. Four vacant lots sold for a total of \$13,500.

Robbins said she began with a list of 159 properties that were delinquent on taxes and collected all but the four that went to sale.

## Hubbard Museum gala set for July 23

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF

For nearly two decades, the annual gala at the Hubbard Museum of the American West stood out as the largest social event at the museum and its most important fundraiser.

Staged each year in conjunction with the Rainbow Futurity at Ruidoso Downs Race Track, the area's "party of the year" is the mainstay in raising money dedicated specifically

to the Museum and its ongoing endeavors. Through this funding effort, the museum has been able to provide southeastern New Mexico with traveling exhibits such as the "Arte en la Charrería," which opened July 1, among many others throughout the years.

Organized by the museum's fundraising arm, the Hubbard Museum of the American West Foundation, the theme of

the July 23 event this year is "Wild, Wild West - Journey to Statehood" in celebration of New Mexico's centennial. The gala includes a dinner, hosted bar and dancing to the music of local favorites, the Graham Brothers.

Reservations for the event are \$130 per person or \$1,250 for a table of 10, and can be purchased by calling 575-258-5919 or 575-378-4142, ext. 223.

The "Wild, Wild West - Journey to Statehood" also includes live and silent auctions and a raffle. A list of auction items, which will be updated frequently, can be found on the museum's website at www.hubbardmuseum.org. Bids on any item can be phoned in to 575-378-4142, ext. 223 through July 22.

Only 500 raffle tickets, each costing \$200, will be sold and the winning ticket holder will receive \$50,000. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Finish Line gift shop at Ruidoso Downs Race Track or by calling the phone numbers above.

The Hubbard Museum of the American West Foundation is a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation. The Hubbard Museum of the American West is owned and operated by the City of Ruidoso Downs and is located at 26301 Highway 70.

## Redistricting meetings planned

The New Mexico Legislature's Redistricting Committee, charged with recommending new political districts for congressional, legislative and Public Regulation Commission districts, will travel throughout the state this summer to take testimony from interested residents and groups on issues surrounding redistricting.

County commission districts are handled at the county level.

The members met for the first time June 20, in Santa Fe. State Rep. Mary Helen Garcia (D-Las Cruces) and State Sen. Linda M. Lopez (D-Albuquerque), co-chairs of the committee, urged the public to attend the committee meetings and offer their opinions on redistricting possibilities for each

area of the state.

"Redrawing congressional, legislative and other political districts after each census is important to ensure that every person is equally represented in Santa Fe and Washington, D.C. The public's involvement in this process is invaluable to the committee and the Legislature," Lopez and Garcia said in a joint statement.

The tentative agenda is July 18 in Clovis, July 19 in Roswell, July 20 in Las Cruces, Aug. 4 in Gallup, Aug. 5 in Farmington, Aug. 15 in Albuquerque, Aug. 16 in Rio Rancho and Aug. 30-31 in Santa Fe.

As the committee travels, its technical consultants, Brian Sanderoff and Michael Sharp, president and vice president of Research & Polling, Inc., will attend each

meeting and provide an overview of the redistricting process and discuss possibilities for the various districts.

The task of redistricting is performed every 10 years following the census. It is necessary to ensure that the populations of the various political districts in the state are nearly equal. The Legislature is expected to meet in September in a special session to consider and approve state redistricting plans.

The legislature's redistricting web site <http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/redcensus> contains more information on state redistricting as well as information on speaking at the meetings. Anyone wishing to speak at future meetings can contact Leslie Porter at [leslie.porter@nmlegis.gov](mailto:leslie.porter@nmlegis.gov) or at 505-986-4600.

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## Fort Stanton Museum Lantern Tour set

The volunteers at Fort Stanton, Inc. are pleased to announce that the Fort Stanton Museum will host its third annual Lantern Tour on Friday, August 5 at the Fort Stanton State Monument.

There is a \$5 admission fee to attend the program, but persons under 16 years of age are admitted without charge. All tickets must be purchased in advance, as no tickets will be available on the day of the event.

The Lantern Tours will begin at 6 p.m. and run at 15 minute intervals through 9 p.m. Tickets for the lantern tour can be purchased online at the Fort Stanton web site:

[www.fortstanton.org](http://www.fortstanton.org) or by calling Jay Smith at 575-354-0341.

"This is a big event for us," commented Jay Smith, executive consultant at Fort Stanton, Inc. "Literally dozens of people help organize the event and close to 100 participate, so it is very important tickets are purchased in advance so we know how many people to plan for," said Smith.

This year also marks the 150th anniversary of the Confederate occupation of Fort Stanton, so part of the evening's interpretation at the Lantern Tour is about life at the Fort during that period of time.

For Immediate Release:

### "WILD, WILD WEST - JOURNEY TO STATEHOOD" Hubbard Museum Fundraiser Set for July 23, 2011

Ruidoso Downs, NM (July 6, 2011) - For nearly two decades, the annual gala at the Hubbard Museum of the American West has been the most important fundraising event, and the biggest social event held at the Museum. Held each year in conjunction with the Rainbow Futurity at Ruidoso Downs Race Track, the area's "party of the year" is the mainstay in raising funds dedicated specifically to the Museum and its ongoing endeavors. Through this funding effort, the Museum has been able to provide the SE New Mexico with traveling exhibits such as the "Arte en la Charrería" which opened July 1, 2011, among many others throughout the years.

Organized by the Museum's fundraising arm, the Hubbard Museum of the American West Foundation, the July 23, 2011 event is themed "Wild, Wild West - Journey to Statehood" in celebration of New Mexico's centennial. The gala includes a great dinner, hosted bar and dancing to the music of local favorites, the Graham Brothers. Reservations for the event are just \$130 per person or \$1,250 for a table of ten, and can be purchased by calling (575) 258-5919 or (575) 378-4142, ext. 223.

The "Wild, Wild West - Journey to Statehood" gala also includes live and silent auctions and a raffle. A list of auction items, which will be updated frequently, can be found on the Museum's website at [www.hubbardmuseum.org](http://www.hubbardmuseum.org). Bids on any item can be phoned in to (575) 378-4142, ext. 223 up to July 22, 2011. Only 500 raffle tickets (\$200 per ticket) will be sold and the winning ticket holder will receive \$50,000. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Finish Line gift shop at Ruidoso Downs Race Track or by calling the phone numbers above.

The Hubbard Museum of the American West Foundation is registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation. The Hubbard Museum of the American West is owned and operated by the City of Ruidoso Downs and is located at 26301 Highway 70. Visit the Museum's web page at [www.hubbardmuseum.org](http://www.hubbardmuseum.org) or call 575-378-4142 for more information on the "Wild Wild West - Journey to Statehood" gala fundraising event.

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Hubbard Museum of the American West Foundation  
President  
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[info@hubbardfoundation.com](mailto:info@hubbardfoundation.com)



**This \$50,000 Gas Card Giveaway**

**JULY 1-31, 2011**

**DAILY BETWEEN 11 AM / NO 11 PM**

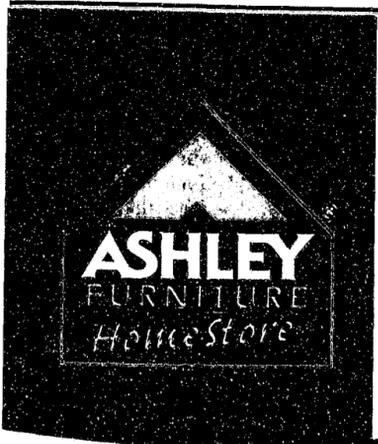
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**Winners receive random gas gift cards (between \$20-50). At least two winners per hour will be selected each day at both Inn of the Mountain Gods and Casino Apache Travel Center.**

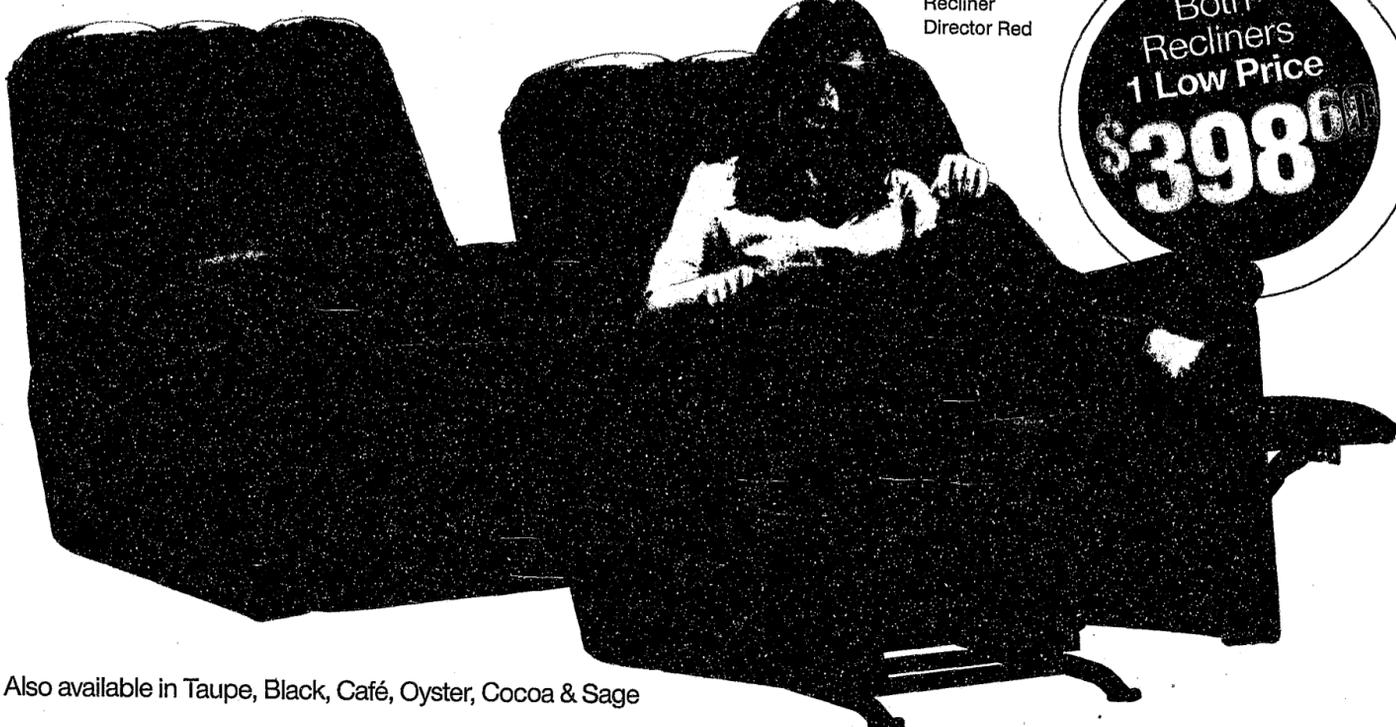
**BONUS GAS GIFT CARDS** Earn a minimum of 250 base points on your Apache Spirit card on Tuesdays or Thursdays at either Casino and receive a bonus \$20 gas gift card!

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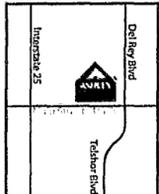
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# HEALTH & LIFESTYLE

## New provider joins LCMC

FROM REPORTS

Lincoln County Medical Center announced recently that Jennifer Wilson, PA-C, has joined the county-owned hospital's team of medical providers. Wilson started on Monday, June 20.

Wilson will be assisting Dr. Tom Lindsey with general surgery patients at both the Lincoln County Surgical Clinic and LCMC.

Wilson comes to LCMC from Glendale, Ariz. She recently finished her clinical rotations prior to graduating with her master's degree in Physician Assistant practice and is board certified.

"We're pleased that Jennifer has chosen to join our team of quality, dedicated providers at our Lincoln County Surgical Clinic," Dr. Gary Jackson, LCMC Medical Director, said.

"We feel she'll be an excellent fit on the medical staff, while exceeding patient expectations in quality care and satisfaction."



