

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3, 2011 • OUR 65TH YEAR, NO. 29 • 75 CENTS

Investigation into shooting continues

Lincoln County man allegedly had pointed a weapon at the officers

HAROLD OAKES
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An investigation continued Wednesday into an incident in which two Lincoln County sheriff's deputies shot and killed a Lincoln County man last week.

A Capitan police officer and three Lincoln County deputies confronted James Latham, 60, Thursday at his home east of Capitan at about 10 p.m., after a

domestic dispute. Officers fired what investigators believe were five shots at Latham, who was reportedly armed with a pistol, after he refused to surrender or disarm and pointed the gun at them.

"After verbal commands were not adhered to, and it sounds like countless attempts were made to deescalate the situation," Sgt. Tim Johnson, of the state police, said.

Undersheriff Robert Shepperd said that the deputies are on stan-

dard paid administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation by the state police. The names of the officers have not been released.

Johnson said the initial response came from the Capitan Police Department.

"It is my understanding that the sheriff's department knew who he was and they responded to assist," Johnson said.

Johnson said the domestic inci-

dent began in Latham's vehicle between the Billy the Kid Pageant Grounds in Lincoln and Capitan.

Latham and his wife participated in the annual folk pageant and had been at a rehearsal for this weekend's pageant.

Latham played background music during the event and presented the American flag during the pageant opening.

Latham allegedly committed a battery and possibly an aggravated

assault on his wife, who was reportedly at a relatives home in Capitan during the confrontation between the officers and Latham at the Latham home about five miles east of Capitan, Johnson said.

Latham was a Vietnam veteran and a member of the Ruidoso VFW Post. He also was registered as a sex offender for a May 30, 2000, conviction for indecency with a child in Sterling County, Texas.

Watering limits remain in force

Village continues to be cautious with water supply

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Despite some drought relief with the arrival of the summer monsoon season, Ruidoso village officials remain cautious and they opted to stay in Phase 4 of water conservation restrictions.

They're juggling two issues, a shortage of "wet water" and limited water rights for withdrawals from the Rio Ruidoso that must be stretched to the end of a state-mandated five-year reporting period in October.

"The week before and after July Fourth are historically our greatest sustained demands," Village Manager Debi Lee reported in her monthly advisory to village councilors. "Staff is noticing significant impacts from the continued irrigation by homeowners. The system is functioning well. Staff draws down lake reserves to ensure the requirements of the five-year accounting period are met."

Lee wrote that officials with The Links at Sierra Blanca Public Golf Course agreed to transfer additional water rights to meet their irrigation needs, reducing the village system demand by as much as 30 acre feet per month through the remainder of the accounting period. One acre foot equates to 325,821 gallons of water.

Debbie Jo Almager, director of village Parks and Recreation, agreed to curtail irrigation by 50 percent to aid with conservation effort, Lee reported.

Water restrictions:

Under Phase 4, Severe Conditions, outdoor watering is banned from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Outdoor watering with sprinkler systems is prohibited, except for watering vegetable gardens and fruit trees.

Commercial car washes are not restricted. Residential washing of vehicles and outdoor watering two days per week, by hand-held hose or drip irrigation is allowed as follows at homes with even-numbered addresses on Tuesday and Saturday and those with odd-numbered addresses on Wednesday and Sunday.

Vegetable gardens and fruit trees, ornamental plants, flowers and tree wells may be watered by the use of hand held buckets or sprinkler cans that have been filled from hose bibs or interior faucets every day of the week.

Members of the village water team anticipate Ruidoso would have sufficient water rights to complete the five-year accounting period with the summer monsoons helping, she said.

Grindstone Dam Reservoir is down to 27.5 feet below the spillway, when 16 feet is the pre-

See **WATER**, page 12A

RECOGNITION LONG OVERDUE



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Sixty-nine years after he earned the medal, Sgt. Virgil B. Wallace receives the Bronze Star for Valor from White Sands Missile Range Garrison Commander Col. Leo Pullar Sunday at the Church of Christ in Capitan. John Joe Martinez, field representative for Congressman Steve Pearce, and Wallace's sister, Mary Dean, watch. Wallace was celebrating his 98th birthday and Dean her 92nd.

Veteran receives Bronze Star — finally

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He never asked for it. "He always said that if they want him to have the medal, they would give it to him," Virgil Wallace's niece, Janie Corley, said.

Unknown to Wallace, Corley had contacted Congressman Steve Pearce's office in Las Cruces and they arranged the presentation of the Bronze Star for Valor and a Presidential Unit Citation to Wallace at a family birthday party in Capitan Sunday. Wallace turned 98 on Friday. His "little sister," Mary Dean,

turned 92 on Thursday. About 50 family members and friends gathered at the Church of Christ to celebrate the birthdays and to surprise "Uncle Bud" Wallace with the medal presentation.

"I am absolutely honored to be here

See **MEDAL**, page 11A

Village gross receipts taxes see increase

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Reports of fires and drought around Ruidoso hasn't discouraged tourists from escaping to the village for some cool temperatures and mountain breezes, the village manager said.

Debi Lee reported that marketing efforts are working, as is evident in the first gross receipts tax report for the fiscal year, received in July, but reflecting the tax on sales

and some services in May. Tax receipts distributed to the village for the month were 12.7 percent higher compared to the same month the previous year, she said.

Information from the village shows the net revenue received in July was for \$770,221, a significant increase from July 2010 at \$651,296. In a seven-year period, only July 2008, a banner year for gross receipts taxes, lodgers taxes and home sales in Ruidoso, fared better at \$869,753.

See **TAXES**, page 12A

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CLASSIFIED 9B

EDUCATION 6A

OPINION 4A

SPORTS 1B

A MediaNews Group NEWSPAPER

County planning

Members of the Lincoln County Planning Commission will wrap up recommendations for the county's Comprehensive Plan and discuss the county subdivision ordinance during their regular meeting today.

The session begins at 1 p.m., in the county commission meeting room of the county courthouse in Carrizozo.

Republican meeting

Al Santos, administrator of the Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso, will be the featured speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the Republican Party of Lincoln County Aug. 8, at Cree Meadows Country Club.

Jack Shuster, 1st Vice Chair of the Republican Party of Lincoln County, said in addition, Party Chairman John Billingsley will brief members on what is happening in New Mexico's United States Senate race and upcoming events with the Republican Party of Lincoln County, the Republican Party of New Mexico and nationally.

"We pledge to honor the Constitution as constructed by its framers and honor the original intent of those precepts that have been consistently ignored, particularly the Tenth Amendment, which grants that all powers not delegated to the United

States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people," Billingsley said.

Dinner is set for 6 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. To help with a head count for the optional \$14-per-person dinner, contact Barbara Dickinson at 336-7822 by 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6.

Members of the Republican Party of Lincoln County work hard to represent the interests of Lincoln County Republicans. Money raised through memberships helps to make sure that the best candidates make it to the ballot and get the support needed to win, Shuster said.

Memberships in the Republican Party of Lincoln County will be available at the meeting. The Republican Party of Lincoln County seeks to inform the electorate on issues of the day as well as political party activities and invites the concerned community to become involved.

For information about the Republican Party of Lincoln County, call 258-2570 or e-mail office@rplcnm.org, or stop in at Room 313 in the Lincoln Tower, 1096 Mechem Drive in Ruidoso.

Dems discuss water

Three speakers will provide the viewpoints of the village of Ruidoso and of homeowners on Eagle Creek about the future use of Eagle

GARDEN CLUB RETREAT



COURTESY

Lincoln County Garden Club visited the San Patricio Retreat Center about 20 miles east of Ruidoso recently. The retreat features a lush meadow, various peaceful gardens and a stony labyrinth near the Rio Ruidoso. Director of the center and Lincoln County Garden Club member Chaplain Linda Broda Pribble conducted a tour of the grounds and historic Southwest-style adobe buildings originally created by artist John Meigs. Garden Club meets the third Tuesday each month.

Creek water during the monthly meeting of the Democratic Party of Lincoln County.

The meeting is set for 6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 4, at K Bob's, 157 U.S. Highway 70 in Ruidoso.

Attendees who wish to eat before the meeting can come between 5 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. and order from the menu. The speakers will be Jack Atkins of Ruidoso's

water consultant team, former village manager and water activist Frank Potter, and scientist Bill Midkiff of the Eagle Creek Conservation Association, which sued the U.S. Forest Service in connection with an expired permit for the village to pump from the wellfield at the North Fork of the stream. The future of the stream, the wellfield permit and the potential impact on

the water supply for the village are subjects of community interest and the meeting is open to the general public.

River Trail meeting

A second public meeting for the Ruidoso River Trail is set for 5:30 p.m., Thursday, in the Council Chambers at Village Hall, 313 Cree Meadows Drive.

Designers are gathering public input on possible trail features such as lighting, public art, benches and recreational opportunities. They also will brief the public on the trail route. The work is covered under a grant from the Scenic Byways program, because Sudderth Drive, also known as New Mexico Highway 48,

See **EVENTS**, page 3A

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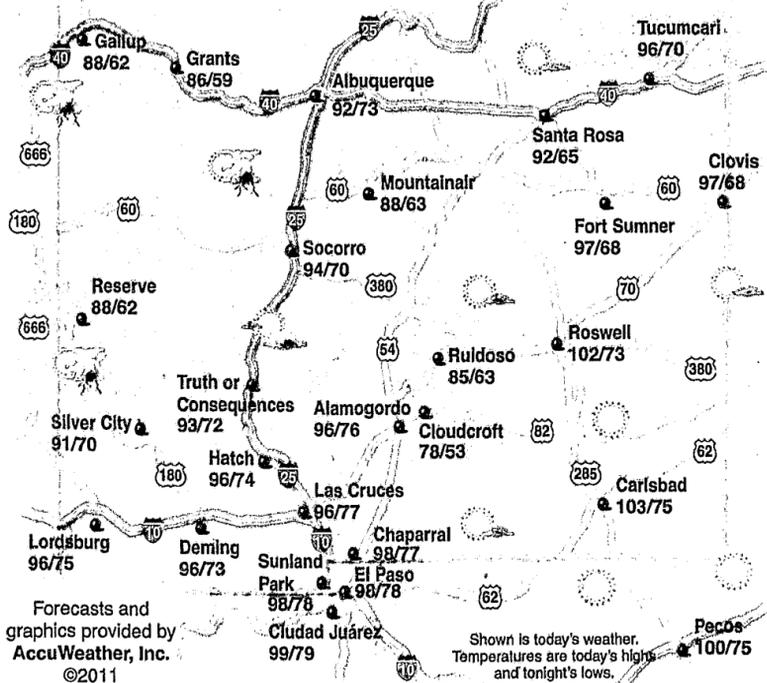
Call the Smokey Bear Disaster 575-257-4095

AccuWeather® 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
RealFeel 90° Humidity 37%	RealFeel 90° Humidity 46%	RealFeel 92° Humidity 32%	RealFeel 90° Humidity 31%	RealFeel 89° Humidity 33%	RealFeel 88° Humidity 34%	RealFeel 90° Humidity 45%
85° 63° Sunny to partly cloudy Wind: SE 6-12 mph	82° 64° Sunshine and patchy clouds Wind: NE 4-8 mph	86° 64° Partly sunny; t-storms at night Wind: S 6-12 mph	83° 63° Sunshine and patchy clouds Wind: S 6-12 mph	82° 64° Partly sunny and very warm Wind: SSE 6-12 mph	81° 63° An afternoon thunderstorm in spots Wind: WSW 7-14 mph	81° 62° Mostly sunny Wind: NW 3-6 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



Sun and Moon

Wednesday: Sunrise/Sunset 6:18 a.m./8:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Moonrise/Moonset 10:39 a.m./10:23 p.m.

Extremes

Monday's National High/Low: High: 111° in Chandler, OK; Low: 34° in Bodie State Park, CA
Monday's World High/Low: High: 124° in Tallil, Iraq; Low: 2° in Islas Orcadas, Argentina

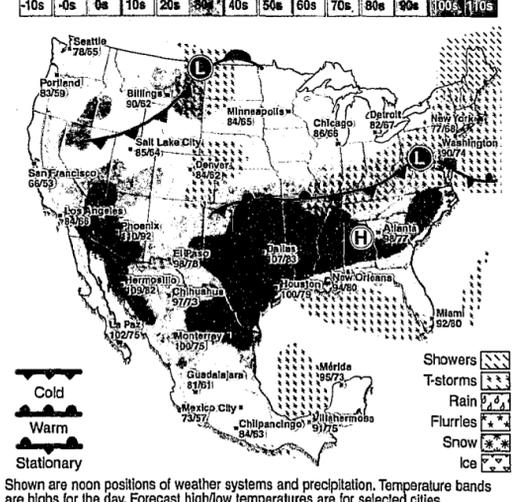
Almanac

Ruidoso
Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
High/low 82°/59°
Normal high 78°
Normal low 52°
Record high 90° (1960)
Record low 40° (1974)
Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.18"
Year to date 3.13"
Normal year to date 10.82"

Alamogordo
Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
High/low 98°/66°
Normal high 92°
Normal low 68°
Record high 103° (1972)
Record low 53° (1964)
Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.08"
Year to date 1.84"
Normal year to date 5.32"

Weather Trivia™:
Q: What is the major factor that causes the ocean currents?
A: The prevailing winds.

