

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, NOV. 16, 2011 • OUR 65TH YEAR, No. 58 • 75 CENTS

Fire leaves family homeless, hopeful

Family friend saves four-year-old from flames

HAROLD OAKES
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

They lost everything they owned but they could have lost more.

A fire burned the home of the Vance family early Saturday morning, which they rented on Terrace Drive, destroying everything they owned. But thanks to a family friend, Brandon McIntosh, they all got out alive.

During the blaze, McIntosh ran back into the burning house and saved four-year-old Gabriel Vance.

Mike Vance, who lived in the house with his wife, Angel, his daughter, Gabriel, and son, Santana, said he woke up at about 4 a.m. Saturday morning because there was a bright light shining through his bedroom window.

"I thought either someone

across the street had a bright light on or Brandon (McIntosh, who was staying in a downstairs apartment) turned a light on and I was just going to turn it off," Vance said.

McIntosh was staying at the Vance home while he attended funeral services and a memorial service for his stepfather, Tommy Martin. Martin died Oct. 17 from

See FIRE, page 11A



Brandon McIntosh holds four-year-old Gabriel Vance, the girl he saved from a house fire Saturday morning.

HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS.

Board waives procurement code for coach

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

A coach in the Ruidoso Municipal School District will be allowed to bid on providing T-shirts to the schools. The district's education board last week, on a three-to-two vote, waived the section of New Mexico's procurement code that forbids an employee or a member of the employee's immediate family from participating in a business deal with their state or local government employer.

John Pacheco, who is classified as an independent contractor in providing coaching to the district, owns Design-A-Tee. His wife, Andrea, is a district employee, teaching at White Mountain Elementary School.

State law does allow a waiver from the employment statute when a government body publicly dis-

closes the financial interest, affirms that the procurement process will be free of bias or favoritism, and that the employee participation is in the best interest of the local public body or state agency.

"I have a concern bending the rule," school board member Curt Temple told the rest of the board. "I understand that the guy does a good job. I see in the journal that we've already paid him \$10,000 last month. So I don't know if that's already a violation of the policy."

The school district's disbursement journal for October 2011 showed the district issued John C. Pacheco payments totaling \$13,035.25.

Some \$11,134 of those shirts was sold to White Mountain Elementary School for Warriors T-

See CODE, page 10A

PRESENTING THE COLORS



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

New Mexico Challenge Academy cadets Serrina Rodriguez, left, and April Moore present the colors during the Ruidoso Street Fair Saturday in Midtown. For more Faces and Places, see pages 8 and 9B.

County commission moves ahead with building inspections plan

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Although Lincoln County commissioners Tuesday decided to advertise for proposals from companies to handle building inspections in unincorporated areas, they cautioned potential responders that they might end up rejecting all of the submissions.

They want to see the figures before committing to usurping the service now being processed either by inspectors for the state Construction Industries Division or for the village of Ruidoso.

But they told County Planner

Curt Temple and new County Manager Nita Taylor to move ahead with a request for proposals from companies willing to contractually take over inspections.

If the village of Ruidoso wants to bid on the service, that option is open, Commissioner Mark Doth said after offering the motion. He made it clear that he's not interested in hiring inspectors as employees.

Ruidoso officials have disputed the county's ability to take over service in zones where the village already is providing the service.

Tuesday, Village Building

Official Shawn Fort also warned that state law might not allow the county to hire a private entity.

But acting on advice from their attorney, Alan Morel, that they have jurisdiction, commissioners approved a motion 4-1 to advertise for proposals. Voting against the motion was Commissioner Jackie Powell, who does not favor taking over the responsibility.

Morel said one state statute requires the CID approve any inspectors and he would like a letter from that agency assuring the county the contract arrangement would be acceptable, if the

inspectors are state certified. Another state statute requires a government to identify who does code enforcement.

"I prepared a code enforcement ordinance a year ago, but commissioners rejected it," Morel said. "You will need an ordinance authorizing someone else to enforce our (building) ordinance."

County vs. village

As for the contention that the county could not take over from the village in areas outside Ruidoso where the municipality is provide building inspections, Morel wrote Village Attorney

Dan Bryant that, "It would appear once the county has enacted an ordinance and begins providing the service of issuing building permits to its citizens in the county, the village's authority to do so would terminate." Morel told commissioners that he spoke with Bryant on the telephone, but had not received an official response to his letter.

The attorney said he had a problem with issuing a request for proposals and asking companies to spend money to submit an offer without a commitment for moving ahead. He suggested

See PLAN, page 10A

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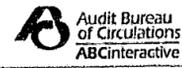
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INDEX | CLASSIFIED 11B | EDUCATION 6A | OPINION 4A | SPORTS 1B



A MediaNews Group NEWSPAPER

Center open house

The more than \$1.5 million remodeled Ruidoso Convention Center will be in the spotlight during an open house on Thursday.

The public is invited to get a first-hand look at the improvements between 5 and 7 p.m.

A collection of art by artists in the community was purchased for the makeover and visitors will be able to view the collection. There will be sample dishes from caterers that are approved to serve at the convention center.

The center's renovations followed the 2005 opening of convention facilities at the Inn of the Mountain Gods.



COURTESY

Maggie Maly, president of the Democratic Women of the Sacramento Mountain Area and a retired economist, spoke at the monthly meeting of the Democratic Party of Lincoln County, which was held in Carrizozo recently. She outlined President Obama's American Jobs Act focusing on the positive impacts that it would have on the economy of New Mexico. In addition, since Congress has refused to act on the proposal, she outlined recent executive initiatives that the president has taken in the areas of jobs for veterans, help for homeowners wishing to take advantage of lower interest rates to refinance their mortgages, and help for graduates with student loans. Maly emphasized the need to get people back to work in the face of the continuing weak economy.

than 24 hours before the meeting.

American Legion

American Legion, Ruidoso

Post 79, meets on the third Saturday of the month. The next regular meeting is at 11 a.m. Nov. 19. Legion hall is located at the corner of US Highway 70-East and

WOMEN'S CLUB



COURTESY

The General Federation of Women's Clubs of New Mexico, District IV, held its annual convention in Ruidoso Nov. 4-5. Hosted by the Ruidoso Federated Woman's Club, attendees from Silver City, Las Cruces, Truth or Consequences, Alamogordo and Carrizozo clubs contributed children's pajamas to the NEST in Ruidoso as a special project associated with the convention theme "Children of the World." Kaylah Glasgow from Peace Village of Ruidoso and Marie Vallejos from New Mexico Wilderness Alliance spoke on area programs that guide children in communication skills and environmental awareness. Closing banquet entertainment was provided by Ken Prichard, husband of Ruidoso member Tammy Prichard.

Spring Road, in Ruidoso Downs.

The fall "Rifle Raffle" continues through November and December to raise funds for Legion work in the community. The organization is giving away a 42-inch Visio high-definition flat screen TV or a Weatherby 30.06 "Vanguard Package" on Dec. 23. You do not need to be present to win. First draw gets choice of items; second draw gets the remainder.

Ticket purchasers must be at least 18 years of age and eligible to own a firearm. Tickets are \$10 each, or three for \$25. For information, please call the Post Adjutant, Vic Currier at (575) 802-5293.

Search and Rescue

The regular meeting of the White Mountain Search and Rescue team will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21. The

rescue group's board meeting will begin at 5:45 p.m.

The sessions will be at the First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Road in Ruidoso.

All those interested in the outdoors are welcome to attend. Topics will include, recent training events, the upcoming annual recognition event and board elections. To obtain additional information contact Tony

See **EVENTS**, page 3A

Alto Lakes

The Alto Lakes Special Zoning District Commission will meet at 9 a.m. Thursday in the Stag Room at the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club, 1 Mulligan Drive in Alto.

The agenda will be posted on www.ALSZD.org no later

Thanksgiving Specials • November 24

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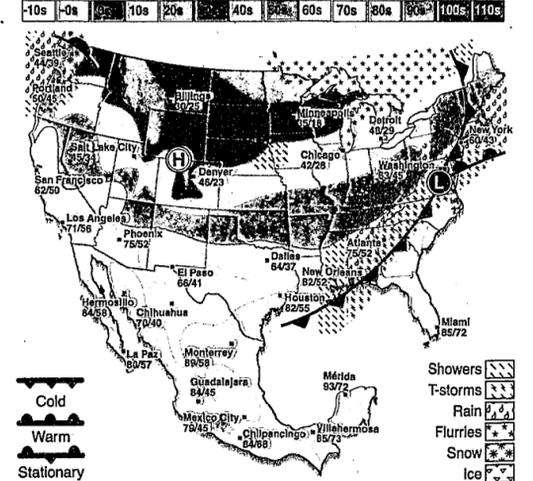
AccuWeather® 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
RealFeel 59° Humidity 34% 60° 34° A full day of sunshine Wind: WNW 10-20 mph	RealFeel 58° Humidity 37% 57° 43° Bright and sunny Wind: SW 7-14 mph	RealFeel 57° Humidity 30% 63° 46° Mostly sunny and windy Wind: SW 25-35 mph	RealFeel 53° Humidity 21% 60° 45° Partly sunny and windy Wind: WSW 25-35 mph	RealFeel 58° Humidity 32% 61° 48° Partly sunny and breezy Wind: SSW 10-20 mph	RealFeel 61° Humidity 32% 61° 41° Mostly cloudy, a shower possible Wind: SSE 8-16 mph	RealFeel 58° Humidity 43% 57° 31° Rain Wind: WSW 6-12 mph

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

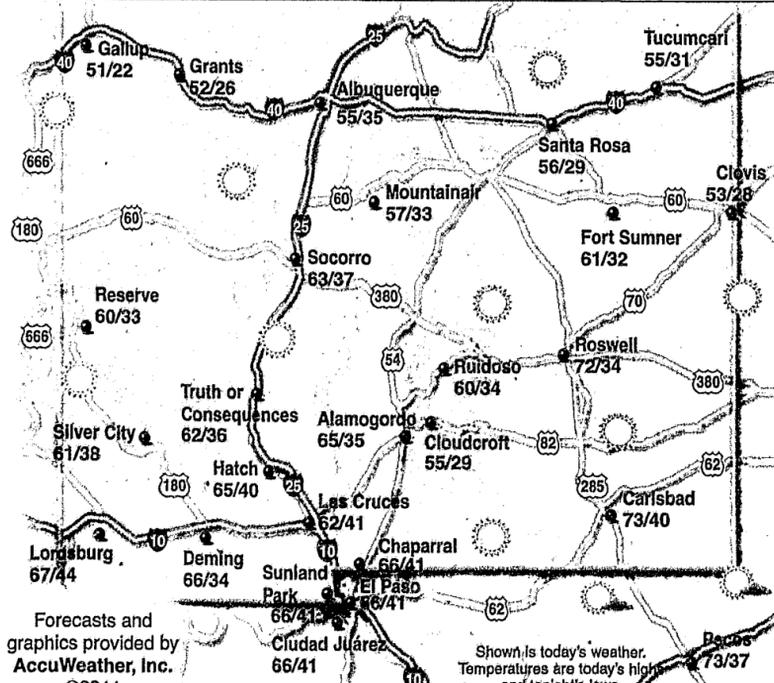
AccuWeather.com

National Forecast for Nov. 16, 2011



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

Regional Cities



Almanac

Ruidoso
Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
High/Low 57°/39°
Normal high 56°
Normal low 27°
Record high 75° (1967)
Record low 5° (1976)
Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.02"
Normal month to date 0.30"
Year to date 8.39"
Normal year to date 19.88"

Alamogordo
Statistics through Monday
Temperature:
High/Low 65°/46°
Normal high 67°
Normal low 29°
Record high 82° (1973)
Record low 17° (1976)
Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.39"
Normal month to date 0.26"
Year to date 4.13"
Normal year to date 9.62"

Weather Trivia™:
Q: Where does most snow accumulate in respect to a storm's path in the U.S.?
A: To the north.

National Cities

City	Today HI/Lo/W	Thu HI/Lo/W
Abilene	63/31/s	59/44/s
Anchorage	15/-1/s	14/-7/s
Atlanta	75/52/r	58/37/s
Austin	80/45/s	64/41/s
Baltimore	63/41/r	52/32/pc
Boston	59/43/r	50/34/r
Chicago	42/28/pc	40/25/s
Dallas	64/37/s	62/44/s
Denver	46/23/pc	62/31/s
Des Moines	44/22/c	44/30/s
Detroit	48/29/pc	44/27/pc
El Paso	66/41/s	65/45/s
Las Vegas	70/50/s	70/50/s
Los Angeles	71/56/pc	69/55/pc
Minneapolis	35/18/pc	36/28/pc
New Orleans	82/52/pc	66/47/s
New York City	80/43/r	50/38/pc
Philadelphia	60/42/r	50/33/pc
Phoenix	75/52/s	77/54/s
Reno	58/33/pc	60/37/pc
San Francisco	62/50/pc	60/49/pc
San Diego	64/56/pc	65/57/pc
Seattle	44/39/r	42/34/sh
Tucson	74/45/s	76/48/s
Tulsa, OK	58/29/pc	54/37/s
Wash., DC	63/45/r	52/35/pc
Wichita	50/21/c	51/34/s
Yuma	76/54/s	78/54/s

Regional Cities

City	Today HI/Lo/W	Thu HI/Lo/W
Albuquerque	55/35/s	57/37/s
Artesia	75/41/s	67/45/s
Chama	47/21/s	49/20/s
Clayton	44/24/s	58/35/s
Cloudcroft	55/29/s	55/18/s
Farmington	48/25/s	56/33/s
Hobbs	71/33/s	62/36/s
Los Alamos	49/28/s	52/24/s
Portales	58/30/s	60/33/s
Raton	43/20/s	58/27/s
Red River	42/20/s	44/18/s
Ruidoso	60/34/s	57/43/s
Santa Fe	52/25/s	56/31/s
Silver City	61/36/s	64/39/s
Taos	47/19/s	52/21/s

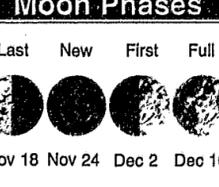
Mexican Cities

City	Today HI/Lo/W	Thu HI/Lo/W
Acapulco	89/75/pc	88/77/r
Cancun	86/74/pc	88/70/s
Chihuahua	70/40/s	70/49/s
Ciudad Juárez	66/41/s	66/45/s
Leon	84/50/pc	83/49/s
México, DF	79/45/pc	73/43/pc
Monterrey	85/58/s	71/39/pc
Morelia	80/49/pc	80/49/s
Oaxaca	88/50/pc	83/59/sh
Pto. Penasco	77/52/s	81/53/s
Tijuana	64/55/pc	64/57/pc

Sun and Moon

Wednesday: Sunrise/Sunset 6:34 a.m./5:01 p.m.
Wednesday: Moonrise/Moonset 10:14 p.m./11:13 a.m.

Moon Phases



Extremes

Monday's National High/Low: (For the 48 contiguous states)
High: 90° in Harlingen, TX
Low: 8° in West Yellowstone, MT
Monday's World High/Low:
High: 108° in Nullagine, Australia
Low: -49° in Oymyakon, Russia

EVENTS

FROM PAGE 2A

Davis at 336-4501 or Mark Younger at 808-2982.

Council cancels

The regularly-scheduled Nov. 29 meeting of the Ruidoso Village Council, the usual second meeting for the month, was canceled for the Thanksgiving holiday. The next meeting will be Dec. 13.

The regular meetings are conducted at 3 p.m., in the Village of Ruidoso Administrative Offices, 313 Cree Meadows Drive.

Republican Women

The Republican Women of Lincoln County will hold its November meeting at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens' Center on Nov. 28.

The change in location from the Cree Meadows Country Club is to accommodate an anticipated large turnout because the speaker will be New Mexico Rep. Nora Espinosa (R-Roswell). The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Please RSVP by Wednesday for the lunch.

For more information call the Republican Women of Lincoln County at 575-258-2750.

Legion raffle

American Legion Post 79, Ruidoso, is raising funds through its annual Rifle Raffle and membership drive.

This year there are two possibilities: A Weatherby 30.06 Vanguard package and a 42-inch HD TV. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Post 79 will participate in the Military 365 "R&R" block party on Saturday, Nov. 12, in front of Dream Catchers. For tickets or information, call Post Adjutant Vic Currier, (575) 802-5293.

Tree permits

Christmas tree permits will be available from the Lincoln National Forest.

The \$5 permit allows a person to cut one tree from the selected ranger district on the federal forest.

Permits can be obtained from forest service offices in Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Cloudcroft and Ruidoso. The Smokey Bear Ranger District office is located at 901 Mechem Drive in Ruidoso.

LCMC offers community assistance program to area

STAFF REPORTS
ruidosonews.com

Lincoln County Medical Center, LCMC, now offers the Community Assistance Program to county residents.

The free program provides triaging 24-hours a day, 7-days a week through a toll free hotline.

"LCMC is grateful to the Lincoln County Commission's foresight to recognize how this program can help county residents handle social issues prior to those issues affecting one's health," said Al Santos, LCMC administrator. "The program is an EAP-like (employee assistance program) program structured on a short-term, solution-focused therapy model after the initial screening."

The Lincoln County Community Assistance Program offers professional counseling assistance to individuals and families experiencing any emotional and mental health crisis.

