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...And Much More!

## From Covered Wagons To Jet Planes

by Agneta Allen Searcy (1977)

This is the story of my Mother, Bertha Virge Skaggs' life, as best remembered and told to me, her daughter, Agneta (Nita) Allen Searcy, September 19, 1977..

Bertha was born on December 20, 1904, near Telequagh, Oklahoma. At this time Oklahoma was not yet a state and was known as Indian Territory. Bertha's Mother's name was Martha Goins, a Cherokee maiden. Her Father was James Monroe Skaggs, a United States Marshall at Claremore, Oklahoma. Their first child was a boy whom they named Arthur. James was a farmer as well as a U.S. Marshall. He was kept very busy because there was many outlaws who made trouble for everyone. After about two years, another son was born to the Skaggs'. They named him Roy Lee. Bertha was born on December 20, 1904. Bertha and her brothers were all registered on the Indian Roll at Muskogee, Oklahoma. Martha's health was not good and she died when Bertha was only two months old.

When Bertha was about three years old, James married RosaLee Giddles, who was also a Cherokee Indian. James continued to farm in Oklahoma and soon the family had a new member, a baby boy named Ray.

When Ray was six weeks old, the family left the Indian Territory and moved to Menard, Arkansas. They traveled by covered wagons, too. The move to Arkansas did not turn out well for the family. The climate was hot and wet and the family, especially the children, suffered from the many illnesses that the change in climate caused. It was not

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## New Mexico Deer Tests Positive For Chronic Wasting Disease

from New Mexico Game and Fish

SANTA FE, JUNE 19 - A mule deer collected from the White Sands Missile Range has tested positive for Chronic Wasting Disease and the director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish declared an Animal Health Emergency Tuesday closing the state to any importation of deer or elk.

Director Larry Bell said the positive test was confirmed Monday, June 17, by the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory. This is the first positive test for CWD in the state of New Mexico.

The disease is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE), a neurological disease that is always fatal to deer and elk. It has been found in free-ranging deer and elk in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Wisconsin, South Dakota and the Canadian province of Saskatchewan.

CWD has been more commonly found on or near

game farms, although there are no such facilities near White Sands Missile Range.

"We are closing the borders to the importation of cervids because Chronic Wasting Disease has been identified here and we want to isolate it and prevent its spread," Director Bell said. Game ranches have been identified as a source of CWD and now that the disease has been discovered here, the state must take all steps to prevent any additional outbreaks or infection.

"New Mexico and all other states are trying to find ways to shore up their importation regulations as we search for a means of managing and preventing CWD," Bell said. Other states that have banned or restricted the importation of deer species include: North Carolina, Michigan, Vermont, Tennessee, Texas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, New York, Colorado, Arizona and the province of Alberta.

Continued on page 8

## The 20 Communities Cost Share Tree Thinning Program

from Bill Duemling, NM State Forestry

The 20 Communities cost share program is designed to reimburse landowners for up to 70 percent of the cost of thinning forest areas or removing ground fuels to reduce wildfire hazard. This is a reimbursement program, meaning that the landowner gets reimbursed for up to 70% of the cost of land treatment after the work has been completed to program specifications.

The program has two basic types of projects: **DEFENSIBLE SPACE** This is for properties that are less than an acre in size and with a dwelling already constructed on the site. The requirements include removing trees as designated in a sample mark (either a "cut tree" or "leave tree" mark), pruning remaining trees from ground level to 5 feet above ground, removing or relocating firewood and other combustible material to at least 30 feet away from all structures, and removing forest



Crowded over-growth of trees, about 1500 trees per acre.

Each individual landowner will only qualify for one or the other type of project, not both. Thus, large land owners with a home on site will only qualify for thinning projects, not defensible space. The rates paid for the work required will vary widely.

All activities covered under cost share have maximum reimbursement rates which cannot be exceeded. We reimburse landowners for 70% of the total cost of a project up to the maximum rates (per acre or per project). If the total cost far exceeds the maximum possible payment, the landowner ends up paying more than 30% into the project. Thus, we do have limits.

The landowner is given documentation on or maximum reimbursement rates. We provide this information at the time of a site visit with the landowner. The landowners need to contact us to get on a waiting list, which is quite substantial. We will contact them at a

later date to arrange for a site visit. At that time, we will map the landowner's property boundaries with a gps unit to determine the amount of area that needs thinning or treatment, conduct a sample mark of trees on the property conduct measurements of the forest stocking level to determine the degree of funding possible, and then advise the landowner of the extent of funding that is allocated to them which is then documented in a "tailgate" practice plan. Landowners must agree with the types and amount of trees removed at the time of the site visit so that basic program standards are met. No major "mixing of matching" of trees to cut or leave will be allowed. There is no funding for projects only partially thinned.

It will take us several months to get to landowners already on the waiting list. There are two phases of cost share funding and the money from the first phase has already been allocated. The second phase of funding will begin this summer for Otero County

Landowners can call the Capitan District Office of the Forestry Division at (505) 354-2231 to get put on the waiting list. Contact: Barbara Luna or Bill Duemling for more information.

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## New Mexico State Forestry Restrictions

Smoking, Fireworks, Campfires, Chainsaws, etc...

Santa Fe - Continuing lack of rain, extremely high winds, and low humidity have caused the Forestry Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) to institute smoking, campfire, fireworks and open fire restrictions, state officials said today. The EMNRD, Forestry Division has **placed restrictions on non-municipal and non-federal lands** (state and private lands) covering 43.5 million acres throughout the State of New Mexico. These restrictions became effective at 8am June 19, 2002 and remain in effect until rescinded. Violation of these fire restrictions is a misdemeanor. In addition, if someone allows a fire to get out of control they may have to pay for the cost of suppressing the fire.

Smoking is restricted to designated areas, within structures and vehicles equipped with ashtrays while on paved or surfaced roads.

Open fires including campfires and fireworks are prohibited. Charcoal grills and wood and coal stoves used outside dwellings are classified as campfires, and are prohibited except in developed campgrounds. The State Forester is allowing exceptions to the use of these items when the cooking or heating devices use kerosene, white gas or propane fuel. This does not mean landowners cannot use charcoal grills in their backyards. Be sure to use caution. If possible, keep a fire extinguisher close at hand.

Within State Parks, the New Mexico State Parks Division will determine which areas within their parks are designated for campfires. For information on this you should call the local State Park Manager.

Open burning, i.e., burning of cropland, fields, rangeland, debris burning, slash piles, prescribed burning or weed burning, is prohibited.

The State Forester grants exception to the open fire restrictions for the planned burning of cropland and fields in Chavez, Curry, DeBaca, Dona Ana, Eddy, Lea, and Roosevelt counties when the following conditions are met:

- The cropland or fields must be irrigated. This exception will not apply to non-irrigated cropland, fields, or rangeland.
- Burning must be done with adequate planning.
- Adequate personnel must monitor and control the burn to assure that it will not become an uncontrolled fire.
- The burn area will be secured from becoming uncontrolled at the end of daily operations; and
- At the beginning of each day, before ignition, the person responsible for the burn must notify the local government fire department responsible for fire protection and follow all local burning guidelines.

**All fuelwood cutting, timber harvesting, and thinning activities are prohibited on days of extreme "red flag" fire danger.** Red flag fire danger will be based on forecasts published the previous day by 6pm on the Southwest Area Fire Operations Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire>, Fire Weather, National Weather Service Fire Weather Forecast for New Mexico.

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## Drift Smoke From Arizona Fires

from Gwendolyn Shaffer, USDAFS

June 24<sup>th</sup> - Smoke from the Arizona wildfires has reached Alamogordo and other areas of Southern New Mexico. It is not unusual for smoke to be carried hundreds of miles by wind. This is not being generated from any new local fires. However, residents should be on guard and report any concentrations of smoke that are dense, low to the ground, or appear to be rising from local mountains or foothills, as the fire danger continues to be extreme.

This influx of smoke will be more noticeable in the evening and night when the air settles in the valleys. We must all stay alert to fire prevention and detection. Help prevent wildfires, there's not a minute to lose!

## Final Touches

### Phase 1 Timberon Road

Alamogordo, May 31 - The final touches are being put on the first phase of reconstruction for the Sacramento River Road by Nielson-Skanska Construction. This Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) \$20M project was funded with "public lands highways" monies.

The earthwork for the construction was very apparent in 2001 and 2002. The work will continue on the approximately 7.7 miles of road, which is part of the second phase of the reconstruction. Construction is planned to begin by March 2003.

Otero County will take jurisdiction of the reconstructed road when completed.

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# "FISHIN' WITH CHIP"

## It Ain't Luck ...

by Chip Chipman, Arizona Mountain Flyfishing

Harvey Phineas Farkle was known as Harvey P. to the adults, Mr. Farkle to use kids. He was without argument the most skilled trout fisherman in our part of Maine. He was a man of independent means and rarely missed a day of the trout season over a period of nearly 40 years.

He knew every foot of every stream within 50 miles of his home. He read everything ever written on trout and knew within days when every mayfly hatch would come off. In the winter he spent several days a week in the high school gym practicing casting a fly into a tea cup 25 to 30ft. away. If he missed, it wasn't by much.

He was often asked why he practiced casting. He would say it was the same reason Ted Williams of the Red Sox - now in the Hall of Fame - took so much batting practice. Williams would get incensed when someone called him a born hitter. He said it was learning all he could about hitting and constant practice that made him the great hitter he was. Harvey felt the same way about fly-fishing.

For some reason, Mr. Farkle took a liking to me. He was my mentor from the end of my first year of high school until I graduated and left Maine. I knew I was no longer a callow youth when he said to call him Harvey P.

A common greeting between anglers is, "Had any luck?"

This greeting always rankled Harvey P. He considered it an insult if his skill at catching fish was even remotely referred to as luck. During my few years fishing with Harvey P., I heard him answer that question several ways.

"Regarding what?"

"No, but I've caught several fish."

"I've had better days, but 50 is still pretty good."

"I haven't fallen in yet or waded over the top of my boots, or stuck a hook anywhere in my body."

"Luck has nothing to do with it."

"I prefer to think of it as a skill acquired over many years of study and hard work."

"It ain't luck when you have been at this as long as I have."

Some of the locals knew that asking Harvey P. if he had had any luck would get his goat, so they would always be certain to ask him. He had some choice words for them. Women and children may read this column so I won't repeat exactly what he said.

You may someday fish a stream in the White Mountains of Arizona, meet a not-so-young fly fisherman, and ask if he has had any luck. If he smiles and says, "No luck at all, but I sure have caught a bunch," you have met a disciple of Harvey P.

*Chip Chipman is a fishing guide and lives in Nutrioso, Arizona. See "Fishin' with Chip" on-line at [www.azod.com](http://www.azod.com).*

# "FROM THE ESTATE"

## Interior Design Trends...

by Carol Alvarado, A.S.I.D. Allied Member

The events of September 11, 2001, have affected our lives in numerous ways, and our home life has become more and more important to us as a result.

A return to basic American values and traditions has sparked new interest in handmade crafts and collecting of Americana. Predictions are that the Early American style will be the big trend in Interior Design for Fall 2002 with avid antique collectors out on the prowl looking for furniture and accessories that create the desired look.

Shaker, Pennsylvania Dutch, and French Country furniture styles will also be in demand with their handmade and hand-painted details. Look for Victorian wicker, Mission styles and Southwestern styles to also be featured. Rush and caned seats will replace heavily upholstered ones to give a more casual, homey look.

Customers will be looking for anything handmade including quilts, hand-woven throws and hand crocheted dresser scarves. (Craftspeople get to work!) Anything with a chicken or pig on it will sell like crazy!

Cooking at home will be another trend again that will drive the interior market. Collecting unique dishes, cookware, utensils and other kitchen items will interest consumers. Mom's apple pie will be a reality as people try old recipes and serve up home cooked meals versus eating out.

Don't forget to fly your American flag often, especially on July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. Enjoy your home and your freedom that only America provides!

*Carol Alvarado is owner of The Estate Vintage Clothing in Cloudfcroft and is a registered Interior Designer.*

## \$333,000 For Lincoln National Forest Restoration/Fire Project With Counties

June 19 — U.S. Senator Pete Domenici today confirmed he has secured \$333,000 to begin funding a unique federal-county forest health and watershed protection initiative in the Lincoln National Forest that is aimed at better protecting mountain communities from wildfire.

Domenici in April pushed the U.S. Department of Agriculture to immediately identify and release funding for the National Forest County Partnership Program, which has been formed by county commissioners in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado.

The Forest Service funding will support a Lincoln National Forest project, a cooperative venture involving Lincoln, Otero, Chaves and Eddy counties, as well as the Mescalero Apache Tribe. The \$333,000 will be used to begin a watershed and landscape restoration project designed to better protect homes and communities from the threat of catastrophic wildfires.

"This funding represents a welcome acknowledgment that our counties are willing and able partners in the effort to ensure forest safety. Considering the severe drought conditions we're living under now, every bit of help is welcome," Domenici said. "I want this funding used to address the most critical fire safety needs around our mountain communities."

In April, Domenici teamed with Senator Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.) and Colorado Senators Ben Nighthorse Campbell and Wayne Allard to seek as much as \$3.0 million in immediate assistance to support the county partnership program. The New Mexico award announced today, when combined with awards for work in Colorado and Arizona, represents \$1.0 million released now to promote the goals of the program.

In 2000, Domenici wrote the law that created the Forest Hazardous Fuels Reduction, or "Happy Forests," Initiative. For FY2003, he has requested \$160 million through the Forest Service wildland fire management program to continue the Happy Forests' cooperative efforts to remove hazardous fuels from federal public lands to alleviate immediate emergency threats to urban wildland interface areas.

## "GIRL TALK" with Laquita Hunter

Go ahead, have another cup of coffee and relax a bit longer over this newspaper. Or perhaps you might like to take a little stroll or read an extra chapter in that book you have been attempting to finish. Indulge yourself, take the time to smell the roses.

I think that after all these years, I am finally learning to 'stop and smell the roses'. At the least, I am learning to do the things in life that I find enjoyable, instead of the things that I think others expect me to do.

In reflection over the past 30 or so years of my life, I realize that my outlook has certainly changed on certain things. But, the truth is, that I can see that most of that change only begin to occur 3 or 4 years ago. That is about the time that we moved here, to the Sacramento mountains.

In one way, the pace of our lives slowed down with Joe's retirement and our move here. Yet, as our priorities shifted, a new kind of busyness began. In another way, we are busier, now, than ever, but it is, mostly, with things we enjoy. Our level of contentment has certainly increased.

I think this change has something to do with being able to sit out on our deck and look out across the desert for a hundred miles and reflect on life and what is important and what is not so important. There is something about those times of quiet reflection that make you realize that life is, indeed, short and one should live that life, as much as is possible, doing the things that bring contentment.

I wish that I had realized earlier in my life to follow my heart. I wonder how my life would have turned out. I wonder if I would have accomplished some great achievement. Do you ever wonder, 'what if'?

The truth is, that perhaps our lives have turned out exactly the way God meant them to. Maybe, my life with all its traumas and trials, its pain and heartache has occurred so that through my example, someone else could learn something valuable. I certainly know

that I have learned valuable lessons that I would not have learned, otherwise, and just maybe, God intends that I pass on what I have learned to someone else.

I have also learned contentment is not brought about by the big accomplishments in life. We have at our disposal all that is necessary to have contentment in our lives. We don't have to go out and buy 'stuff' to make us happy and content. We don't have to have great career accomplishments or a big bank account to be content.

Happiness does not depend on happenings. Most of us think that we are unhappy or discontented due to what is going on around us, but the truth is that our unhappiness is due to what is going on inside of us. In like manner, happiness and contentment come from within; from the things we reflect on the most.

Contentment comes from the small things like sitting on the deck looking out across the desert, from reading a good book and doing the things you enjoy. Contentment comes with knowing your family is safe and well. Contentment comes from helping other people and knowing that you have taken the time to make another persons life a little happier. Contentment is realizing that the Great God of the universe is your personal Heavenly Father and that He loves and cares for you the way that an earthly father loves and cares for his children, only to a much greater degree.

Contentment means taking the time to stop and smell the roses.

## FINANCES

### Should You Prepare A "War" Portfolio?

from Charles Wagner, CFP

Should you be bulletproofing your portfolio for wartime?

