

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2011 • OUR 65TH YEAR, No. 25 • 75 CENTS

Officials praise forest re-opening

JIM KALVELAGE
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After being closed for 70 continuous days because of an extreme fire danger, some rain in the past couple of weeks will allow for a reopening of much of the Lincoln National Forest, though a number of restrictions will be in place.

The July 21 lifting of the Stage IV Closure Order was applauded by local officials on Tuesday.

"I'm very happy the forest is opening," said Gina Kelley, Ruidoso's director of tourism. "It's more of a public relations issue than a real issue with our visitors because when they come into the visitors' center

and say, 'Oh, the forest is closed, there's nothing to do,' there's actually lots to do. But when people hear that, that the forest is closed, it's a negative. So we're really happy that we don't have to deal with that anymore."

Kelley said some of the Midtown merchants have indicated people have been spend-

ing less so far this summer than in the past.

"Maybe people aren't spending as much as they usually do but they are still coming. We have to remember that when it's 110 degrees in West Texas, Ruidoso is the perfect getaway. In fact, we just got voted by the readers of the Portales and Clovis papers as the favorite

weekend getaway. A lot of people really don't think about other places in New Mexico as being our market, but those folks (Clovis and Portales) are hot down there, too."

Kelley said lodgers tax revenues have been up and often hotels and cabins are mostly

See **OPEN**, page 10A

County manager to retire

Stewart served 13 years at helm

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After 13 years as Lincoln County manager, Tom Stewart has decided to call it quits and retire.

He shocked the audience and some commissioners Tuesday by reading a letter announcing his retirement no later than Dec. 23.

"This decision is not an easy one, however, I believe it is time for me to pursue other endeavors and spend some quality time with my loving partner of 40 years, my wife, Annette," Stewart said. "It seems there comes a time in everyone's journey when a change is needed, and I have reached that point. While I am still healthy and able, I plan to explore a variety of opportunities.

"I feel extremely satisfied knowing that I will leave the county in outstanding fiscal shape, with many a significant project completed in my 13 years as manager. I have valued and greatly appreciated working for the citizens of Lincoln County, with an outstanding staff and many great elected officials."

Commissioner Tom Battin said later Tuesday, "I knew this was coming. Even when I ran in the last election, I feared he wouldn't stay as long as I have to. It will be extremely hard to replace him. He has been an extraordinary manager. His background (in the military) suited him so well. He is efficient and plans well. I just don't know how we could have done any better."

Commissioners plan a special meeting July 28 dealing with fire restrictions and will include an agenda item to begin the process of finding a new county manager, Battin said. Stewart suggested a few weeks of overlap with his replacement before he leaves.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Madison Wilsman, 4, shops for toys at the Church of the Holy Mount annual Christmas in July Bazaar Saturday. The event raises about \$10,000 annually for the St. Anne's Guild outreach programs. For more on the bazaar, see page 2A.

Carrizozo employs controversial officer

ERIK BEARER
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The town of Carrizozo has hired a police officer who faced a string of allegations while with the Farmington Police Department, including police brutality and misconduct.

In February, Mike Briseno resigned from the Farmington Police Department following allegations of domestic violence against his girlfriend, who also was an officer at Farmington, according to The Daily Times in

Farmington. Briseno submitted his resignation before an investigation and no charges were filed against him.

"We investigated it internally and sustained complaints against Briseno," Farmington Police Chief Kyle Westall said in February.

"Directly after we sustained (the complaint) he resigned before we made it to the disciplinary process."

But Carrizozo Mayor Dennis Vega defended the hire.

See **HIRE**, page 10A

Organization says village violated Open Meetings Law

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Ruidoso village councilors violated New Mexico's Open Meetings Act during a July 12 meeting when they added an item to a closed session agenda after the fact, in the opinion of the executive director of the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government.

The session was advertised to cover three discussions, including one subject to attorney-client privilege pertaining to threat-

ened or pending litigation in which the village is or may become a participant. The item specified on the agenda was consideration of a modified settlement agreement with the New Mexico Environment Department to extend deadlines connected to the village wastewater treatment plant and the Ruidoso River.

After the closed session, Mayor Ray Alborn offered a brief explanation for the public record before councilors presented motions for action.

The mayor said at a council meeting May 12, the board heard a presentation in a closed executive session about the elements of a proposed settlement between the village and the Rio Hondo Land and Cattle Co. LP. dealing with water rights in Eagle Creek.

Those negotiations resulted in a memorandum of agreement that was put into its final form within the previous 24 hours before the meeting, he said according to unof-

See **LAW**, page 8A

RUIDO

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CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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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 August 1.

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

Community meets

The Sacramento Mountain Village has scheduled its annual Friend-

Raiser 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.

Republican Women

The Federated Republican Women of Lincoln County will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center, Sudderth Drive and Junction Road.

Lincoln County Commissioner Kathryn Minter and Kenneth Cramer, who heads Lincoln County Narcotics Enforcement, will be the speakers.

The meeting is a brown bag lunch.

Joint Use Board

Budget issues, a training video agreement and action on an environmental project will be the focus of the at 10 a.m. meeting today of the Joint Use Board that governs

ZOO TO YOU



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

A parakeet from Australia generates discussion in the audience at the Ruidoso Public Library presentation of Zoo To You Tuesday morning. Several small exotic animals made the trip to Ruidoso in the Zoo To You van, sponsored by the New Mexico BioPark Society and partially supported by Wells Fargo Bank.

Annual bazaar raises money for outreach programs

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For more than 40 years, the Church of the Holy Mount, St. Anne's Guild has held a Christmas in July Bazaar to raise money for outreach programs.

The yard, bake, and boutique sale raises about \$10,000 each year for programs like the Lincoln County Food Bank, the Nest domestic violence shelter,

Ministerial Alliance, Sacramento Village and other projects.

New this year is a silent auction featuring autographed footballs, gift certificates and other items donated for the fund raiser.

The luncheon menu, which changes each year, featured brisket this year.

The Christmas in July Bazaar is held the second Saturday of July each year.

the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant shared by Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs.

The first project recom-

mended by the Ruidoso River Restoration Committee resulting from a lawsuit aimed at improving the water quality in

the river below the plant will be reviewed and action is scheduled.

Discussion and final action also is scheduled

for the final Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and discussion of the fourth quarter bud-

See PLANT, page 3A

SMOKEY B'S

APACHE TACO CHALLENGE

Smokey B's Apache Taco weighs in at a whopping 6 lbs. 6 oz.! We challenge you to eat the whole taco in an hour or less! Winners of the challenge receive their \$20.99 meal free and a place on Smokey B's Wall of Fame!

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AccuWeather® 7-day forecast for Ruidoso AccuWeather.com

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| RealFeel 91° Humidity 39% 85° 65° Mostly sunny Wind: W 7-14 mph | RealFeel 90° Humidity 43% 83° 63° Mostly sunny; showers at night Wind: E 6-12 mph | RealFeel 86° Humidity 59% 82° 62° Mostly sunny Wind: S 7-14 mph | RealFeel 87° Humidity 74% 81° 61° Some sun with a t-storm possible Wind: S 6-12 mph | RealFeel 83° Humidity 65% 80° 61° A t-storm possible in the afternoon Wind: SSE 7-14 mph | RealFeel 86° Humidity 59% 82° 63° An afternoon thundershower in spots Wind: S 6-12 mph | RealFeel 85° Humidity 51% 83° 60° Mostly sunny and warmer Wind: S 7-14 mph |

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

Regional Cities

Forecast and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2011

Almanac

Ruidoso
 Statistics through Monday
 Temperature:
 High/low 82°/63°
 Normal high 80°
 Normal low 49°
 Record high 90° (2003)
 Record low 40° (1971)
 Precipitation:
 Monday 0.00"
 Month to date 1.80"
 Normal month to date 1.98"
 Year to date 2.68"
 Normal year to date 9.40"

Alamogordo
 Statistics through Monday
 Temperature:
 High/low 99°/65°
 Normal high 93°
 Normal low 67°
 Record high 103° (1989)
 Record low 58° (1955)
 Precipitation:
 Monday 0.00"
 Month to date 0.45"
 Normal month to date 1.15"
 Year to date 1.08"
 Normal year to date 4.82"

Weather Trivia™:
 Q: One inch of rain on 1 square mile would fill how many bath tubs?
 A: Over 1/2 a million.

National Forecast for July 20, 2011

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

| National Cities | | | Regional Cities | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| City | Today HI/Lo/W | Thu. HI/Lo/W | City | Today HI/Lo/W | Thu. HI/Lo/W |
| Abilene | 102/76/s | 99/74/s | Albuquerque | 96/73/pc | 94/72/s |
| Anchorage | 70/54/s | 69/55/pc | Artesia | 100/75/s | 100/75/s |
| Atlanta | 94/76/t | 95/77/t | Chama | 84/52/t | 83/49/t |
| Austin | 100/74/s | 101/75/s | Clayton | 99/66/s | 97/66/t |
| Baltimore | 92/71/pc | 98/76/s | Cloudcroft | 78/53/pc | 78/51/s |
| Boston | 87/69/s | 94/74/s | Farmington | 93/65/t | 95/63/t |
| Chicago | 97/78/pc | 97/74/t | Hobbs | 100/72/s | 100/69/s |
| Dallas | 103/80/s | 102/79/s | Los Alamos | 86/61/t | 85/59/t |
| Denver | 98/63/t | 94/64/t | Portales | 103/68/s | 99/68/s |
| Des Moines | 99/76/s | 99/76/t | Raton | 94/59/t | 91/59/t |
| Detroit | 94/75/s | 95/75/t | Red River | 76/48/t | 77/50/t |
| El Paso | 99/78/s | 100/80/s | Ruidoso | 85/65/s | 83/63/s |
| Las Vegas | 105/85/s | 103/85/s | Santa Fe | 95/64/t | 93/62/t |
| Los Angeles | 83/63/pc | 80/64/pc | Silver City | 91/71/t | 92/71/t |
| Minneapolis | 96/71/pc | 98/72/pc | Taos | 92/56/t | 89/53/t |
| New Orleans | 92/78/t | 92/78/t | | | |
| New York City | 89/73/s | 92/79/s | | | |
| Philadelphia | 94/75/pc | 98/78/s | | | |
| Phoenix | 107/87/s | 108/88/s | | | |
| Reno | 89/58/s | 91/62/s | | | |
| San Francisco | 69/54/pc | 69/54/pc | | | |
| San Diego | 75/67/pc | 74/65/pc | | | |
| Seattle | 68/54/pc | 67/52/sh | | | |
| Tucson | 100/80/s | 101/81/s | | | |
| Tulsa, OK | 102/78/s | 99/76/s | | | |
| Wash., DC | 93/77/pc | 97/78/s | | | |
| Wichita | 102/76/s | 100/76/s | | | |
| Yuma | 105/85/s | 105/84/s | | | |

| Mexican Cities | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| City | Today HI/Lo/W | Thu. HI/Lo/W |
| Acapulco | 86/75/t | 91/77/pc |
| Cancún | 90/72/pc | 90/73/pc |
| Chihuahua | 97/72/pc | 95/70/t |
| Ciudad Juárez | 99/79/pc | 100/79/pc |
| León | 84/64/t | 84/61/t |
| México, DF | 77/57/t | 77/57/t |
| Monterrey | 87/75/pc | 87/75/pc |
| Morelia | 82/62/t | 83/60/t |
| Oaxaca | 84/61/t | 88/63/t |
| Pto. Penasco | 99/79/s | 97/79/s |
| Tijuana | 79/64/pc | 79/64/pc |

Sun and Moon
 Wednesday: Sunrise/Sunset 6:08 a.m./8:10 p.m.
 Wednesday: Moonrise/Moonset 11:05 p.m./11:16 a.m.

Extremes
 Monday's National High/Low: (For the 48 contiguous states)
 High: 113° in Bullhead City, AZ
 Low: 32° in Stanley, ID

Monday's World High/Low:
 High: 116° in Touggourt, Algeria
 Low: -8° in Islas Orcadas, Argentina

Moon Phases

Last New First Full
 Jul 22 Jul 30 Aug 6 Aug 13

RESCUE AWARDS



Sarrett



Younger



Adams

White Mountain Search and Rescue recently honored three of its longtime members for outstanding service on rescue missions and related activities this past year and beyond. Annie Sarrett, Rich Adams, and Mark Younger each received WMSAR jackets in recognition of their continued service to the organization.

PLANT

FROM PAGE 2A
get report for FY 2010-2011.
Besides an update on the new plant's startup and performance, members will discuss and possibly take action on an agreement with Smith & Loveless Inc., to allow the videotaping of S & L personnel performing maintenance or service, or demonstrating the operation of the plant.

Alpine Water

The regular monthly meeting of the Alpine Village Water and Sanitation District is canceled for Aug. 1, because of a lack of quorum.
If any issues arise that must be addressed by the Board of Directors, a meeting will be called later in the month. Please contact Cheryl Knobel at 575-973-0324 or knobel@windstream.net, if any property owner has a question or issue.
The next regular board meeting is set for 4 p.m., Sept. 4, at the district office.

Art competition

Help End Abuse for Life is inviting all artists to participate in the "Off the Beaten Path" Art Competition to benefit the Nest Domestic Violence Shelter.
Winning submissions will be featured at the

silent auction at HEAL's signature fundraiser, the Sweet Charity Ball: "A Night of Hope, A Celebration of Survival." The Sweet Charity Ball will be held October 1, 2011, to inaugurate Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Ball is a benefit for the Nest Domestic Violence Shelter in Ruidoso Downs.
Artwork submissions for "Off the Beaten Path" should portray hope for survivors of domestic violence.
The focus should be optimistic, depicting themes such as hope, healing, love, promise and courage. Artwork can be any medium, color or size.
The deadline for submissions is September 15, 2011. Please submit entries to Josie's Framery at 2917 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso.
The top ten entries will be profiled in the Sweet Charity Ball program and will be featured in a press release and on HEAL's website.
Those not selected for the auction will be displayed around Ruidoso to promote domestic violence awareness. Anyone interested in participating in the art competition can pick up a donation form at Josie's Framery or the Ruidoso Regional Council of Arts.
For more information on the art competition, or to purchase tickets for the Sweet Charity Ball, please visit www.sweetcharityball.ve or email Georgia at gmu@bajabb.com.

