

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14, 2011 • OUR 65TH YEAR, NO. 66 • 75 CENTS

Postal Service delays office closures

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The U.S. Postal Service has agreed to delay the closures of post offices and mail processing centers for five months.

In July, five rural post offices in Lincoln County had been included on a list of nearly 3,700 around the country targeted for possible closure under a deficit-cutting plan to trim annual losses by the USPS. The five local post offices on the list

were Glencoe, Hollywood, Picacho, Tinnie and San Patricio. A 60-day public comment period on the five ended on Dec. 1.

The post office at Fort Stanton had been included on an earlier list for possible closure.

The decision to impose a moratorium was announced Tuesday by 15 Democrats in the U.S. Senate. The senators had asked the Postal Service to hold off on any decisions to allow Congress more time to enact postal reform legislation.

During the moratorium, scheduled to end on May 25, 2012, the Postal Service would continue to study the impacts of proposed closures and solicit additional community input.

"Throughout this year, I've stressed to the postmaster general the real impact that post office closures will have on New Mexico communities," said Sen. Tom Udall (D-N.M.), one of the 15 who had urged Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe to delay action. "We need comprehensive reform

that ensures the long-term stability of the Postal Service, while providing essential, quality service to every corner of New Mexico. I commend the postmaster general for putting a moratorium on any further closures for the next few months to give Congress the opportunity to find a long-term solution. We owe it to rural communities especially, that depend on the postal system for commerce, jobs and to stay connected, to find a sustainable solution that

doesn't compromise service."

A USPS spokesperson involved in proposed closures in Arizona and New Mexico had said this past summer that the Postal Service was facing a dire financial situation and was looking at ways to become more efficient.

Lincoln County, geographically one of New Mexico's largest counties, has 15 post offices. The county, however, ranks in the bottom half of the state's 33 counties for population.

Mission rehab makes progress

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Twelve years into the restoration of St. Joseph Apache Mission and Veterans' Memorial and \$1,940,638 has been raised for the project through grants, foundations, organizations, individual contributions and fund-raising events.

"It is remarkable to me that we have raise almost two million dollars for the restoration of this beloved church and veterans memorial," said Mary M. Serna, co-director/administrator. "Our small grassroots committee was determined to at least give it their best try in order to see this dream become a reality. Today as we near the last phase of the project, we look forward to its completion by June 2014."

The church, with its 50-foot high stonewalls and

See FUNDS, page 8A

THE JOLLY OLD ELF HIMSELF



Marley Moody tells Santa Claus her Christmas wishes at the Capitan Public Library, after the Cowboy Santa parade on Saturday.

ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Village fixing water leaks

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The outlook for Ruidoso's water storage tanks and reservoirs looked brighter Tuesday after village crews tracked down more than 60 leaks that contributed to a one-million-gallon loss overnight last week.

Cold overnight temperatures and frigid days caused some water pipes to freeze and rupture. Crews from nearly every village department hit the road trying to track down leaks and to check water meters.

By the second day, the village trimmed the loss to about 17,000 gallons an hour, said Capital Projects Manager Justin King.

"They found more than

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Corona resident wins his second title at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo

STAFF REPORTS
ruidosonews.com

Lincoln County became the home to a two-time national champion on Saturday night as Corona's Taos Muncy wrapped up his second title at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Muncy, the 2007 world champion, placed sixth in the final round with an 81.5-point ride aboard

2009 PRCA Saddle Bronc Horse of the Year Spring Planting to hold onto second place in the average race and fend off Jesse Wright for his second world championship.

Muncy earned \$94,471 during his 10 days in Las Vegas and edged Wright by just \$8,540 after Wright earned a Wrangler NFR record \$160,962 in the event. Wright also topped the average record — by 1.5

points — set by his brother Cody in 2010. Despite all that, it was Muncy who claimed the gold buckle.

"I just had to focus on myself and I couldn't worry about what Jesse was doing," Muncy said. "It was awesome to watch him ride; I've never seen someone spur over a horse's head like he did. He had a heck of a week, and I'm thankful to have another gold buckle."

"The first time I won the world, it was my first year and I was really going hard and everything fell into place. I didn't really know how hard you have to work to get another one. This took a lot of work, and it means a lot to me."

Muncy has come back from serious injuries, twice, since his 2007 Championship. He broke both bones in his right leg during competition at the

Red Bluff, Calif., Roundup on April 20, 2008, and had a rod inserted during surgery.

He was in fifth place in the PRCA World Standings at the time of the injury. He returned to action on Aug. 31, 2008, winning a share of the title at the Walla Walla, Wash., Fair & Frontier Days.

Another injury sidelined Muncy's plans in 2009. He broke his ankle on Feb. 17, 2009, when a

colt he was working at Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association all around hand Mike Outhier's ranch in Utopia, Texas, ran him into a chute gate.

Muncy was second in the world standings at the time of that injury.

Muncy placed in three rounds of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in 2010 and finished ninth in the world standings with \$122,408 in winnings.

LAUGHING SHEEP FARM

Christmas Eve Candle Light Dinner

Cantina Night

\$1 Draft BEER • \$7 Buffalo Burgers
TRADITIONAL RANCH MUSIC
All kinds of Burgers, Elk, Antelope, Lamb, Range Chicken, Mountain Oysters, Soups, Salads and more.
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT 5-9

Classic And Fine Dining Night

Fine Dining of all our menu items
Casual dress, reservations recommended
EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT 5-9

New Year's Eve Dinner and Party Jazz & Blues

December 31, 2011 • 5-9pm • Please call for reservations

1 mile west of Lincoln, NM Hwy 380 mile marker 96 - All meals grassfed, chemical free, and USDA inspected

For information about Theme Nights • Cabins • Fishing Club • Weddings • Retreats • Visit www.laughingsheepfarm.com

Laughing Sheep Farm this year presents a traditional and cultural Christmas Eve 5 course Candlelight Dinner

Michael Francis plays Christmas Classics

4 - 8 pm \$38 Reservations Required

- Whole wheat fig bread (Portuguese)
- LSF fresh green salad with home made cottage cheese and goose pate' (England)
- Old fashioned liver noodle soup (Germany) or Brussel Sprout Soup (Irish)
- Choice of one served with grilled cantaloupe, mashed potatoes, and collards

- Range goose with blackberry glaze atop wild rice and forest mushrooms
- Rack of Antelope bedded in cranberry and pinon orzo
- Range Pheasant stuffed with pinon and currant cornbread
- Mango Sherbet • Egg nog ice cream with a splash
- Persimmon pudding with hard sauce

Please note we will be closed on Dec. 14 through 22 for private Christmas parties. We will be open all winter on Friday and Saturday nights for dinner from 5 - 9 with our huge fireplace ready to warm you. Come enjoy our buffalo or llama burgers, fish tacos and egg nog ice cream (with a splash). 1 mile west of Lincoln, Hwy 380, mm 96 575-653-4041 reservations only recommended.

Sally's Belgians and Buggy Rides 2-4



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A MediaNews Group NEWSPAPER

Ruidoso Downs earns gold medal for beautification efforts



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

In January, after Keep Ruidoso Downs Beautiful received a silver medallion, beautification committee member Jean Proctor pointed to the location where the gold would go on a plaque held by Brenda Frost, another committee member. On Nov. 18, committee members accepted the gold during the annual New Mexico Clean and Beautiful Affiliate Awards ceremony in Santa Fe.

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A promise made is a promise kept. In early 2011, Keep Ruidoso Downs Beautiful committee member Jean Proctor predicted the city would next take a gold medal after capturing a silver a year ago. On Nov. 18, committee members were on hand for the New Mexico Clean and Beautiful Affiliate awards ceremony in Santa Fe where the gold was presented.

"We're here to present our first gold to go in the display out here," Keep Ruidoso Downs Beautiful Committee Chair Judy Miller told city councilors

Monday evening. "We're proud of it. That comes to us from meeting all of our goals. And we're one of the smallest communities to receive a gold."

The prestigious award required achieving the goals the committee set out to do for fiscal year 2010-11. The categories included litter eradication, beautification, recycling, eliminating graffiti and education.

Miller said it was the work of volunteers, city departments, other agencies and many others that brought the gold medal.

The committee and volunteers were congratulated for taking gold during Monday's Ruidoso Downs City Council meeting.



JIM KALVELAGE/RUIDOSO NEWS

Keep Ruidoso Downs Beautiful Committee Chair Judy Miller holds the wall tablet now containing the gold medal. With Miller, from left, are Keep America Beautiful CEO Matt McKenna, the chair of the New Mexico Litter Control Council Gilda Montano, Keep Ruidoso Downs Beautiful chair Deb Dvorak, and New Mexico Tourism Secretary Monique Jacobson.

Plant meeting

A meeting to review with the public the reasons for construction of the new \$36 million Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and the resulting benefits is set for 10 a.m. to noon today at the Ruidoso Convention Center on Sierra Blanca Drive.

Members of the Joint Use Board that governs the plant and who represent the city of Ruidoso Down and the village of Ruidoso, urge residents to attend to hear about the results and about the challenges of meeting the

strict limits assigned to future discharges into the Rio Ruidoso.

Dr. David Stensel, a professional environmental engineer from the University of Washington and Jim Good from Parametrix, an environmental consulting firm, will give presentations. Stensel will focus on recent relevant research on biological nutrient removal, as it would apply to the new plant and to the Environmental Protection Agency's current operational permit.

Good will speak about his ongoing data collection on

the Rio Ruidoso, both upstream and downstream of the new plant. In addition, an opportunity will be offered to tour the new plant and the sampling points along the Rio Ruidoso beginning at 1 p.m.

The research and collection of data were performed in order to comply with Ruidoso's Settlement Agreement with the New Mexico Environment Department dealing with the quality of water in the river, and to gather enough information for Ruidoso to file a petition with the New Mexico Water Quality

Control Commission to amend future discharge limits. The petition will rely on data collected from the Rio Ruidoso to show that greatly reduced discharges of nitrogen from the new Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant are low enough to protect river water quality.

Dems holiday party

Instead of its regular monthly meeting on the first Thursday, the Democratic Party of Lincoln County will join with the Democratic Women of the Sacramento Mountain area for a holiday

party on Thursday, Dec. 15. The party will take place at Hotel Ruidoso, 110 Chase St. in Ruidoso.

The party will begin at 5:30 p.m. and go until about 8:30 p.m. There will be no business, just a potluck party. Bring finger food and the beverage of your choice.

There will be a money tree for donations to two charities; the Lincoln County Food Bank and COPE, the Center of Protective Environment. Checks can be made out to either charity. Non-perishable food also can be brought for the food bank.

For more information, call Dick Mastin, the chair of the Democratic Party of Lincoln County, at 336-2170.

American Legion

Ruidoso Post 79 meets on the third Saturday of the month. The next meeting is at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at Legion Hall at the corner of U.S. Highway 70-East and Spring Road, in Ruidoso Downs.

The Fall "Rifle Raffle" continues. The organization is giving away a 42-inch

See EVENTS, page 3A

Let us do the cooking Christmas Day • December 25th

Gathering of Nations BUFFET

Breakfast • 7am-11am
Christmas Buffet • 11am-9pm
Adults \$25.99 • Seniors \$20.99
Children under 12 \$10.99

Wendell's
STEAK & SEAFOOD

Brunch • 11am-3pm
\$44.95

INN OF THE MOUNTAIN GODS
RESORT & CASINO

Mescalero, NM near Ruidoso
InnoftheMountainGods.com

Menus available at InnoftheMountainGods.com/Christmas

AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Ruidoso

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
RealFeel 39°	RealFeel 48°	RealFeel 47°	RealFeel 45°	RealFeel 41°	RealFeel 41°	RealFeel 54°
Humidity 51%	Humidity 52%	Humidity 49%	Humidity 48%	Humidity 46%	Humidity 39%	Humidity 38%
40° 30°	43° 26°	40° 30°	40° 32°	49° 35°	48° 31°	49° 21°
Breezy with clouds and sun	Plenty of sunshine	Mostly cloudy	Cloudy	Mostly cloudy, a shower possible	A thick cloud cover with some snow	Intervals of clouds and sunshine
Wind: W 15-25 mph	Wind: SSE 4-8 mph	Wind: SSE 4-8 mph	Wind: SE 6-12 mph	Wind: S 10-20 mph	Wind: W 10-20 mph	Wind: ENE 4-8 mph

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

Regional Cities

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2011

Almanac

Ruidoso
Statistics through Monday

Temperature:
High/Low 46°/27°
Normal high 49°
Normal low 22°
Record high 69° (1950)
Record low -10° (1953)

Precipitation:
Monday 0.00"
Month to date 0.64"
Normal month to date 0.59"
Year to date 9.14"
Normal year to date 20.87"

Pollen:
Grass Absent
Trees Low
Weeds Absent
Mold Low
Predominant Ascospores

Source: Eddie L. Gaines, MD, of the Allergy & Asthma Clinic

Alamogordo
Statistics through Monday

Temperature:
High/Low 48°/32°
Normal high 56°
Normal low 21°
Record high 72° (1950)
Record low 10° (1989)

Precipitation:
Monday Trace
Month to date 0.35"
Normal month to date 0.34"
Year to date 4.81"
Normal year to date 10.23"

Weather Trivia:
Q: What type of weather did Mark Twain think to be the most dazzling?

National Forecast for Dec. 14, 2011

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

National Cities			Regional Cities		
City	Today H/L/W	Thu. H/L/W	City	Today H/L/W	Thu. H/L/W
Abilene	65/39/r	54/30/s	Albuquerque	44/28/pc	41/25/s
Anchorage	21/14/sn	29/25/sn	Artesia	62/41/pc	58/33/s
Atlanta	65/49/s	64/55/pc	Chama	38/14/sf	38/0/s
Austin	76/55/c	61/44/sh	Clayton	51/23/pc	42/21/pc
Baltimore	54/36/pc	61/42/sh	Cloudcroft	36/22/pc	42/1/s
Boston	42/36/s	52/44/r	Farmington	39/18/sf	37/18/s
Chicago	50/44/r	47/26/sh	Hobbs	64/34/pc	56/22/s
Dallas	72/46/r	63/37/pc	Los Alamos	40/21/pc	40/9/s
Denver	44/18/pc	41/20/pc	Portales	62/29/pc	53/24/s
Des Moines	51/31/r	35/19/pc	Raton	46/15/pc	43/13/pc
Detroit	46/43/r	53/31/sh	Red River	36/9/sf	34/1/s
El Paso	53/31/pc	51/30/s	Ruidoso	48/30/pc	43/26/s
Las Vegas	53/39/pc	56/38/s	Santa Fe	42/19/pc	37/18/s
Los Angeles	61/49/pc	63/48/pc	Silver City	46/28/pc	47/26/s
Minneapolis	40/25/r	29/13/sf	Taos	38/7/sf	35/2/s
New Orleans	74/62/pc	76/61/sh			
New York City	48/42/pc	56/43/sh			
Philadelphia	48/39/pc	58/44/sh			
Phoenix	60/44/pc	63/44/s			
Phoenix	43/22/pc	43/22/c			
San Francisco	53/43/pc	61/42/sh			
San Diego	60/47/pc	60/48/pc			
Seattle	42/35/c	46/33/sh			
Tucson	56/37/pc	62/40/s			
Tulsa, OK	64/39/r	52/27/pc			
Wash., DC	52/39/pc	58/47/sh			
Wichita	64/30/r	43/19/s			
Yuma	62/47/pc	64/44/s			

Mexican Cities		
City	Today H/L/W	Thu. H/L/W
Acapulco	90/72/s	90/72/pc
Cancun	81/64/pc	81/68/c
Chihuahua	70/36/pc	58/34/s
Ciudad Juárez	54/30/pc	52/30/s
León	81/45/s	81/43/s
México, DF	75/45/s	77/45/s
Monterrey	81/61/pc	72/52/c
Morelia	79/47/s	80/47/s
Oaxaca	82/48/s	90/50/s
Pto. Penasco	63/43/s	63/43/s
Tijuana	61/43/pc	63/43/s

EVENTS

FROM PAGE 2A

Visio high-definition flat screen TV or a Weatherby 30.06 "Vanguard Package" on the drawing date, 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/or eligible to own a firearm. Tickets are \$10 each, or three for \$25. For information, please call the Post Adjutant Vic Currier, (575) 802-5293.

"lifestyle photos" that depict Ruidoso in all of its seasons, and anyone can submit up to six photos total into the following categories: outdoor recreation, dining/shopping, historical imagery, events, family fun, and relaxation. A total of 50 photos will be selected and awarded the \$100 prize.

For a complete list of contest rules and details and to download entry forms, please visit RuidosoAttractions.com/photcontest.html. The deadline is Dec. 31.

Common Ground

Common Ground will try to raise \$4,000 through its closing sale from 10 a.m. through 7 p.m. Dec. 16 through Dec. 20.

Items on sale will include furniture, electronics, instruments, clothing, gaming tables, collectibles, and much more. Stop by Common Ground in the Sierra Mall or call (575) 937-2725 for more information.

VFW meeting

LCpl. Steven M. Chavez Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12071 will have its monthly meeting Monday, Dec. 19, at Cree Meadows Golf and Country Club. This is a new location for the meeting.

The meeting, which is open to all members of the VFW, will begin at 7 p.m.

Prior to the meeting, there will be a social hour with \$1 hot dogs and a cash bar. This part of the gathering is open to the public.

Those who are interested in joining the VFW, call Post 12071 Commander Jerry Grace at 575 914 8024.

Photo contest

Ruidoso, a longtime vacation destination, has unveiled the Love Ruidoso Photo Contest, which is open to anyone who has captured memories of fun times in the mountain village.

The contest, which runs through Dec. 31, is being sponsored by the Ruidoso Tourism Department and is designed to capture the enduring beauty of Ruidoso and its surrounding areas.

Winning photos will be selected by a panel of judges, and the winners will receive \$100 for each photo that is selected.

The Tourism Department is looking for

Search and Rescue

The White Mountain Search and Rescue team will hold its Annual Recognition Event and Party at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16 at the Innsbrook Club House, 103 Innsbrook Drive, in Ruidoso. This will be a potluck party, main dish and some beverages provided — bring a dish to pass and BYOB.

For details or more information, contact Tony Davis, (575) 336-4501, or Mark

FIRST BABY, FIRST BOOKS



COURTESY

When the first baby of 2012 is born at Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso, he/she will have a ready-supply of reading material courtesy of Alpha Delta Kappa-Eta chapter. Members of the local chapter based in Lincoln County have gathered a basket with first readers and activity books to be presented to the parents of the first baby. The women educators of Eta chapter encourage the simple act of reading to children at the earliest ages in order to promote a curiosity for books and the written language which can be carried through out life. Sending congratulations to the First Baby of 2012 and his/her parents are, front row, from left, Virginia Tingley, Sarah Ball; second row, Nellie Ruth Jones, Dottie MacVeigh, Connie Forrest; third row, Linda Lott, Beth Nosker, Eva Clarke, Jennifer Barnwell; back row, Angelina Provine, Joyce Davis, Sydney Tregembo, Ruby Johnson, Darla Lathan, and Angie Romero.

Younger, (575) 808-2982.

Library programs

December in the Children's Library at the Ruidoso Public Library:

Preschool story time Wednesdays at 10:30 - Dec. 7, Christmas

stories. Craft: Button ornament

Dec. 14, Mountain Country Christmas Brunch. Horse and carriage rides after brunch. Reservations are required by Dec. 8.

Dec. 21, Christmas Movie: Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer (popcorn and juice

box served).

Dec. 28, Movie: Frosty the Snowman (popcorn and juice box served).

Families are invited to make mountain country themed Christmas wreaths. Wreaths will be displayed in the library and everyone wins a prize for participating. Bring in wreaths by Dec. 13, for the library's open house on Dec. 14.

Weekends at fort

The Fort Stanton Museum will be open on weekends through March 2012. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays. There is no fee to visit the museum but donations are appreciated. The museum will not be open on Christmas Day.

Since the museum opened in April 2010, more than 20,000 people have visited the Fort Stanton State Monument. The museum features a display about the history of the fort from its creation in 1855 as a military fortification to the present day.