That's the recommendation of some "investment advisors," and some investors are listening. But it's not a good idea, caution CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professionals, who believe that fear should never drive investment decisions.

In the aftermath of September 11, military strikes in Afghanistan, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the threat of war with Iraq, suggestions for defensive "war" portfolios have begun to appear. While these portfolios vary, they generally follow similar investment advice: load up on defense-industry stocks, gold, and U.S. government securities. Some recommend oil stocks on the premise that a Middle East war will dramatically push up the price of oil. Others like the stocks of companies producing products that consumers will buy regardless of the circumstances: food, tobacco, medicine and so on.

One defensive war portfolio found on the Internet calls for 70 percent U.S. Treasury securities and certificates of deposit, 10 percent precious coins, 10 percent defense-industry stocks, and 5 percent each of Swiss francs and New Zealand dollars. If disaster really does strike, some would argue that this would be a sound portfolio. But one of the problems, point out others, is that this particular "war" portfolio has been recommended for the past six years—the first four of which saw record stock market growth.

It's the same principle as having a very defensive portfolio whose asset allocation mix is always braced for a market downturn, say planners. Yes, markets periodically falter; as they have the last two years, and a conservative portfolio might serve you well at that point. The problem is that we rarely can forecast a market downturn and in the meantime we miss out on the growth, which, over the long haul, has more than overcome the downturns.

Does the idea of a defensive portfolio sound familiar? Go back to the fall of 1999, when alarmists warned of the impending Y2K disaster and some panicked investors converted all their invest-

ments to cash, often with significant tax consequences and missed market returns.

Unlike the Y2K scare, terrorism is real.

But war has hit Americans before, and in most cases the economy and the stock market have weathered them well. The S&P 500 was up 20 percent within one year after Pearl Harbor, for example, and the Dow climbed 20 percent two months after the start of Desert Storm.

Although most investors will maintain their current portfolios, some panic and switch from long-held asset allocations to these war portfolios. Other investors have hunkered down with a lot of cash, though other factors such as the economy, Enron and the continued whipsawing of the stock market have contributed to their nervousness.

The smarter move, say planners, is to stick with a portfolio that's well diversified and that reflects your long-range financial goals, risk tolerance and personal circumstances. You should be investing only for the long-term, such as for retirement and college, and not let potential catastrophes—whose dimensions are unknown and which could affect portfolios in unforeseen ways—dictate your portfolio's makeup.

A disaster-driven portfolio is usually an extremely conservative one, and as a consequence, investors following them are more likely to fail to reach their financial goals because of inferior long-term returns than because of shorter market declines due to a disaster, argue most planners. Besides, they say, if a national catastrophe were to strike that truly crippled our nation—devastating terrorist attacks or a nuclear attack, for example—even a "war" portfolio would unlikely be of much value in the aftermath.

For those investors who still feel defensive about their portfolio, some planners recommend tips that can help but not hobble the overall portfolio too much. One suggestion is to designate perhaps ten percent of the portfolio to a defensive position, such as U.S. Treasuries, precious metals, cash and real estate. Another is to buy certificates of deposit from financial institutions located in different geographic areas.

But ultimately the best defense, say most planners, is a well-diversified portfolio that over time will perform satisfactorily regardless of the circumstances. A portfolio that holds foreign stocks and foreign bonds, for example, which many planners recommend under normal circumstances, could help blunt the effects of damage to the United States.

*This column is produced by the Financial Planning Association, the membership organization for the financial planning community.*

### ABOUT THIS NEWSPAPER

The Mountain Times is a monthly newspaper that covers Sunspot, Weed, Sacramento, Timberon, Cloudfcroft, Mayhill, High Rolls, Mountain Park, Pinon and the Lincoln National Forest. The Publishers and Editors are J.J. & Kim Duckett, with various writers from the mountain communities. *We are always looking for more writers! If you are interested, call.* We are currently hiring for the Advertising Sales position. The news, stories, history and events in the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico are published monthly by Mountain Times Publications - P.O. Box 190, Timberon, New Mexico 88350. By the way, **THIS NEWSPAPER IS CURRENTLY FOR SALE!** Own a newspaper in the Sacramento Mountains, call for more information.

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# A Little About THE LAW.....

by Sheriff John Lee

The Fourth of July is coming up. Independence Day. A day to celebrate the birth of our Nation, and this year, even more important because of September 11<sup>th</sup>. A day when we should stand tall and proud, and send the message that no one can or will beat us down, not by word or action.

We celebrate Independence Day by using fireworks, the symbol of the war that we fought to gain our freedom. We have always celebrated it this way, and we will continue to celebrate it this way. Therein lies the current problem. Fireworks right now are extremely dangerous given the drought and fire danger. The County Commissioners have recently enacted several restrictions regarding the use of fireworks this year, and for good reason.

**Fireworks are currently restricted in your area to private land, with no fireworks that are airborne, and nothing that sends sparks more than 10 feet into the air.** This means that bottle rockets, roman candles and so on are "nasty no-no's" for this year. We all know that any type of fireworks are prohibited on the forest. **Penalty's for violation of the fireworks ban could include a fine of up to \$1,000.00 and 364 days in jail.** That's the criminal side of it, and the civil side of it if fireworks start a fire can cost in the millions.

## NM Forestry Restrictions... Continued

Local red flag conditions exist when sustained 20 foot wind speeds are 20 miles per hour or greater and relative humidity is 15% or less. Red flag information is also available by calling your nearest EMNRD Forestry Division Office.

**On non-red flag fire danger days, the use of logging equipment or other equipment, including chainsaws, is restricted during the period of high fire danger between 10am and 8pm.** Additionally, the following requirements must be met.

- At all times, equipment using combustible fuel must have a properly functioning spark arrester and a fire extinguisher and shovel must be immediately available for each piece of operating equipment.

- Chainsaws may not be operated between 10am to 8pm, except they may be used until 2pm on landings cleared to mineral soil.

- Loading is authorized to continue until 2pm on landings cleared to mineral soil.

- Operations on mineral soil involving road excavation, watering, grading, surfacing and equipment maintenance may continue between 10am and 8pm.

- A patrol must be posted on site for at least two hours after all equipment operations are completed. The patrol must be able to detect within five minutes, fires that may originate at the site of the equipment operation and be able to report a fire to the responsible protection agency within 15 minutes of detection.

Use of other equipment in forested areas for a purpose other than fuelwood cutting, timber harvesting and thinning is prohibited from operating during the most dangerous burning period between 10am to 8pm. The State Forester grants an exception when:

- At all times, equipment using combustible fuel has a properly functioning spark arrester and a fire extinguisher and shovel are immediately available for each piece of operating equipment.

- A patrol is posted on site for at least two hours after all equipment operations are completed. The patrol must be able to detect within five minutes, fires that may originate at the site of the equipment operation and be able to report a fire to the responsible protection agency within 15 minutes of detection.

The State Forester may allow exceptions to the above upon receiving a written request for an exemption and granting subsequent approval in writing.

An exception from any of these restrictions does not relieve a person from any civil or criminal liability associated with an uncontrolled fire, including costs associated with wildland fire suppression.

You may also find information about these statewide restrictions on the Forestry Division's website at [www.nmforestry.com](http://www.nmforestry.com) or call (505) 476-3350.

## \$ For Energy Programs

JUNE 25 - Senator Pete Domenici today reported that the state of New Mexico has been awarded \$414,000 to support energy efficiency programs.

The grant was provided through DOE's State Energy Program (SEP) to the state energy office to help carry out programs promoting energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power.

The State Energy Program provides funding to states to design and carry out their own energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. The results from this program are directly linked to a large number of diverse and innovative projects in local communities across the United States and its territories. Additional information on the program is available at:

[www.eren.doe.gov/buildings/state\\_energy](http://www.eren.doe.gov/buildings/state_energy)



I know that you know how dangerous this can be, this is just a reminder to all of us to be more careful than normal. If you do celebrate this year with fireworks this year, please take some simple precautions like be sure that there is plenty of water on hand, (another thing that we are short of), clearing a large circle of anything that might burn around the area that you will set off the fireworks, and having shovels, rakes and so on handy just in case.

The restrictions that are currently in effect may change again. If it rains, (fat chance), we may be able to lift the restrictions. If conditions stay the same or get worse, a complete ban of any fireworks may take effect. We all hope that this won't happen, but keep a close eye on the news for changes as time goes on.

Like all of you, I am hoping for a very safe and happy Fourth of July. I ask that we all take extra precautions to make sure that we have the best chance to accomplish this.

Happy Birthday, America!

# WORKING ON YOUR BEHALF... Advising New Mexicans to Give Wisely

by Attorney General Patricia Madrid

(Albuquerque, NM) Attorney General Patricia Madrid today warned New Mexicans to give wisely. "We have received calls from alert New Mexicans suggesting you might receive calls asking you to donate to worthy causes but the calls are really coming from less than worthy solicitors. An Albuquerquean called this office to say she was called and asked to donate money for a local ambulance company. Upon checking with that company it was determined that they do not solicit donations from the public," Attorney General Madrid said.

"News events of the day seem to trigger solicitations of a particular type. With the recent fires in Arizona and Colorado you may find an increase in solicitations from public safety organizations. You may even receive calls soliciting donations for victims of the fires and those calls may or may not be legitimate. The name of a charity may be misleading. To give wisely it is best to do some research," Madrid said.

"One concern we should have when donating money to an organization is how the money will be used. Ask questions and be sure you know who you are giving money to and that the money is going where you intend it to go," Madrid said.

Many good causes and charitable organizations hire telemarketers to make their phone calls, and although that helps the organizations from having to recruit volunteers to phone, much of the organizations' profits go to telemarketing companies instead of each charity. This means it costs money to raise money. Attorney General Madrid noted, "Money spent on fundraising, while necessary, takes away part of your contribution for specific services. Before giving, consumers should ask telemarketers exactly what percentage of their donation goes to cover telemarketing and administrative costs."

"The number one rule about phone solicitations is to never give out a credit card number unless you initiated the call," Attorney General Madrid said. "And it helps if you ask them to send you written information, even though that is not a guarantee

that they are a legitimate organization. It also gives you time to check them out and to think about your contribution carefully."

Attorney General Madrid advises consumers to use the following tips to help decide whether or not to give to a phone solicitor:

- You can research charities through the website of Office of the Attorney General at [www.ago.state.nm.us](http://www.ago.state.nm.us) to see if they are a registered charitable organization in good standing.
- Call the Better Business Bureau and check on any complaints about the organization (online at [bbb.org](http://bbb.org)).
- Get an address and phone number of the organization and call them back later. Ask where they are located when you call them back.
- Ask for written material on the fund campaign and the general organization.
- Ask if the person you are talking to is a hired telemarketer, and if so, how much of the money raised in the campaign goes to the telemarketing company and not to the charitable organization.

Although these are good general rules, consumers are also urged to remember that an organization may be perfectly legitimate even though they have hired telemarketers to raise money for them. Several legitimate New Mexico organizations are using telemarketing firms to raise money.

"Be an aware and informed consumer," Attorney General Madrid said. "It is important to recognize that senior citizens are frequently solicited for donations. Discussing charitable giving with senior family members can help them develop ways to give wisely. When you give remember that it is your money and your choice."

## Over Two Billion Dollars Approved to Fight Fires

Senate Appropriations Committee Approves FY2003 Interior Appropriations Bill

WASHINGTON — As fires continue to rage in the West and federal firefighting budgets near depletion, U.S. Senator Pete Domenici today confirmed that the Senate Appropriations Committee has approved \$2.02 billion to fight fires in FY2003, but says there remains a critical need for more immediate funding.

Domenici, a member of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, said the funding was today approved as part of the FY2003 Interior Appropriations Bill. Domenici indicated the bill includes funding to support wildland fire management activities for the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, including support for his "Happy Forests" hazardous fuels reduction initiative, and forest thinning activities in the Santa Fe watershed.

But the lawmaker took issue with the decision by the Senate Appropriations Committee chairman to strip \$217 million out of U.S. Forest Service and BLM wildland fire management accounts in FY2003, and said he would work to restore the funding and seek emergency resources to fight fires this year.

"I am deeply concerned about the situation surrounding the raging forest fires in the West, including New Mexico. The latest update from the Forest Service is that 18 large fires are burning in eight states with more than 2.6 million acres of land already burned," Domenici said. "The situation is only going to get worse this summer."

"Now is not the time to be reducing firefighting resources to the BLM and Forest Service, even for FY2003. We need emergency funding this year, in FY2002, to allow these agencies to fully fight the fires without disrupting other agency activities," he said. "This bill contains no emergency firefighting funding, and there is no firefighting funding in the FY2002 emergency supplemental appropriations bill now in conference."

During today's mark-up, Domenici outlined for his colleagues on the committee his intent to seek up to \$900 million in emergency funding needed this year to support BLM and U.S. Forest Service firefighting needs. The Senator agreed to withhold his amendment after receiving assurances that the funding shortfall would be considered when the bill goes to the Senate floor.

"We cannot wait. The West is in flames, and the fire season hasn't even begun in the northern Rockies or the Pacific Northwest. We have already burned 2.6 million acres of forest this summer, twice as many acres as had burned at this same point during the devastating 2000 fire season. I will work to see that this bill is expedited so that these resources are available to our public lands agencies as soon as possible," Domenici said.

Within the \$2.02 billion included in the bill, \$1.4 billion is approved for U.S. Forest Service wildland fire management activities. This includes \$160 million to support Domenici's Happy Forest initiative to continue hazardous fuels reduction work on Forest Service lands.

Also within this Forest Service account, \$1.5 million is provided at Domenici's request to speed forest thinning work in the Santa Fe watershed. In an April hearing, Domenici said that with the current \$400,000-per-year budget, it could take at least 15 years to bring the Santa Fe watershed to a state where it is less exposed to fire dangers.

For firefighting activities on Bureau of Land Management lands, the bill is slated to include \$653 million for wildland fire management activities. Within the total, \$111.25 million will go to support Happy Forest fuel load reduction on BLM lands.

In 2000, Domenici wrote the law that created the Forest Hazardous Fuels Reduction, or "Happy Forests," Initiative. For FY2003, he requested the funding to continue the Happy Forests' cooperative efforts to remove hazardous fuels from federal public lands to alleviate immediate emergency threats to urban wildland interface areas.

This week, Domenici and other colleagues on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee asked committee chairman, Senator Jeff Bingaman, to soon schedule a hearing on the National Fire Plan. The Senators wrote that an oversight hearing could be critical as congressional appropriators develop the bills to fund forest management programs next year.

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# THE FORESTER'S LOG

## "Contemplating Closures"

by Mary Stuever, Consulting Forester

The publicly owned, national forest land is closed, and like most avid outdoors enthusiasts, I do not like it. I'll be the first to admit that the forest is "tinderbox" dry. Even back in May walking through an aspen grove I felt like I was stomping through a bowl of cornflakes. Aspen leaves—which typically in late spring are matted together in a moist floor pad formed under heavy snow pack—were individually curled and brittle. Streams that should have been swollen were mere trickles. No matter what altitude I walked around in, evidence of drought was everywhere. When I reached a vantage point, I spotted smoke from a wildfire across the valley. I knew it was only a matter of time before officials would be limiting access to our public lands.

Though I understand the arguments in favor of forest closures, I view the decisions as knee-jerk reactions. I am reminded of similar policies made with the same shortsighted management mentality that created the heavy fuel conditions now contributing to these closures. A hundred years ago, forestry officials declared war on fire in the woods and vowed to keep it out of the woods. Today's catastrophic fires are strongly linked to that lack of insight. Now, forestry officials have vowed to keep people out of the woods. I think this is another policy that also shows a lack of insight.

We are told that closures are absolutely necessary to prevent catastrophic fires from human causes. If we believe this dogma, we might worry that the friction of our rubber-sole running shoe on the forest trail might spark a disastrous outcome. Yet, we each know the rule is not intended for us, but for the other guy—that gruesome, stupid other guy who would think nothing of lighting up a cigarette, a candle, or a campfire in these desperately dry conditions. We could learn to hate that guy, whose possible existence is keeping the rational, common sense-oriented, rule-abiding folks like ourselves banned from the forest.