A sample crisis could be but is not limited to difficulty dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, loss, anger or hostility possibly from interpersonal, financial or other encounters.

"This program is free to Lincoln County residents," said Santos. "Counseling appointments, which are available after an initial assessment by calling the hotline, will be available in Ruidoso, Capitan and Carrizozo."

Santos added that the

counseling services offered through this program are provided by Diamond Healthcare, the same provider used for the Heritage Program for Senior Adults.

Local resident Misty McArthur, MSW, BAAS, LMSW will provide counseling support for the Lincoln County Community Assistance Program.

"I think this program is a great opportunity to leverage Diamond's expertise with an unmet need throughout Lincoln County that is intended to lower healthcare costs over time," said Santos. "This triaging program is intended to present available resources to the patient prior to any negative affects to one's health."

Lincoln County Medical Center is a county-owned facility leased and operated by Presbyterian Healthcare Services, New Mexico's only private, not-for-profit healthcare system serving to improve the health of individuals, families and communities.

Presbyterian Healthcare Services was founded in 1908 and has been serving Lincoln County residents since 1972. Presbyterian offers eight hospitals including Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso, a statewide health plan, and a growing multi-specialty medical group. Presbyterian employs more than 9,500 people.

Chamber of Commerce Member Spotlight

The Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce will be featuring member spotlights to recognize and highlight the business's mission and product or service, as well as chamber board members.

If your chamber member business would like to be featured, please contact the chamber at marla@ruidosonow.com.

Spotlights will be featured in the order they are received. The chamber reserves the right to edit articles as needed.

This week's spotlight:

Kathy Dunn, owner and designer
Casa Feliz & Flowers
1031 Mechem Drive

Kathy Dunn is a RVCC Chamber board member, and the owner of Casa Feliz & Flowers.

Kathy joined the RVCC board in July of 2011 to help get the word out about Ruidoso in our community, and to make the village a better place to live and work.

She is also active on the Fundraising/Special Events Committee of the chamber, a member of Rotary, and active in the Ruidoso Altrusa service group.

Casa Feliz & Flowers is a unique store featuring home décor and design services, and includes professional home and business staging.

Décor items range from tables and chairs, to pillows and candles, art and jewelry.

Kathy also creates modern or traditional fresh flower arrange-



COURTESY RVCC

Kathy Dunn

ments for all occasions, as well as custom gift baskets or edible delights on coffee or tea trays.

She uses Bloomnet Wire Service to send and

receive flowers ordered for customers. In addition, Kathy can assist by advising your weddings and celebrations by providing event planning services.

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- Shred all of your junk mail - don't just throw it away as much of it contains personal information.

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Main Office
451 Sudderth Drive
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RUIDOSO NEWS

"Strong Editorial Newspapers Build Strong Communities"

104 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 128 Ruidoso, N.M. 88355
Telephone (575) 257-4001 • Fax (575) 257-7053

Rena Mlodecki
General Manager and Regional Publisher
Ext. 4118
rwalsh@ruidosonews.com

Terrance Vestal
Editor
Ext. 4107
tvestal@ruidosonews.com

Advertising Deadlines

- ▶ Display advertising
3 p.m. Monday for Wednesday
3 p.m. Wednesday for Friday
- ▶ Classified line advertising
1:30 p.m. Tuesday for Wednesday
1:30 p.m. Thursday for Friday
- ▶ Legal advertising
3 p.m. Friday for Wednesday
3 p.m. Tuesday for Friday

Mail Delivery

- ▶ In county
3 months.....\$20
6 months.....\$26
1 year.....\$40
- ▶ Out of county
3 months.....\$27
6 months.....\$32
1 year.....\$53.50

The Ruidoso News (USPS 472-800, ISSN 0745-5402) is published each Wednesday and Friday at 04 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, NM 88345. Periodicals postage paid at Ruidoso, NM 88345 and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Ruidoso News P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355. The Ruidoso News reserves the right to reject advertising and edit copy that considers objectionable. Liability for any error in advertising shall not exceed the value of the actual space in which the error occurs and shall be satisfied by correction in the next issue. No portion of the Ruidoso News may be used in any manner without the expressed, written consent of the publisher. Copyright 2011, Ruidoso News.

e-mail: editorial@ruidosonews.com • online: www.ruidosonews.com
A MediaNews Group Newspaper

NEWSROOM

Dianne Stallings
General Assignment Reporter
Ext. 4108
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Jim Kalvelage
Reporter
Ext. 4109
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Erik Bearer
Lincoln County Reporter
Ext. 4110
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Mike Curran
Sports editor
Ext. 4111
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

Lucina Sarber
Editor, Vamonos
Ext. 4112
lsarber@ruidosonews.com

Harold Oakes
Reporter
Ext. 4130
hoakes@ruidosonews.com

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

Ross Barrett
Retail Advertising Manager
Ext. 4113
rbarrett@ruidosonews.com

Beth Barrett
Account Executive
Ext. 4104
bethbarrett@ruidosonews.com

Trina Thomas
Account Executive
Ext. 4105
tthomas@ruidosonews.com

Dina Garner
Account Executive
Ext. 4102
dgarner@ruidosonews.com

James Goodwin
Assistant to General Manager, Finance,
Business Development Manager
Ext. 4119
jgoodwin@ruidosonews.com

Chris Gonzales
Circulation Coordinator
Ext. 4106
cgonzales@ruidosonews.com

Member New Mexico Press Association, NAA, Inland Press Association

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OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

Rena Mlodecki, general manager and regional publisher
Terrance Vestal, editor

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

OUR OPINION

State procurement code is there for a reason

At its last Ruidoso School Board meeting, members voted to waive the state's procurement code requirements in order to allow a coach to bid to provide school T-shirts.

School board member Curt Temple, who voted against the measure, said at the meeting that he had concerns about "bending the rules."

So do we.

No one is saying that John Pacheco, husband of a White Mountain Elementary School teacher, doesn't do a good job but there are proper procedures in place for a reason.

State law calls for the procurement process regarding the spending of taxpayer dollars on goods and services be "free of bias or favoritism, and that the employee participation is in the best interest of the local

public body or state agency."

School board President Devin Marshall said she saw awarding the bid to the coach as a way to say "We appreciate you." This hardly advances the argument of an award that was "free of bias or favoritism." While some board members say the process is transparent because John and Andrea Pacheco each signed a staff conflict of interest statement on Oct. 31, more than \$13,000 had been paid to Pacheco before the statements had been signed.

One local vendor has come out and said he wished he had known about providing T-shirts to the district. This particular incident leaves a perception of a conflict of interest and favoritism whether it is accurate or not.

We urge the board to put this service out to bid as per state law. Do it over and do it right.



YOUR OPINION

Capitan subdivision: Asset or liability?

To the editor:

The village of Capitan is a great place to live. We have a school district, good grocery, hardware store with farm and ranching supplies, rodeo facility and fairgrounds, bank, the Smokey Bear Historical Park, Post Office, medical clinic, senior center, motel and diner, and Chango's — a noted gourmet restaurant — all within walking distance along the town's main street (Highway 380).

What should the basis be for planning Capitan's future? The national economy is not the only factor. Water is by far the more significant issue. Capitan has water rights, but precipitation (rain or actual water) is diminishing across the southwest. Rural population is declining throughout New Mexico. Seven businesses closed within the last year along Highway 380. Residential subdivisions are 30 percent unoccupied.

Village of Capitan trustees have positioned their agenda to accept a commercial subdivision that is of questionable economic value to the village. The foundation is based on a 30-years-ago subdivision model when rural areas were growing, natural resources were unlimited, and financial gains were measurable. The new model for community development sustains "connections among people, land, and the built environment" (Commonweal Conservancy.org) for socially conscious, responsible and inspired community planning.

No feasibility study or marketing plan supports the need for 22 to 32 new business sites in Capitan over a 10- to 20-year

build-out. Why, then, is municipal government tolerating this project without the capacity to provide local employment?

Capitan citizens, who are taxpayers and property owners, will bear the burden of the costs of maintaining the infrastructure for a speculative subdivision if the final plat is approved. Considering that commercial land development is highly dependent upon the national and global economy, Capitan may receive very limited revenue from taxes.

For almost six years Capitan has been "Sam's town." Municipal leadership in Capitan is maintained to please the mayor, who prefers that citizens with their opinions stay away from Village Hall. Capitan lacks informed and practical, independent thinking to guide the village toward long-term community betterment.

Carrizozo community leader, Dirk Norris, wrote that "motivated, innovative and inspired" individuals are critical in community leadership. Two current Capitan trustees will discover if they possess these qualities in the Capitan March 2012 elections.

Virginia Watson Jones
Jean Coulton
Capitan

Helping the Nest

To the editor:

Thanksgiving time is fast approaching and we at the Nest are so grateful to be located in Ruidoso; surrounded by generous and thoughtful residents eager to assist with our cause.

As early as October, people began contacting us and asking

what our residents need for the holidays. Celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas in a shelter isn't ideal, but our top notch staff goes to great lengths to create a memorable event for our residents.

Many of our residents have fled their own homes with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. They truly have to start over with nothing. The bravery our residents face this challenge with is awe-inspiring.

For the past three years, our 28-bed shelter has been at or near capacity. So, how might you help? At the end of November, the Nest will have an Angel Tree out at Spencer Theater hosting the wishes of our shelter families. Shop or donate to Sweet Charity Resale Boutique, (just west of Walmart on 70) where all proceeds support the Nest. You might choose to bid on one of our breath-taking Christmas wreaths or stockings at the silent Auction at Sweet Charity or give your time by volunteering at the Shelter or Sweet Charity.

The colder weather brings with it the needs for jackets, gloves, socks and warm pajamas — all shapes and sizes are needed. The number of residents passing through the shelter requires a steady supply of toiletries; shampoos, conditioners, deodorants, body washes, brushes, combs, and Chap Stick. We serve so many children at the Nest and our diaper supply is now dwindling. We are in serious need of diapers sizes 1-4 and baby wipes. Gas cards help us to defray the

See **LETTERS**, page 5A

FOR REFERENCE

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSION

Eileen Martinez Sedillo (Dist. 1)
P.O. Box 536, Carrizozo, NM 88301
Res: 575-648-2975
email: lovelace@tularosa.net

Mark Doth (Dist. 2)
201 Oak Grove Place, Ruidoso, NM 88345
Cell: 575-937-0886
email: mdoth@gmail.com

Tom Battin (Dist. 3)
308 McBride Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345
Res: 575-258-9089
email: jtbattin@valornet.com

Kathryn Minter (Dist. 4)
147 Sonterra Drive, Alto, NM 88312
Res: 575-336-4831
email: Kathryn@kathrynminter.com

Jackie Powell (Dist. 5)
P.O. Box 91, Glencoe, NM 88324
Res: 575-653-4072 •
Cell: 575-653-4072
email: jackiep@trekwest.com

OUR RIGHT TO KNOW

The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Open Meetings

In recognition of the fact that a representative government is dependent upon an informed electorate, it is declared to be public policy of this state that all persons are entitled to the greatest possible information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those officers and employees who represent them. The formation of public policy or the conduct of business by vote shall not be conducted in closed meetings.

All meetings of any public body except the legislature and the courts shall be public meetings, and all persons so desiring shall be permitted to attend and listen to the deliberations and proceedings ...

NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1

THE STREETER, BY ERIK BEARER

Q: What did you think of the R & R Block Party?



Michelle Castillo
Rowlett, Texas

"It was lots of fun. I went with a friend's daughter and she had a blast at the kid's zone."



Luis Espinoza
Ruidoso

"I think it's a good cause for the veterans and it definitely helped Midtown businesses. I hope it's bigger next year."



Audrey Tietgens
Ruidoso

"I thought it was great. There was a lot of participation and everybody was having a great time."



Debbie Elrod
Ruidoso

"It was a fantastic event, and very well organized. The food was amazing — I did not eat one bad thing."



Judy Albrachy
Lewisville, Texas

"It was magnificent. There were a lot of people not normally out in Midtown, and the military all seemed to love it."

EDUCATION

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



COURTESY

The Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions names their educators and students of the month from Capitan and Ruidoso. From left, Maribel Villegas is a Capitan senior who excels in volleyball and is a member of the National Honor Society. She has been accepted to the University of New Mexico where she will enter the nursing program next year. Her selection as teacher of the month is Julia Montoya, who, in addition to teaching algebra and geometry, also coaches basketball and softball. Linda Topkin, from Ruidoso High School, teaches trigonometry, pre-calculus and geometry. She brought her student of the month, Tyrin Julius, and commented that she wished she had a classroom full of students like him. Tyrin has taken all the math classes available, plays soccer, runs track and also enjoys art. He hopes to attend the New Mexico Institute of Technology. Also pictured in the back on the left is Lion Douglas Fuqua, program director.

Supportive education available for students

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Three alternative programs for students at risk of not graduating are operating at Ruidoso High School.

The efforts are for compliance with the federal Free and Appropriate Public Education law for students identified with special needs because of behavioral issues.

One, which had been running for years in the past at the Gavilan Canyon School, is now called the Choices program. It works in the high school with students who need to be separated from other students for a while. Ruidoso High School Principal Pauline Staski said Choices is considered a "smart" in school suspension so students continue to receive an education.

"The program works on a point system," Staski said. "By their behavior they earn privileges. Those might be they get to have lunch outside at a picnic table, maybe they get to have lunch in the cafeteria at a time when other students aren't in there. Maybe they get to go out and play basketball. But it also increases the academic focus. The kids are expected to maintain academic pace which means they earn credits at the same

pace as the other students."

Another alternative program is presently called Dropout Prevention. It requires students attend school and keep pace.

"We're looking for a better title," Staski said. "It's for students who just can't seem to make it to class. Either they get to school and don't quite get where they're supposed to be. Their parents say, 'We're putting you on the bus,' and somehow they don't quite get to school. Or their parents say, 'Here's the keys. Get to school.' They don't quite make it here. This is our way of assuring they come and we know where they are for at least four hours a day."

The instruction is for students who are a year or more behind others in their grade. Currently 10 students are in the program.

"They're expected to maintain pace," Staski said of Dropout Prevention. "They are given all kinds of support. There are certified teachers in the room with them. If they show absolutely no progress, and we did have a student who did that, we did refer him to the GED program."

The third alternative initiative is the high school's Night School.

"The Night School program is completely online,"

Staski said. "Students can make up attendance for classes in Night School and not necessarily be on the computer, just be supervised by the teacher. Most of the students in Night School are students who for some reason their behavior doesn't rise to the need for long-term suspension but perhaps they're counterproductive to the education of other students. We do have some career students who are planning to be with us till they're 26. At a certain point it's probably not in their best interest to be hanging around 14-year olds."

Staski called Night School a "credit recovery program."

Ruidoso Municipal School District Superintendent Bea Etta Harris said large school districts usually have programs for "alternative students" but establishing the initiatives in smaller districts is difficult.

"I'm very pleased that Cody (Patterson, assistant high school principal), and Polly (Staski) and Kief (Johnson, activities director) are taking a hard look at what the kids need and provide alternative kinds of opportunities for them to graduate because they fully understand what happens to kids who don't graduate. I'm very encouraged by the team at the high school."

Schools seek improved rating

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

An accreditation team from North Central Association has been meeting with officials of the Ruidoso Municipal School District since Monday. School officials are hoping to obtain a district-wide accreditation, a heightened endorsement adopted by NCA several years ago.

"There are a couple of districts in the state who have gone through this process," Superintendent Bea Etta Harris said of the district-wide distinction.

The team interviewed members of the district's board of education, the superintendent, principals and community members on Monday. Some schools had a walk-through by the

assessment team on Tuesday. The quality assurance team also conducted classroom visits, interviewed teachers, students and other school teams. A final meeting with the district's superintendent, interviews with support staff, and follow up interviews to verify standards and quality assurance practices were scheduled for today.

"They meet back here and look over some of the documents that we present," said Patty White, the district's associate superintendent. "We've got a lot of information gathered for them."

An oral exit report would take place this afternoon with all school district staff and the school board.

White said the teams

will use seven standards to rate the district. Initially the NCA officials will meet with the administration.

"That's a presentation by Dr. Harris and the district on how we propose that we meet those seven standards," White said. "And then their job is to go to the schools and look at documents to find evidence that those seven standards are being met."

The NCA's Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement accredits elementary, secondary and non degree-granting postsecondary schools.

The schools in the Ruidoso district have previously been fully accredited individually by the NCA and the New Mexico Public Education Department.

Schools look to bonds

Remodeling, rebuilding on agenda

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

The Ruidoso Municipal School District will begin to line up \$9 million in borrowed money to undertake projects in the schools.

On Feb. 1, voters in the district authorized borrowing \$14 million. The \$9 million was the share represented by general obligation (GO) bonds sold in September. The lion's share, \$8.66 million, will go into a construction services line item. Software purchases will see \$300,000 dedicated. The remaining \$40,000 will be for other services.

A budget adjustment request, to increase the fiscal year 2011-2012 budget, was submitted to the New Mexico Public Education Department for the agency's approval.

"This is in order to give us budget authority to spend the \$9 million from the bond sale that just recently occurred," said Dorothy Irion, the district's finance director.

In 2010, a committee that included community members and parents had studied school building needs across the district and prioritized their recommended projects that would be funded through the GO bond election. The proposed projects were:

- High school science wing remodeling, \$4 million. The project was not completed as scheduled because of skyrocketing construction costs after Hurricane Katrina.