National Forecast for August 3, 2011



National Cities

City	Today H/L	Thu. H/L
Abilene	66/77/s	62/76/s
Anchorage	65/56/sh	63/54/sh
Atlanta	98/77/s	100/78/t
Austin	104/77/s	103/74/s
Baltimore	87/67/t	89/67/pc
Boston	76/66/pc	78/64/pc
Chicago	86/66/s	87/69/pc
Dallas	107/83/s	105/83/s
Denver	84/62/t	91/62/t
Des Moines	86/68/pc	81/68/t
Detroit	82/67/pc	86/66/s
El Paso	98/78/s	100/79/s
Las Vegas	102/87/s	102/87/s
Los Angeles	84/66/pc	81/64/pc
Minneapolis	84/65/s	84/65/pc
New Orleans	94/80/t	95/80/pc
New York City	77/68/t	84/71/s
Philadelphia	78/69/t	87/71/s
Phoenix	110/92/s	109/90/s
Reno	92/60/s	89/59/s
San Francisco	66/53/pc	62/54/pc
San Diego	78/68/pc	75/68/pc
Seattle	78/65/pc	78/65/s
Tucson	103/83/pc	101/82/s
Tulsa, OK	110/78/s	104/79/s
Wash., DC	90/74/t	88/72/pc
Wichita	104/76/pc	102/75/pc
Yuma	108/88/s	108/86/s

Regional Cities

City	Today H/L	Thu. H/L
Albuquerque	92/73/pc	93/72/t
Artesia	100/75/s	101/75/s
Chama	80/51/t	85/51/t
Clayton	98/66/t	96/65/t
Cloudcroft	78/53/s	77/53/s
Farmington	92/68/t	94/65/t
Hobbs	101/72/s	99/69/s
Los Alamos	82/59/t	85/59/t
Portales	98/68/s	97/68/s
Raton	98/57/t	90/57/t
Red River	69/45/t	76/52/t
Ruidoso	85/63/s	82/64/s
Santa Fe	90/62/t	92/61/t
Silver City	91/70/t	92/70/t
Taos	87/53/t	89/55/t

Mexican Cities

City	Today H/L	Thu. H/L
Acapulco	88/75/t	91/77/t
Cancun	90/73/pc	88/73/t
Chihuahua	97/73/s	95/72/pc
Ciudad Juárez	99/79/s	100/79/s
León	84/61/t	85/59/t
México, DF	73/57/t	72/57/t
Monterrey	100/75/s	99/75/s
Morelia	82/63/t	82/61/t
Oaxaca	82/61/t	84/61/t
Pto. Penasco	100/84/s	97/82/s
Tijuana	81/64/s	82/64/t

EVENTS

FROM PAGE 2A

is part of the Billy the Kid Scenic Byway.

Dog training

Taryn McCain, a service dog trainer, will be the presenter at Capitan Public Library's 1st Friday Adult Lecture, 7 p.m., Friday.

A resident of Nogal, McCain breeds and trains service dogs for persons disabled by conditions affecting their mobility and psychiatric wellness. She is a Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner, using clicker training and positive methods to bring out the best in LEK's dogs.

She holds professional certificates in Service Dog Training and High-Schooled Assistance Dog instruction from Bergin University of Canine Studies. She also is a Canine Good Citizen Evaluator approved by the American Kennel Club.

A graduate of Leadership Lincoln in Lincoln County, McCain is Dog Program leader for the Malpais Colts 4. Refreshments will follow the lecture.

Museum show

The Hubbard Museum is pleased to announce that a special program for the public entitled, "The Tarahumara/Mogollon Connection" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 6 with Anthropologist Larry Baron providing the multi-

media presentation. The presentation will be held in the Johnny & Marty Cope Learning Center. There is no additional charge other than regular admission fee to attend the program. Members of the Museum will receive free entry to the program and to the museum as well.

Fort Stanton Live!

Fort Stanton Live! comes back to Lincoln County Aug. 6 and 7, bringing costumed reenactors from the Civil War and Indian Wars era to the fort for demonstrations, presentations, and a candlelight tour on Friday night.

Additionally, the event brings presenters, storytellers, and a variety of historical vendors to site to share their crafts and other handiwork. Special tours of the World War II internment camp are also available.

Local food vendors are on hand as well as the Flying J Wranglers and the Rich Chorne Band for you entertainment. Drew Gomber and the Mescalero Dancers also will be at the event, along with kids games, the tomahawk throw, and authors Don Bullis, Gary Cozzens, and Dr. Walter Pittman, signing their books about local and New Mexico history.

In addition, several buildings will be open for visitors to rediscover including the historic stables. A new attraction this year will be a presen-

TOP READERS



COURTESY

Winners of the Top Readers competition at the Capitan Public Library are, from left, Maggie Rich, first place, and Duncan Daugherty and Daniel Daugherty, who tied for second place. They received gift certificates for Walmart. Sixty children signed up for the program and a total of 161 attended along with 55 adults. The program was conducted each Monday through June and July with the exception of July 4. Six outside presenters entertained the attendees. The last day of the program, a "birthday party" with cake, ice cream, a piñata, and water balloons finished the summer events. The program was coordinated and planned by Debbie Myers.

tation from Lincoln County Paranormal about nearby ghosts.

Go online at www.fortstanton.org to buy tickets for the Lantern Tour, which runs from 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m., or call 575-354-0341 for more information. Tickets for the Lantern Tour and the event are purchased separately at \$5 each. Those 15 and younger are admitted free.

Fort Stanton Live! event hours are from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 8 a.m. to

noon on Sunday.

Library amnesty

For the whole month of August, the librarians will waive late fees on overdue items returned to the Village of Ruidoso Public Library. Patrons are encouraged to bring back overdue books, DVDs, audio books, magazines - any item checked out from the library - and late fines will be waived.

This amnesty is offered so library items get back

into circulation. Other patrons would like to borrow the book or movie people still have at their homes, according to the library.

The library points out that, according to the San Francisco Chronicle, when the San Francisco Public Library offered a two-week amnesty on overdue materials in June, it brought in more than 5,000 items. The items returned included sheet music checked out in 1962 and a book of poems that had been out

for seven decades.

Taton graduates

Jordan Laine Muncy Taton graduated from Oklahoma Panhandle State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English during the university's commencement ceremony held on May 14. She is the daughter of Blaine and Johnnie Muncy of Corona.

She and her husband Cody Taton also make their home in Corona.

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OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

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OUR OPINION

White Fire, white out

It's been four months to the day since the White Fire ravaged five homes, several outbuildings and 10,356 acres of Lincoln National Forest in east Ruidoso and north Ruidoso Downs.

Almost immediately, it was under investigation by the U.S. Forest Service, which would turn to the U.S. Attorney's Office if any criminal charges would be filed.

Apparently, not only do those charged with crimes have the right to remain silent, so do prosecutors.

At least that's how the U.S. Attorney's Office has decided to handle the case.

Beyond "we-can-neither-confirm-nor-deny" line, no one in that office will comment on anything about the fire.

We certainly wouldn't publish any information that would compromise an investigation and we certainly wouldn't expect the office to give us that information.

But the pat and perfunctory standard lines that agency spokespeople mumble in their sleep — "the investigation is ongoing," or "we are following up on a number of leads," or, "investigating a wildfire is complicated and takes time" — we can't even get that.

It's been four months since the White Fire, which cost more than \$2 million to finally suppress, and for those who lost their homes, for the com-

munity that's been embroiled in unhealthy hearsay, there hasn't been anything remotely close to resembling closure.

And it's not just the Ruidoso News the U.S. Attorney's Office has been stonewalling.

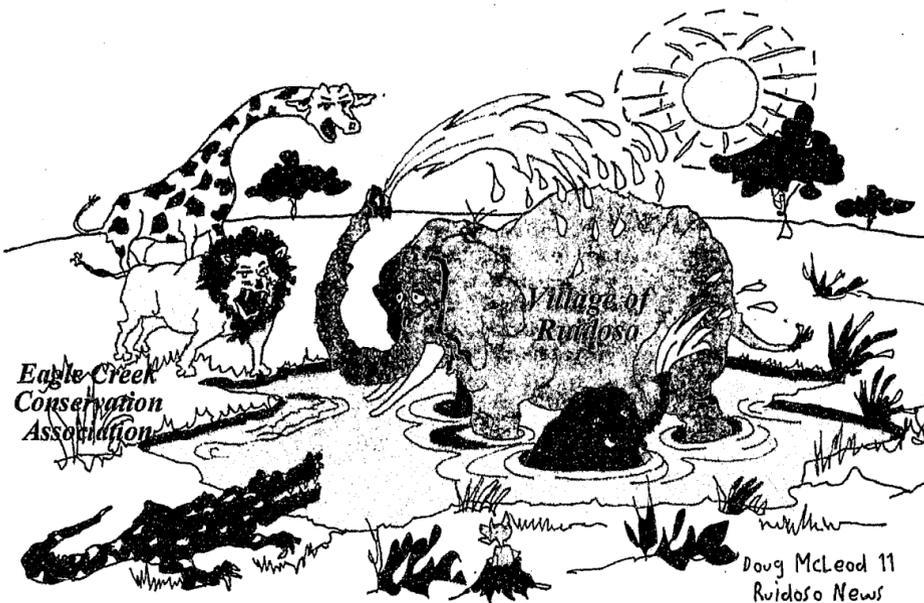
Eric Layer, press secretary for U.S. Congressman Steve Pearce, said Monday that the U.S. Attorney's Office has "failed to respond to inquiries" from the congressman regarding the White Fire.

There are plenty of us who would just shrug and say this is just another federal bureaucratic, bloated agency that is so full of a sense of self-worth it feels no responsibility to the public its been charged to serve. Astoundingly, we've gotten so used to these agencies dragging their feet that we've come to see it as the norm. We actually are beginning to see this brush-off as acceptable.

When agencies that are supposed to be holding others accountable, refuse to be held accountable themselves, they can hardly be surprised when the rumors of "cover up," "conspiracy" and "corruption" start running through a community — like wildfire.

But, unlike the White Fire, we know why and how this rumor wildfire got started.

It's up to the U.S. Attorney's Office to put it out and let the public know at least a bare minimum about its investigation.



YOUR OPINION

On protesting the Mexican Consulate's visit

To the editor:

The mayor (Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn) has indicated that he was unsure of what was being protested on Saturday at the Ruidoso Senior Center.

I want to give him my reason for my protest. I was the woman with the American flag that he seemed not to recognize. I was protesting the village of Ruidoso allowing the Mexican Consulate's use of the Ruidoso Senior Center. The mayor was way too busy to speak with me on Saturday, but his wife was gracious enough to make a few comments to me. The most vivid of which was, "The Tea Party has messed in the Alborn's nest and we will never have anything to do with them again."

Sometimes just standing on principle is not enough; an action is required. Therefore, my personal protest against illegal immigration started last year when Arizona rancher Robert Krentz and his dog were murdered by illegal aliens while he was checking fences and water for his cattle. He was known by his neighbors as a good Samaritan who tried to help anyone, including the illegal aliens who crossed his land. My parents ranched. Good, hardworking folks who took care of their family and taught us kids to be good citizens. It could have been my Mom or Dad.

My research has led me to believe that Mexico, by use of the Mobile Consulate Program, is circumventing U.S. Immigration policy. It is my observation and opinion that there are governments, organizations, and individuals who are

facilitating, if not complicit, in this effort, as the nation goes merrily along.

Terry Franklin
Alto

The 'true story'

The article "Mexican Consulate visit prompts protests" posted July 30 was poorly researched. The reporter only spoke to Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn and did not get the true story. Had he taken the time to speak with a representative of the Mexican Consulate or perhaps gone inside to see first-hand what was going on he would have learned that they were here to issue Martricula Consular cards and passports.

From the Mexican Consulate web site regarding the Matricula Consular cards (translated):

"The Matricula Consular certificate is a document that meets census purposes and provides protection of great benefit to the Mexican government. It also has the advantage of being accepted by a large number of private and official institutions as proof of identity, proof of nationality and proof of address in a given consular district. However, it is important to note that the MCAS is not intended to replace the check or foreign document of LEGAL STATUS (emphasis added) in a country. In that sense, it only shows that the carrier is domiciled abroad and registered with the representation of Mexico."

As stated, they have no interest in the legal status of those to which it is issued.

They only have to show proof of Mexican citizenship and are never asked how they came to be "domiciled abroad." In fact, if they have legal status in a county they have no need for the card.

In New Mexico this card is accepted as of proof of identity to get a driver's license, as we are one of only three states that issue licenses to illegal aliens.

So, not only was Mayor Alborn misinformed when he stated that he could not understand why anyone would be complaining about the Mexican nationals doing the necessary paperwork to remain in the country legally, the reporter did a sloppy job of getting the facts.

Glynis Racine
Capitan

(Editor's note: Reporter Harold Oakes did go inside the Senior Center, hence the picture, and spoke to Mayor Ray Alborn about calls of protests he had received. The story was not meant to be an in-depth report on Martricula Consular cards, rather the village's role in facilitating the meeting. The story accurately reflected such.)

Tired of 'blame game'

To the editor:

I despair, as I'm sure most Americans do, at the lack of across-the-aisle cooperation in Congress. If they have taken this much time and media attention to raise the federal debt limit how can they solve the many issues facing our country today?

See LETTERS, page 5A

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THE STREETER, BY ERIK BEARER

Q: How do you think the PNM rate hike will affect your budget?



Crystal McClellan
Ruidoso

"If I get the bill, I still have to pay it. There's not much you can do about that."



Maria Gonzalez
Ruidoso

"That's going to be really hard. I think it's kind of ridiculous to charge people more right now."



Jim Adle
Kemah, Texas

"We haven't had a high light bill yet, but I guess we're about to find out."



Susi Gibbs
Capitan

"I think it's bad, but the water bills are 10 times worse. PNM is at least reasonable."



Peter Rogers
San Patricio

"It won't affect me very well at all. It's not going to be a popular decision."

Give education secretary and reforms a chance

Should we be more concerned that 87 percent of our public schools didn't make Adequate Yearly Progress or that Democrats are still nitpicking Secretary of Education-designate Hanna Skandera?

I'd say the AYP scores are the least of our worries. It's apparent by now that this yardstick of the federal No Child Left Behind Act is inherently unfair and unhelpful. We also know that half our kids can't read and 60 percent struggle with math. That's why Gov. Susana Martinez plucked a veteran of former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's education team to replicate Florida's success here.

To anyone who would remind me of the famous axiom that what works elsewhere won't work in New Mexico, I would remind you that the massive education reform package passed on the previous administration's watch borrowed heavily from the Tennessee model. That bipartisan reform, led by a Democratic governor, improved accountability and teacher pay but

failed to produce the needed turn-around.

Now it's somebody else's turn, but instead of pulling together, we have petty carping from the Legislative Education Study Committee about Skandera's use of consultants while she got her team on board and then more carping about how two (two!) of the new hires are from outside the state. One committee member even accused Skandera of being unprepared to lead.

Business managers routinely call in consultants, valued for their objectivity and expertise, to examine a problem and make recommendations.

That's why the New Mexico Business Roundtable for

Educational Excellence, which firmly supported the previous reforms, defended Skandera's use of consultants and supported her decision to hire the "best and brightest" from New Mexico and other states to push reforms. The Roundtable's leaders called on New Mexicans to give Skandera and "bold change" a



SHERRY ROBINSON
ALL SHE WROTE

chance. I would second that motion and point out that, considering how politicized education is here, it was probably helpful to get advice from people who had no horse in the race.