Just like in medieval times, the King's Forest is off limits to the common people. There is something that seems un-American about this reality. Sure, we are facing many superlatives today... there were never this many people wanting to be in the forest before; and according to various weather and tree-ring records, the forest has not been this dry in 45 years, and we seem to be coming out of a wet cycle that has lasted the past 500 years. Some scientists are now predicting that the next 25 years are likely to be very dry. If these predictions prove true, and the government continues reacting in this manner, people are going to have limited access to the public forest for the next quarter-century! I believe our founding fathers would have serious reservations with this old-world, edict-posting policy.

I agree the current wildfire danger situation calls for desperate measures, but keeping people out of the forest seems as short sighted as preventing the natural role of fire in the first place. Extremely aggressive fire-fighting policies helped unnaturally massive amounts of fuels accumulate in the forest, which adds to the severity of today's fires. Now, I fear that separating people from the environment will have similar long-term repercussions.

In 2000, the federal government announced the National Fire Plan to coordinate a long-term approach to addressing the wildfire problems in our country. There are five parts of the plan—fire suppression, rehabilitation of burned areas, fuels reduction programs, community programs, and accountability. At the time I felt there should have been a sixth section for environmental education, and today I am even more convinced this need.

Instead of trusting our citizens with the knowledge to behave appropriately to environmental conditions, we chose to further isolate our mostly urban-based population from understanding the land. Rather than exclude people from the forests and wildlands, this is the time to be linking people to these environments. We need to educate our populace on the dangers of dry conditions. Our children to need to learn to associate walking through a corn-flake aspen stand with being very careful with ignition sources. We need a society that truly loves the forests, are deeply connected to the ecosystem, and will fight to protect our resources. We need these people to be out there now, patrolling the woods for possible offenders.

For that "other guy", the one who just won't get the message any other way, we also need to increase the consequences for abusive behavior. Offer a \$1000 reward for anyone who turns in a smoker who has had the audacity to light up outdoors, or

the camper who thinks she has to use a candle to keep mosquitoes at bay, or the kids who have the nerve to start a bonfire. Fine the offenders to cover these rewards and, if the infraction results in an actual wildfire, fine them for the suppression costs as well. Make it known that starting a fire through ignorant behavior will have severe ramifications.

Already the government is using increased resources to communicate closure notices and enforce the forest lockout. Instead of rallying the information pipeline to notify people of the closures and staffing the forests to enforce the lockout, we could use this same amount of increased energy to educate the public on proper behavior in fire-prone areas.

In general, I believe in Americans. We have a tradition of being intelligent, self-proficient, and resourceful. If given the right information and respect, our people will be careful and refrain from starting fires in these dry conditions. To me, dry conditions should challenge our resource agencies to increase environmental education efforts rather than limit our access to public lands.



Author Mary Stuever stands at the closed entrance of one of her favorite running trails. Already many forest closures have been in place for over a month, and will remain so until the monsoons come.



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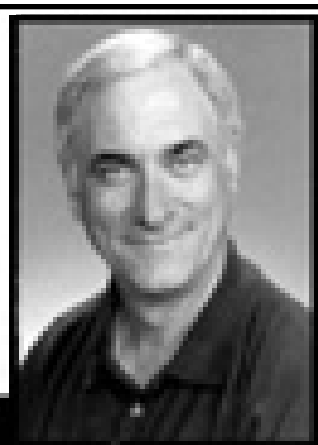
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# PLANT NEWS

## "Mites Moths Vinegar"

from Bob Cain, Forest Entomologist

**SPIDER MITES** Dry, warm conditions have led to increases in spider mite populations on many plants in New Mexico. Spruce spider mites and others have caused dramatic damage this year on spruce and junipers. Dust covered webbing covers branches and foliage and protects the mites. Spider mites feed with whip-like mouthparts that damage plant cells and cause flecking. Heavily damaged plants become discolored gray or brown. Leaves or needles may scorch and drop prematurely.

Adequate watering is important in reducing stress caused by spider mites. Periodic spraying of plant foliage with a forceful jet of water can help control mite populations by washing off mites and the dust. Water sprays may also interfere with egg laying by removing the webbing.

Insecticides are usually not necessary and can sometimes even aggravate problems by killing mite predators. Spider mites can develop pesticide resistant strains and make control difficult. If chemical control is warranted on heavily damaged, high value ornamentals there are several that may be effective. Acephate, dimethoate, dicofol, insecticidal soaps, and sulfur dust all have some effectiveness against spider mites and are allowed for home use on ornamentals. Commercial use pesticides with some effectiveness against mites include abamectin, bifenthrin, and hexythiazox.

**DOUGLAS-FIR TUSSOCK MOTH** A forest infestation of Douglas-fir tussock moth was discovered in May on a ranch east of Raton on the Colorado border. The heavy defoliation was detected in last year's aerial forest insect survey and was thought to be an exceptionally severe budworm infestation. Because of the defoliation intensity, Arnie Friedt of State Forestry's Cimarron District and I felt the site warranted ground checking. It was a surprise to find no evidence of western spruce budworm, but instead abundant cocoons and egg masses of Douglas-fir tussock moth. Heavy tree damage and mortality were already evident in the predominantly white fir stand.

Douglas-fir tussock moth is a common urban tree defoliator in New Mexico's mountain and foothills communities like Raton, but it is uncommon as a forest defoliator in the southwest. Forest outbreaks in Colorado are also rare and have reportedly collapsed after about three years. In New Mexico we currently have another forest outbreak of Douglas-fir tussock moth east of Cloudcroft in the Sacramento Mountains. Historic forest outbreaks of the moth in New Mexico occurred in the late 1970's in the Sandias and in the canyons around Los Alamos and in the late 1950's in the Capitan Mountains where several thousand acres were defoliated. In the Northwest part of the US, outbreaks cover hundreds of thousands of acres and can cause severe timber losses.

Homeowners in foothills and mountain communities with landscape spruce, Douglas-fir, or white fir should check those trees now for the presence of hairy, colorful caterpillars. The heaviest defoliation occurs in late June. Control with pesticides is warranted on high value ornamental trees when populations are high. Heavy feeding from tussock moth caterpillars can kill trees or cause top killing and tree deformity.

**VINEGAR AS AN HERBICIDE** Leonard Lauriault, Forage Agronomist at the New Mexico State University Agricultural Science Center at Tucumcari provides the following information published in the Detroit Free Press:

Federal researchers say vinegar can be used as a weed killer. In a study released in May, researchers tested vinegar's effect on common lamb's quarters, giant foxtail, velvetleaf, smooth pigweed and Canada thistle in the field and in a greenhouse.

A 5-percent concentration of vinegar, similar to that found in household vinegar, killed top growth on Canada thistle within a day and a 20-percent concentration of vinegar worked in two hours, according to the report by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Research Service in Beltsville, Md. However, Canada thistle could return because it is a perennial.

The weaker solution was effective on young weeds up to two weeks old; older, more mature plants required 15-percent to 20-percent concentrations. Anyone applying the stronger concentration should wear protective gear and take other precautions because it is acidic.

Vinegar in higher concentrations is available from food suppliers that sell products to fruit processors or process fruits and vegetables themselves.

When applied to the weed foliage, the acid in the vinegar acts as a contact herbicide that kills the plants but does not persist in the soil or cause water or other pollution, according to research agronomist Jay Radhakrishnan, who worked on the project with John Teasdale and Ben Coffman.

Several commercially available herbicides already use vinegar as an ingredient. The study used vinegars made from fruits or grains, which meet organic farming standards.

Researchers plan to put additional information on the USDA Web site and in the future plan to ask gardeners who use vinegar to kill weeds to share their experiences.

For more information, see [www.barc.usda.gov/](http://www.barc.usda.gov/), select Animal and Natural Resources and then Sustainable Agriculture Laboratory



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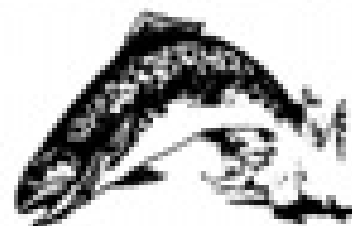
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**OFFICE HOURS** The Sacramento Ranger District Office, located in the Village of Cloudcroft, at 61 Curlew, is open Monday - Friday 7:30am - 4:30pm.

**INFORMATION REQUESTS** Questions regarding management practices of the Sacramento Ranger District may be addressed to: Frank Martinez; Sacramento Ranger District: PO Box 288, Cloudcroft, NM 88317. The phone number is (505) 682-2551.

The Sacramento Ranger District is within the Lincoln National Forest. Questions regarding management practices for the Lincoln National Forest may be addressed to: José Martinez, Forest Supervisor, Lincoln National Forest, 1101 New York Ave., Alamogordo, NM 88310. The phone number is (505) 434-7200.

There are two websites containing visitor and forest management information regarding the Lincoln National Forest. They are:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/lincoln/>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/largewatershedprojects>

**TOLL FREE FIRE DISPATCH** There is now a 24-hour toll free phone number to call and report possible wildfires. The number is 1-877-695-1663.

**NEW THIS MONTH**

**FOREST CLOSURE** Extreme fire conditions this spring have resulted in the closure of most of the Lincoln National Forest. Some recreation sites will remain open as explained later in this article. Permit holders, contractors, and others who need to enter the closed areas to inspect facilities or perform necessary work may request an entry permit at the District Office in Cloudcroft. Activities that pose a potential risk of fire or are otherwise unsafe will not be approved.

**CAMPING** The following developed sites **will remain open** during the National Forest closure as long as conditions allow - Family campgrounds: **Silver, Silver Overflow, Saddle, Apache, Sleepy Grass, Deerhead, and Pines.** Group campgrounds: **Aspen, Black Bear, Slide, Upper and Lower Fir.** Recreation sites under special use permit: **Sunspot Visitor Center, Camp Dale Resler, Camp Scott Able, and Ski Cloudcroft.** **These areas will be open for selected activities that pose no risk of fire.**

The following areas **are closed** until further notice. Picnic sites: **Trestle, Karr Canyon, and Sleepy Grass.** Campgrounds: **Upper Karr and James Canyon.** Vistas: **Tunnel, Trestle, Haynes, Nelson, and Cathey.** **All trails and trailheads including Bluff Springs, Rim, La Pasada Encantada, Osha, and Trestle.** **All dispersed (primitive) campsites are closed including Sacramento River, Dry Canyon, Bailey Canyon, Russia Canyon, Bear Wallow, Pinyon Draw, James Ridge, and Atkinson Field.**

**FIRE UPDATE** The closure of the Lincoln National Forest has been a major inconvenience for visitors and residents alike. The good news is that there have been no human-caused fires on the Sacramento Ranger District since the closure began. The only exception has been two small fires caused by down power lines that were quickly extinguished. Law enforcement and fire prevention patrols are continuing seven days per week and violators are being fined, but for the most part, the public has complied with the closure. We ap-

preciate the tremendous support for the closures and restrictions and hope the rainy season brings relief soon.

The rehabilitation work following the Penasco Fire is proceeding quickly to get ready for the inevitable runoff that accompanies the summer rains. Crews and equipment have constructed earthen dams and other flood-control devices. Grass seed and mulch have been placed on the watersheds to help reclaim the soil and prevent erosion.

**SLASH PIT** The slash pit located on Highway 244 near the junction of Highway 82, east of Cloudcroft is temporarily closed due to the National Forest closure. We plan to reopen the pit as soon as possible after the Forest closure is lifted. Please check with the District Office for the new schedule. We regret the inconvenience that this causes and ask for your patience.

**FUELWOOD** All fuelwood cutting and gathering is suspended during the Forest closure. Wright Springs Fuelwood Area will be available after the closure is lifted. We also plan to reopen an area off of Forest Road 64 as well as the thinned material in and around Silver Campground on Highway 244. Please see Don Sadauskas in the District Office for permits after the closure is lifted.

Two Youth Corps Work on Conservation Projects. The Southern New Mexico Youth Corps began work on June 3 with trail construction projects under the guidance of one of our experienced trail-crew staff. SNMYC completed construction of the Road Canyon Trail #234 near Sunspot. The crew then began construction on the Cathey Canyon Trail #105A

also near Sunspot. Both of these trails are non-motorized additions to the 50-mile Cloud-Climbing Rail Trail Loop, began by the New Mexico Rails-To-Trails Association. After completing the trail assignment, the crew was shifted to wildlife conservation projects funded by the Scott Able Wildlife Rehabilitation Project. They are helping construct the Wayland Wildlife Trick Tank (see photo).

The second youth conservation corps is sponsored by WERC: a consortium for environmental education and technology development and conducted in partnership with Chaparral Middle School, New Mexico State University, Holloman Air Force Base, the Space Museum, Rails-To-Trails, and the Forest Service. The main project planned for this year is the construction of a trail from the Space Museum to Indian Wells. The purpose of the project is to provide educational opportunities in the fields of ecology, archaeology, and geology.

**RECREATION EVENTS** The following recreation events are authorized under special use permit. The events were scheduled prior to the decision to close the National Forest and will take place unless the fire danger forces their cancellation. No new recreation event permits will be issued during the closure.

\*Wapiti 3D Archery Tournament - Location: Ski Cloudcroft - July 14. Sponsor: Butch House.

\*Amtgard Gathering - July 25-28. Sponsor: Recreation Resource Management.

\*Mile High Motorcycle Endurance Event - September 8. Sponsor: Bobby Stocks.

**RECREATION** The National Recreation Reservation Service is taking reservations for the following Group Campgrounds:

- \* Aspen
- \* Black Bear
- \* Lower Fir (upon completion of reconstruction)
- \* Slide
- \* Upper Fir (upon completion of reconstruction)

To make a reservation, call 1-888-444-6777. A website is available that allows customers to check availability dates and make on-line reser-

vations. Reservations may be made from 5 days to 1 year in advance. The web site address is: <http://reserveusa.com/>.

**BUYING LAND?** If you are purchasing land, always make sure that it has legal access from a public road. If there is other private land between the land you are purchasing and a public road, there should be some type of documentation that you will have access across that land. Documentation may include an easement or documentation in the deeds. (Forest Service personnel are not trained in legal matters - if you have any questions, please consult a professional.) If you must cross land administered by the Lincoln National Forest to get to your private property i.e., your property is surrounded by Federal land and no public road accesses it, please give us a call at the Ranger Station and speak to Brad Orr.

**HUNTING AND FISHING** Many outdoor enthusiasts visiting the Lincoln National Forest for the first time may be looking for hunting and fishing opportunities. Many big game hunting licenses must be applied for through a lottery system with New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, some hunting and fishing licenses may be purchased over the counter at various locations. Currently, the closest locations to purchase these licenses are in Alamogordo located at "The Game Trail", "K-Mart", "Mayhill Feed and Supply", and "Wal-Mart."

**FUELWOOD INFORMATION** New Mexico state law requires that any person cutting, removing, transporting, or selling any woody materials must have the written consent of the owner or proof of ownership with them. The requirement is for woody materials that are cut from public or private land.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs at Mescalero sometimes has fuelwood for sale. Call (505) 671-4410 for information. Several sawmills and timber companies also sell firewood. Contact them directly for more information.

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**PECOS RIVER FISH KILLER IDENTIFIED**

ROSWELL, JUNE 6 - The agent that killed thousands of fish in the Pecos River near Loving last week has been identified as golden algae, said Shawn Denny, fisheries manager for the Southeast Area. Texas Parks and Wildlife confirmed the presence of golden algae, *Pyramnesium parvum*, in a water sample taken from the Pecos River.

Hot weather and suppressed water flows lead to a golden algae bloom, which releases a toxin that interferes with the oxygen absorption by killing blood platelets in fish and mussels. It does not affect people or aquatic insects.

Golden algae blooms were linked to a massive fish die-off in Red Bluff Reservoir and 200 miles of the Pecos River in Texas 1988. In April of this year, it led to a fish kill in the Pecos just south of Red Bluff. Colorado also experienced a problem with golden algae this past week when a bloom killed nearly all the fish in a popular fishing reservoir.

The only known treatment for golden algae is a high dose of ammonia, which is not possible in a natural setting. Several facilities are studying the organism, but little is known about its growth environment or dissemination.

**SANDIA BEAR STUDY BEGINS JULY 1**

SANTA FE, JUNE 6 - Bears in the Sandia and Manzano Mountains are the focus of a new three-year study by the Department of Game and Fish scheduled to begin July 1, 2002. At least 15 nuisance bears will be radio-collared per year and tracked by airplane to determine their movements, home range and what impact bear removal has on the total population in the area.