At the Spencer

Spencer Theater presents favorite holiday fare with productions of "The Nutcracker" (\$28) starring the Ruidoso Dance Ensemble on at 2 p.m. and 7

p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17 and The Flying J Wranglers "Go Tell It On The Mountain" Christmas Special (\$30) at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21.

This year's "The Nutcracker" features the jaw-dropping talents of student dancers Simon Pawlak as the Cavalier and Christy Huey as the Sugar Plum Fairy. Also wowing crowds is the dancing flare of Nicholas Mesa as the Nutcracker, Sabina Judah as Clara, Aidan Haney as the Dew Drop Fairy and Tony Reyes as Uncle Drosselmeyer. This original adaptation of Tchaikovsky's Christmas classic showcases gorgeous drops, sets and costumes and outstanding talents of all ages. Additionally, a few new set pieces have been created by the Spencer's Technical Director Bob Phaup with painting by Capitan artist Judy Pekelsma.

New for The Flying J Wranglers this Christmas season is a brand new holiday CD packed with traditional favorites, original and classic western/cowboy Christmas songs and spiritual ballads. Tickets are available to every show!

Call the Spencer Box Office at 575.336.4800 or go to www.spencertheater.com and show your support for some of our area's finest performing artists.

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WINTER UP

TICKETS \$8.00

ARRIVE EARLY to Purchase Dinner & Drinks!

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12/9, 12/10, 12/15, 12/16

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Unfortunately, identity theft is something that we see everyday. And at First National Bank, we know that getting your identity stolen can literally turn your life upside down. So here are a few tips from your friends at First National on how to protect your identity.

- Beware of any mail, phone calls or emails that ask you for personal information - especially bank account or Social Security numbers.
- Never mail bills from your home mailbox.
- Shred all of your junk mail - don't just throw it away as much of it contains personal information.

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

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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

Delaying post office closures is a smart move

When it comes to rural areas like Lincoln County a post office can be more than just a place where people pick up their mail.

For small businesses they are essential to staying afloat and keeping in touch with customers.

They often also serve as places where neighbors congregate and exchange their personal news of the day.

The buzz of late has been with the ever-increasing use of email, post offices have been rendered to dinosaur status and closing the lesser-used offices would save the govern-

ment some money. We're all for saving taxpayer dollars, right?

Well, it stands to reason that the lesser-used offices happen to be in rural areas. It also stands to reason that Internet access in rural areas can be difficult to get at best.

Cutting government funding should be the goal but not at the expense of crucial services — crucial services in Glencoe, Hollywood, Picacho, Timmie and San Patricio.

Until an acceptable alternatives are developed, we agree that delaying the knee-jerk closures of some post offices in Lincoln County is a smart move.



Doug McLeod 2011
Ruidoso News

THEIR OPINION

Legalize marijuana, lower social costs

Legalize marijuana.

There! I said it! In public! Conservative me!

My rationale is simple, though imprecise.

The social costs of legal marijuana, however high, would be less than the social costs of illegal marijuana. I have no fancy studies to prove the assertion. But if you look around, especially if you put Mexico in the equation, the conclusion becomes obvious.

The argument isn't that the "war on drugs has failed." I accept the logic, offered me ten years ago by the Drug Enforcement Administration, that "war" is the wrong metaphor. A "war" means maximum resources are devoted to winning. We have never had a real war on drugs.

My guru here is Mary Anastasia O'Grady, who writes the "Americas" column for the Wall Street Journal. Her guru is former Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso. This isn't Gary Johnson, who ran a middling state in the United States. This is someone who ran a big country and did well.

Cardoso chairs a group of statesmen and intellectuals called the Global Commission on Drug Policy. One commissioner visits New Mexico occasionally. That's Richard Branson, primary Spaceport tenant through his Virgin Galactic company.

A recent insight from Cardoso via O'Grady is totally obvious. Yet, like much of the obvious, this gets little attention.

With marijuana illegal, consumers must deal with criminals. This sets aside the other obvious item that consumers are, too, breaking the law and are criminals in that sense.

But back in the days of Jimmy Carter, people including me who ignored the 55 mph speed limit were criminals.

The broader point, though, is that society makes a huge mistake to tolerate a situation bringing otherwise regular people into contact with criminal elements.

Sometimes these otherwise regular people get caught. The enduring hassle from the arrest,

much less a conviction, is part of the social cost of existing laws. Note that while the claim of our jails being full of people doing time for low-level drug convictions is true, the claim conveniently overlooks that a large portion of those folks pleaded down from higher charges.

In my brief, long ago marijuana flirtation, my supplier was a Washington-based federal prosecutor.

This nicely defines the potential for societal rot.

If marijuana was legalized, an absolutely necessary parallel would be a continuing campaign against marijuana use, taking cues from successful DWI campaigns. The campaign would say, this is legal now, but handle with care.

One element of implementing legalization would be what I remember Oklahoma did in 1959, when it became the next to last state to legalize liquor sales after prohibition. (Mississippi, always the trend setter, was last in 1966.)

Oklahoma said anyone arrested for selling liquor during the implementation period was disqualified from legally selling liquor.

Bootleggers, who wanted into the legal liquor sales business, got the message.

The drug war of Mexican President Felipe Calderon is absolutely necessary. Today, reports The Economist, killings are down in Ciudad Juárez and up in the state of Nuevo León. Even just moving the bad guys around disrupts business, and that's good.

Here are the two salient facts about the supply side of the marijuana business. "Cannabis also accounts for almost half the cartels' revenues, according to an estimate from the Mexican attorney general's office," says a May 19, 2010 National Public Radio story. According to "Mexican Drug War" on Wikipedia, "wholesale earnings from illicit drug sales range from \$13.6 billion to \$48.4 billion annually."

The futility of American drug policy is long since demonstrated. Continuing our present path is high order hypocrisy.

Former President Cardoso is right. So, strangely enough, is Gary Johnson.

Demand will find supply. That supply should be legally available.



HAROLD MORGAN
NEW MEXICO PROGRESS

OUR RIGHT TO KNOW

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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

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THE STREETER, BY ERIK BEARER

Q: Do you think PNM should keep its payment centers open?



Rose Oldag
Ruidoso

"I definitely think so. I pay my bill there every month, and I don't even own a computer."



Corky Johnston
Ruidoso

"It doesn't matter to me either way whether or not they close. I pay my bill through an automatic draft."



Eddie Fowler
Capitan

"They should keep them open. It's convenient, and look what it costs us already for utilities."



Bonnie Martin
Ruidoso

"I think they ought to leave them open for people so they can make payments easier."



Andrea Reed
Ruidoso

"Customer service is bad enough already. If they want to keep our business, they should take care of us."

Smokey Bear saved again

Move to kill funding for program fails

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

Just like in the Capitan Mountains in 1950, Smokey Bear was rescued from possible death last week. A year old program by the U.S. House majority leader called YouCut allows the public to vote online each week on proposals for trimming the federal budget. On the list last week was the idea of snipping the U.S. Forest Service's conservation/education budget. That is the funding source for Smokey Bear's decades running "Only you can prevent forest fires" campaign.

U.S. Rep. Scott DesJarlais (R-Tenn.) had offered the option on House Majority Leader Eric Cantor's YouCut website as one of three possible spending cuts for online voters to decide. The top pick has legislation pursued. The vote outcome was backing for an alternative budget cutter that would stop rewarding states for recruiting additional food stamp recipients.

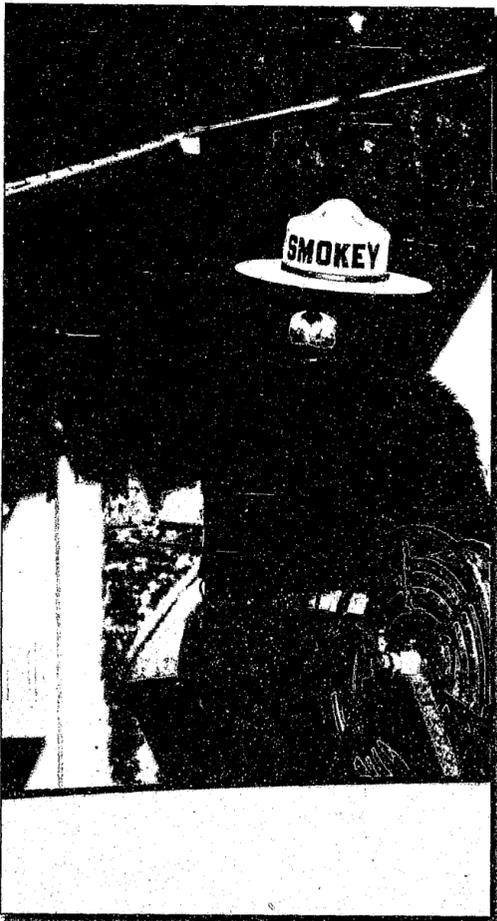
"Smokey Bear is a widely recognized symbol for fire prevention in the country and also internationally," said Dave Warnack, the district ranger for the Smokey Bear District headquartered at Ruidoso. "Every year Smokey Bear helps to get the word out to thousands and thousands of school children to be careful with fire when they're out in the woods enjoying their national forests. I would hate to see that symbol fall by the wayside."

Warnack said he believed Smokey has been effective in the long run.

"You can never underestimate the influence that a fourth grader has on the actions of their parents. Fourth graders really do carry that message home with them. I hear it every day whenever I decide to get in the car and not take the time to put my seatbelt on. My fourth grader reminds me to put that seatbelt on and I think Smokey Bear's message to be safe with fire in the woods has the same power."

Earlier this month a number of groups urged online voters to reject the forest service outreach program, which has a number of components beyond Smokey Bear and Woodsey Owl. The American Forest Foundation contended the cut would not reduce federal spending but on the contrary, would probably increase expenditures to fight wildfires.

"In 2010, 36,108 human-caused wildfires burned in the southern region of the



FILE PHOTO/RUIDOSO NEWS

The message "Only you can Prevent Forest Fires" will continue to be spoken by local celebrity Smokey Bear.

"I saw a study a couple of years ago that said that Smokey Bear was one of the most top recognized symbols in the country, more popular than the Volkswagen symbol and just as recognizable as the Golden Arches."

Dave Warnack
Smokey Bear District

United States, an area represented in part by Rep DesJarlais," the forest organization wrote. "Seeing as firefighting costs the government about \$700 per acre, federal spending would be higher without Smokey Bear's powerful message."

The message is powerful because Smokey Bear is so widely known, Warnack said.

"I saw a study a couple of years ago that said that Smokey Bear was one of the most top recognized symbols in the country, more popular than the Volkswagen symbol and just as recognizable as the Golden Arches."

And the National Wildlife Federation noted that DesJarlais' state of Tennessee has suffered 1,126 wildland fires in 2011.

"Maybe he'd like the Great Smoky Mountains to more aptly live to their name," said the National Wildlife Federation's Max

Greenberg.

Following last week's online voting, DesJarlais is now drafting legislation that would prevent the federal government from issuing "bonuses" to states for signing up additional food stamp recipients.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program provides additional funding for states with the highest percentage of participants in the program.

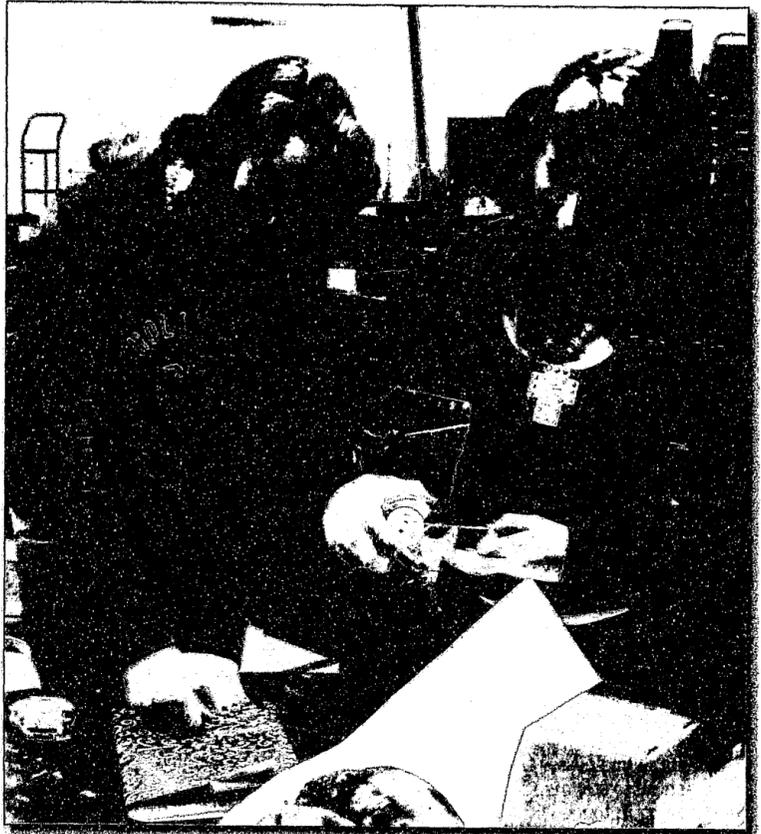
"The fact that our government rewards states for recruiting individuals to be on food stamps is not just wasteful, it is ridiculous," DesJarlais said Monday.

The first living Smokey Bear was a black bear cub who was trapped in the Capitan Gap Fire during the spring of 1950.

He had climbed a tree to escape the flames but his paws and hind legs had been burned. He was rescued from the fire and at first called Hotfoot Teddy. He was later renamed Smokey Bear and went on to be the symbol of fire prevention.

He spent the remainder of his life at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. where he died in November 1976. His remains were returned to Capitan and he is buried at the Smokey Bear Historical Park.

SANTA'S HELPERS



HAROLD OAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Carrizozo High School students Sarah Ferguson, left, and Shayna Gallacher wrap presents for Santa's Helpers at First Christian Church Friday. It is less than two weeks before Santa's Helpers make their delivery and they need help. "Money," Stacey Miller said Friday. Tammy Mattingly said the Joy for Kids Toy Run had raised about the same amount of money as it did in the past, but donations are still needed to buy clothes and other items to go in the Christmas packages. Volunteers also are needed to help wrap presents and on Tuesday, Dec. 20 volunteers will be needed to make the deliveries. The Santa's Helper's workshop is located at First Christian Church on Hull Road this year.

Area legislators, Ruidoso Valley Chamber discuss top priorities

JIM KALVELAGE
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Tourism, water availability, affordable clean energy, quality education, a business-friendly climate, and the Lincoln County film industry are the top goals of the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce. The chamber told a couple of state lawmakers of its desires during "An Evening with Your Legislators" Thursday.

"The chamber specifically endorses the issues that we mentioned," said Marla Lewis, executive director of the organization.

"I'll be darned if that doesn't line up with my legislative priorities," Rep. Zach Cook (R-Ruidoso) told those at the chamber-sponsored event, resulting in a round of laughter. "In reality it does. So anything I can do to help the chamber out, I'm there for you all. It's important that I do work for you guys for our community."

Rep. Dennis Kintigh (R-Roswell) said he wanted to see tourism improve in southeastern New Mexico.

"For a long time I have had concerns about (U.S) Highway 380 coming from Texas to southeast New Mexico," Kintigh said. "I want to see that four lanes. I think it could be. We need

to push. I'd like to upgrade 380 through Lincoln County. My fantasy, and it is a fantasy, is four lanes from San Antonio to the Texas line. For tourism to succeed, you've got to get the bodies here. And we cannot do that with an inadequate road system."

But Kintigh said he would "rain on some peoples' parade" in reference to the Ruidoso Valley Chamber's push for the film industry.

"I'll be candid with you. I'm the guy who has pushed to eliminate the subsidy for the film industry," Kintigh said. "There might be some boos and hisses in here," he told the crowd of several dozen at the Cree Meadows Country Club. "That's OK because you need to evaluate me. Zach and I are both accountable to you guys. And you need to know who we are and what we believe and why we take positions that we do."

According to the chamber, not only did the organization support local film initiatives but it also is committed to a local film festival.

The subsidies for the film industry, however, were called a bad long-term approach by Kintigh.

"I believe fundamentally it is bad economic policy to

take from taxpayers to give to one industry in a subsidy."

Dirk Norris, executive director of Film Lincoln County, said the industry is growing locally. He noted efforts to cut the subsidies to filmmakers appear to have been quelled for now.

"At the last legislative session things were kind of dicey for the film industry," Norris said of earlier this year. "There was a lot of talking, a lot of compromising and now the film industry's film incentives are still in place — that 25 percent rebate."

But the state rebates to lure filmmakers to the Land of Enchantment are capped at \$50 million.

"So the film industry will survive," Norris said. "At a meeting a couple of weeks ago at the Albuquerque Studios, Keith Gardner (chief of staff for Gov. Susana Martinez) brought a message from the governor, which was the governor is fully supportive of the film industry. She supports the film incentives. And this year, if she received any bills on her desk to reduce the film incentives, she's going to veto those."

Norris said the "strong" message was the governor favors the film industry.

Two streets named in Ruidoso Downs for emergency purposes

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Two new street names have been established in Ruidoso Downs. Several residents in each of

the two areas have addresses on Mars Court or Pinto Lane.

"It's part of the ongoing emergency addressing project," said Steve Dunigan, the city's planning and zoning director. "There are sev-

eral properties that are actually addressed off of unnamed roads or streets. Our goal is to obviously assign an address to every property within our city that makes it as easy as possible for emergency

responses, be it fire, ambulance or other."

Mars Court is off Turkey Canyon Lane, east of 2nd Drive. Pinto Lane runs between Reservoir Drive and Palo Verde Drive, south

of Harris Lane. Three city councilors approved the road names. Councilor Rene Olivo owns property on one of the roads and abstained from casting a vote, stating it would be a conflict of interest.

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Limited seating - make reservations early

EDUCATION

Up with People to visit Ruidoso

JIM KALVELAGE
jkalvelage@ruidosonews.com

An international organization made up of young people who deliver a message of hope and peace will be coming to Ruidoso early next year. Up with People has performed for popes, president, kings and both Olympic and Super Bowl audiences.

"Up with People is a global education program," said Chelsey Panchot, the organization's marketing and tour manager. "Our focus is on bringing the world together through service and music."

The Up with People cast of about 120 students, ages 18 to 29, come from more than 20 countries. The troop will arrive in Denver on Jan 6 and do a nearly six-month tour of the southwestern part of the U.S., Europe and Mexico.

"There are five main components of the program," Panchot said. "We have international participants. We travel the world. We visit three different cultural regions every six months. We are a global education program and that comes from our traveling and living with host families and experiential kinds of learning. We try to learn about the region that we visit. And then we also do workshops. It's called a global series. We have the students in the program presenting on different topics. It might range from women's rights to pollution or hunger and poverty and how that affects the world as a whole and how we can affect change and make a difference and start working towards getting problems solved."

There also is a community service element at each location.

"We really try to focus on the needs in the community so it's not a cookie cutter. We wouldn't do the same thing in Ruidoso that we did in Washington, D.C., because each community is unique."

Beautification of community parks in Mexico City, raising money for disabled youth to play sports in Washington, D.C., restoration of an Arizona community garden that was destroyed by monsoonal rains, and an assortment of other activities have been among past community service projects.

But Panchot said it is the international cultural show that Up with People is most known for.

"That just kind of ties

everything together. We have our sponsors, our community service site, our host families. Everybody comes together. It's kind of like a big celebration. We like to shine the light on the people and businesses in the community that are doing really great things and encourage people to get involved. That's kind of the whole driving force is that everybody can make a difference. We all have our own unique talents."

The two-hour performance is described as an international show.

"It's really family friendly, high energy, with songs and dances from all over the world. It's music from Asia, Africa, Europe, Mexico, the U.S. And then we have a love medley portion of the show. And that's songs and dances from the '50s, '60s and '70s in the U.S. So there's really something for everybody. It's a professionally produced show."

After each show interviews with local youth provide an opportunity to learn about the program and potentially apply for a future six-month tour.

"What we really look for are people with a passion who want to make a difference. It might not be the best singer or the best dancer. Those things are perks and pluses for us but it's more, 'What do you do?'"

Panchot and some other Up with People representatives have been in the Ruidoso area to learn about issues in the community.

"To try to find what are the hot-button issues. What is going on in Ruidoso? Where do we need to be?"

Up with People also is looking for some support through sponsorships. Panchot said it cost money to operate the non-profit organization.