Beyond that, it's always been the prerogative of appointees to surround themselves with a few people of their choosing.

Skandera disagrees with the

Annual Yearly Progress measures, which is why she is anxious to introduce the A-to-F grading system approved in this year's legislative session. And she intends to apply for a waiver from the requirements and penalties of No Child Left Behind; U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has indicated he may offer waivers if states have other systems in place.

The A-to-F system has its own hazards, however. At a June Education Study Committee meeting, superintendents had some reservations.

The state doesn't test students in all grades, and the proposed rating system is based on just reading and math. Many superintendents support the law, said Tom Sullivan, executive director of the New Mexico Coalition of School Administrators, but see bugs to be worked out. Among other things, they want graduation rates to include students who take five years and not four.

"What we are basically being

presented with is a Florida model with the word 'Florida' whited out and 'New Mexico' typed in," Sullivan said.

The Coalition for Excellence in Science and Math Education (<http://www.cesame-nm.org/>) has concerns about how the grade is calculated.

A school's performance reflects a multitude of variables, the two biggest being student demographics and poverty. Account for these variables and you get a reasonably fair and accurate measure that can be compared with statistical expectations. If the school is doing better, it's on the right track and can be an example to others like it. If it's lagging, it can get help. Without a meaningful adjustment, all you have is another No Child Left Behind.

It would be nice to see the education committee's Dems give Skandera the tools she wants and hold her accountable. If she doesn't deliver, she and her boss get a failing grade.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4A

Steve Pearce, our local congressman, seems to be mired in the blame game being played in Congress, and is willing to cut programs that are vital to getting us out of this recession. He is concerned about taxes on corporate jet owners and their impact on employment. I don't think there are many New Mexicans working on building cooperate jets. Is Mr. Pearce aware of the New Deal program which created funding for artists from

1934 to 1943? These federally funded programs put 3,600 New Mexico artists to work painting murals on selected public buildings throughout the state. This was a visionary way to employ people and enhance New Mexico's cultural heritage and artistic reputation that still lives on today.

Is there anyway that these types of programs can be created today in a partisan Congress that seems primarily focused on getting re-elected so they can keep their health benefits, life-long pensions, and pay raises while so many Americans

make do with so much less?

Was FDR given a "blank check"? No, I think not, he and many other patriotic Americans worked together to fund and implement real programs that put people to work

Our president, Barak Obama, has strived for the same goal with his stimulus package with little effort and support from many in Congress whose only goal is to see him fail. Why hasn't anyone in the House or Senate come up with constructive alternatives to help the people of this

country? Why is it more important for some members of Congress to extend tax loopholes to Exxon Mobile with their reported 45 million dollar profit increase and to the 1 percent of Americans who might buy corporate jets?

As a citizen of New Mexico and an American, I sincerely ask my elected representatives to come up with policies that truly are effective for working class people.

Lets stop the "hell no" attitude and start working on real solutions.

Linda Ziegler
Ruidoso

'Friend Raiser'

To the editor:
We would like to thank all who made our 2011 Friend Raiser at Cree Meadows Country Club a success.

Our sponsors were Home Health Unlimited, Therapy Associates, Inc. and Advanced Hearing Care. Generous people in the community donated to our Silent Auction: Alto Café, Brewer Oil Co, Candle Power, Dales Furniture, Desert Wind, Earth-N-Stone, Evergreen Cleaners, Josie's Framery, Pinon Pottery, the RAC, Joyce Sanders, Season's Nursery, Stagner

Landscapes, TR's Market, Village Ace Hardware, Village Buttery, Wild Herb Market, Mim English, Karen Owens, Jennifer Chadwick, Bear Tiews, Ginger Gipson, Barbara Cosentino, Freddie Mabry, Nikki Murphy, Kathleen Engstrom, Glenna Foster, Owen Houston, Betsy Seiler, Renee Hall, Pat Fraser. Thomas Radcliffe provided us with wonderful music as well as donating to the auction.

Thanks to our great volunteers!

Sacramento Mountain
Village
Ruidoso



Serbian Bellflower

If you want a plant as lovely as its name, then Serbian bellflower (*Campanula poscharskyana*) is a must-have addition to your garden. This no-fuss ground cover sprawls easily in a low, mounding habit. Lavender-blue starburst blooms appear in spring, with some repeat blooming until frost if spent flowers are removed. The dense foliage is semi-evergreen to evergreen (depending on the severity of winter in your climate) and will

weave its way between spring bulbs, rocks, and other perennials.
Common name: Serbian bellflower
Botanical name: *Campanula poscharskyana*
Plant type: Perennial
Zones: 3 to 8
Height: 4 to 12 inches
Family: Campanulaceae
Growing conditions
• **Sun:** Full sun to part shade
• **Soil:** Well-drained
• **Moisture:** Average to medium

Care

- **Mulch:** Mulch to preserve moisture in the soil and prevent weeds.
- **Pruning:** None needed.
- **Fertilizer:** None needed.
- **Propagation**
• By seed or by division
- **Pests and diseases**
• No major

insect or disease problems, although snails and slugs may do some damage.

Garden notes

- *C. poscharskyana* prefers part shade in climates with hot summers. It performs best in areas where evening temperatures are below 70°F.
- *C. poscharskyana* looks great sprawled along banks or over walls, as well as in rock gardens.
- Be aware that Serbian bellflower is a vigorous grower, and it spreads by underground runners. This is an advantage if you want it to cover a large area, but if you want it to stay in one spot, either contain it with barriers or trim runners as they develop.

All in the family

- The Campanulaceae family (known as the bellflower family) has approximately 2,000 species in 70 genera.
- The family is found almost worldwide; notable exceptions include the Sahara and Antarctica.



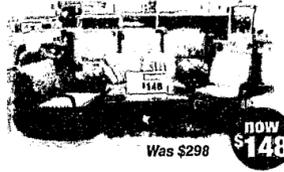
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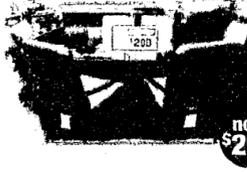
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Forum focuses on water storage for Lincoln County

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Storage capable of capturing the water bounty in years of major rain or snow appears to be the key for the future survival of Ruidoso and other communities in Lincoln County.

After listening to three experts report on their different areas of study connected to the effects of wildfire, watershed management and groundwater withdrawal on surface flows and the recharge of the aquifer, the underground water supply, moderator Howard Hutch-

inson summed up the message. "I think I heard today that storage is the key with thinning (of trees and vegetation) to increase the potential (recharge) in higher elevations."

He was speaking to the audience at "Where's the Water?" a panel discussion put together by the Arizona/New Mexico Coalition of Counties at the request of Lincoln County Commissioner Jackie Powell.

People need to look at their regions and determine the capacity of geologic formations and vegetation to

slow down the water flow to allow recharge to occur, he said.

Storage

Alexander G. "Sam" Fernald, interim director of the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute and associate professor of watershed management at New Mexico State University, said that storage isn't just the traditional type in reservoirs and tanks, but keeping water on a mountains stored in soils.

Michael J. Darr, hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, New Mexico Water

Science Center, said storage is essential and currently limited.

"You're losing a lot of storage from the aquifer and groundwater in the summer," he said. Projects should be developed to control water at the times it is delivered in abundance, he agreed.

Geoffrey Rawling, field geologist with the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, added his endorsement.

"The data showed that the winter snowpack is the dominant source of water, but it is spotty, and as time progressed, the wet summers stood out," he said. "If this pattern continues down the road, you will depend more and more on summer rains, and then the issue of storage is even more important."

Variations

In New Mexico, speaking about "averages" in terms of precipitation and stream flow means little, Hutchinson said. "You can't base planning on those numbers because there are huge variations in events and you need to plan for droughts, which are pretty cyclical."

One man in the audience, who identified himself as a former coach and longtime visitor to Ruidoso, said he was amazed that "rain catchment" systems are not required on new construction. He pointed to the convention center, where the meeting was being conducted, and said the runoff from the large roof, if captured, would irrigate the nearby golf course.

"Clothes washed in rainwater are as soft as a baby, but do we mandate it? No," he said. "It doesn't cost much compared to a drought. I want to see people take the initiative in this tourist county."

After the meeting, Fernald said that just seven years ago, such systems were illegal in New Mexico because the capture of water



DIANNE STALLINGS/RUIDOSO NEWS

Meeting moderator Howard Hutchinson, left, and Alexander G. "Sam" Fernald, interim director of the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, along with other panelists discuss strategies of capturing water for the future of Ruidoso and Lincoln County.

owned by the state wasn't permitted. The Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commission recently discussed the possibility of recommending the village council mandate rain catchment systems for new construction, but members decided to instead only encourage installation of collection systems.

The study

Rawling's area of study focused on the south Sacramento Mountains, which he said is significantly different that the volcanic Sierra Blanca Peak and mountains surrounding Ruidoso with its faults, and in the Fort Stanton area, karst topography. Karst is a geologic formation shaped by the dissolution of a layer or layers of soluble bedrock, usually carbonate rock such as limestone. Fernald's work also concentrated more in the Cloudcroft area. But Darr's data hit home most directly. He just completed a

report, "Hydrologic Characterization of the Upper Rio Hondo Basin," for the Lincoln County Commission.

The project will include more monitoring of the 47 wells and various stream flow gauges included in the study, Darr said.

He was lucky to have precipitation and well data going back to 1850 from Fort Stanton, a former military fort, federal tuberculosis hospital and state hospital with a veterans cemetery. The study covered 500 square miles between the Rio Ruidoso to the north and the Rio Bonito to the south, he said. It aimed to help the county plan for sustainable management of streams and to create a basin water budget, Darr said.

His goals were to define water availability, to create a water model and to quantify a water budget. The final report is being tweaked.

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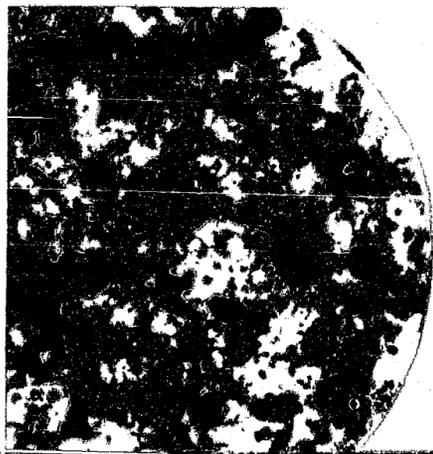
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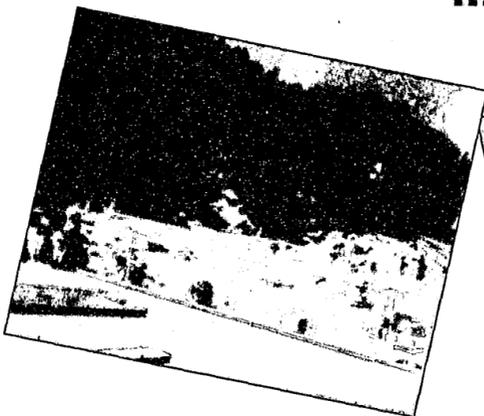


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Fall Fest merchants to get break in fees

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Vendors who set up shop during Ruidoso Downs' first annual Fall Fest will get a break on fees for normally required temporary merchant's permits.

"Being a one-day event, for six hours, and the fact that it is to benefit the city, I was requesting that we waive the \$500 temporary merchant fee and the \$5 non-profit organization fee," Police Chief Doug Babcock asked the city council.

A booth charge of \$80 would, however, be charged to each vendor. Proceeds beyond operating expenses would be used by the city for improvements to the newly opened Riverside Park.

"I don't see any issue with waiving it," City Attorney Zach Cook advised the council. "As he said, it's for the benefit of the city, so there would be no anti-donation or other issues."

The city council lifted the merchant permit fees for the festival.

Vendors will have to submit an application form that will detail the type of merchandise or food items to be sold at the Fall Fest.

Vendors will be required to offer family-oriented items and must obtain a food vendor permit from the New Mexico Environment Department.

To avoid duplication, an event committee will review merchandise and food items. Each vendor must have a dry chemical fire extinguisher at his or

her booth.

The Fall Fest is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sept. 16 at All American Park.

The deadline for applications is Sept. 2 at City Hall.

Proposed last month by Babcock, the event will include music, games, a car show and a bed race.

Mayor Tom Armstrong said he would be willing to go in with the council on a bed race team.

"Chief, again I want to compliment you for coming down here as our police chief and getting so involved," City Councilor Dean Holman told Babcock. "Here's another example of taking part in trying to improve a park well on its way really being a good one. We appreciate you."

Downs sees minor flooding

JIM KALVELAGE
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Some minor flooding coming off the burn scar of April's White Fire occurred late Monday afternoon in a part of Ruidoso Downs just east of the racetrack.

"No real problems," Cleatus Richards, the city's public works director, said Tuesday. "Our efforts are still maintaining pretty well. We had some straw and debris that came down that we had to clean up last night and this morning, but no property damage or no real concerns."

The National Weather Service reported a little more than one-fifth of an inch of rain north of Ruidoso with a little less at Alto.

Richards said the rain gauge at the public works department building regis-



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Ruidoso Downs firefighter Kenny Ellard splashes through the water on Joe Welch Drive Monday afternoon. A brief downpour clogged ditches and drains in the area briefly. Ellard and other Ruidoso Downs officials were closely monitoring the White Fire burn area, which includes the area just north of where this picture was taken, for run-off problems. There were no problems.

tered about one-half inch of precipitation.

"I think they got a little more (rain) over there (the

area of Joe Welch Drive and Highlands Lane) and it came in a pretty short period."

The city earlier this summer installed concrete barriers and cut diversion trenches to direct potential runoff from the burn area. Parts of the scorched landscape of the more-than-10,000-acre White Fire were seeded and had straw mulch dropped by air to restore vegetation and lessen erosion.

"We have several barriers up in that area," Richards said. "The race track has some 20 or 30 barriers that they've set up. There's some ponding and other work done in the race track area."

In addition to some straw, ash and mud from the scarred hillsides, Richards said some boulders also were washed down. Sandbags are available for the public at the city of Ruidoso Downs public works yard at 100 Mystery Drive. Technical assistance for the placement of sandbags is available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

HEARING TESTS ARE IMPORTANT



Julie Villalba
Licensed Dispenser

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Call for your appointment: 1-800-540-5429.