"There's immense interest in this population because of its proximity to Albuquerque," said Bill Dunn, Department bear program manager. "There is concern over the high harvest we had and the number of bears we moved last year. Are we adversely affecting the number of bears in the mountain range? These data will tell us."

The Sandia bear population was reduced an estimated 38 percent from 123 to 76 bears - last year, said Dunn; a result of the combined effects of hunter harvest, depredation kills and relocation. Biologists hope to learn what nuisance bears do once they are trapped and relocated - what percentage returns to the trap site, establishes a new home range or is killed by resident bears. They also expect to discover how much I-40 serves as a barrier to bear travel between the Sandia and Manzano mountain ranges, and what impacts that may have on the genetic diversity of those bears.

"We've studied the Sangre de Cristo and Gila bear populations, but what about this small island right here?" said Dunn. "Does that information apply here, or do we need to find out more?"

Many Department officers question whether bear relocation is useful, since those bears often are killed by resident bears or by officers when they become nuisance bears somewhere else.

"Just to capture and remove one bear takes a full day for at least one district officer," said Dunn. "Last year we spent around \$35,000 in salaries just moving bears in the Sandias, not to mention time taken away from officers' other duties. We need to consider how we're managing bear populations in rural and semi-urban areas."

Biologists potentially could collar as many as 35 bears a year as they are trapped and relocated.

"Many members of the public wanted to help during Operation Bear Den last year," said Dunn. "Most of the radio eartags for that study were purchased with money donated by private individuals and conservation groups. If people wish to help on the Sandia bear study, we certainly would welcome it."

Individuals and organizations wishing to donate money to help purchase radio collars may contact Dunn at (505) 476-8034.

**CANVASBACK DUCK SEASON CLOSED**

RUIDOSO, JUNE 27 - The canvasback duck season was closed by the State Game Commission at its June 21 meeting in Ruidoso. The Commission closed the canvasback duck season and may close the pintail duck season as well, due to low populations of those species.

**MONITORING FIRES' IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE**

RATON, JUNE 14 - The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is monitoring forest fires around the state for their impacts on wildlife. In the northeast quadrant of the state these fires include the 91,000-acre Ponil Fire, the 600-acre Roybal Fire in Pecos and the 3,200-acre Montoya Fire near Canjilon.

Anyone seeing injured wildlife should contact the Northeast Area Office of the Department of Game and Fish, (505) 445-2311.

Although low-intensity controlled burns can improve habitat for wildlife, the intense heat generated by wild fires sterilize soils, reducing the viability of the land for years. Rains following wild fires also can clog streams with ash, making them unsuitable for trout and other fish species.

**BEAR PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED MID-JULY**

SANTA FE, JUNE 27 - Bear researchers Cecily Costello of the Hornocker Institute and Don Jones of the Department of Game and Fish will give a series of presentations in mid-July about the New Mexico black bear study. The study followed radio-collared bears in the Gila National Forest, the Philmont Ranch, the Colin Neblett and E.S. Barker Wildlife Areas from 1992 to 2000. Researchers found differences in bear habits and habitat between northern and southern regions of the state and studied nutritional needs of bears entering and leaving their winter dens. Costello and Jones also will present information on bear/human encounters and precautions for homeowners and others.

Presentations are scheduled at 7pm at the following locations: Monday, July 15 at the Albuquerque BioPark; Tuesday, July 16 at the Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce; Wednesday, July 17 in Silver City, location TBA; Thursday July 18 at the Fuller Lodge in Los Alamos, and Friday, July 19 at the Raton Game and Fish Office. For the Silver City location, call the Southwest Area office at (505) 522-9796.

**HABITAT APPROPRIATIONS INCLUDE EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR FIRES**

RUIDOSO, JUNE 27 - The State Game Commission approved a budget of \$1,184,000 for Habitat Improvement Projects around the state during the July 2002 - June 2003 fiscal year during its June meeting here.

The commission also approved the use of an additional \$100,000 of Habitat Improvement money for emergency use on fire rehabilitation projects. Commissioner Tamara Hurt of Hatchita is authorized to approve use of the emergency funds. Dale Hall, Habitat Improvement coordinator for the Department of Game and Fish, said Habitat Improvement funds focus on wildlife needs as opposed to the general restoration done by the U.S. Forest Service.

"This funding helps wildlife through these times by repairing damage to fences, water improvements and maintaining and improving wildlife needs," said Hall.

The money for Habitat Improvement projects comes from a \$5 fee charged anyone who hunts, fishes or traps on Bureau of Land Management- or U.S. Forest Service-managed property within the state of New Mexico.

In all, 95 projects are scheduled for this time period, including 26 vegetation treatments and 28 water developments. Hall said 13 of the vegetation projects were prescribed burns. "We get the most bang for the buck with fire," he said. "It's the best tool for making a big impact statewide."

Prescribed fires usually are conducted during time periods when there is a reduced chance of the fire escaping its intended areas and causing problems for surrounding communities, Hall said.

**NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION FOUNDATION TO HOST FUNDRAISER**

SANTA FE, JUNE 27 - The Santa Fe Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation is sponsoring its second annual fundraising and membership banquet at 5pm on July 26 at the Elk's Lodge. The public is invited to a banquet and silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$40 for singles and \$55 for couples. The National Wild Turkey Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving wild turkey habitat and the turkey hunting tradition. For more information, call Bill Dunn at 471-4316 or Larry Kamees at 476-8043.

**LICENSES AWARDED TO LUCKY HUNTERS**

RUIDOSO, JUNE 27 - Seven more hunters learned the value of returning their deer and elk harvest reports when they were drawn for so-called "incentive licenses" during the June meeting of the State Game Commission.

David Lenard of Hobbs and Ray Wright of Bellville, Texas, were drawn for authorizations-to-buy Valle Vidal bull elk hunting licenses. Steven Duffield of Clovis, Tony Holguin of Las Cruces, Antolin Gullen of Chaparral, G.W. Butler of Torreon and Johnny Atencio of Dixon will receive authorizations to buy 2002 oryx hunting licenses. The authorizations may be sold, bartered or given away.

The State Game Commission offers these incentive licenses to encourage hunters to return harvest surveys. Harvest surveys contain vital, although often missing, links between the Department's management efforts and population health and sizes.

**MULE DEER FOUNDATION DONATES \$1,000 TO GAME AND FISH FOR CWD RESEARCH**

SILVER CITY, JUNE 27 - The Gila Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation donated \$1,000 to the Department of Game and Fish for chronic wasting disease testing and research. The Gila Chapter is located in Silver City and made the donation at its monthly meeting on June 20, 2002. The Mule Deer Foundation is a non-profit organization that promotes the well being of mule deer. Kerry Mower, Department wildlife disease specialist, plans to use the money for testing supplies.

"The money will help us buy formalin, gloves, masks and containers for field collection and preservation of brain tissue samples," said Mower. Tissue samples are sent to a lab in Wyoming for testing. Chronic wasting disease was found in New Mexico June 17, when test results from a deer at White Sands Missile Range came back positive. Charles Rivera, Gila Chapter chairman, said the donation was a response to that test result.

"We happened to have a meeting about money shortly after the White Sands test result. Chronic wasting disease hadn't hit New Mexico until then and we decided to do something about it," Rivera said.

Department biologists are intensifying their disease monitoring efforts in response to that incident and the marked increase in chronic wasting disease around the country. The disease is a neurological disorder that is always fatal in deer and elk.

**NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA TO EXCHANGE BIGHORN SHEEP**

RUIDOSO, JUNE 27 - About 30 desert bighorn sheep will be moved to the San Andres Wildlife Refuge this fall in a one-to-one exchange with Arizona for New Mexico's Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. The New Mexico State Game Commission approved the transfer of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep to Arizona at its June 21 meeting in Ruidoso. The exchange is part of the Department's effort to improve desert bighorn populations here, which are state-listed as endangered. The exchange also was approved by the Arizona State Game Commission.

"Arizona approved a multiple-year transfer of 60 desert bighorn during the next five years," said Elise Goldstein, Department bighorn sheep biologist. "We expect to move 30 sheep to New Mexico this November and the rest later on."

There are currently seven rams, one ewe and one lamb in the San Andres Mountains. The project would transfer mostly ewes from the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona and about 20 rams from the Department's Red Rock facility in November, 2002. Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep will be taken from the Pecos or Wheeler herds in the summer of 2003. The removal of those animals will help to keep those thriving herds below carrying capacity. In a related action, the Commission approved a five-month preventive cougar control program in the San Andres Mountains. The program is intended to aid desert bighorn sheep reintroduction in the San Andres National Wildlife Refuge. Goldstein said that mountain lion predation is a significant limiting factor in New Mexico's desert bighorn sheep populations. The cougar removal program involves contracting lion hunters for at least two months prior to the bighorn reintroduction and five months altogether. An Environmental Assessment on both the lion control and the bighorn transplant will be available for public comment later this summer.


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During the Great Depression from 1936 to 1940 there was a WPA Writers' Project which paid local authors to interview older local citizens and then to write up a report (called a "manuscript") of each interview so oral histories of pioneers would be collected and preserved.

Edith L. Crawford of Carrizozo worked for this Project, and in 1938 she interviewed Buster DeGraftenried, who was then 73 years old. "Dad" as Buster DeGraftenried was known, told her many details about his long years as a young cowhand and later as an adult rancher in New Mexico.

Mrs. Crawford reported what Dad told her as a manuscript written in long hand, and submitted it to the Project. Her manuscript was published in the April, May and June issues of this newspaper. She interviewed Buster "Dad" DeGraftenried another time, asking him about his childhood years.

Below is her report of what "Dad" told her, as the concluding Part 4 of these interviews. Her manuscripts are now archived at the Library of Congress.

In 1864 I come to Texas in Grayson County and from what my Pa and Ma said, I give up the squack and bawled like two years old and they named me Buster.

Pa and Ma moved to Stephen County and my first recollection I have is herding a small bunch of our cattle to keep them together and no one steal or run them off.

I rode a little pony mare and she always had a cold every year. When I would start out with the cattle, after Ma had milked, she would hand me my lunch, which was a pone of corn bread, and say to me, "Now you be sure and be a good boy and stay on your pony. If you don't you will get to playing and the Indians will catch you," and I want to say now, that fear is still with me.

Also what she told me about Jesus and God taking care of all good boys. She planted the thoughts of Jesus in my heart and his goodness has been with me these many years.

What I want to say is this, how those families got by, I can't see. There were three families lived on the Clear Fork of the Brazos River, it emptied its water in the main Brazos River about thirty miles below.

I must of been 9 or 10 years old. My Uncle John Selman, my mother's brother and his wife, my Pa's sister, lived with his family about half a mile away. I thought at that time, Uncle John was everything and could and did things. If it had not been for Uncle John and a few men like him, the Comanche Indians would of got all of us. Uncle John was a fighter and they knew it, and so did those thieving white men.

As the Indians killed the Lee family, the old man, old lady and carried off two grown girls and a small boy about seven years old. Uncle John went with the soldiers which were at Fort Griffin, twenty miles up the Clear Fork River. Uncle John got the neighbors, a few cowboys and when they were digging the grave, someone found a young girl dead, shot in the back with an arrow. I heard Uncle John say he couldn't pull the arrow out so he cut it off and bent it over, they put the three in one big grave, just wrapped up in some old quilts the Indians wouldn't take. They took the feather beds and emptied the feathers out and took the ticking as they needed the cloth for their own use.

As it was only three miles below our house, I would take the cattle down that way so I could see the grave.

My Uncle John was a good man and stood for fair play. He went with the soldiers and different scouts after horse thieves. I recall, one time, he come by where I was herding cattle. Him and three soldiers, negroes. They had two white soldiers as prisoners. They had deserted and as Uncle John knew the country, it seems the captain sent Uncle John to get them. He had them tied together so they couldn't

run in the brush and get away. They had one pack mule and it was heavily packed with grub and some bedding. I was sure sorry for the two men as they was walking while Uncle John and the negroes were riding.

They didn't seem to care one bit as they were anxious. They said they were sure glad to see a white man, even if he did have three negro soldiers with him - as they were about

to starve and had to stay hid, afraid to shoot to kill anything to eat as they saw Indians. One of them said, "I have still got my hair and all I ask is to get back to the fort where I can eat and sleep in peace. The woods are full of Indians. We could see them in the day time and we would stay hid in the thick brush and briers. At night we could hear them grunt while looking for us."

I was always glad when Uncle John was around, as he had a good gun and would kill deer and turkey. The woods were full of them. In the winter he would kill hogs and what a time we would have, as my two brothers, Creed and (?), were going to school at Fort Griffin.

Twenty miles in those days was all day in a wagon drawn by a big yoke of steers, big and fat. The steers belonged to Pa and the wagon was Uncle John's. It cost money to get a wagon. Pa raised the steers and us boys broke them to work when they were yearlings, dragging wood to cook with and keep warm. When the wood played out so we couldn't keep a good fire, Pa would move to more wood. Good idea, he did not have to worry one bit, see?

I think my Ma was the only one that worried as she was afraid the Indians would get me or I would get lost and starve. She didn't know how smart her boy was. I could and did out smart the Indians. I know they didn't want to kill me. They either wanted to see me run and hide or wanted to catch me just to see what I looked like. They might have thought I was one of them, as all I had on in the summer time was a shirt three or four sizes too big, no shoes, no hat and my hair down to my shoulders. I would give anything if I had a picture of myself - as I can see now in my imagination - when I was a boy.

I never thought of getting lost, as the milk cows would go back to the calves that were left in the pen and I would drive the others after them and get home in fine shape. There was one old line back, redheaded cow, we call old Nance. When I got hungry I would suck her by squirting the milk in my mouth, fill up on good warm milk - as I had either eaten or lost my corn bread.

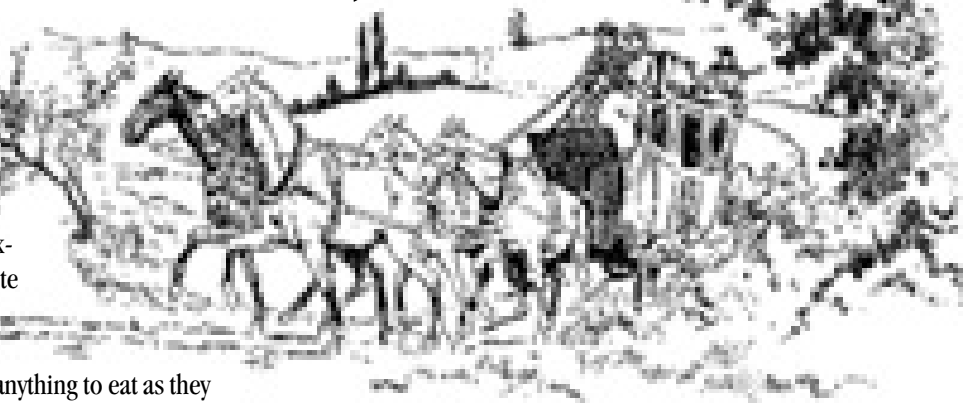
My Uncle John would go to Weatherford in Parker County, eighty miles to mill, they called it. If he had good luck, he would get back in fifteen days, but it nearly always rained and the creeks would get out of their banks and he couldn't ford them. I remember one time he was nearly a month.

Both families run out of meal. Not one bit of bread. We had plenty meat such as chicken, squirrel and rabbit. Ma would make curd out of clabber milk and lots of butter. We could catch any size fish you wanted within thirty minutes.

If you wanted a big fellow, fish deep with a big bait. The big ones stayed on the bottom in water ten feet deep or more.

I remember Uncle John caught a big, yellow cat fish that weighed 123 pounds. That was the biggest fish I have ever saw.

My Uncle John's wife, my Aunt Edna, died in 1878 or 79. Uncle John left that part and moved his children, three boys and one girl up in the Big Bend country. My Dad moved to Dickens County and in



1882 Dad moved to New Mexico. My day herding was over. I was about fifteen years old in age and about twenty five in experience.

I saw Uncle John in 1884, as he had followed a horse thief from El Paso, Texas, to old Tescosa on the Canadian River, 700 miles and was taking him back to El Paso. I never saw Uncle John any more but I always held him high in my mind as his idea was, "Treat the other man right and make him treat you right or let you alone."