Jennifer Wilson

Wilson received her undergraduate degree in Physiology, with a minor in Chemistry, from the University of Arizona in Tucson in 2008. She received her master's degree in the Physician Assistant Program from the University of St. Francis in Albuquerque in April 2011.

During her clinical rotations at LCMC, Wilson completed her elective rotation in general surgery from January through April 2011. She was also a Research Assistant for a cardiothoracic surgeon at University Medical Center

in Tucson as well as spending a summer as a Physical Therapist technician in Tucson and a Doctor's Assistant in Hermosillo, Mexico. Wilson is conversational in Spanish.

"Jennifer's presence in the Surgical Clinic will allow us to see patients in an expedited manner while maintaining a high level of patient satisfaction," Jackson said.

Jackson said Wilson would be at the Lincoln County Surgical Clinic Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. She will assist Dr. Lindsey with procedures and surgeries, round with Dr. Lindsey at the hospital and also see patients at the Surgical Clinic.

Jackson added that LCMC remains committed to recruiting exemplary professionals who believe in high quality care and patient satisfaction, and feels that Wilson will contribute significantly to these areas.

Lincoln County Medical Center employs more than 250 people, including more than 15 providers throughout Lincoln County.

## A girls-eye view of China

If I had experienced the sights and sounds of China firsthand, this article would be much different. But it was my fifteen-year-old daughter who spent four days in Beijing, two days in Hangzhou, and three days in Shanghai.

My initial line of questioning proved fruitless: What is the political climate in China? Can you shed any light on why Granddad thinks China is about to own us? Did you see anything in China that was made in America?

The look on her face said, "Mom, you're such a freak. Just let me tell you my way." So, here you have it: China through the eyes of a teenage girl.

From worst to best, the Teen Top Ten impressions of China...  
 10. The Weather. The weather, she says, was over 100 degrees and 100 percent humidity every day. The pollution was so bad that she only saw the sun once in ten days and was so happy that she took a picture of it. It's quite a picture too - a fuzzy white sphere against a gray background.

9. The Food and Drinks. She says the Peking Duck was wonderful, but that, as a general rule, the food was bland and needed salt. She says the Chinese don't put salt and pepper shakers on the tables as we do. She says her group was served dinner food-fried rice, vegetables, noodles, soup, meat, and cake-for breakfast every morning. Hmm, I think I'll stick

with pop tarts. She says that unlike our bottomless glasses of Coke, they were given one small cup of it and not offered refills. Now, there's a concept.  
 8. The Language. She describes the sound of the Chinese language as "fast and sharp and harsh." Even though they were only asking to take her picture, she felt intimidated and yelled at. (Note to self: Learn Chinese.)  
 7. The Dwellings. She says she never saw any single-family dwellings, just towering apartment buildings. Every window had an air conditioner and a clothesline because, evidently, they don't have drivers. Even in the rural areas, she says, she did not see any houses.  
 6. The Potties. She says they called our style of potty a "Western" toilet. The ones they preferred to use (and lined up to use even if a Western one was available) consisted of a simple hole in the ground called a "squat" toilet. She took a picture of one. It's quite a picture too - a tiled hole in the ground.  
 5. The People. She says the Chinese people are quiet and friendly, but also industrious and impatient. They always waved (or waved back) at the group and took their pictures. Given the opportunity, they wanted to practice their English with and ask questions of the young students. However, in business situations, they grew

impatient if a transaction took too long.  
 4. The Great Wall. Here's the sum total of what she had to say about this: "There was a short steep way and a long not-as-steep way. I took the long way. And the wall is not as high as I thought it would be; it's only about 20 feet high." Now, if I had stood and walked on The Great Wall of China, I know I would have brought back more than this.  
 3. Lily Pads. As I scanned the 800-plus photos she took, I noticed a preponderance of lily pad pictures. I asked what was up with that. "I like lily pads." Huh? "I LIKE lily pads." Ok. Nuff said.  
 2. The Shanghai Lights. The group arrived in Shanghai in the evening and she says it was lit up like Vegas. The buildings and freeways were covered with flickering lights. Some glass buildings had light shows, rainbows for example, flashing up and down the sides. She says it was "crazy amazing."  
 1. The Acrobatics. Best of all, she loved the acrobatic show the group was taken to. She says the group started out chatty and squirming around (as teen girls do), but that by the end, everyone was rapt, completely silent and still, in awe of the acrobats' feats.

Well, I don't know about you, but I learned a couple of important things. I learned that I prefer my New Mexican weather, house, food, language, and potty. And that my daughter has a lily pad fetish. Oh, and this: You can send a teenager to China, but you can't make her drink green tea.



Anne Wilson  
Twite

## June births at LCMC

(Date of birth - name, gender, weight, length, parents)

June 1 - Levi James Morgan, M, 7lbs 13.6oz, 21in., Lane Pesewonit & Hobby Morgan

June 2 - Amira Snow White, F, 8lbs 0.2oz, 21in., Lorraine & Charles White

June 3 - Ashtin Tailor Wallace, M, 6lbs 9oz, 20 1/2in., Ashley Silva & Justin Wallace

June 3 - Levi Dean Wiley, M, 8lbs 0.2oz, 21 1/2in., Samantha Joy Bigmouth

June 4 - Landyn Parker Corman, M, 7lbs 12.4oz, 20in., Brequel Corman

June 5 - Abbigale Louise Bearden, F, 7lbs 0.4oz, 19in., Melissa Blake & James Bearden

June 6 - Aspen Rain Bascom, F, 7lbs 3.7oz, 20in., Cheyenne Godinez & Steven Bascom

June 6 - Keagan Lee Kerby, F, 6lbs 8.4oz, 19in., Amber & Richard Kerby

June 7 - Sammie Nacia Eugene Mendez, F, 7lbs 7.4oz, 20in., Victoria Ward & Samuel Mendez

June 12 - Mone Raymond Railback, M, 6lbs 8.0oz, 18 1/2in., Theresa Lester

June 14 - Camila Kay Olvera, F, 6lbs 8.1oz, 18in., Marisa Kay Olvera

June 15 - Izaac Michael Morales, M, 6lbs 13.9oz, 19 1/2in., Ciji Bingerman & Robert Morales

June 22 - Nevaeh Brooke Valdez, F, 5lbs 13.9oz, 19in., Vanessa Evans & Raymond Valdez

June 28 - Evelyn Andrea Garcia-Vela, F, 9lbs 11.4oz, 20in., Nora & Everardo Garcia

June 29 - Danny Deron Morgan II, M, 7lbs 5.1oz, 19in., DeAnna Shakespeare & Danny Morgan I

June 7 - Sammie Nacia Eugene Mendez, F, 7lbs 7.4oz, 20in., Victoria Ward & Samuel Mendez

June 12 - Mone Raymond Railback, M, 6lbs 8.0oz, 18 1/2in., Theresa Lester

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— Provided by LCMC

## Gov. opposes tobacco tax

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — Democrats in the state Legislature said today they would seek a tax increase

on smokeless tobacco products.

Republican Gov. Susana Martinez quickly promised to oppose their initiative.

"The governor does not support raising taxes," said her press secretary, Scott Darnell.

Legislators in the last decade have twice raised taxes on package cigarettes. The rate rose from 20 cents a pack to \$1.66 a pack.

But taxes have not risen on chewing tobacco, cigars and loose tobacco used to roll cigarettes.

They tax rate on smokeless tobacco is 25 percent of the wholesale cost of the product, said Sandra Adondakis, of the American Cancer Society's Can-

cer Action Network.

Her organization wants to raise the tax on smokeless tobacco to 57 percent of the wholesale product cost.

Rep. Danice Picraux, D-Albuquerque, a member of the committee, said she would carry a bill to raise taxes on smokeless tobacco.

The increase would generate another \$7 million annually for the state, Adondakis said.

But Rep. Gail Chasey, D-Albuquerque, said more revenue was not the motivation behind the Democrats' proposed tax increase.

Rather, she said, higher taxes could discourage young people from buying smokeless tobacco and becoming addicted to it.

**Annual Book Sale**  
 Friday, July 15th 12p to 5p  
 Saturday, July 16th 9a to 5p  
 Ruidoso Women's Club  
 116 Evergreen  
 Ruidoso  
 257-2309  
 Books Magazines &  
 CDs Children's  
 DVDs Books  
 Money goes to local charities.



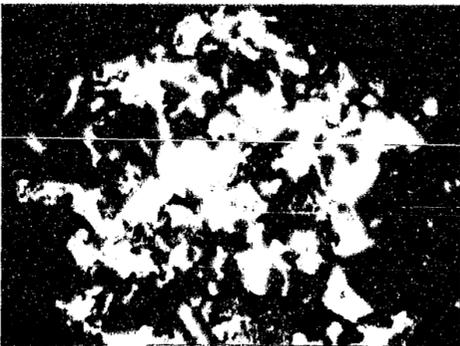
## CHUCKS PICK OF THE WEEK

### Kiwano Melon

The kiwano melon (also known as the horned melon, meliano, American horned cucumber, jelly melon, hedged gourd, and English tomato) is a fruit native to a region of the Kala Hari Desert. When picked green and allowed to ripen, the fruit tastes like a mix of cucumber and kiwi fruit. When it's picked fully ripe it has a banana like taste.

### Kiwano Pineapple Salsa

Serves: 8



#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup diced kiwano melon
- 1/2 cup fresh pineapple chunks
- 1 teaspoon minced jalapeno pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon raspberry vinegar
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 2 tablespoons fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon pepper

#### How to make it

- Combine melon, pineapple, jalapeno and onion in bowl.
- In separate bowl whisk together oil, garlic, vinegar, lime juice and spices.
- Pour over salsa and toss gently.

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**The Rio Ruidoso rises** Wednesday afternoon east of Ruidoso Downs, fed by heavy rains. The National Weather Service had issued a flash flood warning for the river as well as parts of north central Otero County including the Mescalero Apache Reservation.

JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

## Feds declare 16 counties drought disaster areas

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF

Lincoln County is among 16 in northern and central New Mexico declared disaster areas by the Obama Administration because of severe drought.

The rain that fell Tuesday and Wednesday won't change the longer term designation of drought hanging over the area.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said as a result of the declaration, all New Mexico counties are eligible for assistance. A secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the Farm Service Agency, provided eligibility requirements are met.

This assistance includes FSA emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance.

FSA officials will consider each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses, security available and repayment ability. SURE Program applications for 2011 crop losses will be accepted in 2012, when the 2011 farm revenue data required by statute becomes available.

Earlier this summer, U.S.D.A. officials approved an emergency application that allows ranchers from Curry, Harding, Lea, Quay, Roosevelt, Union, De Baca, Torrance and Colfax counties to graze their livestock on lands not typically used for grazing.

The 16 counties covered by the current declaration and eligible to apply for drought disaster assistance are Lincoln, Bernalillo, Harding, Rio Arriba, Taos, Cibola, San Miguel, Torrance, Colfax, McKinley, Sandoval, Union, Guadalupe, Mora, Santa Fe, and Valencia. Last month, USDA declared more than a dozen other counties drought disaster areas.

## FLOOD

FROM PAGE 1A

Services, Travis Atwell, said the river rose about five feet and then settled back.

"If you're in a flood area or if you have spots around your house that are prone to flooding, you need to go ahead and start mitigating that right now. Don't wait until the rain comes."

Responders, including a water rescue team, were at the RV park waiting for a second batch of heavy rain that was detected by radar to move in.

"The second (storm) cell that was coming in broke up. Today has actually been pretty quiet," Atwell said Thursday. "It should start drying out for the next four days and then the monsoonal flow will start back."

Some flooding was also

reported on Wednesday in Cloudcroft, where 2.1 inches of rain was reported. Heavy rain also occurred in the Silver Lake area of the Mescalero Apache Reservation.

Atwell said being a Storm Ready county, he and his Lincoln County Office of Emergency Services coordinator are often in communications with the National Weather Service in New Mexico.

"If they see anything coming up that we're not aware of, they do contact us. And we do the same with them."