History board

Members of the Lincoln County Historic Preservation Board will consider two requests for new construction and two requests for time extensions at their meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday in the old Community church in Lincoln.
Bennie Long is requesting approval for a retaining wall replacement in the 10-mile long historic district where structures visible from roads must conform with the designs of the Lincoln County War era.
L. M. Smith is requesting approval for new construction. Joe and Frances Fonseca are asking for a time extension for the previously approved new construction, and Bill Strauser wants a time extension for a new sign placement.

Local Veterans Day plans underway

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF

Veterans Day will likely become a big celebration in the Ruidoso area later this year.

The Military 365 Committee is planning an event designed to bring military members and their families to Ruidoso for a show of gratitude, respect and honor.

The celebration will feature a week of discounts for military personnel and will culminate in a block part on Saturday, Nov. 12.

"We want Ruidoso to continue to be a place where members of the military can visit and know that their service to our country is greatly appreciated," said Lynn Crawford, a member of both the Military 365 Committee and Ruidoso's Lodgers Tax Committee. "It is so important that the community, lodgers and merchants are behind this plan and we welcome any and all involvement and participation."

The Military 365 Committee will meet at 9 a.m. July 21 at Mountain Annie's Center for the Arts. All lodgers and merchants are encouraged to attend.

The centerpiece of the proposed celebration would be an old-fashioned street fair in Midtown. Initial plans would close Sudderth Drive between Chase and Center streets to make space for family activities, a beer garden, food vendors and a sound stage.

"I am a Midtown merchant and it is vital that the community understands that the street fair concept is designed to draw people, both visitors and locals, to our Midtown district," Crawford said. "We want to do everything we can to drive business to our lodgers, shops and restaurants on

what is traditionally a slow weekend."
Merchants who are interested in participating in special offers for the military can contact Gina Kelley, Ruidoso's tourism director. Her phone number is 575-257-7495.

Veterans Day 2011 is Nov. 11.

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New Mexico State University and Las Cruces will host the 2011 Summer Games. More than 900 50-plus seniors who qualified at their county and local Games will participate in this year's competition.
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6 months.....\$26
1 year.....\$40
Out of county
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6 months.....\$32
1 year.....\$53.50
The Ruidoso News (USPS 472-800, ISSN 0745-5402) is published each Wednesday and Friday at 04 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, NM 88345. Periodicals postage paid at Ruidoso, NM 88345 and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Ruidoso News P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355. The Ruidoso News reserves the right to reject advertising and edit copy that considers objectionable. Liability for any error in advertising shall not exceed the value of the actual space in which the error occurs and shall be satisfied by correction in the next issue. No portion of the Ruidoso News may be used in any manner without the expressed, written consent of the publisher. Copyright 2011, Ruidoso News.
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OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

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A MediaNews Group Newspaper. Published every Wednesday and Friday at 104 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, New Mexico

OUR OPINION

Silencing the masses by skirting the law

The Ruidoso Village Council at its July 12 meeting approved a memorandum of agreement on water rights in Eagle Creek.

Not that residents would have noticed if they had looked at the meeting's agenda beforehand.

That's because the item was added to the meeting agenda while the meeting was ongoing and added as an item of discussion for a closed session after the closed session already had taken place. The council, on the advice of village attorney Dan Bryant, justified the move as an "emergency" even though the hearing on the water case was still a week away at the time of the meeting.

It sounds more like the council was trying to avoid an inconvenience rather than address a true emergency as defined by the state's Open Meetings Act. And there's nothing in the law that allows a governing body to add an item to an agenda and take action on it.

The village's own resolution regarding open meetings calls for posting a notice for an emergency meeting at least three hours in advance.

And with a week's amount of time before action was required, it's hard to see any emergency.

Bryant said the action taken by the council was "as transparent and open as anybody on the planet could ask a government body to be."

But any resident who might have wanted to provide any meaningful input regarding the issue was cheated out of his or her chance. That's why there is an Open Meetings Act in the first place.

There is no point in posting an agenda if it's just going to be modified and fixed while the meeting is in session.

Transparency? What the council did is about as cloudy as a freshly stirred glass of Metamucil and about as hard to swallow.

As far as Bryant's claim the village would have had to

spend another \$400 to \$500 in taxpayer dollars for staff time to have another meeting, that is arguable at best. If the council would have held the meeting during the day, staff would have been there anyway. And yes, it would have been an inconvenience but sometimes doing the public's business so that the public can actually take part in it is inconvenient. Just imagine what government could do without that pesky citizenry sticking its nose clearly where it doesn't belong?

If legally it is found that the council approved the amended agreement improperly and the agreement is not valid, it will be an emergency and it could cost the village far more than a few hundred dollars.

But at least residents would have a chance to speak out on an action taken by the council if they want to, which they have the right. The right they were deprived of on July 12 when the council thought that another meeting might be an inconvenience. A few hundred dollars is a small price to pay for democracy.

"It is time, high time, that the people in the village of Ruidoso recognize how dedicated and hardworking and committed to open government their officials are," Bryant said of the issue. "If somebody like (the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government) wants to quarrel form over substance, there's not a lot anybody could do about that."

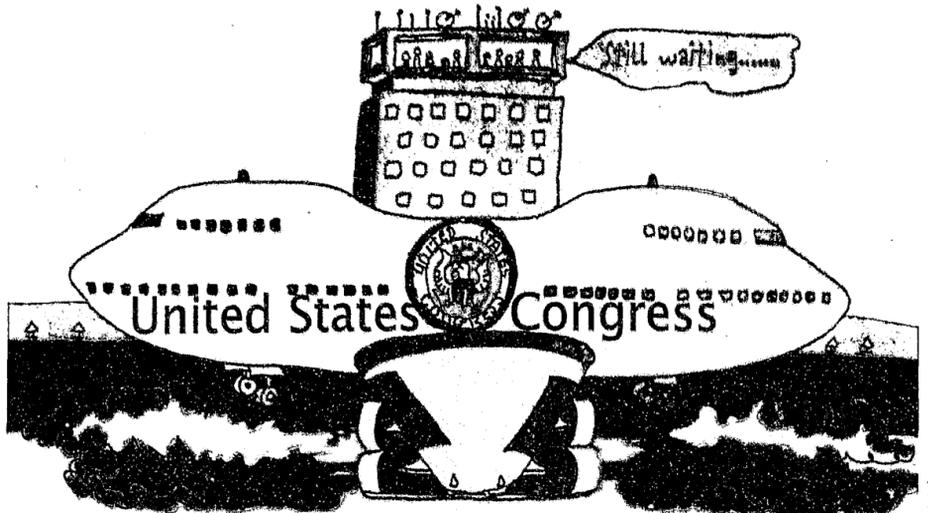
Nobody is arguing the dedication of the council members.

But we would argue that giving residents a chance to provide meaningful input on an issue if they chose, before the council takes action on it, is quite substantial.

Robbing them of that right is simply undemocratic and wrong. That's what is transparent.

Maybe there wouldn't have been any comments made regarding the agreement.

But if the council is not held accountable on this matter, when and on what issue will the council again find itself inconvenienced?



Doug McLeod 11
Ruidoso News

YOUR OPINION

Big government and bad government

To the editor:

The following is a response to the letter by Dick Mastin and headlined, "Better Government."

I know Mr. Mastin as we have a mutual interest in astronomy; we've had many conversations on that subject. I need to mention that I respect him and his intelligence and I believe he is a man of integrity, which is why I felt I needed to respond.

I totally agree that we need better government but I am not sure which is worse, bad government or big government. Since we are in agreement on bad government, let me address big government. First of all, perhaps the worst thing about big government is that it is growing unstopably. Washington (state and local governments behave proportionately similar) is constantly creating new bureaucracies. New departments, bureaus, commissions, "blue ribbon" committees, fact-finding committees, "czars" with bloated staff — to mention just a few — are constantly created. And apparently none is held to accountability or fiscal responsibility. Then there are the congressional staffs. Some congressmen and senators have 20 to 30 staff members — in the early days of our republic a member of Congress was lucky if he had a secretary. I don't have current numbers but 20 years ago the total number of employees on Capitol Hill stood at about 35,000. I would guess it's more like 50,000 now.

As government grows, the quality of government declines. Anyone who has ever been part of a bureaucracy knows its inefficiency. This goes not only for governments but for large pri-

vate sector companies as well. However, it is still easier for companies to cut down on staff than it is for government to reduce employee numbers.

Private business hires and fires with business ups and downs. The purpose of business is to make a profit. Without profit it eventually will fail. Government has no such limitations. It operates as if its funds are limitless, which is precisely why it forever spends more than it takes in.

Our leaders in Washington manifestly have regularly overspent since I can remember. (Note, I am not pointing fingers at any of our two major parties). I have been following the National Debt Clock since about 1990 when it stood around \$4 trillion, which scared the daylights out of this fiscally responsible businessman. Yet that debt has more than tripled in 20 years to the current just-below-\$14.5 trillion.

This incredible and frightening debt was not created by the people, though they may be accused of complacency. The constant deficits and the national debt are entirely the fault of our government. Yet here lies the ultimate insult: The people are now asked to "share the Burden" in alleviating the results of Congress' profligate spending and lame attempts to finally address the country's looming bankruptcy. There is no talk of clipping Congress' salaries or their lavish health and retirement benefits.

Before I would entrust such inefficient and irresponsible government with my healthcare I would certainly opt for the private sector and a competitive insurance industry that has

been freed to compete across stateliness. And if Washington will ever tackle tort reform, it would certainly be apt to reduce cost of medical care.

E. Ehrlich
Nogal

Reagan and the Deficit

To the editor:

Ronald Reagan is remembered as one of the most popular of America's presidents, but his ratings during his term in office (1981 to 1989) were surprisingly poor. Like Obama, he was plagued with a poor economy his first three years in office, and in 1983 his average rating was 45 percent.

However, he solved his money problems by a spectacular increase in the national debt, initiating a run of annual deficits that was only broken for the last two years of the Clinton administration. He set an as yet unbroken record for both raising the ceiling on the national debt (17 times in 8 years!) and for the greatest percent increase in the national debt (he nearly tripled it!), and even though the House of Representatives was controlled by Democrats the entire time, there was little protest.

When the Republican controlled Senate did balk at yet another increase in the fall of 1983, Reagan wrote this warning to Majority Leader Howard Baker:

"This country now possesses the strongest credit in the world. The full consequence of a default — or even the serious prospect of default — by the United States are impossible to predict

See LETTERS, page 5A

THE STREETER, BY ERIK BEARER

Q: What are your plans now that the forest is reopening?



Bobby Johnson
Alto

"I live right next to the forest and I know there are a lot of people that will be really happy to go out."



Jim Burrows
Ruidoso Downs

"I don't think the forest needs to open up just yet. We really need some more moisture first."



Chrystal Sauls
Alamogordo

"I love to drive around in the forest. It will be great to go out to some new spots that have been closed."



Bill Kitts
Dallas, Texas

"We're going fishing in Bonito Lake early in the morning to beat the crowds. There are going to be a lot of people there soon."



Rick Armstrong
El Paso, Texas

"I'm glad they're reopening. I'll be back when there are some more spots open to fish at."

What's next for the human presence in space?

The White Sands Missile Range conducted a small poll, asking denizens of the installation what was ahead for NASA without the just-ended Space Shuttle program. Because the missile range was for 30 years the shuttle's emergency landing site, you might expect some cogent answers. The best anybody could come up with was this: more research.

It's curious that nobody seems to know what's next, including NASA. The government's most futuristic agency hasn't planned its own future.

New Mexico, as I've said before in this column, has a long and proud history in the nation's space effort, and we're still heavily invested. NASA is a major presence on New Mexico State University's campus, we have NASA contractors, both labs have participated, and for 35 years White Sands trained shuttle pilots and astronauts. How many kids decided to become scientists

after attending the New Mexico Museum of Space History's two decades of space shuttle camps?

Whatever the future holds, he assured of two things: We will be involved, and the public won't lose its interest in space exploration.

A million people watched the Atlantis blast off July 9 for the 135th and final mission.

Some blamed President Obama, but both parties had a hand in the shuttle program's demise. President Bush announced the shuttle's retirement in 2004 but supported a return to the moon.

Obama canceled the moon project, which was behind schedule and over budget, and proposed instead flying to an asteroid and Mars.

His administration also wants

to hand the baton to private military payloads, conduct scientific experiments, and transport passengers and cargo.



SHERRY ROBINSON

ALL SHE WROTE

Former NASA Administrator Michael Griffin has said the shuttle program demonstrated America's leadership in space, and "for us to abandon that in favor of nothing is a mistake of strategic proportions." He could be right, but we still need to hit pause and think about what we accom-

plished — or didn't.

After spending \$196 billion, the shuttle didn't live up to the original goals of economy and reliability.

A reusable spacecraft was supposed to save money and make space flight routine. With too many cooks stirring the soup, the shuttle was designed to carry satellites into orbit, launch big

criticized NASA "for failing to propose an acceptable replacement (program) in a timely manner" or to even articulate a reason to continue manned space flight. He also faults Congress for failures that weakened the economy and made funding of an aggressive space exploration program impossible.

To do that, NASA enlarged the vehicle and made some safety compromises.

A partial list of accomplishments: The shuttle launched the Hubble Space Telescope, and its crews repaired the device to deliver breath-taking images.

It launched planetary probes to Venus and Jupiter. It transported chunks of the International Space Station, and its crews then built the station.

On the other side of the balance sheet are two disasters. Out of 135 missions, a 98.5 percent success rate is admirable by many measures but not if you lost loved ones. Whether we got our money's worth is a complicated discussion.

One of the sensible voices in this discussion is aviation and space historian Ted Spitzmiller, retired from Los Alamos National Laboratory.

In a recent op-ed, Spitzmiller

criticized NASA "for failing to propose an acceptable replacement (program) in a timely manner" or to even articulate a reason to continue manned space flight. He also faults Congress for failures that weakened the economy and made funding of an aggressive space exploration program impossible.

The next challenge, he says, is low-cost, low-earth orbit; the nation that succeeds will be the dominant player on earth and in space. Spitzmiller and others expect private industry to step up.

But here Spitzmiller is a tad nearsighted. Like other prognosticators, he looks to Falcon-X or Virgin Galactic, but their success is "highly unlikely, as they essentially use the same technologies as NASA," he says. What Spitzmiller, a career government employee, doesn't see is that these companies may begin with NASA technologies, but they will innovate. The sky is not the limit.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4A

and awesome to contemplate ... The risks, the costs, the disruptions, and the incalculable damage lead me to but one conclusion: the Senate must pass this legislation before the Congress adjourns."

Now here we are again, at almost the exact same length of a president's term in office, but the Republicans are playing a much nastier game with our Democratic president than they did with Republican Ronald Reagan.