My Dad never had a gun. If he had one, it was no account and he never had any ammunition to shoot with. I guess I took the idea from Uncle John as I went to work for myself at fifteen years old and I have owned a good gun all my life. With luck I have never had to use it. The main thing is, be prepared, look the other fellow in the eye and be so you can tell him how the boys eat the cabbage and you are all right in any man's camp. I am 74 years old now and still like to feel the old girl as a pal.

I want to say this, I have been in El Paso two years and have met several old timers. Everyone that knew John Selman spoke highly of him as a citizen. Every one said he was a good law officer and they didn't know he was any kin to me. He had lots of ups and downs and had a hard life. May his soul rest in peace. It took men like him to tame the west and they done a good job. Look, read of El Paso 50 years ago. Look at her today, 1938. John Selman helped tame her. He was my uncle both ways.

Narrator - Buster De Graftenried, Melrose, New Mexico.

To read more manuscripts, point your browser to: <http://rs6.loc.gov/ammem/wpaintro/nmcat.html> and for more about the history of little-known and lesser-known places in New Mexico, visit: <http://www.huntel.com/~artpike/>

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# From Covered Wagons To Jet Planes... Continued

long before Bertha's brother, Arthur, died. Then the grandmother passed away. This was RosaLee's Mother. Then James' efforts to farm came to an end when the beautiful Perchon horses took sick and died. Another problem the family had to face was racial prejudice. Because the children were all very dark, the people in this neighborhood thought they were Negroes and treated them very harshly. These longtime prejudices did not allow the children to go to school and the entire family was unhappy. James and RosaLee decided to go back to Oklahoma, having lost the grandmother and Arthur - plus the horses. They crossed the Arkansas River at Fort Smith on a ferryboat. The boys and James drove the wagons right onto the boat and everyone rode across together into Oklahoma and hopefully to a better life for them all.

Back in Oklahoma, the family moved onto a farm near the little Indian community of Park Hill. This is near Telequagh. Bertha can remember getting to go to school for a little while there. School was held for only about three months out of the year. Besides tanning, James had a small cafe in Park Hill, but it was called a 'chili joint'. Bertha can remember the weekends when they would be terrorized by the outlaws and cowboys from the ranches nearby. These men were pretty wild and probably dangerous when they got a little drunk. They shot up the town, rode their horses through the stores and scared all the people around. While the family was living at Park Hill, another baby was born to James and RosaLee. They named him Jim.

The next move for the family was to another small Indian community called Barber. Bertha remembers this place as being a very beautiful little town and a good place to live. Once again, the older children were able to attend school. School was in a small log cabin. The seats were made of logs which were split in two and legs were attached. There were no desks. Bertha thinks she was about 11 at this time, Ray about 9, and Roy must have been around 13.

The family did very well while they lived at Barber. It was during this time that Bertha remembers her Father getting checks from the Government for her and her brother, Roy. While at Barber, two more children were born to the family, a son Dewey and a girl named Beulah.

When Bertha was about 13 years old, they made another move. This time they headed for New Mexico. Once again, they traveled by covered wagons. Roy was a very good rider and was able to ride horseback most of the time. The other children did a lot of walking but did get to ride in the wagons, too. The family was on the road about six weeks. They went through Lawton, Oklahoma. The weather turned bad here and the family stayed in a wagon yard (the forerunner of modern hotels and motels). They stayed a week in Lawton, where they did the laundry, stocked up on the supplies of food, feed for the animals, and took on as much water as they could carry - because they had to have extra water for the stock. The wagon yard had a place for the horses to get out of the weather and the wagons were used for sleeping. Cooking was done in a sheltered place. As soon as the weather cleared, the family was once again on the trail. They traveled across the plains, but didn't see the Indians who were said to be harassing any travelers they saw on the trail. At night, a tent was put up with cots for the older children to sleep in. The smaller children slept in the wagon with the Mother and Father. Each night a small sheet iron stove was set up and this is where the Mother cooked meals for the family. The chuck-box on the wagon made a table for them, and every morning and evening Mother cooked for the family. The noon meal was usually cold leftovers from the breakfast and supper.

The family arrived in Hagerman, New Mexico a few weeks later. Soon after they got settled, the Father and Roy went to work in a large alfalfa mill. World War I broke out while Bertha lived in Hagerman. The family stayed there for two years.

The next move took the family to the James Canyon area in the Sacramento Mountains. Another family came to these mountains with the Skaggs. This was the Batt Family; well known Otero County pioneers

with much of the Batt family still living in this area. Bertha remembers the oldest boy was named Melvin and the oldest girl was Lucille.

The Skaggs family had a farm about 8 miles from Cloudcroft. Roy, the oldest boy, joined the army and spent most of his army time stationed at Fort Bliss, as he was in Calvary. There was a little more schooling for the Skaggs children and another son was born to the family. His name was Claude. Claude was a sickly child and is remembered by Bertha with much love. The family stayed here for about a year.

Once again, the Skaggs family decided to look for greener pastures. This move took them to the Mescalero Reservation where James continued to farm. The family grew with the addition of two more children, J.D. and Agnes. James began to branch out into another field by acquiring some horses which he put to work in a big sawmill on Silver Spring Canyon. Ray worked in the woods with his Father. This was a very good and profitable enterprise for the whole family.

When Bertha was about 15 years old, she and her brothers, Jim and Dewey, were sent to Banning, California to go to school. Father Albert Braun of Mescalero was the person who helped get these children into the Catholic school. This is the same Father Albert Braun who inspired and helped to build the beautiful church that is a well-known landmark at Mescalero today.

These children were able to stay in California for at least two years. During the summer vacations, Bertha was sent to the Los Angeles area where she was a housekeeper for the Catholic sisters. She has many happy memories of this good time in her life. But all good things come to an end, and Bertha was needed at home. Not long after she returned, a baby boy was born to James and RosaLee. They named him Stephen.

This area of New Mexico was beginning to grow and develop with several new companies starting up. One of these companies was a large sawmill on Water Canyon which employed many people from the surrounding communities, among these were James Skaggs and his older boys. James was able to put his horses to work in the log woods skidding logs down the steep hillsides where they were loaded onto wagons and hauled to the mill. Bertha went to work at this mill, too. She worked for Mrs. Les Courtney and together they ran the cookshack for the mill hands. James and the boys moved to the mill site leaving RosaLee and the young ones near Mescalero. When the cookshack closed, Bertha, RosaLee, and the children moved into Cloudcroft. Bertha has always been a hard worker. She soon found work in a small store which was a lot like the 7-11 stores today. With the opening of another mill at Marcia, Bertha was soon working at another cookshack. Her brother, Ray, and her Father brought the horses on to this mill. Jim and Dewey came too. While living at this camp, Bertha met Bessie Moore and her family. Before long Bessie Moore and Ray Skaggs fell in love and were married. Bessie and Bertha have been lifelong friends. It was while Bertha was working at the cookshack in Marcia that she met the man who was to become her husband. His name was Bonnie Lovie Allen and he was a little on the wild side. He drove the horses and hauled logs to the mill. When Bessie and Ray got married, Bonnie and Bertha went with them, but when Bertha and Bonnie decided to get married, they hired a man to drive them to Alamogordo in one of the first cars to come to Cloudcroft. On the way down the hill the wedding party had an accident. The car ran off the road, but with the help of another car and driver, they were soon on their way again. Their honeymoon was one night in Alamogordo and then it was back to work for both of them. For about five months, Bonnie and Bertha lived at Marcia, then they moved to the E.K. Ranch near Sacramento and Weed. They enjoyed life on the ranch and their family grew with Elmer and Bonnie Arthur's birth. Bonnie L. had a boy, John David, and a girl, Ester Love, who were being raised by their Grandmother Allen. They lived in Mayhill. Shortly before the birth of their daughter Agneta, Bonnie and Bertha moved to Allen Canyon on the place

which Bonnie's parents had homesteaded when Bonnie was just a young man. Agneta was named Hettie Agneta after her Grandmother Allen who was getting on in years, so the family moved to Mayhill to be near her and David and Love. On August 10, 1933, another girl was born to Bertha. She was named JoAnn.

It was about this time that the James Skaggs' family moved to Arkansas, again. Of course, the children were all growing up and Ray, Roy and Dewey were married—they and their families stayed in New Mexico. The family was not very close, so Bertha did not see her brothers for quite a while. The James Skaggs family lived in Arkansas until after World War II broke out when they moved back to Tularosa. Both James and RosaLee are buried in Tularosa.

Times were very hard but the Allen family never went hungry or cold because of a hard working Mother and Father. These two people made what little they did have go around to meet all the needs of a large family. On July 15, 1937, their last child was born, another girl, Tressia Lou. Many happy memories were made for these little children, because of the love of their parents for each other and for them. Bonnie would work all day and then still read aloud to the children before bedtime at night. Bonnie did all kinds of work—anything that was available. For a time he was in the CCC and also did road work on the WPA program. He and Bertha picked apples, dug potatoes and did CCC Laundry to feed and care for their family.

For a short time in 1938, the family lived in Sacramento again. Bonnie and David worked at the sawmill. When school was out for the summer, they went back to Mayhill. Then on Christmas Day 1939, the family moved to Alamogordo, New Mexico. Alamogordo was the largest town the children had ever been to, and it was quite a traumatic move for them. Everyone except Tressia went to school, but it was no longer the small two room school they had known. JoAnn was in the first grade. Bonnie worked on the road and was paid \$65 per month. Bertha was a very good manager and even had a little money saved after she paid the rent, water, etc., so they did okay. When school was out, they went back to Mayhill and lived there until 1942. With the outbreak of World War II, the job situation got a little better, so they sold their home in Mayhill and moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico, where Bonnie worked in the Potash mines. Bonnie's health was not good, and before long he was unable to work at the mines. He found work with the copper mines in Arizona until his health made it necessary for the family to move back to New Mexico, and by the time school was ready to start they were settled in Tularosa. Bonnie and Bertha lived at Tularosa for many years. In September, 1963, Bonnie passed away. Bertha worked at the Blind Institute in Alamogordo for a while, then she sold the house that she and Bonnie built and went to live with Agneta. She has spent the years since Bonnie's death helping her children in any way she could and doing the beautiful handwork she is famous for. She is still there for her family anytime they might need a helping hand or an understanding heart, or maybe just a little boost to get them over the hump.

As I attempted to write about the life of my Mother, I have remembered many things - some good and some not so good - but my mind has been flooded with memories of this fine lady and her husband; our parents. What a debt of gratitude we owe these two people!! Through the years they have shown their children, then their grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren that life is not always easy, but with love shared among us all, and by making the best out of what ever situation we may find ourselves in, we can all be pioneers in our own ways. Am very grateful to Bertha and Bonnie for the rich heritage they have given to all of their descendants.

*This story was sent to the Mountain Times by Bonnie Allen of Mayhill, New Mexico. Send us your family stories!*

## Deer Tests Positive... Continued

Although Tuesday's actions only restrict the importation of live deer and elk, Bell said the state soon may be discussing regulations to restrict the importation of sport-harvested deer and elk. There are no known cases of CWD infecting humans or livestock, although New Mexico and other states do encourage hunters to follow precautions when handling dead game.

Kerry Mower, a wildlife disease specialist for the Department, said this case will shake the world's current understanding of Chronic Wasting Disease because it is so far away from game

farms and other accepted avenues of CWD transmission.

"We do not know how CWD was transported to the ral tissue of animals they kill and to wear latex gloves when field dressing dead animals.

There are no practical or proven tests to determine if CWD is present in living wild animals. Portions of each brain stem must be removed and examined under a microscope, although a test of deer tonsils is being developed. It would be impossible, however, to adequately capture and extract tonsil tissue from New Mexico's statewide

deer population.

In infected animals, microscopic lesions appear in infected brain tissue. Either a loss of neurons in the brain or the accumulation of proteinaceous, infectious particles, or prions, cause the lesions. Prions are believed to be the cause of TSEs.

Chronic Wasting Disease is the name for this disease when it occurs in deer and elk, but other species suffer similar maladies. The TSE in domestic sheep is called scrapie and it's bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) in cattle. This type of disease has several names when it occurs in humans: Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, kuru, new variant CJD, Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker syndrome and fatal familial insomnia.

The Department will continue to sample the heads of deer and elk killed during the coming fall hunting seasons. As an incentive for hunters to cooperate, those who submit heads within the 48-hour period will be entered in a drawing for oryx and Valle Vidal elk hunting authorizations. In addition, the agency is developing an action plan for dealing with CWD, although at this point Director Bell does not anticipate the killing of thousands of animals as other states are doing.

"I am, however, prepared to take any action necessary to protect the state's resources from the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease," he said.

For more information about Chronic Wasting Disease, call Kerry Mower at (505) 476-8080.

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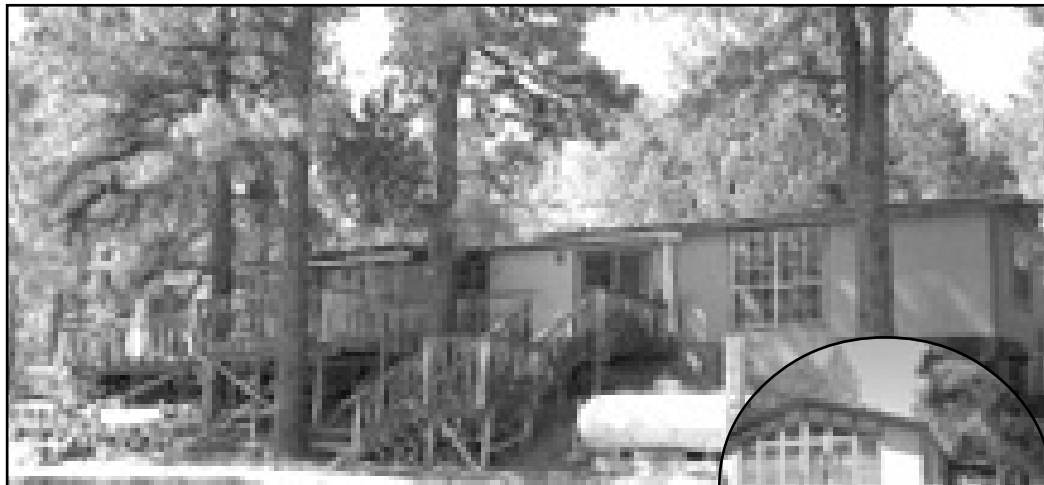
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## The Other Side of the Coin

by Sidney M. "Sid" Benson

In case no one has noticed, much of the U.S. including New Mexico is in a period of extreme drought. As Timberon is a part of New Mexico, we are in the boat with everyone else, short on water.

The Board of Directors of TWSD are trying to remedy that situation, but are restricted in what and how they can do this, by state law. The days of, "If the job needs done, go do it", are gone.

Unfortunately there are those inside as well as outside the community who are peering over shoulders looking for any mistake in order to pursue their own agenda. What is this agenda? Only those involved know for sure, but we can all speculate.

There is an old saying, "If you don't make a mistake now and then, you aren't doing anything". Yes, there have been mistakes made, and there may be more in the future, which only time will tell. The question is were the mistakes honest ones or might they have been done intentionally. As in the previous paragraph, only those involved know for sure, but we can all speculate.

- The district is continuing to do all within reason to save the greens on the golf course. There are no plans to use water required for domestic use to do this and several alternatives are being discussed by different committees and groups.

- Lawsuits. What is really behind them? Only those involved in initiating them know for sure, but we can all speculate. To be totally sure to have no more law suits stemming from meetings or actions taken, we would need an attorney present at all times, and the law has become so specialized, that even then there may be mistakes. Besides not being able to afford one.

- In order to insure that there will be citizens willing to become board members in the future, a "JOINT DEFENSE AGREEMENT, WAIVER OF CONFLICT AGREEMENT, AND AGREEMENT TO DEFEND AND INDEMNIFY FORMER TWSD EMPLOYEES AND BOARD MEMBERS", was passed by the current board. Will this cost the taxpayers? More than likely. Is it necessary? Unfortunately, the answer is yes.

- Every business is unique, and TWSD is a business. The fact that some other "Water and Sanitation District", or other taxing entity, does not require the same number or type of personnel that TWSD has, does not mean they are not necessary. Some personnel are with the district because lawsuits in the past made the position necessary.