- The Ruidoso Middle School, \$3 million. Because of the economic impact of Hurricane Katrina, the new school's costs were higher than anticipated. As a result, the district was unable to complete all the planned construction for the project. The GO bond would fund an athletic field, a second road for access and landscaping.

- High school drainage, \$1.5 million. The New Mexico Public School Capital Outlay Council loaned the district \$1.5 million to install corrective storm drainage at the high school.

The project was completed and the district is required to pay back the loan as soon as possible.

- District Technology, \$1.2 million. Funds will be used to support initiatives towards 21st century technology learning objectives for students.

- Sierra Vista Primary School, \$1 million. The school's roof is in poor shape and undermining the exterior walls of the building. The roof needs to be replaced to prevent further damage.

- Nob Hill Early Childhood Center relocation planning, \$1 million. The funding will pay for planning and design for an addition to the Sierra Vista Primary School to house the Pre-K through second grade school. The actual construction would be funding in a 2015 GO bond election.

- Horton Complex partial demolition, \$900,000. Funds will be used to cover the cost of razing some buildings and to create a new entrance to the main building.

- Horton Complex roof replacement, \$700,000. The former middle school requires a new roof.

The main part of the facility is being used for the district's special education offices, two gyms for district sports programs, Little League, adult sports leagues and other community events. Part of the Horton Complex is rented to the Region IX Education Cooperative.

- White Mountain playground, \$500,000. The district would purchase and install playground equipment for use by all elementary age students.

- Horton Stadium retaining wall repair, \$200,000. The retaining wall was damaged by runoff during heavy flooding in 2006 and 2008.

Ready, set, register at ENMU

Registration for classes beginning Jan. 17, 2012 is on-going at ENMU-Ruidoso. Among the classes being offered in the spring are "Outdoor Photography," "Computer and Security Fundamentals," "Cyber Forensics," "Motorcycling Literature," "Principles of Finance," "Lincoln County History," "Ethics," "New Testament Survey," and "Acting for Film II." In addition to online and on site classes, several educational trips are planned, and many new Community Education classes are also being offered.

The last day to register is Jan. 19, 2012, but since classes fill up quickly, students are encouraged to register now. First-time degree-seeking students must make an

appointment with a student advisor. Appointments may be made over the phone at 257-3007. Drop-in appointments also are available by coming to the campus at 709 Mechem Drive. Classes may also be audited, meaning that although a student is registered and pays for a class, no grades are given. Students often audit classes when no degree is desired or credits required. A special statewide \$5 per credit is also available for seniors over the age of 65.

A schedule of courses is available online at www.ruidoso.enmu.edu. Hard copies are available at the campus. For more information, please call 257-2120.

— From reports

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Student art show

This semester's art show at ENMU-Ruidoso will run through Dec. 5 at the main campus.

A reception featuring the artists was held on Tuesday. Many of the pieces of art, which include paintings, drawings, photography and ceramics, can be purchased.

Stop the texts

New Mexico Attorney General Gary King

last week joined other state attorneys general, and consumer protection agencies the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the Ad Council to launch a nationwide ad campaign to educate young drivers across the country about the effects of distracted driving.

The Stop the Texts and Stop the Wrecks ad campaign is an endeavor to teach the dangers of distracted driving. For more information, visit StopTextsStopWrecks.org

Hubbard thanks voters, answers questions

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

A business retention sales tax substantially helped Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino this year and owner R.D. Hubbard showed up Tuesday at a Lincoln County Commission meeting to personally thank the 53 percent of voters who approved it.

Outgoing County Manager Tom Stewart wrote Hubbard in October asking that a track representative attend the November meeting to answer some commission questions and to report on how the tax affected the track and casino's operation.

With Hubbard seated in the audience, along with track public relations director Sandy Aguilar, Bruce Rimbo, president of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track, reviewed the history of the business, the passage of the tax in September 2010 and the positive effects. He also pledged that efforts are on-going and will intensify for the 2014 New Mexico State Legislature's session to secure legislation that would create a tiered tax system for small tracks/casinos in the state. This year is a short session for the legislature and the tax is not on the call.

Rimbo said when the casino opened in May 1999, business immediately picked up at the track. The year 2002 was the only time Hubbard made money on the enterprise he bought in 1988.

But that all changed in 2003, when the Mescalero Apache Tribe opened a second casino in neighboring Otero County, Rimbo said.

"In less than eight full months of operation, you can see how business dropped," at the racetrack and Billy the Kid Casino, he said as a slide slipped across the display screen.

The Zia track and casino that opened in Hobbs in November 2004 had minimal impact, he said.

Then in 2006-2007, the tribe opened its new \$200 million Inn of the Mountain Gods and Casino.

Despite all of those blows, revenues actually went up for the race track and casino in 2011, Rimbo said. Not only does the race track and casino have to compete with two other casinos, it also carries a much heavier regulatory burden than Indian gaming, he said. They have to ask permission for everything from either the racing or the gaming commissions, he said.

Even Nevada doesn't have a centralized monitoring system that tracks the moves of each slot machine, but for the racetrack casino to move a machine from one area to another may take weeks to secure approval, Rimbo said.

The racetrack casino also pays its gaming tax on gross gaming revenues, not on net like most businesses, he said. With 26 percent going to the state and 20 percent to the horsemen, the business must pay all of its expenses out of the

remaining 53.75 percent, he said. Employees payroll and benefits account for \$5.3 million annually.

The five racetracks and casinos in New Mexico paid the state \$64.1 million in taxes for 2,600 gaming machines compared to 14 tribes that paid the state \$64.8 million for more than 20,000 machines, he said.

"So we went to the state and asked for a tiered tax," that would charge casinos in small markets less, increasing the percentage based on the amount of revenue generated. But the effort stalled each time, passing the House of Representatives, but bogging down in the Senate Finance Committee.

They were told to ask the voters to approve a 3/16th of a cent business retention gross receipts tax to show support for the racetrack and casino, which they did. The casino can benefit up to a maximum of \$750,000 annually for five years.

"Our taxes this year will be \$1.9 million," Rimbo said. "It is a tax burden offset, not a reimbursement."

In return, the business reinvested \$2.2 million in capital improvements at the track and casino over the last two years, including buying newer and more slot machines, resurfacing the track, improving signage and installing Turf Club carpeting. Marketing and promotion investment increased 35 percent in 2011, according to a summary sheet.

The 2011 season saw visitors increase by 2.2 per-



R.D. Hubbard, back, left, owner of Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Casino, listens to a presentation by track President Bruce Rimbo to the Lincoln County Commission.

cent over the previous year to nearly 250,000, gaming revenues were up 9.5 percent and the in-season pari-mutuel handle was up 7.1 percent, with a 10.6 percent increase in other in-season revenue.

Of those visiting, 74 percent were from out of state and 82 percent of attendees said they visited Ruidoso four to six times a season, the data showed.

The increased business and capital improvements resulted in a minimum of \$673,000 in increased taxes and purses back to the state and community, Rimbo said.

Despite the 2008 flood on the Rio Ruidoso and a 2010 hard and prolonged freeze, the racetrack and casino cut its losses in half, because of the help from the business retention tax, he said.

"I think in a couple of

years we will be in the black and we will continue to go to the state. Legislature to get a tiered tax so the track can stay and jobs can stay," Rimbo said. The track employs 437 people, not counting those working in the barns, such as trainers and groomers.

"I want to personally thank the county commission and citizens for partnering with us," Rimbo said. "Our intention is for the track to stay forever. Mr. Hubbard has invested a lot of money over the years The state needs to step up and participate more."

Commissioner Kathryn Minter said if she was losing \$70,000 a year, she wouldn't stay. "I just don't think others should pay," she said, pointing to a 15 percent poverty level. "It used to be the tourists supported us. I don't think we

should support the tourists. I see gambling as cannibalistic."

Many people come to the area and never stop at the track, she contended.

Commissioner Jackie Powell said she appreciated the report and making the data public. But a lot of businesses are struggling and she cannot put one before the others.

Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo said surely Hubbard was aware of the taxes before the casino was built.

Rimbo responded that they thought they would be competing against one casino. "We didn't think they could put in a second one," he said. "The taxes also were increased after we started."

Since the tribe's taxes are tiered, why not do the same for small market casinos, he asked.

LAS ARTISTAS

www.lasartistas.org

Art & Fine Crafts Show

Sat ~ Nov 19 ~ 10-5

Sun ~ Nov 20 ~ 10-4

Event Center
1245 W. Churchill
Ruidoso, NM



Admission \$3.00

Under 13 \$1.50

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Proceeds to

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Thanksgiving Day Buffet!

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11:30 - 2:30 Seatings
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Oven Roasted Turkey
Honey-Glazed Ham

Cranberry Sauce
Cornbread Dressing
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy

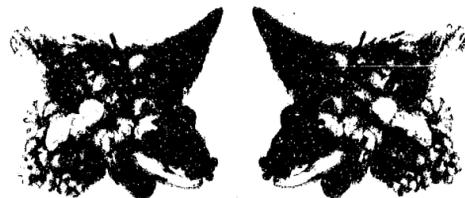
Sweet Potatoes
Asparagus w/Hollandaise Sauce
Glazed Carrots

Dinner Rolls

Green Salad
Pasta Salad
Broccoli Salad
Apple Salad

Jello Salad
Fruit Salad

Pecan Pumpkin Cake
Pumpkin Pie w/Whip Cream



Reservations Recommended - Call (575) 257-2733 ext. 102

Village officials push chimney, fire pit safety

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

With drought conditions forecast to continue in Ruidoso, chimney maintenance, including being equipped with spark arrestors, could prevent devastating fires in the community.

Councilor Gloria Sayers asked Interim Fire Chief Harlan Vincent if village fire codes require fire extinguishers in homes with fireplaces. "Although we do not mandate fire extinguishers, we recommend them," he said.

Vincent said a one-fourth inch screen spark arrestor is required for chimneys in village ordinances and new housing construction follows the

code, but enforcement for existing houses is spotty.

"Many citizens who notice chimneys without arrestors turn in a home," he said. "There are several places on Sudderth Drive. We found an elderly woman and helped her out. We put her in touch with (a fire place business) and they installed a cap per code."

"How about chimney cleaning?" Sayers asked.

Vincent said a few services operate in the area and The Stove and Spa Store sells a chemical that can be added once a fire is burning well and it dissolves the creosote that builds up inside the chimney.

"I personally use it," he said.

Vincent said he and

Police Chief Joe Magill are working on community mapping to identify trigger points for evacuation. When a fire reached a location trigger, evacuation will be automatically executed. He's seeking input from councilors and administration officials, Vincent said.

"With our water situation," Sayers said in reference to low reserves, should outside fires be allowed in town? "Our fire situation is not getting any better."

"People want campfires," Vincent said. "They come to visit in the woods and mountains and they want to sit outside around a campfire."

A \$50 a year permit is needed and will cover an Underwriters Laboratories-rated fire pit with

a 36-inch diameter and at least 36 inches deep, if a water source is nearby, he said. However, once the village moves to Level 2 Fire Restrictions, all outside burning is prohibited. Users still must be careful of sparks and that pine needles are cleared from the area.

"A lot of the campfire calls were received involving short-term rentals," he said. "They just put some wood together on the ground and light it up."

When firefighters arrive, often they will standby while a group finishes cooking hot dogs or whatever is on a grill and then put out the fire properly. "We receive two or three calls a day" at times, Vincent said.

Better to get the word

out about fire pits, he said.

Fire levels

The village currently is listed on its website as in Level 1 fire restrictions, which means commercial fire pits are approved for use; outdoor cooking is approved on all types of appliances, including charcoal; non-commercial fire pits, campfires and/or fireworks are not allowed within the village unless specifically permitted by the fire marshal; and citations will be issued for improperly discarding cigarettes.

Under Level 2 restrictions, no charcoal briquettes or commercial fire pits are to be used on any public or private property; UL/FM approved gas grills are allowed; no outside smoking

on public or private property is allowed unless in areas specifically permitted by the Fire Marshal; smoking is allowed within closed vehicles or in-doors only; and campfires and fireworks are not permitted. Citations will be issued, no exceptions and no warnings.

Under Level 3 fire restrictions, no charcoal briquettes or outdoor burning stoves are allowed on any public or private property; no gas grills are allowed except on an open deck or patio, or located in an open structure such as a gazebo, or located on a paved or gravel area at least 10 feet in diameter, or a permanently installed grill. No outdoor smoking is allowed on public or private property, fireworks are restricted by state law and no campfires are allowed.

Downs citizen: No council business is 'good' for the city

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

No business by the Ruidoso Downs City Council is good business. That was the contention of city resident Wayne Williams, who has been critical of municipal spending.

Monday evening he told councilors that they need to pat themselves on the back.

"The last three or four meetings that I've been to, apparently you haven't been doing any businesses, which is good," Williams said. "If you're not doing any business you're not spending any

money.

"The last meeting, I didn't even stay for because there was only one item on there. The one before that, there was one item. And this one here, I think the last two weeks you've managed to pay some bills to the (waste)water treatment plant and possibly forgive a water bill's penalties."

Councilors approved paying the city's 15 percent share of the regional wastewater treatment plant's operating expenses after a modification on the amount billed by plant partner, the village of Ruidoso. The village, which operates the plant, originally had billed

the city \$28,272.75 as 15 percent of the September operation costs, along with \$4,240.91 for 15 percent of the capital reserve requirements. A corrected invoice reduced Ruidoso Downs' operating expense to \$19,100.70, and the capital reserve amount to \$2,865.11.

Councilors also forgave \$11,768.20 in penalties for a resident who has been without municipal utilities.

"This is for an account where the services were turned off back in May," said Terri Mosley, the city's finance director. "We're asking to extend the amnesty program for this customer. He wasn't able to

come up with the full amount for the bills that he owed at that time. But he came in a couple of weeks ago and has the money now available. So we'd like to forgive the penalty."

The customer had an outstanding balance of \$13,392.34. Without the penalties, the amount for services is \$1,624.14.

Earlier this year the city had an amnesty program in place that waived penalties when customers paid their past due water, sewer and trash amounts.

Williams said maybe the city is doing something right.

"I haven't figured out what it is because I'm not hearing anything from this outfit. I know you guys have been real tired of me coming up here every week. And I'll tell you what. You're not any more tired of it than I am being here. If you want to get rid of me it's real simple. And that's stop spending all this waste, all this damn money, and start doing your jobs and I'll be more than happy to stay home. And this ain't doing your job. I know you had more business in the last two weeks than this."

Williams questioned if some business is being done "behind closed doors."



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EASTERN NEW MEXICO MEDICAL CENTER

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CODE

FROM PAGE 1A

shirts for student sales this school year, T-shirts for peer mediators, and T-shirts for student fundraising.

"The \$1,901.25 billed to the high school was for shirt sales for an Oct. 4 Dig Pink, something called Guy tee, hats for a team fundraiser, and team T-shirts.

"It came to our attention when the last PO (purchase order) came in," schools' Superintendent Bea Etta Harris said of the purchases. "So we went back in our history and we've done this before several years ago. There was an example when we did this with a business. The same thing. And that's one reason the law requires that every

employee sign a conflict of interest statement which we're a little late on this year."

John and Andrea Pacheco each signed a staff conflict of interest statement. The statements are dated Oct. 31, 2011.

School board President Devin Marshall said keeping things honest is the reason for the procurement law.

"In my opinion, this is being very open and transparent," Marshall said. "I think what Mr. Temple pointed out is that we need to be fair and equitable to every vendor. So if we keep that in the forefront, that's what we're supposed to be doing as a district.

"And I really think that this coach, my son is one of his wrestlers, is really amazing. And I would like

to see our teachers and our staff encouraged. And I would like to see them given some 'attaboys.' And so, I personally feel like this is a really nice way to say, 'We appreciate you.'"

But Marshall quickly added that she agreed with Temple.

"We really need to be certain that we do things equitably. And I commend you. You saw what we had done and you're making it right."

Temple said there are other businesses in town that produce printed T-shirts.

"With an employee working for the district you have an automatic in right there on the bid," he said.

The owner of Noisy Water Artwear, which does screen printing and embroidery in Ruidoso, said he would "absolutely

"With an employee working for the district you have an automatic in right there on the bid."

Curt Temple
Ruidoso Municipal School Board

like to get some of the school district's business.

"We'd like very, very much to bid the school's work," owner Tom Dorgan said. "I've never been asked."

Dorgan said he purchased the embroidery and silk screening company in January.

"They don't know because they've never asked," Dorgan said of the competitiveness of the prices the schools are now paying. "They're just speculating."

Dorgan said he was unaware of another company doing embroidery or silk

screening in Ruidoso and wondered if Design-A-Tee may just be a jobber using a non-local shop's catalog. He said he would contact school district officials to indicate his interest.

If a purchase order is more than \$5,000, the district is required to seek bids.

"And there was one there that was over \$7,000," Temple noted of an October payment to John Pacheco. "I didn't know if there was a bid or not. I'd like to know if that was bid out."

On Monday, Temple said he was informed there had not been a bid process for what became an Oct. 25 disbursement for \$7,987 to John Pacheco.

Education board members Marshall, Kerry Gladden and Rhonda Vincent voted to grant the

waiver. Temple and Cecil Davis opposed allowing Pacheco to be part of the upcoming bid process.