What is really annoying is that Reagan caused his own budget crisis by cutting taxes for the wealthiest Americans.

As a result of the 1981 and 1986 bills, the top income tax rate (on "taxable" income, that's after highly-paid accountants have used all the loopholes they can find) was slashed from 70 percent to 28 percent.

To his credit, he did try to correct for this loss of Federal revenue with bills that made it tougher to evade taxes, and through "base broadening" — that is, reducing various federal tax breaks and closing tax loopholes.

Republicans today won't even let Obama get rid of loopholes! Obama's budget problems are due to the ongoing fallout from the banking deregulation disaster. His administration has bailed out failed banks and saved mortgages for middle class homeowners.

But regardless of the reason for the budget problem, our country is facing the same kind of financial disaster now that we faced in the early 1980s.

We can survive this one too, if we support our president and have faith in our country — and if today's Republicans are willing to be at least as fiscally responsible as President Reagan and Senator Baker.

Ellen Wedum
Cloudercroft

Band thanks

As the director of the Ruidoso High School Band I have many supporters in the community, but I need to take a moment and thank one supporter in particular — Sierra Blanca Motors.

For the past three years they have sponsored the band in the Dodge Truck Scholarship project. Each year Sierra Blanca Motors donates time and money to help us sell chances on winning a Dodge Truck. (In fact this year winner lives in Albuquerque.)

They have the tickets made and even purchase the T-shirts that every ticket holder can receive.

All the money from the ticket sales goes directly to supporting our band.

They are an amazing company and I want to express my deepest gratitude to Joe Gomez and all his employees at Sierra Blanca Motors.

Gary B Shaver
Ruidoso

Food bank

To the editor:

Thank you for the article on Sacramento Mountain Village in the Friday, July 8 paper. SMV is a worthy nonprofit that deserves the publicity. I would, however, like to correct the information in the article that stated that I started the Food Bank. The Lincoln County Food Bank was chartered as a 501 c (3) charity in 1986 by a group of people concerned about the number of people without enough to eat in Lincoln County not by one individual. Many of the initial board members are still in the community, and many are not. These "starters" are Phyllis Boverie, Rico Chavez, Pat Ciraulo, Libby Corry, Frankie Jarrell, Vernell Hightower, Sara Jackson, Fr. Berdette Stampley, Pat Sullivan, Patty White, and myself. The combined vision and effort of the numerous people who served on that initial board and subsequent boards, as well as the vol-

unteers and donors who have kept the doors open for 25 years, have brought strength to the organization and made the Food

Bank a real asset to the community.

Betsy Seiler
Ruidoso

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For Immediate Release:



Hubbard Museum of the American West Closures Set For July 23rd Annual Fundraising Gala

"WILD, WILD WEST - JOURNEY TO STATEHOOD"

Ruidoso Downs, NM (July 13, 2011) - In preparation for the annual fundraising gala, the Hubbard Museum of the American West will be closed to the public commencing at 12:00 PM on Friday, July 22nd through and including all day Saturday, July 23rd. The Museum will re-open 9:00 AM on Sunday, July 24th.

The July 23, 2011 event is themed "Wild, Wild West - Journey to Statehood" in celebration of New Mexico's centennial and is organized by the Museum's fundraising arm, the Hubbard Museum of the American West Foundation. The gala includes a full dinner, hosted bar and dancing to the music of local favorites, the Graham Brothers. Reservations for the event are just \$130 per person or \$1250 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. 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 either of 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 or call 575-378-4142 for more information on the "Wild Wild West - Journey to Statehood" gala fundraising event.

Contacts:

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President

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(575) 258-5919
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Tee-off on Domestic Violence



Lincoln County's domestic violence shelter, The Nest, is hosting the Deacon Bob Racicot Golf Tournament at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, so grab your golf bag, three of your best golfing buddies and join in the fun. The scramble tournament starts at 1:00 PM on Saturday, August 13th with great prizes and food...all for a great cause! Call The Nest today at 973-1385. and get your foursome registered. It is first-come, first-serve and is limited to 144 players.
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EDUCATION

Ruidoso to raze part of the old middle school

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Three buildings at the site of the former Ruidoso Middle School on Reese Drive will be razed.

The Ruidoso Municipal School District Board last week signed off on a resolution and affidavit to demolish sections of the campus that had been the seventh-grade wing, the home economics building and the old middle school's administrative offices. After the district's new middle school opened two years ago, the former school was renamed the Horton Complex and has been used by the Region IX Education Cooperative, for office space, and for the school district's Choices Program, the alternative day treatment program previously called the Gavilan Canyon School. Much of the Horton Complex buildings will remain.

The resolution, which will be delivered to the New Mexico Office of State Auditor for a review, stated the three buildings are dilapidated, beyond repair and useful life, and no longer economical or safe

for continued use by the district.

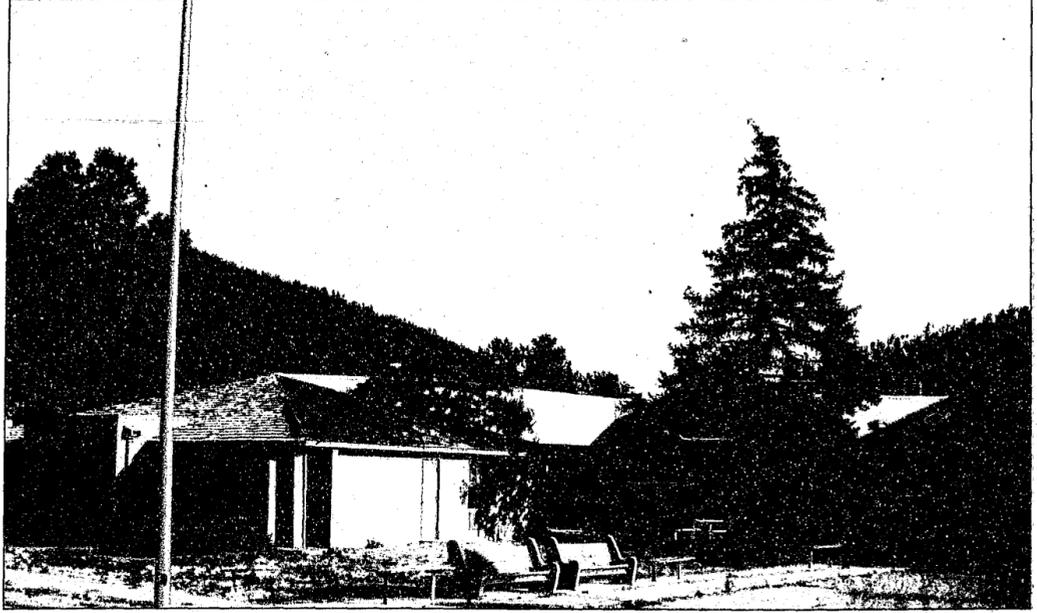
After demolition, the land will be landscaped and paved for additional parking.

Questioned by education board member Curt Temple, the district's finance director, Yvonne Perez, said general obligation bonds, approved by voters in the district, will pay to take down the three buildings and expand the parking lot. The cost has been estimated at \$900,000.

"We will put this out for bid," Perez said of the paving. "The demolition, we are going to the CES (Cooperative Education Services) vendor, so we will not be putting that out for bid. There's some real licensing requirements when a building has asbestos in it and they have to do studies to remove that asbestos."

CES is a state education purchasing cooperative where districts can use the cooperative's contract with vendors that have gone through the CES procurement process.

"About the paving," questioned board member



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

Parts of the former Ruidoso Middle School campus, now called the Horton Complex, will be demolished to increase parking for events such as Warriors football at the adjacent Horton Stadium.

Rhonda Vincent, "are our plans to keep this property? I was thinking if we pave it, and somebody was to purchase it, are we spending money that doesn't need to be spent?"

Perez said district administrators do not believe selling some of the

property is an option anymore. She added the need for additional parking was realized nearly 10 years ago.

"We really need more parking when there's football games," Perez said. "This was something that (former superintendent)

Dr. Paul Wirth initiated and we just kind of stuck to that plan that when that was knocked down we would turn it into parking."

North of the former campus is Horton Stadium where the Ruidoso Warriors football team plays.

The buildings at the former middle school campus, total 89,188 square feet. The three buildings that will be leveled have a combined area of 13,597 square feet.

An approval from the Office of State Auditor is expected within 30 days.

Students to get 'Attitude Check'

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A one-day assembly on bullying may come to the Ruidoso Municipal School District's middle and high schools in mid-September.

Kevin McCartney, with the acclaimed Attitude Check program, said the high energy presentation includes music, comedy and motivational words.

"They come in and take the first 45 minutes and the goal is to get the young people to laugh and listen," said Kevin McCartney, with Rick and Mick Vigneulle's Attitude Check assembly. "And then what we do is we turn the corner after the first 45 minutes and we start talking about things that the schools are facing and we work with the principals, is it bullying, drugs, teen suicides, those types of things. We know that here recently bullying is a hot topic. And we know in fact suicides resulted."

Currently Sept. 15 is reserved for the program

"We know that here recently bullying is a hot topic. And we know in fact suicides resulted."

Kevin McCartney
Attitude Check

assemblies.

Attitude Check strives to show teens that attitude, not aptitude, can be the key ingredient to a productive and fulfilled life. The program is described as going beyond the borders of the typical anti-drug, anti-suicide assembly. The Vigneuelles believe substance abuse, suicide and other problems young people face are often symptoms of a poor self image. The program has been presented in schools in all 50 states and 14 countries.

The cost for each 90-minute assembly is \$1,250.

School board President Devin Marshall recommended board members check out the program and decide if it is what the district wants to do.

Ruidoso looks at webcast of meetings

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

An initiative that would bring Ruidoso Municipal School Board meetings into homes may get input from the public. But the delivery vehicle might be audio only.

Earlier this year the school board began looking at the options of live or delayed replay feeds of their meetings on cable TV.

Another possibility was streaming the meetings on the Internet.

"The best one we found in terms of costs and benefit is the Easystream company," Mark Hamilton, the district's technology director told the board of firms

that provide webcasting services. "They work with a lot of high schools, a lot dealing with sports events. The recurring cost was the lowest at \$1,895 a year, unlimited use. And they archive it forever, basically."

There is a \$5,000 set-up cost.

The equipment was described as a television station's mobile news van "in a box" as far as recording, mixing, cutting and editing.

"One of the things that came up during the course of looking through this is that the high school is interested in offering that as part of a class," Hamilton said. "So we

"The recurring cost was the lowest at \$1,895 a year, unlimited use. And they archive it forever, basically."

Mark Hamilton
District technology director

could co-op the use of that equipment a little bit if we decide to do this."

Hamilton said he had set up a camera at an earlier school board meeting to record the session.

"The video quality is great, the audio is not," Hamilton said. "Different people speak at different volumes. The microphone

on there is not exactly the best. I'm trying a different mike now. We'll see how this goes. If not, we can solve the sound issues. It just takes more money and time."

Instead of picking up the sound at the camera, microphones could be mounted in front of each board member.

"It might be less expensive to do just audio," school board president Devin Marshall said. "Because really I think we're looking at the most important use is probably a good record (of the meetings)."

Audio alone was seen as an easier option by Hamilton.

For more go to www.RuidosoNews.com

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Uniform sale

Students who will be attending Ruidoso Middle School this fall are encouraged to attend the middle school's vintage uniform sale.

The middle school as a uniformly dressed code for students which promotes respectful attire.

Here's how the vintage uniform sale works.

If you donated any items last spring, you may get one free item or you may buy one - get one free,

meaning you may buy one shirt and one bottom and get one of each for free. After that, all items are regular price, but all prices are very reasonable. If you did not donate last spring, donations are still accepted.

New Ruidoso Middle School students 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, prices are as follows. All used items are \$3. New

items are \$4. Sale items are \$1.

All students are limited to purchasing six items.

Donations of old uniforms are still greatly appreciated.

A vintage boutique at Ruidoso Middle School will be open on Wednesday and Thursday, July 21 - 22 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and will also be open several days after Aug. 1.

The August times and dates will be available by calling 575-257-4051.

Band camp

Ruidoso High School's Marching Band camp will begin on Aug. 1. The camp is scheduled for weekdays,

and will continue through Aug. 10.

The hours are 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The percussion section will meet for a couple of additional hours from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Band members will meet in the high school band room.

"Attendance is crucial to our preparation for competitions and home games," said Gary Shaver, director of the Ruidoso High School Band. "We cannot begin to learn our show if we do not all attend. Take pride in your band and make every effort to be there."

For more information, Shaver can be contacted at gshaver@ruidososchools.org.

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Ruidoso schools music teacher faces allegation

HAROLD OAKES
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

Ruidoso High School music teacher Danny Flores was charged Friday with contributing to the delinquency of a minor for alleged improper behavior with male students.

"Mr. Flores has been charged with behaving inappropriately with some of his students that were under the age of 18," Deputy District Attorney Reed Thompson said Monday. "That is the most detail I can go into at this time."

The charge was filed in

District Court Friday.

In the criminal complaint, Ruidoso Police Detective Art Nelson alleges that two female students approached the Ruidoso High School assistant principal in April and told him that a 17-year old friend told them of incidents between Flores, 56, and the student in the high school choir room.

Nelson's criminal complaint also included allegations by other male students in Flores' choir class that Flores would ask which side their genitalia hung so he could order extra material in their pants on that side and

allegations that Flores would tell the boys to pull their pants, underwear and genitals up tight prior to singing.

"On the evening of April 12, 2011, the administration was informed of allegations of misconduct on the part of a district employee," Ruidoso Municipal Schools Assistant Superintendent Patty White read from a prepared statement Monday. "We placed the employee on paid administrative leave, pending the result of an investigation, before school on the morning of April 13, 2011."

"The employee has not

been permitted to return to the district worksite except to participate in the investigations," White said. "The district has an obligation to remain confidential with regards to this ongoing personnel matter and cannot comment further about the employee or the investigation. Our focus remains on the business of providing quality education for our students."

Nelson said the schools and police have worked closely on the investigation and the release of information concerning the charges and allegations.

"The Ruidoso Police Department and Ruidoso School Board have worked hand-in-hand in this case to make sure we had the facts," Nelson said. "The schools have been prohibited from releasing any information without coordinating with the police department."

Flores has been a teacher and administrator at Ruidoso and Mescalero schools since the 1980s. He served as assistant principal and principal at Sierra Vista Primary School, retired and then returned to teaching about three years ago.