The National Weather Service said the flood threat will not be short term as summer weather brings a possibility for flash flooding almost every day in thunderstorms that form over or near the mountainous burn scars of the Donaldson and White

fires. But no reports of ash or mud runs were reported so far this week from those burn areas in the Ruidoso and Hondo valleys.

The recent storms have also brought what Atwell said was a "very interesting" amount of lightning.

"I want to say we've had seven fires in the last two days," Atwell said Thursday. Nearly all were small, except for the Horseshoe Fire that burned an estimated 1,700 acres north of Corona.

"It is 100 percent contained and was lightning caused," said Dan Ware, a spokesperson for New Mexico's Forestry Division. "It was about four miles long."

Volunteer Fire Departments from Corona and Vaughn, along with state forestry crews, corralled the flames. No structures were damaged. Fire responders were

busy all week with 9-1-1 calls from people who saw smoke. Most of the time the reports turned out to be fog or "waterdogs," clouds that look like smoke that occur in mountain ranges.

"They're almost all false alarms right now," Atwell said of the smoke reports. "That's fine. I'd rather it be a false alarm than somebody not call

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## BAGS

FROM PAGE 1A

said.

Although he prefers residents to come to the stations to pick up the sandbags, in case of an emergency, transport to a site can be arranged, he said. The main station's number is 257-4116.

Some backup information also will be

required before the sandbags are allocated, he said.

"We're going to ask for a person's driver's license," he said. "The problem is that some people are stealing the sandbags because we use rock chips (for the filler medium). They end up with their driveways looking really good, so we will be more studious."

Allocations will be limited to 20 sandbags but a firefighter will come out to a house to evaluate the situation if a homeowner thinks more are needed.

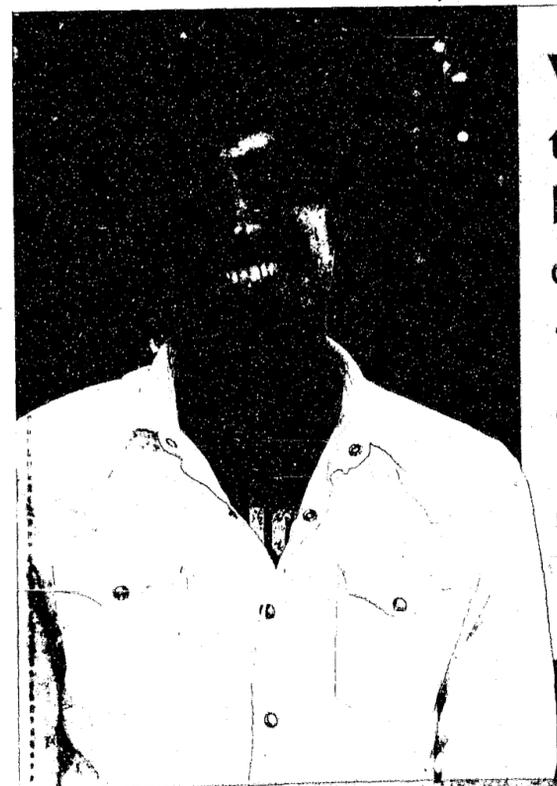
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# Victim's sister asks lawmakers to change law

MILAN SIMONICH  
Santa Fe Bureau

**ALBUQUERQUE** — After a 13-year-old boy shot and killed her sister, Monique Sambrano did what she never thought possible.

She began calling politicians, studying law and campaigning to change New Mexico's juvenile justice system.

Her nerves jangling but her voice steady, Sambrano stood in front of state legislators for the first time on Thursday to ask for their help. She wants them to overturn a law that prevents district attorneys in New Mexico from bringing adult charges against anyone younger than 14.

Sambrano said DeAngelo Montoya, the 13-year-old who shot her sister three times, committed a cold-blooded killing but will face light punishment.

A judge last month committed Montoya to the custody of the state Children, Youth and Families Department until he is 21. That was the maximum sentence for somebody convicted as a juvenile.

Sambrano says the law that shields young killers from adult punishment is an injustice to her sister, Angel Vale.

Vale was 21 when she died a year ago in Portales. A student at Eastern New Mexico University, she wanted to be a juvenile probation officer.

"She always said if she could change one kid, that would make her happy," Sambrano said.

Montoya might have been one of her clients had she lived.

Sambrano said Montoya broke into Vale's apartment more than once. During his last burglary, he stole a gun. Then he

used it to kill Vale.

Sambrano described Montoya as remorseless. She told the legislative committee that the boy considered it no big deal to take a young woman's life.

Now Sambrano advocates a radical change in the juvenile justice system that she says coddled a killer.

"I would like to see the age limits removed," she said.

That would mean district attorneys would have the latitude to prosecute anybody as an adult, regardless of age.

But Sambrano said she would settle for a modification of the existing law that would allow for prosecutions of those at least 13 years old. She said this would be a start in the right direction.

Legislators on the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee heard

her testimony on the grounds of a juvenile lock-up in Albuquerque. All offered their condolences to Sambrano, but one lawmaker tried to dissuade her from pushing for harsher juvenile punishments.

Sen. Cisco McSorley, D-Albuquerque, first apologized to Sambrano "for the failure of your government. ... We failed you in lots of different ways."

But then McSorley encouraged her to leave the system alone, let juvenile justice take its course and look forward to the day that Montoya would apologize for his terrible crime.

"I want you to open your Christian heart and hear what he has to say," McSorley said.

Afterward, Sambrano, 30, said it was easy for the senator to tell her to let go of her cause. He had never walked in her shoes or felt the pain of losing a little

sister to violence, she said.

For his part, McSorley said the existing system seems to be the smartest way to handle violent juveniles.

True, Montoya will go free at 21, but the state has eight years to rehabilitate him in a setting where lives still can be turned around, McSorley said.

McSorley, a lawyer, said Montoya probably was guilty of second-degree murder in Vale's killing. Had he been sentenced as an adult, he might spend 15 years in an adult prison and come out an even greater menace to society, McSorley said.

Sambrano received a different message from Rep. Dennis Kintigh, R-Roswell. He stood, commended her courage and told her to stick to her beliefs.

"Do not grow fearful. Do not fade into the shadows," said Kintigh, a retired FBI

agent.

Sambrano, who grew up in Roswell but lives now in Lubbock, Texas, said she would continue returning to New Mexico for the next two years.

Allies have told her the Legislature probably will not consider a bill to change juvenile sentencing laws until 2013. Next year's legislative session will focus mostly on monetary issues.

Sambrano said the idea of speaking to the legislators intimidated her.

"I had never done anything like this. I was so nervous," she said.

But the memory of her sister and the boy who killed her will not go away.

Sambrano said she will her aim in life is simple now: She said she received no justice from a system that treated a killer as a child, and she doesn't want that to happen to anybody else.

## RUIDOSO POLICE BRIEFS

July 10

7:47 p.m. — Officer Larry Smith responded to 100 Center Street in reference

to a vehicle burglary. The victim reported he had taken a break from work at about 3 p.m. and the vehicle was fine. At

7:45 p.m., he noticed the rear window was down and would not roll up. The stereo equipment was reportedly missing from the vehicle.

9:11 p.m. — Officer Tillman Freeman responded to the Sierra Cinema for a report of an auto burglary.

The victim reportedly said a CD player and radar detector were stolen from his pickup while he was at the movies.

The victim said the rear, sliding window was left

unlocked on the 1977 Ford pickup.

July 11

1:28 p.m. — Lt. Ray Merritt requested officer Larry Smith respond to Mechem and Cree drives.

Merritt reportedly observed Tina Reiner, 46, smoking a cigarette at the intersection.

Reiner reportedly said she had lived in Ruidoso for two years and was unaware of the ban on smoking outside.

Smith issued Reiner a non-traffic citation for improper handling of fire.

July 12

6:57 a.m. — Officer Jon Lund and Detective Matt Christian responded to the Apache Motel for a report of unwanted subjects.

Lund reports the owner said there were two people in a room they had not paid for.

Lund arrested David S. Saenz, 29, of Tularosa, for possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia and trespassing.

Lund arrested Jasmine Jenkins, 26, of Tularosa, for possession of drug paraphernalia and trespassing.

The owner reportedly told the officers that Saenz had come to his door earlier in the morning and asked if he wanted to buy cocaine or a cell phone. He declined the offer and called police.

11:39 a.m. — Cpl. Steve Corbin took a report of a lost wallet.

The victim reported that her wallet had been missing since July 8, with her identification card and Social Security card. She said she had been searching for it and needed a police report to replace the documents.

7:42 p.m. — Officer Larry Smith responded to the 200 block of South Oak for a breaking and entering.

Smith reports the victim returned home from work at about 4:30 p.m. and found the back door kicked open.

The victim reported that nothing appeared to have been stolen. Smith reported several drawers were open.

## Columbus' ex-mayor pleads guilty

LAS CRUCES — Former mayor of Columbus Eddie Espinoza has pleaded guilty to federal gun-smuggling charges.

Espinoza, 51, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy, three counts of making false statements in the acquisition of firearms and three counts of smuggling firearms from the United States, according to federal prosecutors.

He appeared Tuesday afternoon before U.S. Magistrate William P. Lynch in federal court in Las Cruces.

As a result the plea, Espinoza faces up to 10 years in federal prison for each of the smuggling counts and up to five years in federal prison for the conspiracy charges, as well as each of the false statement charges.

Espinoza - who initially pleaded not guilty - remains in federal custody. No sentencing date has been scheduled.

Espinoza, Police Chief Angelo Vega, Village Trustee Blas "Woody" Gutierrez and nine other men and women allegedly conspired to smuggle about 200 firearms favored by Mexican cartels between last January and March of this year.

The other defendants have pleaded not guilty to the 84-count indictment.

Vega is a former Carrizozo Police Chief.

— Las Cruces Sun News

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# The youngest caver

## Teen delves deep into education

LYNDA SANCHEZ  
for the Ruidoso News

After Garrett Jorgenson turned 16 last year, he joined a special group of cave explorers and scientists working on the science and hydrology of Fort Stanton Cave and the surrounding Karst region in Lincoln County.

"He is an amazing young man," observed one caver from Denver.

I personally, can vouch for that. As a former educator, it is always a pleasure to observe young people participating in an exciting venture like the Fort Stanton Cave Study Project.

While the project has been in existence for more than four decades, Garrett possibly is the youngest caver participant, who has returned expedition after expedition during the last two years and is an asset to the mission.

Garrett also is the youngest caver to make it in as far as the famed Snowy River Passage. He is strong and has a great attitude.

His willingness to do any chore assigned has endeared him to the entire group of about 100 dedicated cavers, who converge four times a year at their headquarters on the Fort Stanton/Snowy River National Conservation Area in Lincoln County.

He lugs sacks of

cement, water jugs, steel gate materials, digs, explores, does cave surveying and mapping as well as attending the nightly debriefings during which each group reports their research and accomplishments for the day.

Sometimes he returns on special assignments like the ground-penetrating radar endeavor in mid July when cavers were searching for anomalies beneath the surface that might lead to other cave passages.

Garrett is home schooled and lives in Edgewood.

His parents believe his participation during these expeditions gives him a range of experience especially in the science arena that other young people would never receive.

The list would include biology, hydrology, geology, resistivity studies of landforms, archaeology, history, micro biology and the thrill of new exploration and discoveries in the "land beneath our feet" in Lincoln County.

Asked what his favorite studies are, Garrett

grinned and said geology, and perhaps chemistry and physics.