The resolution that approved the waiver stated that there would be no bias or favoritism in the bid process and that Design-A-Tee's bid would be considered on the same basis as other bids.

"John and Andrea Pacheco's participation in the procurement of the district's contract is in the district's best interest," the resolution stated.

It went on to say, "Without such participation, procurement of the service might not be obtainable at competitive costs, and higher costs might be incurred. Such participation will allow the district to obtain such products locally at reasonable and competitive prices from a reliable source."

PLAN

FROM PAGE 1A

adopting a building ordinance first. Commissioner Tom Battin said he too was concerned that advertising for offers might be premature without an ordinance.

Morel said the county essentially will adopt state building codes and an ordinance could specify the service be provided by either employees or by contract.

"It would be helpful to know

your inclination," he said. "I prefer we start with an ordinance. I need to revise (the one already written), depending on whether you go with an independent contractor or an employee."

Commission Chairman Eileen Sedillo said the informal consensus appears to favor a contract arrangement. But Commissioner Kathryn Minter said her decision will depend on the figures she sees and in any bidding situation, someone expends money and doesn't get the contract. Company officials know that going in, she said.

Temple said the request for pro-

posals is written for a company to provide the service and possibly help put together an ordinance as part of extra start-up duties.

Temple said the county would not be able to dictate what the company charges.

However, if the company uses the county sub-office in Ruidoso, it would have to pay rent and utilities.

Doth said even after receiving the proposals, "We're not bound legally to go forward. We could decide not to. It's in the law."

Minter said, "Let's make that clear in the RFPs that it's their

information that will help us make the decision."

Doth offered the motion for approval, but withdrew it when Sedillo said she'd like to review the cost figures put together by Temple a few months ago.

The item to issue an RFP was tabled, but brought up later in the commission meeting and approved after Temple retrieved the report.

He said if the operation was under the county, two employees would be needed, one at the office and one in the field.

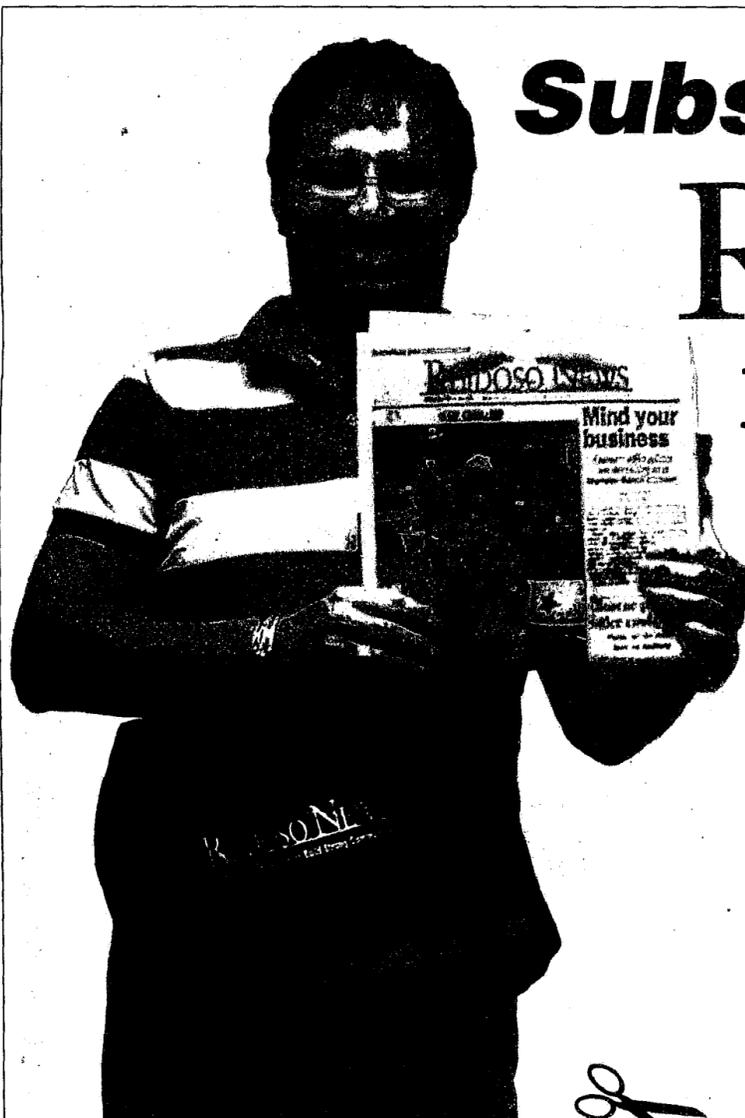
The start up cost would be about

\$46,000 and the annual cost about \$264,000, including the planning department and code enforcement.

If building permits covered the expense, the planning department's \$135,000 budget then could be returned to the county's general fund, which now supports the department.

He figured \$115,000 would cover two employees' wages and benefits.

Commissioners emphasized that they don't consider building inspections a moneymaker, it is more a matter of service to residents outside municipalities.



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FIRE

Fate

FROM PAGE 1A

injuries he suffered when his motorcycle hit a deer on Highway 70 on Oct. 12.

Vance said he went to check on Santana, who will be three years old Friday, to see if he was covered up in bed.

"That's when I saw the flames," he said.

The escape

Vance said the flames were clearly visible on the second floor, where the family lived.

"I called Gabby, 'Let's go. Let's go. Let's go,'" Vance said. "I was in such a panic, I didn't grab her."

Mike, who had grabbed Santana, Angel and McIntosh got out of the house, then realized Gabriel was not with them.

"I started yelling for her," Vance said. "That's when I ran back inside and ran into Brandon with Gabby."

McIntosh had run back upstairs to the second floor to get Gabriel.

"He was back in before I realized it," Vance said.

"I was afraid the whole time that the smoke would choke me out and I wouldn't make it out," McIntosh said. "So I held my breath and went to the ground. She was just sitting up when I got to her."

With Gabriel tucked under his arm, McIntosh said he crawled back toward the front door to escape the flames.

"When I ran back in there for her it was like tunnel vision," McIntosh said. "It was like nothing else was there but smoke and Gabby," McIntosh said.

Getting to Gabriel, however, wasn't as tough as getting back out with her. "It got twice as intense when I got to her," McIntosh said. "Something gave way or something."

"That was bravery," acting Ruidoso Fire Chief Harlan Vincent said Tuesday. "He did a great job and I am proud of him."

McIntosh said he went back into the house because he was the only one fully clothed.

"I had just fell asleep in the recliner fully clothed," Brandon McIntosh said.

McIntosh said he was in the recliner, upstairs, watching television because he couldn't sleep.

"I had a lot on my mind about Tom's (Martin) benefit," McIntosh said. "I remember getting frustrated about not being able to fall asleep. About 15 minutes prior to that whole thing I started to doze off."

"Luckily he wasn't downstairs," Vance said.

Were it not for the memorial service for Tommy Martin, a prominent local musician who was known to help members of the community, later that day, McIntosh said would not have been in Ruidoso at all. He had moved to Modesto, Calif., three months earlier because he couldn't find work here as an electrician.

"I came over here Oct. 17, the day Tom died," McIntosh said. "I stayed here because of the benefit. I wanted to be part of that and show everyone what Tom had taught me."

"We were practicing for the benefit that night," Mike Vance said. "We were going to play our five songs."

McIntosh played a borrowed guitar at the Tommy Martin benefit Saturday afternoon. His and Vance's five guitars burned in the fire.

"That's materialistic things," Vance said. "We didn't run back in to get the guitars, we ran back in to get the baby."

Aftermath

After getting Gabriel out of the house, Vance and McIntosh went to wake up the neighbors.

"The trees were on fire and I knew that if one of those trees fell it would set the neighbors house on fire," Vance said.

The Ruidoso Fire Department had the blaze



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Angel, Gabriel, Michael and Santana Vance with Brandon McIntosh at Walmart Monday evening. They all met to shop for clothes to replace what burned in the house fire Saturday.

extinguished at 5:30 a.m.

"The first arriving units were on the scene in three minutes after being dispatched," Vincent said. "That's rapid."

Vincent said some people have questioned why the units did not arrive sooner. The house was fully engulfed in flames and the trees were on fire when they arrived.

"They opened some deck guns on it and got it cooled down," Vincent said.

Vincent said he had not had a chance to meet McIntosh yet.

"Yes, that was dangerous but a great job," Vincent said. "When something like that happens and everyone gets out unscathed, I am all for it."

Generosity

They were unscathed but also unclothed and everything they owned was burning.

Vance contacted the

American Red Cross in Roswell.

"By about 6 o'clock that evening (Izaak Guajaca) contacted me and said he was at Denny's," Mike Vance said. Guajaca works for the Red Cross in Roswell.

Vance said the Guajaca gave them money for clothes and other essentials and promised them more for deposits and rent to help them get established.

"It was very nice of the Red Cross to do that," Vance said.

Pinecliff Condominiums Manager Karen Morris gave the Vance family a place to stay.

Vance owns ADA Bear Satellite. Angel Vance works at First National Bank.

"Yesterday (Monday) we had people bringing in clothes and toys for the kids and everything," 1st National Bank operations officer Susan Lutterman said Tuesday morning.

"When she (Angel Vance) walked in this morning there were more toys and clothes that had been donated.

Lutterman said First National Bank has a fund set up by the employees for bi-weekly donations to go for disasters like this. Lutterman said a fund has been set up at the bank for anyone who wants to donate to the Vance family.

"Everyone is always so generous when something like this happens," Lutterman said. "That's what is so great about living in a small community like Ruidoso."

Fate, part II

McIntosh met the Vance family at Walmart Monday afternoon. The Red Cross had given Vance money to buy McIntosh clothes.

"We can get you some work clothes and boots and things like that,"

Mike Vance told McIntosh.

McIntosh needs work clothes because he has the job he couldn't find three months earlier. He is working for Custom Craft Electric.

"I just want to thank everyone," Vance said.

There are going to be more people to thank.

"We are getting two storage units for the family so people can donate household goods and they will have a place to store them until they find a place to live," Cynthia Marie Kerbs, of Cabin Watch, said.

Anyone wishing to donate furniture or household items can call Kerbs at Cabin Watch, 575-937-9366, or Rocky Hancock, Cutting Edge Construction, 575-937-3219.

Vincent said the fire marshal is calling the cause of the fire "undetermined" because the fire burned so hot it destroyed the evidence of its origin.

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Subscriber Victor Mlodecki in front of Giant Lobster in Shediac, New Brunswick, Canada

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Television show looks at Ruidoso for inspiration

Television show and magazine article

DIANNE STALLINGS
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Representatives of a new television series seem to be interested in featuring Ruidoso as a prime place to live and play.

Marla Lewis, executive director of the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, briefed village councilors and the mayor Tuesday about "Today in America," hosted by sports commentator and former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Terry Bradshaw.

Five-minute segments focus on the best places to live, work and play. Lewis said she was researching the show's website to learn more about the production and that Fayetteville, Ark., already was featured. She plans to call that city's officials to see what they received for the segment, because some cost is involved.

She passed along a packet of information about the show sent to the chamber and an e-mail link. She will be speaking to the senior producer about the "scheduling fee" to determine the exact cost, Lewis said.

According to Lewis, the "Today in America" segment would appear on the FOX Business Network and would run 19 times on

CNN Headline News. Other networks also might pick it up, including Home and Garden TV, Versus, the Food Channel, FOX Sports and the Travel Channel, she said.

A live stream would appear on the Internet, Lewis said.

The arrangement sounds almost identical to a package deal pitched to a former village council when Lorri McKnight was village manager.

After looking into the benefits and cost, that council rejected the deal, McKnight said Thursday. McKnight moved from village finance director to manager in November 2002 and stayed until November 2005.

"Are you asking now for permission to explore this?" Councilor Ron Hardeman asked Lewis.

"At this time (that's all)," she said. "They haven't approved us yet. We will find out more in a conference call (Wednesday)."

"Come back with the cost and some ideas," Hardeman said.

A check of the "Today in America" website revealed that the format is in direct contrast to "shock television and outrageous reality shows."

"Today in America" stands apart from this fad and plunges into the heart of mainstream America. "Today in America" was the brainchild of producers who always hoped to create

exceptional stories on unique individuals and businesses. Created exclusively for Terry Bradshaw to host, "Today in America" appeals to a broad audience. It captures the era of the changing economic times and digs into the knowledge and passion of each of its Featured Guests."

Not exclusive to any one field, the show blends business news stories, lifestyle features and interviews with doctors, scientists, inventors, business owners, philanthropists and newsmakers from a variety of industries, according to the website.

"Today in America is the first show of its genre....that's geared towards the educated, affluent viewer. Based on viewer feedback, the show has spawned interest, inquiries and practical applications."

Mayor Ray Alborn said he also was contacted by a freelance writer doing an article on Ruidoso as a great place to retire.

"He's a local guy and writing a magazine article for a publication called 'Where to Retire,'" Alborn said. "I don't know what kind of circulation it has, but I noticed several places in New Mexico with ads in it like Silver City. It may stimulate some interest."

According to the magazine's website, readership is more than 500,000 every issue.

SOCCER BALL PUPS



COURTESY BILL HARALSON/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Four of the seven puppies left without a mother in Mescalero when they were a week old after she was killed by a predator are ready for adoption this week at the Lincoln County Humane Society animal shelter. The owner kept two and one of the foster homes adopted another. They were nicknamed "the soccer ball puppies," because they are black and white and looked like a ball when they were tiny. With their breeding, part Australian shepherd and part Border collie, potential owners should be ready to deal with a smart and very energetic dog. They all are females and will be eight weeks old. Call the shelter at 257-9841 or stop by 430 Gavilan Canyon Road for more information.

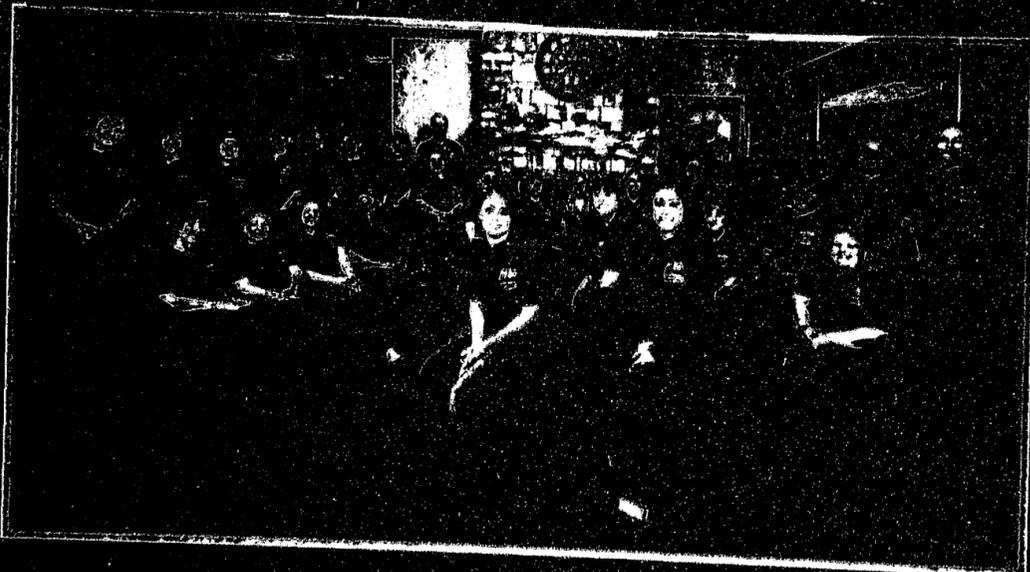
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PAGE 1B

Warriors end football season

Ruidoso concludes season with state playoff loss to Albuquerque Academy

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

Injuries plagued the Warriors for most of their 6-4 regular season and continued right on into their 48-21 loss at Albuquerque Academy Saturday in the first round of state playoffs.

Midway through the game, six players were sidelined who were responsible for seven starting positions on offense and defense.

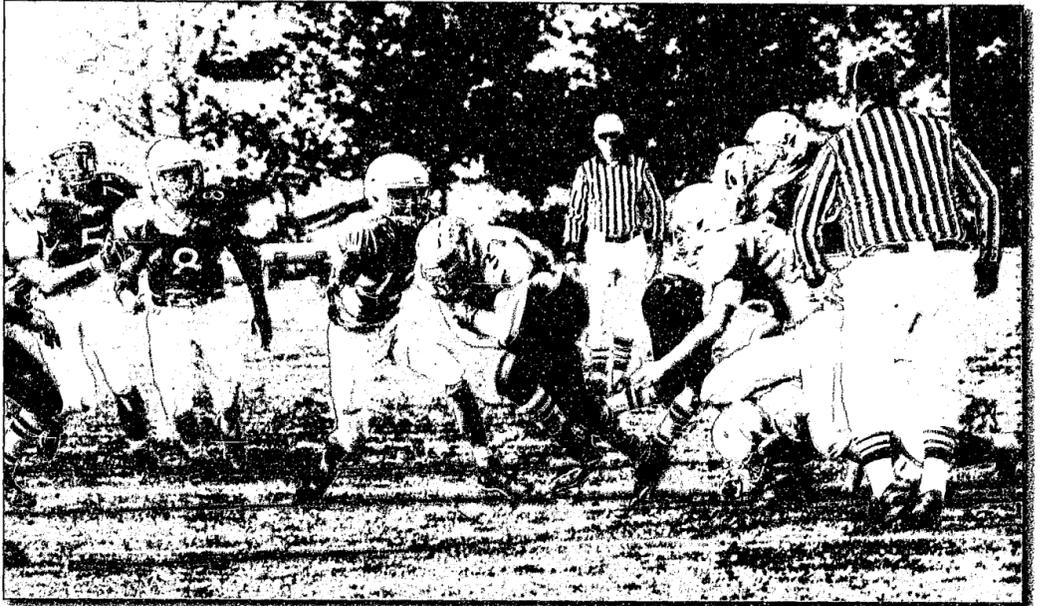
As a whole, the team showed resiliency throughout the year. After

suffering a disappointing four-point loss at Lovington, 48-44, the Warriors came back and trounced Portales, 33-19, at home.