Flores has taught in the

Musical Arts Departments at Ruidoso Middle School and Ruidoso High School.

"We hope to resolve this matter in court with the result that he will plead to contributing to the delinquency of a minor and he will surrender his license to be a high school teacher," Thompson said.

Flores' attorney, Gary Mitchell, was in court on Monday and unavailable for comment.

Contributing to the delinquency of a minor is a fourth degree felony, with a maximum sentence of 18 months in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

County mulls inspection law

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Despite a warning from their county manager about possibly running afoul of the Internal Revenue Service, Lincoln County commissioners want to move ahead on a building inspection ordinance.

They authorized County Manager Tom Stewart to work with County Attorney Alan Morel and County Planner Curt Temple to draft an ordinance providing for inspections outside municipal limits in the county. They acknowledged a disagreement still exists over which entity, the village of Ruidoso or the county, would have jurisdiction in a three-mile planning and platting zone around Ruidoso. But Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo was adamant to proceed.

At the last commission meeting, commissioners asked for an investigation of using a building inspectors on contract instead of as county employees.

"This is a very touchy area with the IRS," Stewart said. He handed out a printed discussion of the issue. "We have to be careful how to pursue this, if you do, put it out to bid and hire a company. The government says when you hire just a person on contract, you're trying to save money by not paying benefits. You can't do that to circumvent withholding, retirement and other benefits." Stewart said once an

"I appreciate their passion, but we need the facts first."

Mark Doth
Lincoln County commissioner

ordinance is adopted, the county could advertise for a company to handle the inspections, "so we're not involved." Some of the biggest fines levied by the IRS deal with entities creating a "contract employee," he said.

"It comes down to control," Morel said. "If there is a separate tax identification number and office (the arrangement would be all right), but not if you provide the office and oversee the work."

Commissioner Tom Battin said he'd like to coordinate with the village, which already has a functioning permitting and inspection division and recently offered to handle that work for the town of Capitan.

He said he also would

like to see the budget for what would be a new county service and the amount of revenue it would generate.

Commissioner Mark Doth asked Temple to tell members of the county Planning Commission to "back off the volume" of e-mails and letters urging the county to provide permits and inspections.

"I appreciate their passion, but we need the facts first," he said.

The other commissioners said they appreciated the communications.

Temple said the onslaught is over. The members of the planning commission heard the county was considering building inspections and wanted to show their support, he said.

The planner suggested the draft of the ordinance go first to planning commissioners for recommendations before landing on the desks of the county commissioners.

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LAW

FROM PAGE 1A

ficial minutes from the session. The hearing on the water rights case is set for Tuesday and an emergency exists that requires the council to take action to consider approval of the proposed memorandum of agreement before the beginning of the hearing, Alborn said.

Councilor Jim Stoddard moved to add consideration of the memorandum of agreement to the agenda for the already completed closed session as an item under threatened or pending litigation. Councilor Denise Dean gave the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Stoddard then moved to approve the memorandum of agreement negotiated with the Rio Hondo Land and Cattle Co. L.P. Councilor Rafael Salas seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Apparent violation

Sarah Welsh, executive director of the Foundation for Open Government, said Thursday the council appears to have violated two provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

"What you can never do is add an agenda item and action it at a meeting," she said. Any action not properly noticed to the public is invalid, she said. "They said it was an emergency, but saying doesn't make it so. An emergency is clearly defined in the Open Meetings Act."

The Act refers to unforeseen situations that if not addressed immediately could result in a

financial loss or damages. The Act envisions an emergency as something such as a natural disaster or other events beyond the control of a government board, not poor planning, Welsh said. The Ruidoso council could have called a special meeting to act later in the week before the Tuesday water rights hearing, she said.

The village council in January adopted a resolution setting out required standards for proper notice. They are five days for a regular meeting, 24 hours for a special meeting and three hours for an emergency meeting.

Welsh said, "My second problem is when they have a general heading such as pending or threatened litigation and they realize they need to talk about something else, (even in a true emergency) they need to come back out (of the closed session) and announced that to the public. They have to state it for the record."

"The key is the action isn't valid unless they notice it," Welsh said. Giving notice after the fact doesn't satisfy the Open Meetings Act requirement for advanced notice.

'Form over substance'

Reached while on vacation, Village Attorney Dan Bryant defended the council's action, saying criticism amounted to demanding form over substance.

"It wasn't part of the call initially," he acknowledged. "The actual elements of the agreement were approved by the council May 12, when they told the water team to go settle the issue along the lines described and they did that. Tuesday they got the agree-

"There's form, there's substance, and then there's the law."

Sarah Welsh
Foundation for Open Government

ment hammered out and came to Ruidoso and told us about it. The only way the council could take action was to come out of the closed session and declare an emergency so they could take action."

Bryant continued, "If we are going to take the position that what they should have done is come out of a closed session, amend the agenda and go back in and come back out again to take action, then we are exulting form over substance. As a practical reality, the village council was made aware after the meeting started that there was a settlement agreement, after the executive session started. Under those circumstances, they don't take action unless the agenda is amended. They came out and explained why it was being amended and took action. That is as transparent and open as anybody on the planet could ask a government body to be."

He also acknowledged that the item could have been handled by calling an emergency meeting with three hours notice, or a special meeting with 24-hour notice.

Transparency

"Yes, we could have done that, but we also would have spent \$400 to \$500 more of taxpayers money (to cover the separate meeting) to create the same transparency we created," Bryant

said. "I am not going to surrender to (FOG's) proper notice. I think our notice was proper."

As for qualifying as an emergency, Bryant said, "We didn't plan for the (two sides working on the agreement) not to be able to work out their difference. All those things are outside of our control. I worked very hard that night to create as much transparency as possible because I anticipated someone saying we were trying to hide something. We have grown hyper-process and hypercritical in our community and we need to get over it."

"It is time, high time, that the people in the village of Ruidoso recognize how dedicated and hardworking and committed to open government their officials are. If somebody like FOG wants to quarrel form over substance, there's not a lot anybody could do about that."

The law

Hearing Bryant's explanation Friday, Welsh said she still believes the council violated the Open Meetings Act.

She quoted from state law that "Meeting notices shall include an agenda containing a list of specific items of business to be discussed or transacted at the meeting or information on how the public may obtain a copy of such an agenda. Except in the case of an emergency, the agenda shall be available to the public at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Except for emergency matters, a public body shall take action only on items appearing on the agenda. For purposes of this subsection, an 'emergency' refers to unforeseen circumstances that, if not addressed immediately by the public body,

will likely result in injury or damage to persons or property or substantial financial loss to the public body."

"The emergency bar is very high," Welsh said. "I've asked assistant attorneys general how many true emergencies they've seen in their careers, and the answers range from 'none' to one or two. Even if the financial loss were substantial, the council had a week to take this vote."

"There's form, there's substance, and then there's the law. The law mandates that a public body cannot take action on new agenda items, unless there's a true emergency. It doesn't matter how many times they go into or out of executive session, or how many times they amend the agenda during the meeting. They cannot take action on new, non-emergency, action items. To take action on unnotified, non-emergency items deprives the public of any opportunity to participate, and that's not open government."

"They don't get to decide what an emergency is, state law defines it. There was no reason for them to take action July 12. You're talking about a significant settlement people are interested in. No amount of wishing and arguing changes that. It's just not legal, they just have to do it over again."

Welsh however, complimented the village meeting minutes prepared by Village Clerk Irma Devine.

"The minutes look great. They do a great job noting the executive session and providing information on what is to be discussed," she said. "I have never seen where they break down discussion from one time period to the next. Other than this issue, they are excellent."

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DISTRICT COURT BRIEFS

Joshua Eisler, 28, pleaded no contest to larceny of more than \$500 under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Deputy District Attorney Reed Thompson June 3.

Under the agreement, the state dismissed a charge of burglary of a house or dwelling.

Judge Karen Parsons sentenced Eisler to 18 months of probation.

Eisler was charged with burglarizing a Swallow Drive home in Ruidoso March 15, 2010.

Ashley Bowser, 27, appeared for imposition of sentence June 3. She had pleaded no contest to a charge of possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Sept. 27, 2010 and the state filed a supplemental to the criminal complaint showing Bowser had a prior felony conviction for forgery in Montgomery County, Texas.

Judge Karen Parsons sentenced Bowser to two and a half years of probation.

Ruidoso Downs Police Officer April Payan Dominguez had charged Bowser with possession of methamphetamines, child endangerment of a four-year-old, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia Aug. 23, 2009.

Leonard Vigil, 23, changed his plea to no contest to an amended charge of attempting to contribute to the delinquency of a minor June 17.

Under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Denson and Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman, the state dismissed a charge of criminal damage to property more than \$1,000 and amended the charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Parsons sentenced Vigil to 364 days probation and gave him credit for time served in jail from June 26 to July 10, 2010.

Former Carrizozo Police Chief Rachel Weiser charged Vigil with defacing property on H Avenue and on Ninth Street in Carrizozo and doing this with a minor.

A jury found **Gregory J. Lequex, 20,** not guilty of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia July 5.

Ruidoso Police officer Tillman Freeman had arrested Lequex on the charges July 26, 2010, when, during the execution of a search warrant on a auto burglary case, Freeman reported finding a controlled substance and paraphernalia in Lequex's room on Gavilan Canyon Road.

Felicia Marie Lucero was granted a divorce from one husband and an annulment from another on the same day.

Judge Karen Parsons granted Derek Moorhead and annulment from Lucero July 8, the same day she granted Lucero a divorce from Benjamin D. Gibson.

According to the annulment petition, Lucero is facing a criminal charge of bigamy.

Zimmerman dropped the charges against **Enrique Ramirez, 39,** on July 11, citing Ramirez's completion of a Pre Prosecution Diversion Program.

Ramirez was charged with aggravated assault on a household member, false imprisonment and battery on a household member on Feb 26, 2010.

Five arrested, investigation continues

HAROLD OAKES
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

RUIDOSO DOWNS – Twelve days and five arrests later, Ruidoso Downs Police are still investigating an incident where multiple shots were fired in All American Park July 8.

After receiving a report of the shooting at 6:59 p.m., a Ruidoso Downs dispatcher observed two men, believed to be suspects leave the park, which is located across the street from the police department.

Based on the dispatcher's description of the vehicle, Ruidoso Downs police located the vehicle near Highway 70 and Short Drive and, assisted by Ruidoso Police and Lincoln County Narcotics Enforcement Unit, conducted a

traffic stop.

Police arrested Rusty J. McGuire, 31, on a probation violation and learned that Jessie Roman, 18, had also been present in the park during the shooting.

Officers located Roman hiding in a closet in a bedroom at 302 Utah Street.

A press release from the police department said Roman attempted to escape into the attic when officers attempted to enter the closet. Roman surrendered after police sprayed pepper spray, Oleoresin Capsicum, into the closet.

Police got a search warrant for the residence and reportedly found numerous items of methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia and marijuana.

Drug Task Force officers arrested the residents of the home, Darlene Salas,

29, and Jason Enjady, 29, on charges of child abuse or endangerment, possession of methamphetamines, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana.

Magistrate Judge Lorena LaMay set the bond for Salas and Enjady at \$100,000 cash only, each.

Ruidoso Downs officers charged McGuire with child abuse or endangerment, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of drug paraphernalia and tampering with evidence.

Police have charged Roman with child abuse or endangerment, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, negligent use of a firearm and tampering with evidence.

The driver of the vehicle

in which McGuire was riding was questioned and released. Police obtained a search warrant for the vehicle and reportedly found drug paraphernalia and synthetic marijuana, known as Spice or K-2. Charges are pending on this discovery.

Kenneth Bloomquist, 39, was also an occupant of the vehicle with McGuire. Police arrested Bloomquist on a probation violation.

LaMay had put Bloomquist on probation June 30 for filing a false police report and discharging a firearm within the limits of Ruidoso.

Bloomquist had told Ruidoso police he was shot by two men in a pickup truck who asked for his wallet on May 10. He later confessed to accidentally shooting himself.

good questions
deserve
good answers

Soon, the N.M. Public Regulation Commission will make a final decision on an agreement to increase electric rates. The negotiated agreement was signed on Feb. 3 by several groups that represent consumer interests, including the N.M. Attorney General's office, the N.M. Industrial Energy Consumers and the N.M. PRC Staff. Our customers have asked us questions and deserve clear answers.

Why is this increase necessary?

No one likes rate increases, and we don't like asking for them, but our residential and business customers expect and deserve power that's always there when they need it. This increase pays for improvements we made in response to growing demand for electricity. Our power plant investments will help keep low-cost sources of power serving customers efficiently for years to come. That's important to current customers and to our state's ability to attract new businesses. In 2010 and 2011, PNM will have spent more than \$500 million to improve your electricity system, but those costs aren't currently recovered through rates.

Shouldn't PNM cut its own expenses before asking for a rate increase?

Yes, since 2007, we have reduced our expenses by \$30 million annually and cut the number of executives and our dividends to shareholders by half. Our total workforce is also down by 15 percent since 2007. Even with these cuts, current rates simply don't cover the large improvements PNM needs to make to the system that keeps power reliable for customers.

How will this rate request affect my electric bill?

Directly as a result of this rate increase, the average monthly residential bill will increase about \$6 this year and another \$4 in 2012. Our energy efficiency programs can help you reduce, or even eliminate, these increases without affecting your lifestyle. See suggestions at PNM.com/save.

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OPEN

FROM PAGE 1A

sold out on weekends.

Besides hiking and camping, the Lincoln National Forest had been seeing increased interest in mountain biking.

"It's been extremely slow business-wise," said Cody Thurston, an owner of Ruidoso Outdoor Adventures. "No bike rentals. There's been people coming up and even if they bring their own bikes, supplements, accessory stuff. So it's really slowed down."

Thurston said he plans to celebrate Thursday's forest opener. A mountain bike ride will kick off at 5:30 p.m. at Cedar Creek. After the ride, Ruidoso Outdoor Adventures will provide pizza for the riders.

"I'm very pleased over the forest opening up," said Ruidoso Downs Mayor Tom Armstrong. "I think that we had enough rain here in the area that

this is a good time for Ruidoso Downs to receive more visitors. I think it's safe enough now that as long as they obey the other rules that will be in place. We're a tourist area and we just need these folks up here."

Armstrong said there is an impact when one piece of the area's tourism offerings is missing.

"I know that's what brought me here years ago," the mayor said. "I was a hunter and I enjoyed being in the forest. I love my walks in the forest, looking at the natural environment. You don't just come here for the racetrack. You don't just come here to walk up and down Main Street. You don't just come here to drive through. It's the whole thing together that makes it good."