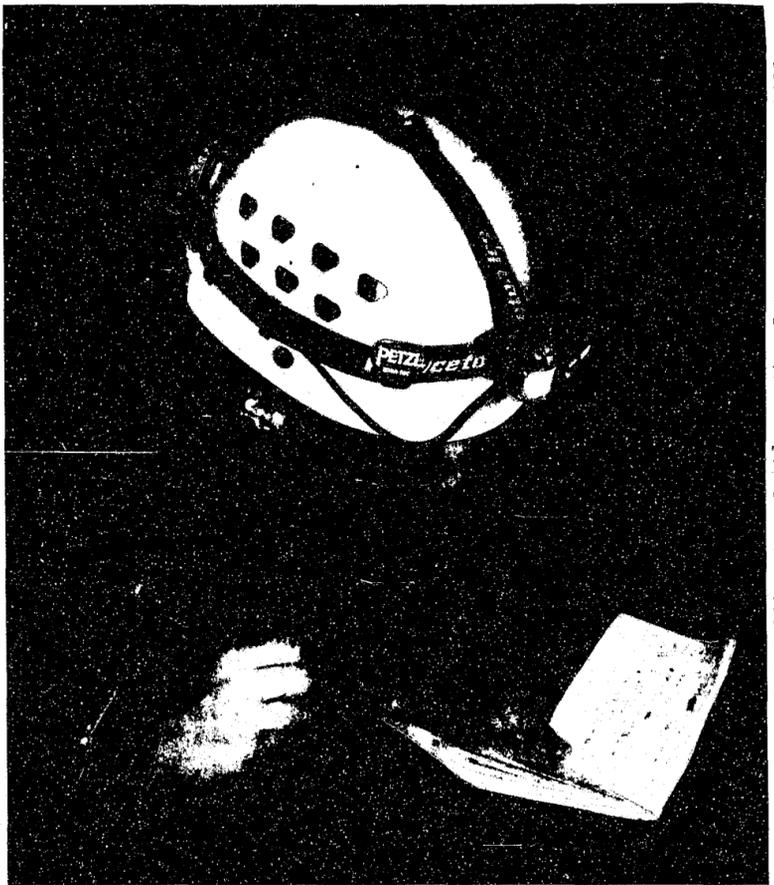
His teachers and/or mentors include some of the top scientists in the Southwest, such as bat biologists from the University of Arizona; physicists and aerospace engineers, geologists, computer experts, photographers and cavers who have devoted years to this project. Several work at Sandia Laboratories.

Garrett has learned a life lesson about dedication and perseverance. He understands that hard work brings success and a feeling of camaraderie at all levels.

His smile is big, and he sets a great example for his peers and that is to get involved, learn and contribute.

For more information about the project, contact project board member Lynda Sanchez at 575-653-4821, or project director Steve Peerman in Las Cruces at gypcaver@comcast.net

Also check [www.fscsp.org](http://www.fscsp.org) or [nss.caves.org](http://nss.caves.org).



PAT LINDSLEY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Garrett Jorgensen helps to map Fort Stanton Cave in October 2010.

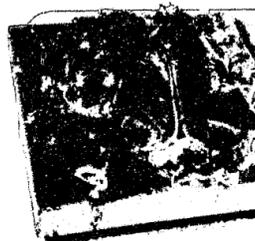
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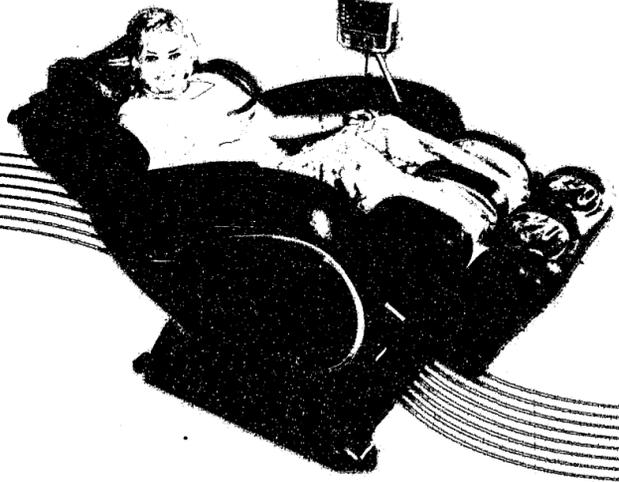
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DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn congratulates Ruidoso Police Cpl. Eric Frost for his valor in evacuating a family from the Swallow Fire when their house was in danger of igniting from nearby trees on fire. Frost was off duty at the time and driving by with his son. The award recognizing his actions was presented at a Village Council meeting Tuesday.

## FROST

FROM PAGE 1A

smoke.

The state lost more than one million acres to flames and has experienced more than 1,000 fires, Martinez said. Those statistics illustrate how strained and stressed firefighters and resources are in the state. It's her job to ensure elected officials and various agencies coordinate and budget to provide firefighters with whatever they need.

The state budgeted \$16 million for fires this year and to date, already has spent \$22 million, Martinez said.

"We have to make sure the resources are available and make sure the money is managed," she said.

Noting that representatives were present from the volunteer fire departments in Arabela, Bonito, Glencoe, and departments in Mescalero, Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs, Martinez said she was "so proud of you."

"I know when we run from a fire, you are running into it."

# Commission discusses fire hazards

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Homeowners cleaning up pine needles and cutting low branches on trees should make sure the debris is hauled away and not dumped into gullies near their homes, says Lincoln County Commissioner Kathryn Minter.

"Once that dries out, fires can just sweep through there," said Minter, a volunteer firefighter with the Bonito Fire Department. She's seen that scenario before and putting out spot fires in gullies in the Pinecliff area above and on the south side of U.S. Highway 70 took up a lot of firefighters' efforts during the Swallow Fire last month in Ruidoso.

Minter and the other county commissioners at their June meeting complimented the quick response and effective coordination of fire departments and other agencies on the Swallow Fire.

"As soon as they got there, they gave assignments and knew what to do," Minter said. "A lot of people have come up to me and asked why didn't you save this house or that. (In the case of a wildfire), if you come up on a house and it already

**"Firefighters protected the other houses and went out to get spot fires in gullies. Understand, you can't save every house just because of the way you fight a fire."**

Kathryn Minter  
Lincoln County commissioner

has flames coming out of the roof, you don't bother with it because that would be wasting your resources.

"Firefighters protected the other houses and went out to get spot fires in gullies. Understand, you can't save every house just because of the way you fight a fire."

Commissioner Mark Doth said sometimes a homeowner could do something that would help save their houses.

"I've seen on my own how horrible that area up there is for underbrush," he said. "It's overgrown. Maybe this will be a wakeup call for homeowners that they really need to go after (creating) defensible space (around their houses). That can be the difference between a house burning or not burning."

Commission Chairman Eileen

Sedillo said watching reports on television and calling County Manager Tom Stewart, "I was amazed at how fast they controlled it. It could have been just horrible."

Nine homes were lost in the fire and two of those were primary residences.

Minter thanked various agencies and individuals who helped with the fire and she asked in the future for sightseers to stay out of fire areas for their own safety and to avoid interfering with firefighters.

Commissioner Jackie Powell thanked Minter for volunteering as a firefighter. The Swallow Fire was "such a danger," because of its location in the village and as a heavily populated and forested subdivision.

"It helped to have lots of roads in there," Powell pointed out. "That's unlike wilderness where you can't get in to fight (a fire) and that endangers municipalities below. I am in awe of how well they all worked together."

Commissioner Tom Battin offered his gratitude to firefighters, including Minter.

He said he was amazed more property was not lost.

"They got it under control very quickly," Battin said. "The coordination was incredible."

## DEAL

FROM PAGE 1A

fore not exempt from the code."

The State Investment Council contended that the investment-related exception to the procurement code was intended to provide the council "flexibility in order to make quick investments," the opinion stated. "Responding to subpoenas and other requests from federal authorities is unrelated

to the actual act of making investments."

Lujan said once the contract's scope of work was broadened to include matters that were not investment-related, the council should have followed the procurement code and issued a request for proposals.

The State Investment Council is a non-cabinet level agency charged with managing New Mexico's Permanent Funds, valued at \$15 billion, as well as investments for 17 other governmental clients. The council's membership includes the governor, the state treasurer, the commissioner of public lands, the secretary for the Department of Finance and Administration, the chief financial officer for a state university, four public members appointed by the Legislative Council, and two public members picked by the governor.

The composition of the council changed over the past year because of the November 2010 general election. A spokesperson for Paul Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, Arielle Lapiano, said the law firm would not be able to comment.

Jennings said he was not surprised with the con-

**"You can't keep just putting around all the time. By God, you need to get out there and do your damn job."**

Tim Jennings  
New Mexico State Senator

firmation that some of the contract amendments were illegal. But he said he was shocked

that it took so long to get an opinion.

"I think I wrote the letter to the Attorney General in 2010 and we finally got a response 18 months later," Jennings said. "If the Attorney General doesn't take a very proactive status in trying to work with all the parties involved on trying to get money back to the State Investment Council, that we lost under all this pay-to-play stuff, we're never going to see it because it will all be gone. And 18 months is not acceptable for an opinion. Now, because it comes out after 18 months, it's all over with."

The Attorney General's office Thursday rejected the notion that the opinion was intentionally delayed.

"Certainly not on our part. We don't operate that way," said Phil Sisneros, the office's director of communications.

"Unfortunately we just don't have the staff to handle the requests for advisory opinions or formal opinions that we would like to have. Our civil division handles those and I can tell you each attorney has a stack about a foot high on each attorney's

desk. And they get to them as fast as they possibly can. Some are fast-tracked because they need an answer sooner than later. And I don't know why this one took as long as it did other than the fact that we don't have the staff that we'd like to have. It's probably a pretty complex issue and took a great deal of research."

Jennings said he has heard that excuse for a long time.

"You can't keep just putting around all the time. By God, you need to get out there and do your damn job," Jennings said. "I think (Attorney General) Gary King is an honest man. But I don't understand why his office takes so long."

In May, the State Investment Council filed lawsuits targeting participants in an overall pay-to-play investment scheme. Multiple individuals and a partnership were pointed to in pay-to-play and kickback activities involving the council from 2003 to 2009. The lawsuits seek to recover millions of dollars.

The complaints named former State Investment Council Officer Gary Bland, a private equity advisor, and individuals including third-party marketers and placement agents. On June 30, additional alleged players were added to one of the lawsuits. The Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker Law Firm was not named in the suits.

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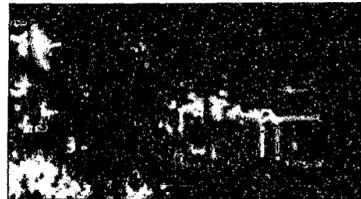
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**ARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY ON 10 ACRES**  
High ceiling, beautiful wood windows w/shutters. Luxurious features throughout. Horses allowed. Multi-use potential. 5 Water hookups w/Alto Lakes Water Corp. \$1,700,000. #16646



**WOW! WHAT A PROPERTY!** 5 Bdrm on 5 acres of tall ponderosas w/huge rooms, game room & covered decks. Too much to tell so must see this very secluded property in private area. \$959,900. #108550



**SINGLE LEVEL RIVER FRONT HOME** On 5 acres, over 3000 sq ft and a covered porch to enjoy the canyon and river views. All furnishings are available. Owner/Broker. \$559,000. #108642



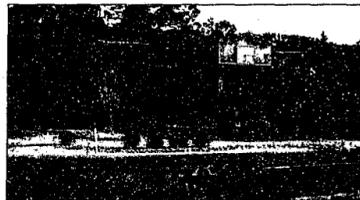
**TERRIFIC LINCOLN STRAW BALE HOME**  
Pride of ownership in this 3 br, 2 ba stucco home on 7+ acres on Bonto River & backs up to BLM land. Art gallery & studio, fruit trees, wood burning hot tub, custom wood shutters & doors. Beautiful home in Lincoln. \$439,000. #108691



**CHARMING HOME** In the desirable White Mountain area. 3 or 4 Br's, 2 1/2 baths, 2 car garage, landscaped with fenced backyard. Light, bright & comfortable. \$399,500. #107906



**SECLUDED FULL MEMBERSHIP HOME**  
Located on 2 quiet acres. Enjoy the solitude with the deer, elk and turkey. Come see this Alto mountain hide-away. \$415,000. #105381