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RUIDOSO NEWS

Village of Ruidoso sees uptick in building activity

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Building permits issued for five new homes in July helped boost the total value of construction work in Ruidoso last month to more than \$2 million.

But one local builder said Tuesday, "It's still pretty tough. I don't see a big upswing, if there is an upswing."

"You can't sit back and wait for someone to call you and ask you to build them a home like it used to

be," said Fred Cowan of Cowan Construction. "You have to get out and look and (work your) connections."

Cowan, who serves on the Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commission, is handling a kitchen addition to Sacred Grounds Coffee, a popular coffee shop and cafe in the Boulder Shopping Plaza on Sudderth Drive at the intersection with Mechem Drive.

"I'm doing a lot of covered decks and building new decks, but people are holding onto to their money," he

said. "With the oil and gas situation in Texas, I don't know why they're not coming up here and doing big remodels or finding some deals (on second homes). There are some steals out there, if you can find them and have the capital to purchase them."

Ruidoso Building Inspector Shawn Fort Tuesday said the village is "holding steady" in comparison to the last two years.

"It's not getting any worse," he said. "We're seeing a lot of decks and renovations and some damage

repair from flooding. But in July, we had a large number of re-roofings. People came up and put on new roofs."

Village inspectors were kept busy in July checking out the progress of work on 80 building permits, 25 plumbing and 32 electric permits issued, as well as a site development.

Total permits for the first month of the new fiscal year hit 139, compared to 163 in June. Fees collected totaled \$25,391, down from \$26,270.39 in June. But values reg-

istered higher at \$2,086,193 compared to \$1,994,000 in June, primarily because of the five new homes in July and only four in June, and some expensive renovations and additions. Ninety-three building permits were issued in June, along with 40 electrical, 27 plumbing and a site development permit.

In May, building value dipped to \$1,376,078, down significantly from \$2.292 million in April, but both months were lower than March, with a value of \$2.3 million.

MEDAL

FROM PAGE 1A

to do this," Col. Leo Pullar, garrison commander of White Sands Missile Range said.

Pullar pinned the Bronze Star for Valor on Wallace and presented him with the Presidential Unit Citation for his actions in the Philippines from December 8, 1941, to May 10, 1942.

Wallace is the oldest surviving New Mexico member of the Bataan Death March.

On December 8, 1941, Wallace was stationed at Clark Air Base in the Philippines when the Japanese attacked the base, bombing planes and destroying the runway.

"After they took care of their buddies that were hurt, they deployed into the jungle because that at least gave them cover," John Joe Martinez, field representative for Pearce, said. "They were in the jungle until April 9, 1942, from December 8 or 9. They were the first line of defense against the Japanese and that's why, today,

we are free."

Martinez said the attack on Clark Field was actually only hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, but the Philippines is a day ahead of Hawaii because of the International Date Line.

On April 9, 1942, more than 70,000 American and Filipino soldiers surrendered to the Japanese and were forced to march 70 miles through the jungle to a prisoner of war camp, where they remained for 44 months. About half of them died during the march or died in the camp.

It is not something Wallace talks about, even after almost 70 years.

"He told me that after the Japanese abandoned the camp the Allies were still not able to get to them to get them out," Jim Reinbolt said. "They were dropping supplies into the camp and they had not perfected that. He told me that the parachute failed to open on one pallet of fruit cocktail and it buried about five feet into the ground. They dug it out and ate it anyway."

Reinbolt is an Air Force

veteran who served in Vietnam and is the pastor of the Methodist church Wallace attends in Lubbock, Texas.

As a fellow veteran, Wallace shares more of his experiences with Reinbolt than he does with his family.

"The congressman really wanted to be here," Martinez said. "It is a

very important day."

Pearce was stuck in Washington because of the debate on raising the debt ceiling.

"Your brave and selfless actions in combat were in keeping with the traditions of military service and reflects greatly upon yourself and the members of the 515th Anti-Aircraft Artillery

and the Armed Forces," Pearce wrote in a letter to Wallace.

Martinez presented Wallace with a miniature version of the Bataan Death March memorial in Las Cruces and a poster of the memorial, which he asked each person at the party to sign.

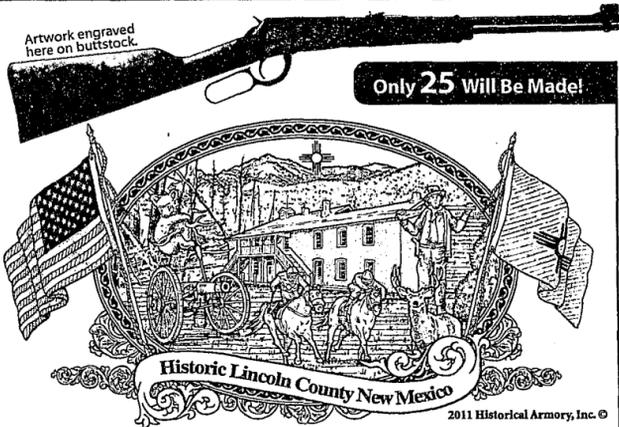
Martinez also recognized Reinbolt for his service and

another special guest at the party, Margarito "Maggie" Trujillo.

Trujillo spent 37 months in a prisoner of war camp in Korea during the Korean War.

"And he and his wife have been married to 55 years," Martinez said of Trujillo. "They should get a medal for that."

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TAXES

FROM PAGE 1A

"Retail trade represents 35 percent of the total and accommodation/food services represent 22 percent of the total GRT received," Lee said.

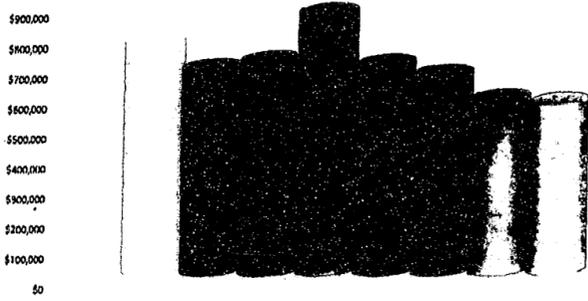
The village imposes 8.625 cents of gross receipts tax on every dollar spent on purchases and some services, but only 3.0625 cents is a village tax. The remainder is county or state.

Of the village tax, 1 cent goes to the Water Fund. In July, that represented \$180,311.99. About \$95,707 was raised by a 0.5625-cent environmental tax, split with 0.0625 to

solid waste and 0.5 to wastewater.

A 0.25 percent gross receipts tax goes to infrastruc-

Ruidoso GRT Months Received Same Period Each Year
FY 1312 ■ FY 1011 ■ FY 0910 ■ FY 0809
■ FY 0708 ■ FY 0607 ■ FY 0506 ■ FY 0405



July

structure, split 50-50 between police and fire, for a total of \$34,763.

Out of another 1.25 per-

cent gross receipts tax, 0.75 is unencumbered for village use and 0.5 percent is dedicated to the municipal air-

port for a total of \$228,284. The remaining \$227,976 GRT is a shared state tax for interstate telecom and municipal equivalent distribution, a formula to make up some of the money lost when the tax was removed from many grocery items.

Only three out of 12 months in Fiscal Year 2009-2010 saw more money collected than in Fiscal Year 2010-2011, which ended with a check from the state in June. Each check reflects taxes collected on sales and some services two months prior.

Ruidoso's share of the gross receipt taxes collected in 2010-2011 hit \$9,353,702.50, a jump of 6.2 percent over the previous year when \$8.834 million was collected.

Gustafson tapped for planning post

The newest member of the Ruidoso Downs Planning and Zoning Commission will be Robert Gustafson. Mayor Tom Armstrong's appointment was unanimously approved last week by the city council.

"We've had one that could not find the time to do this," Armstrong said. "We're hoping that we can keep a full staff on the P-and-Z board."

The commission is now at its full level of five members. The chair of the planning panel is Jim Burrow. The other three members are Judy Miller, Windsor Laceywell and Luther Light.

WATER

FROM PAGE 1A

ferred level. The depth in the village's 5-million water storage tanks is 50 feet, when it usually is 55.

Repairs to Grindstone Dam, which would allow the reservoir to be filled to a higher level once concerns about possible "soft spots" in the rolled concrete walls are alleviated, await a review of the final report of findings and recommendations by the Dam Safety Bureau of the New Mexico State Engineer's Office.

Those recommendations and findings were delivered to the village in March.

A workshop will be scheduled following the bureau's acceptance, Lee said.

Staff is proceeding with a Request for Proposals to design the repairs on the dam quickly to put the village in a better position for next year's Water Trust Board's funding cycle in the fall.

The village did not receive the \$3 million for which it applied to cover Grindstone repairs because of competition from communities with "exceedingly

dire water situations this year tied to the drought," Lee said. Staff met with Department of Finance and Administration officials in an after-action evaluation of the village's funding application to ensure success on future tries, she said.

The Alto Water Plant is treating about 175 gallons per minute of Alto Lake water to offset demands on the village's well system, she said. Staff reduced the draw on lake water to facilitate treatment but will continue to take water as long as it is feasible, to meet the permit limita-

tions on Rio Ruidoso withdrawals.

A pre-bid meeting was conducted July 19, on a request for proposals for a preliminary engineering report on a pilot project covering upgrades to Plant 3 at the Alto Reservoir.

One of the four filters at the treatment plant at Grindstone Reservoir, referred to as Plant 4, was scheduled for repairs by the end of July to bring the facility into full operation, Lee said. Normal demand is met with two of the filters on-line. Peak demand requires the third filter.

Summarizing the status of other segments of the village water supply system, Lee said:

- Green Well on Ski Run Road is online and performing well at 250 gallons per minute. A power outage caused the well to go out for three days, but staff was able to restart it in manual mode until a manufacturer's representative is available to repair the disabled variable speed frequency drive.
- A-1 Well is on-line and producing a minimum of 250 gpm, and will significantly reduce demand on

Rio Ruidoso water rights.

- The pump at the A-2 Well was pulled July 6, and should be operational this week to produce 100 gpm.

- River Well is operational at 80 gpm and staff is preparing a request for proposals to deepen it.

- North Fork Well 4 is operational and producing 250 gpm.

- Cherokee Well is producing 300 gpm.

- The Hollywood Well is operated on as-needed basis at 600 gpm.

- High School Well and North Fork Well 1 are on standby.

Spotlight on Business Cloud Nine Collectibles!

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However it's not just a Art & Jewelry store says Eddie Rivera, Gallery owner. My daughter Genevieve who is 8 years old, had ALOT of influence on how the store is shaping up. We were at home watching 'Food Network' on tv and a show



about 'The Worlds Largest Gummy Bears' came on and she said "dad we are carrying those in the store". So we carry the Worlds Largest 5lb Gummy Bear and World's Largest 2ft Gummy Worm in the store.

She also picked out some very unique and fun other items such as "The Perfect Pet" We now a whimsical pet adoption center in the store. Come in and see what I'm talking about.

If you drive by and look at the windows you will notice Cloud Nine Collectibles is a HUGE fan of horse's from Stuffed Plushes to Original fine art pieces to The Trail Of Painted ponies collectible figurines.

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Ponies in stock and tons arriving weekly we will be sure to have the one your looking for at a price that you can afford!

Cloud Nine Collectibles is more than just your average tourist shop, it offers alot of unique speciality gifts ranging from Designers Aprons, Unique t-shirts, picture frames and everything else in between.

We also feature a Eco Friendly products such as a Bamboo, Eco Friendly mattress. That's right a mattress. But this mattress is acloud that is sure to give you the best night sleep of your life with out taking a toll on the environment to make it!

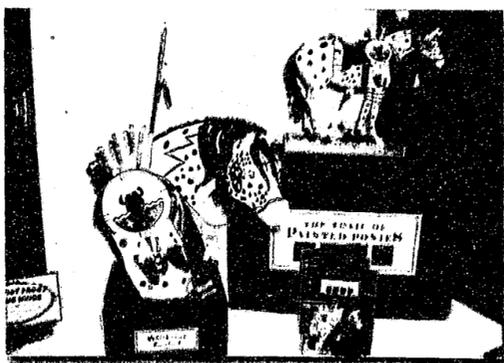
Also carry 100% ORGANIC cotton t-shirts, really cool recycled backpacks, messenger bags, and MP3 music players all made from recycled candy, CapriSun, potato chip products. Don't forget the all natural



soaps that are made by hand and with love from a local Capitan soap maker.

So when it's time for that special gift in someones life or you want to just stop in to say hi, please make sure to stop by and see what's happening at Cloud Nine Collectibles.

* Cloud Nine Collectibles is looking for unique and specialty items created from local artists to feature in the gallery. So if you have something to fun and unique whether it's art, jewelery etc.. please stop in and tell us about it!



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PAGE 1B

Pickleball popular in Ruidoso

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

What is pickleball you might well ask? The short answer is, it's a game for people nine- to year-old and a sport similar to badminton and tennis but instead of a racket the player uses a hard paddle and the ball is larger than a tennis ball and is made of perforated plastic.

Because it is played on a badminton-sized court, four pickleball courts can fit on the average sized tennis playing surface.

When winter Arizona resident, Gary Beatty, first tried sharing his passion for the game in Ruidoso in 2009, he had 8-10 people who shared his enthusiasm for the game.