In Saturday's game, the Chargers went out on top, 8-0, in the first quarter but Ruidoso soon tied it up at the 7:21 mark on a Tanner Chavez six-pointer and a two-point conversion.

At the end of the first period of play, it was Albuquerque Academy, 22, and Ruidoso, 8. By

See **RHS**, page 2B



LAYNE HOLLAND/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Devon Carr bursts through the Albuquerque Academy line in Ruidoso's season-ending 48-21 loss in the state playoffs.

Carrizozo plays volleyball state title game

Lady Grizzlies make school history with best finish yet in state playoff games

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

Carrizozo had a stellar year in volleyball, going 18-3 heading into the state playoffs. In Thursday's two-games-per-match pool play they defeated Quemado, 2-0 (21-10 and 21-16), Victory

Christian, 2-0 (21-9 and 21-14) and split with Clovis Christian, losing the first game, 21-15, and winning the second one, 21-15.

But the Lady Grizzlies won the Class-B pool play for the day by virtue of the total amount of points that were scored for and

against them.

In Friday's games, Carrizozo again took down Quemado, 3-0 (25-11, 25-21 and 25-23) and then defeated Hondo, 3-0 (25-10, 25-16 and 25-12).

In Saturday's championship Class-B matchup, Elida won in three straight sets, 25-15, 25-23 and 25-20, at the Santa Ana Star Center in Rio Rancho.

"We didn't play well in the first game," Carrizozo head coach Pam Allen said. "But then the girls

played tough in the next two. It's a difficult thing to get to the state tournament, let alone appear in the title match. That was spectacular. And we went the whole way with no seniors. Elida has a good program — it's classy."

Allen suited up 12 players on her roster — four juniors, three sophomores, three freshmen and two 8th-graders.

It was the best finish of any Carrizozo volleyball team in the history of the school.

"It was a precedent setter for the team and an excellent job done by the girls," Allen said. "We had a good number of Carrizozo people on hand to watch the first two days and more came to see the title match."

"Even though we didn't win the championship, it was a personal triumph just to witness the growth of individual development in most of my girls. That was satisfying and huge to see."

"One thing life's lessons

teach you is — although it's disappointing not to finish No. 1, sometimes the journey itself is the reward. It could teach the girls, later on, to get back up and keep going."

"I was fortunate to have had two wonderful people on my coaching staff — Gina VanLandingham and Porter Cutrell. Three of their strongest qualities are honor, loyalty and intelligence. I'm optimistic about our chances next year."

Corona volleyball's most excellent adventure

A Lincoln County hamlet realizes prominence and gets respect from school sports

MIKE CURRAN
mcurran@ruidosonews.com

In the scheme of things, the modest community of Corona is sometimes overlooked when it comes to high school sports.

Situated in the outer, northern reaches of Lincoln County, Corona enjoys a thriving population of 186 people, according to a 2009 census.

But sometimes, in the sports world, noticeable things are achieved by the lesser known. Take this year's version of the 2011 Corona High School's vol-

leyball team, for instance. They started the year on Aug. 22 by beating NMMI at home 3-1 and netted three more wins before losing at NMMI on Sept. 12, 3-2. Who knew at the time it would be their last loss in the regular season?

They would then go on to post 12 straight victories, including a 3-2 district championship win over Hondo to put a 16-1, 9-0, season into the record books for all to see, now and forever.

In the state quarterfinals the Lady Cardinals lost to Clovis Christian, 3-

0, but for coach Richard Gage and his athletes, it was a year to be remembered.

"This was the best record Corona has had in my 14 years of coaching here," he said. "The second best record we had was a 14-7 year."

"I had a team make it to the regional tournament once but this is the first time in 33 years a Corona volleyball team made it to the state tournament. And it was the first time the volleyball team won district."

Gage donates his time as a coach, because, as a member of the school board, he cannot accept payment for coaching.



COURTESY

The Corona volleyball team went 16-1, 9-0, in the regular season and made the state playoffs for the first time in 33 years.

See **CORONA**, page 2B

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RHS

FROM PAGE 1B

halftime it was 29-8. The Warriors put up six- and seven-point scores in the remaining two quarter to end up losing by 27.

"The loss hurt because a couple of injured seniors wanted to come back and compete in the state playoffs had we been able to continue," Ruidoso head coach Kief Johnson said.

"We knew it would be tough going against the Chargers because of the single wing offense they employed — one of only two teams I'm aware of that run that style of offense (Santa Rosa is the

other).

"We knew we would have to match them score for score.

"Albuquerque won the turnover ratio — they got three and we got one. We wanted to play in the December state title game but it wasn't to be."

What are Johnson's thoughts about the 2011 Warriors?

"I'm proud of this team for their hard work for the entire year, including the off-season," Johnson said.

"They were a great group of young men to coach.

"This team has dealt with adversity accordingly. When injuries put some of our players on the sideline, other members of the squad kept stepping

up to fill the voids.

"There was a nice crowd of people from Ruidoso on hand in Albuquerque and the players appreciated the fan support."

The Warriors will lose 11 seniors from the 2011 football squad.

"We have dared this senior class to be great," Johnson said. "I have faith in them — from their dedication and commitment to the team this season — that whatever they chose to do in life, they could succeed at that, too.

"They spent countless hours in the weight room with coach Rel to maintain at peak physical fitness for the battles at hand on the gridiron."

Among the departing seniors will be: Armando Baca — "I'm thankful for his leadership," Johnson said. "I hated to see him injured and sidelined against Robertson."

Clayton Blaylock — "His heart on the field at defensive end will be missed."

Tanner Chavez — "He was tenacious on the defensive line and a power runner at fullback."

Tyler Coleman — "showed wisdom in the defensive secondary."

Denver Coronado — "This young man persevered and became a needed part of the team."

Kalama Davis — "A hard runner and a good receiver. His speed will be

hard to replace."

Beto Fernandez — "We were glad to have him as a kicker, receiver and running back."

Julian Lopez — "Was a huge potential playmaker for us but only had opportunities for us in scrimmage and in the Lovington game because of injuries."

Warren McCracken — "His dominance on the offensive line will be remembered as well as his leadership."

Nick Secrest — "We're glad he joined us this year and stuck with the program. He helped to make us better each and every week on the scout team."

Sam Williams — "We're proud of his work

ethic at the quarterback spot. He overcame injury and threw for tons of yardage."

Now that the Ruidoso football season is over, what are Johnson's thoughts about his 2012 Warrior team?

"I feel we have some good up-and-coming underclassmen on hand to compliment next year's team and make us competitive," he said.

"This year's squad — both seniors and underclassmen — have set a precedent for other Warrior teams to follow. Their hard work and commitment — in the weight room and on the field — will be a challenge for future teams to emulate."

CORONA

FROM PAGE 1B

"I wasn't sure how things would pan out at the beginning of the season," he said.

"But these girls, one and all, gave me everything they had. I consider myself paid in full. Going to state was a great experience for

my athletes and me. We came out nervous and tight at state in the Clovis match.

"It was a learning experience, they did their best and we were all thrilled to be there. A lot of people from the community came to Rio Ranch to see the girls play.

"It was wonderful for the people of Corona. It was big fun this year. This was

a great group to be around."

Going back to Corona's only regular season loss to NMMI, Gage said, "We just had an off night. It was our worst athletic effort of the year and NMMI stepped up and took advantage of it."

Gage had 14 players on this year's team — two seniors, three juniors, two sophomores, three freshmen and four 8th-graders.

The proof of this year's premier team effort is being rewarded by the New Mexico Coaches Association. Monday, it was announced four Corona players were voted All District — senior Taylor Huey, junior Kelly Gensler, junior Allysanne Huey and 8th-grader Hannah Gage.

Two other girls, senior Amanda Mulkey and 8th-grader Jessica Leibold

received honorable mention.

"They worked hard," Gage said. "I nominated all six of my starters to All District.

"A coach cannot vote for his own players, and so, the honors these six girls received came from other coaches."

Monday, it was also announced Huey was voted on the North/South All

Star team. She is the only Class-B player to be voted on the South team.

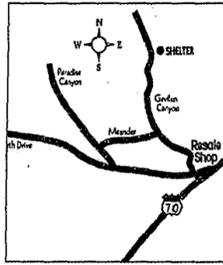
So what does Gage see in the future for Corona volleyball?

"If things go as I plan, we should be good for the next four years," he said. "We will lose Taylor Huey and Mulkey but our JV team played the same district schedule as the Varsity and went 14-0."

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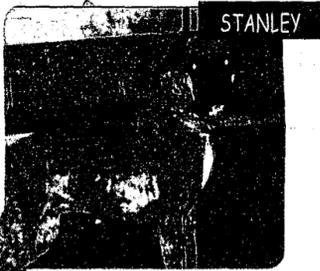
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JOANIE HOLT



CAROLINE
CAROLINE IS A VERY SWEET MIXED BREED DOG. SHE PLAYS WELL WITH OTHERS AND IS ALMOST LEASE TRAINED. SHE DESERVES A SECOND LOOK AND A GREAT NEW FOREVER HOME. SHE WAS FOUND IN CAPTAIN.

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CHUY
CHUY IS A HANDSOME BLACK LAB MIX, ABOUT 3 YEARS OLD. HE IS SOLID BLACK AND WEIGHS ABOUT 50 POUNDS. CHUY SEEMS LIKE HE WILL BE A VERY LOYAL DOG AND IS DESPERATE TO FIND A PERMANENT HOME. HE WAS ABANDONED HERE AT THE ANIMAL SHELTER AT 10 MONTHS.

SPONSORED BY
JUANITA



SANDI
SANDI IS ABOUT 8 MONTHS OLD AND WEIGHS 32 POUNDS. SHE IS SOMEWHAT SHY BUT IS COMING AROUND VERY NICELY. SANDI IS LEARNING TO SIT AND WALKS WELL ON A LEASH. SHE SEEMS TO BE FRIENDLY WITH OTHER DOGS AND IS VERY MELLOW AND QUIET.

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PIERCE
PIERCE IS A LITTLE SWEETHEART ABOUT A YEAR OLD AND WEIGHS 31 POUNDS. HE IS A LITTLE ON THE SHY SIDE RIGHT NOW BUT IS GETTING MORE SOCIAL EVERY DAY. PIERCE GETS ALONG WITH OTHER DOGS.

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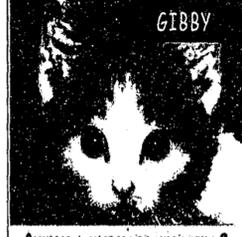
WINKS
WINKS IS ABOUT 8 WEEKS OLD AND LIKES TO PLAY WITH HIS BROTHER GIBBY. SHE IS VERY SWEET AND HAS A VERY LOUD PURR.

SPONSORED BY
RUIDOSO NEWS



ORINA
ORINA IS A VERY LAID BACK CAT ABOUT A YEAR OLD AND WEIGHS 6 POUNDS. SHE IS VERY FRIENDLY AND HAS VERY STRONG MARKINGS ON HER LIP.

SPONSORED BY
MARY BETH FOWLER



GIBBY
GIBBY IS A CUTE LITTLE GUY ABOUT 8 WEEKS OLD. HE LOVES TO PLAY AND CHASE HIS TOYS AROUND THE ROOM. HE ALSO LOVES TO COMPETE WITH HIS LITTER MATE DOTTIE ON WHO IS THE FASTEST TOY CATCHER.

SPONSORED BY
JAMES GOODWIN



DOTTIE
DOTTIE IS 8 WEEKS OLD AND HAS VERY PRETTY MARKINGS. SHE IS VERY FRIENDLY AND LOVES TO POUNCE ON HER LITTER MATE GIBBY. SHE JUST NEEDS A NEW FOREVER HOME.

SPONSORED BY
ERIK BEARER



GRETEL
GRETEL IS AROUND A YEAR OLD AND WEIGHS 6 POUNDS. SHE LOVES TO ENTERTAIN AND IS VERY FRIENDLY. SHE WOULD LOVE A NICE WARM HOME AND A GREAT FAMILY TO TAKE HER IN.

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Senior Denver Coronado makes a flying tackle while playing his last Warrior football game.



Four RHS seniors, from left, Warren McCracken, Tanner Chavez, Sam Williams and Denver Coronado come out on the field for the coin toss at the beginning of the state playoff game Saturday with Albuquerque Academy.



Senior Beto Fernandez looks for running room.

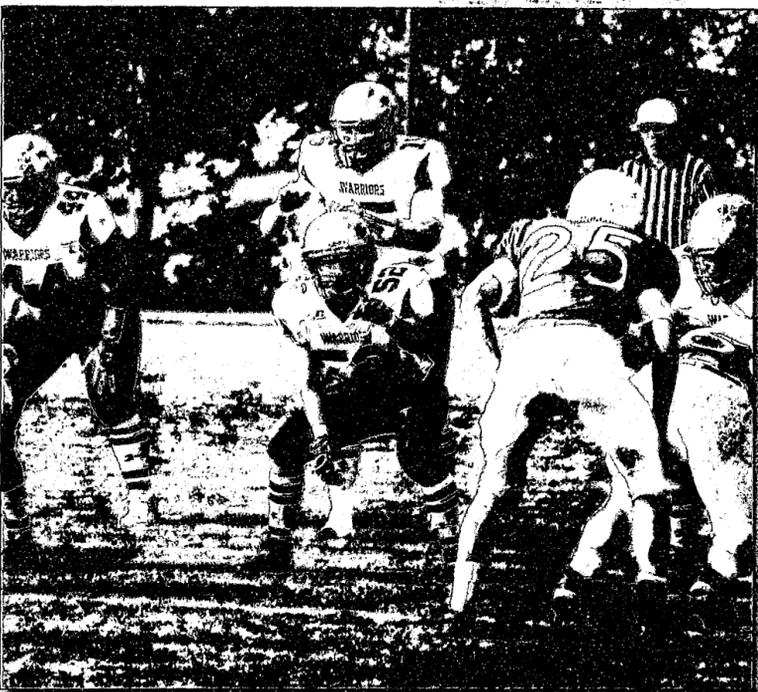


Denver Coronado hauls one in for the Warriors.

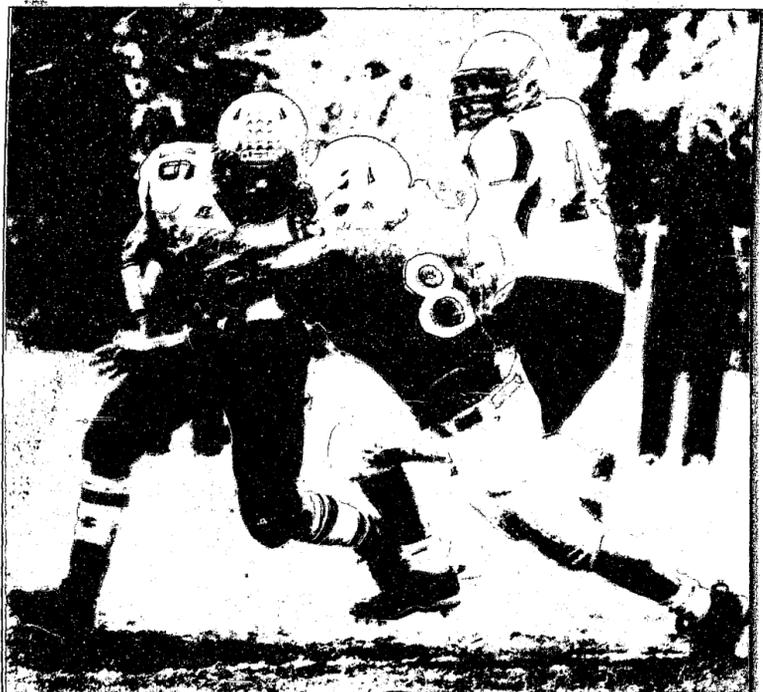


Senior wide receiver Tyler Coleman gets set for a pass route.

The photos on this page are by Layne Holland (www.studiolaynephotography.com) For the Ruidoso News and are available at the Ruidoso News Media Center at www.ruidosonews.com.



Quarterback Williams, No. 15, calls signals while the backfield immediately in front of him, Tanner Chavez, No. 44, and George Morgan, No. 52, look to protect.



Senior running back Kalama Davis tries to find running room against an Academy defender.



Sam Williams quarterback his last RHS football game.



Junior Ismail LaPaz makes sure he's behind the scrimmage line.



Freshman wide receiver Parker Johnson runs the sideline.