**CUSTOM HOME** In excellent condition & location. All new wood floors. New kitchen appl, large 1st floor master w/large tub & separate shower. Upstairs large bedroom & full bath. 2 Car garage w/extra storage area. Covered back patio. \$398,000. #108294



**BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM HOME** Great home on 5 ac w/seasonal river behind it. Fantastic, all useable land. Great horse property. Nice big sun room, 900 sq ft separate studio/workshop, RV parking, big river view. Custom stained glass. \$387,500. #106769



**GORGEOUS HOME BEAUTIFUL SIERRA BLANCA VIEW** Granite counters - cherry cabinets - stucco home - level lot - paved access - 3 fireplaces - corner lot - office - landscaped - all wood doors - refrigerated air - under ground utilities. \$379,000. #107485



**CHARM OF THE 1900'S TERRITORIAL PERIOD** Adobe home built in 1900, remodeled, old world flavor of early mining district. Originally a hotel for miners. Tile floors, tin ceilings. Small barn, 3 car carport, bunkhouse, shop, 2 wells & comm water. \$375,000. #107253



**BEAUTIFUL ALTO HOME WITH SIERRA BLANCA VIEW** One level home w/Sierra Blanca view - large covered deck - super access - big fenced area - custom interior - gorgeous master ba - home can be bought w/non-golf mem + golf mem to Outlaw - lots of parking. \$370,000. #109415

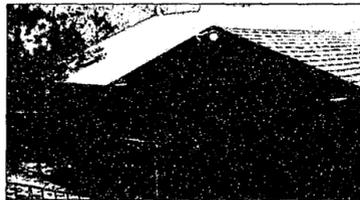


**ONE OF A KIND REMODELED ADOBE**  
Historic Lincoln, 1.98 ac w/water rights, energy smart solar. Wood planked & tile flooring, exposed wood beams, renovated kit w/butler's pantry. Library, office, den, sun room w/pellet stove & saltillo tile. \$349,900. #106361



**ALTO CABIN IN THE TALL PINES** 3/2/1 located on signature #12 Fairway. Full golf membership. Large rec room w/pool table, 1/2 bath. L/R fireplace, vaulted ceilings, dining area, fully furnished. 3 decks, easy access. \$309,000. #105349

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**ALTO CHARMER** Super nice cabin w/full m'ship. Two decks to enjoy peace & quiet & trees this secluded home offers. Furnished and ready to enjoy. Game room downstairs has own fireplace & bath. \$289,900. #105666



**GREAT VIEWS WITH QUIET SECLUSION**  
Wonderful home on quiet cul-de-sac with great views. Three bedrooms plus office, lots of storage & oversized two car garage. Nice landscaping with custom rock work. \$259,000. #109409



**ONE LEVEL HOME - 1 1/3 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL LAND** Easy access. Designed for low energy costs - warm in winter - cool in summer. Horses allowed, zoning allows multiple units or RV park or storage units. Owner financing possible w/very large down pmt. Owner/Broker. \$248,500. #107979



**PRICE REDUCED - GREAT VIEWS - PRISTINE CONDO** Top of Ruidoso w/views of Mescalero Lake & Sierra Blanca from decks. Turkey & deer abound in these quiet mountain woods. Only mins from town. Pristine condition -2 FPs, new paint, living area floors, countertops. \$227,500. #107347



**GREAT TOWN HOME IN GREAT LOCATION** 3 bed, 2 1/2 ba end unit. You are an easy walk to Mid-Town for shopping, dining or coffee. Need golf? You'll be just a couple of blocks from Cree Meadow Golf Course. Relaxing in front of your wood burning fireplace. \$179,500. #108815



**BUILDERS HOME ON 30 ACRES** Minutes from nat'l forest. Antelope, elk & deer at your back door. Unlimited horseback riding on 130 miles of trails. Stunning views in all directions, Capitans, Sierra Blanca, Sacramentos. Storage 12'x20' w/elec. 2/2 1/2. \$174,900. #109375



**VIEWS OF SIERRA BLANCA & CAPITANS ON 9.4 ACRES** 3 bed, 2 bath + 30x50 barn - wood windows & doors - fully fenced - year round grass - big decks - separate bath/shower in master - all new wood/tile flooring - owner financing possible. \$165,000. #108725



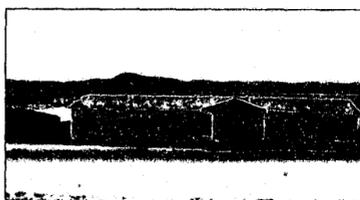
**IMMACULATE HOME** On large corner lot. 3/2 w/single car garage & workshop. 2 Covered decks, beautiful windows, paint, walkways, kitchen. \$157,500. #108983



**SUPER NICE INNSBROOK UNIT! NEAR TEXAS CLUB!** Can sleep a crew! Fully furnished - across from tennis courts & swimming pool - 9 hole par 3 golf course - super price - great walking areas - nice vacation spot. \$157,000. #109408



**PRICE REDUCED!** Cute 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with loft. Fully furnished, fireplace, lots of light. Nice wooded lot with easy access. \$149,900. #108114



**LARGE 2100+ SQ FT MFG HOME** 3 Br, 2 full baths, office/bonus room, 2 living areas. On 3/4 acre. Master suite is just the place to hide out or family space in front of the FP or covered deck to enjoy the view of Sierra Blanca or the Capitans. \$146,000. #107068



**MT CHARM W/LOTS OF WOOD ACCENTS** in this 4 bdrm home w/fireplace. Newer home (1996) with lots of upgrades...new metal roof, new windows, cabinets, new fixtures, covered decks & textured walls. Charming! \$145,000. #109412



**SUPER BUY - TALL PINES - COVERED DECK** Nice mobile home on great lot with good access - super vacation home or permanent home - super price - very nice! \$50,000. #108972

# SPORTS

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011

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

PAGE 1B

side  
line

## Local fighters to Colorado

### Four Ruidoso warriors head to Cortez for big King of the Cage engagement

MIKE CURRAN  
mccurran@ruidosonews.com

Four area veteran cage fighters — James Flores, Javier Rubio, Casey Saenz and Andrew Vasquez — are in route to Cortez, Colo., for Saturday's 7 p.m. King of the Cage (KOTC) battle at the Ute Mountain Casino.

KOTC has billed this event as "High Altitude" and it will include a tentative 12-bout fight card.

This will mark the first time Ruidoso's High Altitude Kombat team will be traveling together out of state, and even though anything can happen at these out-of-state fights — and usually does — these four warriors have a decided advantage in Cortez.

That southwestern Colorado community boasts an elevation of 6,191 feet, and

while this may be a negative factor for many of the 24 out-of-town fighters it shouldn't be for Flores, Rubio, Saenz and Vasquez.

The Ruidoso cage-fighter quartet has trained hard for the past two months at Mike Widener's Southwest Personal Fitness and Martial Arts gym.

Ruidoso's elevation is listed at 6,920 feet, which should give the local boys a partial advantage, or at the very least, will not be a disadvantage.

"This is a huge thing for us — it marks our initial travel outside of New Mexico as a team," Flores said. "All of us are pumped and excited to represent Ruidoso and 'bang' in the mountains of Colorado.

This fight is big for me and I have a lot to gain if I can overcome the experi-



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

James Flores, left, Javier Rubio, center, and Casey Saenz prepare for their upcoming KOTC event.

ence gap between my opponent and myself."

Flores (3-1, amateur) will be fighting in his usual bantamweight class (135 pounds) and will face off

against Tim Sosa (11-1) in a co-main event. Flores suffered his only loss, on March 5, in Las Vegas, in a controversial bout with Nevada resident, Tom

Cruz. The popular Ruidoso cage fighter intends to retain his amateur status

See FIGHTS, page 2B

#### Results

**Pro Baseball**  
Wednesday, July 6  
Games (including 17-17 game to be finished) were cancelled at Roswell Invaders.

#### Sports On Tap

**Race Track**  
Ruidoso Downs Race Track holds racing, Friday through Monday with a 1 p.m. start time each day. Parking is always free.

**Pro Baseball**  
Friday, July 15  
Alpine at Ruidoso, 4:05 p.m.  
Saturday, July 16  
Alpine Cowboys at Ruidoso, doubleheader at 1:05 and 4:05 p.m.

#### On Deck

**Wilderness Camp**  
Monday, June 27, the Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department began 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.

## Lincoln County Regulators hold July shootout

ROWDY LANE  
For the Ruidoso News

The Lincoln County Regulators hold their monthly match on the second Saturday of each month.

This July was no exception. Sixteen shooters competed for score and one just for fun. Thirty five shooters and spectators enjoyed the event plus the noon meal was GREAT and offered a needed rest and refreshments.

Concho Bullet Bob from Texas joined us plus Dan Judy from Dexter. The Regulators welcome these shooters and hope they return to shoot with us

again. The Regulators are very excited to have three new shooters this month.

July was designated as the "Bonus" month because many years ago we all got a bonus on July 4th. Each stage held some kind of bonus target when engaged gave a bonus of five seconds reduction in the competitors total time.

The match consisted of an opening five shot speed shoot, one round with rifle and one with revolver.

The winner of the speed shoot wins a traveling trophy and brings it back the following month and defends it plus chooses rifle or revolver time for the

competition. The fastest time recorded with the chosen firearm wins the trophy for the month and brings it back to defend it the following month.

The rifle was chosen for the speed match. The top five times are:

- Rowdy Lane at 2.28 seconds
- Gunsmoke Cowboy at 2.44 seconds
- Brushy Bill at 4.42 seconds
- Saddletump at 4.57 seconds
- Louisiana Slim at 4.71 seconds

Congratulations to these

See SHOOT, page 2B



COURTESY ROWDY LANE/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

"Capitan Regulator" fires at metal targets while "Rusty Fillins" monitors the shoot.

## 'Raise a Racket' winner for SADSP

KENNETH BAKER  
For the Ruidoso News

The first annual "Raise a Racket" tennis fundraiser was held June 27-30, with all donations funding the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers Program.

Events played for ages 50 and over were Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and a "Shoe In."

The matches were held at Ruidoso Parks and Recreation courts, Kokopelli Golf, Tennis and Social Club, and Alto

Lakes Golf and Country Club.

The fundraiser, sponsored by the Alto Lakes Tennis Association, generated \$3,500 which SADSP will use to purchase a bike for the program.

Winners of the tournament are as follows:

- 7.5 Women's Doubles  
Cindy Carey and Lois Whitmire
- 6.5 Women's Doubles  
Janice Fisher and Karen Luzietti
- 7.5 Men's Doubles

See SADSP, page 2B



COURTESY

Tournament participants with Zachary Clayton of Fort Smith, Ark. Zachary comes to Ruidoso every winter to ski with SADSP.

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#### Tip of the Week:

Often a potential seller's first question is: At what price should we list our house? Instead, the first question should be: What should the house sell for? First consider real comparable sales, current competition, market time, price range activity, negotiating percentage, and proper "slotting". Thus, an accurate list price can be determined.

-Joseph A. Zagone

See some of CENTURY 21 Aspen Real Estate's listings on the back page of section A TODAY!

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# FIGHTS

FROM PAGE 1B

until, and unless, he feels comfortable with all facets of martial arts.

Crowd favorite, Javier Rubio (16-4, overall), who normally has fought in the welterweight class (170 pounds) will be battling the No. 1 middleweight (185-pound division) contender, Isaque Martinez (reportedly, 9-1) in the featured main bout. Martinez has fought at the Inn of the Mountain Gods three times.

"If I can do well in this fight with Martinez I could move up to contender status and fight for the belt," Rubio said.

Quiet-spoken, Casey Saenz, who has fought two amateur fights at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, will meet up with Darrell Jelly (in his debut outing) in the 155-pound division.

Over the last two months, Saenz has gone from 180 pounds down to his current weight of 155 pounds.

Hard-working, Andrew Vasquez (4-2, amateur), will enter the octagon against Danny August (2-5), a 6-foot slugger from Wyoming.