Earlier this month officials with the Lincoln National Forest said significant rains were needed to lift the closure order issued on May 12.

"Recent precipitation along with higher humidity

and increased fuel moisture that has lowered the fire danger allows me to reopen the Smoke Bear (Ranger District) and the Sacramento Ranger District for public access and use effective July 21, 2011," said Robert Trujillo, the Lincoln National Forest's supervisor. "The Guadalupe Ranger District (in parts of Chaves, Eddy and Otero counties) will remain closed to public access and use as part of the Stage III Fire Restriction Closure Order until the district receives sufficient moisture to decrease the fire danger."

Smokey Bear District Ranger Dave Warnack said Tuesday he "felt comfortable, but not completely comfortable" with the decision.

"My phone has been ringing off the hook," Warnack said. "People are concerned. A lot, including me, are pretty jump after this fire season."

Warnack said the forest service relied on the data in closing the forest

and again the data was used for reopening. Thursday's "We still need to be on guard but the fires are not growing as they were in April and June. We're still not seeing substantial greening, but two fires in the last week went out on their own."

The fire danger on the Smokey Bear Ranger District, which had been at extreme, was turned down to high. The Sacramento Ranger District is not at very high.

In the Sacramento and Smokey Bear districts, restrictions that will remain in place prohibit the use of fire including campfires, stove fires, and the use of charcoal. Smoking will be limited to

an enclosed vehicle or a smoking approved building. Welding or operating torches with an open flame is, off-limits. Using any internal or external combustion engine without a properly working spark arresting device is banned. Chainsaw use will not be allowed between the hours of 10 a.m. through midnight. Fireworks on all national forest lands are always prohibited. People can use pressurized liquid or gas stoves, lanterns or space-heating devices as long as they meet the Underwriters Laboratory specifications for safety.

Trujillo said while the fire danger has decreased, it is not completely gone because rain showers have been scattered

throughout the forest. Ruidoso's Tourism Department is spreading the word about Thursday's renewed access to the Lincoln National Forest in the area. A Media Alert was distributed Tuesday.

"Actually our best partners in getting the word out are the weathermen on the TV stations," Kelley said. "They're really supportive. They love to have things to talk about and they love to talk about Ruidoso. And I'll bet you start seeing that tomorrow. And the Mexican media is all over it. We've just re-upped our digital billboards to start running in August in Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, El Paso and Las Cruces. And we have boards running in Albuquerque so we're getting the word out that way that the forest is reopened."

With more than 10,000 Facebook fans, Ruidoso's Tourism Department is sending the message that way, too.

"We still need to be on guard but the fires are not growing as they were in April and June. We're still not seeing substantial greening, but two fires in the last week went out on their own."

Dave Warnack
Smokey Bear District ranger

HIRE

FROM PAGE 1A



Briseno

"I did my homework on him," Vega said Tuesday. "He's a very professional person who loves his work."

After three interviews with Vega, Briseno was hired on June 28.

Vega said he was not troubled by the accusations against Briseno, as they were just accusations. He said he was impressed by Briseno's honesty, as he was the first to both bring up and explain his history.

involved in a fatal shooting following a high-speed chase in December of 2010 after a Farmington resident robbed a local bank, according to news reports. The resident was forced to stop outside of city limits, where he put a pistol to his head

and threatened suicide. The officers were put on administrative leave following the shooting, which police officials decided was justified.

In December of 2008, he stood trial for misdemeanor battery charges against his daughter's 17-year-old boyfriend to which he plead no contest, The Times reported. He was charged with disorderly conduct, fined \$317, and returned to work.

During October of the same year, he also was accused of violence against a hospital nurse, but charges were not filed and the nurse was fired for making the complaint public, according to news reports.

In 2004, a Farmington resident, Juan Mata, named Briseno, along with five other officers, in a civil rights lawsuit alleging police brutality, news reports show. And in 2003, he was named in a civil rights lawsuit by another Farmington resident, Chester Mitchell, who alleged that Briseno arrested him without probable cause and searched his home without a warrant.

Briseno also worked for the Bloomfield Police Department prior to Farmington, where he was investigated on 22 allegations of police misconduct in 1997, but was cleared of all wrongdoing, the Times reported.

Acting as police commissioner

during the continued absence of a police chief in Carrizozo, Vega said he posted the opening for a police officer in several publications, such as the New Mexico Municipal League newsletter.

Potential applicants were to contact Vega and request an application, which they would then submit for review, the mayor said.

Hired prior to Briseno in June was Steve Barnett, a previous resident of Capitan with 33 years of experience as an officer. Briseno has been an officer for 23 years.

Both officers will remain on probationary status in Carrizozo for six months, after which they could receive a raise.

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Osos keep winning at home

New field manager Tim Ferguson drives from Florida to join Ruidoso team

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

Since July 2, the Ruidoso Osos have played eight home games (July 2-18) and won six of them. In that same time frame they've played seven away games and lost five of those.

In the Pecos League of Professional Baseball, the White Sands Pupfish are in first place, one game in front of the Roswell Invaders.

The Osos and the Las Cruces Vaqueros have settled into third place, tied (28-22, each) and are five games back of the leader.

As of Thursday (and not including Tuesday's game), the Osos have won five out of six (all at home).

Home cooking could be the positive factor here — but so could the fact that a new field manager has taken charge of the day-to-day team strategy on the field as of Friday. Tim Ferguson, of West Palm Beach, Fla., has replaced Kevin Griffin at the helm of

the Osos.

Ferguson spent a year-and-a-half (February 1995-August 1996) in Major League Baseball with the Montreal Expos (as a pitcher). Before that he was a lead instructor with the Bucky Dent School of Baseball for five years.

Subsequent to his stint with the Expos, Ferguson has been a classroom instructor (high school), an assistant baseball coach (high school, youth leagues), an associate scout (Cleveland Indians), manager (Lake Worth Baseball Club), a mortgage loan originator and licensed Realtor, a private baseball instructor (15 years) and head baseball coach (Lake Worth Christian School and Wellington Christian School).

Ferguson drove across the southern tier of the U.S. in order to join the Ruidoso Osos, Friday.

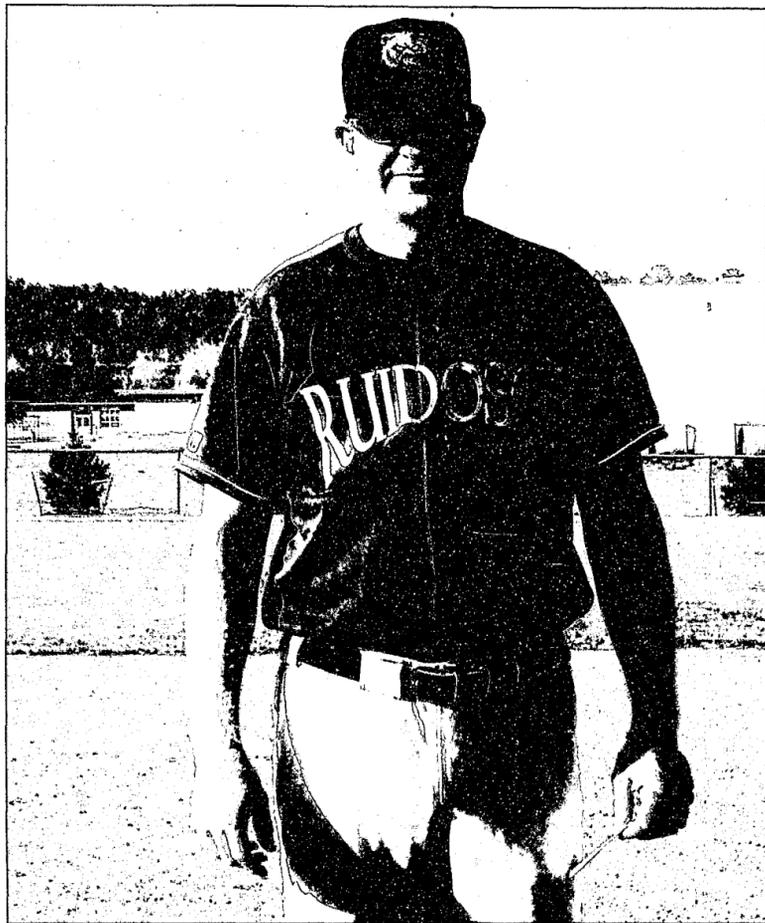
"He readily accepted the challenge of managing the Osos," General Manager Billy Page said. "I know he likes to win."

In Thursday's 10-0 win against the visiting Alpine Cowboys, Osos right-hander Chris Welborn went the distance giving up seven hits over nine innings, with four walks, no errors and three strikeouts. Joel Carranza recorded a home run (his third). Kip Masuda was behind the plate.

Friday, the Osos lost a close one to the Cowboys, 11-9. Californian, Allan Gatz (RHP), was the Ruidoso pitcher of record, going four innings and giving up nine runs on 10 hits and six errors.

Saturday, the Osos got back to their winning home ways by taking down the Cowboys twice, 10-5 and 7-6.

In the first seven-inning contest, left-handed pick-off artist, Cortney "Mr. Pickoff" Nelson (from Alabama) started on the rubber, going four innings, giving up five hits and four runs but led 5-4 at the end of four.



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Tim Ferguson joined the Ruidoso Osos Friday as the new field manager.

side line

Results

Pro Baseball

Thursday, July 14
Osos 10, Alpine Cowboys 0
Friday, July 15
Alpine 11, Osos 9
Saturday, July 16
Osos 10, Alpine 5
Osos 7, Alpine 6
Sunday, July 17
Osos 20, Carlsbad 0
Monday, July 18
Osos 11, Carlsbad 0

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

Wednesday, July 20
Las Cruces at Ruidoso, 4:05 p.m.
Thursday, July 21
Las Cruces at Ruidoso, 4:05 p.m.
Friday, July 22
Las Cruces at Ruidoso, 4:05 p.m.
Saturday, July 23
Las Cruces at Ruidoso, 4:05 p.m.

On Deck

Fantasy Baseball Game

Be a professional baseball player for a day! Play against the "Osos" on Sunday, July 24 at 4 p.m. \$100 donation to play and includes hot dogs and hamburgers after the game, free entrance to the next home game, and an Osos T-shirt.

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.

Erasmus B Dragon first in Zia Futurity trials

TY WYANT
Ruidoso Downs Race Track

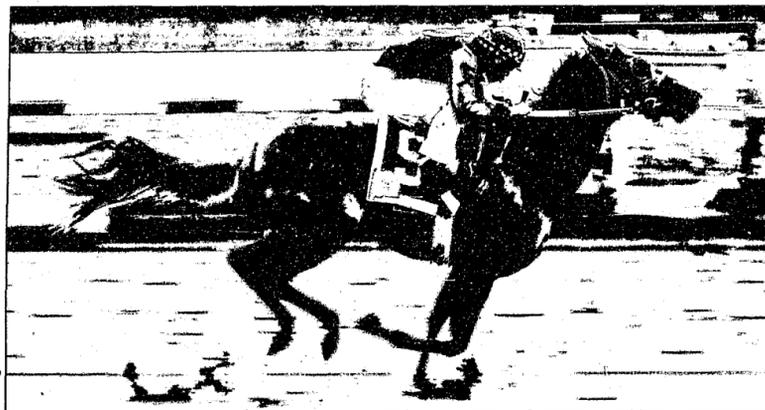
The Paul Jones-owned, bred and -trained Erasmus B Dragon made up for an erratic run in his previous start with professional fastest-qualifying victory in his trial to the \$384,030 Zia Futurity for New Mexico-breds on Friday afternoon at Ruidoso Downs.

The horses with the 10-fastest trials over 400 yards on the wet-fast track qualified to return to race in the Zia Futurity on July 31 at Ruidoso Downs. The Zia Futurity is the richest race during the stakes-filled Zia Festival program. All the races are for New Mexico-breds and the

grandstand is filled with vendors selling their New Mexico-based wares in this celebration of The Land of Enchantment.

Erasmus B Dragon stood out in the seventh of nine Zia Futurity trials when he dominated by two-and-one-half lengths with a :19.519 time. He quickly went to the front under jockey Esgar Ramirez and ran straight down the track while expanding his margin with each stride.

The Stel Corona son made amends for his previous start when he bore out from the inside post position and finished third in a maiden race, only to be disqualified for interference. In his other start, he was third in his Mountain Top



COURTESY RUIDOSO DOWNS RACE TRACK

Erasmus B Dragon gains the fastest time in Friday's Zia Futurity trials.

Futurity trial

The Jones' stable also sent out second-fastest qualifier First Blazin Love, winner of the third trial

with a :19.546 time under G.R. Carter Jr. The Chicks A Blazin son drew out to win by two lengths for owners D. Johnson, Lisa

Saumell and Sammy Martinez.

First Blazin Love is

See ZIA, page 2B

Danley, Marr set pace in Señorita, Señor Futurity trials

TY WYANT
Ruidoso Downs Race Track

The two-year-old divisions of trainers Fred Danley and Joel Marr showed considerable potential in the trials to the \$156,289 Señorita Futurity and the \$149,249 Señor Futurity at Ruidoso Downs on Sunday afternoon.

The Señorita Futurity is for New Mexico-bred fillies while the Señor Futurity is run for New Mexico-bred males.

The top-three finishers in the five-and-one-half furlong trials qualify for their respective finals during the Zia Festival celebrating New Mexico-bred racing on July 31 at Ruidoso Downs.

The final spot in the Señor Futurity and the

Señorita Futurity will be determined by a blind draw between the fourth-place trial finishers in each of the sets of trials.

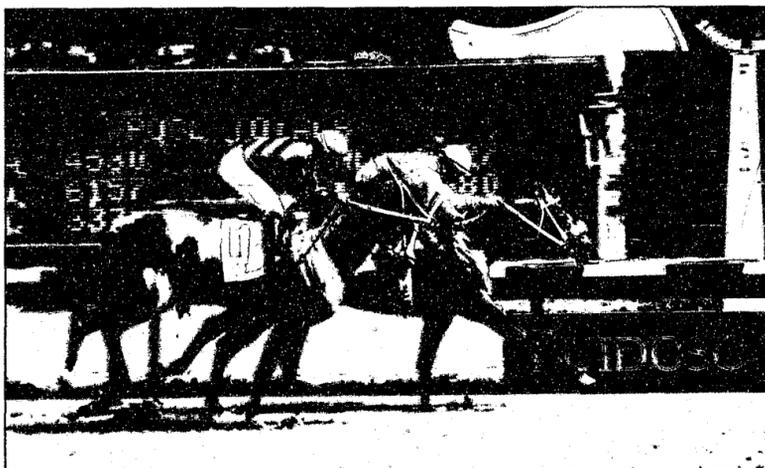
Danley won two of the three Señorita Futurity trials and one Señor Futurity trial.