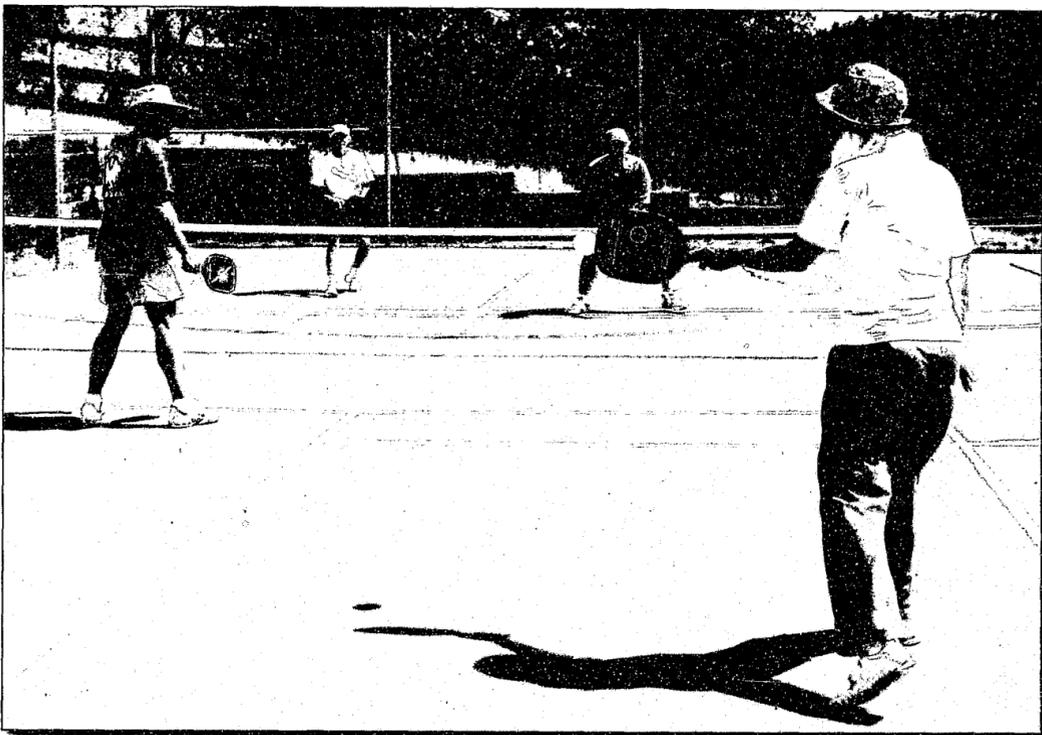
Last year, the family of pickleballers grew to 66 paid members, with a total of 100 enthusiasts playing through. This year, the number of paid members

has grown to 78.

They currently play the game on Margaret duPont's tennis court located at the corner of Cree Meadows and Hull roads. DuPont was a well-recognized tennis player who won 25 Grand Slam titles, among many other tennis honors. She is now 93 years old.

Pickleball was created in the summer of 1965 on Bainbridge Island, Wash., near Seattle. According to its co-inventors, U.S. Congressman Joel Pritchard, William (Bill) Bell, Jordan Steranka and Barney McCallum, their intent was to develop a fun new sport for the entire family.

Reportedly (from the USA Pickleball Association [USAPA]), the name came from a family dog named Pickles who would chase after the balls



MIKE CURRAN/RUIDOSO NEWS

See PICKLE, page 2B The foursome of, from left, Gary Beatty, Shirley Beer, Rickie Prichard and Nancy Otey enjoy a morning round of pickleball.

side line

Sports On Tap

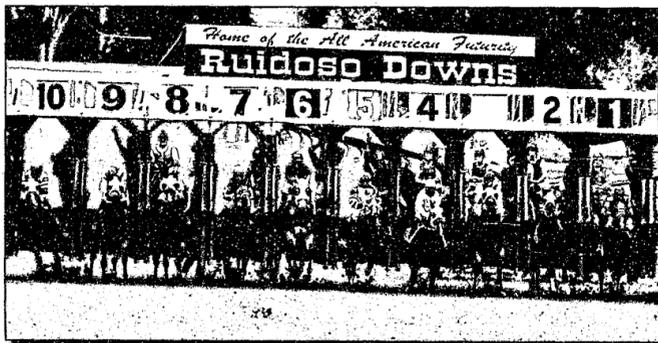
Race Track

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

On Deck

LC Little League Football

Registration for Lincoln County Little League will be held Saturday, Aug. 20, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at A Secure Indoor Self Storage (200 Resort Dr.) and again, Monday, Aug. 22, 5-7:30 p.m. Minors players, seven through nine-years-old and majors players 10 through 12-years-old are encouraged to register. Age deadline is Sept. 1, 2011. Fee is \$85. All players that did not play in 2010 must bring proof of age. There will be no late registrations.



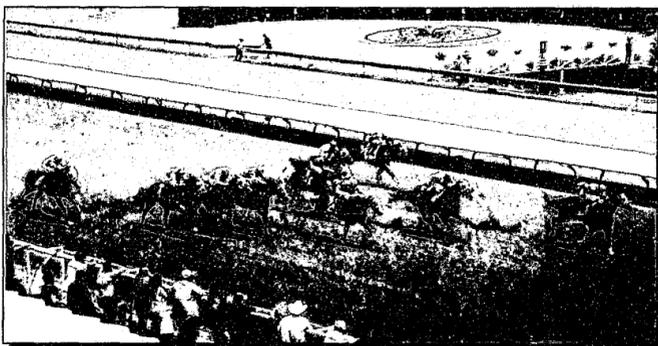
DAVID TREMBLAY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

In Sunday's Zia Derby 10 horses break from the gate.



DAVID TREMBLAY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The No. 1 horse, second from right, gets good position and starts to take command.



DAVID TREMBLAY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Mid-way in the race, New Mexico Streaker (No. 1) opens up a one-length lead.



DAVID TREMBLAY/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

New Mexico Streaker gets to the finish first in the \$121,219 Zia Derby.

Race track celebrates annual Zia Festival

TY WYANT
Ruidoso Downs Race Track

Call Me A Blazn Chic scored her first career victory when she won the Grade 1, \$348,080 Zia Futurity, the richest race on the Zia Festival program at Ruidoso Downs on Sunday afternoon.

The Zia Festival offered \$1.1-million on the stakes-filled 10-race program dedicated to New Mexico-bred

racing.

Owned by J and M Racing and Farm, Call Me A Blazn Chic raced the 400 yards in :19.59 under Alonzo Rivera to win her maiden in her fifth career start in the Zia Futurity for two-year-old quarter horses.

Call Me A Blazn Chic held off Erasmus B Dragon, who was then disqualified from second and placed fifth for interference. That

moved Caught On Tape to the runner-up position from third place and Fly Olivia Fly was awarded third place after finishing fourth.

The Roberto Sanchez-trained Call Me A Blazn Chic came into the Zia Futurity with a second and a pair of third-place runs from four starts. She was also seventh in the Mountain Top Futurity.

Call Me A Blazn Chic was purchased for \$15,000

at the Ruidoso New Mexico-bred Sale last summer and earned \$184,334 in the Zia Futurity.

The \$50,000 Land Of Enchantment, the final race on the card, at seven-and-one-half furlongs was one of the most anticipated races with Fullofenergy coming off an 11-month layoff in search of an unprecedented fifth-straight victory in the race. It was not the eight-year-old gelding's day as he

raced in contention until the final turn and then not pushed when he faded out of contention.

Frank Sumpter's Lota Talent, a 17-1 outsider, followed pacesetter Lesters Secret and then gained the lead at the top of the stretch. The Casey Lambert-ridden gelding then held off Our Choice to win by three quarters of a

See ZIA, page 2B

PICKLE

FROM PAGE 1B

and then hide them in the bushes.

Pickle's Ball was subsequently shortened to pickleball.

Early on, families played the sport in their backyard on a hard surface, on driveways and on dead-end streets.

As the sport grew in the 1970s, it evolved into a paddle-court sport with organized rules.

Reportedly, an estimated 100,000 people across the U.S. are involved in the game.

Within the last year, pickleball has been written about in the Wall Street Journal, USA Today and featured on "Good

Morning America." Microsoft founder, Bill Gates, plays the sport for exercise.

Beatty's efforts to establish pickleball in Ruidoso have finally borne fruit.

This year's pickleball group began play in mid-May and will continue until October.

Play begins at 8 a.m. and usually continues until noon (or the last player leaves), every day but Sunday.

The average game lasts about 15 minutes, depending on the player's level of skill, and it's conceivable

16 people could be playing at the same time on duPont's tennis court, with another 16 waiting to get on.

"I believe pickleball is a piece of the puzzle to the fountain of youth," Beatty

said. "Seniors act like kids again and exhibit good attitudes — just for the fun of it."

Beatty insists no great skill-set is needed to play pickleball, just a good disposition.

And he should know. He started playing tennis more than 50 years ago and took up pickleball in 1978.

He will soon be teaching pickleball classes for ENMU starting Monday, Aug. 22, on Mondays and Thursdays at 5 p.m. for a period of four weeks.

Once those classes conclude he will repeat the clinic for another four weeks.

What best sums up the game of pickleball to Beatty is this quote: "Well spent leisure time can lead to great leaps in happi-



Four pickleball players play a game on top of the YMCA Building in Glendale, Calif.

ness. Activity that combines socializing and physical activity, and require

some moderate skills, are the best." For more information

on pickleball visit www.usapa.org or call Gary Beatty at 520-991-7396.

ZIA

FROM PAGE 1B

length. Lesters Secret held on for third place.

Trained by Joel Marr, who also trains Fullofenergy, Lota Talent prepared for the Land Of Enchantment with a win over five-and-half furlongs at Ruidoso Downs on June 6.

In the Grade 2, \$121,219 Zia Derby for quarter horses, 12-1 longshot New Mexico Streaker surged at the midway point of the 400-yard test to get a convincing victory under jockey Oscar Rincon.

The Rancho Dos Los Potrillos-owned New Mexico Streaker raced the 400 yards in :19.453. He won by one length over Talley's First Shake while EBW Getusum finished third, a neck behind Talley's First Shake.

The Ralph Muniz-trained New Mexico Streaker scored his first win in more than 13 months when he won his Mountain Top Futurity trial at Ruidoso Downs. However, he has been consistent with nine top-three finishes from 11 outs.

In the \$156,290 Rio Grande Senorita Futurity

for two-year-old thoroughbred fillies, Our Flying Angel backed up her stunning trial win with a professional two-and-one-quarter length score under Jimmy Ray Coates.

In her Senorita trial, which was her career debut, Our Flying Angel was simply faster than her rivals and she drew out to the more than 11-length victory.

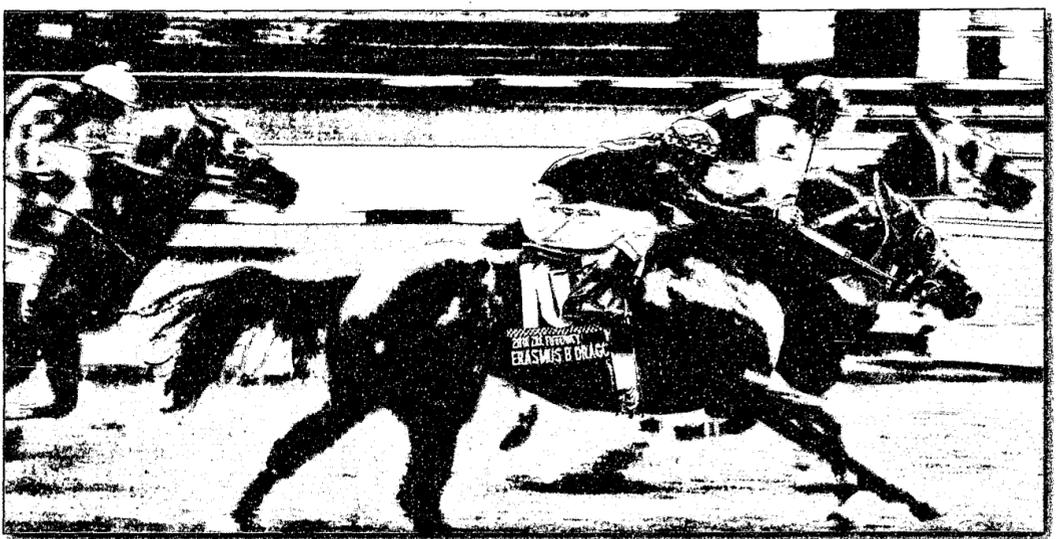
In the Senorita, she handled tougher completion by showing speed from the gate and then handled pressure by Sandia Sonata. Our Fly Angel, the 1-2 favorite, showed her class inside the eighth pole when she drew out for the win in 1:05.55 for the five and one half furlongs.

Our Flying Angel is owned by the partnership of Pierre and Leslie Amestoy with Mike Abraham and is trained by Ross Amestoy.

Sandia Sonata saved second place by one-and-one-half lengths over Roll Bloomers Roll.

In the \$149,250 Rio Grande Senor Futurity for two-year-old thoroughbred males, trainer Todd Fincher scored his third win of the afternoon when Desert Road rolled by favored That's Who in the stretch.

Under Ricardo Jaime, Desert Road raced to the



Call Me a Blazn Chic, inside, wins the \$384,080 (total purse) Zia Futurity Sunday.

expanding three-and-one-quarter-length win in 1:05.47 for the five-and-one half furlongs.

That's Who, the 3-2 favorite, held second while Band Of Glory was third.

Owned by Dale Taylor, Carey Taylor and Jon Hogg, Desert Road won his maiden at first asking and then finished just a neck behind Boy Ego in his Senor Futurity trial.

In the \$50,000 Road Runner Handicap, Raymond Simpson's Thenew Normal defeated the best three-year-old thorough-

bred sprinters with a 11-1 upset win under Juan Ochoa, his third winner of afternoon.

Thenew Normal covered the five-and-one-half furlongs in 1:04.48 for his first stakes win and third victory from four starts. He previously won his maiden against winning company and took a conditioned allowance race.

Mostly Dust finished second while River Grade Trick was third.

The Weston Martin-trained Thenew Normal raced in a striking position and caught pacesetter Mostly Dust at the top of the stretch. The two dueled for most of the final eighth mile before Thenew Normal kicked clear for the one-and-three-quarter length win.

In the \$50,000 Lincoln Handicap for older female thoroughbred females, favored Fan's Cat made a long move around the turn and through the stretch of the six-furlong race for the convincing two-and-one-half length victory in 1:10.44.

Dale Taylor's Fan's Cat, under Ochoa, raced behind the front-running Shemoves down the backstretch before making her winning bid. I Am Lesters

Gal also caught Shemoves to grab second place. Shemoves settled for third.

The four-year-old Fan's Cat, from the Todd Fincher barn, raced to her fourth win from eight 2011 starts and had a pair of second-place finishes in her two previous outs, including a runner-up effort in the Foutz Distaff on April 24.

In the \$50,000 Sierra Starlet for three-year-old thoroughbred fillies, Helen Nave's Comicsperfectstorm made a stunning return to racing after a year-long lay-off with a dominating five-length victory under Ochoa for his first winner on the program.

The Fincher-trained daughter of Comic Genius raced the five-and-one-half furlongs in 1:05.32.

Charleston Bound was second and Squall Wilbud was third.