All four Ruidoso fighters have trained persistently four to five days a week for the past 60 days concentrating on cardiovascular exercises — running, punching, kicking, mitt work,

bag work, sparring and "burnouts," which include continuous kicks and punches until the fighter can not physically carry on due to exhaustion.

Additionally, their training heavily involves workouts in Karate, boxing, submission grappling and Muay Thai kickboxing.

Wish these four Ruidoso warriors well in their Cortez, Colo. fights.

Flores is sponsored by Cowan Construction and James Flores Tattoos.

Rubio is sponsored by Copper Mountain Auto Body, Hall of Flame Burgers, Christian Construction, Children's Dental Clinic of Ruidoso and Southwest Personal Fitness and Martial Arts.



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS  
Casey Saenz, right, applies a side kick to the practice bag held by James Flores as Javier Rubio critiques the move.

# SHOOT

FROM PAGE 1B

cowboys.

The main match held four stages and was followed by a single Wild Bunch Stage.

### Stage One:

There seemed to be a pig creating trouble near a church.

When ready the competitor yells out "It's that pig again, preacher." After engaging the targets for nine rounds, the tenth

round was placed on the "pig" which was the "bonus" target.

This was repeated with the rifle followed by the shotgun. Stage One was won by Concho Bullet Bob, second place, John Steele and third place Capitan Regulator.

### Stage Two:

There were some cowboys standing around the Post Office waiting on the mail and as usual the mail is late again. To signify ready, the shooter says: "Mails late again." Once again, there is a bonus tar-

get awaiting. Stage Two was won by Gunsmoke Cowboy, second place by Rowdy Lane and third by Rusty Fillins.

### Stage Three:

A bunch of Cowboys were fooling around shooting tin cans, one of them said, "Shoot 'em all twice." So to signify ready, the shooter said, "Shoot 'em all twice".

Stage Three was won by Capitan Regulator followed by Brushy Bill and Rusty Fillins.

### Stage Four:

A bunch of cowpokes

came into town hurrahing the town.

Finally getting tired and looking for a room they went to the hotel only to find out that "There ain't no vacancy for you!" To signify ready the shooter says "Ain't no vacancy for you!"

Stage Four was won by John Steele second by Brushy Bill and followed by Rowdy Lane.

The last stage was the Wild Bunch. The Wild Bunch is a 1911 45ACP, pump shotgun and lever action rifle event.

The winner was Rowdy

Lane, followed by Gunsmoke Cowboy, then Brushy Bill.

The match winner is Capitan Regulator. Capitan Regulator is the cowboy in the red shirt you can see in the picture.

Yes, a Buckaroo, and a proud member of the Lincoln County Regulators. Second-place winner: Rowdy Lane and third place: Gunsmoke Cowboy.

A single stage of Cowboy Action Shooting normally consists of ten rounds to be fired in two pistols each loaded with five rounds

with hammer down on an empty chamber. The rifle is loaded with ten rounds with hammer down on an empty chamber.

The shotgun is normally staged open and empty of all shells and must be retrieved then loaded before engaging the designated targets. If you are a new Cowboy Action Shooter and would like to try out the sport contact

Rowdy Lane, 937-9297 or John Steele, 937-3027.

Your first Cowboy Action Shoot will then be free, no entry fee.

# SADSP

FROM PAGE 1B

Ron Burton and Greg Carey

•7.5 Mixed Doubles  
Pablo Bianchi and Molly

Rogers

•Shoe In

Karen Luzietti and Cindy Morgan

Raffle winners were Janice Fisher, Sue Macfarlane, Cory Gasaway, and Pablo Bianchi.

Raffle and Silent Auc-

tion items were donated by Don Brewer, Jill and Ron Duncan, and Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club. ALTA would like to thank the participants, volunteers, ALG&CC, Ruidoso Parks and Recreation, and Kokopelli

Golf, Tennis and Social Club for their cooperation in making this a successful event.

Sponsors of the Raise a Racket event were:

Alto Lakes Board of Directors, Alto Lakes 9-hole Golf Association, Alto

Lakes Food and Beverage, Alto Lakes Pro Shop, Alto Lakes Property Owners Association, Bears R Us, Jean and Don Brewer, Condotel, Drs. Joseph and Susan Darsey, Ron and Jill Duncan, Janice Fisher, Ted Fisher-

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# Community Blood Drive

# RELIGION

## Prayers for revival and rain God's unquestioning love

The monsoons have arrived and we praise the Lord for that. However, there are some things that go along with the drought that we are experiencing.

The Nogal Ranchman's Camp Meeting has been canceled.

The Forest Service has closed the forest land because of the fire danger.

This get together is over seventy-five years old and a tradition for the farm and ranch families of the area. But there are other activities of a religious nature that are going on in the churches of Lincoln County.

The First Baptist Church of Ruidoso has just finished a revival led by Dr. Jimmy Draper.

Vacation Bible Schools for preschoolers and children are being held by the local churches. And there are various activities, camps,

and spiritual emphases for youth and families.

The J Bar J Country Church is holding a sports camp for elementary age children, in the mornings of July 25-29. You

can call the church office at 257-6899, for information.

Our Youth Minister, Chris Weaver is bringing a youth group from Stephenville, Texas, to help with the project.

At the same time, the J Bar J will be hosting a revival meeting July 24-27, in the evenings at 7 p.m. The preachers are Dr. Daryl Eldridge and the

Rev. Randy Weeaks.

Both the men served with me on the staff of Tate Springs Baptist Church of Arlington, Texas. Daryl played college basketball and Randy played college football.

Dr. Eldridge is the president of Rockbridge Seminary and Rev. Weeaks is the pastor of the Walnut Ridge Baptist Church in Mansfield, Texas.

There will be a meal served by the J Bar J Chuckwagon Gang at 6 p.m., on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. The meal is a fellowship for all who would like to attend.

The thrust of the revival is evangelism. And of course, there will be an emphasis on prayer. Some folks will be gathering at 5 p.m. for a prayer time, before the meal. We will be praying for rain, for the economic situation, and the spiritual circumstances in America.

Please pray for us that God will help and give us hope.

**Q**: I'm 15, and I'm scared about all the prophecies that are out there saying the end of the world is coming.

I just read another one that says the world is going to end in 2012. Is this true? I hope not. - R.N.

**A**: Some day the world as we know it will come to an end, when Jesus Christ returns in glory to destroy all evil and set up His kingdom of perfect peace and justice.

And the Bible warns us to be ready for that day.

But the Bible also tells us that no one knows exactly when this will happen, because God hasn't revealed it to us (see Mark 13:32).

In fact, it tells us that Christ's coming will be like that of a thief who comes when everyone is asleep - unexpectedly and suddenly.

The Bible says, "For you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night" (1 Thessalonians 5:2).

This is why you shouldn't take seriously any supposed "prophecy" claiming the end of the world will occur on a certain date.

Some of these come from people who sincerely believe the Bible and want to learn from it - but others (such as the "prophecy" you mention about the end of the world coming in 2012) come from pagan sources. Either way, you shouldn't let them make you fearful.

The real question, however, is this: Are you ready to meet God?

God loves you, and the most important decision you will ever make is your decision to follow Jesus.

Not only will He take away your fears, but He'll be with you and guide you every day as you open your life to Him.

Ask Him to come into your heart today.

**Q**: I've given my life to Jesus, but I'm still filled with doubts and wonder if He's really forgiven me.

A strong faith seems to come easily to some people, but I'm afraid I'm not one of them.

Am I always going to be this way? - Mrs. N.G.

**A**: No, there's no reason for you to be like this - not if you have sincerely committed your life into Christ's hands.

God has promised to forgive us if we put our faith and trust in Christ - and (as I've often pointed out) God cannot lie.

Think of it this way. Suppose you'd committed a crime, had been caught and were now in court before the judge.

He listened carefully to the evidence; he also listened to your confession (because you knew you were guilty and deserved to be punished).

Then he pronounced the sentence: You were guilty,

and he decreed that you must either pay a fine or go to jail.

But you couldn't pay the fine; you didn't have enough money. Your only choice was to go to jail.

But then suppose the judge stepped down from his bench, reached in his pocket - and paid the fine for you! Then you'd be free!

There wouldn't be any reason for you to worry about going to jail because the penalty had been paid.

And this is what Jesus Christ did for you. We deserve God's judgment for our sins - but Jesus Christ paid the penalty for us, by dying on the cross.

The Bible says, "Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!" (Romans 5:9).

Don't doubt any longer what Christ did for you, but thank Him that you now belong to Him - forever.



CHARLES CLARY  
CLARYIFICATIONS



BILLY GRAHAM  
MY ANSWER

## Prayer is powerful medicine

**Q**: I read your column every week. I admire your insight, wisdom, faith and love for God and all people. I feel I'm a person of strong faith and pray often throughout the day.

I've been praying for my sister since her first diagnosis of breast cancer 14 years ago. Now, the cancer is back for the third time and I'm extremely scared for her.

Both my sister and her husband are recently unemployed and have no health insurance.

She also has family issues involving her grown children.

She's feeling overwhelmed and hopeless.

When she told me the cancer was back, she also said God was punishing her and that she doesn't see

the point in trying to fight the cancer with all the other things going on in her life.

I don't know what to say when she talks like this. What makes things even more difficult is that we live in indifferent states. How can I help her? - N.

**A**: Many of us think prayer is only a form of divine petition - a request to God to change things for the better.

There's nothing wrong with this belief but it's an incomplete understanding of the full, rich purposes of prayer.

Prayers - all prayers - fall into one or another of four categories.

When I teach children about prayer, I mention four types of prayers: Thanks, Gimmie, Oops and Wow!

Thanks prayers are those we say to God in

grateful appreciation for the blessings we've already received. Thanks prayers remind us that no matter how difficult our circumstances, our blessings always exceed our burdens.

A Gimmie prayer is a request for healing of some type for ourselves or those we love. We must always be humble in our petitions and willing to accept a failure of healing, which is neither a sign of God's indifference nor a decree of doom for our sins.

The Oops prayer leads us to repent of our sins. By confessing our sins to God, we can hopefully summon up the courage to admit them to the people we've wounded by our unwitting cruelty.

A Wow! prayer is like a Thanks prayer, but we thank God for a gift given to the world, or to all humanity, and not just to us individually. A rainbow or a glorious sunset, the love of family and friends, the freedom of our great country, are all matters of awe and proper objects of a Wow! prayer.

My advice for you is to focus less on Gimmie prayers and more on the other three.

One way to help your sister might be to spend the time you have speaking to her, remembering the good times you shared when she was well and when you were growing up together.

Remembering positive moments is a way of balancing the reality of her suffering and pain.

These memories are actually Thanks prayers

for the best times and good spiritual medicine for the worst times.

Also, try to travel to your sister's home as often as possible. Make her the food she loves, smile, and laugh with her.

Your question reminds me of a famous anonymous prayer composed by a Confederate soldier during the Civil War.

I love this prayer and it comes to you with my prayers for your sister on her difficult journey:

*"I asked God for strength, that I might achieve;  
I was made weak, that I might learn to humbly obey.  
I asked for health, that I might do greater things;  
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.  
I asked for riches, that I might be happy;  
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.  
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men;  
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need for God.  
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life;  
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.  
I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I had hoped for.  
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.  
I am, among all, most richly blessed."*

(This poem is quoted on pages 180-81 of "When Life Hurts," by Wayne Dosick)



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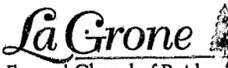


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**Susan  
Bishop Spall**  
1950-2011

Susan Bishop Spall was born July 25, 1950 in Carlsbad, NM and departed this world on July 5, 2011 in Roswell, NM. Susan was the daughter of Ray and Pat Bishop who lived in Ruidoso and owned Bishop Tom's Sales. Susan was a resident of Ruidoso for 37 years.

Susan was preceded in death by her only child, a son, Aaron Ray Bishop in 1996.

Ms. Spall is survived by her husband Steven Spall of Alto, NM; one brother Donald Bishop of Hobbs, NM; her sister Brenda Kasuboski of Roswell, NM; two nieces Raeann Rodriguez & husband Joe, & Michell Cosgrove; one great-niece Brooke Rodriguez & two great-nephews Camron & Auston Cosgrove all of Kingwood, TX.