LINCOLN COUNTY

Chaos in Carrizozo's council

Zoning concerns at meeting cause a big stir over small horses

ERIK BEARER
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Carrizozo's appointed mayor, Dennis Vega, firmly told residents attending a town council meeting on Monday exactly who was in charge after several residents began speaking out regarding a planning and zoning issue.

"When I put the motion on the table, the discussion is for the councilors only," Vega said. "My rule is, and is the law, states when I have a motion on the table, it stays that way."

Though audience participation is encouraged at the beginning of the agenda, Cheri Cloudt, whose miniature horses that she keeps at her residence and were the cause of the big uproar, said her unfamiliarity with council business was a large part of the problem.

"When I do this, it stays the way I want to run these meetings, by law," Vega said, insisting that the time for public input was over. Council members were the only ones permitted to speak after a motion was made, he said.

Violation

Judy Fitz, the newly appointed zoning administrator and secretary for the planning and zoning board, said that Cloudt was in a Residential-1 (R-1) area, which only allowed cats, dogs, chickens, and rabbits.

But Cloudt said she could not understand why she was being singled out and punished for miscommunications on the part of the town and past planning and zoning board members, especially when there is livestock in many backyards throughout town, often in smaller enclosures.

Cloudt said when she moved to Carrizozo she went to city hall to inquire about permits to keep her two miniature horses on about two acres.

She said she was told to

fill out permits.

She added that several planning and zoning members had visited and worked on her property without commenting on the horses.

"I was not told anything (about a zoning violation) until May, when J'Lane (Zamora, former chairperson of planning and zoning) brought the police to my house," she said.

Fitz said the board already had met on the matter and had extended "an invitation" to Cloudt to attend the meeting.

Cloudt responded that she was given a date, but not a time, which was only five days in advance of the Oct. 19 meeting, where she was told to be there with a new application for her horses. She was given notice via e-mail.

Cloudt further said she was unable to attend the meeting due to her graduate school classes, and had responded to Vega and Ray Dean, a member of the board.

"And Ray (Dean) was supposed to talk to you about that," Fitz said, to which Cloudt responded that she "was never talked to."

Later in the meeting, Vega announced that he had received a resignation letter from Dean, stepping down from the planning and zoning board.

Cloudt said that she had never filled out an application for the board, but had instead filled out an application for a horse permit and paid her fees in December. She hadn't heard from the town until May.

"And if it gets denied, you have the right to appeal it," Vega said.

If a person appeals a decision by the council, the issue goes back to the planning and zoning board, which will then present it again to the council.

Change of heart

"It's easier to have her come up here and talk," Culler said after 14 minutes of shouting between Vega and several audience members that had police officers taking several steps towards the podium in anticipation. "It will be shorter in the long run, and with a lot less temper tantrums."

Vega assented, rejecting trustee Lee Gross' recommendation to simply table the discussion, and let Cloudt come to the podium to speak.

"This has gone on way too long," Cloudt said. "There were a lot of people involved, and there was a lot of misinformation."

After a brief interruption as Vega attempted to call the town attorney, Cloudt continued.

Cloudt said that she was told by Realtor Patsy Sanchez that the only requirement to keep her horses was to have a certain amount of land units per animal, which she was in compliance.

But sometime during May, Cloudt said she was informed by Zamora that she was zoned in R-1, and couldn't keep the horses.

"There are horses on the west of me, and sheep to the east," Cloudt said, confused as to why she was being singled out.

"I am not going to give up my kids (horses), that's what I call them," Cloudt said. "They continue to serve a purpose with one middle school student. I have also made arrangements for she and I to take them to New Horizons (Developmental Center) once a week. The planning and zoning is not asking me to get rid of a junk car, they're asking me to give up a part of my life."

"If I need to file for a variance, I am more than willing to do so, but I need an option."



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Mayor Dennis Vega engages in an argument with a Carrizozo resident as Margaret LaBelle fills in for vacationing village clerk Leann Weibrecht.

Resolution

"So the discussion and possible action on Cheri Cloudt horse compliance, I will recommend that we ask her to go to planning and zoning, we ask her to file the application with planning and zoning, and that it be sent and reviewed by planning and zoning, and brought back to the council with their recommendation," Vega said.

"And that we give her the opportunity that was misguided, and we apologize for that."

"We're going to try and start with a clean slate," Fitz said on Tuesday.

Fitz said the new application would be submitted to the planning and zoning board for its next meeting, during which she would excuse herself from the vote.

"We have two new board members, one of whom is chairman," Fitz said, adding that they had no previous knowledge of the situation and could vote without bias.

Fitz said that many of the residences with live-

stock on them were remnants of previous agricultural areas, and were getting grandfathered in with the new zoning.

"We don't want to go to the original landowners and tell them they can't have animals, but we don't want new ones," Fitz said. "We're the bad guys if we say no, but we want to be fair to everyone."

Fitz added that while the old livestock application was only one page and had few details, a new application would be going out, which had many more details, including shelter, space, and zoning requirements.

"We are going to be proactive in sending out these letters," Fitz said, expecting to see numerous letters being sent to livestock owners to verify their compliance.

Cloudt said that since the meeting she had e-mailed Fitz, requesting to be on the next planning and zoning meeting.

Other business

Additional items passed

during the meeting included the election resolution, in English and Spanish, which would have two trustees for four-year terms, one for a two-year term, and a judge for a four-year term.

Voting is to be held at the Carrizozo municipal building, located at 400 9th Street. Early voting will run from Feb. 15 to Mar. 2, and candidates wishing to run for office must register with the County Clerk by Feb. 7.

Additional planning and zoning regulations on signs along the highway were passed, complying with Department of Transportation regulations, Fitz said.

The new applications, along with requirements for signs, will be available at town hall.

Police reports were positive, with Officer Stephen Barnett reporting that with help from other agencies and some investigative work, there had been no reports of burglary through October, following a rash of home break-ins.

Home of the Fiesta Dancers

After retirement, Fermin S. Montes, former superintendent of Hondo Schools wrote a book, "Dreams Can Become a Reality."

The subject of his first chapter was Hondo Schools and the obstacles that had to be overcome.

He told of the rewards reaped from the combined efforts of many people, all of whom were determined to do something to improve the educational endeavors of those who would pave the way for the successful events which took place through 1948.

The majority of his book is dedicated to the fall of

1947, start of the folk dance group known today throughout the state and beyond as the Hondo Fiesta Dancers.

He begins his story by telling about the history of schools in Lincoln County.

"The year 1891 was supposedly the beginning of education in Territorial New Mexico. Prior to 1891 many attempts had been made to provide some type of education for those who wanted it. After 1891 people felt that real progress had been made as they tied to provide education for the masses."

To those early educators we owe a great deal for



POLLY E. CHAVEZ

*Historical
Potpourri*

their efforts in providing some type of schooling for their boys and girls."

Montes notes in his book that it may be of interest to the people of Lincoln County to know that it was 1909 when the first high school course was inaugurated in Lincoln County in the town of Carrizozo.

One teacher was employed to do high school work. In 1912, the



POLLY E CHAVEZ/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Hondo schools proudly display the home of their renowned Fiesta Dancers.

Legislature gave the counties the right to establish high schools.

The first county high school established in Lincoln County was opened in Capitan in 1912 with 12 students. This was known as the Lincoln County High School.

The Average Daily Attendance (ADA) had increased to 35 by 1924, when five teachers were employed. The town of Lincoln established a two-

year high school in 1921, with an enrollment of 18. The ADA for 1925 was 20.

Beginning in 1922, Lincoln had a three-year high school until the close of the 1930-31 school term, when ADA had dropped to nine. After this term, the students were transported to Capitan. In 1923 Hondo Elementary School asked for additional money to employ one high school teacher for the year 1923-24, "...thus, began the

high school instruction in Hondo."

In 1935, the Hondo High School, together with the elementary school, became an independent school district.

The Hondo Fiesta Dancers first performed April 7, 1948, with a revival of Mexican folk dances and songs under the direction of Cirenia Montes, wife of the author of "Dreams Can Become a Reality."

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Court to decide if trainer can be tried again

MILAN SIMONICH
msimonich@nmmp.com

SANTA FE — The beating death of a thoroughbred colt reached the New Mexico Supreme Court on Tuesday, but the legal twists and turns may not be over.

Three of the five justices were publicly skeptical of horse trainer Greg Collier's arguments that he cannot be tried a third time on a charge of animal cruelty. Both of his trials in Las Cruces ended in mistrials.

Collier, 41, contends that the case against him should be dismissed because of double jeopardy, expiration of the statute of limitations and a violation of his right to a speedy trial.

Both a district court judge and the state Court of Appeals agreed with him that the state should be barred from trying him for a third time, though their reasoning differed.

The trial judge said the statute of limitations had lapsed. The appeals court rejected that analysis, but ruled that a third trial would constitute double

jeopardy.

None of Collier's legal arguments, presented to the Supreme Court by his attorney, Caren Friedman, appeared to sway the justices.

"You really are trying to turn our jurisprudence system on its head," Justice Richard Bosson said to Friedman.

Chief Justice Charles Daniels said other defendants whose cases ended in mistrials were tried yet again. He asked Friedman why Collier should be treated to a different standard.

"Name any case where a hung jury precludes a retrial on a lesser offense," Daniels said to her.

She had no answer. Afterward, Friedman turned to Collier and said, "I got beat up in there."

For his appearance in court, Collier wore boots and a necktie depicting a cowboy on a horse. He declined to comment on how he thought the hearing went.

The state's prosecution of Collier began more than five years ago.

A grand jury indicted him on a fourth-degree

felony, alleging that he used a whip handle to kill a thoroughbred yearling named Cowboy on Feb. 13, 2006, near Chaparral.

Cowboy's owner had hired Collier to train the colt as a racehorse.

Prosecutors alleged that Collier was "humiliated" over his lack of progress and struck the horse repeatedly with the whip handle. But Collier, at one of his trials, testified that he was not violent with the colt.

Collier first stood trial in March 2008 on the felony charge of extreme cruelty to animals. Jurors could not agree on a verdict, and the judge declared a mistrial.

The state retried him in January 2009, bringing the same felony count.

But prosecutors asked that the jury also be allowed to consider whether Collier was guilty of a lesser charge, one that was a misdemeanor. The defense consented.

Jurors voted 11-1 to convict Collier of the misdemeanor. With a lone hold-out juror blocking a unanimous verdict, the judge

declared another mistrial.

Because the jury focused only on the misdemeanor count, Collier implicitly was acquitted of the felony.

Prosecutors in Dona Ana County attempted to try Collier again in the summer of 2009 solely on the misdemeanor. But District Judge Fernando R. Macias said the two-year statute of limitations on that count had expired.

The case has been on appeal since.

Joel Jacobsen of the state attorney general's staff represented the government before the Supreme Court. He received so few questions from the justices that he did use the 30 minutes allotted to him.

Jacobsen argued that well-established case law gives the state the right to try Collier again.

Bosson seemed to agree. Bosson also pointed out that the defense allowed inclusion of the misdemeanor charge at the second trial, then said the two-year statute of limitations had expired when the state wanted to try Collier again seven months later.

As for the speedy trial claim, Jacobsen said Collier had only presented the court with contradictions and attempts at delay.

"He's been tried twice. Now he is fighting tooth and nail not to be tried a third time," Jacobsen said.

Collier, of Lubbock, Texas, took notes as the

justices grilled his attorney. Now he must wait for the Supreme Court to rule whether he is a free man or if the state can try him again.

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



Gladys Louise Nosker
1916 - 2011

Gladys Louise Nosker passed away November 12, 2011 at the age of 95. She was born September 8, 1916 to Elzy & Mayme Perry in Glencoe, New Mexico. She married E. Buck Nosker in 1935. She worked for the Glencoe United States Post Office from 1949 until 1980 as postmaster. She also worked for her brother Charles Perry at the Dairy Queen in Ruidoso, New Mexico. Gladys operated her own farm in Glencoe and assisted in the phases of operation of the George W. Goe Homestead, which produced fruit and cattle since 1884. She was an active member of the Eastern Star and First Presbyterian Church in Ruidoso.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents; brother's George, Lloyd, Elzy Jr. & Jimmy; and her daughter Joanell. She is survived by her brothers and sisters Nina, Ruth, Leroy, Don, Jane & Charles; her sons Lowell & Brian (Jeanette); grandchildren Doyle (Donna) Bayer, Douglas (Cheri) Bayer, Scott (Brittney) Nosker, and Lois Nosker; as well as multiple great-grandchildren.

There was a private family burial service on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 and a memorial service was held in July.

Legislator to lobbyist overnight

MILAN SIMONICH
msimonich@nmmp.com

SANTA FE — An unpaid state legislator in New Mexico can turn into a well-paid lobbyist overnight.

Kent Cravens was the latest to make such a move, resigning from his Senate seat this fall to become a lobbyist for the New Mexico Oil & Gas Association.

Cravens, a Republican from Albuquerque, broke no law or rule, but by immediately becoming a lobbyist he defied what the

top elected official of his own party considers proper.

Three weeks after she took office this year, Gov. Susana Martinez said: "... I propose prohibiting members of my administration and the Legislature from lobbying for two years after leaving state government. There must be no question that public officials are serving only the interests of the public, not positioning themselves for a big payday with a special interest group."

Martinez's spokesman,

Scott Darnell, said her stand had not changed.

"It's something she will continue to fight for," Darnell said.

The governor would receive support from certain Democrats if she pushed for legislation that would place restrictions on

lobbying jobs for former officeholders or government employees.

"We need to do it because of the perception. The perception of corruption is what we need to get rid," said Rep. Antonio "Moe" Maestas, D-Albuquerque.

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Virginia Louise Wittkopp
1925-2011

Memorial service for Virginia Louise "Pie" Wittkopp, 85, of Ruidoso will be Saturday, November 19, in Grace Harvest Church at 2:00 PM.

Mrs. Wittkopp passed away Tuesday, November 8, in Ruidoso. She was born December 18, 1925 at Shawnee, Oklahoma. She moved to Ruidoso in 1979 from Artesia, NM. She was a homemaker and attended Grace Harvest Church. She married Leland Arthur Wittkopp on December 27, 1946 in Artesia and he passed away June 21, 2009.

Pie was as loving Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. She is survived by two daughters, Bethann Preston and her husband Rick and Trudy Bladow and her husband Roger; two sisters, Ann Denton and Teddie Archer; two grandchildren, Drew Moorman and his wife Becky and Leslie Salas and her husband Aaron; three great-grandchildren, Tyler Leigh Salas, Brooklyn Salas and Clayton Salas.

The family has requested memorials to your favorite charity.

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

POLICE BRIEFS

Ruidoso blotter

Oct. 30

11:10 a.m. - Cpl. Steve Corbin responded to the 100 block of Ponderosa Drive for a report of a breaking and entering.

The homeowner reported someone had entered his residence without permission. He turned several items over to Corbin that he said did not belong to him.

Corbin investigated and cited Anissa Prieto, 15, and Israel Davis, 15, to Juvenile Probation for breaking and entering. The two teen reportedly used a spare key to

enter the residence to watch a movie.

Nov. 10

8:14 a.m. - Officer Josh Snodgrass responded to the 100 block of West Santa Rosa Drive for a possible breaking and entering report.

A caretaker reported checking on the home and finding an interior double door broken and a rear bedroom window screen pushed in. Snodgrass reports the bed in the master bedroom appeared to have been slept in.

Nov. 11

8:54 a.m. - Officer Jon Lund responded to Ruidoso High School for a report of a student in possession of drug paraphernalia.

Lund cited Erika Hosetosavit, 17, of Mescalero, to Juvenile Probation for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Lund reported school officials had reportedly found Hosetosavit in possession of a piece of notebook paper folded up with an unidentified white powder inside and a plastic bag with a lighter and rubber tube inside.

Lund reports the powder tested negative for cocaine.

Hosetosavit reportedly said it was "Tylenol and Smarties."

10:40 p.m. - Sgt. Aaron Frost reported seeing a vehicle turn left from Carrizo Canyon onto Sudderth, a no left-turn intersection.

Frost reported stopping the vehicle and arresting driver Eduardo Flores, Jr., 30, of Dona Ana, N.M. for driving on a revoked license.

Frost reported Flores' license was clearly marked for an ignition interlock device, which the vehicle did not have, and he smelled alcohol on Flores' breath.

Frost reports Flores tested .06 on a breathalyzer test.

Flores posted an \$1,100 surety bond through Amador Bonding and was released.

Nov. 12

9:50 p.m. - Officer Tyrel Tyson responded to the 100 block of Chiracahua Lane for a report of trouble with subjects.

Tyson reports Nathaniel Tejada, 23, smelled of alcohol and the two sisters Tejada shared the home with said he was being belligerent and arguing with them. Tyson reported convincing Tejada to go to bed and leave the women alone.

At 10:20 Tyson re-

sponded to the home again. This time he arrested Tejada for assault on a household member.

Tyson reported Tejada tested .26 blood alcohol content on the breathalyzer.