- Several hours a week are required to find and reproduce documents requested by citizens, and the office is required by law to provide them. The interruption of work in progress, is much more than the thirty minutes or whatever time it takes to do this task.

- The fact that the General Manager or the Administrative Manager do not have the time to do a GAAP indicates to me that their "Plate is full." If so, how can their positions be unnecessary? The fact that the audit is costing more this year, has more to do with new regulatory requirements by the state rather than what is done or not done by TWSD employees. We honestly cannot afford a CPA to post our daily business.

- There definitely needs to be something done with our water storage facilities, and agreeably, attention should have begun in this area long ago. Unfortunately we do not have the money required to do everything needed. Hopefully our contract with Engineers Inc. will produce grants or other available funds needed to address these other problems

Lets face it folks, not everyone will be happy with the actions of the board, or any individual member, all the time. Maybe even never. The thing we need to do is look at the overall picture and decide if it is best for the majority of citizens, not just what is wanted as an individual.

- Don't point fingers, crawl on the wagon and pitch in, you may find you understand more about, and feel better about, what is going on in this unique community of ours.

- You may have a knowledge that would assist our workers in doing a better job more efficiently. Why not ask them, you might just make a difference and find a new friend.

- Lastly, support your board of directors. That doesn't mean you have to like them as individuals, but they are working for you, without pay, and they receive much more criticism than praise for their efforts.

Every one has the right to their opinion, "Thank God and the Constitution", this is so. If you disagree with me, that is fine, for I may not always agree with you either. Just be man or woman enough to sign your name when you do.

\*Sid Benson is a Director on the Timberon Water and Sanitation District Board.

## Penasco Fire - Thank You From The Lincoln National Forest

from Jose Martinez, Lincoln National Forest Supervisor

May 31 - Hello, I'm Jose Martinez, Lincoln National Forest Supervisor. I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to all of you who either directly or indirectly participated in fighting the Peñasco Fire that occurred April 30 through May 5, 2002, on the Sacramento Ranger District, Cloudfcroft, N.M.

The combined resource efforts - where do I start. The U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Mescalero Apache Tribe, N.M. State Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the Southwest Area Wildland Fire Operations, and the State of Arizona, along with the numerous agencies that provided support demonstrated our number one priority - fighting wildland fire and ensuring safety for everyone associated with the fire. As a result of the combined safety awareness campaign during this incident, no injuries occurred. - that is a momentous achievement by all.

I've also got to extend a thanks to our elected officials Mayor Dave Venable, Village of Cloudfcroft; Otero County Commissioner Mike Nivison, New Mexico's Lieutenant Governor Walter Bradley and Congressional staffer Don Manzanaras from Senator Pete Domenici's Las Cruces office for their support to our local communities during this trying time.

Now, for some pertinent information that ensured the well-being of the public and the resources for the Fire. Water donated from private landowners to help stop the fire. Food provided by various stores, cafes and restaurants. And, let us not forget about shelter for those who required a place to stay. The American Red Cross, as always ready to respond by setting up emergency relief operations at Cloudfcroft High School. The community establishments that donated items. All of these and more demonstrated how an incident of this magnitude draws a human-awareness and outpouring of community care and support for everyone's livelihood.

The live television and radio reports, along with newspaper coverage that kept the public aware of our collaborative stewardship combined efforts to fight wildland fires highlights a progressive and positive attitude toward a common goal.

1200 personnel on-scene. 42 Crews, which included the Sacramento, Smokey Bear, Mescalero, Carson, Gila, Silver City Santa Fe, and Mt. Taylor Hot Shot crews from New Mexico; the Heber, Blue Ridge, Mormon Lake, Fort Apache, and Globe Hot Shot crews from Arizona; the Cherokee Hot Shot Crew from Tennessee and the Idaho Hot Shot Crew all demonstrated their firefighting skills on the 15, 400 acre fire achieving 100 percent containment in 6 days. Phenomenal! Of course, we cannot overlook the contributions from the Mayhill, Cloudfcroft, Glencoe, Peñasco, Durker, Eunice, Timberon, Alamo West, High Rolls, Cloudfcroft, Oro Vista, Sierra, Española, Red River, Taos, El Dorado, Bernalillo County, Chavez County, Otis, Boulder City, Colorado and the Rural Metro Fire departments. 63 engines and 15 dozers, 31 buses and 28 water tenders all with operators were on scene to provide a quick response with structure protection, minimal impact to private lands and supporting firefighting efforts. How about the air tanker and helicopter resources flying missions

dropping retardant and water? What a precision aerial performance to create a line of defense to suppress the advancement of the fire. The New Mexico State Police, Otero County Sheriff's Department, Otero County Fire Services Coordinator, Cloudfcroft Department of Public Safety, Alamogordo Department of Public Safety did outstanding evacuation and public safety awareness for our roads. The two lane highways were extremely busy with resources supporting the fire and the public's understanding of Highway 82 and U.S. 130 closures ensured timely travel for suppression efforts.

Now it's time to start the rehabilitation efforts. A Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Team has been identified and has started work only days after the containment of the fire. Seeding efforts have begun. Mixed grasses eventually create a protective natural blanket on the ground surface preventing soil erosion. Construction of new dam structures provides a means of retaining plant-sustaining sediments. Natural resource specialists such as soil scientists, hydrologists, range conservationists, biologists and archaeologists combined with geographic information specialists and engineers provide expert scientific knowledge in assessing the fire damage and planning the overall rehabilitation operations.

I've thanked everyone and personally, it is very easy to do so but... I need everyone's help to ensure our communities that are, or can be, affected by wildfire work to achieve for "defensible space." We are in a very dry period here in the Southwest so please be very careful with fire. Only through a combined wildland urban interface effort, both public and agency-wide, can we ensure our mountain communities continue to avoid or survive these devastating catastrophic fires.

### The Sneeze

by Maryellen Wilkins

They walked in tandem, ninety-three students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and moms freely brushed away tears.

This class would not pray during the commencements, not by choice, but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling.

They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families. The speeches were nice, but they were routine . . . until the final speech.

The student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then he delivered his speech . . . an astounding SNEEZE! The other students rose immediately to their feet, and in unison they roared, "GOD BLESS YOU!"

The audience exploded into applause. The graduating class found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future . . . with or without the court's approval.

God bless America! Leave it to our American youth.

## Dance With Them That Brung Ya

by Dave Skinner, PFNS

Another public land squabble is shaping up in "Bush Country" with the announcement that U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Harv Forsgren is being transferred from Portland to take the reins of USFS's Southwest Region.

Forsgren is to replace Eleanor Townes, a Clinton Administration appointee who retired in February after a rather stormy tenure.

In anticipation of Townes' departure, southwestern resource producer groups and politicians, including New Mexico Lieutenant Governor Walter Bradley, the New Mexico Cattle Growers, the Arizona-New Mexico Coalition of Counties, and the New Mexico Public Lands Council, joined in a search for a candidate to fill the vacancy.

After a series of meetings late last year, the above organizations wrote letters of recommendation to Forest Service on behalf of John C. Bedell, who currently supervises the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest.

According to Coalition of Counties Director Howard Hutchinson, Bedell was chosen as a long-time Southwesterner "familiar with the Southwest, with a forestry and grazing background."

Instead, the Bush Administration picked Forsgren, who, as New Mexico stockgrower Bob Jones told the Albuquerque Journal, is a "controversial reject of the Clinton-Gore era."

A fishery biologist with a Masters degree from Humboldt State, Forsgren was named Pacific Northwest Regional Forester in 1999 by then-USFS Chief Mike Dombeck, a Clinton appointee (and fishery biologist) who resigned soon after Bush took office.

When Dombeck appointed Forsgren, many were concerned with Forsgren's lack of forestry background, but gave him the benefit of the doubt. Frank Gladics, President of the Portland-based Independent Forest Products Association, cautioned resource people not to "castigate the guy because he is a biologist."

However, Forsgren may deserve the reception that awaits him in the Southwest. When the Clinton roadless initiative controversy reached its peak, Forsgren defended Chief Dombeck's implementation order in a November 2000 Eugene Register-Guard

opinion-editorial, declaring he was "proud of the roadless proposal and our commitment to the public process."

Upon hearing Forsgren's comments, Montana Logging Association Executive Director Keith Olson dryly noted "I would defer to and agree with the judge in Idaho that the plaintiffs who filed suit against the roadless initiative were in fact shut out of the public process."

Under Forsgren, the Pacific Northwest Region has continued to underperform, cutting only a tenth of the harvest target levels specified in the Northwest Forest Plan — a Clinton Administration plan which the Bush Administration is now trying to revise, and which Forsgren supported at the time Dombeck promoted him.

Finally, there is the recent conclusion of a Forest Service investigation into the deaths of four firefighters in the Thirty-Mile Fire on the Okanogan National Forest in north central Washington last summer. Eleven Forest Service employees were disciplined for violations of basic firefighting safety procedures.

In addition, and in response to questions that the firefighters died because water drops by slurry bombers were delayed by uncertainty over endangered species, a few days ago the Forest Service issued new guidance placing human safety first and foremost — guidance that was lacking under Forsgren.

The Bush Administration seems to be faced with a Hobbesian choice. Both Oregon and New Mexico went to Gore by a whisker in 2000.

Officially, Southwestern environmental groups neither support nor oppose Forsgren, but they vehemently oppose Bedell. Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) director Keiran Suckling labels Bedell "the most stubborn, most aggressive, least communicative" forest supervisor in the region; while CBD staffer Brian Seegee says "Bedell and his supporters want to bulldoze" environmentalists. Clearly, a Bedell appointment would further raise the hackles of an already-energized \$750 million-a-year Green lobby.

However, Forsgren's posting has been an enormous letdown for rural Westerners. As Howard Hutchinson explained: "It seems like the Bush Administration is pandering to all the people who voted against 'em — and will always vote against 'em. So, what's the point?" The point, which President Bush ought to know, is to dance with them that brung ya.

## The West On Trial "Karl Versus Cows"

by Jonathan DuHamel, President, People for the West - Tucson

Karl Hess, Jr. has a problem with "pampered cows." Under his misapplied guise of free market environmentalism, Hess wants to drastically change grazing practices on federal land in the Western U.S.

So what, you ask? The "what" is that Hess is an advisor to Lynn Scarlett, Undersecretary for the Department of the Interior and is in a position to influence public policy.

Hess has impressive credentials. He is a senior fellow in environmental studies at the Cato Institute (a conservative think tank); he is (or was) a senior associate of the Thoreau Institute; and he is president of The Land Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Of late, however, Hess has teamed up with radical preservationist groups such as the National Resources Defense Council, Forest Guardians, the Sky Island Alliance, and The Wildlands Project to write a series of papers against current grazing practices. Even Dave Foreman of EarthFirst! quotes him favorably. In a 1998 paper Hess wrote, "The Wildlands Project is in the enviable position of being the first American environmental organization to apply on a global scale, the principles of conservation biology. Within that global framework, the Sky Island ecosystem is an ideal laboratory to test the ecological underpinnings of conservation biology and to explore the public policy tools needed to make conservation biology a reality on the North American continent."

Throughout his prolific writing there is a common theme. Hess complains that cattle and sheep are the source of degradation of millions of acres of public lands; that almost 200 million acres of federal grass are devoted to producing less than 3.5 percent of the nation's beef; and that government loses money because grazing fees don't cover administrative costs. He also advocates that non-ranchers be allowed to bid on grazing allotments.

Hess's contention that grazing causes degradation is out of date. To encourage settlement of the west, Congress passed the Homestead Act of 1862, which provided for homesteads of 160 acres. Back east, 160 acres could support a family but not in the arid west. Those who tried dry dirt farming soon went bust or converted to stock raising. In Arizona, a single cow-calf unit requires twenty-five to seventy-five acres of natural forage, depending on the terrain. The ranchers had no choice but to run their cattle on open public range.

As more and more homesteads were settled, more cows were grazing the range and he who got there first with the most cattle made money. This practice of common grazing, together with a series of droughts, caused overgrazing and degradation of the range. As a result of this "tragedy of the commons," ranchers petitioned the government to establish "forest reserves" which could not be homesteaded. These reserves eventually turned into National Forests which were mandated to be managed for forage, water and timber production.

Congress was not willing to substantially increase the size of homesteads, so they established a system of grazing "allotments" where a rancher would have exclusive right to forage in a specific area for a specific number of cattle. The rancher had to fence the area and provide water and other infrastructure at his own expense. This practice gave the rancher a strong economic incentive for good stewardship of his allotment. Now, each homestead, the base ranch of fee land, has a number of associated allotments. These allotments are bought, sold, inherited, and taxed along with the ranch, i.e., they are property rights. Currently, when a ranch is purchased, the allotments cost, on average, about \$2000 per cow-calf unit, depending on the condition of the range and improvements.

Has modern grazing practice hurt the natural range? Apparently not, since even Bruce Babbitt admitted that our ranges are in better shape now than in the past. In most areas, all the same grasses that were here 300 years ago when the Spaniards first began grazing (more than thirty species of perennial grass in southern Arizona), are still here, along with additional introduced species. One place to observe the effects of grazing is on the Santa Rita Experimental Range (SRRER), a tract of 53,159 acres, thirty-five miles south of Tucson. SRRER was established in 1903, first as a Forest Service reserve; then in 1988 it was transferred to State Trust Land. It is currently administered by the University of Arizona (see their website at for voluminous data). At SRRER, the range is divided into several pastures where various grazing methods are used. Some land has been left ungrazed since 1903. The most verdant and healthy range is that which received pasture rotation, but even the pastures that have been continuously grazed are in better shape than those that have had no cattle at all.

Modern ranching also benefits wildlife and "biodiversity." The case of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge in the Altar Valley of southern Arizona is a telling example. The area was lush grassland when private ranchers managed it. After the feds bought out the ranchers to establish a game refuge, they destroyed the manmade water sources to let the land go back to nature. Except nature left. Much of the wildlife migrated to adjacent operating ranches.

It has long been a contention of grazing foes that western grazing produces an insignificant amount of our total beef, and that we could easily get along without federal lands grazing. But the small production percentage is a myth. It just depends how you count. Western ranches generally do not produce cattle for the slaughterhouse. Instead, they raise yearlings to approximately 500 pounds by feeding them natural forage, which is indigestible by humans. The yearlings are then shipped east to Midwest farmers' fields where these "solar energy converters" feed on crop residues and fatten to about 800 pounds. From there they go to feedlots and gain another 300 pounds or so on corn, molasses, and crop residue. These cows get counted at the slaughterhouse and the Midwest farmers get the credit for beef production. In reality, 20 percent of the nation's beef is produced in the west. Ranches in the Arivaca-Altar Valley area of Arizona alone produce nearly two million pounds of beef annually.

Hess complains about a "government subsidy" to ranchers in the form of increased management costs. Whose fault is that? Although past practice of predator control benefited ranchers at government expense, ranchers do not welcome the ever-increasing bureaucracy with its New Age ecosystem management. However, as government predator control has dwindled, so has the deer population in the Ironwood Monument. Obviously, not only ranchers benefited from the practice. How would urban and suburban dwellers fare if county animal control ceased to exist? Isn't that a government subsidy too?

Finally, should anyone be able to bid on grazing allotments even if they don't ranch? The problem, of course, is that the rancher can't afford competitive bidding against well-funded anti-ranching activists, and without the allotments, the ranch is no longer economically viable and becomes ripe for sale to developers.

Remembering that allotments are property rights, Arizona rancher Sue Chilton likes to use the analogy of the automobile. You buy and own your car, but you have to pay an annual registration fee. Suppose the registration system went up for bid. Then someone coveting your new Lexus or '55 Chevy could offer a higher registration fee for use of your car. Not nice is it? But that is the same thing happening with the property right of ranchers' allotments. There are additional attacks on allotments. Many ranchers have had some or all of their allotments taken or devalued due to overzealous enforcement of the Endangered Species Act and other government regulations.

As Nevada rancher Wayne Hage wrote in response to a Hess article, "The constant attack on Western ranchers, loggers, and miners is an attempt to extinguish private property rights without compensation. Where direct attempts to extinguish these property rights without compensation have been restrained by the courts, extinction through strangling regulations has succeeded to a large degree. Many Westerners have abandoned their property rights in federal land rather than bear the burden and expense of protracted court battles."