Memorial Services for Susan will be held Friday, July 22, 2011 at 6 pm at the First Assembly of God Church located at 139 El Paso Road in Ruidoso.

*The Lord  
will also be  
a refuge for  
the  
oppressed,  
a refuge  
in times  
of trouble.*

*Psalms 9:9*

RUIDOSO NEWS  
**LINCOLN COUNTY**

**RAIN AND SHINE**



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

A rainbow arcs over Capitan following much-needed showers that are expected to continue through the weekend.

**Capitan council opposes casino**

ERIK BEARER  
 ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Capitan's Board of trustees approved a resolution during its meeting on Tuesday, July 12, formalizing the village's opposition of the proposed casino to be built in Anthony, NM.

"The Lincoln County casinos are fighting awful hard and asked us to join in," said Mayor Sam Hammons. "In my opinion, New Mexico has too many casinos, more than Texas can support."

In its resolution, the Village of Capitan declared, "Whereas, this proposed Pueblo of Jemez Casino Project would have a signif-

icantly negative impact on the Ruidoso Downs community and would harm the horse racing industry which is a vital part of the entire New Mexico economy."

Without much further debate, the resolution passed unanimously.

Additional items on the agenda dealt with the proposed annexation and development of 20 acres in Capitan by Conquest Investments, which was tabled on account of the requested new map of the area was not ready.

In other business, the village council approved the hiring of Martin Pillar of Las Cruces as an engi-

neer to review Capitan's water and sewage systems prior to moving forward with Conquest's plans.

"He's the only engineer willing to come down and do this," said Hammons, who explained that he favored an on-site engineer, even though he was more expensive.

The council also voted to close the Emergency Watershed Protection Project bank account and move the remaining balance of about \$276 to the Water Fund bank account.

"It's finished," said Hammons, referring to the project. "We're through, and there will be no more, I hope." Both accounts are

held with City Bank.

A discussion on ENMR-Plateau's request to expand its cellular phone service to the area was tabled.

"That just leaves it open," said trustee Rick LaMay of ENMR's proposal to expand services.

The village will wait and draft a counter-proposal requiring the village's consent on any alterations to their contract.

"They will possibly put Verizon and AT&T there," said Hammons, though he said the amendments did not specify what alterations would be made. "We do have the right to charge for any entity they put there."

**How to build a young cowboy**

"Riding for the brand" and "making a hand" are two expressions that are short on words but big on meaning, which seems appropriate for the Western genre they represent. Much like the word "cowboy," there is a lifetime of components built into it.

Every cowboy kid grows up hearing these phrases—knowing it is part of what and who he is destined to be.

Ranch kids are given big responsibilities at a young age. It might start with simple chores like filling the wood box, bringing in the

milk cow every evening, and gathering the eggs from the chicken house which includes eluding the rooster that is always waiting to attack.

Right around that same age, the youngster will be given some responsibilities in the pasture beyond the usual position of riding drag behind the herd.

As his dad rides off one direction, he'll tell the young

button to ride down a long draw as he points to it, bring along any cattle he finds and meet the cowboys at the gate at the end of the canyon.

With some pride filling his heart, the button will sit a little taller in the saddle as he rides off.

As his horse picks his way through the quakes, a few head of cattle lift their heads from their grazing and start moving down the draw ahead of him.

The lad pulls off a small branch from a sapling as he rides by it and pops it on his leather chaps. He doesn't know it yet, but he will remember those moments as some of his happiest.

A few times a little worry eases its way into his gut. What if he wasn't in the right canyon or not going the right way?

The few head of cattle he'd pushed out hit the fence line. He trotted ahead of them, got them stopped and then sat quietly.

He slouched in the saddle and began, one by one, stripping the leaves off the

branch he'd brought along. Killing time he wasn't sure he had to kill.

He listened for the sounds of cracking branches and horseshoes striking rocks, or the sounds of cattle moving through the trees. Still nothing.

Finally, in a far distance he could hear an occasional "whoop" and "h'yah" as the cowboys moved a big herd down the fence line from the backside of the pasture. The button grinned, looking every bit the cowboy he wanted to be.

His dad rode by him and gave him a nod. It said all he needed to "hear." In that gesture was "Good job son. You made a hand."

Those times are the confidence builders that build a foundation for a life, loyalty, and pride in a job well done.

"It was probably a step in the making of a cowhand when he learned that what would pass for heroics in a softer world was only chores around here." Wallace Stegner, Wolf Willow: "A History, a Story, and a Memory of the Last Plains Frontier"

Julie can be reached at jcarterm@gmail.com



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Dennis Haskell is sworn in as a Trustee by Judge J.D. Roehrig during the July 12 Capitan council meeting.

**Haskell appointed new trustee**

ERIK BEARER  
 ebearer@ruidosonews.com

During the Capitan City Council meeting June 12, Mayor Sam Hammons appointed Dennis Haskell to replace Trustee J.R. Davis, who had submitted his letter of resignation on June 30.

Davis had moved to Las Cruces in order to provide better health support for his wife, according to council members.

Hammons had previously appointed Davis in 2007 after Trustee Bill Martin failed to attend meetings for three months.

Judge J.D. Roehrig swore Haskell in during a brief ceremony before the main agenda.

Haskell has been a resident of Capitan for seven years and is active in many volunteer activities and organizations.

"When the Davis seat became available, the mayor called me," Haskell said. "I spoke with him prior (to the council meeting), and we had several meetings."

Haskell previously ran for the position of trustee against Ricky LaMay and Diane Riska, and though he did not win the election at the time he came in a close third.

"If I can make a contribution to the village, I'll run again," Haskell said. "My main focus will be on the water situation."

At present, Capitan has a surplus on water, which has raised mixed opinions among citizens in regards to its future use, particular-

ly in regards to Conquest Investments and its proposed commercial subdivision.

"We're all concerned about the annexation," said Virginia Jones, longtime resident. "We want water in 50 years rather than a short-term economic gain. Water is the limiting factor of growth."

Haskell said he would focus "more on how we can make it available, but keep it available for our own needs. It's a balancing act."

That act is made difficult by a lack of information, according to Jones. Conquest has yet to present a comprehensive plan for water requirements to the citizens, as well as failing to produce an expected map showing the one-half acre plots during the council meeting.

Other citizens of Capitan would like to see more efforts made towards conserving water.

"Most people don't have the patience to plan 50 years ahead," Jones said. "We have the responsibility to be sure that water is available for future fire and drought conditions."

"We're a small village, but all villages have problems," Haskell said. "I'm hoping to be a voice of positivity and bring some people together."

"We were very happy when Dennis (Haskell) was selected," Jones said. "He's a fair-minded man interested in doing what's best for the community."

Haskell made his first motion when he moved to adjourn the session.

**LINCOLN COUNTY BRIEFS**

Capitan will be hosting the annual Ranch Rodeo and Barn Dance starting from 6 pm. on Saturday, July 16.

Admission is \$5 and there will be a pie and prize auction in addition to the rodeo and dance.

Proceeds will go to benefit the Lincoln County Cowboy Crisis Fund.

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## Relay For Life 2011



Relay For Life survivors and caregivers.



Shamie Mills and Jennifer Friberg during the leading ceremony about caregivers.



Andy Friberg, Darlene Heinemann, Janet Herrera, Angel Gonzales, with Fred Gerth serving, enjoy the Survivor's Dinner, donated by Dean Fowler of The Quarters.



Jacoby Graham, survivor, and his grandad.



Sashay giving Fred and Judy Gerth awards for Honorary Chairs

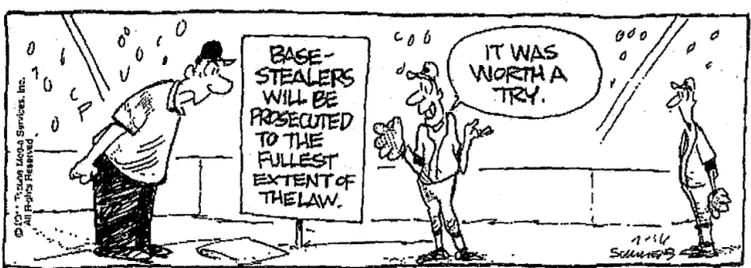


Luminaria ceremony and a moment of silence for those who lost the battle to cancer.

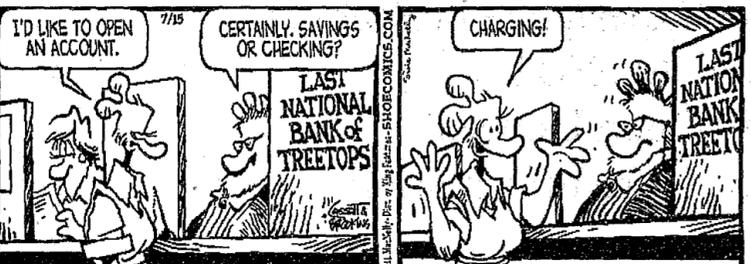


Natasha Nichols and the ZUMBA class leading Midnight Madness.