The odds-on favorite, Comicsperfectstorm's career started in winning style last year when she won three of her four starts, capped by a more than four-length win in the Rio Grande Senorita Futurity as the 7-10 favorite.

In the Grade 2, \$50,000 Zia Handicap for quarter horses, trainer Carl Draper's horses took the top-two spots with 2-1

favorite Jenuine Joy getting the win over stable mate Genuine American.

Lethal Delight finished third in the full field of older quarter horses.

Fredda Draper's Jenuine Joy wore down Genuine American in the final 100 yards to get her eighth win from 11 starts. She raced the 400 yards in :19.302 to win by one-half length.

The Genuine Strawfly daughter won two stakes at Sunland Park last winter and came off a win in the Tommy "Duke" Smith Handicap at SunRay Park.

In the \$50,000 Zia 870 Championship, trainer Martin Orona swept the top-two spots with BRT Opulence, the 17-10 favorite, and Bullets Brother.

Bullets Brother set the pace from the inside post position and BRT Opulence was lapped on his side until he made his winning bid in the final 200 yards. He won by one length with a :45.026 time for the 870 yards.

Bonndaddy's was three lengths behind Bullets Brother for third.

Rogelio Carrasco Sr.'s BRT Opulence earned his strong favoritism after winning the New Mexico Horseman's 870 Handicap in his previous start.

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Visitors at Ruidoso Downs Race Track spend time browsing Sunday at vendor's booths during the annual Zia Festival weekend.

The photos on this page are by Mike Curran/Ruidoso News and are available at the Ruidoso News Media Center at www.ruidosonews.com.



A couple wait to explain their wares to Zia Festival browsers.



A little girl gets her face painted by Leslie Reed of Gypsy Hounds.



Linda Manion shows a prized portrait of "Zenyatta."

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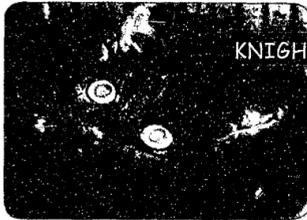
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IS A SPUNKY DOXIE/TERRIER MIX, ABOUT 6 MONTHS OLD. HE LOVES ATTENTION AND PLAYING WITH OTHER DOGS. TRISTAN WEIGHS AROUND 10 POUNDS, HAS SHORT BLACK FUR WITH SOME WHITE ON HIS CHEST AND PAWS. HE ALSO HAS A VERY FAINT WHITE STRIPE DOWN THE MIDDLE OF HIS FACE.

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JENNY

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!

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DEE DEE

IS A SWEET, SHY SHEPHERD MIX WHO WAS PUMPED IN THE SHELTER PARKING LOT IN A WIRE CAGE AFTER HOURS. SHE IS WALKING WELL ON A LEASH, SPAYED AND CURRENT ON HER VACCINATIONS. DEE DEE IS GOOD WITH OTHER DOGS AND VERY GENTLE.

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CHARITY

IS A BEAUTIFUL (THE PICTURE DOES NOT DO HER JUSTICE!) HEELER MIX WHO IS ABOUT 6 MONTHS OLD. SHE IS GREAT WITH OTHER DOGS/PUPPIES, WALKS WELL ON A LEASH AND IS A BIT HESITANT WITH STRANGERS. SHE WILL LIKELY FORM A STRONG BOND WITH HER OWNER ONCE SHE HAS FOUND HER PERMANENT HOME. CHARITY WEIGHS ABOUT 30 POUNDS. IS SPAYED AND CURRENT ON HER VACCINATIONS.

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WILLIE

IS A HANDSOME LITTLE GUY WHO IS ABOUT 9 WEEKS OLD. HE WAS BORN ON APRIL 23RD AND BROUGHT TO THE SHELTER ON JUNE 10. WILLIE IS PART OF A LITTER WITH 2 OTHER KITTENS. HE IS FRIENDLY AND READY TO GO TO A GREAT FAMILY.

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BOXTOP

IS A CUTE 3 MONTH OLD KITTEN WHO WAS FOUND NEXT TO A LOCAL HIGHWAY WITH HIS 2 LITTERMATES. HE IS FRIENDLY, PLAYFUL AND READY TO FIND A PERMANENT HOME. BOXTOP HAS BOLD MARKINGS ON HIS FACE WHICH ARE SURE TO CATCH YOUR EYE.

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JEXTER

IS A HANDSOME, CURIOUS AND FRIENDLY KITTEN WHO WAS FOUND WITH HIS SISTER IN A LOCAL RUIDOSO NEIGHBORHOOD. HE IS ABOUT 10 WEEKS OLD, SHORT HAIR AND ORANGE TABBY AND WHITE IN COLOR.

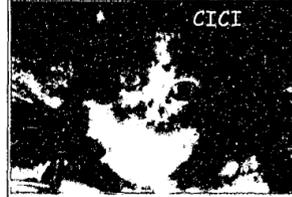
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SELENA

IS A SWEETHEART OF A CAT WHO WAS FOUND AS A STRAY, PREGNANT, AND THE FINDERS KEPT HER UNTIL HER KITTENS WERE OLD ENOUGH TO BE WEANED. SELENA IS NOW LOOKING FOR HER PERMANENT HOME. SHE IS ABOUT 1 YEAR OLD AND VERY SOCIAL. SELENA HAS UNIQUE MARKINGS WITH A PERFECT WHITE STRIP DOWN HER NOSE.

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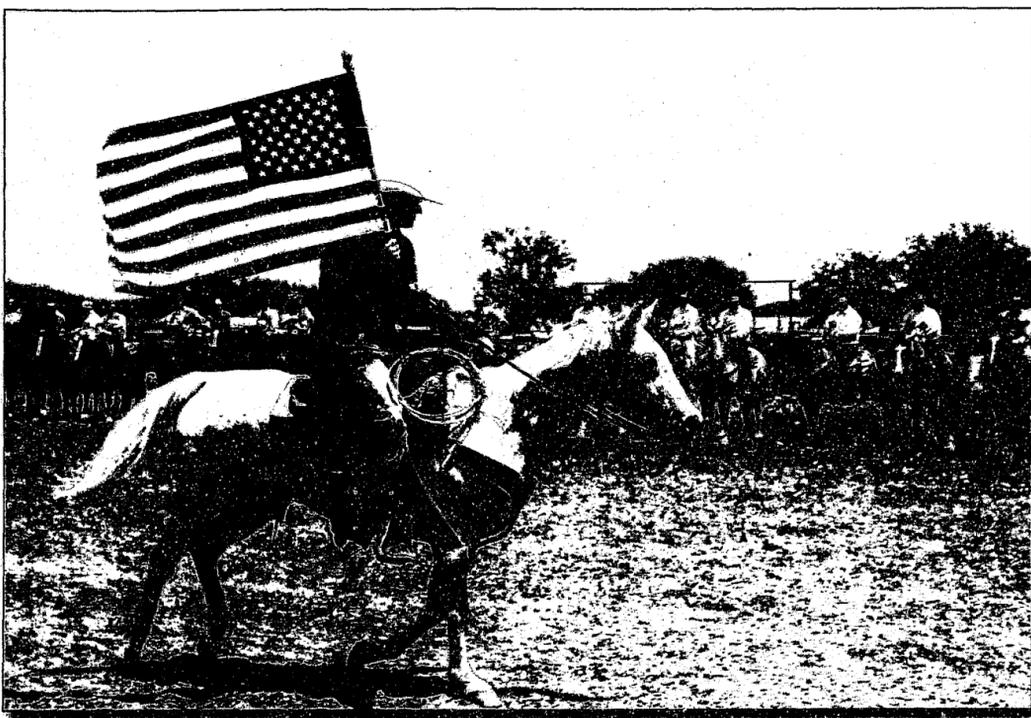
CICI

Is a pretty 3 month old kitten who was found when she was just a few weeks old with her mother and two littermates. Cici is a bit shy, but will really come around once she is in a home. Cici has beautiful tortoiseshell and white markings and is short haired.

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RUIDOSO NEWS

LINCOLN COUNTY



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Clockwise, from top, left, Dylan Johnson rides with the flag during the opening ceremonies for Corona's ranch rodeo. The Yard Bird Ranch team wastes no time roping their wild cow to win the first event of the Corona Ranch Rodeo. Lacking shoelaces, the first runner back from the kids' boot scramble sprinted back, well ahead of her competition. Left to right, Cody, Cory and Rusty Winders ride off into the sunset, fully supplied.

Corona Days and cowboy spirit

ERIK BEARER
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Corona Days returned on Saturday with a parade that stopped traffic on Main Street and a rodeo that roped up area ranch hands, both young and older, to show off their stuff.

More than 26 floats lined the street from organizations and residents of Corona, as well as from neighboring towns. Cars were lined up and down both sides of the street and tailgate parties featured prominently, even after the parade passed.

Following the parade, many visitors and residents went to the school for a heaping lunch, which "could do a body some damage," according to one contented cowboy.

The FFA ranch rodeo started with a "thank you" to God, America, and cowboys.

Tony Johnson, the FFA

teacher at Corona High School, announced the rest of the ranch rodeo events.

"Amen," Johnson said. "Let's rodeo, everybody!"

The teams competing were the Black Hills Ranch, Blackwater Ranch, Carter Ranch, Circle Cross Ranch, G.Q. Cattle Company, High Desert Ranch, Holleyman Ranch, Los Caballeros, M Spear Ranch, Need More Land & Cattle Company, The Regulators, Smith Ranch, Sugar Pop Cattle Company, and the Yard Bird Ranch.

The teams competed for the fastest times in five events - wild cow milking, team penning, team branding, team tying, and trailer loading.

Waddy Hobbs, Billy Bob Shafer, and Robert Shepperd judged the event.

"It's to see who has the best ranch hands, really," said Jared Alderete of Holleyman Ranch.

The first event to tram-

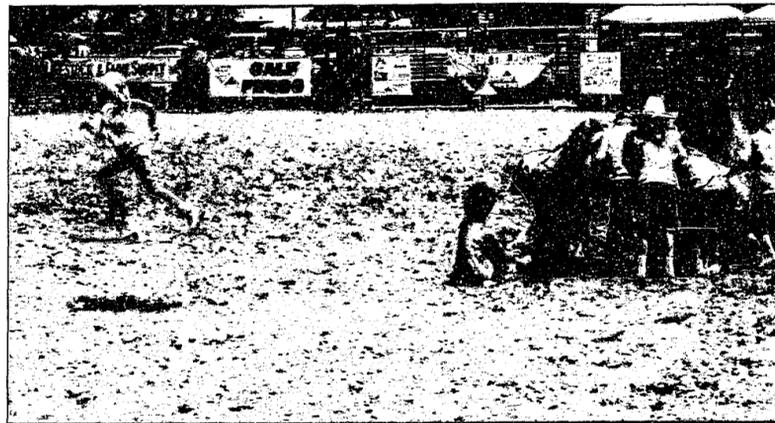
ple the field was the wild cow milking, in which teams competed to be the fastest to rope and milk a cow before running to the judge's circle with the rope and enough milk in a bottle to spill a few drops.

The wild cows were none too pleased with the event, and one or two seemed to have thoughts of revenge against all cowboys.

Just after the Circle Cross team finished milking their cow and let her go, what did she see but another cowboy, Brice Mansell, with a bottle of milk in his hand. She paused for half a moment to consider, and then lowered her head and charged.

After flying heels above horns, the runner from Carter Ranch made it to the judge's circle with barely enough milk left in his bottle to spill out a drop for the judges, though he took plenty of dust back with him.

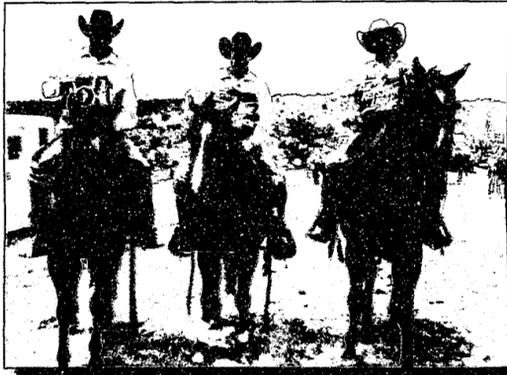
Following the milking,



cowboys took a break to set up the pens for the next event and gave the field over to children nine and younger for the Boot Scramble, which had no losers, but certainly had some first served. All the children received treats and a bit of exercise.

Carter Ranch from Fort Sumner won the ranch rodeo with High Desert Ranch from Corona in second, and The Regulators from Corona took third.

Tony Johnson of Corona's FFA said the event raised between \$5,000 to \$6,000, including proceeds from the brisket dinner, concessions, and contributions from their sponsors.



The monies will go to Corona FFA's 28 members, allowing them to participate in local and national FFA events.

First Wind, a sponsor for several of the competitors in the Ranch Rodeo for the past three years, was pre-

sent at the event to promote its wind energy project in Gallo Canyon.

"We like to be a part of the community and help out," said First Wind representative Matt Desmond, who returned for his second year at the event.

Billy the Kid: Under guard from Mesilla to Lincoln

Mesilla, in Dona Ana County, experienced a brief period of excitement in 1881. Billy the Kid was transferred from Santa Fe to Mesilla, to be tried on several counts of murder. The Kid was found guilty of the murder of Sheriff Brady.

The judge decreed, "...the said William Bonney, alias Kid, alias William Antrim, be hanged by the neck until his body is dead."

According to Roadside History on New Mexico (Fugate), the prisoner had to be transported to Lincoln in the face of a newspaper editor's grim prediction: "We expect

everyday to hear of Bonney's escape."

With Billy under heavy guard, the trip to Lincoln came off without incident. Every year, since 1940, the rest of the story is told in Lincoln in an outdoor folk pageant, "Last Escape of Billy the Kid," this is part of Old Lincoln Days Aug. 5, 6 and 7.

I was in Las Cruces this past weekend and wanted to step on the ground that made history in 1881 at Mesilla.

I stopped to visit the historic building where Billy the Kid was tried and sentenced to hang. He was taken to the courthouse in

Lincoln where he escaped. Later he met death at the

hands of Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garret, who was one of Dona Ana's pioneer sheriffs.

Like other tourists, I gawked at the old ceiling vigas. Vigas are the large wooden beams that support the roof.