"If we can get some businesses involved in supporting the mission and they have a really strong passion for something that needs to be done, that's what we're looking to do."

Meetings have taken place or were planned with the mayors of Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs, the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Ruidoso Municipal School District and ENMU-Ruidoso.

"They want to make it happen," Panchot said of the local reaction. "Everybody is just gung-ho about making it happen."

A request for an Up with People stop in Silver City was the impetus for the



COURTESY

Proud as a peacock, Brittanie Ashcraft of Ruidoso captured first place last month in the fantasy hair competition at the Hair Forum Competition in Fort Worth, Texas. Pictured in the photo are, from left, Jerry Johnson and Jessica Wolman, forum coordinators; and Caryl Ann Johnson of Olympian University.

Local student brushes off competition

Students and faculty at Olympian University in Alamogordo are proud as peacocks after cosmetology student Brittanie Ashcraft of Ruidoso captured first place in the Fantasy Hair competition at the recent Hair Forum Competition in Fort Worth, Texas. This is the second year in a row Olympian University has captured top honors in the fantasy competition.

The contestants in the fantasy category were encouraged to pull out the stops on their themed entry to create a hair and makeup idea on a mannequin that

would wow the judges, spectators and fellow students. Each entry was judged based on creativity, originality, innovation, color and theme. Ashcraft's entry mirrored a peacock with teal and blue hair fashioned to look like the fan of the flamboyant bird. Using the eye of the mannequin to resemble the eye of the peacock feathers, the Ruidoso resident carefully drew a feather across the mannequin's face. The tulle bodice of the mannequin reflected peacock colors as well.

"Brittanie's mannequin was eye-popping with its

flair and use of colors," said Carla Smith, director of the award-winning cosmetology school. "Brittanie's dedication is reflected not only in the excellent caliber of her work, but also in her commitment to make the long drive from Ruidoso every day to attend school. We are very proud of her."

Smith credits the school's winning record to its smaller size and the instructor's commitment to bring out the best in each student.

"We are thrilled to have produced so many winners, but mostly we want our students to enjoy their educa-

tional experience and help train them to become successful cosmetologists. Bringing home a trophy is just icing on the cake."

Olympian University is a cosmetology school that provides students with a distinguished environment that mirrors many of the upscale salons that will employ Olympian University students after they graduate and earn their cosmetology license. For more information about Olympian University call (575) 437-2221 or visit <http://www.olympianuniversity.com>.

- Staff report

Southwestern tour.

"So Silver City will be one of the stops on the tour," Panchot said. "We're starting out in Fort Collins (Colorado). We have some alumni in New Mexico, so we contacted them and said, 'Where should we start?' There's an alumnus here in Ruidoso that reached out and said, 'This would be a great fit.'"

Up with People also will be looking for host families.

"Often times there's people who will host one person and there's people who are willing to host five people," Panchot said. "It just depends what each individual is comfortable accommodating. We'll need families for all of them."

Panchot can be contacted at (218)-355-0239. Her email address is cpanchot@upwithpeople.org.

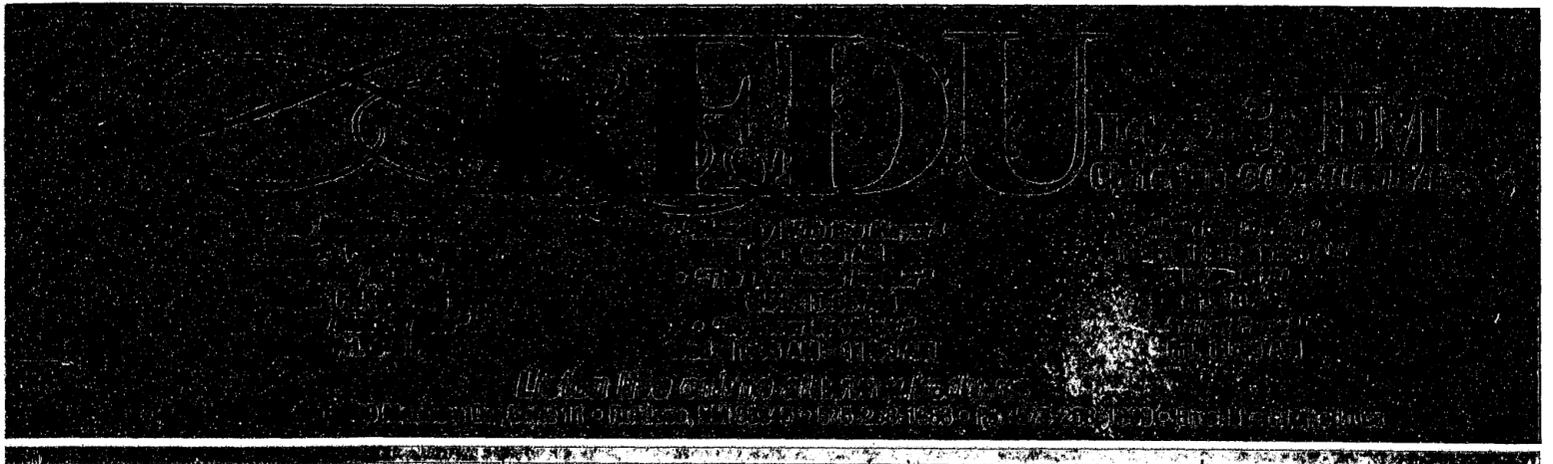
The Up with People visit will be from a Monday to the following Monday. Panchot said the Ruidoso tour will be either Feb. 13 to 20, 2012, or Feb. 27 through March 5, 2012.

TEEN SPOTLITE



COURTESY

Robbie Lee Richardson is the next teen in the Spotlite. Robbie Lee is the daughter of Clifford and Donda Richardson and is a freshman at Capitan High School, where she maintains a 4.0 GPA. Involved in athletics, she participates in volleyball, basketball, and track. Mr. Hightower, counselor, comments, "Robbie Lee is an outstanding young lady. She carries a 4.0 and is involved in numerous activities. She is one of our best students at Capitan." Richardson also finds time for activities in the community. Rodeo is her favorite sport, and she is a member and officer of the Rockin' 4-H Club. She received reserve champion in NBHA. When asked about influences in her life, Richardson states that her parents and God make her who she is and will become. Even though she is just in her freshman year, Richardson has plans for her future. One goal is to graduate first in her class, then attend college at a Texas university.



Count the partridge in the pear tree

DIANNE STALLINGS
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The longest-running citizen-science survey in the world, Audubon's annual Christmas Bird Count, kicked off today and will run through Jan. 5. The Lincoln County survey is set for Jan. 2.

In 35 cities and towns across New Mexico, families, students, birders and scientists armed with binoculars, bird guides and checklists will go out on an annual mission, most before dawn.

They will be joined by tens of thousands of volunteers throughout the Americas, who will brave winter weather to add a new layer to more than a century of data.

Last year's count shattered records. A total of 2,215 counts and 62,624 people tallied more than 60 million birds. The count takes place within "count circles," that focus on specific geographical areas. Each circle is led by a count compiler. A beginning birder is able to join a group that includes at least one experienced birdwatcher. If a participant's home is within the boundaries of a count circle, he/she can stay home and report the birds that visit their feeder once it is arranged with the count compiler. A \$5 fee is charged to participate in the CBC for all field participants ages 19 or older. Sightings are recorded by type and number. Feeder watchers do not need to pay

the fee, and all observers 18 and younger may count for free. The fees fund the program and help cover the costs of generating materials for compilers, producing an annual CBC summary issue and maintaining the CBC website and database.

Audubon's CBC data not only helps identify birds in most urgent need of conservation action, it reveals success stories. The Christmas Bird Count helped document the comeback of the previously endangered Bald Eagle, and significant increases in waterfowl populations, both the result of conservation efforts.

The Audubon CBC began in 1900, when Frank Chapman, founder of Bird-Lore, which evolved into Audubon magazine, suggested an alternative to the "side hunt," the tradition of the times in which teams competed to see who could shoot the most game, including birds. Chapman proposed that people "hunt" birds only to count them.

"Audubon was a social network before the world ever heard the term," said David Yarnold, National Audubon president and chief executive officer. "Each December the buzz from our social network goes up a few decibels, as people with the knowledge and the passion for birds provide what no organization alone can."

Counts last year occurred in all 50 states, all Canadian provinces, plus



COURTESY DAVID TREMBLAY

The sun strikes the russet eye of Harry, a Sharp-shinned Hawk who returned for the fourth consecutive year to the Rancho Ruidoso area. Unfortunately, snow birds are a diet staple. A small hawk, Harry often stands on one leg with his other tucked up under his breast feathers.

107 count circles in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Islands. The first-ever CBC tally was submitted from Haiti, where the count circle is located at Les Cayes, the birthplace of John James Audubon.

This year's survey, during which bird enthusiasts count and catalog birds across the nation and the Americas, is occurring amid unprecedented attacks on public lands in Congress, according to officials with Audubon New Mexico. Several measures

in Congress either sought to weaken the president's ability to designate new national monuments; to open up 63 million acres of the west to development or sale; transfer 30 million acres of federal land to state ownership; or chip away at basic conservation laws such as the Clean Air Act and Safe Drinking Water Act on public lands within 100 miles of the nation's land borders, they contend.

"Clearly, this year's bird count comes at a time when the basic pillars of habitat

protection for birds and other wildlife are under very serious threats," said Karyn Stockdale, executive director of Audubon New Mexico. "So, as volunteers look towards the sky for birds to count, many local business owners and conservation leaders in New Mexico are keeping their eyes on Washington as some politicians are pushing anti-conservation policies that would endanger the public lands that our birds and outdoor recreation and tourism economies depend upon."

A recent report by the non-profit Outdoor Industry Association found that active outdoor recreation in New Mexico supports 47,000 jobs, most of them sustainable and long-term, and contributes \$3.8 billion a year to the state's economy.

"Here in New Mexico the CBC has become a reminder of the important role that protected lands make to bird populations and to our economy," Stockdale said. "Healthy bird populations attract tourists while supporting jobs and businesses throughout New Mexico."

According to the state tourism department, ecotourism is the fastest growing segment of the tourism industry.

In New Mexico, one of the largest groups of ecotourists are bird-watchers with more than one in five adults participating in the activity. A recent study published by the New

Mexico Green Chamber of Commerce showed that in 2008, 1,283,028 visitors spent \$54.2 million and supported 1,061 jobs at local businesses near the nine national parks and monuments in New Mexico that were protected through the Antiquities Act, one of the policies currently under fire in Washington.

Many of New Mexico's national monuments and parks, such as Bandelier National Monument and Carlsbad Caverns National Park, overlap with areas designated by Audubon as Important Bird Areas, sites that provide essential breeding, migrating or wintering habitat for one or more species of bird, she said.

"Protected lands mean healthy bird populations and healthy bird populations bring tourism dollars to our state. Conservation and long-term economic stability go hand-in-hand," Stockdale said. "Our CBC volunteers out there on the ground counting birds know this; we just hope policy makers in Washington hear the message before it is too late."

To learn how to identify birds, participate in the CBC, and find local CBC leader contacts, go to: http://nm.audubon.org/CBC/cbc_schedule.htm.

The Ruidoso bird count is scheduled for Jan. 2, and is being led by Anita Powell. For more information and/or to sign up for a team, call 575-257-5352.

Appeals Court judge makes Ruidoso stop

JIM KALVELAGE
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A tour of the state by an appointed New Mexico Court of Appeals judge included a stop in Ruidoso. J. Miles Hanisee was appointed by Gov. Susana Martinez to join the Court of Appeals on July 29. He will run for election to the position in 2012.

"The Court of Appeals is a court a lot of people don't hear about," Hanisee told those attending "An Evening with your Legislators" Thursday. "But it is a court that is critical to businesses. It is a court that is critical for many people that work hard for their living in New Mexico."

Hanisee said there are 15 judges of statewide jurisdiction made up of five on the New Mexico Supreme Court and 10 on the appellate panel.

"We resolve about 1,200 cases a year including most criminal cases that result in convictions. They come to the New Mexico Court of Appeals in order to determine whether those convictions were properly obtained and whether constitutional rights were upheld."

Hanisee said his

"The Court of Appeals is a court a lot of people don't hear about."

J. Miles Hanisee
Appeals Court Judge

appointed to the appeals court was somewhat unique.

"There are not a lot of criminal trial lawyers in that court. For 11 years I was an assistant United States Attorney enforcing federal law. Throughout my 17-year career, I made appellate litigation a priority. So I was thrilled when the vacancy came up. I was one of 18 applicants. We were all screened by a bipartisan judicial nominating commission. Our current governor is not a quick appointer of judges. For 30 days I was very carefully vetted. And with five minutes on the clock before the window in which she could appoint someone would expire, I was selected."

Hanisee called the selection system "merit based." But he said next year's election will be different because there is no merit

and anyone can collect signatures to run against him. "And the fact is that most conservative-minded judges tend to lose their statewide elections."

A nominating petition was being circulated for Republican voters to sign. Hanisee said he also needed to raise \$5 from 1,200 people to qualify for Public Finance Act funding. The money raised by Hanisee will go into the Public Finance Act fund.

"What's nice about that system is you don't have an environment where judicial candidates or judicial appointees are asking citizens, lawyers or people that might appear before them for large contributions."

During his time as a federal prosecutor, Hanisee was recognized by the FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Department of Veterans Affairs for his lead role in prosecutions.

In 2007, he entered private practice and formed the law office of J. Miles Hanisee in Albuquerque.

Hubbard Foundation to fund 16 local grants

STAFF REPORTS
www.ruidosonews.com

More than \$100,000 in grant funding from the R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard Foundation will go out to 16 organizations in the region. The 2011 Southeast New Mexico Grant Program recipients were announced last week by the foundation.

The Ruidoso Downs Police Department received \$20,000 for video recording from police cars.

Scholarship Sertoma/Miss New Mexico also will be the beneficiary of \$20,000. The Ruidoso Downs Race Track Chaplaincy was awarded \$12,000.

Other recipients and the amounts were: the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, \$10,000; Carrizozo Little League Baseball, \$8,000; Ruidoso Police Department, \$5,691; Hondo Valley Public Schools Physical Education, \$5,000; the Hubbard Museum of the American West, \$5,000; Sierra

Blanca Christian Academy, \$4,300; Lincoln County as Teachers - Ruidoso, \$4,000; Early Years Childhood Center, \$4,000; Southwest Arts Alliance, \$2,500; Chamber Music Festival, \$2,000; Lincoln County Santa's Helpers, \$2,000; Capitan Women's Club, \$1,700; and Hondo FFA, \$1,500.

"Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have said many times that the grants made through the Southeast New Mexico Grant Program, to local, non-profit groups such as those announced today, make such a positive, personal difference in the lives of the people served by these groups," said Robert Donaldson, the executive director of the foundation. "I know that the last two years have been a tough economic environment for Lincoln County's non-profit organizations. It is such an

honor and pleasure to be able to meet and speak with so many people who provide so many needed services for the people of our county under these difficult financial times. It is humbling when you meet real people who labor out of the limelight to improve the lives of the citizens of their communities, who don't just talk about helping others before themselves but live that life every day."

The R.D. and Joan Dale Hubbard Foundation has awarded \$245,691 to 53 different organizations in the seven counties of southeastern New Mexico this year.

Since 2001, the foundation has provided more than \$2 million to nearly 400 non-profit organizations through the Southeast New Mexico Grant Program.

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FUNDS

FROM PAGE 1A

magnificent edifice, is a historic landmark.

Built in a period of 20 years with mostly local labor and materials, the work was directed by Father Albert Braun, order of Franciscan Monks, who first arrived on the Mescalero Apache Reservation as a young friar in 1916.

With \$100 and a few volunteers, he dug a foundation and built the church with stone quarried in winter about four miles down the canyon near Bent. The lime was burnt in pits near the church. The timber for the roof and ceiling were purchased from local sawmills. The tiles on the roof came from a pottery plant in La Luz Canyon. The building was completed in 1939 and stands on U.S. 70 as a place of worship and as a memorial for veterans.

With winter's cold weather setting in, for the first time in three years, the bell tower is free of scaffolding, another milestone for the restoration crew.

"The majority of work done this past summer was re-pointing the bell tower," Serna said. "This process involves removing the old deteriorated mortar, cleaning the walls and then applying a new lime mortar." Large voids were filled with cut stones to help build strength.

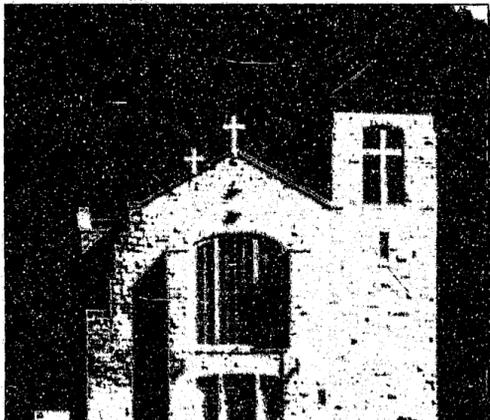
Part of the process also was to clean and repaint the protective frame of the Holy Spirit stained glass window designed by Friar Tom Herbst and created by



Children gather around while Father Paul Botenhagen oversees the drawing for the annual raffle conducted to benefit the restoration project at St. Joseph Apache Mission. The raffle raised \$16,000 this year.



The interior of the mission features 50-foot high stone walls from boulders quarried near Bent.



The imposing mission greets drivers on U.S. 70.

Teresa Thompson for the chapel.

"Next summer, the scaffolding will go up on the northwest exterior wall

and above the entrance to the Mission," Serna said.

"This is the last area for exterior work." Two new trainees

learned the fine points of restoration this summer.

San Sosa, a second-level trainee, worked on the bell tower and tribal

member Thomas Chaffins also gained some skills.

Isaiah Quintana, a fast learner, contributed his skills to the project until

he had to return to school at the New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell.

"We hope he will be able to return and work during his summer break," Serna said.

Other volunteers and community service workers also helped, she said.

"We welcome volunteers and have become a popular alternative spring break activity for college and high school students," Serna said. "Our job skills training program has been an important benefit to the Mescalero community."

Martin Pizarro and co-director Tommy Spottedbird will finish the last alcove roof soon, ending the roof work, she said, giving special thanks to donors Katherine Ortega, the Washington Management Foundation, the Hayden Foundation, the Franciscan Friars of California, the late Clarence Brown and others for making that possible.

When preservation work ends, Serna said an endowment fund would be established to ensure the building continues to be supported and maintained in the future.

In a related event, author Dorothy Cave, who wrote "God's Warrior, Last of Frontier Priests," a biography of Fr. Albert Braun, the builder of the church, signed copies of her book and sold more than 200. Books still are available for \$33, including shipping.

Call 575-464-4539 or e-mail petrus@matisp.net for the book, to donate to the project or to volunteer.

WATER

FROM PAGE 1A

60 leaks, about 90 percent homeowners and 10 percent within our own system," he said Monday. "A lot of meters were turned off."

"Despite a high demand weekend with many tourists and seasonal homeowners in town, storage tanks were able to recover

some lost water reserves, creeping up from 48 feet to 51.9 feet. Alto Reservoir also bounced back, he said.

By Monday, Alto was up 3.9 feet and Grindstone Reservoir gained 1.5 feet over its Friday level.

"The melt-off helped us divert more water into Alto," King said. "At one point we were producing a certain amount and with the demand and leaks, we were losing

ground. But we found enough of the leaks and were able to gain some footing."

The good news kept coming on Tuesday. Utilities Director Randall Camp said water storage levels were recovering in village tanks.

"I think we're out of the woods," he said. "The numbers were skewed a bit because it was a big tourist weekend and we had no way of knowing how much use was tied to. It looks

like the number of calls slowed down and the tanks are responding favorably. During (the February hard extended freeze), I saw homes with catastrophic breaks lose 10,000 gallons to 30,000 gallons a day. They ended up with more than a \$10,000 water bill."

All but the water department crews were released back to their normal duties Monday. Water crews were out checking meters, King said. "We figure

we're still losing about 5,000 gallons an hour, but that's down significantly from last week."

Village management was asking all hotels, restaurants and residents to actively conserve water in the coming days as crews continued to work to stem the flow of water in broken lines.

"We are asking everyone to work with us and help us get through this," said Ruidoso Mayor Ray Alborn.