BOUND & GAGGED



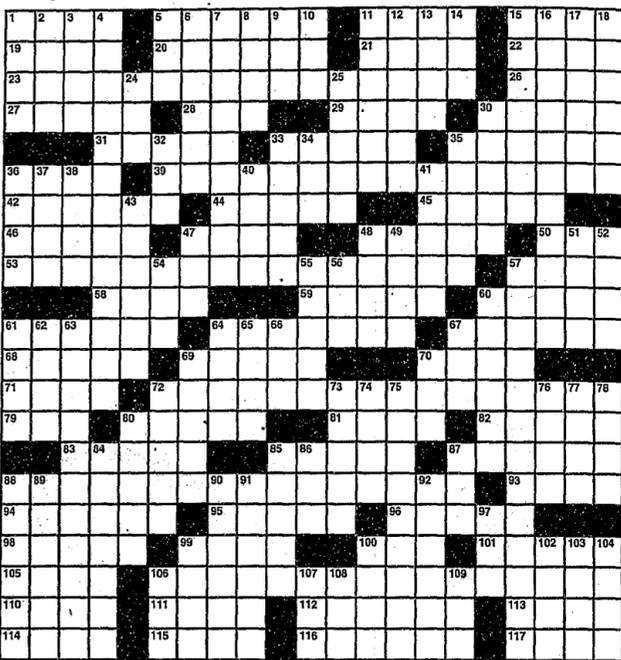
SHOE



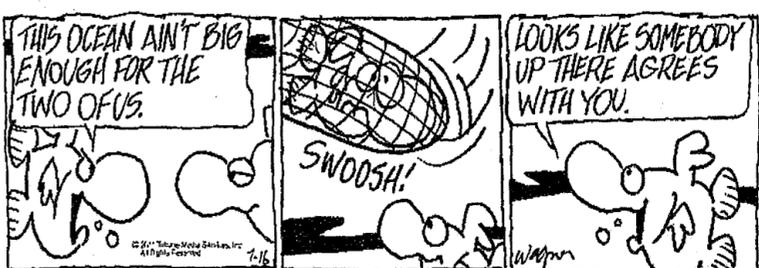
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Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- 4x4" By JULIAN LIM
ACROSS
1 '50s pin curls style, e.g.
5 Sean Combs, on stage
11 Things of beauty
15 Rataisville, e.g.
19 Sit-up slash
20 Mumbai garments
21 Stratford's river
22 Reason is ...
23 "The Ministry of Fear" author
26 Idle in show biz
27 2002 hit for Cam'ron
28 "Junebug" Oscar nominee
29 "The ... Girl"
30 Divine food
31 Ramble on
33 Thumper's pal
35 Near the end
36 One who hammers the power of mid-chlorians
39 Hotel ad phrase
42 Throws out
44 Senate passages
45 Fancy moldings
46 Sunshine ... old detergent
47 Bug
48 Letter-shaped track
50 Big initials in comedy syndication
53 "Stay alert!"
57 It may be spun
58 "What a klutz I am!"
59 Rich competitor
60 Brilliant bunch
61 Applies, as effort
64 Dummkopf
67 Grade of beef
68 Japanese
69 Cruise, for one
70 "The Baroque Cycle" sci-fi author
71 Stephenson Linemen's co-workers
72 Act rashly
79 Disturbing bank letters
80 Far from mega-
81 Crafted, as a tale
82 French wine
83 Town in a Carlo Levi title
85 "Had ... and couldn't ..."
87 Subject involving subjects
88 Cry to some players in hiding
93 Starting's home
94 Ragtag
95 Author Blyton et al.
96 Airbus product
98 Treat as taboo
99 City near Anaheim
100 You might give him the business
101 Ghana's capital
105 Cut down
106 Often skeptical words of encouragement
110 Downwind
111 Not loose
112 "The Ministry of Fear" author
113 Indies
114 Some paparazzi gear, briefly
115 Carry
116 Sunshine cookie
117 Time of reckoning
DOWN
1 "Trouble's a-comin'"
2 Stained-glass piece
3 How some things are noted
4 Swimming and diving, e.g.
5 Penultimate
6 Greek letter
7 Coming-back words
8 Like a field at sunrise
9 Opus ... "The Da Vinci Code"
10 Pricy handbag inls.
11 Caraway's Long Island neighbor, in classic fiction
12 Supposing
13 Jump out of one's skin?
14 Show with '70s samurai sketches, briefly
15 Put away, as a dagger
16 Patria
17 "Love the Way You Lie" rapper
18 Words of support
24 Driveway option
25 Beans that are a good source of manganese
30 "Wag the Dog" co-screenwriter
32 Wistful sounds
33 Mild
34 Belt maker's tool
35 Start using
36 Facebook, say
37 Songwriter
38 Eat in style
39 Sennus
40 Heaney's homeland
41 Watch for the wealthy
43 Matrix automaker
47 Gissom of NASA team
48 Semicircular moldings
49 Concern for
51 Pear from Europe
52 Bedframe part
54 Pay ... military propaganda, etc.
55 Like Deep Throat
56 Work on seams
57 Like hobnobbers
60 Piffly small
61 Take home
62 Vintage Jags
63 It was once described as an "odious column of bolted metal"
64 Get wind of
65 Gucci of fashion
66 Wallace
67 Date
69 Director DeMille
70 Richmond-to-D.C. dir.
72 Evangeline ... who played Kate on "Lost"
73 Target Field team
74 "The Tao of Pooh" author
75 Prove too strong for
76 "Women and Love" author
77 Income sources for some srs.
78 Subsequent
80 Acted bullish?
84 Writing credits
85 Like a saucer's symmetry
88 Tie the knot
87 Cruise millieu
88 Nebraska tribe members
89 Apollo 13 astronaut
90 Bad news from home?
91 Skittish
92 Monsoon-affecting phenomenon
97 "I'll pass"
99 U2's lead vocalist
100 RR station posing
102 Nigger neighbor
103 Tabula ...
104 Trial fig.
106 Clock std.
107 "How licky" for
108 Break down
109 Where Odessa Is; Abbr.



ANIMAL CRACKERS



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SCRABBLE rack layout with letter tiles and rack numbers 1-4.

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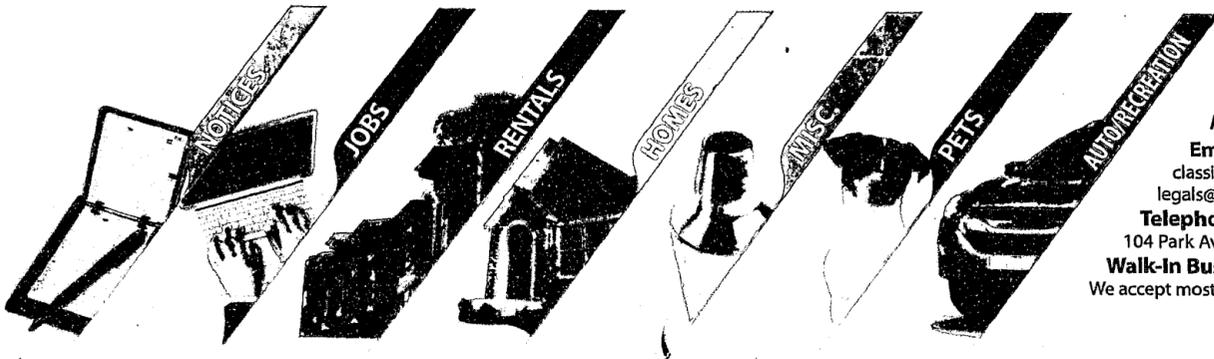
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**Come to the Mountain Wellness Experience in Ruidoso, NM**  
**July 28, 29 and 30, 2011**  
**Health Resources Open Houses**  
**Call 575-937-0564 for more information**

The Mountain Wellness Experience is a Lincoln County Health Loop concept proposed to bring attention to the health resources, traditional and non-traditional, that are available to the Lincoln County residents and visitors in our area. The “Experience” is to have the attendees SEE, FEEL, and TOUCH the many health resources that will be involved.

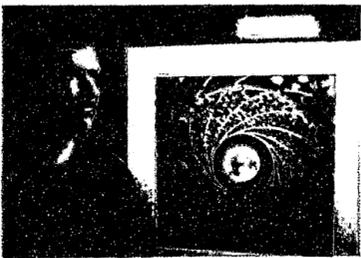
**Our MISSION** is to promote the acquisition, maintenance and recovery of optimum health and wellness of area residents and visitors through the sharing of information that helps the recipients to make positive lifestyle choices.

**Our VISION** is to have the region recognized as a community that offers its residents and visitors the activities, resources, and information that provide the opportunity for pursuing optimum health and wellness. This will be accomplished through the dissemination of current information, availability of a variety of therapeutic entities, and availability of a wide range of healthy and enjoyable activities.

**Health and Wellness Fair** on Friday, July 29th at ENMU-Ruidoso from 9am to 5pm. An opportunity to obtain information from many exhibitors in the health field.

**Sanctuary on the River** in Ruidoso and **High Mesa Healing Center** in Alto will host Open Houses on Saturday, July 30, 2011 from 9am to 5pm.

## Bacher's works are born in his silent world



Viewing his art you may experience a feeling of calm, of wonder, and of peace. Perhaps you'll feel the awe and that sense of oneness with all

things that he tries to relate to his viewers.

**There is silence..... and from his silence his art speaks.**

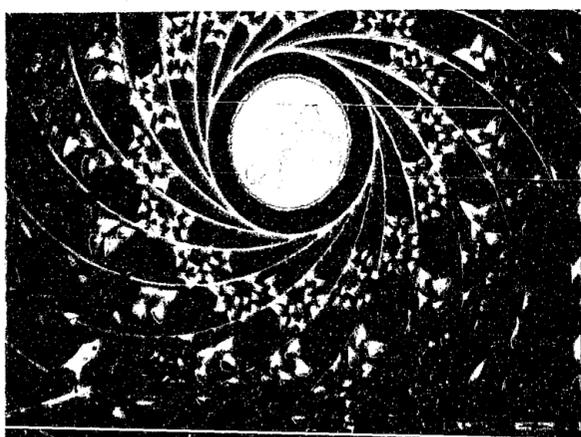
Bachers is an artist in the small Texas town where he was a popular family physician. His art career began after a 1987 stroke stole the use of his right hand, and his ability to produce language, written or spoken. Bachers discovered a new language of visual art.

Bachers' work has been called “silent conversations”. He frames the conversations, asking us to open our eyes and listen.

The circular design abounds in Bachers' work, usually in the form of full moons and stylized patterns of trees and foliage. These mandala-like compositions, evoking in design and decorative detail those from ancient and spiritual traditions, reflect Bachers' meditative creative process as he works to achieve the psychic

wholeness which the mandala represents.

Bachers' works have been featured in art anthologies and numerous juried exhibits around the United States. His works are in private and public collections, nationally and internationally. **Stop by Sanctuary on the River Friday and Saturday July 29th and 30th from 9AM to 5PM to view his artistic demonstration and techniques.**



*Experience the world of art through Gary Bachers*

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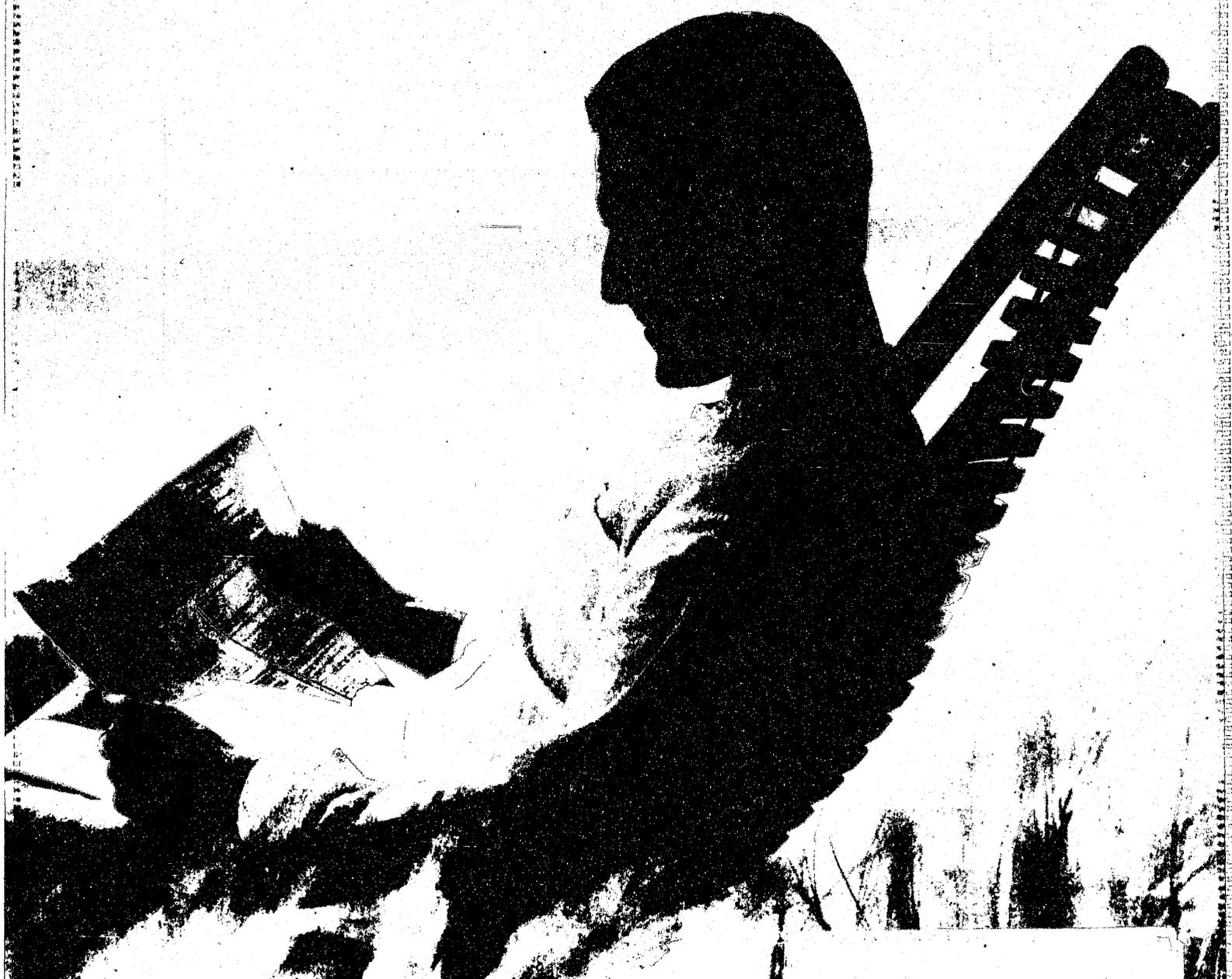
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