In spite of his impressive credentials, Hess seems to have a blind spot with regard to the facts of ranching and property rights. As the West becomes more urbanized, proponents of the "New West" movement seem to think we should run the place as a recreational park and a dude ranch for city dwellers and Easterners. They seem to forget our basic constitutional principles and traditional values.

**THIS PAPER'S EDITORIAL POLICY**

The Mountain Times DOES NOT necessarily share the viewpoints expressed on this opinion and editorial page, they are the opinions and views of the various writers.

These articles are picked for publication according to their current relevance and possible interest to our reading public.

If you have a viewpoint to share, or a response to one published, please send it to this paper at -

Mountain Times  
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## THE ESTATE

CLOUDCROFT

Located just off Burro Avenue at 96 Little Glorietta, The Estate has been doing business in Cloudfcroft for four years. The Estate first shared space with a gift shop call "Mice, Mysteries, and More..." owned by Isabel Glasgow. Later, when the gift shop closed, it took over that space and more...

The Estate has vintage clothing (defined as over twenty years old) and estate clothing (from folks who have passed away, includes old and new garments). Shop hours are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and sometimes Monday, from 11am to 5pm.

In the shop you can find both men's and women's clothing, along with some jewelry, hats, purses, etc... and even a few shoes. There are estate jackets for men in sizes ranging from 36 to 46, and vintage bridal wear. The Estate specializes in Hawaiian shirts, vintage hats and evening wear, unique vests, sweaters, and just good clothing.

Assignments will be accepted if the items are of high quality and if you are looking for something "specific" that is not in the store, it can be found for you.

The Estate is owned by Carol Alvarado. When Carol lived in Houston she began collecting vintage clothing. In 1981 she moved to El Paso and began teaching fashion at the Southwest Institute (she has a Masters in Art and a BS in Textiles).

One day a friend suggested that since she had so much vintage clothing, she should start selling it. So Carol began selling her clothing at antique shows, and even attended gun shows to sell western clothing.

She and her husband bought a home in Cloudfcroft in 1998 over in Twin Forks. They became permanent residents in September of 2001. Carol still commutes to El Paso two days a week to teach Interior Design.

When you are shopping around Cloudfcroft, step off Burro Avenue's "boardwalk" and take a look in The Estate. You won't meet a friendlier person than Carol, or find better quality and selection anywhere in the Village.



**Quality resale for men & women**

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## The Weed Community Library

WEED

by Debbie Stone

The Weed Community library will be opening in July! (Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup>?) We would like to thank everyone for their generous donations of time and books.

Many members of our community have made this project a reality. It was a job well done!

We would like to also thank Joyce Komraus, Library Director for the Michael Nivison Library in Cloudfcroft, for heading up this operation. Also we would like to thank the

Michael Nivison Library Board Members and Friends of the Library for their support! We want to thank Otero Electric and all the other donations.

The Weed Community Library will be a satellite library of the Michael Nivison Library, so they will be able to serve each others needs.

We will be looking forward to seeing everybody at the Library. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Joyce Komraus 687-2308 or the Michael Nivison Library 682-1111.

## QUILT SHOW

Saturday Oct. 5, 9am-5pm and Sunday Oct. 6, 10am-4pm, at the Otero County Fairgrounds, White Sands Blvd. and Fairgrounds Rd., Alamogordo, NM. We will have quilts, demonstrations, door prizes, a gift boutique and vendor mall. There will also be a special display of quilts and wearable art inspired by the Southwest by J. Michele Watts of Roswell, NM. Admission is \$2.00 per person.

Email [philnjoy@zianet.com](mailto:philnjoy@zianet.com) or call Joyce Jenkins at 505-443-0507 or Melissa McIntire at 505-437-6488.

## Education Club

MAYHILL

by Carole Fenberg

On a lovely, but rainless, June 8<sup>th</sup>, the Family and Community Education club met at the Mayhill Community center.

Our correspondence report included a thank you from one of the fire victims. Our club helped out by providing sheets and towels to a family that lost so much.

Quilt tickets are still available. They can be purchased at the July Jamboree, the convenience store in Mayhill, the Mayhill Enchilada Dinner in August, or from any club member. Tickets are \$1. You have a chance to win a beautiful hand quilted queen size bed cover, a Christmas Tree skirt, or a table runner. All are made by our very talented club members. The money raised goes support our community projects throughout the year. This money funds our scholarship program, books for babies, and the CASA children's Christmas stocking project to name just a few projects. The winning tickets will be drawn August 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at the Mayhill Fire Department Enchilada Dinner. Volunteers are needed to sell quilt tickets August 10<sup>th</sup> and August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Our entire club offered congratulations to a member, **Eva Hale**. She has managed to raise a family, be a band Mom, commute to her job as a nurse in El Paso AND graduate from NMSU as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Within two years, she plans to start a clinic in the mountains to serve our community.

Some of our members went to Carlsbad to visit **Virginia Lewis**, a member who is terminally ill. They went in May and June.

Volunteers are needed to help at the County Fair each day from Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Please contact **Jeanette Sadler**, Fair Chairman.

Our program was one of our favorites. **B. Marr, Betty Weber, and Kerrin Schwander** taught us to make stamped greeting cards. Our results were very successful.

Lunch was a pot luck of cool summer salads and delicious desserts.

The July Board Meeting is on the 8<sup>th</sup> in Alamogordo at the Fair Grounds. It is open to all members and their guests.

The next club meeting is July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Mayhill Community Center at 10am. Club dues for county, state, and national will be collected. Dues are \$20. **Linda Perkins** will present the program. She will teach us calligraphy. Bring an Itoya double header pen. She will provide the rest. A pot luck lunch will be served. Our meetings are open to all guests and new members. Join us for fun and fellowship. You do not have to live in Mayhill to belong to FCE. Summer residents are welcome. For additional information call **Patty Posey**, president, at 687-3002.

## From the Museum/Historical Society

CLOUDCROFT

by Pat Rand

The Annual Meeting of the Sacramento Mountains Historical Society will be held at 2pm on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, in the Cloudfcroft Middle School Commons Area - the same location as the Old Timers Reunion. The results of the balloting for officers and directors for the fiscal year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> will be announced at that time. Other business will include the honoring of all the great volunteers who put in many hours of service to the Museum this past year; and without whose help the Museum would not be able to operate. The speaker for the affair will be **Dr. David Townsend**, former professor and administrator at NMSU for over 30 years, who served as state representative for this area of New Mexico from 1991 to 1995. His talk will be about **Tom Charles**, considered to be the "Father of White Sands." Tom was very instrumental in having White Sands declared a National Monument, and was its first custodian. He and his wife will be honored the day before our meeting by the placing of their bronze busts in Founders Park in Alamogordo. We hope that you will be able to attend our meeting and hear Dr. Townsend's talk.

Thanks to the wonderful work done by volunteers **Debbie and Mark Miller, Barbara Vigneault, and Kate Humburg**, the Tack Barn on the Museum grounds has been cleaned up and organized into a very attractive exhibit area. Items have been labeled and placed in proper order. When some of the exhibits were moved, it was discovered that squirrels had made cozy nests behind them. No wonder our alarm system kept going off! If you haven't visited the Museum in some time, you should come and see what has been accomplished.

Thanks also go to **Ward Neely**, a Museum volunteer who came on board to fill the void created when **Lloyd Robinson**, our computer genius, left this area for Phoenix. Ward has put in many hours setting up programs, cleaning out the unnecessary files, and scanning photographs. He is doing a great job!

**Philippe Ducroc**, who has presented demonstrations of blacksmithing at

the Museum in the past, including the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, will again demonstrate the skill of making horseshoes to visitors on Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, from 2 to 4pm. This is an interesting and rapidly disappearing art. If you haven't seen Philippe demonstrate his craft, plan on visiting the Museum that day and discover how it is done.

Now that the school term has ended for the summer, there have been more visitors to the Museum. During May, there were 195 visitors from 22 different states, and in June, as of the 16<sup>th</sup>, there have been visitors from 11 states plus the Czech Republic, England, Germany, and Scotland, with half a month still to go. If we get rain, and the forests are reopened, July should be a great month.

On Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, both the Museum and the Historical Society will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> year of their operations. The festivities will begin at 2pm on the Museum grounds, unless the weather is bad, in which case the festivities will be moved into the Cloudfcroft Middle School Commons Area. There will be formal recognition of the founders of the organization and the people who have served as officers and directors over the years since the society had its beginning. We hope that you will circle your calendar and plan to be with us to celebrate this milestone.

The Museum can always use more volunteers to help with displays, archival research, buildings and grounds maintenance, and computerization of our records and inventories. Almost anything you might like to do would be helpful, and the hours and days are flexible, so please give some thought to contributing some of your spare time to the Museum.

Membership in the Sacramento Mountains Historical Society is \$12.50 per person or \$25 for a family or a business. Admittance to the Museum is free to all members, so there is an advantage to membership. Also, the membership fee helps offset the cost of operating the Museum.

The Museum is open to visitors on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday from 10am to 4pm and on Sunday from 1pm to 4pm. It is closed on Wednesday and Thursday. Admission is \$2 for adults and .50 for children. Come visit us and see the changes that have been made to the displays.

If you should have any questions, comments, or suggestions about the Museum or the Historical Society, please call us at (505) 682-2932, or write to us at P.O. Box 435, Cloudfcroft, NM 88317.



## THE WEED TREASURE BOX

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## Burro Street Point of View

by Don Vanlandingham, Editor: www.CLOUDCROFT.com

My dad used to call it "getting slicked." It was his term for an underhanded act designed to get into your back pocket without giving a whole lot of

value in return, but making you feel good about it.

There's an ad running on national radio right now for a vehicle anti-theft system. The ad says if your car is ripped off and the alarm doesn't chase away the perpetrator, return the unit and the company will refund your money.

Heckuva deal. Very slick.

If the company was selling nothing but empty plastic boxes that they were passing off as anti-theft devices, the chances are the overwhelming majority of them will never be put to the test by a thief.

If the anti-theft device IS put to the test and fails, how are you supposed to return it for your refund? IT'S IN THE STOLEN CAR!

Have you noticed the graphics being painted on the sides of new pickups nowadays? Those swirls and twirls that strut and fret and signify nothing. What's THAT all about? It makes you wonder if the manufacturers aren't trying to substitute art for engineering.

I saw a brand new pickup going down the road this morning with what looked like paint splattered all up and down its side.

Upon closer inspection, the "damage" was actually a design. The owner BOUGHT it that way... and probably paid extra for the junk on the side of his new pickup.

Last week as I was driving down the highway I had my Slickometer turned on high sensitivity and I heard an ad on an El Paso radio station touting a big concert coming to town. Some of the biggest names in entertainment would be on the same stage, said the ad. Hours and hours of the best and most talented. It would make Woodstock look like a county fair talent contest.

In the last sentence of the ad, the announcer mumbled: "Acts subject to availability."

It other words... pay your hard earned scratch for these tickets. We're going to have all these great acts... maybe.

Doctors aren't above "slicking" their patients.

You have an appointment. It is for 10am. Bring a book. You might be sitting there waiting for your 10am appointment at lunch time.

Look over there... over the receptionist's desk. There's a sign that says, "If you're 15 minutes late for your appointment, you will be canceled and charged for the office visit."

Have you ever wondered how many hundreds of thousands of productive man-hours are wasted sitting in doctors' offices?

Perpetual motion may have been discovered by a dweeb working for General Dynamics but no, he wasn't at work. He was sitting in a doctor's office, reading a 5 year old copy of Children's Highlights and waiting on his prostate exam.

I actually witnessed a lady with the nerve to get mad after sitting in the doctor's waiting room way past her appointment time.

She demanded of the receptionist, "Who does this guy think he is...God?!"

"No," said the receptionist, "but he and God are members of the same country club."

I'll bet the receptionist had been waiting years for the chance to deliver that punch line.

Slicking used to be frowned upon and could even land you in jail. Nowadays it's an art-form. Politicians know all about slicking.

They teach slicking in some of America's best universities. It is better known as "business law."

## Drinking Water Quality Report

TIMBERON for the Timberon Water & Sanitation District, June 18, 2002

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water sources are Carissa Springs, WL-003 (Fire Station Well), and ST-111 (Sacramento Well). They are surface and ground water supplies located within the boundary of Timberon. We are currently awaiting the completion of ST-172 (Golf Course Tee Box Well), which will be tied into the system.

We have a forty year water plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential growth and use of water in Timberon.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Debbie Goss at (505) 987-2250 Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the third Saturday of each month at 10am at the Timberon Community Center.

There was not enough space to print the actual technical report. You can pick up a copy of the full report in the TWSD Office.

Our system had no violations for the year 2001. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements are supported by standby fees and monthly water billing.

## WESTERN BAR & CAFE

THE WESTERN WELCOMES OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS TO COME IN AND LISTEN TO CLOUDCROFT'S OWN FOSS BAND, COMING JULY 6TH.

THANKS ALL OF YOU OUT THERE FROM THE WESTERN STAFF.

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## HOME EXTENSION CLUB

by Laquita Hunter

TIMBERON

The Timberon Home Extension Club held its monthly meeting on Thursday June 20th. Three guests were present, they were **Billie Merrett, Lorraine Meyer** and **Jackie Tavares**. Business topics included the July 4th activities. The club will sponsor a float in the parade and provide baked goods for sale on the lawn near the Lodge. Other topics discussed were ideas for future pro-

grams and craft activities for club meetings.

July will be a craft month and **Carmella Probert** will show us all how to make dolls out of children's socks. We have seen the dolls that Carmella makes and they are adorable. Future programs will include a Tea Party and book reviews.

Home Extension Club meetings are held every 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:15 a.m. at the Lodge in Timberon. We extend a heartfelt invitation to all area ladies to come and join us.

## Josie's Country Market

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Timberon Radio Phones can be rented by the day, week, month, etc... For more information, call -

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Available in Timberon Around Mid-July!

\*3 minute limit per (each) call duration. This is so not to tie up the line.

## Dell Telephone's Annual INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Thursday, July 4th

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Fireworks - 9pm  
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**SERVING THE TIMBERON AREA**

## Smith Memorial Library

by Grace Meyers

First we need to thank **Fran Trendler** for bringing us a lovely, big copy machine. The only thing it won't do is laundry. This machine is by way of Superior Copy Machines in El Paso and came to us through Fran's influence somehow. However it was, we are so grateful.

Other folks we're grateful for this month are **Sally** true adventures (like The Perfect Storm), real stories

about ordinary women overcoming great misfortunes. Chicken Soup For Pet Lovers which tells of marvelous things pets can do for folks, etc... Also, I found A Guide to Western Wildlife which was behind other books in our Southwest section. This tells of small to large mammals, birds, snakes and lizards - shows animal tracks and skulls. I know several of you would be interested in this.

## Timberon Little Theater

from Betty Watson

TIMBERON

At 7pm on June 10, the regular meeting of the Timberon Little Theater was called to order by **Mickey Hardesty**. She announced two new members since our last meetings. They are **Kris and Joe Wheeler**. Welcome to the club!

There was an informal discussion of the play, "**The Warmhearted Lawyer versus The Meanest Man In The West**" which was presented on May 25 to an audience of approximately 120. Mickey began by expressing her opinion that it was well-received and she had heard nothing but praise for the performance. All members declared it a huge success in terms of audience approval. They were delighted to see quite a few children and teen-agers in the audience who seemed to be really enjoying themselves. There were a few minor glitches, but nothing serious, and the explosion scene was spectacular and deserved an Oscar. **Bob Hardesty** announced that a master video tape of the play was in the production archives.

Twenty-two people enjoyed the wonderful dinner at the cast party on May 28, catered by **Patty Merrick**. We were sorry that some of our crew could not attend. Certificates were presented to all involved in the production. There were a lot of laughs over the little things that didn't work out quite as planned - and some that did.

Plans were finalized for building the float and for the ice cream stand

at the upcoming **Independence Day Parade**, on July 6. We intend to keep them both as simple as possible this year.

A report was given on the status of the storage building. The TLT members appreciate all the work Bob has done to get it ready for use. He has finished the roof overhang, and completed the interior. He has painted the walls and floor - installing shelves and clothes rods, and an area for hanging miscellaneous items. Mickey will schedule a work day to move the TLT properties into the building, but not until after the 4th of July weekend. Members will be notified. The building still needs skirting before the exterior can be painted. We hope to finish it this summer.