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

Lincoln County

Clubs/Associations

- Alto Women's Association: 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Alto Club House for lunch and cards. Business meeting every first Tuesday.
- Angus Wood Carvers: 5-8 p.m. every Monday, Nazarene Church Camp, Junction Hwy. 48 and 37; 336-9161.
- Art Connection: Last Wednesday of each month. Instruct Club House. Info: Pat, 258-3602.
- Carriazo Women's Club: Second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the clubhouse at 11th and D Avenue; Info: Tona Macken, 354-0769.
- Duplicate Bridge Club: 1 p.m. every Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday, plus a 29ers game 1 p.m. Mondays; Ruidoso Senior Center; Info: 257-7411 or 257-6183.
- Fort Stanton Museum: Thurs. - Mon., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sun. 12 - 4 p.m. For group tours call 575-336-1436, or 575-336-4015.
- Insighters Book Club: 6:30 p.m. first Wednesday of each month at Insight Books, 1200 Suddeth; No charge and all are welcome; Info: 257-4625.
- Lincoln County Bird Club: Monthly field trips scheduled at various times. Info: 257-5252 or 258-3862.
- Lincoln County Garden Club: Meets every first Tuesday of the month at 9:45 a.m.; New members and visitors welcome; Info: Jordan, 379-5250.
- Lincoln County Right to Life Chapter: 6:30 p.m. every third Saturday at 1400 Suddeth Dr. All are welcome; Info: 258-5108.
- Mountain Top Turners: Woodturning club, 10 a.m. every third Saturday at the woodshop of Steve and Madeleine Sabo. Info: 354-0201.
- Fairy Bridge Group: 1 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Ruidoso Senior Center; 336-4808.
- Photographic Society of Lincoln County: 7 p.m. every second Thursday in the conference room at the Region IX office at 1400 Suddeth Dr.; 258-4003.
- Pine Top Car Club: Cruise on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. to various restaurants; Denise Dean, 257-4966.
- Ruidoso Area Singles: Meet new friends for

- social activities - dining out, parties, potlucks, outings, dancing, games. Info: Linda, 575-258-5863, or Martha, 575-430-9808.
- Ruidoso Federated Women's Club: Meets every Monday; program varies. Potluck and bridge/card games. Second Monday (Sept-May) includes program, business meeting, potluck, bridge/card games. 116 S. Evergreen.
- Ruidoso Masonic Lodge No. 73: Meets first Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m., except national holidays, then moves to second Monday. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Info: 973-0953.
- Ruidoso Mommies Group: Want to meet other moms in the area through playdates or Mom's night out? Call Nalasha, 640-7076, or Alice, 258-3331, or Ruidoso Moms on Facebook
- Ruidoso Ridge Runners 4-Wheel Drive Club: Meets 1st Wed. monthly at K-BOB's. Dinner 6 p.m. and meeting at 7. Info: 336-2714 or 378-4853.

Education

- ESL/Spanish GED: Classes sponsored by ENMU-Ruidoso Adult Basic Education English as a Second Language: Mon. & Wed. 3:30pm-5:00pm or Mon. - Wed. 6pm-8pm Spanish GED: Tues. - Thurs. 10:00am-1:00pm and Tues.-Wed. 4:00pm-8:00pm Sign up at the White Mountain Annex Building (203 White Mountain Drive) or call 258-1730
- First Friday Adult Lecture Series: Monthly, Capitan Public Library, free. Info: 354-3035.
- GED classes: Classes sponsored by ENMU-Ruidoso Adult Basic Education Block Classes Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am-Noon or Independent Study Mon. - Thurs. 1:00pm-5:00pm and Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm Sign up at the White Mountain Annex Building (203 White Mountain Drive) or call 258-1730
- La Junta F.C.E.: 10:45 a.m. every 3rd Wednesday at San Patricio Senior Citizens building. Info: 653-4718.

Help & Healing

- A Course in Miracles: Attitudinal Healing study group; Each Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. High Mesa Healing Center, 336-7777.
- A Course in Miracles study group: Wednesdays, 6:45 - 8 p.m. Free. Drop-ins welcome. The Wisdom Study Group. At The Yoga Studio, 2810 Suddeth Dr., #207, (upstairs to right of and above

- Scholozky's Call Marianne 575-257-0527.
- Al-Anon: Meets at 10:30 a.m. every Saturday and 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday, 1216 Mechem Dr., Unit 1, ground floor, Ruidoso; Info: 258-8885.
- Al-Anon: Meets at noon every Friday at Methodist church in Carriazo. Come to back door; bring your lunch.
- Alcoholics Anonymous: Ruidoso Arid Group. Daily 7:30 a.m., noon, 5:15 p.m., Mon., 6:30 p.m., women's open meeting; Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Fri., 7 p.m., Beginners and young people's big book study; Sat, Sun, 7 p.m. 1216 Mechem Dr., Unit 1, (ground fl) Ruidoso. Info: 258-8885.
- Alcoholics Anonymous: Ruidoso Sunny Spirit Group. Mon. & Thurs. at noon, Fri. at 5:30 p.m., Women's group meets Wed. at noon. Parish hall of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount at 121 Mescalero Trail.
- Bereavement or Grief Support: For the community. Call Ruidoso Home Care & Hospice Foundation. Info: 258-0028.
- COPE: Center of Protective Environment - 1204 Mechem Drive, Suite 12. Ruidoso, NM. 575-258-4946. M-Thur. 8:00-5:00, Fri. 8-12n.
- Gamblers Anonymous: Meets at 7:15 p.m., Thursdays at the Mescalero Reformed Church, 336 Wardlaw Dr. For more information, contact Mike at 575-882-6200.
- H.E.A.L. and the Nest Domestic Violence Shelter: 515-378-6378; 24 hr Hotline: 865-378-6378.
- Holiday Grief Support: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - noon, Ruidoso Public Library conference room. Sponsored by Ruidoso Home Care & Hospice Foundation, 575-258-0028.
- Meditation Practice: First Wednesday of each month; 6:30 p.m. High Mesa Healing Center, 336-7777.
- Mountain High Recovery Group of Narcotics Anonymous: Meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays 7 p.m. at Ruidoso Downs First Baptist Church, 361 Highway 70 East.
- Open Circle: Each Sunday; 9:30 a.m. High Mesa Healing Center, 336-7777.
- Parenting Classes: Counseling Center Prevention Program facilitates all parents seeking to enhance parenting skills, resolve issues and prevent substance use. Families with children ages 5-17 years of age that complete all requirements of the class qualify for a \$150 stipend. Qualifications and Info: Brenda Motley-Lopez or Sall Mason at 257-0520.

- Parents of Addicted Children: New Name Ministry offers help for parents of addicted children. For appointment, phone 802-0263 in Ruidoso and leave a message. Payment of free-will offering appreciated.
- Prepared Childbirth Classes: Meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays at the Lincoln County Medical Center's conference room. Six classes per session with qualified, certified instructors; Info: 257-7381 (ask for OB dept.).
- Sanctuary on the River: Life enrichment classes, seminars, 207 Eagle Dr. 630-1111. sanctuaryontheriver.com.
- Science of Mind Study Group: Each second and fourth Saturday; 10:30 a.m.-noon; High Mesa Healing Center, 336-7777.
- Sex Addicts Anonymous: 5:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall meeting room, 121 Mescalero Trail. Info: 575-201-4203.
- Stretch & Tone Class: For men and women of all ages, 9-10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Senior Center, 501 Suddeth; Emese, 258-0003, or Terry Franklin, 257-4565.
- The Lincoln County Fibromyalgia and Chronic Pain Support Group meets on the third Thursday of each month from noon-10 p.m. in the Parlor at First Baptist Church, 270 Country Club Drive, Ruidoso. For information, contact Mary Barnett at 257-9810.
- Women Helping Women is a support group for domestic violence victims and survivors. The group meets every Wednesday from 2-3 PM at Sweet Charity 28156 US Highway 70. There is no cost and bilingual services are available.
- Working Disabled Health Insurance: State of N.M. Working Disabled Individuals Medicaid Program; call Jeanie Whites at 575-622-4169

Service Organizations

- Altusna Club: 5 p.m. every third Tuesday, First Christian Church, 1211 Hill Rd. Info: Deb 336-1486 or www.altusnauidoso.com.
- Boy Scouts of America, Troop 52: 6:20 p.m. every other Wednesday; Angus Church of the Nazarene. Info: 808-1172.
- B.P.O. Elks No. 2086: 7 p.m., first and third Thursdays, Elks Lodge Building, U.S. 70; Info: 257-2607.
- B.P.O. Does: Noon, second and fourth Thursdays, Elks Lodge Building, U.S. Highway 70.
- Children's Team Kids Discipleship Program: 6-7:45 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept-May), First Baptist Church, 270 Country Club Dr., Ruidoso. For children age 4 to 6th grade; Info: 257-2081, www.teamkids.com.
- Friends of Capitan Library: Call for volunteers for Mt. Shabby Thrift Shop. Info: Raylene, 354-3046 or library, 354-3035.
- Humana Society of Lincoln County: Gavilan Canyon Rd. shelter Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. 11-2; ReSale Shop at the "Y" open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Sat; Info: 378-1040.
- Kiwans: Tuesdays at noon at K-BOB's; Rutalea, 258-1431.
- Laughing Eyes Kennels: Nonprofit breeder and trainer of service dogs seeks volunteers to assist with dog handling, socialization, bookkeeping, fundraising, kennel upkeep. Call 575-354-4342, or www.lkennels.org.
- Lincoln County Community Health Council: 8 a.m. first Tuesday of each month at Community United Metho-dist Church, 220 Junction Rd. New members welcome. Info: 973-1829.
- Lincoln County Medical Center Auxiliary: 9:30 a.m. second Tuesday of each month in the hospital conference room. New volunteers welcome. Info: 630-4250.
- Lincoln County Sheriff's posse: Meets first Sunday monthly, 2 p.m. at Posa building, Hwy. 54, Carriazo. Groups needing volunteer security services, notify by mail one month prior to the monthly meeting. Send to P.O. Box 1294, Capitan, NM 89316. Info: 575-354-8007.
- OES Ruidoso Chapter 66: Meeting every second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. 144 Hob Hill Dr. Info: 257-5311.
- Optimist Club (Friends of Youth): Noon every Wednesday at K-BOB's. Info: 257-5938 or 258-9218.
- PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Chapter AR: Meeting every second and fourth Tuesdays. Info: Jennie Powell, 258-3896.
- Rotary International, Ruidoso-Hon-do Valley Club: 11:45 a.m. every Tuesday at Cree

- Meadows Country Club. Info: Gary 258-0059, Georgia 937-0564.
- Ruidoso Downs Auxiliary: 7 p.m. every first Monday at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Center off East Highway 70; Info: 378-8099 or 378-8316.
- Ruidoso Evening Lions: Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Evening Lions Club House, 106 S. Overlook (behind Chef Lupe's). New members always welcome. Info: Mike Zaragosa, 937-0768 or Harold Oakes, 937-7618.
- Ruidoso Needle Crafters Club: Every Sunday at Books, Etc., 2340 Suddeth Dr., 2 - 4 p.m. 575-257-1554.
- Ruidoso Shrine Club: 6:00 p.m. every fourth Wednesday at Cattle Baron Suddeth. 336-2541.
- Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club: Meets at 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday for lunch and meeting at Cree Meadows Country Club; Info: 258-045.
- Sacramento Mountain Village: Senior service & activity group, open to 55 years and older; meets 4th Sat. of month, 9:30 a.m. Cree Meadows CC, 258-2120 or sacmntvillage.org
- Sierra Blanca Daughters of the Am-erican Revolution: Third Thurs-day of each month. Info: 336-3045.
- Zie Girl Scout Council: 6 p.m. every third Thursday at the Cherokee Mobile Village Clubhouse on U.S. 70. Info: 437-2921.
- White Mountain Search & Rescue Team is open for membership to volunteers interested in various disciplines. We meet at 7 p.m. every third Monday at First Christian Church, 1211 Hill, Ruidoso. Info: email@whitemountainsearch.org, Tony Davis, 575-338-4501 or visit www.wmsarc.org for NM search and rescue activities.
- American Legion Jerome D. Klein Post 79: 11 a.m. every third Saturday. SE corner Spring St. & Hwy. 70, Ruidoso Downs. Info: 973-1719.
- American Legion James A. Hipp, Post 57: First Tuesday each month at 7 p.m. Sr.Citizens Center, Capitan. 675-336-2194
- VFW Post 12071 meets the third Monday of each month at Evening Lions Hut at 166 Overlook (behind Chef Lupe's) at 7 p.m. All eligible veterans of foreign wars are invited to attend and join. For more information call: 575-608-1277.
- VFW Post 12071 Ladies Auxiliary meets third Monday of each month at 1200 Suddeth (across the street from In-Ka-Ho's) at 7 p.m. All eligible spouses, mothers, daughters, and widows of veterans of foreign wars are invited to attend and join. For more information, please call: 575-258-1345.

Veterans

DISTRICT COURT BRIEFS

• Melvin Adams appeared in court Oct. 21 for imposition of sentence, having pleaded no contest Aug. 19 to DWI fourth offense and driving while license suspended or revoked.

Judge Karen Parsons sentenced Adams to serve 58 days in the Otero County Detention Center and be placed on probation for one year and pay \$292 in fees.

Ruidoso Police Officer Cpl. Aaron Frost arrested Adams Jan. 4, after responding to a call of an accident at Porr Drive and Mechem Drive and finding Adams' Dodge Durango teetering on the ledge of a retaining wall just off Porr Drive. Officer Larry Smith discovered three opened and empty bottles of vodka in the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

• Aurelius Michael Houston, IV, appeared Nov. 2 and pleaded no contest to resisting, evading or obstructing an officer.

Parsons ruled that

Houston had satisfied the requirement of his sentence on the charge.

Ruidoso Police Cpl. Larry Smith charged Houston with battery on a household member, third offense, and resisting, evading or obstructing an officer on June 20, 2010.

• Mia Curtis, 27, appeared Nov. 16 for a change of plea hearing and pleaded no contest to battery on a peace officer and disorderly conduct.

Under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Public Defender Mandy Denson and Deputy District Attorney Reed Thompson, the state dismissed charges of resisting, evading or obstructing an officer, three counts, battery against a household member and indecent exposure.

Parsons granted Curtis a conditional discharge with two years supervised probation and ordered Curtis to write a letter of apology to Ruidoso Police Officer James Urban.

Urban charged Curtis April 28, after he and Sgt. Steve Corbin responded to domestic disturbance call in the 100 block of Apache Hill and witnessed a family fight.

Following Curtis' arrest, she refused to comply with Urban's requests, pulled away from him after he told her she was under arrest for disorderly conduct and continued to yell and scream after being told to lower her voice.

Curtis was reportedly wearing large shorts, which fell down and she refused to allow officers to pull them back up and dropped her shorts and exposed her primary genital area to Urban and Corbin and told them to "kiss my ass."

Curtis also resisted the officers when they attempted to remove the handcuffs at the Ruidoso Police Department.

• Parsons ordered charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, required position and method of turning at intersections, equipment violation, failure to have operating registration, vehicle

and possession Ultran. must be insured and open container charges dismissed against Thomas Key Nov. 16.

Key was arrested June 5 and bound over for trial on July 8. Parsons cited the requirement for criminal information to be filed within 30 days in ordering the dismissal.

• Miranda Becker, 20, appeared Nov. 16 for a change of plea and imposition of sentence.

Becker pleaded no contest to charges of sale, dispose or possession of dangerous drugs, Venlafaxine, Xanax, Flexeril, Chlorthalidone, shoplifting and concealing identity.

Parsons sentenced Becker to two years probation and ordered her to pay restitution of \$220.64 to Walmart with 15 percent interest.

A grand jury indicted Becker on June 28, 2011.

• Louise Hamilton Garmon, 32, appeared Nov. 16 for a change of plea and imposition of sentence.

Garmon pleaded no contest to two charges of acquisition or attempt to acquire a controlled substance by misrepresentation, Soma and Ultran, forgery, possession Ultran and Soma,

and possession Ultran.

Under a plea and disposition agreement reached by Senior Trial Prosecutor Kirby Wills and Denson, the state dismissed two charges of acquisition to acquire Ultran, two counts of forgery, two counts possession of Ultran, and two counts of fraud.

Ruidoso Police Detective Art Nelson charged Garmon with obtaining a prescription pad belonging to a physician and using the forms to obtain drugs from a pharmacy between Dec. 30, 2010, and Feb. 14, 2011.

— For more District Court cases go to www.ruidosonews.com

Trafficking suspect posts \$2,000 bond

STAFF REPORTS
www.ruidosonews.com

The Ruidoso man charged in late November following a federal investigation into marijuana trafficking has posted bond.

David Luis Pace, 37, had been named as a marijuana supplier to an Andrews, Texas, man considered the ringleader of the trafficking operation. Pace had not been included among those rounded up on Nov. 29 after a Texas federal grand jury's indictments had been unsealed by a judge. Pace turned himself in at the FBI office in Midland, Texas, on Nov. 30, the date of his initial appearance before a federal judge, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for West Texas.

An arrest warrant for Pace stated he was wanted in connection with a conspiracy to distribute hydroponic marijuana as well as cocaine and hydrocodone pills, distribution of controlled substances, distribution of controlled substances in school and playground zones, distribution of controlled substances to

a person under the age of 21, attempting to manufacture a controlled substance, money laundering, and maintaining a drug-involved premise.

On Aug. 8, a search warrant was executed at Pace's home in Ruidoso. An inventory of items removed from the residence indicated guns, financial records, \$9,000 in cash, THC testing kits, bags containing a green leafy residue or white powdery substance, phone numbers, and other items were seized.

The conditions imposed on Pace's release include a nightly curfew from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. and he must evict a tenant from his Ruidoso residence. Pace is required to actively seek employment. He must limit his travels to the state of New Mexico and to Midland and Ector counties in Texas except with authorization from the office of the U.S. Pretrial Services.

Pace was released on a \$2,000 cash bond and a surety.

Jury selection and a trial are scheduled for Feb. 6, 2012, before U.S. District Judge Robert Junell in Midland.



**Charles Allen
"Charlie" Bird**
1934-2011

Charles Allen "Charlie" Bird, 77, of Midland, passed away Thursday, December 8, 2011 in Midland, TX. Memorial services will be held at 11:00 am, Monday, December 12, 2011 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland with Pastor Steve Schorr, officiating.

Charlie was born December 2, 1934 in Midland to Ethel (Williams) and Freeman Allen Bird. He attended high school at Allen Military Academy in Bryan. He also attended Texas Christian University. Charlie married Kay Bast on June 29, 1974 in Midland.

He was a past president and/or director of Ruidoso Jockey Club, Racquet Club, Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, Texas Hereford Association, and Texas Angus Association. He was a member of Shikar Safari Club International, Dallas Safari Club, Safari Club International, NRA, American Quarter Horse Association, and Masonic Lodge, as a 32nd degree Mason. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Midland.

Charlie was a prominent businessman and rancher. He was especially interested in fishing, hunting and all aspects of the horse, bull riding and rodeo. He was devoted to his family and immensely proud of their accomplishments, and they in him. They will cherish the many memories.

Charlie will be remembered for his honesty, integrity, and possessing the highest standard of honor and conduct, his sense of humor and sound judgment. His smile could light up a room and his laughter was contagious.

Survivors include wife, Kay of Midland; daughters, Kathy Bird Taylor and husband Craig of Houston and Elizabeth Bird Kinsey and husband Rob of Sturgis, Michigan; grandchildren, Kathryn Taylor, Noah Kinsey, Luke Kinsey and Thomas Kinsey; and numerous other family members.

The family expresses special thanks to loyal and loved employees: Annie Thomas, Soledad Primera, Manuel Catano, Loreen Broom, Mary Sullivan, Luke Lucerno, Tim Bob Wilson, Jim White, Marcus dela Rosa, Terry Clay, and Steve Kinzer.