This old adobe building has its original 18 inch

walls made of adobe mud bricks. This building was

built in Mesilla's early history. Narciso Valencia sold it in 1859 to Zenobia Madrid, wife of Ernest Angerstien, who ran a store. After the Civil War, the county used the building as the county courthouse and

jail until 1882. It was here that Billy the Kid was tried and sentenced to



POLLY E. CHAVEZ
Historical Potpourri



Drawing on its namesake's infamy, the Billy the Kid gift shop is a popular tourist stop.

hang.

By the way, look for the Lincoln County Historical Society (LCHS) during Old Lincoln Days in Lincoln and at Fort Stanton, LIVE! to promote membership and their LCHS publications, like Memories of a Country Doctor, Stroll Though Old Lincoln Town, Cemeteries of Lincoln County and many more. In Lincoln they will be

located at their headquarters, Dr. Woods Annex.

LCHS also has colorful Lincoln County maps in two sizes, good for framing. They are great for pointing out the places that made history in this county. Highlighted are the town of Lincoln, Tunstall Murder Site, Blazer's Mill, and murder site of Morton, Baker and McCloskey.

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Former officer pleads to charges

HAROLD OAKES
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

CARRIZOZO – Former police officer Christopher “Corky” Condon pleaded no contest to four counts of fraud and two counts of forgery in District Court July 22.

“Mr. Condon was operating under the color of law and defrauded the taxpayers,” District Attorney Diane Martwick said.

Condon’s plea amounted to an admission to the charges of using paid time off from the Ruidoso Police Department under the pretense of attending military training in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 and falsifying military orders to support his claim.

As reported on RuidosoNews.com July 23, Condon, 45, pleaded guilty to charges of impersonating a United States Army officer to defraud the government Sept. 9, 2010. On Dec. 8, 2010, District Judge William Johnson sentenced Condon to three years probation and ordered him to pay \$9,453.80 in restitution.

“Mr. Condon has paid all but \$783.33 of the restitution,” Martwick said.

Public Defender Gary Mitchell said restitution was paid in federal court and about \$780 needed to be forwarded to the Village of Ruidoso.

Mitchell told the court that when Condon was charged and resigned from the Ruidoso Police Department Dec. 8, 2009, he and

Village Attorney Dan Bryant negotiated a deal in which the village took Condon’s last pay check and all his accrued time off for restitution.

“It wasn’t quite enough, but it almost was,” Mitchell said.

Martwick and Mitchell had reached a plea and disposition agreement that negated the need for a trial that was scheduled to begin in District Court Wednesday, July 27. The agreement called for three of the fourth-degree sentences to be concurrent, reducing the maximum sentence from 10 and a half years to six years and the maximum fine from \$30,000 to \$15,000. The agreement left sentencing solely to District Judge Karen Parsons’ discretion.

Martwick asked Parsons to put Condon in prison and order him to pay the maximum fine.

“The Public Defender’s office is broke, my office is broke, the courts are broke, I am asking in all my cases that the defendant be ordered to pay a fine,” Martwick said. “You said the maximum penalty here is \$15,000. I ask you to consider to let Mr. Condon make payments on that.”

Mitchell argued that Condon was a respected police officer who did a lot of good for the children of the community.

“Never for a second did I doubt his integrity or his good faith,” Mitchell said. “He was excellent and it is regrettable that we lose

him.”

Mitchell said that in every instance where Condon took paid time off from the police department he was working with the Boy Scouts or other children.

Mitchell asked that Parsons grant Condon a conditional release concurrent with his federal conviction.

“We’re not trying to justify what he did,” Mitchell said. “It was a mistake on his part. It was a horrible mistake on his part. He ruined a great career.”

Mitchell asked the court to sentence Condon to probation.

Parsons allowed members of the audience to speak before she sentenced Condon.

“He is a brigadier general,” Millie Woods said. “I spoke with the gentleman who was over the New Mexico National Guard. During the time there was a militia and they were trying to fill a quota for brigadier generals.”

Woods is the founder of Ruidoso’s Military Appreciation Week and named Condon to the board of directors of that organization shortly before his arrest on these charges.

Sharon Condon, Christopher Condon’s mother, said the charges against her son were not true.

“He is a brigadier general, do you papers understand that,” Sharon Condon said, turning to the Ruidoso News reporter seated in the courtroom.



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Former police officer Christopher “Corky” Condon shakes hands with Public Defender Gary Mitchell at the end of the hearing in District Court July 22. Condon pleaded no contest to four counts of fraud and two counts of forgery and was sentenced to five years probation and a \$5,000 fine.

The Ruidoso News reported that Corky Condon was indicted for and convicted of pretending to be an Army brigadier general to defraud taxpayers.

Parsons told Sharon Condon to direct her comments to the bench.

“The New Mexico Defense Force has a completely different uniform,” Martwick said. “That is not the uniform he wore on military day when he came on base.”

Martwick said Corky Condon was wearing a U.S. Army uniform with brigadier general stars.

“This is not about what

uniform he wore or whether he is a brigadier general in the New Mexico Defense force,” Martwick said after the sentencing. “He defrauded the taxpayers by forging documents and taking paid time off for military training he was not attending.”

Parsons said her decision was based solely on the act committed and the information presented and had nothing to do with who Corky Condon is or the fact that he was a police officer.

“In this case, I can’t give him a conditional discharge,” Parsons said. “It doesn’t mean that he is a

bad person. He made a mistake.”

Parsons sentenced Corky Condon to six years, suspended the sentence and placed him on probation for four and a half years.

“I am also going to impose a fine of \$5,000 which needs to be paid by the end of his probation and place him on five years probation,” Parsons said.

The sentence is concurrent with the three years probation imposed by the federal court in November.

“He will never be a police officer again,” Mitchell said. “He is a chef now.”

RUIDOSO POLICE BRIEFS

White line fever

Sgt. Joel Martin responded to the 700 block of Mechem at 5:25 p.m., July 29, for a report of suspicious activity.

A witness reported seeing two men, who were walking their dogs on the walking path, hide a bag of white powder under a sandbag by the trail.

Martin followed the directions of the witness and found the bag. He left it there and watched from down the street for a little while to see if someone would come and claim it. When no one came to claim it, Martin went to look for the men.

Martin had seen the two men the witness described when he responded to the call and found them down the street.

Confronted with the witness who could identify them, the men admitted hiding the bag, but said they found it in the street and hid it so no children would find it and get hurt. They said it was lying in the roadway like someone had dropped it and there was white powder around it, like it had been ran over.

Martin went to where the men said they found the bag and confirmed there was white powder in

See BRIEFS page 6B



Robert Burns

Robert Burns, 58, of Ruidoso, NM was a beloved son, brother and friend who passed away unexpectedly on July 21, 2011. He had moved to Ruidoso 5 years ago from Phoenix, AZ.

Robert is survived by 1 brother and 3 sisters. Edward Burns of Prescott Valley, AZ; Susan Waibel of Prescott Valley, AZ; Janis Burns & her husband Tim Frein of Los Osos, CA; & Carole Caughron & her husband Gary Caughron of Capitan, NM. Robert is also survived by several nieces & nephews.

Memorial services for Robert will be held Saturday, August 6, 2011 at 2:00 pm at Canaan Trl Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the Ruidoso Senior Center as this was where Robert worked as a volunteer.

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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 5B

the roadway. The powder tested positive for cocaine.

Martin reported that he believed the men had in fact found it and did not charge them.

Martin said there were reports of a suspicious vehicle cruising the area like they were looking for something.

Martin took the bag of cocaine to the police department to be destroyed and called the Ruidoso Fire Department to flush the powder from the street.

— by Harold Oakes/
Ruidoso News

Police blotter

July 22

8:45 a.m. — Officer Eric Ament responded to the 100 block of Park Avenue for a report of criminal damage to property.

Ament reports someone had thrown rocks through several windows.

July 23

4:39 p.m. — Sgt. Aaron Frost took a report of larceny of a cell phone.

The victim came to the police department to report having left her cell phone at the tennis courts at White Mountain Sports Complex the previous day. She said when she realized it was gone and went back to look for it and could not find it.

When the victim called the carrier to report the loss, she said there had been \$61.03 in calls, text messages and ring tone orders made on the phone.

It also showed collect calls from Lincoln County Detention Center to the phone.

July 24

1:08 a.m. — Officer Curtis Rodgers reportedly observed Jerry Reed, 47, of Roswell, walk out of The Quarters in Midtown Ruidoso and light a cigarette.

Rodgers issued Reed a non-traffic citation for improper handling of fire.

1:38 a.m. — Officers Lance Ledford, Rodgers and Cpl. Lawrence Chavez responded to the 100 block of Mustang for a report of a screaming female.

Ledford reports while he was talking to one woman, whom he described as "intoxicated," he told her to stay where she was while the officers figured out what was going on. Ledford grabbed the woman's arm to keep her from moving. Ledford reported Breezy Martinez, 14, stepped between the woman and himself, grabbed his uniform and attempted to push him away. Ledford took Martinez to the ground and restrained her.

Ledford issued Martinez a citation to Juvenile Probation for battery on a police officer and released her to her parents.

2:38 a.m. — Rodgers reported observing two men walk out of The Quarters in Midtown and light a cigarette.

Rodgers reported they said they were not aware of the fire restrictions, so he had them extinguish the cigarette. Rodgers reportedly told the men it was a \$500 fine.

A short time later, Rodgers saw one of the men he had warned walking on Sudderth Street smoking a

cigarette. Rodgers issued Bartolo Jemenez, 30, of Dexter, N.M., a non-traffic citation for improper handling of fire.

July 25

10:33 a.m. — Officers were dispatched to Country Club and Paradise Canyon for a report of five men walking along the road smoking, in violation of the fire restrictions.

Officer Jon Lund arrived first and reported one of the men had ran away prior to his arrival.

Lt. Ray Merritt reported seeing the man hiding behind a house in the 300 block of Country Club. Officer Steve Corbin approached the hiding man from behind and identified himself as a police officer. The man took off with Corbin in pursuit.

The officers pursued the suspect for over a mile, apprehending him in the 100 block of Rowan Drive.

Corbin arrested Shawn Forte, 19, of Mescalero, for resisting, evading or obstructing an officer. Forte reportedly said he ran because there was a warrant for his arrest. Judge Lorena LaMay issued a warrant for Forte in April when he failed to appear in court on charges of assault on a health care worker and minor in possession of alcohol.

July 26

9:07 a.m. — Officer Jon Lund responded to Allsup's on Highway 70 for a report of a gas skip.

The clerk reported that a woman provided a debit card, with a picture, for a gas purchase, pumped \$35.02 in gas and left. The card was invalid but the

clerk said the woman matched the picture on the debit card.

9:24 p.m. — Officer Tyrel Tyson responded to Sierra Cinema for a report of a vehicle burglary.

The victim reported someone had taken a Microsoft Zune and a debit card from her car during the movie.

Tyson reported there was no sign of forced entry.

July 27

2:30 p.m. — Officer James Urban responded to Lawrence Brothers IGA when the manager notified the police department he wished to pursue shoplifting charges against a former employee.

Urban reports the shoplifting incident occurred July 6 when a mother, accompanied by her minor daughter reportedly shoplifted a bottle of alcohol and some meat. The mother reportedly told them at that time that her daughter was not aware that she had taken the items and she had given them back to the store manager.

Urban reported the manager had reviewed the video tape and reportedly said the daughter was with the mother when she put the items in her purse.

Assistant District Attorney Joanna Zimmerman approved charges of shoplifting and contributing to the delinquency of a minor against Angelica Alaniz, 35, and Judge Lorena LaMay signed a warrant for her arrest.

July 28

2:17 p.m. — Animal Control and Code Enforcement Officer Chris Eisenberg responded to the 200

block of Carters Lane for a property nuisance complaint.

Eisenberg reports finding a six- to seven-month old Blue Heeler dog dead on the porch of a residence.

A neighbor reportedly told Eisenberg that he found the puppy hanging off the porch on his lead and placed the dead dog on the porch.

Eisenberg reported that lead was short and he found "Pizza Rolls" in the dog's food dish.

Eisenberg left a notice on the door of the residence for the owner to contact him.

Owner Joseph Simon, 29, reportedly contacted Eisenberg and told him he found the puppy a few days earlier and didn't want it running around, so he took it in. Eisenberg reportedly told him the lease was too short, Pizza Rolls were not sufficient dog food and issued Simon a non-traffic citation for cruelty to animals.

July 29

7:49 p.m. — Officer James Urban responded to the 100 block of Morgan Drive for a burglary report.

The victim reported someone had entered an open window and stole an Xbox, Playstation 3, Wii, 10 games and 10 movies.

Urban reported he found no footprints and no fingerprints.

4:55 p.m. — Urban responded to Sierra Cinema for a report of several Native Americans drinking behind the theater.

He reports that when he arrived he observed one woman sitting against the wall drinking Mickey's beer. The woman reported-

ly continued to drink the beer as she responded to his call to come and talk to him.

Shannon R. Dolan, 44, of Mescalero, reportedly told Urban she had drank about a 12-pack of Mickey's and Urban reported she appeared to be highly intoxicated.

Urban arrested Dolan for drinking in public. Unable to post the \$250 bond, Dolan was transported to Lincoln County Detention Center.

9:09 p.m. — Officers Ledford and Tillman Freeman responded to the 100 block of Grindstone for a report of a domestic disturbance.

Freeman issued Josephine Williams, 44, a non-traffic citation for battery.

Ledford discovered there was a warrant for the victim and arrested Todd Skinner, 40, on the Otero County warrant.

July 31

1:18 a.m. — Officers Ledford and Rodgers reported hearing shots in the area of Evergreen and Carters Lane.

The officers found one woman who reportedly saw a man running in the area. They were unable to locate anyone. They reported finding two spent shell casings that were still warm.

5:45 p.m. — Officer Josh Snodgrass responded to McDonald's Restaurant on Sudderth Drive for a report of a fight.

The victim said Trumen Bob, 39, of Mescalero drove through the parking lot, yelled at him and then got out of his truck and pushed and punched him and left.

Snodgrass issued Bob a non-traffic citation for battery.



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Monday, July 18, 2011
Dear Trina:

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Last year we started tracking Military Discounts with the tickets we sell. When I compare last year to date, (1/1/10 to 7/18/10) to this year, (1/1/11 to 7/17/11), we show a 202% increase in Military Discounts! The monthly comparison of January to June shows anywhere from a 150% to 300% increase in the number of Military Discounts sold per month!