Marr took the other two Señor Futurity trials. The remaining Señorita Futurity trial was won by the Ross Amestoy-trained Our Flying Angel, who could become the Señorita Futurity favorite.

Our Flying Angel impressed in her first start while drawing away through the stretch to defeat the Marr-trained Quinton's Doll Who by more than 11 lengths.

The Marr-trained New Gold finished third.

Danley's first Señorita



COURTESY RUIDOSO DOWNS RACE TRACK

The Fred Danley-trained Boy Ego wins his Señor Futurity trial Sunday over Desert Road.

Futurity trial winner came with Wilbert Layne's Layne's Best made a five-wide move on the turn and drew clear in the final fur-

long to win by one-and-three-quarter lengths.

Runner-up Lady Annabell and third-place finisher Silence And Solitude

also qualified for that trial.

Danley came back in the next Señorita trial to

See SENOR, page 2B

OSOS

FROM PAGE 1B

Nelson doesn't mind giving up a single here and there because it gives him another chance to take the player out with his sweet pickoff move to first base. And he has a definite philosophy about the game: "Baseball is my girlfriend and I would never cheat on her," he adamantly states. His attitude about pitching to hitters is: "You have to talk to them (batters and umpires) with your pitches."

Right-hander, Andrew Plotkin, came on in relief of Nelson, giving up two runs in the sixth inning and both teams found themselves knotted at six runs apiece at the end of six.

Right-hander, Mike Devito, came on in relief of Plotkin in the top of the seventh and blanked the Cowboys on no hits.

In the last inning of reg-



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

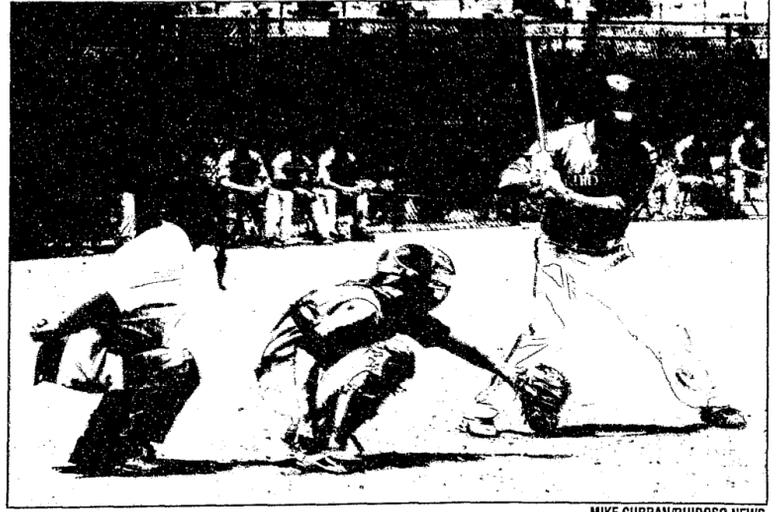
"Mr. Pickoff," Cortney Nelson, decides to go home this time.

ulation play, the Osos brought the winning run across the dish on an Eddie Browne single, a single by Chris Juarez, which advanced Browne to second and a timely double by Carranza that brought Browne across the plate for the winning run.

Devito won as the pitcher of record.

In the second game of the double-dip, Leo Madrid (LHP) went the distance giving up five runs on seven hits and three walks, while recording three strikeouts.

Drew Peterson went three for four and collected



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

Chris Juarez takes one low for a ball in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

two RBIs. Juarez (.292, currently) went two for four and drove in three runs. Casey Kahsen, recorded one hit, but it was a big three-run homer.

Monday's contest saw the Osos easily take down the visiting Carlsbad Bats in nine innings, 11-0,

behind some strong pitching by right-handed starter Erick Campos who got the win and now goes 3-0 for the season.

Edgar Correa came on in relief to hurl two scoreless innings, followed by Billy Robbet who pitched the eighth inning and lefty,

Jonathon Means, who mopped up in the ninth.

After Monday's game Case Rigby is hitting at a torrid .390 pace and leads the Pecos League in RBIs with 58, Kahsen is right behind Rigby at .389 and Browne is currently hitting .378.

ZIA

FROM PAGE 1B

undefeated from two starts with a three-quarter-length win in his Mountain Top Futurity trial in his first start.

Gary Kloppenburg's homebred Sparklin Royal prevailed by a neck over Karolina in the fifth trial and they raced to the third- and fifth-fastest qualifying times.

Sparklin Royal stopped the clock in:19.684 while Karolina was timed in

:19.734.

The Carlos Sedillo-trained Sparklin Royal was winless in her first four starts, but has stepped up with back-to-back wins.

He was a three-quarter length maiden winner in his previous start.

Elmer Criswell and

Fredda Draper's Karolina, a homebred daughter of Desirio, raced to best finish from four starts in the trial.

The Carl Draper-trained filly was third in a maiden race two starts ago.

The program ended when Marty Cope's Charlie Waffles Jr won the ninth

trial and gave jockey Cody Jensen a win on the day he came back from a six-month layoff caused by a hip injury.

The injury required major surgery with two plates and eight screws inserted to stabilize the joint, followed by extensive

rehabilitation.

The Mike Joiner-trained Charlie Waffles Jr raced to the fourth fastest time of :19.721 for his first win in his second start.

He was ninth in his career debut and overlooked at 22-1 odds in his Zia Futurity trial.

SENIOR

FROM PAGE 1B

win with Sandia Sonata and finish second with favored Roll Bloomers

Roll. Easy Loving Who, from the Marr barn, finished third and qualified for the final.

The veteran Danley won his Señor Futurity trial when Rita Danley's Boy Ego took his maiden

at first asking with a game win over the Todd Fincher-trained Desert Road.

Mr. Wizard never threatened the frontrunners, however grabbed third place and a spot in the Señor Futurity.

Marr won the other two Señor Futurity trials with Who Left Who and That's Who.

Who Left Who, making his career debut, raced like he has a bright future while setting the pace and

then exhibiting class by repelling a challenge from I Do My Own Tricks through the stretch.

Supersonic Star was third after racing near the lead.

That's Who, the 13-10

favorite, got a trip along the rail to grab the lead and then held off Mountain Top Futurity third-place finisher Band Of Glory to win by a neck.

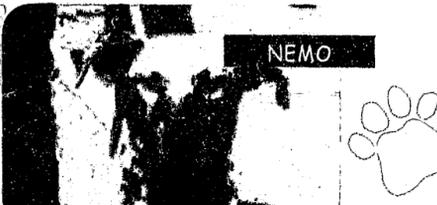
Golden Prospector was a qualifying third.

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NEMO

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MISHKA

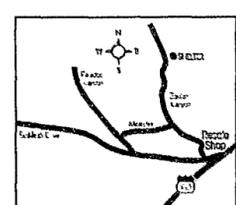
WAS FOUND ABANDONED AT THE SHELTER WITH HER THREE KITTENS WHO AT THE TIME WERE JUST PAYS OLD. SHE WAS STARVING AND PERISHED TRYING HER BEST TO TAKE CARE OF HER KITTENS. FAST FORWARD 2 MONTHS AND MISHKA AND HER KITTENS ARE ALL READY TO BE ADOPTED. THROUGHOUT THE TIME THAT SHE HAS BEEN IN THE SHELTER, MISHKA IS WONDERFUL WITH OTHER CATS/KITTENS, VERY OUTGOING AND AFFECTIONATE AND DESERVING OF A WONDERFUL, PERMANENT HOME.

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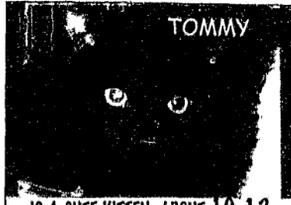
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|  <p>BESS</p> <p>IS A CALM, SWEET, WELL BEHAVED LAB MIX AND IS ABOUT 10 MONTHS OLD. SHE WALKS EXCELLENT ON A LEASH AND IS VERY ATTENTIVE AND WILLING TO LEARN. BESS WEIGHS JUST OVER 50 POUNDS.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY EARL & JEAN GREMILLION</p> |  <p>BONITA</p> <p>IS A CUTE HEELER MIX THAT WAS BROUGHT IN BY ANIMAL CONTROL WITH HER 5 PUPPIES. SHE HAD BEEN LOOSE IN THE RUIDOSO AREA FOR QUITE A WHILE, BUT NOT TRUSTING ENOUGH OF PEOPLE TO EASILY BE CAPTURED. NOW THAT SHE IS SAFE, SHE IS VERY FRIENDLY AND SWEET. BONITA LOVES TO GO ON WALKS AND JUST WANTS TO BE WITH PEOPLE!</p> <p>SPONSORED BY PAT BREEDING</p> |  <p>DUKE</p> <p>IS A VERY HANDSOME SHEPHERD MIX PUPPY. HE IS ABOUT 9-10 WEEKS OLD AND HAS BEEN IN A FOSTER HOME SINCE HE WAS ABOUT 3 WEEKS OLD WITH HIS 6 LITTERMATES. DUKE IS VERY WELL SOCIALIZED AND WILL MAKE A GREAT FAMILY PET.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY RUIDOSO NEWS</p> |  <p>LAMBCHOP</p> <p>IS A PRETTY CHOW/HEELER MIX. SHE IS SOLID WHITE/CREAM AND HAS A MEDIUM/LONG LENGTH COAT. LAMBCHOP WAS SURRENDERED TO US BECAUSE SHE DID NOT DO WELL WITH THE OWNERS CHICKENS. SHE DOES DO WELL WITH OTHER DOGS AND WOULD BE MUCH HAPPIER IN A HOME WHERE SHE GETS MUCH MORE ATTENTION THAN SHE WAS BEFORE. SHE IS SPAYED AND CURRENT ON HER VACCINATIONS AS WELL.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY MIKE & PJ SCHUSTER PROPERTIES 575-257-4345</p> |  <p>JENNY</p> <p>IS A GREAT PUPPY, SHE WALKS EXCELLENT ON A LEASH, LOVES OTHER PUPPIES AND IS VERY SOCIAL. JENNY WAS BROUGHT INTO THE SHELTER AFTER ANIMAL CONTROL REMOVED HER FROM AN UNATTENDED VEHICLE. SHE WAS HOT, THIRSTY AND A BIT LETHARGIC. SHE IS DOING FABULOUS AND IS READY FOR A LOVING HOME.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY WILLIAM HARALSON & ASSOCIATES WWW.WLHA-INC.COM 575-808-1522</p> |
|  <p>TOMMY</p> <p>IS A CUTE KITTEN, ABOUT 10-12 WEEKS OLD. HE WAS FROM A HOME WITH OTHER CATS AND DOGS AND IS VERY WELL SOCIALIZED. TOMMY HAS SHORT HAIR AND IS SOLID BLACK.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY LINDA LUCKE INTERIORS, LLC 575-258-5881</p> |  <p>CECIL</p> <p>IS A SHORT HAIREP SOLID GRAY KITTEN AND IS ABOUT 10 WEEKS OLD. HE WAS FOUND WITH HIS 2 OTHER LITTERMATES IN A LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD HERE IN RUIDOSO. CECIL IS IS FRIENDLY AND VERY PLAYFUL.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY MARY BETH FOWLER</p> |  <p>NESSBITT</p> <p>IS A WONDERFUL SENIOR (9 YEARS OLD) CAT IN NEED OF A PERMANENT HOME. HE WAS SURRENDERED TO US IN FEBRUARY AND HAS BEEN IN A FOSTER HOME SINCE APRIL. NESSBITT IS VERY AFFECTIONATE AND EASY GOING.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY  HANNA'S CAT</p> |  <p>SPENCER</p> <p>IS A VERY SWEET CAT WHO IS VERY SOCIAL WITH PEOPLE AND OTHER CATS. HE IS VERY MELLOW AND EASY GOING. HE IS DECLEAWED ON HIS FRONT PAWS, NEUTERED, CURRENT ON HIS VACCINATIONS AND MICROCHIPPED.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY JOANIE HOLT</p> |  <p>MATYLDA</p> <p>Is about 10-12 weeks old and a tortoiseshell in color. She is from a home with lots of other dogs and kittens so she is already well socialized. Matylda is ready to find a permanent home.</p> <p>SPONSORED BY RENA WALSH</p> |

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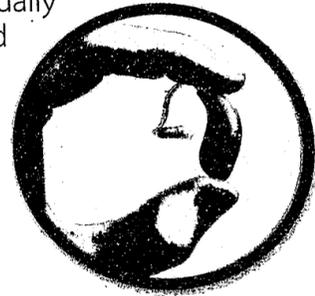
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LINCOLN COUNTY

Carrizozo appoints new trustee, officers

ERIK BEARER
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

The Carrizozo Town Council meeting on July 18 saw the appointment of a new Trustee Yovanne Lucero, to replace Tim Thompson as the latest appointment to the municipal leadership of Carrizozo.

Thompson's official letter of resignation stated that having completed the planning and zoning project for which he initially took the position, he saw no reason to remain, as he was not politically aligned with

the current government.

Lucero is a four-year resident of Carrizozo and works in the Lincoln County Assessor's Office.

Mayor Dennis Vega announced that acting as police commissioner due to the continued lack of a police chief, he had hired officers Steve Barnett and Mike Briseno to the force in order to save about \$40,000 in grant money from the Law Enforcement Protection Fund that pays for police expenses and equipment.

If a city fails to have offi-

cers employed at the beginning or end of the year, it will lose the entirety of the grant, Vega said.

Vega said he still was waiting to hear back from three applicants for police chief.

One of the new officers, Steve Barnett said he has been proactive with the department as he works to save current funds and generate new money through warrants and tickets.

Barnett's current project is to recover the loss of an Operation DWI grant of

about \$5,000.

"We lost everything allotted to us for the 2011 year," Barnett said, though he has since managed to recoup \$2,014 to be used by Oct 1 for DWI enforcement.

Barnett said he plans to stripe current police cars in order to comply with Operation DWI rules requiring cars to be visibly marked and begin "saturation patrols" to enforce laws. The marking will be done within the month, according to Barnett.