The family suggests memorials be made to Hospice Midland, PO Box 2621, Midland, TX 79702, Dr. Gregory Bartha Scholarship at Midland College and Ruidoso Downs Race Track Chaplaincy, PO Box 449, Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jose Dominguez, Decker Dawson, G.W. Brock, Christmas Barber, T.O. Midkiff, Charlie Dean, Chuck Hansen, Chris Scharbauer, Clarence Scharbauer, Sr., Dr. Greg Bartha, Charlie Mashburn, Boots O'Neal, Gene Willingham, Joe Mabee, Bobby Holt and David Mackey.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

**MAURILYN
ANN
CALDWELL**
1968-2011

Marilyn Ann Caldwell, daughter of Shirley and Clifton Caldwell, was born August 10, 1968 in Abilene, Texas. She died at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa on December 9, 2011, after suffering a massive stroke on December 4 at her family's Mitre Peak Ranch near Alpine.

Marilyn grew up on a ranch near Albany, Texas and in that small West Texas town. When she was ten, her family moved to Richardson, Texas, where she attended the Richardson public schools until high school, when she entered the Hockaday School for Girls in Dallas, where she was a member of the gymnastics team. In 1987, the year her parents returned to Albany, she entered Texas A&M University, where she remained for three years before moving to Albany to assist her mother in opening a Texas history bookstore, The Lynch Line. She graduated from Hardin-Simmons University with a degree in history and minors in English and anthropology.

After the dissolution of a brief marriage, Marilyn moved to the Davis Mountains to live on the Mitre Peak Ranch established by her great-grandfather. She had spent every summer of her childhood at Mitre Peak, attending Paisano Baptist Encampment with her grandparents, Guy and Jeanette Caldwell. It was at one Paisano camp meeting that Marilyn dedicated her life to Christ.

Marilyn loved mountains. After building a small cabin within sight of Mitre Peak, she bought a small house in Ruidoso, New Mexico, where she could pursue her love of skiing. She got a job as an instructor at Ski Apache, where she had first skied at the age of five. She sought higher certification for her job by attending a special school in Colorado. Along with one male instructor, she passed a rigorous examination on the slopes which enabled her to become a ski-school supervisor. She was a talented skier and teacher and traveled for eleven seasons between her summer home at Mitre Peak and her winter home in Ruidoso.

Marilyn was wise beyond her years and was a multi-talented woman. She had a natural artistic bent which showed whether she was hanging pictures or refinishing furniture. She worked as a buyer and store manager for Joe and Lanna Duncan's shop in Fort Davis, Javelinas and Hollyhocks, and was accepted into Leadership Big Bend. She was an accomplished cook and could install a dishwasher and plumb an ice-maker. She loved all critters, domesticated and wild and especially her small Jack Russell - Corgi dog, DC, who was her constant companion. She was a compassionate and loving friend, often listening for hours while someone poured out their problems to her sympathetic ears. A good friend recently repaid a loan that Marilyn had made to her years before. Marilyn told her mother that she never intended to be paid back because she knew that she had literally saved the girl's life, so dire were her circumstances. She was never judgmental and disliked those who were. Marilyn was a hard worker and a frugal person, as her mother and father, whom she called "Daddy-poo," had encouraged her to be. She utilized everything, following in the footsteps of her grandmother Welch, and did not have a wasteful bone in her body. She recently told her mother that she was glad to be frugal because it had taught her what was important in life.

Marilyn was not a political person, but she honored her parents' long friendship with George and Laura Bush. She went to Washington with her mother to George W. Bush's 2000 inauguration and returned for First Lady Laura Bush's National Book Festival two years later. She was a guest at the White House and later had the privilege of serving President Bush while helping out at the Gage Hotel during a presidential visit to Marathon. During that visit, when the President returned from a mountain bike ride off the highway, Marilyn provided a cold cloth for his bleeding arms while he recounted his first experience with "the little bushes that grab you," known to us as catclaw.

Marilyn followed in her parent's footsteps as an enthusiast for historic preservation. She loved and cared for the buildings at Mitre Peak. With the help of her friends Charles and Tom Spears, she recently completed the restoration of two adobe buildings there, including the barn that her great-grandfather Tippit had built in 1915. She restored the Tippit swimming pool and bath house, which was the first and for years the only swimming pool in the Alpine area. She also restored the water reservoir at the big spring on the ranch, proudly telling her mother that it was good for another fifty years. After the ice storm several years ago, she arranged for the pruning of the huge pecan trees at the house and the reservoir, saving trees that her great-grandfather Tippit had planted from seed.

Marilyn was always more comfortable in a masculine environment. She is survived by her parents and four adoring brothers: Wade, of San Antonio, Texas; John, of Albany, Texas; Ray, of McKinney, Texas; and Tom, of Hettinger, North Dakota; and her sisters-in-law, Lisa, Teena, and Anne-Marie Caldwell, as well as by her nieces and nephews, Lauren Kate Grace, Frances, Terah, Logan, Justis, Lacy Anne, Chris, and Chad; her Aunt-Ada Ruth and Uncle Jim Cotter, Aunt Ruth and Uncle Lee Caldwell, and Aunt Molly Caldwell; her many cousins; and her beloved friend and companion, Tim Rafferty of Alpine, Texas.

Services will be Saturday, December 10, at 2:00 P.M. at the Mitre Peak Girl Scout Camp with burial at the Mitre Peak Ranch adjacent to the camp. Memorial contributions may be made to the Archives of the Big Bend, Sul Ross State University, P.O. Box C-149, Alpine,

Thank You!

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Our loving father and grandfather, Bradley Edward Bennett, went home on November 21, 2011 with your loving hands at his side.

We would like to thank all of you individually but the list would be long.

We, God & you know who you are.

Sincerely, Brads Family
Laurie & Gary Garland & Ian Hewitt.

Medical marijuana a growing industry

MILAN SIMONICH
Texas-New Mexico Newspapers

SANTA FE — Selling marijuana to help the sick is a growth industry in New Mexico, but one that Gov. Susana Martinez would just as soon eliminate.

Dr. Catherine Torres, first-year secretary of the New Mexico Department of Health, says the state expected perhaps 200 medical marijuana patients when legislators created the program in 2007.

New Mexico now has 4,310 people who use marijuana as state-sponsored medical treatment.

The single largest subgroup — 1,854 patients — consists of people with post-traumatic stress disorder.

In the program's infancy, people with PTSD were not eligible for medical marijuana use. But with thousands of U.S. soldiers coming home from war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the state Department of Health added PTSD in February 2009 as a medical condition for which marijuana could be used legally.

Now patients with PTSD almost outnumber the next two groups that qualify for medical marijuana use, those with chronic pain or cancer.

Martinez, a Republican who became governor in January after a 25-year career as a prosecutor, disapproves of the state's medical marijuana program. She said it is at odds with the federal government's classification of marijuana as a dangerous narcotic.

Medical marijuana patients in New Mexico

Post-traumatic stress disorder — 1,854
Chronic pain — 1,355
Cancer — 599
Painful peripheral neuropathy — 396
HIV/AIDS — 241

Source: New Mexico Department of Health

But Martinez will not actively attempt to repeal the medical marijuana law, said her press secretary, Scott Darnell.

"The governor has been clear that she has always been concerned about a program that puts state employees in the position of breaking federal law," he said. "However, her priorities lie with putting New Mexicans back to work and ensuring our kids get a quality education. That's her focus."

Even so, if a bill to repeal the medical marijuana law cleared the Legislature, Martinez would sign it, Darnell said.

Charles Kokesh was among those who campaigned to add PTSD to the list of illnesses for which medical marijuana could be prescribed. His son, Adam, was a Marine who returned from combat in Iraq with the disorder.

Adam Kokesh had difficulty sleeping because of flashbacks and nightmares. His father said marijuana was a more helpful treatment than "the cocktail of prescription drugs" Adam Kokesh had received.

His son can now smoke marijuana legally, but Charles Kokesh is far from happy about the system.

Charles Kokesh and five others are suing the state because it did not certify them as a licensed producer of medical marijuana. Kokesh said the state's selection of marijuana providers was arbitrary and unfair.

To date, the state has authorized 25 companies with nonprofit status to sell marijuana.

"There were no standards and no rating system," said Paul Livingston, an attorney for Kokesh and others who are suing over the selection process.

Their complaint stretches to the days when Democrat Bill Richardson was governor and the medical marijuana program became law.

Charles Kokesh is no happier with Martinez, who has been in office nearly a year.

"The current administration is an active opponent of the medical marijuana program.... Martinez opposes the state law surreptitiously," he said.

In addition to the marijuana lawsuit, Kokesh is party to another high-profile case.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in 2009 filed a lawsuit against Kokesh, alleging that from at least 1995

Latest quarterly report from 25 licensed nonprofit marijuana producers

Yield of medical cannabis — 120,415 grams or 4,300 ounces.
Amount of medical cannabis sold — 104,183 grams or 3,720 ounces.
Average price per gram — \$11.75.
Average price per gram during previous (April-June) quarter — \$14.22.
Gross sales — \$1,224,235.
Taxes collected — \$80,887

Source: New Mexico Department of Health

through 2007 he "systematically misappropriated approximately \$45 million from four commission-registered business development companies."

Kokesh said in an interview that lawsuit played no part in his being passed over to become a state-licensed producer of marijuana.

He called the SEC lawsuit "a cooked-up case," and said it could be settled in the next 60 days with no penalty against him.

Three people who worked in the health department administering the medical marijuana program recently resigned. They included Dominick Zurlo, who headed the program.

Kokesh said these departures were evidence of discord and a lack of commitment by Martinez's administration in carrying out the medical marijuana law.

But Darnell, the governor's spokesman, said there was nothing to such conspiracy theories.

"Zurlo resigned of his own accord," Darnell said. Zurlo did not respond to requests for an interview. Aimee Barabe, a spokes-

woman for the state Department of Health, said the agency has eight staff members dedicated to the medical marijuana program.

In addition to an acting program manager and a medical director, six full-time temporary employees work in the program to help patients, evaluate applications for marijuana use and administer the licensed producers.

The Legislature could make the positions permanent, depending on how budgets are shaped during the session that starts next month, she said.

Of the recent three resignations of three staff members in the medical marijuana program, Barabe said this: "They were not forced out. Each of them resigned independent of each other."

Torres, top administrator of the Department of Health, said New Mexico has "a much more controlled system" for medical marijuana than is found in the other 15 states that allow it.

For instance, Colorado has 5 million residents, or 2 1/2 times more than New Mexico.

But Colorado's medical marijuana program has 88,000 patients, or about 20 times the number in New Mexico.

In addition to having 25 companies as licensed producers of marijuana, New Mexico has another means to serve its patients — by letting them serve themselves.

More than half of the state's medical marijuana patients — 2,344 — have a license to produce the drug for themselves, according to Department of Health records.

Patients can grow up to 16 plants. Companies are limited to 150 plants, up from 95 when the program began.

Attorney Livingston and the six organizations he represents because they have been denied licenses say patient demand is great enough to justify more companies getting a piece of the marijuana business.

The state selected marijuana producers without regard to due process, creating a cash cow for a select few, Livingston said.

Martinez, though, has made clear that her priority in 2012 will not be medical marijuana.

Instead, she will press for repeal of another state law that enables illegal immigrants to obtain New Mexico driver's licenses.

She has fellow Republicans in the Senate and House of Representatives geared up to fight that cause, leaving medical marijuana to the lawyers and the courts.

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Senator wants \$40 million university endowment

Money for recruiting top staff

MILAN SIMONICH
Texas-New Mexico Newspapers

SANTA FE — A state legislator wants to create a \$40 million university endowment to make New Mexico the leader in energy research and technology.

The plan's author, Sen. Timothy Keller, said Monday the state must move decisively to establish a sector of business expertise that will strengthen its economy for the long term.

"We have to do something like this for economic development, and to make our state more relevant nationally," said Keller, D-Albuquerque.

His bill would create the \$40 million fund in four years. A total of \$835,000 a month would be diverted from gross receipts taxes and funneled to the university endowment.

Then New Mexico's research universities would share 5 percent — or \$2 million — every year from the endowment's investment profits.

With the windfall, they would recruit top faculty responsible for research, teaching, development and commercialization of sustainable energy technologies.

The schools that would receive the money are New Mexico State University, New Mexico Tech and the University of New Mexico.

Their job would be to land the finest professors in the energy field, then give them the tools they need to make commercial and scientific advances.

"It's just like bringing (Albert) Pujols onto your team," Keller said of the

baseball slugger.

In the case of commercial successes, the state would share in royalties from professors' patents.

Keller said the research would not be limited to solar or wind technology. It could include clean coal, natural gas and other forms of energy.

Fellow legislators on the tax policy committee said they appreciated Keller's ambitious, big-picture thinking. Even so, his proposal received a cool reception from the committee, especially from a fellow Democrat.

Sen. Tim Jennings, D-Roswell, said committing taxpayers' money to a university endowment would leave legislators with less control over budgets.

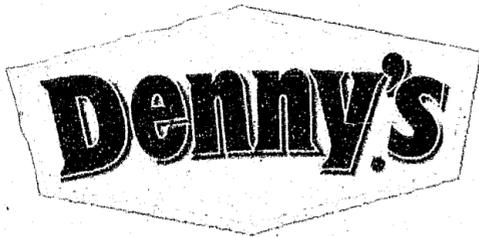
"We have to be careful of taking away our own authority," Jennings said.

Afterward, Keller said he expects his bill to be defeated in the 2012 legislative session that begins next month. But, he said, he plans to keep pushing the idea in hopes that the bill eventually will succeed.

Keller said he has patterned his bill after successes across the country, especially in Austin, Texas. The only distinction between the New Mexico program and the one in Texas is that it would be built around energy technology instead of computer science, he said.

The University of Texas, he said, hired away top faculty from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, then enabled them use their talents to build a high-tech economy in Austin.

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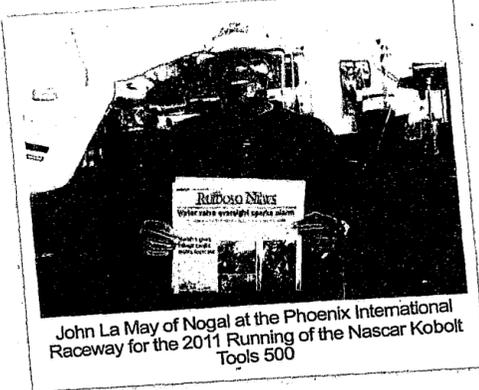
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John La May of Nogal at the Phoenix International Raceway for the 2011 Running of the Nascar Kobalt Tools 500



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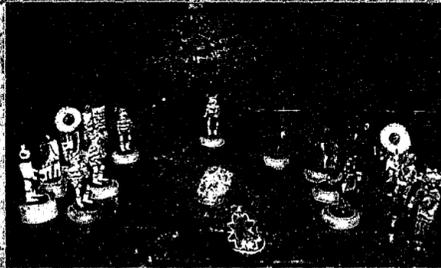
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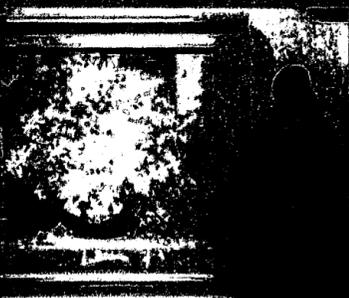
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SPORTS

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PAGE 1B

side line

Results

Girls Basketball

Thursday, Dec. 8
 Carlsbad 71, RHS 47
 Cloudcroft 62, Mescalero 56
 Clovis 28, Hondo 25
 Corona 55, Lake Arthur 10
 Friday, Dec. 9
 RHS 68, Deming 58
 Cliff 48, Mescalero 45
 Hondo 69, Jesus Chapel 15
 Grady 60, Corona 49
 Saturday, Dec. 10
 RHS 53, Chaparral 36

Boys Basketball

Thursday, Dec. 8
 Atrisco Academy 70, Ruidoso 36
 Capitan 59, Animas 35
 Hondo 66, Jesus Chapel 33
 Lake Arthur 43, Corona 37
 Friday, Dec. 9
 Rio Rancho 78, Ruidoso 54
 Cliff 58, Capitan 35
 Hondo 65, Clovis 45
 Magdalena 57, Carrizozo 17
 Saturday, Dec. 10
 Ruidoso 79, Navajo Prep 55
 Capitan 56, Mescalero 47
 Hondo 25, Grady 22

Sports On Tap

Girls Basketball

Thursday, Dec. 15
 Hondo at Mescalero, 4 p.m.
 Friday, Dec. 16
 Elida at Corona, 4 p.m.
 Grady at Carrizozo, 4:40 p.m.
 Saturday, Dec. 17
 RHS at Chaparral, 7 p.m.
 Tuesday, Dec. 20
 Tularosa at Mescalero, 6:30 p.m.

Boys Basketball

Thursday, Dec. 15
 Capitan at NMMI, 7 p.m.
 Mescalero Tourney, 3 Days, 4 p.m.
 Hondo at Mescalero Tourney, 3 days
 Friday, Dec. 16
 Artesia at RHS, 7 p.m.
 Elida at Corona, 4 p.m.
 Carrizozo at Grady, 3:30 p.m.
 Monday, Dec. 19
 Dora at Capitan, 7 p.m.
 Tuesday, Dec. 20
 Tularosa at RHS, 5:30 p.m.

On Deck

Docile Donkeys Wanted

Needed: Two gentle donkeys to use in manger scene at "Walk Thru Bethlehem" in Capitan/Angus. Please contact Pat at 354-3329.

Aquatic training has no off season

AVRIL COAKLEY
 For the Ruidoso News

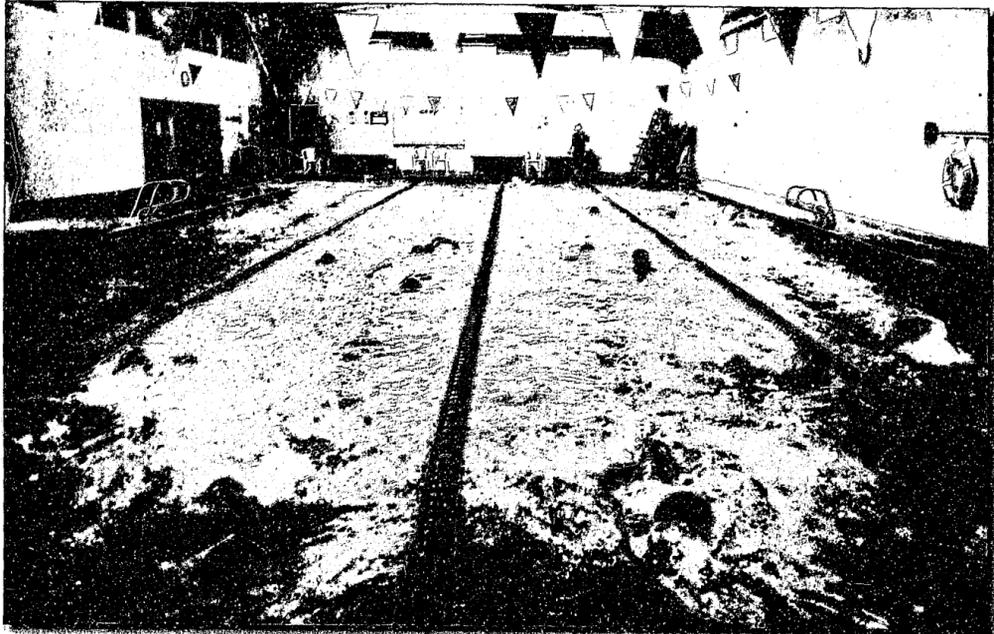
Exercising in the water is a great way to workout and has many advantages over land based exercise.

More and more studies are showing the tremendous benefits to training aquatically.

Temperature controlled indoor pools allow people to exercise all year round so there is no off season.

1. Aquatic fitness can be done at almost any age, skill or fitness level. People young and old can participate and improve their strength, balance, flexibility, endurance and agility.

2. Water provides resistance in any direction which makes it easier to work the entire body. Aquatic exercise offers a



COURTESY

See **SWIM**, page 2B Aquatic fitness can be done at almost any age as these swimmers at the Ruidoso Athletic Club show.

'Zozo Grizzlies learn new basketball program

MIKE CURRAN
 mcurran@ruidosonews.com

The Carrizozo boys basketball team might be 0-4 but the Grizzlies are earning their "stripes" and continue to fight on under their new first-year coach, Porter Cutrell.