Ruidoso Downs blotter

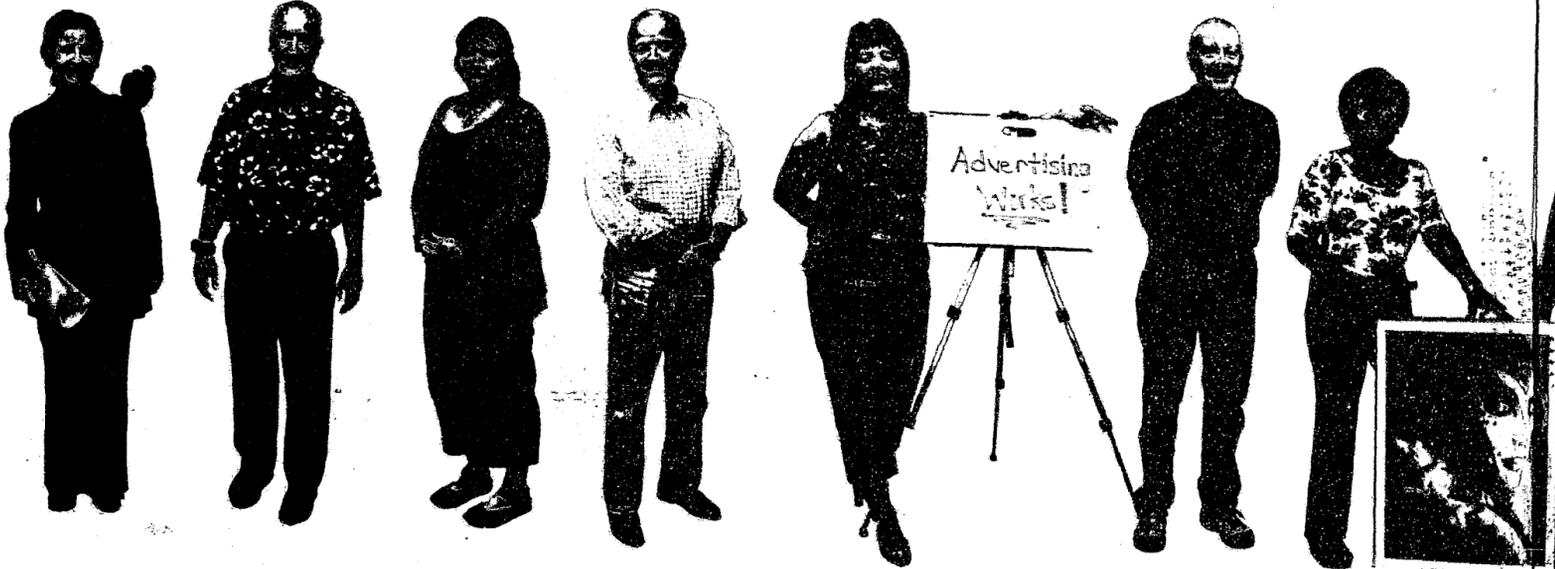
Nov. 7

Officer Martin Valenzuela responded to the 100 block of Oliver Drive for a report of a larceny.

The victim reported someone had taken a pair of binoculars, cash and a DVD player from his truck

See **BRIEFS**, page 7B

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Gerald Sinclair, PhD
Columnist for Vamonos, "Healthy Mind, Healthy Body"
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Lucina Sarber
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Erik Bearer
Lincoln County
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8 months

"...somebody get me re-write!"

Drew Gomber
Vamonos
Past Tense
Columnist
6 years

"In many ways the Wild West was wilder than you think!"

Beth Barrett
Print and Multi-Media
Specialist
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"Southwest Living is the only real estate magazine with in home delivery."

Dina Garner
Print and Multi-Media
Specialist
6 months

"Our 'Billy the Kid' Summer Visitors Guide was a huge success!"

Barbara Westbrook
Vamonos
Creative Living
Columnist
39 years reviewing music, Opera, fine dining and travel

"The world I wish for, I bring to you in song and on the canvas!"

BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 6B

parked in the driveway.

The vehicle was reportedly not locked.

Nov. 9

5:11 p.m. - Officer Darrell Chavez arrested Erick Thompson, 29, on a warrant from Chaves County Magistrate court for failure to pay fines.

Thompson had come to the Ruidoso Downs Police Department to get fingerprints.

Nov. 11

1:10 p.m. - Officer Mar-

tin Valenzuela responded to the 300 block of Reservoir for a report of a found vehicle.

The reporting person reported finding the chain to Turkey Canyon from Hill Drive was laying on the ground. He reported to Valenzuela that he entered the property and found a vehicle parked there.

Valenzuela followed him to the property and found a Jeep Liberty reported stolen from Alamogordo.

Nov. 12

2:13 a.m. - Officer Joseph Bailey responded to the 100 block of Park Lane for a report of a domestic disturbance.

Bailey reports observing

red marks on the victim's chest consistent with her story of being pushed into a fence.

Bailey arrested Manuel Corona, 41, on a charge of domestic violence against a household member.

Corona reportedly became upset when his wife walked outside a Ruidoso nightclub and talked to a man she used to work with. Corona reportedly became abusive to the man then turned his aggression on his wife after the man left.

6:30 a.m. - Officer Martin Valenzuela stopped a vehicle for speeding on U.S. 70 and arrested the driver, Fredrico Cabazos, 27, of Mesquite, N.M., for driving on a revoked license.

Valenzuela issued a written warning for the

speeding infraction.

6:55 p.m. - Officer Carolee Sandoval, New Mexico State Police Officer E. Mar-rujo, Lincoln County Deputy Sheriff Neil Cox, Ruidoso Police Officers Tillman Freeman and Lance Ledford responded to Inspiration Heights to multiple calls of a female screaming for help inside an apartment.

Sandoval reported arriving at the apartment and observing a female in one of the bedrooms with blood on her face and a bloody nose. Sandoval reported that while she tried to find out what happened to this female, Kathryn Cojo, 27, kept interrupting and yelling at the woman. The woman reportedly told Sandoval Cojo had hit and

kicked her in the face. Cojo was reportedly upset about the woman bringing her boyfriend into the apartment.

Sandoval arrested Cojo for battery.

Ruidoso Downs firefighters Kenny Ellard and H. Keck arrived on the scene.

Sandoval found four children in the apartment, aged two months to five years old. The children's father, Christopher Kazhe, 32, of Mescalero, was in the apartment. Sandoval reported Kazhe was on probation.

Sandoval called Assistant District Attorney K. Wills, who approved charging Cojo, Kazhe and Elaine Blake, 28, with four counts each of child endangerment.

Sandoval reports Kahze, who had been docile, became very agitated when told he was being charged with child endangerment. He reportedly stood up and squared off toward Sandoval. Sandoval reports she approached Kahze, took hold of his collar and sat him back in the chair.

While Sandoval dealt with Cojo and Kahze, Blake went into a bedroom with the children and escaped through a window.

Sandoval reports Mescalero law enforcement arrested Blake later on that day, but did not transfer her to Ruidoso Downs Police.

Sandoval also reported the incident to Children, Youth and Families Division.

per experience

Goes Everywhere!"



The Paper that Goes Everywhere!
Ruidoso News



Julie Carter
Lincoln County Columnist
Cowgirl, Sass & Savvy
9 years

"It's been a great ride!"

J.D. Drodgy
Vamonos Alamo Living Columnist

Yvonne Lanelli
Vamonos "Follow Me" Columnist
30 years writing travel columns

Someone said, "Life is a book" and those who do not travel have not opened its cover. I open covers and turn pages for readers!"

Del Larson
Production Manager
6 years

"...we can tweak that!"

Harold Oakes
News Reporter
5 years

"...I'm not writing a ticket... I'm writing the Police Blotter."

Chris Gonzales
Circulation Manager
7 years

"...virtually delivering Fresh and Hot News twice a week..."

Jim Kalvelage
News Reporter
22 years

"I have seen it all"



James Goodwin
Assistant to the GM
Business Development Manager
Human Resources
11 years

"I am not wearing that particular hat right now..."

Ross Barrett
Advertising Manager
Print and Online
17 years

"ruidosonews.com is smokin'!"

Mike Curran
Sports Editor
5 years

"I play hard ball covering sports for Lincoln County..."

Dianne Stallings
News Reporter
40 years (20 years with Ruidoso News!)

"...still a daily adventure!"

Polly E. Chavez
Historical Potpourri
29 years in news (16 years with the Ruidoso News)

"History - digging in the past with cameras, books, and old newspapers."

William Henry McCarty, Jr
(Billy the Kid, Henry Antrim, and William H. Bonney)
Creating News Since November 23, 1859

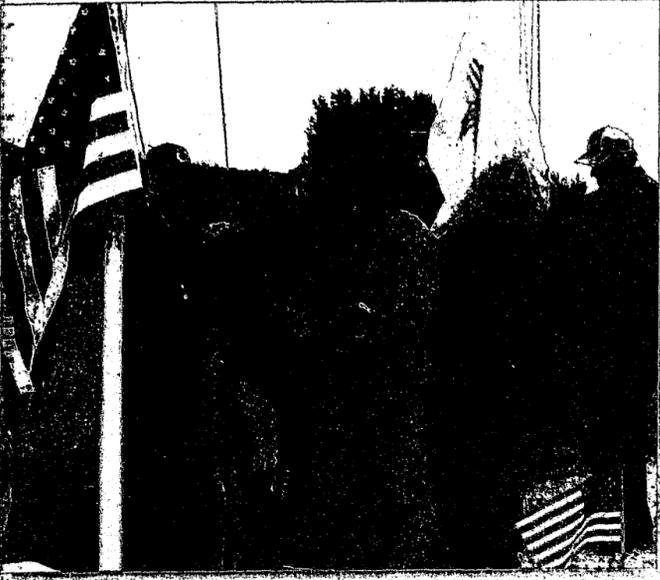
"I wasn't the leader of any gang. I was for Billy all the time."
-Billy the kid to a Las Vegas reporter after his capture at Stinking Springs.



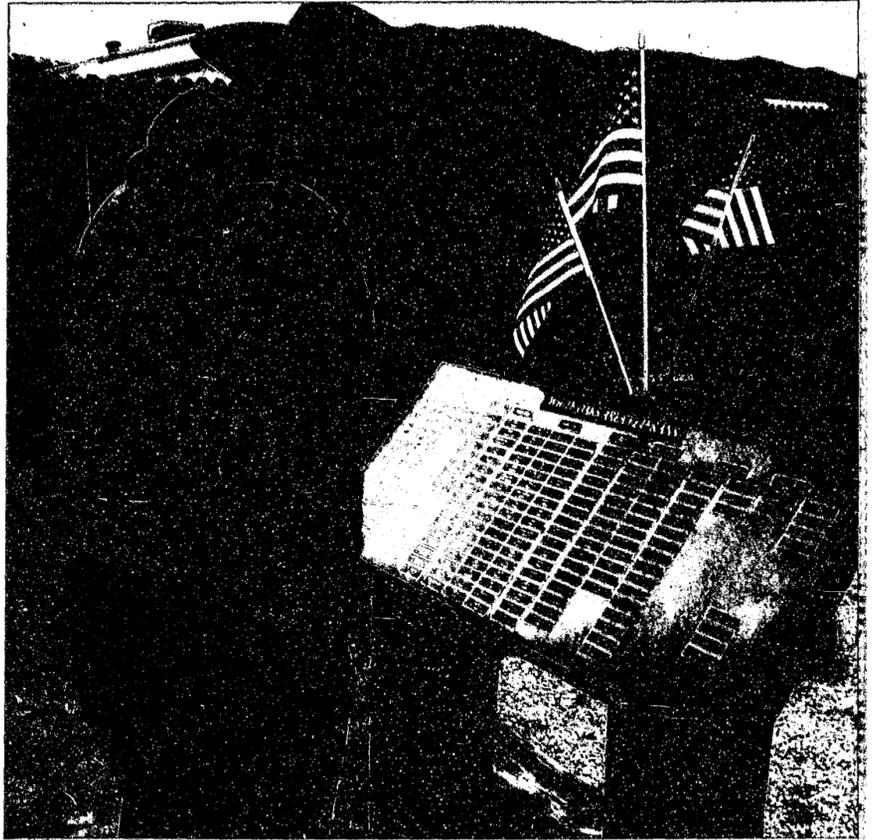
104 Park Avenue | Ruidoso, NM 88435
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Reader Since 1946!

Veterans Day in White Oaks



Ed McWilliams, Claude Hobbs, AnnElla Hatter and Grady Stewart prepare to raise the flags at the White Oaks Veterans Memorial Nov. 11.



White Oaks resident Bob Cranston looks at the names on the White Oaks Memorial Marker before the Veterans Day ceremony.



Andy Grooms serves up ribs to No Scum Allowed Saloon new owner Marlon Coffman before the Veterans Day lunch Nov. 11 in White Oaks.

photos by Harold Oakes



Current No Scum Allowed Saloon owner Tony Marsh has lunch with future owner Teresa Coffman. Teresa and husband, Marlon, are in the process of buying the White Oaks establishment.



Vietnam veteran Ed McWilliams, U.S. Army 1970-1973, give the opening remarks during the Veterans Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in White Oaks.

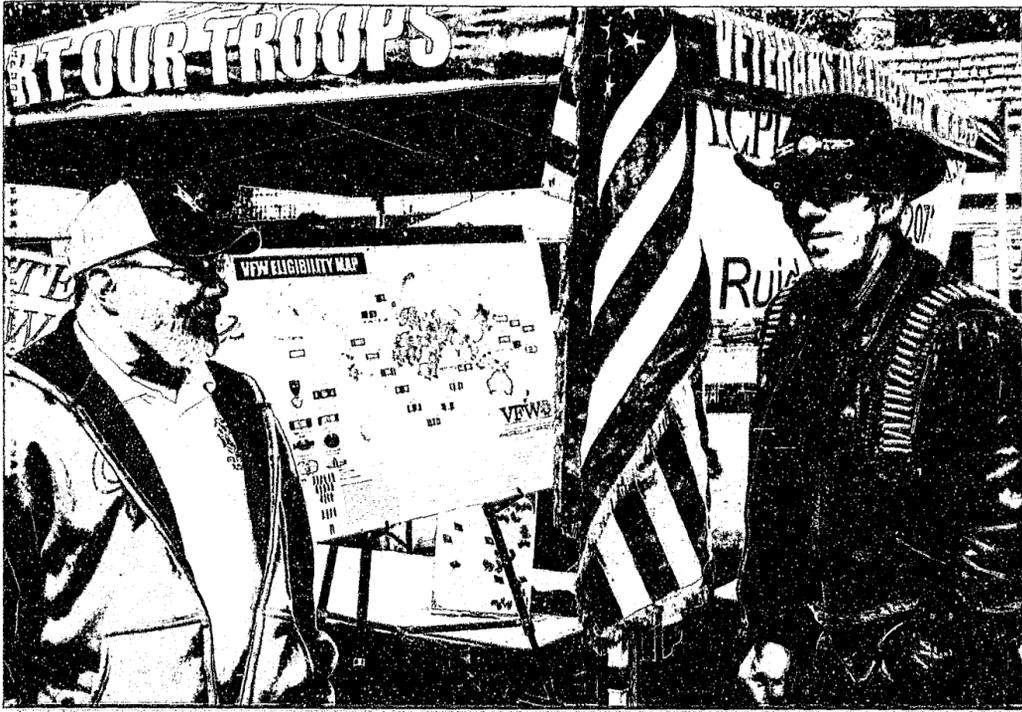


White Oaks pastor Bob Reynierson served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict, 1951 to 1954.



Air Force Korean Conflict veteran Bill Parrish fills his plate at the No Scum Allowed Saloon in White Oaks Friday, Nov. 11, during the annual Veterans Day Free Lunch. Parrish served from 1951-55.

Ruidoso Military Street Fair



Tom Moore and Dave Stanley, both Navy veterans, passed the time by the VFW booth, swapping tales.



From left, Alexander Duus rolled by with his mother, Kristen, and Coley Dalton, visiting from Fort Bliss.

photos by Erik Bearer



From left, Lincoln, Christian, Faith, and Malcom Coley had on their best pizza faces as the family enjoyed a taste of Ruidoso.



Haley Pino, left, and Carina DeYoung learn how to be guitar heroes from Gregory Hein, who was out promoting the Navy with his custom-built entertainment van.



Lorelei Kingsmore, left, helps Julianne Espinoza down the inflatable slide at the children's area of the Veterans Day celebration.



Jerry Welch of Madison, Wis., strolled around the Street Fair with his portable jacket-warmer.



Public lands protection: One veteran's perspective

On May 6, 1903, Teddy Roosevelt, our 26th president, stood on the rim of the Grand Canyon and declared, in his characteristically authoritative way, "Leave it as it is. The ages have been at work on it and man can only mar it."

As a veteran, it is hardly surprising to me that this phrase was uttered by a man who had previously served his country in uniform. Teddy Roosevelt's exploits as the leader of the "Rough Riders" during the Spanish-American War, particularly his leading of two charges up San Juan Hill, are things of near legend. While my service in Iraq can hardly compare with that of Teddy and the Rough Riders, my love and appreciation for the wild places of the West very much grew out of my own time in uniform.

In April 2003, my unit, the 4th Engineer Battalion based in Fort Carson, Colo., crossed into Iraq from our base in Kuwait. Unlike the Rough Riders in Cuba, there would be no climactic charge against a dug-in enemy in Iraq. Instead, as is typical in anti-insurgency campaigns, there was one long fight that played itself out in short bursts of fleeting action, juxtaposed with long, mind-numbing, nearly soul-crushing periods of the most utter and complete boredom imaginable.