Additionally, a memorandum of understanding

was approved between Carrizozo and Capitan, allowing the mutual exchange of municipal services between the towns.

"Like Capitan - they have a roller, they have a water truck, and they can help us," Vega said, adding that equipment would be first used to repair streets in Carrizozo.

Mayor Sam Hammons of Capitan also was behind the memorandum.

"I'd like to see more of this participation between cities," Hammons said on Tuesday. "We have talked

to (Carrizozo) periodically. This is something we need in order for this to be legal."

Vega said he also was talking to Tularosa and Corona about extending a similar memorandum, but Capitan was the first to respond.

The town also accepted the \$13,000 bid of Chad Harvey Drilling Inc. to drill a new irrigation well for the Valle Del Sol subdivision, following a breakdown of its irrigation pump due to lack of pressure. Half of the cost will be paid by Valle Del Sol, Vega said.

GIVING A COWBOY A HELPING HAND



DANA TERLECKY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Left, members of the GQ Cattle Co. team, must rope, subdue, and milk a wild cow during the Wild Milking part of the Ranch Rodeo.

JULIE CARTER/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Above, County Fair Board President Billy Bob Shafer lays a good loop for his Los Viejos team during the 4th Annual Benefit Ranch Rodeo in Capitan on Saturday. Proceeds went to the Cowboy Crisis Fund and are allocated by the decision of the County Fair Board to benefit one Lincoln County resident in need. The winning team was the Blackwater Ranch team, followed by the Black Hills Ranch team in second, and the Los Viejos Ranch team in third.

The Lincoln County mounted riflemen

“Lawyer Huston Chapman's insistent and persistent efforts to accelerate a reformation in Lincoln

County affairs ended in stark tragedy. About noon hour on February 18, 1879, while standing in front of the post office in Lincoln, Chapman was shot.

With several bullets in his body, any one of which would have caused his death, Chapman died almost instantly.

Eyewitnesses claimed that the bullets which

killed Chapman had been fired from pistols held in the hands of William Campbell and Jesse Evans, two notorious outlaws, and that William H.

Bonney, for once in his life a spectator instead of a participant, had witnessed the killing at close range.” - “Violence in Lincoln County” 1869-1881 by William A. Keleher.

This is from the book that

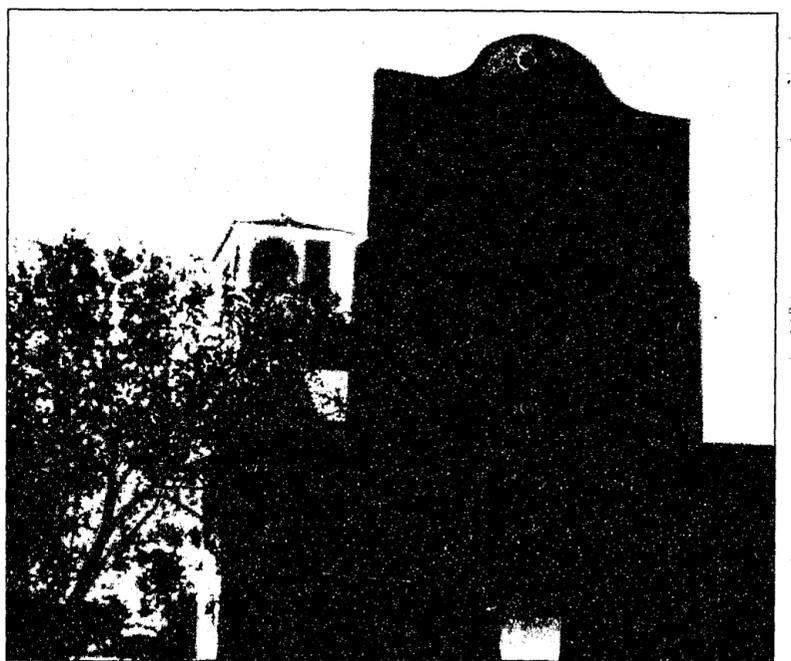
led me to find out that my ancestor was involved in the drama in Lincoln and areas.

This is the list of the

mounted riflemen of Territorial forces under orders of Gov. Lew Wallace during part of the Lincoln County War: Juan B Patron (captain), Ben H. Ellis, Martin Sanchez, Camilo Nunez, Elias Gray, Ramon Montoya, Estolano Sanchez (my ancestor), Trinidad Vigil, Fernando Herrera, Jesus Rodriguez, Juan Pedro Torrez, Martin Chavez, Florencio Chavez, Jose Chavez y Chavez, Maximiano Chavez, Romulo Frezquez, Gregorio Giron, T. B. Longworth, Eugenio Maldonado, Pablo Miranda, Manuel Martin, Santiago Maes, Martin Montoya, Zenon More, Trinidad Romero, Manual Romero, Crescencio Sanchez, Jose Maria Sanchez, Esiquio Sanchez, Franco Sanchez y Gonzales, Higinio Salazar, Jose Salazar, J.C. Wilkins, George Washington, Alex Rudder, and Ramon Vigil.

A historical marker near San Juan church notes the secret meeting where Billy agrees to testify as a witness to the Chapman murder.

To make a long story short...after the meeting, Wallace went to his



POLLY E CHAVEZ/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

A historic marker stands at the site of the meeting between Bonney and Gov. Wallace.

Lincoln camp and Bonney to his hideout near San Patricio.

Billy's mock arrest by Sheriff Gorge Kimbrell, who sided with Billy in the county troubles, was held in a makeshift jail in a store room owned by Juan Patron, his personal friend and captain of the Lincoln County Riflemen.

Maurice G. Fulton's "History of the Lincoln County War": "In making this arrest Gov. Wallace had brought forward a local militia he had organized.

One of the drawbacks to law enforcement was the lack of territorial militia.

To remedy this, Gov. Wallace organized a com-

pany composed of men in and around Lincoln.

This was probably the "posse of citizens" mentioned in the note to Captain Purington, which had taken the designation "Lincoln Country Mounted Rifles" but was called derisively, especially by those who disapproved, "the Governor's Heel-flies."

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Midkiff discusses Eagle Creek suit

■ Bill Midkiff and Randy Camp were set to discuss the lawsuit at the Republican Party meeting. Camp was not there, Midkiff made his points.

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

What was billed by the Lincoln County Republican Party as a program to give residents two sides of a debate over pumping of village wells on the North Fork of Eagle Creek in the Lincoln National Forest turned out to be a unilateral presentation last week.

Bill Midkiff, Ph.D. showed up for the verbal duel, but Ruidoso's Utility Director Randall Camp sent his apologies, citing an allergy flare-up in the family, those in the audience were told.

Village Manager Debi Lee at the village council's meeting the next day elaborated that Camp was not consulted when the date for the presentation was set and already had planned a vacation.

Forest Service sued

Midkiff, one of the founders of the Eagle Creek Conservation Association that sued the U.S. Forest Service for allowing the village to pump its wells on the North Fork of Eagle Creek after a permit expired in 1996, said he retired from the Los Alamos Laboratories and moved to Lincoln County.

At that time, Eagle Creek "was running under our feet." Since then, the creek only flows infrequently, old growth cottonwoods have died and a 25-year-old well went dry. He formed the association with neighbors to try to restore the creek, he said.

Clearing up "myths"

Midkiff said he would use his time at the podium to clear up some myths.

The target of the lawsuit filed by the association was the U.S. Forest Service, not the village of Ruidoso, although the town later was allowed to become an intervenor, he said.

Not included

The Wild Earth Guardians, formerly Forest Guardians, were not

involved in the suit.

That organization was a plaintiff in another suit with Midkiff in which the village and the city of Ruidoso Downs were sued for violating national pollution discharge standards in the Rio Ruidoso at the regional wastewater plant they share.

As his second point, Midkiff said the association is not trying to take the village's water rights. "No where in the settlement is a water right mentioned," he said. "It's about the expiration of the permit. It's about the failure of the U.S. Forest Service and the village."

Not intermittent

His third point was to refute the contention that Eagle Creek always was an intermittent stream. He referred the audience to a booklet prepared by resili, those in the audience were told. "The Killing of Eagle Creek, an environmental tragedy."

In 1983, the stream supported a self-sustaining population of Brook trout, Midkiff said. The Johnson book refers to Brook and Rainbow trout flourishing.

In speaking to old-timers, Midkiff said they contend the creek flowed all the time, especially in the summer cabin area. A fish hatchery operated where the cabins sit today, he said.

"When the (village) wells went on line, it went dry," Midkiff said.

Not the drought

His fourth point was to stop blaming the drought. Based on his own study, the same amount of precipitation produced in earlier years produced more underground water resource recharge than after the wells were pumped.

He objects when someone says to trust consultants to determine how much water is available.

That results in a consultant interpreting his own tests, Midkiff said.

Initially, village officials were told they had 9,000 acre feet of water available, he said. One acre foot equates to 325,850 gallons of water. Midkiff said the state engineer reduced that figure to 5,640 acre feet with proof of beneficial use.

More recently, the state engineer adjusted the total downward again to 1,700

acre feet, he told the audience. Between 550 acre feet to 700 acre feet actually is pumped in a year, he said.

"The Forest Service now is proposing 300 acre feet based on the documented annual actual recharge," he said. "It appears nature determines the water supply, not consultants or intervenors."

The association argued that the village should not be allowed to augment the creek if flow dips below a certain level.

Instead, an automatic cutoff switch should stop pumping of the wells.

"We've been joined in opposition to augmentation by the Lincoln County Commission," he said.

Residents along the creek gladly would take surface water for their use, but the creek is dry. Pumping of the village wells created a cone of depression that could spread, he said, adding that he has photographs of dying trees and sink holes that formed when the underground water level retreated and the limestone above it collapsed.

Applause

He received applause when he cited his seventh point, beginning with, "We're from the government and we're here to help you."

"We've never asked for anything but compliance with the rules," Midkiff said. "The Forest Service has allowed the village to pump since the permit expired in 1996 (using an annually-renewed agreement)."

Midkiff cited as a myth that the money paid to consultants over the years by the village was justified. He referenced a \$900,000 "finder's fee" for drilling five wells in a flowing creek.

The village's experts contended the wells were separated from the aquifer used by domestic wells and would not affect them, he said.

Despite that questionable advice, "Now they're budgeting another half million dollars," he said.

The money would better be used to create more storage capacity to hold excess runoff when nature sends it, he said. Storm water harvesting should be a major thrust.

Instead, "they're fund-

ing the same consultants who got them here," he said.

Restore the stream

Although the village reduced water loss connected to leaking lines, more should be done, Midkiff said, adding, "That's our opinion, but our mission is to restore the trout stream."

The ninth myth is that the two sides can't work together because of the litigation and because the association is trying to take away the village's water rights on the creek, he said.

"The village refused to speak to us since 2003, when I presented the first reduced flow (data)," Midkiff said. "The lawsuit ended five years ago when they signed the stipulation to comply. Yet residents are being urged to protest any reduction in the village rights to pump the North Fork wells."

Permit moving

The extensive Environmental Impact Statement required by the Forest Service before it can issue a permit is moving forward and the results can be used to benefit more than just a municipal water supply, he said.

"There's enough water to go around if it is well-managed," he said. "I found a few errors in the U.S. Geological Survey study (performed on Eagle Creek) so we're asking for more evaluation. I read that the village wants to submit new data, but one of the overseers said no new data would be considered. Two hydrologists were hired to re-evaluate the USGS study and compare it to (data from) our hydrologist and the village's hydrologist. We just wait for findings and the tentative proposal, then it is reopened to the public again."

Village officials could have used the last eight years storing water especially during the couple of heavy rainfall seasons, finishing repairs to Grindstone Reservoir and improving Alto Reservoir, he said.

Councilor curious

Gloria Sayers, a relatively new Ruidoso councilor sitting in the audience, said she repeatedly has been told how complicated the village's water

"I caught trout in Bonito Creek and skinny dipped in some of the deep holes. It's sad to see many creeks drying up. We need to look at the whole water situation on a regional basis."

Tom Battin
Lincoln County Commissioner

system and water rights accounting system are and she has never fully understood, so she has left that area to other councilors and experts.

"But I'm very curious from a citizen's point of view," she said. "As the water rights issue has been presented to me as a councilor, we can't afford to lose (any of the North Fork well rights). There are 12,000 people who need water."

Come to a meeting

She recommended Midkiff come to a council meeting to discuss the issue, but Midkiff said he's been through three forest supervisors, five rangers, many councilors and, "I haven't gotten a hearing yet." His

association sued only after the village stonewalled for three years, he said.

Lincoln County Commissioner Tom Battin thanked Midkiff for enlightening him on the issue.

"It's sad to look at Eagle Creek and see it dry," he said. "I caught trout in Bonito Creek and skinny dipped in some of the deep holes. It's sad to see many creeks drying up. We need to look at the whole water situation on a regional basis."

"Twelve thousand people depend on those wells regardless of how they got there," Battin said. "They provide 60 percent to 70 percent of the village's supply. It behooves us to find solutions, not like the U.S. Congress. The state engineer said he favors communities that develop regional water agreements."

Midkiff said he's not saying the interested parties won't ever speak again, but, "We threw the party and the village did not come. The debate is no longer a debate, it's a process. All the parties signed the settlement with federally mandated requirements."

§Jack H. Wallace

1935-2011

Former Ruidoso Downs Jockey, Jack H. Wallace, passed away unexpectedly July 11, 2011. Jack was born in Columbus Ohio, June 14, 1935 to Charles and Pauline Wallace. Jack is known for many years of riding and winning many top Thoroughbred races and is best known for winning the "All American Futurity" in 1965 on a horse named, Savannah Jr.

Those who knew Jack were always quick to say "He's a real Gentleman". Jack's love of Horse Racing, Music, Family and Friends was always apparent to all who knew him.

Jack is survived by his daughter, Bonnie "Wallace" Anderson, grandson Levi, brother, Chuck Wallace and sister, JoAnn "Sis" Parker. Memorial contributions can be made to the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack Chapel, P.O. Box 449, Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346.

Condolences can be made at www.lagroneruidoso.com.

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§Julian Wells

1928-2011

Memorial service for Julian Wells, 82, of Ruidoso will be Thursday, July 21, at 2:00 PM at the Community United Methodist Church in Ruidoso. Mr. Wells passed June 30, 2011 at his home. He was born December 27, 1928 at Spur, Texas and served in the Army during World War II.

He moved to Ruidoso 15 years ago from Denver, Colorado and was a retired hospital administrator. He is survived by a nephew, Mark Wells.