The Grizzlies have 12 players on the varsity roster but five of those athletes are JV players — and those are all they have for their JV commitments in D4-B.

That means Cutrell has to be mindful of the playing times of his JV players — while on both the JV and varsity floors — so as to juggle players in and out of both formats.

Friday, the Grizzlies

took it on the chin at home against Magdalena, 57-17.

"Magdalena is a good team," Cutrell said. "They have some good upperclassmen who have been in that program for a while and are further along than we are. We figured it would be a tough game. They had won a tournament the week before."

By the end of the first quarter, Carrizozo found themselves behind, 12-3.

"We missed a lot of free throws," Cutrell said.

At the half it was Magdalena ahead, 32-8.

"At that point we realized we were in trouble," Cutrell recounted.



HAROLD DAKES/RUIDOSO NEWS

Josh Ventura, of the JV Grizzlies, hauls in a pass against Magdalena Friday as Jace Hill, No. 4, comes on to help.

See **HOOPS**, page 2B

'ZOZO VOLLEYBALL TEAM RECOGNIZED FOR STELLAR YEAR



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Pam Allen and her entire volleyball team receive recognition from the town of Carrizozo for the good year they had as state runners-up with an 18-3 record. Allen shakes hands with town Trustee Dusty Voss as Mayor Dennis Vega, center, Leann Weibrecht, town clerk, and Police Chief Stephen Barnett look on.



ERIK BEARER/RUIDOSO NEWS

Sarah Ferguson, of the Lady Grizzlies, presents coach Pam Allen with a shoe signed by the entire volleyball team. For more photos see page 4B.

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SWIM

FROM PAGE 1B

stress-free mode of hitting all major muscle groups, not to mention the cardiovascular and respiratory systems, in one workout — making it the perfect exercise for people of all ages and abilities.

3. Water has twelve times the resistance of air which enhances cardio training as you have to work harder just to breathe because the lungs must inflate against pressure under water.

4. Water decreases compression of body joints such as ankles, knees, shoulders and hips and dissipates body heat more effectively than air; so it limits stress on the body so there is less risk of injury whether performing low impact balance exercises or very high intensity workouts. For instance, an individual can

perform plyometrics (rapid-fire, stop-start, explosive exercises which improve one's power) without the impact of doing them on land. People can also perform sport-specific skills, especially balance and agility drills, without the fear of falling.

5. As aquatic training reduces the risk of injury it also allows people to work-out while pregnant, overweight, injured or rehabilitating after surgery.

6. Aquatic exercise provides variety. One can combine being in deep water for exercises requiring more resistance as well as with being in shallow water for incorporating greater buoyancy assisted exercise.

7. The body's circulation benefits greatly from aquatic exercise due to the increased muscle contraction and aerobic activity, causing the heart to work more effectively.

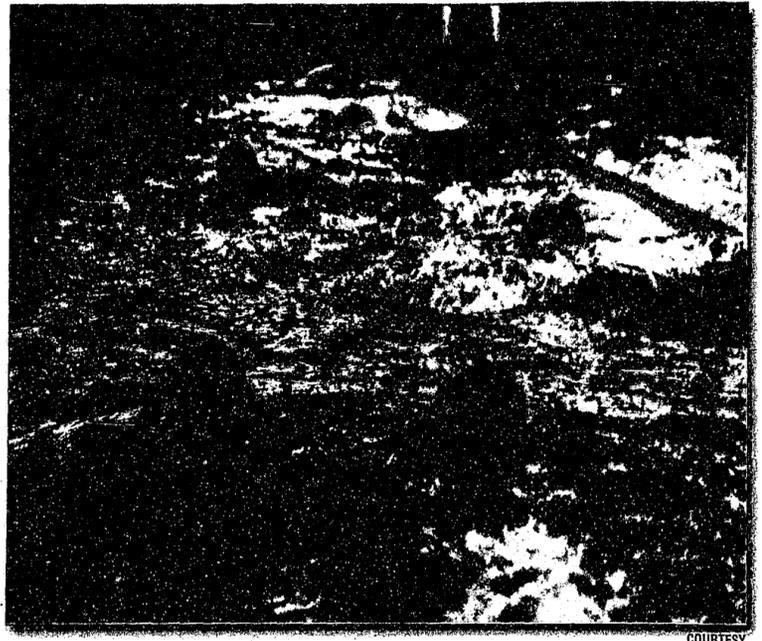
8. Aerobic capacity bene-

fits from aquatic exercise due to increased lung capacity with deeper ventilations. Vigorous aquatic exercise also increases blood supply to muscles and enhances the efficiency of the cardiovascular system.

9. Aquatic exercise can help in bone calcium intake, resulting in the ability to help maintain stronger bones.

10. Range of motion benefits from aquatic exercise because the effects of gravity are lessened and the natural water movement encourages relaxation of muscles. Joints move through a wider range of motion and achieve long-term flexibility.

11. There is less next day soreness. The increased hydrostatic pressure of the water helps take the lactic acid out of the cells and delivers it to the liver more efficiently, so the exercised muscles do not feel as sore.



COURTESY

Aquatic exercises provides a variety of exercises.

12. Exercising in water promotes relaxation, reduces potential for over-

heating that leads to excessive sweating, allows for a certain level of modesty

and discretion among participants, and can easily be done in a group setting.

HOOPS

FROM PAGE 1B

The Grizzlies were outscored in the third and fourth quarters, 12-6 and

13-6, respectively, and went on to lose by 40.

At the recent Steer Stampede Tournament, the Grizzlies lost by only five to McCurdy, 40-35. In the second round of that competition Carrizozo

fought Los Lunas before losing in overtime.

"In our opening game against Cloudcroft, it was as close as 2 points going into the middle of the third quarter before they pulled away from us,"

Cutrell said.

If the Grizzlies can hang in there and learn Cutrell's system they should show improvement this season.

Cutrell has respected coaching credentials.

Originally from Denver, he coached at NMMI from 1990 to 1995 (after graduating there in 1980).

In '95 and '96 he did a stint with the UNM Lobos. Next up, he spent

14 years at Mullen High School (5A) in Denver.

"We won a couple of state titles while I was there," Cutrell said.

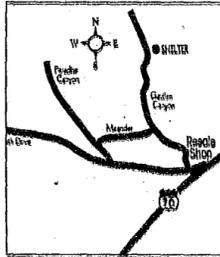
Friday the Grizzlies will travel to Grady for an afternoon tilt.

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PEACHES IS ABOUT 2 YEARS OLD AND WEIGHS 56 POUNDS. SHE IS A VERY HAPPY AND IS ALSO VERY WELL MANNERED. PEACHES IS A HIGH ENERGY DOG AND WOULD LOVE A NEW OWNER THAT CAN GIVE HER LOTS OF ROOM TO RUN AND PLAY. SHE ALSO KNOWS ALL COMMANDS AND IS VERY WELL TRAINED.

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ABBOTT

ABBOTT IS A BEAUTIFUL ABOUT 2 YEARS OLD AND WEIGHS 9 POUNDS. HE IS VERY FRIENDLY WITH PEOPLE AND OTHER CATS. ABBOTT HAS VERY NICE BROWN TABBY AND WHITE MARKINGS.

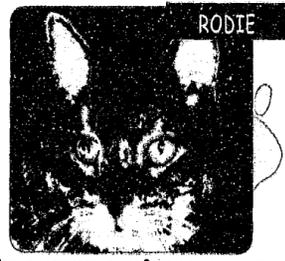
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CHUY

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 LOVAL DOG AND IS DESPERATE TO FIND A PERMANENT HOME. CHUY IS ENROLLED IN OBEDIENCE CLASS.

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RODIE

RODIE IS A LOVELY GUY ABOUT 2 YEARS OLD AND WEIGHS 9 POUNDS. HE GETS ALONG GREAT WITH OTHER CATS AND ALSO LIKES DOGS TOO. RODIE IS VERY PLAYFUL AND VERY WELL TRAINED.

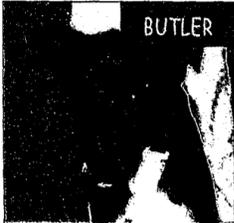
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JACKIE

JACKIE IS A VIVACIOUS, LOVING JACK RUSSELL MIX. SHE IS VERY FRIENDLY. JACKIE IS ENROLLED IN OBEDIENCE CLASS AND IS SCHEDULED TO GRADUATE ON NOVEMBER 22ND.

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BUTLER

BUTLER WOULD LOVE TO FIND A HOME WITH LOTS OF LAND TO RUN AND PLAY. HE HAS LOTS OF ENERGY TO BURN OFF AND HE IS VERY PLAYFUL. BUTLER WEIGHS ABOUT 50 POUNDS AND IS AROUND 1-2 YEARS OLD. BUTLER IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN OBEDIENCE CLASS AND IS SCHEDULED TO GRADUATE ON NOVEMBER 22ND.

SPONSORED BY
RUIDOSO NEWS



LUCKY

LUCKY IS ABOUT 6 MONTHS OLD AND WEIGHS 31 POUNDS. SHE IS A LITTLE SHY AT FIRST BUT WARMES UP TO EVERYONE. SHE IS VERY PLAYFUL WITH OTHER DOGS.

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CARNIE

CARNIE IS A VERY CUTE LITTLE PUP ABOUT 8 WEEKS OLD. WE ARE UNSURE OF HER BREED BUT THINK SHE IS PART HEELER. SHE IS VERY PLAYFUL AND WOULD LOVE A NEW HOME.

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FARRAH

FARRAH IS A SWEET GIRL ABOUT 5 MONTHS OLD AND WEIGHS 22 POUNDS. SHE LOVES TO PLAY WITH OTHER DOGS AND HAS THE CUTEST FACE. SHE IS A LITTLE SHY AT FIRST BUT COMES AROUND VERY QUICKLY.

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LEXINGTON

LEXINGTON IS ABOUT 2 YEARS OLD AND WEIGHS ALMOST 10 POUNDS. HE IS VERY LAID BACK AND ENJOYS PLAYING WITH OTHER CATS.

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ROCKY

ROCKY IS A VERY GOOD LOOKING SOLID WHITE CAT WITH BRIGHT AMBER-COLORED EYES. HE WAS TRAPPED IN RUIDOSO AS A PART OF WHAT WAS THOUGHT TO BE A FERAL CAT COLONY. ROCKY QUICKLY SHOWED US THAT HE WAS IN FACT A VERY SWEET CAT AND CAN DEFINITELY MAKE A GREAT PET.

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ROGER

ROGER IS A VERY GOOD BOY WHO IS ABOUT A YEAR OLD AND WEIGHS 9 POUNDS. HE HAS VERY HANDSOME BLACK AND WHITE MARKINGS WITH A VERY SHINY COAT.

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SCARLET

SCARLET IS A PRETTY LITTLE GIRL ABOUT 8 MONTHS OLD AND WEIGHS 7 POUNDS. SHE HAS A BEAUTIFUL SHINY COAT AND YOU CAN HEAR HER PURRING FROM ACROSS THE ROOM.

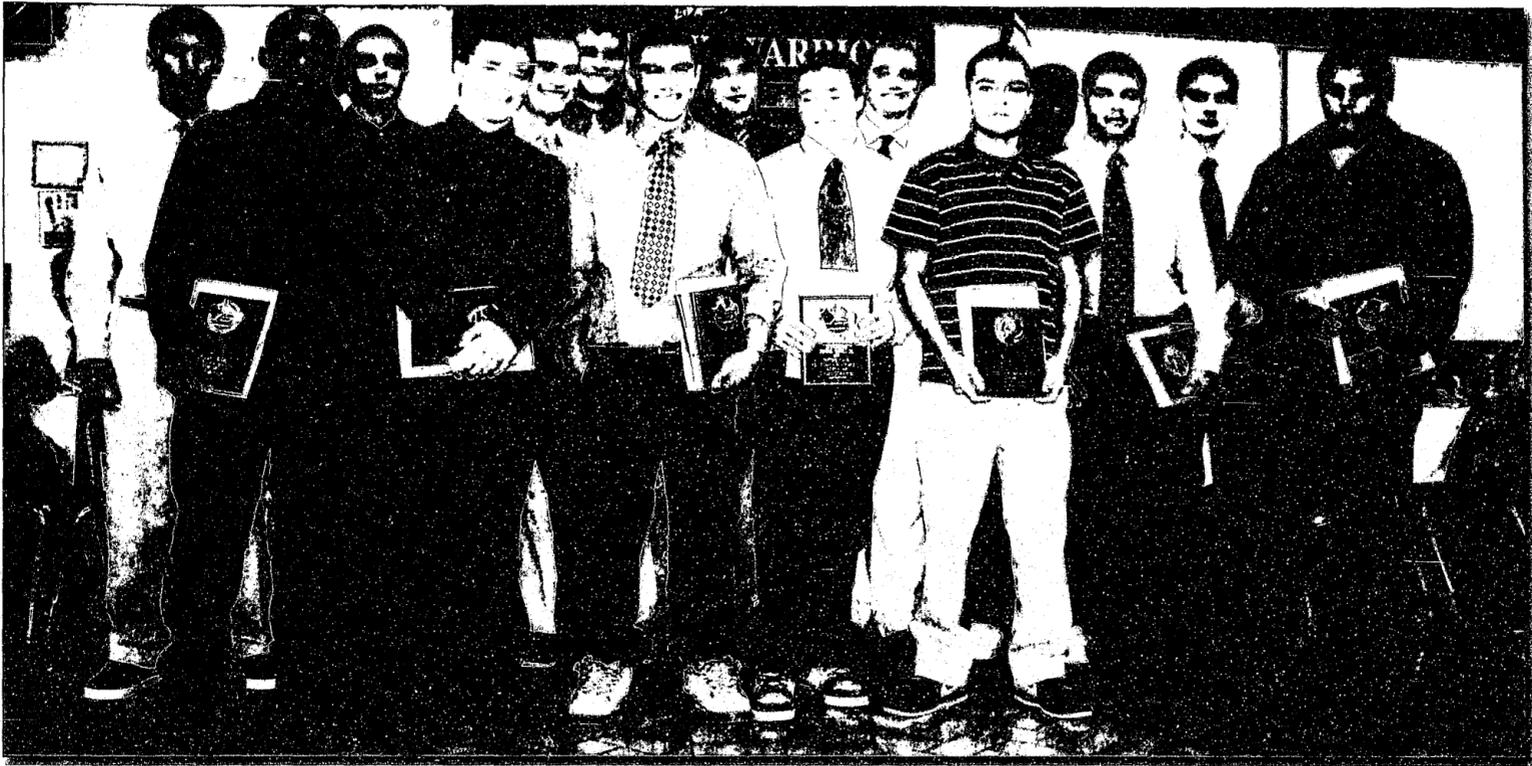
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WINKS

WINKS IS ABOUT 8 WEEKS OLD AND LOVES TO PLAY WITH HIS BROTHER SQUIBBIE. SHE IS VERY SWEET AND HAS A VERY LOU PUPPY.

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All District awards were given to Ruidoso Warrior football players at a banquet Sunday afternoon. Shown, front row, from left, Mathew Carr, 1st team, defensive tackle, Parker Johnson, 1st team, receiver, 2nd team, safety, Kalama Davis, 1st team, running back, 2nd team, corner, Dylan Demarest, 1st team, linebacker, Robert Frizzell, honorable mention, guard, Clayton Blaylock, 2nd team, defensive end and Tanner Chavez, 1st team, defensive tackle, 2nd team, tight end, 2nd team, running back. Back row, Bruce Klinekole, 1st team, defensive end, 2nd team, punter, Denver Coronado, 2nd team, corner, Beto Fernandez, 2nd team, kicker, Warren McCracken, 1st team, offensive tackle, Keoni Davis, honorable mention, linebacker, Sam Williams, 1st team, quarterback, Devon Carr, 2nd team, running back and Josh Reynolds, 2nd team, defensive tackle.

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



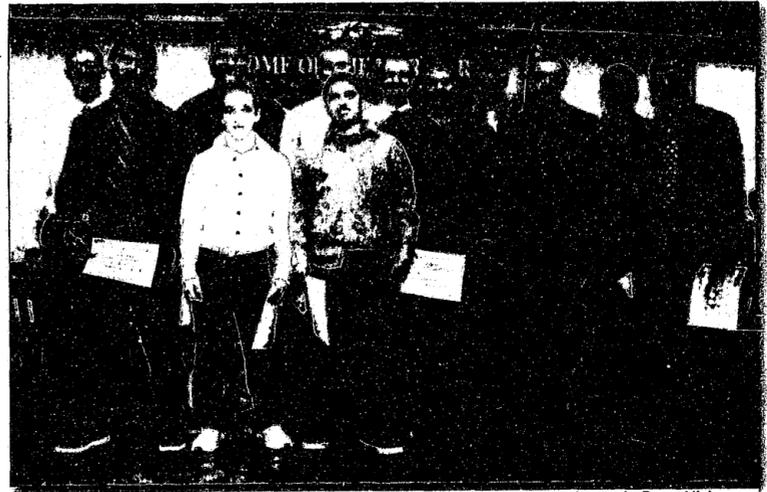
Individual awards were given to, from left, Devon Carr, most improved, Mathew Carr, leadership, Warren McCracken, leadership, Kalama Davis, MVP, Dylan Demarest, The Warrior award, Bruce Klinekole, special teams, Beto Fernandez, special teams, Tanner Chavez, best hitter and Denver Coronado, best hitter.



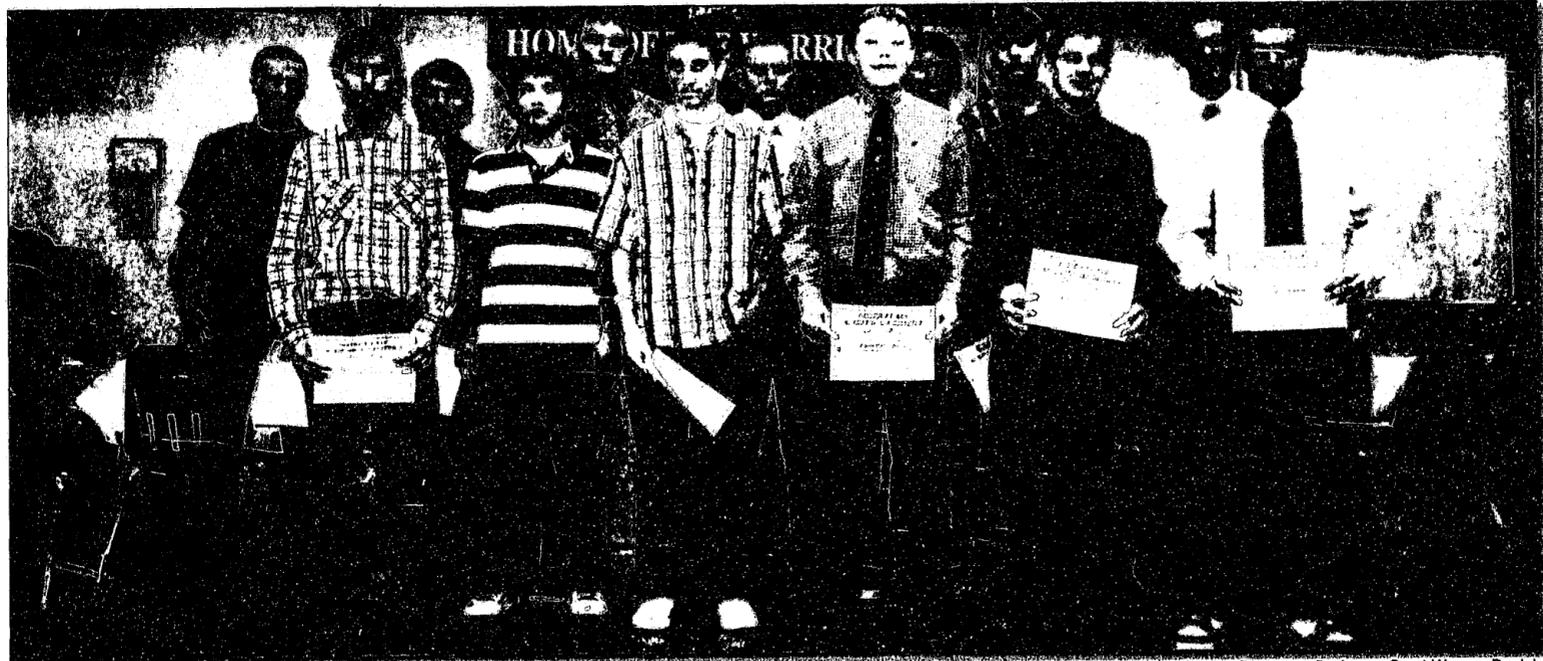
South All-Star awardees for the upcoming North/South All-Star game were, from left, Kalama Davis, running back, Tanner Chavez, defensive tackle, Warren McCracken, offensive line and Dam Williams, quarterback.