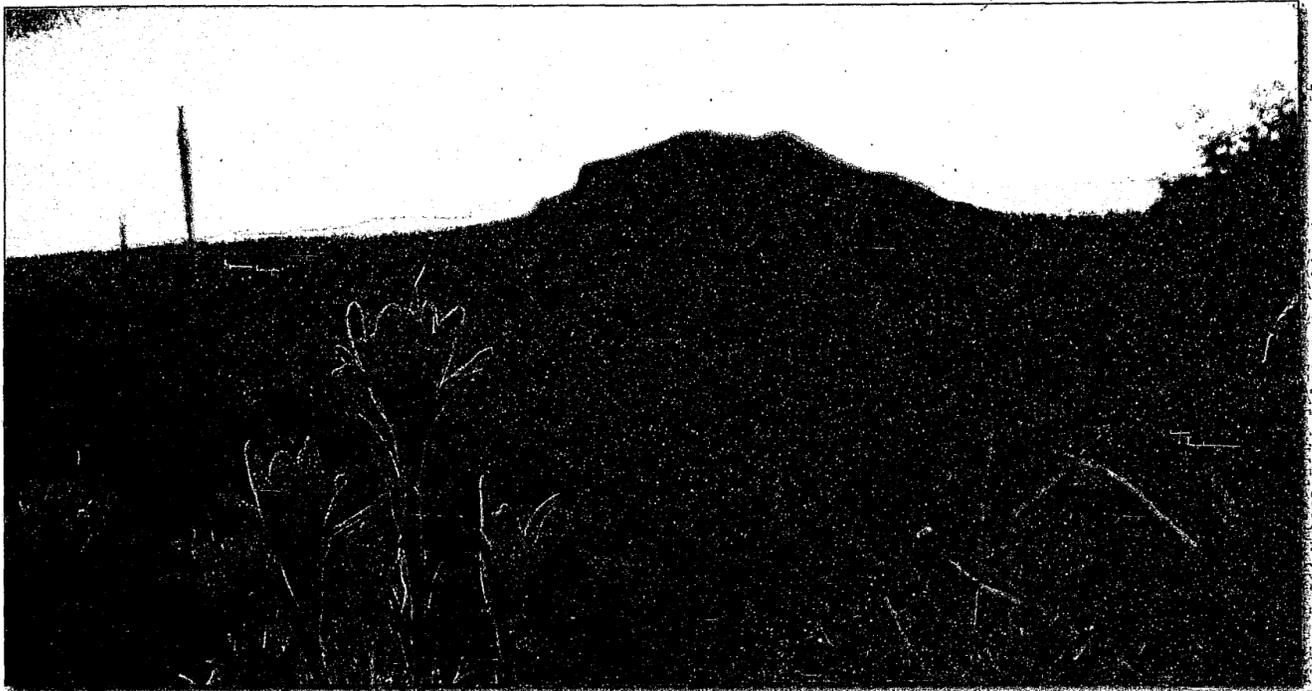
Dreams of the West

As the days turned into weeks and the weeks turned into months, thoughts of what I would do when I got home became an escape that kept my spirits up and helped me focus on getting through the seemingly endless deployment.

More times than not, those daydreams centered on fly fishing, hunting, camping, backpacking, and hiking in the forests, mesas, and mountains near my home in Colorado Springs.

As an officer in a mechanized combat engineer unit, I was surrounded all day, every day, by sounds of exploding munitions and the clanking of heavy machinery.

The very thought of standing in a quiet, babbling mountain stream, casting a dry fly to a rising trout, or taking a stroll along a rocky ridge with vistas of a sea of sagebrush below brought me a much-needed peace and calm and helped me



Red paintbrush flowers Otero Mesa with Alamo Mountain in the background.



HEATH NERO
IRAQ VETERAN

escape, however briefly, from the crazy reality of the world around me.

It turned out that I was hardly alone in these daydreams.

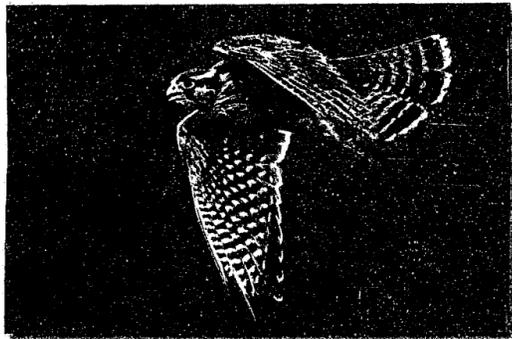
As the deployment dragged on, my fellow officers and I planned dozens of hikes and backpacking trips that we would end up taking upon our return to Colorado Springs.

'Public land'

Early in my life, I only very vaguely understood the concept of "public land." Growing up in Wisconsin, my family routinely piled into an old brown Chevy van and drove west to visit iconic national parks and monuments with names like Yellowstone, Glacier, Zion, Bandelier, and the like.

That my fellow citizens and I owned these public lands and had a stake in how they were managed never really occurred to me. I was just grateful that somebody had decided to protect these pristine areas where my family could go hiking or cast for trout in high alpine lakes.

My service in Iraq changed my perspective on the world in profound ways, not the least of which was to make me



COURTESY KARI POST

Otero Mesa's endangered Aplomado falcon is home on the Otero Mesa.

realize how much I cherished the large, open spaces of the West.

After I returned home from the war and my time in the army drew to a close, I realized that I wanted to live the rest of my life in the West where I would always have ready access to public lands for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor pursuits. In short, I wanted the experiences from my childhood trips with my family and the few years that I spent in Colorado before the war to become my permanent reality.

'Blessed people'

Americans are truly a blessed people, but we Westerners are perhaps just a little bit more blessed than the average American. We enjoy ready access to the vast majority of the public land in the United States based solely on our proximity to it. But with that proximity comes a great responsibility to ensure that these lands are properly cared for and protected.

The public lands will continue to provide resources including oil and gas, forage for livestock grazing, rare earth

minerals, timber, and the like. These extractive uses can serve as important economic drivers for rural communities and the truth of the matter is, despite bogus claims to the contrary, the vast majority of our public land is, and always will remain, open to all of these uses.

But there are some places on the public estate that should be left to be shaped by the processes of the natural world instead of the machinery of man. One such area is Otero Mesa, a 1.2 million-acre expanse of native Chihuahuan grassland in southern New Mexico.

We are not so poor a nation that we cannot afford to set aside a few places like Otero Mesa and protect them in perpetuity by limiting some of the most permanently destructive uses of the land.

When President Roosevelt stared across the great void of the Grand Canyon in 1903, I cannot help but think that his time in uniform informed his declaration that man could only mar its grandeur.

My fellow veterans and I have seen firsthand the complete and total



COURTESY GEORGE GRANTHAM BAIN

Teddy Roosevelt with gun.

destruction we humans are capable of. A

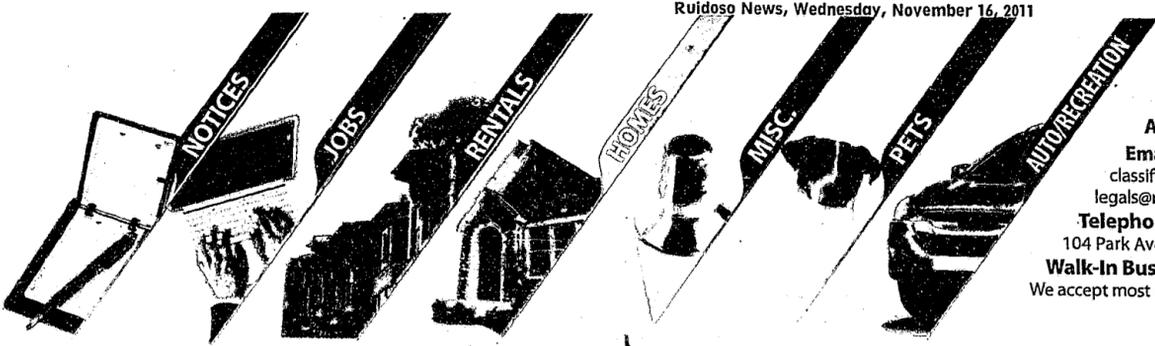
desire to see permanent protection for some of our public lands where one can enjoy peace, solitude, and quiet (and maybe a battle with a trout or two) seems to me to be a natural outgrowth of the war experience.

Every year on Nov. 11, we take time out of our busy schedules to recognize the sacrifices made by Americans in uniform. While this yearly recognition is much appreciated, I can think of no greater show of gratitude than to ensure that our returning men and

women have access to protected public lands where they can seek the quiet, peace, and solitude they longed for during their service overseas.

Heath Nero is a graduate of West Point, holds a graduate degree in environmental policy from the University of Michigan, and lives in Durango, Colo., where he enjoys hunting, fishing, backpacking and myriad other quiet uses of our public lands.

For more information on Otero Mesa or if you would like to become an active in protecting it, visit www.oteromesa.org.



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Legal Notices 152

89509 3T (11)19,16,23

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF LINCOLN STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DN HOSPITALITY, INC. a New Mexico Corporation
vs.
NO. CV-2011-326 DIV. III

GROUP ONE:
D R E N BAREGAS; PATRICIA LYONNE BROWN; DANNY DUNSON; BARBARA FIERRO; BARBARA GONZALEZ; YVETTE FROCK; GYTTSHALL RAN; UNKNOWN GOOD; H A N F E L D; H A R R I S; HERRERA and GLORIA C. HERRERA; MAINE R. FARRAR; R. MICHAEL LEONARD; PACHECO; DAVID PILLA; CRISTINA PENA and UJANA PENA; NORMAN L. PRICER and SANDRA L. PRICER; MARCO RADWANSKI; WELL RAMSEY and TOWANDA RAMSEY; DON WILLIAMS (MIG. 138/403-406); E. D. WRAY and YESSIA WRAY; JESSICA YBARRA

GROUP TWO:
JOHN DOES 1-100, Unknown Spouses of Individuals in Group One, if married.

GROUP THREE:
JOHN DOES 101-200, Unknown Heirs, Personal Representatives, Successors-in-Interest, and Devises of Individuals in Group One, if deceased.

GROUP FOUR:
UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS OF INTEREST IN THE PREMISES ADJACENT TO THE PETITIONERS.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION
THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO TO ALL RESPONDENTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT DN HOSPITALITY, INC. a New Mexico Corporation, DBA EXECUTIVE INN & SUITES, has instituted an action against you as respondents in the above-captioned case in the District Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico, Case No. CV-2011-326, Division III, all on the docket of said court, wherein said Petitioner seeks to quiet title on the following described real estate located in Lincoln County, New Mexico, to-wit:

TRACT A: A tract of land comprising a part of Tracts G, H and I; Pincliff, Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico; the plot of said Pincliff being filed in the Lincoln County Clerk's Office the 20th day of February, 1963; at Book 12, Page 49 and in Plat No. 171. This tract is described as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of said Tract I, and going North 44°20' East along the east right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 70 a distance of 141.90 feet; thence continuing along said right-of-way line along a curve to the left whose radius is 246.34 feet; through an arc of 0°28'35", an arc distance of 22.00 feet; thence South 45°34'17" East a distance of 22.78 feet; thence North 69°52'54" East a distance of 306.85 feet; thence North 34°20'22" East a distance of 33.65 feet; thence South 20°30' East a distance of 115.00 feet; thence South 14°45'17" East a distance of 89.57 feet;

TRACT B: A tract of land comprising a part of Tracts G, H and I; Pincliff, Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico; the plot of said Pincliff being filed in the Lincoln County Clerk's Office the 20th day of February, 1963; at Book 12, Page 49 and in Plat No. 171. This tract is described as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of said Tract I, and going South 59°19' East along the South right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 70 a distance of 141.90 feet; thence continuing along said right-of-way line along a curve to the left whose radius is 246.34 feet; through an arc of 0°28'35", an arc distance of 22.00 feet; thence South 45°34'17" East a distance of 22.78 feet; thence North 69°52'54" East a distance of 306.85 feet; thence North 34°20'22" East a distance of 33.65 feet; thence South 20°30' East a distance of 115.00 feet; thence South 14°45'17" East a distance of 89.57 feet;

Legal Notices 152

89509 3T (11)19,16,23

EXCEPT a strip of land 50 feet in width, parallel and adjacent to U.S. Highway 70 reserved for an access road within the following described tract of land:

That part of Tract H of Pincliff Subdivision as shown by the plat thereof filed in the Office of the Public Land Surveyor, Ruidoso, Carrizozo, New Mexico, described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 70 which is the common corner of Tracts South 56°36'20" East, a distance of 140.00 feet; thence along a line parallel to the right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 70; thence West, a distance of 150.00 feet; thence along the right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 70 to the point of beginning.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that unless you enter your appearance in said cause on or before the 30th day of December, 2011, judgment will be rendered against you by default and the Petitioner will apply to the Court for relief demanded in the Complaint.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the attorney for the Petitioner is John D. Wheeler, Esq., 1810 Alamo, Alamo, New Mexico, 88311-1810. (575) 437-5750

5919 1T (11)16
NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER FOR SALE LINCOLN NATION - LINCOLN FOREST

The Capitan Unit 4, Sole Tract, Section 11B, R13E, Sec. 25, 36; Surveyed NMPM, Lincoln County, New Mexico. The Forest Service will receive sealed bids at a public Sale of National Forest timber on 11/29/11 for an estimated volume of 20 cords of Combined Softwood fuelwood marked or otherwise as follows:

TRACT 1: Lot D-49, being a part of Tracts A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, and Singing Pines Subdivision, Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico, Section 20, Township 13 South, Range 13 East, N.M.P.M., Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the Corrected Plat thereof filed in the Office of the County Clerk and Ex-officio Recorder of Lincoln County, New Mexico, August 24, 1967 in Book 12, Page 49 and being the same land conveyed December 19, 1966 from John W. Knorr and wife, Ruth Brainerd Knorr, M.T. Lewellen and wife, Ruth N. Lewellen, and recorded in Book 57, page 59, of the Deed Records of Lincoln County, New Mexico.

TRACT 2: A tract of land being at the Northwest corner of NE1/4 NW1/4, Section 20, Township 13 South, Range 13 East, N.M.P.M., Lincoln County, New Mexico, then North 85 degrees 08 minutes East, along the North line of said NE1/4 NW1/4, a distance of 100.00 feet; thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes East to the South line of said NE1/4 NW1/4; thence West, along the West line of said NE1/4 NW1/4, to the point of beginning, a distance of 100.00 feet; thence North 0 degrees 42 minutes West, along the West line of said NE1/4 NW1/4, to the point of beginning, a distance of 100.00 feet; thence North 85 degrees 08 minutes East, along the North line of said NE1/4 NW1/4, to the point of beginning, a distance of 100.00 feet.

5921 1T (11)16
NOTICE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso
Notice of intention is hereby given by the Ruidoso Branch Community College Board for a regular meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 1, 2011, in the Media Center, Mountain Annex, 203 White Mountain Dr., Ruidoso, New Mexico. The agenda will be available in the ENMU-Ruidoso President's office, 709 Mechem Dr., 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Legal Notices 152

89525 3T (11)16,23,30

IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL requiring accommodations in order to attend the Community College Board Meeting, please contact the office of the President, E. M. U. Ruidoso, (575) 257-3006, at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC.
vs.
WILLIAM LOUNSBURY AKA BILL LOUNSBURY AKA WILLIAM EDMUND LOUNSBURY, JUDY EMBERTON, ANN EMBERTON, USAA FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, WELLS FARGO BANK, FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,
vs.
WILLIAM LOUNSBURY AKA BILL LOUNSBURY AKA WILLIAM EDMUND LOUNSBURY, JUDY EMBERTON, ANN EMBERTON, USAA FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, WELLS FARGO BANK, FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SUIT
MEXICO TO THE a bona fide Defendant, Judy Emberton aka Judy Emberton, Plaintiff, and the Unknown Spouse of Judy Emberton, Defendant(s).

STATE OF NEW MEXICO to the a bona fide Defendant, Judy Emberton aka Judy Emberton, Plaintiff, and the Unknown Spouse of Judy Emberton, Defendant(s).

GREETINGS:
You are hereby notified that the attorney for the Plaintiff has filed a civil action against you in the District Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico, and cause thereon. You are hereby notified to file an answer to the complaint and to file a motion to set aside the judgment if you wish to do so.

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Legal Notices 152

89525 3T (11)16,23,30

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Hotel/Motel 233

89525 3T (11)16,23,30

Reliable Housekeeper
Wanted. Must be able to work Sundays and Mondays. Apply in person, 1129 Main Rd. Mountain Air Cabins 575-257-5600

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jobs 200-232
General Help Wanted 230
General
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Townhomes/Condominiums 342
Furnished Houses 350
2br, 2ba cabin. Quiet area. Easy access. \$750/mo. Call 575-7571 or 937-3052

3bd/2 bth 4 mo lease. Available Dec thru March. Fully furn. \$850/mo. 575-937-1710

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3 bedroom, 2 bath house in quiet neighborhood, available immediately. Has large corner lot with fenced dog run. Appliances included. \$900/month plus utilities. First month, \$450 security deposit, and 6 month lease required. Call 575-257-3381

3br, 2ba, fireplace, along the river, in city, \$675/mo + utilities. 1 yr lease. 915-471-7020

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homes 400-502
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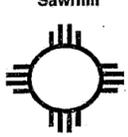
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