Condolences may be sent to the family at
www.lagroneruidoso.com.

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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 Raean 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.

§Virginia L. (Dial) Stagner

Virginia L. (Dial) Stagner, age 90, of Clovis, died July 11, 2011.

She is survived by her daughter, Phyllis Fulcher of Clovis; three sons, Jack Jr. (Sue) of Corrales, NM, Jerry (Sheila) of Truth or Consequences, NM, and Dan (Maria Elena) of Ruidoso, NM; 18 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; and a brother, Jack Dial of Amarillo, Texas.

A memorial service for the celebration of Virginia's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, 2011 at Steed-Todd Chapel with Pastor Alan McAlister officiating. Burial will follow at Lawn Haven Memorial Gardens. Cremation has taken place.

Arrangements are by Steed-Todd Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 800 E. Manana Blvd., Clovis, New Mexico 88101, (575) 763-5541. Visit www.steedtodd.com to sign the online guestbook.

§Kent Windsor Taylor

1943-2011

Kent Taylor was born October 26, 1944 in Providence, RI. Mr. Taylor was 67 years old at the time of death and had lived for 20 years in Ruidoso, NM. He loved the climate, Indian Lore & Legends & the small town feel of Ruidoso.

During his life as an educator Mr. Taylor served as a school teacher in the Las Cruces Public School System and NM State University System. Mr. Taylor taught teenagers and adults English Literature, Composition & Language. He was fluent in English, French & Latin languages.

Having been a single man throughout his life Mr. Taylor is survived by his brother Rayner Taylor, 69 yrs, of Mission Viejo, CA and his sister Beverly Klein, 70 yrs, of El Dorado Hills, CA.

One of Mr. Taylor's great pleasures in life was classical music. He was a member of the New Mexico Symphony for many years where he played the First Chair Bassoon. Mr. Taylor was also talented with the Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone, Piano & Organ.

Mr. Taylor died quietly of complications associated with Leukemia at the Mcscaler Care Center on Sunday, July 17, 2011.

Public gets input on county master plan

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

A Knoxville, Tenn., firm will put together the master plan for development, including a new Road Department yard, of about 20 acres the county purchased last year around the Lincoln County Fairgrounds.

As part of the brainstorming process with architects, the public is invited to attend a community forum from 6 to 7:30 p.m. today at the fairgrounds in Capitan.

County commissioners welcome input on how the fairground could be improved, expanded or re-envisioned to better suit the needs of the community.

County commissioners at their June meeting selected Poulous of Knoxville and Norman, Okla., which scored 459 points out of a possible 500. NCA Architects of Albuquerque scored 420 points.

The qualifications-based award included consideration of experience in creating fairground master plans, the firm's capacity and capability, the firm's past record of performance, the proposed plan and timeline for developing the plan, and the estimated cost of the project, said County Manager Tom Stewart.

In addition to advertising the requests for proposals, copies of the request for proposals were sent to 10 firms that might be inter-

ested, Stewart said. The proposals from the two firms that responded were opened June 7, and evaluated by a committee of five, including two members of the Lincoln County Fair Board, which manages the fairground in Capitan.

"It was each evaluator's overall opinion that Populous offered the most experience in fairground master planning," he said. "The list of Populous' projects was extensive and the estimated price for the contract was within budget."

Stewart recommended a study committee be established to meet with Populous staff during an initial two- to three-day period.

Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo said the company's previous projects

were "excellent."

But Commissioner Mark Doth hesitated.

"I've done RFP's before and I thought Populous was all (form) and no substance, except it appeared to have more experience."

However, he noticed an asterisk next to several of their projects that indicated they accomplished them with other firms, he said.

"Both (companies) claim to be working at the State Fair in Albuquerque and it looks like NCA was getting all the work done. I'm not sure what Populous was doing. NCA seemed to understand the project, while Populous put in pretty picture. I have little red flags going up. Can these guys get the job done?," Doth said. "I'm being the

devil's advocate."

Stewart said Populous tackled a Curry County facility and the manager there, "was doing cartwheels," he was so pleased.

Commissioner Jackie Powell said she likes seeing photographs of past projects a company planned and completed.

Stewart explained that once a master plan is in place, although construction could take years, "at least we will not mess up the property."

He also distinguished the master plan from the actual design for construction, which he said could be awarded to another firm, such as NCA.

Commissioner Kathryn Minter said because the fairground is located within

her district, she would like to serve on the committee that meets with Populous initially, along with several key fairground officials.

"My vision is to maximize every inch of that land for the future use of any entities that might like to use it," Powell said.

Commissioner Tom Battin asked if Populous has a deadline to produce the master plan.

Stewart said no deadline was set but he anticipated about two to three months.

"NCA had a better timeline, but the difference we saw was the extensive experience," the manager said. "NCA had construction projects more than planning," he said.

Battin offered the successful motion for approval.

COWBOY CAMP WITH ALL THE FIXINS

COWBOY DINNER MENU

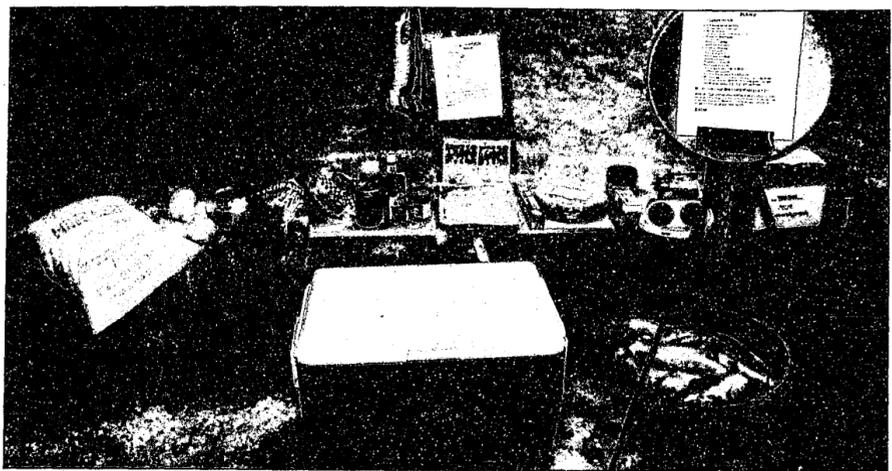
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- Corn Bread Mix
- Dinner Rolls
- Pound of Butter
- Salt and Pepper
- Steak Rub and Steak Sauce
- Coffee w/ sugar
- Plates, Cups and Silverware
- 1- Bale of hay for "Son" *At the fee of a... (or your favorite horse that feels really good in the early morning, leaving you on foot)*

For dessert a Gail Major homemade peach pie

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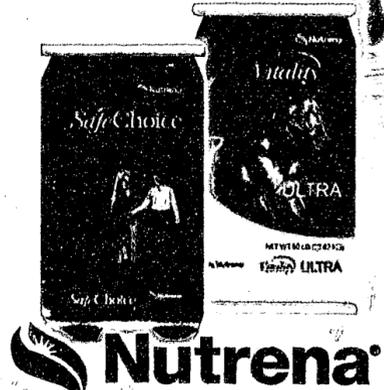


JULIE CARTER/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

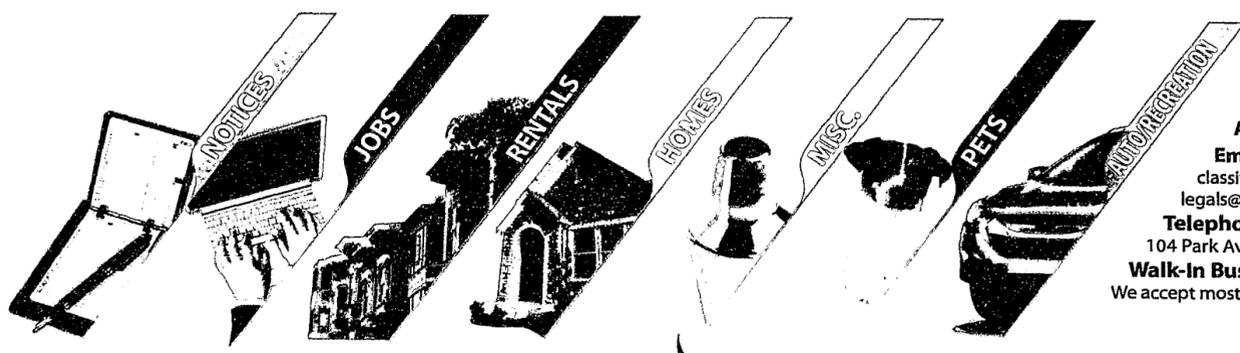
This "Cowboy Camp" went for \$775 in the Ranch Rodeo Benefit Auction in Capitan Saturday. Donated by Bruce Baker (with peach pie and homemade rolls and jam by Gail Major) the camp was complete with hay, the cooler, steaks, and more. The menu, right, shows all the food that Baker and Major included.

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J&G Electric of Roswell, NM will build a solar carport at Roswell Hyundai and install a grid tied solar voltaic system on the roof of the carport generating approximately 100 KW of solar power. Roswell Hyundai is participating in Xcel Energy Solar*Rewards program that encourages customers to install their own solar generation and then rewards them by purchasing the renewable energy certificates these installations generate. Xcel plans to add utility-grade solar generating capacity that could become the largest in the state. For more information on solar panel installation contact J&G Electric at 512 S. Main, Roswell NM 88203 (575) 622-0146.

How Solar Energy Works

Solar energy—power from the sun—is a vast and inexhaustible resource. Once a system is in place to convert it into useful energy, the fuel is free and will never be subject to the ups and downs of energy markets. Furthermore, it represents a clean alternative to the fossil fuels that currently pollute our air and water, threaten our public health, and contribute to global warming. Given the abundance and the appeal of solar energy, this resource is poised to play a prominent role in our energy future.

Passive Solar Design for Buildings

One simple, obvious use of the sun is to light and heat our buildings. Residential and commercial buildings account for more than one-third of U.S. energy use. If properly designed, buildings can capture the sun's heat in the winter and minimize it in the summer, while using daylight year-round. Buildings designed in such a way utilize passive solar energy—a resource that can be tapped without mechanical means to help heat, cool, or light a building. Simple design features such as properly orienting a house toward the south, putting most windows on the south side of the building, skylights, awnings, and shade trees are all techniques for exploiting passive solar energy. Buildings constructed with the sun in mind can be comfortable and beautiful places to live and work.

Solar Heat Collectors

Besides using design features to maximize their use of the sun, some buildings have systems that actively gather and store solar energy. Solar collectors, for example, sit on the rooftops of buildings to collect solar energy for space heating, water heating, and space cooling. Most are large, flat boxes painted black on the inside and covered with glass. In the most common design, pipes in the box carry liquids that transfer the heat from the box into the building. This heated liquid—usually a water-alcohol mixture to prevent freezing—is used to heat water in a tank or is passed through radiators that heat the air.

Solar Energy information obtained from Union of Concerned Scientists – Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions
www.ucsusa.org/ and Xcel Energy
www.xcelenergy.com/

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Equus offers a forward-view cornering camera. From its vantage point at the top of the grille, the camera provides an extra margin of safety for negotiating tight alleys and parking spaces. The wide-angle image is displayed on the central in-dash navigation screen at low parking speeds, then switches back to the navigation mode at higher driving speeds



Exterior

The Equus engineers had the enviable task of setting a new design standard for an entire line of vehicles. Starting with the distinctive front grille, deliberate lines continue from the hood through the body to show off the staggered-width 19-inch chrome wheels. LED turn signals with HID Xenon headlights, sculpted front fog lights, and the distinctive air intake further set the Equus apart in a field of conventional rivals.

Performance Wheels

Equus has been engineered for performance from the ground up. 19-inch chrome alloy wheels with staggered-width performance tires (P245/45R19 in front and P275/40R19 in the rear) not only give the Equus a formidable look, but ensure superior handling.

Advanced HID Xenon Headlights

Stylish LED turn signal indicators frame the front Xenon High Intensity Discharge (HID) headlights. The Adaptive Front Lighting System (AFLS) turns with the vehicle's steering angle so that upcoming curves and intersections receive maximum illumination. The sophisticated auto-leveling headlights also keep light parallel to the road surface regardless of vehicle load.

Chrome Accents

Equus has full-body integrated chrome accents to highlight the exterior. A strong horizontal grille and 19-inch chrome alloy wheels set the tone, while chrome insert moldings on the bumpers and door handles complement the exterior design. A chrome lower bodyside accent and fascia-integrated dual asymmetrical chrome exhaust tips finish off this exceptional look.

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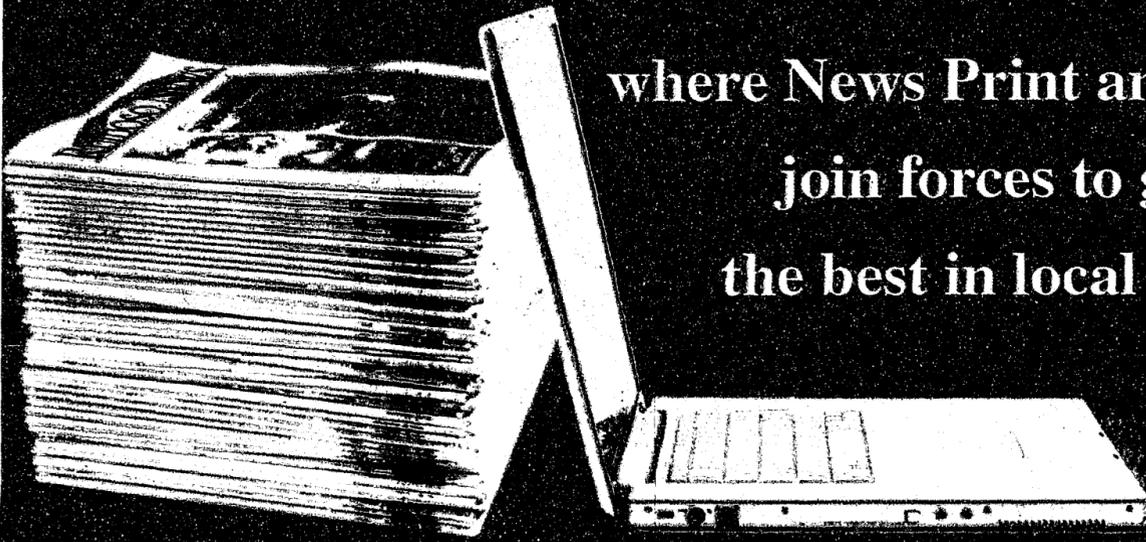


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