Portales players of the week were, from left, Clayton Blaylock, defense, Warren McCracken, offense, Parker Johnson, offense and Sam Williams, offense.



Seniors who played their last football game for RHS are, from left, front row, Armando Baca, Nick Secret, Manny Ruiz, Tanner Chavez, Denver Coronado and Kalama Davis. Back row, Tyler Coleman, Warren McCracken, Beto Fernandez, Sam Williams, Ryan Williams and Clayton Blaylock.



Academic All District players, with a 3.0 or better, are, from left, front row, Brendan O'Connor, Robert Lopez, Dillon Pietsch, Cade Patterson, Parker Johnson and Dylan Demarest. Back row, Grant Weaver, Daniel Marshall, Warren McCracken, Beto Fernandez, Bruce Klinekole, Ryan Williams and Tyler Coleman.

LINCOLN COUNTY

Back to the drawing board

Controversial issue tabled at meeting

ERIK BEARER
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Editor's note: This is part one of a two-part series on zoning issues in Carrizozo.

Carrizozo residents clashed once more over the town's zoning, following months of controversy over the issue of resident Cherie Cloudt's miniature horses, which are living on 12 lots in a Residential-1 area, which only allows, "cats, dogs, poultry or rabbits, and similar small animals," according to Carrizozo's zoning ordinance.

"I do not feel that (the Planning and Zoning board) has properly addressed the differences between Ms. Cloudt and the applicants as far as both being in R-1," Carrizozo Mayor Dennis Vega said during a Monday night town council meeting, referring to previous applications for horses to be kept in R-1 zones that were denied by the council. "It's a tough situation in that the town must be proactive in handling the situation with honor, and to uphold the ordinances as approved by the council, the town council. I just don't think this hot topic has been researched in a full manner."

Trustee Dusty Voss moved to table the item until the board, "as a committee that works directly for this council, serving under this council," had an opportunity to thoroughly review the issues raised in the discussion.

Steve Gore, a county resident with rental properties within the town, said that he had been forced to turn away numerous potential renters wishing to keep animals on his properties, zoned R-1.

"If it's (Cloudt's variance) approved and then

somebody comes to me and wants to rent one of my properties and gets denied the right to put an animal on it, then we'll have a problem. I'll tell you right now, I'll be the first one to file the first lawsuit," Gore said. "I don't want to sue the town I've lived in for 30 years over a horse, but I will."

Cloudt responded that while her horses were the current issue, livestock, both in her R-1 zone and the agricultural zone bordering her, surrounded her.

"There are two horses on the left of me, big horses, there are sheep on the left of me, there are dogs all around me," Cloudt said. "I don't want to bring other people into it because I don't have a grudge with any of my neighbors, I just want to get along with the community and do what is best for the community."

"I've been to the planning and zoning several times, and a lot of the problems come up, and people keep saying 'we need to rezone,' Barbara Culler, a resident of the town, said. "When are you going to rezone?"

Vega responded that the Lincoln County Assessor's Office was the agency that helped the town with zoning, and the office was waiting on survey equipment expected in January. He said that Carrizozo was not at the top of its list of priorities, but it was being looked into.

"I hate to see people made to suffer now for zoning that they may get later," Culler said. "I'm hoping that you guys will think of some way of handling that situation in a correct way so people do not get hurt."

MAKING THE TEAM



Andrea Vigil receives an award from coach Pam Allen, recognizing Vigil as an All-District player. For more photos, see page 1B.

Zoning

Judy Fitz, secretary of the Planning and Zoning board and zoning administrator, has said that the board was currently working to simplify and update the 1974 ordinance and subsequent amendments into a complete, comprehensible document.

"Our purpose is to take a look at our map and ordinance, and identify the zone boundaries by streets so they make some sense," Fitz said.

Hanging on the walls of Carrizozo's Town Hall are several zoning maps, often displaying the same area in different zones.

Additionally, many contiguous tracts of land are split down the middle by zones, such as the Sands Motel on the outskirts of town, which is partially in the town, partially in the county.

Beginning by working on the definitions and purpose of the organization, Fitz said Jennifer Franklin, a new member of the board, was helping to condense and simplify the ordinance.

After the board had a section completed, Fitz said it would be submitted to the council for its

approval, and then would be sent to JulieAnne Leonard, the attorney contracted by the town, to have it turned into a legal document.

Leonard said that in addition to working on the Planning and Zoning ordinances, she also was working on consolidating other ordinances for the town, which had not been consolidated since 1988, leading to other potentially conflicting ordinances.

"As the various zones were identified, many off-the-record variances were issued," Fitz said on Monday, adding that these were among the issues complicating the task of updating the town's zoning.

Additionally, Gary Joe Lovelace, a new member to the board, was asked to join the board by Fitz in order to lend his familiarity with the town's history to the rezoning project and other issues.

Fitz has said that the board was looking at grandfathering in many areas that had historically kept livestock, but no new animals would be permitted after the current livestock was removed or the animals died.

Carrizozo council meets

ERIK BEARER
ebearer@ruidosonews.com

Residents and visitors in Carrizozo will soon be able to enjoy their meal with a beer or glass of wine. At the town council meeting Monday, the town's board of trustees approved a liquor license for Roque Solis, owner of Four Winds restaurant. The establishment is located at the intersection of highways 54 and 380. Solis said that he looked into getting the license after the Outpost closed, leaving the town without a restaurant that serves alcohol. The council unanimously approved the license, with the only question coming from Trustee Dusty Voss, who asked if Solis would serve pitchers of beer. Solis replied that he only planned to serve bottles and cans, along with glasses of wine.

Other business

In other business, Carrizozo resident JLane Zamora also spoke before the council, requesting that maintenance of the little league field be taken back from Valle del Sol, which rents the golf course area,

including the field, as the team had recently obtained an \$8,000 grant from the Hubbard Foundation.

Zamora said that initial repairs would include field maintenance, as well as replacing rusting pipe on the fence and exposed screws in the dugouts. Town Clerk Leann Weibrecht said that the town would be talking with Valle del Sol about taking over maintenance for the little league field.

The council approved the appointment of Gary Joe Lovelace to the planning and zoning board, bringing it up to six members.

Linda Rodriguez of Carrizozo Works Inc. reported that the project to bring a library to Carrizozo was moving forward, with CWI allocating \$800 to hire a grant writer to aid the organization in finding funds for the project.

Police Chief Stephen Barnett reported a quiet month, with only one felony charge and one misdemeanor, both resulting in an arrest. Douglas Whittaker, 51, was arrested on several felony charges on Nov. 17 after firing several shots at Mayor Dennis Vega's home.

History of the Luminarias

New Mexico has a unique culture, rooted in Spanish Colonial times. This comes in the form of tin craft, weavings, colcha embroidery, carved furniture, savory foods, santos and luminarias.

Santos is the art of religious figures and luminarias are the flickering candles in paper sacks.

This "Land of Enchantment" is especially apparent in the tiny flames that sparkle on Christmas Eve in my hometown of Carrizozo and in our neighboring towns of Lincoln and Tularosa. This past Saturday, community members of all ages met at the fire department to prepare the bag and candle sacks that will make Christmas Eve magical in Carrizozo.

"Farolitos" is what my mother Ramoncita Gurule called the miniature lights when she resided in San Miguel County in north-



POLLY E. CHAVEZ

Historical
Potpourri

ern New Mexico. "Luminarias" is what my father, Abraham Sanchez from Lincoln County and southern New Mexico, referred to the candle-in-a-sack Christmas decoration.

The origin of the tiny lights, lining walks and rooftops, is shrouded in myth. The name is debated throughout the southwest. A story says Indians gathered wood and set bonfires on church patios on Christmas Eve. Another story tells how bonfires kept the shepherds warm and guided the way for seeking the baby Jesus.

Early New Mexican colonists piled wood along religious processions and set them afire on Christmas Eve, known as La Noche Buena in Spanish. The bonfires illuminated the way for walking worship-

pers. Later the idea of paper sack farolitos was borrowed from Chinese lanterns. Thus luminarias evolved from bonfires into the present form of farolitos, which is a candle in a paper bag weighted with sand. Although people in northern New Mexico know them as "farolitos," most people still call them "luminarias."

Today, creating luminarias, or farolitos, is a holiday tradition in families throughout New Mexico. Like making tamales and biscochitos, luminaria activity can involve the whole family.

In Carrizozo, Lincoln and Tularosa it is a community effort. They gather for the day-long chore to make the enchanting mini lights, sharing food and placing the pre-



Luminarias line Carrizozo streets.

pared sacks along the streets and walkways to churches.

To make a luminaria, or farolito, you need a brown paper lunch sack. Fold down once twice for extra strength. Put sand or soil inside the prepared bag. Center a small votive candle into this. Place the luminarias spaced at equal distances from one another.

Making, placing, lighting and keeping the candles-in-the-sack creations lit can be a comforting activity. You also can opt for the fire resistant, manufactured electrical variety. A new term for either method has been coined as "bagolitos."

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It's All Good

Speed racer: the durable wooden Giant Vintage Sports Car by Vilac



Dutiful but dull, toys intended to enrich a child once sat at the top of adults' shopping lists – and the bottom of the toy box. No more. Creativity, play value and green credentials combine in some of the season's best bets.

by Tanesha Robinson
CTW Features

Somewhere on the spectrum between techno-dazzle (iPad apps for toddlers, anyone?) and fuzzy-wuzzy bears there's a sweet spot: toys that inspire kids to have fun, stretch their creativity and learn while they play. With a little effort – and some guidance from savvy toy shop owners – any attentive shopper can hit the mark.

Toys that encourage the most beneficial play may not be the biggest spotlight-grabbers. Their attractions are often more subtle and require a shopper to search past the dancing dolls massed out in aisle one.

"Toys today, especially toys in the mass market, you push a button and it does something – it lights up or it sings or it turns around and does all kinds of things. But they're not toys that allow a child to be imaginative and creative," says Jennic Law, owner of KangarooBoo toy store, West Des Moines, Iowa. "The child is playing and having a good time, but the toy is doing most of the actions or thinking for him or her."

Law says classic problem-solving toys like puzzles and blocks are much better for children. She likes boldly colored Green Toys Blocks (\$25, 6 months and up), which are made from recycled plastic milk containers and come in many shapes.

Wendy Lippman, owner of Tlaquepaque Toy Town in Sedona, Ariz., seeks out toys that spur open-ended play. "I like toys where kids are encouraged to use their imagination," she says. Lippman recommends toys that can serve as the focus for role-playing, where kids can act as cashiers or shoppers with a toy cash register, for example. Such toys also set up scenarios to educate children, she says.

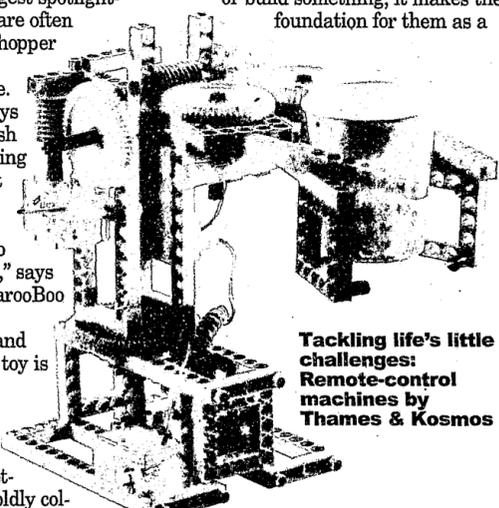
Science-related toys are no longer aimed at little Leonardos and can be packed with fun, says Jim Davis, owner of Kid's Center toy store in Tucson, Ariz. Toys with magnets easily combine science learning with fun. The popular Discovery Set of magnetic blocks from Tegu (\$70, age 3 and up) snap together and hang in balance, a perfect gift to spark the imagination of young children.

Science kits from Thames & Kosmos are perennial award-winners. The Remote-Control Machines set (\$70, age 8 and up) lets kids build 10 different motorized vehicles (including bulldozer, crane, Formula One racer, three-blade dozer, robotic arm) and then guide them with a remote control unit. After following the instructions to construct the standard vehicles, kids can invent their own.

Try re-imagining books as toys. "There's a jillion different topics for books," Davis says. "You just need to know a little bit about the child and then pick out the appropriate story

book." "Press Here" is the title and also the instruction for the new book by Hervé Tullet that launches young readers on a charming adventure. Watch them blow, tilt, shake, rub and tap colorful dots printed on the page to make them multiply, grow and rearrange themselves (Chronicle, \$15, ages 4-8).

KangarooBoo's Law advises avoiding electronic educational and leisure toys for age 5 and under. "If [children] are able to sit down and solve a problem or a puzzle or build something, it makes the foundation for them as a



Tackling life's little challenges: Remote-control machines by Thames & Kosmos

person," she says. She also says toys that involve physical play help children develop fine motor skills, gross motor skills, patience and other mental capacities. Fastrack, a new board game by Blue Orange, pits opponents who twang elastic cords to send wooden disks shooting across the board and through a narrow slot. The first to get all 10 to the other side wins (\$20, age 5 and up).

To get kids up off the couch and develop their physical well-being, Davis suggests new classic toys for outdoors, such as jump ropes and sports balls, and new throw toys, including Rhino Toys' SkyO, a flexible flying ring that's easy to catch and throw (\$8, age 3 and up). The Z-Curve Bow from Zing Toys launches foam arrows a satisfyingly long way (\$20, age 8 and up).

Whatever route you take to finding the best toy for a special boy or girl, Davis says, stop, think and proceed with inspiration. "You really need to know the child and try to engage the child in the purchase you make."

© CTW Features



Green Toys Flatbed Truck and Race Car. (\$33, age 1 and up) This 11-inch blue truck hauls a sleek red hot rod on its back, and has a flatbed that tilts up to allow the car to roll off.



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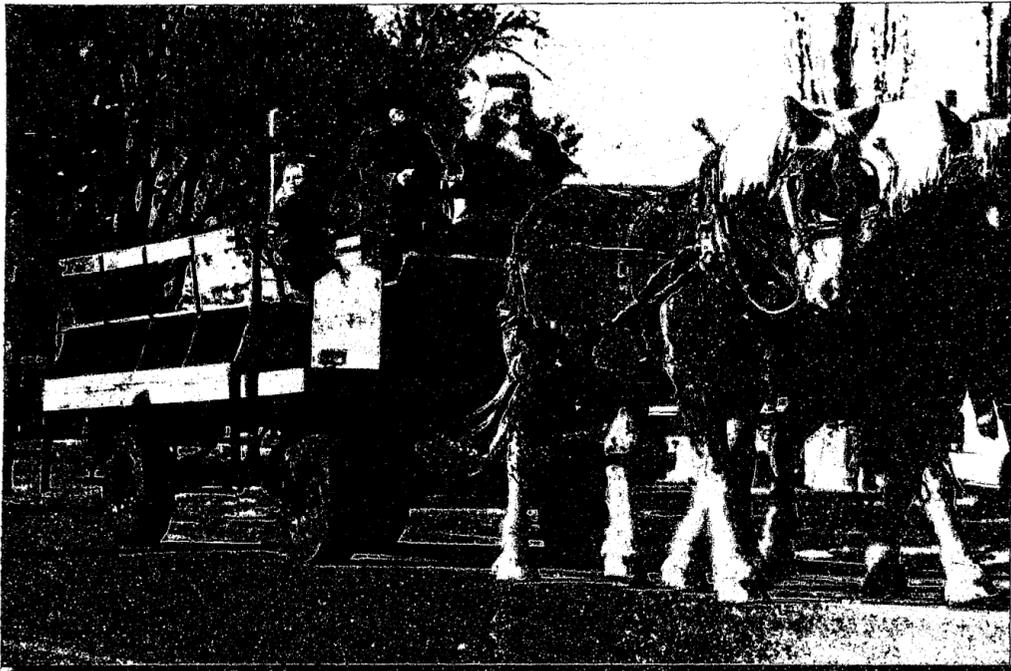
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Cowboy Santa parade



Trinity Park practices her candy-throwing as Santa rides into town, driven by Sally Canning.



Melba Ladd, left, and Anne Curtis were Santa's helpers on Saturday, handing out gifts to all the children.



From left, Cindy Foglesong and her students Jacob Hummer, Cheryl Vance, John Foglesong, and Dennis Klinger played Christmas carols for visitor to the library.



Taylor Thornton and Tate Rowland watch the parade go by, enjoying their hot drinks.

photos by Erik Bearer

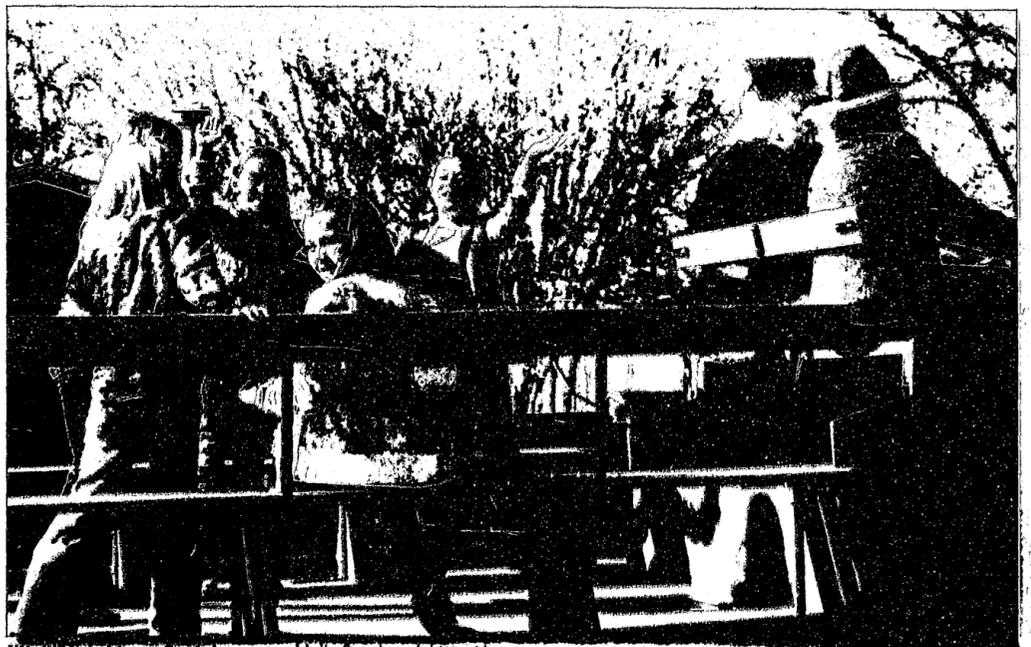
For more photos of this event, visit us on Facebook



Wearing their matching hats, Troy Stone and his son, Bryce, follow Santa's wagon to the library.



Steven Gueraca, left, and Ulises Leonardo hunt for candy after Santa's wagon rolled by.



Hitching a ride on Santa's wagon, Molly Canning, right, and her young posse ride on to the Capitan Public Library.

Cowboy Ball



Korean War veteran Bill Bridges was the Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse honoree at this year's Cowboy Christmas Ball at Mountain Annie's Art Center. Bridges was wounded in the Kumwa Valley taking Jane Russell Hill and spent four months recuperating from his injuries. He now works for Ruidoso Downs Race Track and Billy the Kid Casino.

Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse member Jim Browning leaves the serving line with a plate full of food. Like any good host, Browning was at the back of the serving line.



Walton Stations manager Steve Hall dressed the part for the Cowboy Ball at Mountain Annie's Art Center Saturday night.



Lincoln County Undersheriff Robert Shepperd and wife Jamie work through the serving line.

Authorfest



Charles and Dianne Stallings sign a copy of their book "Death in a Red Desert" for a customer at the Ruidoso Public Library's first Authorfest. Dianne Stallings is a reporter for the *Ruidoso News*.