Obviously, we show a significant increase in Military traffic and awareness of our Military Discount because of your R & R Military publication that inserts 15,000 copies into the Fort Bliss Monitor every month.

Thank you for your being the Official Publisher. It works for me!

Sincerely,

Tyson Whittle
Owner
Pillows Funtrackers

“...when I compare last year to this year we show a 202% increase in Military Discounts...and the monthly comparison of January to June shows anywhere from a 150 to 300% increase”.
This absolutely exceeded my expectations! ”

Tyson Whittle
Owner
Pillows Funtrackers



“ The Ruidoso News' Military R & R publication reaches an important audience...R & R has 15,000 copies inserted into the Fort Bliss Monitor each and every month. Run a very special offer, and you will get a response that equals and exceeds your expectations... ”

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The next deadline for R & R Military is Friday, **August 12, 2011.**

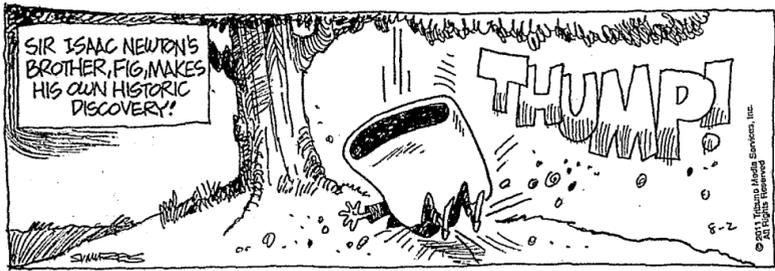
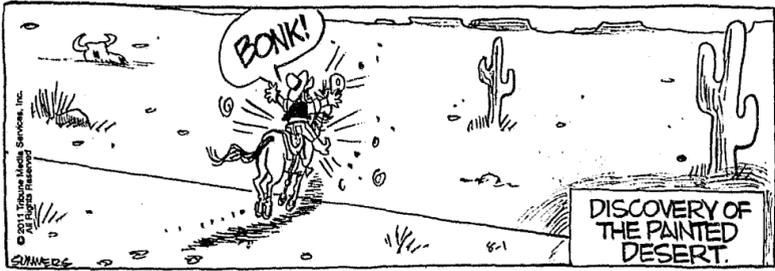


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SHOE



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E ₁	I ₁	R ₁	M ₃	B ₃	R ₁	T ₁	
E ₁	I ₁	O ₁	S ₁	T ₁	G ₂	M ₃	
E ₁	O ₁	O ₁	K ₅	W ₄	P ₃	C ₃	Triple Word Score
E ₁	I ₁	I ₁	T ₁	R ₁	H ₄	N ₁	1st Letter Double

PAR SCORE 140-150
BEST SCORE 235

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

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JUMBLE
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GSITH
HICRA
SMLOYT
ICCNIP

Your answer here:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Trust me, you'll get the hang of it.
Coach, I can't see and this glove is weird. Can I go back to playing outfield?
THE LITTLE LEAGUER STRUGGLED AT HIS NEW POSITION AT FIRST, BUT LATER HE WOULD —

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

						3		
	4	6	3				9	
9					5			2
8	2			5		1		
			2	9				
		1		6				5
2			5				8	
	1				8	6	3	
		4						

SOLUTION TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

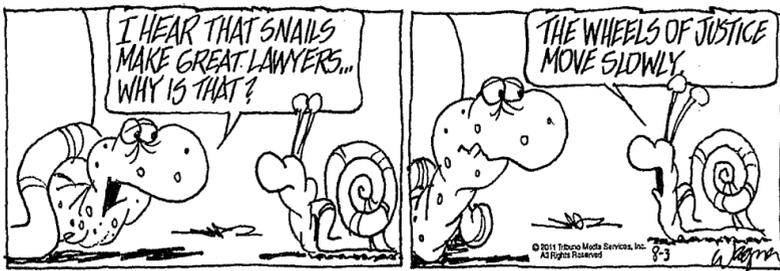
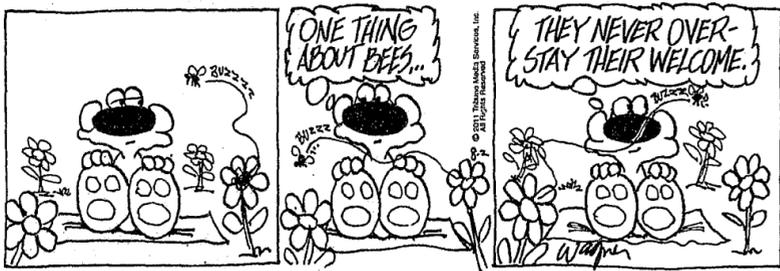
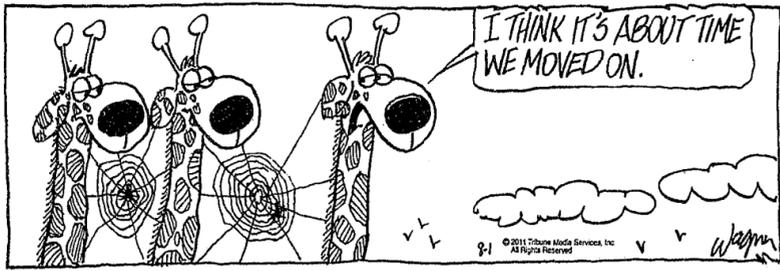
8/3/11

7	5	2	4	9	1	3	6	8
1	4	6	3	8	2	5	9	7
9	3	8	6	7	5	4	1	2
8	2	9	7	5	3	1	4	6
4	6	5	2	1	9	8	7	3
3	7	1	8	6	4	9	2	5
2	9	3	5	4	6	7	8	1
5	1	7	9	2	8	6	3	4
6	8	4	1	3	7	2	5	9

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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ANIMAL CRACKERS



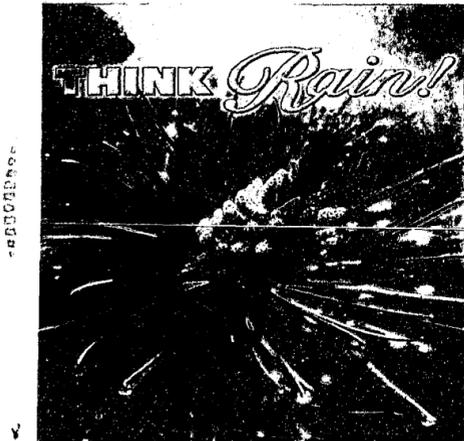
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"I found my new best friend in the Ruidoso News Adopt-A-Pet Ad."

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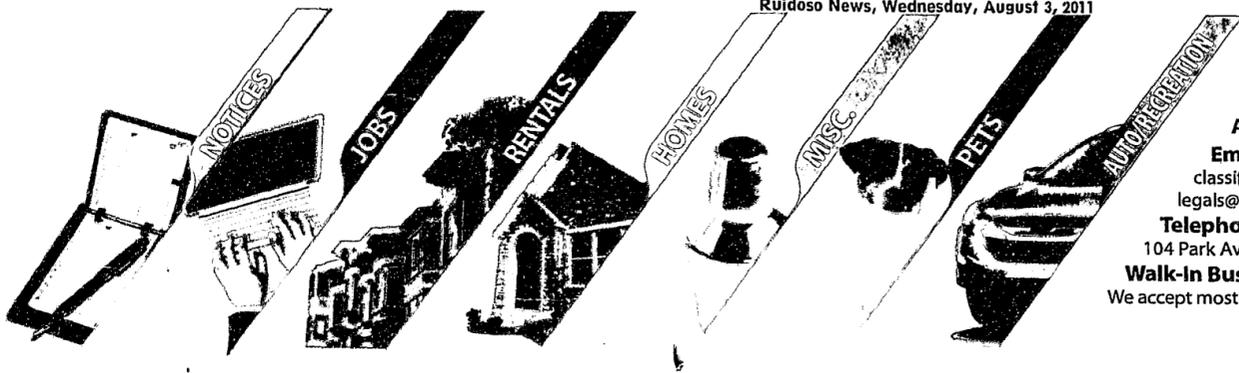
Jumbles: SIGHT + CHAIR MOSTLY PICNIC
Answer: The Little Leaguer struggled at his new position at first, but later he would — CATCH ON



SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION

PAR SCORE 140-150
BEST SCORE 235

H ₄	N ₁	H ₄	E ₁	R ₁	I ₁	T ₁	
C ₃	O ₁	W ₄	P ₃	O ₁	K ₅	E ₁	
E ₁	G ₂	O ₁	T ₁	I ₁	S ₁	M ₃	
T ₁	H ₄	M ₃	B ₃	E ₁	R ₁		



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BLUETOOTH®. CHECK. PANDORA®. CHECK.

Xbox 360®. REALLY?
Solar energy—power from the Hop in and your smart phone automatically syncs with the Bluetooth® so you can immediately start streaming music, download your phonebook and, of course, take calls. The 7-inch touchscreen is the media nerve center of the car. Use it to check out uploaded pictures, play videos and music, and even use the available integrated navigation system to map out your next destination. For music, you've got nothing but options. Select playlists from your phone, stream Pandora, XM® Satellite Radio or use the iPod®/USB inputs. Gracenote® music ID management displays album art, and has voice recognition that allows you to choose your music by artist, album or genre.

DIRECT-INJECTED, DUAL-CLUTCHED, 40 MPG-NESS.The Veloster has a responsive 1.6L GDI 4-cylinder engine with D-CVVT, available EcoShift dual-clutch automatic transmission, a wide rear stance and a sport-tuned suspension that can make even a supermarket parking lot fun. And, at an estimated 40 MPG highway, it makes those trips fun and affordable.

CALL SHOTGUN. ON THE 3RD DOOR.

The Veloster gets style points for its low, sport profile, available 18-inch alloy wheels with painted inserts, dual-scooped hood, LED headlight accents and available panoramic sunroof. And true to its concept car roots, the 3rd door adds functionality and makes for a grand entrance for your rear-seat passengers. The back end is finished off with carved-out tail lights, a shaped glass hatch and dual centered chrome-tipped exhaust outlet. Unique in a crowd of lookalikes, the Veloster carves out a new space in the compact sporty car segment.

PLUG-AND-PLAY INTERIOR.

Jump in, and the first thing you notice is the abundant front leg room and brushed

metal accents. Sport comfort seats set you within easy reach of your dash controls and the available leather-wrapped steering wheel with standard audio and cruise controls. The 7-inch multifunction touchscreen gives you control of everything from navigation to music. Power windows, door locks and heated mirrors are standard, while the available super-convenient Proximity Key entry and push button start will make you wonder how you ever got along without them.

BLUE LINK® TAKES SAFETY TO A NEW LEVEL.

The amount of safety technology integrated within the Veloster is impressive, but the Blue Link® service puts it over the top. Vehicle Stability Management system (VSM), Electronic Stability Control (ESC), Traction Control system (TCS) and an Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) help you avoid collisions, while Blue Link® can detect when any of your six airbags have deployed, pinpoint your location and send the help you need.

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HYUNDAI REACHES 100,000 40 MPG VEHICLE SALES FASTER

THAN THE REST OF THE AUTO INDUSTRY

Equus offers a forward-view corFireworks commemorated an industry milestone this Fourth of July weekend as Hyundai sold its 100,000th vehicle achieving 40 miles per gallon highway fuel economy. Hyundai smoked the entire auto industry, outselling all other automakers' 40 mpg offerings. Through the first six months, 29 percent of Hyundai's sales volume topped 40 mpg highway fuel economy—a number that rocketed to 40 percent in the month of June.

Hyundai's "4 x 40" strategy includes four models that reach 40 mpg standard this year including the hot-selling Elantra, Sonata Hybrid and all-new 2012 Accent which just started to hit dealerships in June. The fourth model—Hyundai's

youthful and fun Veloster—will add a new spark to the fleet this fall.

"Hyundai aims to be the fuel economy leader and our '4 x 40' strategy is accelerating our overall fuel economy improvement, which now tops 35 mpg across the entire lineup," said John Krafcik, president and CEO, Hyundai Motor America. "But we really see 40 mpg as a starting point. We committed to at least 50 mpg corporate average fuel economy by 2025 and remain the only automaker to set our sights so high. Using a mix of technologies to improve the efficiency of our standard, internal combustion engine vehicles, combined with the smart application of hybrid technology, we believe we are on the right path."

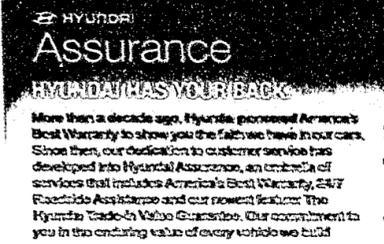
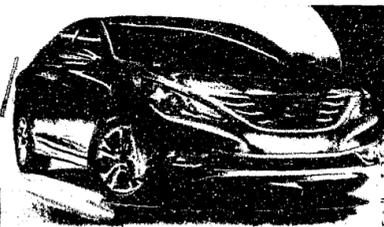
Elantra ignited Hyundai's "4 x 40" strategy at launch in December 2010. The stylish, American-made sedan continues to set a torrid sales pace, 79 percent ahead of last year. Every 2011 Elantra sold achieves 40 miles per gallon highway fuel economy with no special options or equipment required. Sonata Hybrid and Accent added reinforcements to the 40 mpg strategy, and both are just starting to reach dealerships in volume. With Veloster still to come, Hyundai is positioned to grow its 40 mpg sales volume through the end of the year. Plans for additional fireworks are still in the works.

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Hyundai: Impressive value today. Guaranteed value down the road.



HYUNDAI EQUUS A PERFORMANCE VEHICLE WRAPPED IN LUXURY FEATURES.

The engine is an award-winning 385-horsepower V8. The advanced 6-speed automatic transmission was produced by ZF®, arguably the best transmission maker in the world. And a well-balanced, rear-wheel-drive layout gives Equus the foundation to perform less like a traditional luxury car and more like a high-performance sports sedan.

Jack Hill of Carlsbad, NM is the proud owner of a brand new, top of the line 2011 Hyundai Equus that he recently purchased from Roswell Hyundai. He traded in his 7 series BMW and is thrilled with the classy, luxurious look of the Hyundai Equus. John Dalton, a friend of Jack, posted on facebook "Jack is a great guy and he knows his cars. For him to buy says much on the good quality of this car."



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