Graphic Artist Rick Geary displays his books at the Authorfest at the Ruidoso Public Library Saturday. He has written more than 20 books. Geary's works were displayed at the library in May for its Art in Public Places.



Otero Mesa: A true cultural landscape

I was introduced to the Otero Mesa country in 1998 when I traveled there with a group of city slickers from Austin, Texas.

Our guide was the well-known historian and researcher Alex

Apostolides from El Paso. Our primary goal was to look at ancient rock writing and to enjoy the vastness of the wilderness.

I was in awe of the sheer beauty of the landscape and recall hiking through some of the most incredible panels of rock writing. I recall



Cynthia Prelo

taking lunch on a rocky hill overlooking the mesa. The view was astounding; there was not a sound to be heard.

I never expected to return but as things would have it, I returned again March 2008 with a representative from the Otero Mesa Coalition and Campaign to Protect America's Land. This time it was to learn more about a threat from the BLM to drill there for gas and oil.

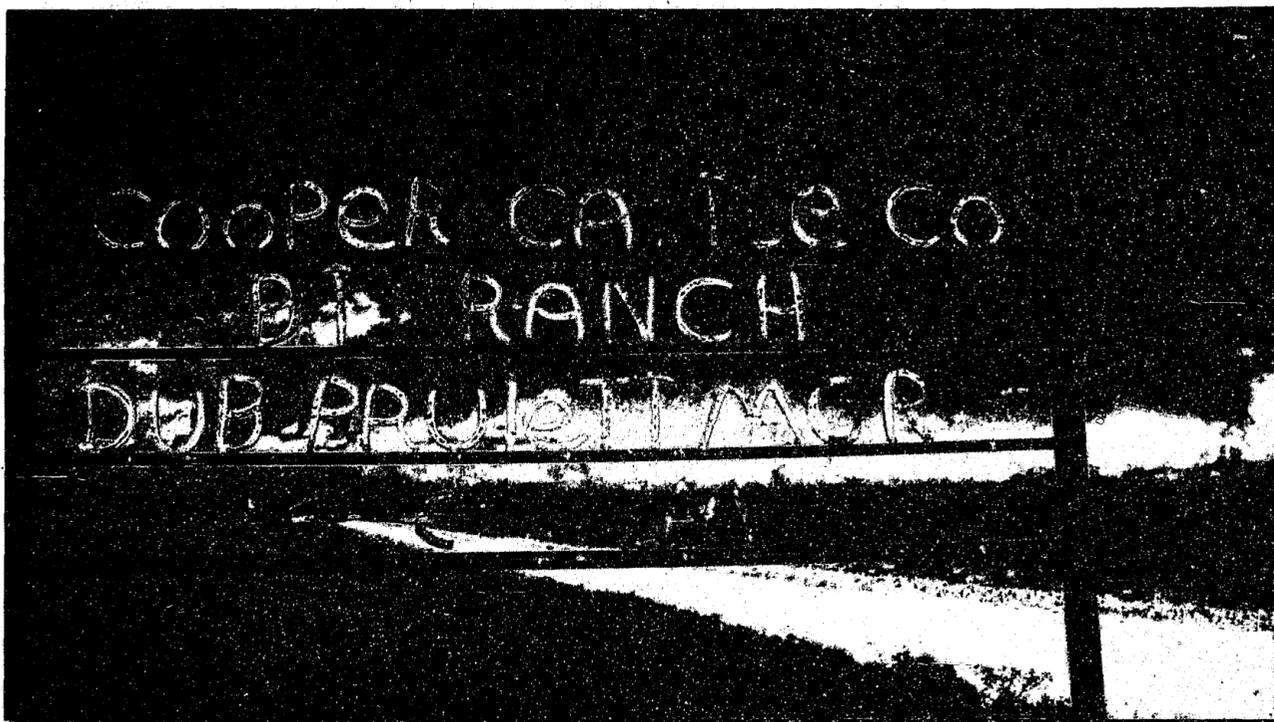
During this particular time, I was interested in the impact that drilling could have on the Otero Mesa and the Salt Basin aquifer beneath the mesa, as well as the effects of pollution if the area were to be developed for long term extraction of industrial oil and gas.

Hydrologist Steve Finch extensively studied the probability of groundwater contamination in 2004 and explained in a story run by the ABJ, that because the land is highly fractured limestone, there is potential for contamination.

Back then, there were two natural gas wells drilled in the Otero Mesa Area, one well was producing 4.4 million cubic feet per day. By industrial standards this would be considered a commercial success, but by preservation standards, one step closer to a disaster.

Today, as I reconnect with the Otero Mesa quest, I realize that the stakes have been raised and there is an even greater threat which includes the mining of Rare Earth Elements. Among their many uses, Rare Earth Elements are those frequently used in modern day electronic products.

One may think they're being "green," driving around in an "eco-friendly" vehicle, but buyer beware, one of the rare earth minerals in great demand is neodymium, a component needed for part of the construction of these so-called eco-friendly



STYVE HORNICK

Otero Mesa's Cooper Cattle Company practices responsible grazing. Ranchers' livestock on the Mesa rely on well water that could be at risk if the aquifer is polluted.



STYVE HORNICK

Mescalero Apache Traditional Elders Alfred LaPaz, right, and Ted Rodriguez advocate National Monument status for Otero Mesa. The petroglyph is an ancestral Apache symbol.

vehicles.

Marketing today's modern devices are often "sold" on false eco-consciousness. Extraction of the rare earth minerals is extremely destructive to the environment. The

extraction process involves the use of chemicals, many of which are toxic. Extraction requires the use of water, and this contaminated water has the potential to seep back into the aquifer.

Additionally portions of the surrounding area are privately owned with well water as their source, of water. Many of these ranches still run cattle for a livelihood. The sheer thought of the potential

for destruction is unimaginable.

We must all stop and visualize the impact this will have if the Otero Mesa were to be industrialized. We would see an overabundance of roads, destruction of the grassland, power lines, toxic waste ponds, introduction of chemical agents and carcinogens, air and noise pollution, an increase of motorized traffic, all that would rape the land and her inhabitants of their majestic beauty.

Land stewards

It should not be gas, oil, or rare earth mineral extraction that draws us to this place. We all have the responsibility to step away from the realm of political and economical agendas, and read the landscape.

It has its own story to tell. The area is home to one of the state's most genetically pure herds of pronghorn, and if we are able to protect them, they will never have to be reintroduced in another place.

The mesa is a wintering ground for migratory birds, including Baird's Sparrow, Lark Bunting, Burrowing Owls and countless raptor species. Southern bird species migrate to the mesa in search of the solitude and vital seeds that only native grassland can provide.

The Otero Mesa is a true cultural landscape; it is a defined geographic area that includes both cultural and natural resources.

The landscape is associated with history, and life. Imagine being in a place where one's ancestors walked, where your feet touch the earth just as theirs did, and where the wind that passes

through the mesa today is a witness to the history of the people.

We are all stewards of this magical and sacred place.

The benefits we reap from the preservation of such a place are without question monumental.

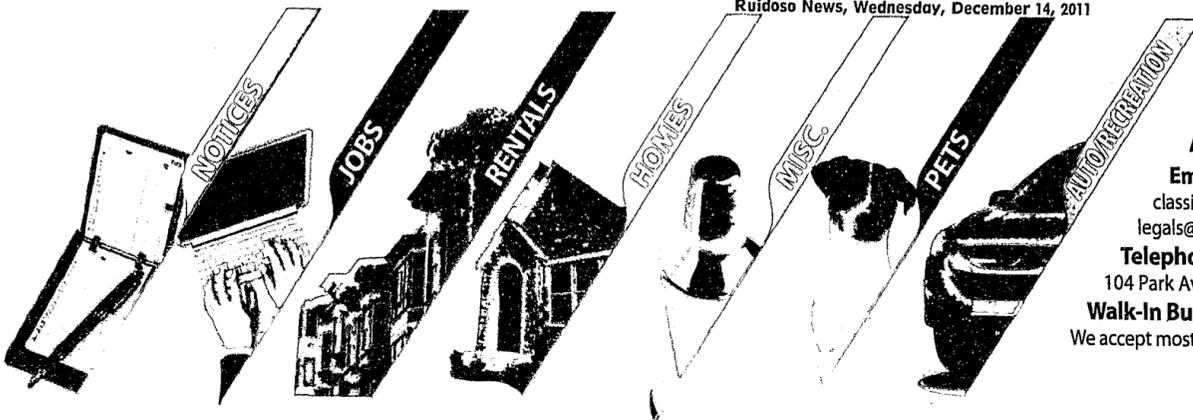
We recognize that through the course of history and time, change is inevitable; yet it is our responsibility to guard such a place for those who will come after us. It is not often that the opportunity is given to do something greater than one's self.

If we are able to save her, she will give as her gift for generations the sense of connection to all of us, through her land, her history and sacred being.

Cynthia Prelo holds a bachelor's degree in education from New Mexico Highlands University. She is a tour guide for UNM Continuing Education Story of New Mexico. She is a past member of the Board of Directors for the NMHPA. An avid historian of the Tularosa Basin, she is in the process of completing her book "Tierra sin Agua." She is a lifelong resident of Otero County.

If you would like to become active in protecting Otero Mesa, email the Otero and Lincoln County Branch of the "Friends of Otero Mesa" at: Apachevoice@aol.com. To raise your awareness about Otero Mesa visit our website: otero mesa.org

We honor Mescalero Apache Traditional Elder Larry Shay and Mescalero Apache School educator Houston Murphy for their efforts to preserve Otero Mesa, their Ancestral Heartland, which still provides refuge and refreshment to the weary soul.



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notices 100-152

Lost Items 124

Reward \$100011... white cargo trailer full of construction tools...

Legal Notices 152

#9534 3T (12)7,9,14 INVITATION FOR BIDS Greentree Solid Waste Authority

Sealed BIDS for the disposal of surplus property will be received by the Greentree Solid Waste Authority...

Bid Forms and a list of vehicles and equipment may be obtained from the Greentree Solid Waste Authority...

#9535 2T (12)7,14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN

In the matter of the Petition of ARIELLE PAULLETTE BOLDISH FOR CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND NOTICE OF HEARING

COMES NOW the Petitioner and hereby gives notice that a Petition for Change of Name was filed in Corralizo, Lincoln County, New Mexico...

Furthermore, Petitioner hereby gives notice of a hearing on the Petitioner's Petition for Change of Name...

#9536 4T (12)14,21 (12)28 STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN

First Tennessee Bank National Association successor thru merger with First Horizon Home Loan Corporation

Plaintiff(s) vs. Case No. #CV-11-278

(1) James S. Atchley w/d James Atchley (2) Rose Atchley

(3) Unknowns: All Unknown Occupants and/or Tenants of The Subject Real Estate

(4) Unknowns: All Unknown Spouses of Any Party Hereto And All Other Persons Living Or Dead Whose Names Are Unknown, Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Real Estate

Defendant(s). Notice of Special Master's Sale of Real Estate

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO COURT ORDER IN THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MATTER, THE SPECIAL MASTER INDICATED BELOW WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER IN LAWYER COMPANY BY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED BELOW.

THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF SAID SALE IS:

Date: JANUARY 13, 2012

Places: The front steps of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 300 Central Avenue, Carrizozo, NM

Time: 11:45 A.M.

Common Description: 1893 Sunny Slope Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345

Legal Description: SUNNY SLOPE, Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, January 26, 1984 in Cabinet D, Slide 212.

Parcel Identification: #21615

Mobile or Manufactured Home: Common Description: None Known

Legal Description: None Known

The date of the Court Order is November 7, 2011, pursuant to

Legal Notices 152

which an Order of Sale was issued on November 7, 2011. The referenced Court Order entered judgment for Plaintiff in the amount of \$28,537.52 plus interest, costs of this action, including the costs of the sale and costs to preserve the property, affixture of the property to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if the environmental contamination on the property, any, and zoning regulations concerning the property, if any.

Special Master: KLEINSMITH & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff: Faisal Sukhiani, Attorney: Philip M. Kleinsmith, 2222 Parkview Dr, NW Albuquerque, NM 87105-2284

STATE OF COLORADO COUNTY OF EL PASO Acknowledged, submitted and sworn to before me on the 15th day of November, 2011, by Philip M. Kleinsmith of Colorado Springs, Colorado. My commission expires: 04/29/12.

Notary Public #9537 3T (12)14,16,21 INVITATION FOR BIDS Greentree Solid Waste Authority

Sealed BIDS to Prepare and Install Compacted Asphalt

#9538 4T (12)14,21 (12)28 STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN

Plaintiff, JOSEPH P. LORENZ, LINDA T. LORENZ, FRENK BANK, N.A. AND OCCUPANTS, WHOSE NAMES ARE UNKNOWN, IF ANY, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE: BIDDING IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned Special Master will on January 13, 2012 at 10:00 AM, from the Entrance of the Lincoln County District Court, 400 Central Avenue, Carrizozo, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendant in and to the following described real estate located in the said County and State:

Lot 3A, site 42A, WHITE MOUNTAIN MOUNTAINS UNIT Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the replat of sites 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56 White Mountain Meadows, Unit 1, thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-Officio Recorder of Lincoln County, New Mexico, December 19, 2002, in Cabinet H, Slide No. 492.

The address of the real property is 572 White Mt. Meadows Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the prospective purchaser of the sale is given notice that should verify the location and address of the property being sold.

Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on October 13, 2010 in the above captioned and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$192,527.00 plus interest from September 15, 2010 to the date of sale at the rate of 3.25% per annum, the costs of sale, including the special master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair.

Plaintiff has the right to rescind this sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

At the date and time stated above, the Special Master may postpone the sale such later date and on such later date the Special Master may specify.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT this sale may be subject to a bankruptcy filing, a pay off, a re-instatement or any other condition that would cause the cancellation of this sale.

Further, if any of these conditions of sale, this sale will be subject to the successful bidder's funds shall be retained, and the mortgage giving rise to this notice shall not be liable to the successful bidder for any demands.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT the real property and improvements hereon will be sold subject to any and all pending encumbrances, easements, and all recorded and unrecorded liens and all recorded and unrecorded special

Legal Notices 152

assessments and taxes that may be due. Plaintiff and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for the sale takes the property subject to the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as read or personal property, affixture of the property to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if the environmental contamination on the property, any, and zoning regulations concerning the property, if any.

Special Master: KLEINSMITH & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff: Faisal Sukhiani, Attorney: Philip M. Kleinsmith, 2222 Parkview Dr, NW Albuquerque, NM 87105-2284

STATE OF COLORADO COUNTY OF EL PASO Acknowledged, submitted and sworn to before me on the 15th day of November, 2011, by Philip M. Kleinsmith of Colorado Springs, Colorado. My commission expires: 04/29/12.

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Unfurn. Apts. - General 328

Apartment for Rent: Ruidoso residential area in includes utilities & washer & dryer, \$500 deposit. 575-935-1911 or 575-937-1025

Large 1br w/ fireplace, 3rd floor, water, \$475/mo, plus deposit. 378-4661

Townhouses/Condominiums 342: 2bd/2bth Ski Vacation condo for nightly or long term, Occupancy 6. Starting at \$790/mo. or \$795/mo. 512-748-3297

Large 2 bed 2.5 bath Condo, Fireplace, fenced yard, \$650 mo water pd 575-973-5553

Furnished Houses 350: Large 1 bedroom cabin in the upper canyon for rent. Amenities: washer and dryer, kitchen, large bedroom, large covered deck, \$550 water & garbage fund deposit \$500. Call Bob 549-5798 and 806-572-8091

Nightly, w/ or long term 2/1, w/ W/D or Mech. By owner 915-920-7867

Unfurn. Home - General 352: 101 Bewley off Carrizozo Canyon 3/2 Clean \$825. 575-973-1743

3br, 1ba, kitchen, living area, w/ fireplace, washer & dryer hookups, Ruidoso. Call for details. 915-919-9199 or 915-490-0488. Ask about our studio for rent.

3 br, 2ba, fireplace, along the river in city, \$675/mo + utilities, 1 yr lease. 915-491-7020

3 story log cabin for rent. Upper Canyon. \$1400/mo + util. 575-937-5918

Close to Sencl 3br, 2ba house! Fenced yard, garage, \$825/mo. + dep. 378-4661

Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bath in Alto. Avail. for rent Jan 1st or sooner. \$1000/mo. www.4torentalhomes.com. For details call 575-808-2860

Now Leasing 1-2 bd All Util. incl. w/ Fire Place, off of Main Dr. 973-8833

Unfurn. Home - General 352: Long term rentals - 6 month lease

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Casa Armijo-Ranch Ruidoso 3 bedroom/2 bath furnished 2 levels \$1300/mo + utilities \$1000 deposit

Spring Rd 3 bedroom/2 bath Fenced back yard Great view of Sierra Blanca Pets on approval \$875/mo + utilities \$700 deposit

Keys 2 bed/2 bath Close to midtown \$800/mo + utilities \$600 deposit

Avalon Court 5 bed / 5 bath Executive home, you won't find anything more beautiful \$1475/mo \$1450 deposit

Chisholm Trail, Alto 3 bed/2 bath \$725/mo + utilities \$600 deposit

Hummingbird Cabins would like the opportunity to manage your mountain home, long term or vacation rental. Sharon 258-3555

Temporary Parks Maintenance Worker, Salary \$9.00 hourly. Applications will be accepted until 4:00pm on Tuesday, December 20, 2011. Complete job description and applications at the Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Dr. Ruidoso, NM 88345. Phone 258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343. Fax 258-5848. Website www.ruidoso-nm.gov "Drug free Workplace" TBOE.

Rooms for Rent 304: Partly furnished Efficiency rooms w/ complete kitchen. Utilities paid. \$425/month plus deposit. 257-2435

Mobile Home Rental 308: 2br, 2ba, Water, garbage sewer paid. Near Walmart. 526-8326 or 526-8329

Cabins, Park model and 1bd units \$325-\$525 mo ref req 257-0972

Capitan remod. 2/2 Rent or sale. Owner financ. 575-973-1743

Furn. Apts. - General 314: Studio Apartment, Non-smoking pets, paid utilities Call 575-257-3144

Unfurn. Apts. - General 328: 1 bd condo, all utilities included, \$875/month. 575-257-2511

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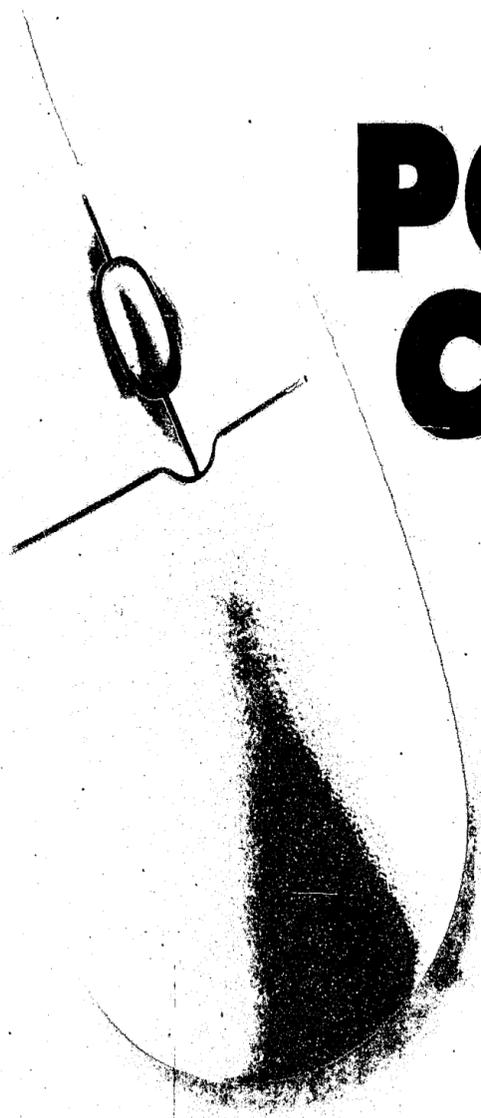
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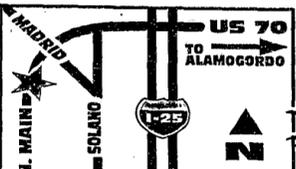
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