The new speakers for the sound system were temporarily installed before the play and are very nice, but the new amplifier unit has yet to arrive. It will take a while to get it up and running; but it should be ready for the next production.

A social hour followed the meeting with a game and the sharing of jokes. Thelma Hanson made coffee to go with the delicious chocolate

cake baked and served by Mickey Hardesty.

Visitors are welcome at our meetings on the **second Monday** of each month at **7pm in the Lodge**. A social hour follows, with refreshments and entertainment. Give us a try. We think you'll enjoy the experience.

## RECREATION ACCESS DENIED

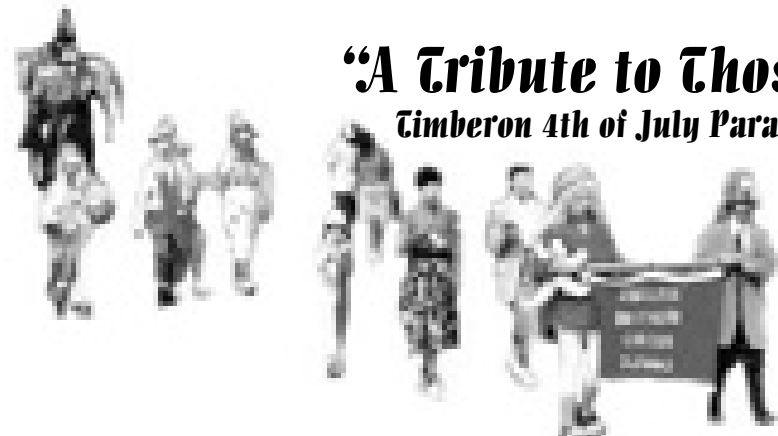
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## "A Tribute to Those Who Serve America"

Timberon 4th of July Parade on Saturday, July 6th at 10:30am

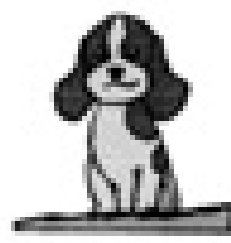


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TIMBERON

There are new audio books and a few videos, too.

Speaking of videos, we will have some included in our big book sale starting after the Parade on July 6th. There will be boxes and boxes of books, and some are quite recent. Since we don't have room for two of anything, duplicates are your bargains. You may see evidence of my tears on them.



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## Volunteer Fire Department

by Shirley Enyeart

TIMBERON

The June meeting of the Timberon Volunteer Fire Department was graced with the presence of a very special guest, the "Timberon Angel" — **Karen Holland**, who mans (womans?) the Sacramento Fire Lookout. We are so fortunate to have her in our area, as she is one of the top spotters in the nation (besides being a very nice person!).

Big doings coming up! Be sure to be here for Timberon's annual 4th of July Parade being held Saturday, July 5. Stop by the fire station early for a FREE pancake and sausage breakfast from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. After the parade check out all the arts and crafts booths on the Lodge lawn.

Our EMS responded to one call during the month. A hearty round of applause and THANKS to **Dell Telephone** for their donation to the TVFD of \$100.00, and to **Buddy & Pamela Chamberlain** for their donation of \$250.00.

## FACTS ON RURAL FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION

Wildland fires destroy hundreds of homes and acres of land every year across the country. Fire-safe landscaping is an effective tool that creates an area of defensible space between your home and flammable vegetation that protects against devastating fires.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) encourages you to keep fire safety at the forefront by learning how to landscape and maintain your property to minimize possible fire damage and slow fires if they start. Remember, fire safety is your personal responsibility... *Fire Stops With You!*

## DEFENSIBLE SPACE WORKS

During the 1993 raging Malibu fires, a number of homes were saved as a result of the owners' careful pruning and landscaping techniques that protected their homes. In a fire situation, the dead trees and shrubs surrounding your home act as fuel for fire. Removing flammable vegetation reduces the threat of fire. Follow these basic rules to create defensible space that works.

- Remove all dead plants, trees and shrubs from the site.
- Reduce excess leaves, plant parts and low-hanging branches.
- Replace dense flammable plants with fire-resistant plants

Four bids were made on our request for a new 1800-gallon Class A pumper (structural fire fighter). The order on the successful bid is being reviewed, and if things go well we should have this new equipment in approximately 5 months.

Many thanks to the volunteer youth group from the United Methodist Church, Arvada Colorado, who spent several days cleaning, raking, etc., around the Lodge and school house. Things look great and we really appreciate their help. **Don Spence** coordinated the effort and was named Volunteer of the Month.

We are thrilled to report more new members accepted by the department — **Pamela Chamberlain, Scott & Bethany Cummings, and Rusty & Josie Van Curen**. Welcome! Glad to have you with us.

Some of the following may be a little repetitious, but cannot be emphasized enough.

The choice of plants, spacing and maintenance are crucial elements in any defensible space landscaping plan.

## TIPS FOR FIRE-SAFE LANDSCAPE

- Create a defensible space perimeter by thinning trees and brush within 30 feet mound your home.
- Beyond 30 feet, remove dead wood, debris and low tree branches.
- Eliminate small trees and plants growing under trees. They allow ground fires to jump into tree crowns.
- Space trees 30 feet apart and prune to a height of 8 to 10 feet.
- Place shrubs at least 20 feet from any structures and prune regularly.
- Plant the most drought-tolerant vegetation within three feet of your home and adjacent to structures to prevent ignition.
- Provide at least a 10 to 15 foot separation between islands of shrubs and plant groups to effectively break-up continuity of vegetation.
- Landscape your property with fire-resistant plants and vegetation to prevent fire from spreading quickly.

## CHOOSE FIRE RESISTANT MATERIAL

- Check your local nursery or county extension service for advice on fire resistant plants that are suited for your environment.
- Create fire-safe zones with stone Walls, patios, swimming pools, decks and roadways.
- Use rock, mulch, flower beds and gardens as ground cover for bare spaces and as effective firebreaks.
- There are no "fire-proof" plants. Select high moisture plants that grow close to the ground and have a low sap or resin content.
- Choose plant species that resist ignition such as rock-rose, iceplant, and aloe.
- Fire-resistant shrubs include hedging roses, bush honeysuckles, currant, cotoneaster, sumac and shrub apples.
- Plant hardwood, maple, poplar and cherry trees that are less flammable than pine, fir and other conifers.

## MAINTAIN YOUR HOME AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY

- Maintain a well-pruned and watered landscape to serve as a green belt and protection against fire.
- Keep plants green during the dry season and use supplemental irrigation, if necessary.
- Trim grass on a regular basis up to 100 feet surrounding your home.
- Stack firewood at least 30 feet from your home.
- Store flammable materials, liquids and solvents in metal containers outside the home at least 30 feet away from structures and wooden fences.
- No matter where you live, always install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year. Consider installing the new long-life smoke alarms.

## THE TIMBERLINE

IN THE TIMBERON LODGE / COMMUNITY BUILDING

## HOURS

Wednesday and Thursday

11:00am to 2:00pm

Friday and Saturday

11:00am to 2:00pm and 5:00pm to 8:30pm

Sunday

11:00am to 3:00pm

Closed Monday and Tuesday

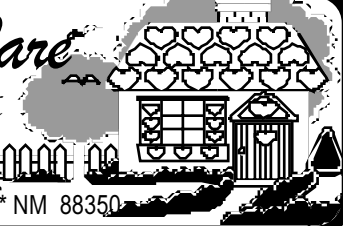
BBQ Buffet after  
4th of July Parade

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Green Fees - fees do not include sales tax

9 Holes	\$11.00
18 Holes	\$15.50

Pro Shop is Open 7 Days a week  
from 9am to 3pm

If you need anything call  
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## Golf 2002

Cart Fees - valid drivers license req. - no exceptions

9 Holes	\$8.00
extra rider - 2 riders per cart	\$13.00
18 Holes	\$11.00
extra rider - 2 riders per cart	\$16.50

Memberships - good 1 year, tax not included

Individual \$192.50  
covers all green fees for ind.Family \$302.50  
covers all green fees for immediate family  
includes husband, wife, and any children under 18

Guest \$110.00

limit 2 per day \*must be staying at members  
Timberon residence\* - no commercial appl.

Trail Fees - charge for use of private cart on course per year

\$192.50 - 1st cart, \$96.00 - add. carts / same owner

# Phase III Water Conservation

from the Timberon Water Department

June 20 - As most of you know, Timberon has a critical water shortage. The Board of Directors of the Timberon Water and Sanitation District has initiated Phase III of the Water Conservation Policy. The restrictions and surcharges, if you don't have a copy, can be obtained from the TWSD office in the Timberon Lodge. The phone number is 505-987-2250.

Some of our customers have shown a good effort to conserve water. We are asking that everyone conserve water as we try to supplement our water supply. While TWSD does not want to dictate how your water can be used, we want to be sure our water is put to the best possible beneficial use for the entire community.

Our water operator, **Jason Hamill** offers the following ideas to help reduce your water consumption -

- Use less water with each flush. Install a low flow toilet or fill a one quart plastic bottle with water, cap it, and place it in a corner of the toilet tank. This displaces some of the water in the tank and reduces the amount of water used in flushing.
- Take short showers (5 minutes should be enough) or turn the water off while soaping and shampooing, then turn the water back on.
- Turn off the water while shaving or brushing your teeth. Use a partially filled sink or glass for rinsing.
- Wash only full loads of clothes and dishes in automatic washers.
- Don't leave the water running while washing dishes by hand.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator so you won't have to run the tap to cool the water.
- Keep a tub in your sink to catch water while waiting for the tap water to get hot. Use this water to water plants, hand washing clothes or cleaning.
- Check and repair leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings. To check for hidden leaks turn off all water uses in your house for 15 minutes. If the meter continues to spin during that time, you may have a leak or a faulty toilet. Remember that leaks underground may not surface. If you suspect an underground leak, check for a patch of healthy plant growth along the water line from the house to the meter box.

# The Golf Course Needs YOUR Help!

from Yvonne Ross, Timberon Golf Association

The past couple of years without enough water have been harsh on the Timberon Golf Course. Right now, the Timberon Water District (TWSD) is only watering enough to barely keep the greens alive. Unless a good water source is found soon, it is going to be impossible to continue watering even this much. Carrisa Springs and the Water District's wells are continuing to fall in volume.

The Timberon Golf Association and concerned community members had a meeting to consider the limited options to help in this situation, and we are hoping we have found the right solution.

Working together, the Golf Association and Timberon Community will be having fund-raisers and are gladly accepting donations towards digging a private water well on the golf course. This would be a well permitted for irrigation only and located on Water District property, however, it would be owned by the Timberon Golf Association. This will be easier and quicker to permit as a private well than what the Water District has to go through in order to drill a well. If we find good water, it will be pumped directly into Lake #1 at the golf course pump house and used only to water the golf course (unless, of course, Timberon runs completely out of drinking water).

Hopefully a productive well is found, so the whole

golf course can be watered, but the main concern right now is to keep the greens alive. If the greens die, the Water District will never be able to afford to bring them back. This would be a tremendous loss for the whole community - the stores, restaurants, construction companies, real estate companies, rental houses, etc... will all suffer. Then there may not be anything here - for the people who live in Timberon, or those who come up on the weekends. It is important that this project not only be supported by the golf association, but by the community as well.

The Timberon Golf Association is asking for help in this endeavor. On the Fourth of July weekend we are having a dance, Friday night the 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the Lodge annex. There will be a minimum \$5 donation at the door. (12 and under will be \$2). There will be chips, salsa, dips, sodas, etc... On Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a golf tournament after the Parade at 12:30pm. \$20 tournament fee, green fees and cart fees, with a cash pay-out. Immediately after the tournament, there will be a Fish Fry at the High Country Lounge with chicken breast, sausage, beans, hushpuppies, lemonade and tea - all for a \$5 minimum donation. If you would like to make a donation, please mail it to the Timberon Golf Association (TGA), c/o Yvonne Ross, PO Box 98, Timberon NM 88350.

# A Truly Outrageous Melodrama!

**TIMBERON** A Review of the May 24<sup>th</sup> Play by Bob Hardesty

The Timberon Little Theater on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm proudly presented a truly outrageous melodrama, "The Warmhearted Lawyer versus The Meanest Man In The West."

Betty Watson, the author and director of the production tells me that more than 110 were in the audience, all instructed to BOO & HISS the villain and CHEER the hero, urge on the marshal, and show sympathy for the poor heroine, her 12 year old sister and her ailing father, (too sick to work).

The play opened with the heroine, Truly Warmheart and her 12 year old sister, who by the way has a serious speech impediment, doing washing, ironing, baking pies and complaining about their terrible fate if they don't make enough money by tomorrow at 5pm to pay off the mortgage on their home in the amount of \$100 to Mr. Cole Dan Dastardly. Truly does washing and ironing for anyone, and sells pies to the local house of ill repute who's main attraction is dance hall girl Flirty McGirty.

Truly's little sister tries to help with everything, but botches it all and makes Truly's job even worse. Their father, Luke Warmheart, does nothing but lie on a cot in the kitchen and complain, and makes Truly's lot in life even worse. Mr. Dan Dastardly pops in quite often sneering and chuckling to remind Truly about the mortgage deadline and also to remind her that if she doesn't pay off on time she has only two choices — to marry him or lose the house. On one of his visits he sneaks outside and steals fresh pies cooling on the window sill and runs off with them. Then Flirty McGirty enters to buy the pies for the house of ill repute and of course Truly is in a new bind and promises to rebake all the pies, and deliver them herself at once. She bakes the pies and goes to deliver them leaving her little sister, Toasty Warmheart to finish ironing a basket of hankies. (bad idea)

A stranger arrives, who happens to be a young handsome lawyer named Abel Barrister V. (his mission in town is to find a 19 year old blonde girl and tell her that she has inherited a fortune from her grandfather). Toasty is instantly infatuated with the young man and burns a hole in a hankie, so Abel graciously gives her his hankie and irons it and all the others for her. He doesn't divulge his mission, but slyly finds out that there are only two 19 year old blonde girls, Truly, and Flirty!

Later Abel just happens to meet our villain, (he dislikes him on sight) but being young and naive he divulges not only his mission but also mentions that the 19 year old blonde girl has a strawberry red birth mark behind her left ear! Dan Dastardly says ho hum, I must be going and rushes off to tell Flirty to get a strawberry tattoo.

In the meantime Luke Warmheart receives an invitation to a stag party at the house of ill repute, so he jumps out of bed,

jerks on his pants and GOES!

Truly is back at the ironing board bemoaning her fate, when Abel walks in and inquires about her long face, so she reluctantly tells him her sad story. She has scraped up all the mortgage money except \$8.25 and it is almost 5pm. Abel digs out his wallet and comes up with 3 one dollar bills. Sigh... he says "I foolishly spent most of my money yesterday sending a wire home to my law firm instead of sending it collect, oh woe is us. I am a very poor young man."

At 4:45pm Luke staggers in quite inebriated. After a big set to with Dan Dastardly, who had accused him of stealing his hat, and notices Truly in tears, so he says, "What ish de trobble?" .... "Oh Poppa, I have all the money to clear our mortgage except \$5.25 and it is almost 5pm. Luke digs in his pocket and pulls out \$20 and says, "here is the flyer my pet and a little mad money for you too".... "Oh daddy, thank you!! But hey, where did you get any money?"....."Well daughter, I have been putting a little away over the years so you and Toasty could get your medical degrees and take care of me since I am in such poor health."

At 5pm Mr. Dan Dastardly strides in chuckling and says, "Ah my pretty are you ready to marry me?".... "NEVER" Truly replies, here is your filthy lucre, count it and write me a receipt—PAID IN FULL".... "CURSES, FOIHED!! Well here is your receipt, now I must be going".... "Not so fast cries Abel, I have a list from all the law enforcements back East and you are wanted in every state for everything from arson to Xenophobia, also you tried to cheat Truly out of her inheritance by having Flirty put a birthmark behind the wrong ear. Luckily I noticed your dirty trick." Abel shouts, "Marshal come in and do your duty!" As Marshal Will Lockump cuffs the villain and leads him out Dan D shouts over his shoulder, "You haven't heard the last from me."

Able and Truly are pledging their troth when suddenly the evil Dan D bursts in the room waving a knife, and Able grabs his arm, the knife falls to the floor and Dastardly whips out a stick of dynamite, lights it with his cigar, tosses it at them and jumps out the window and hollers, "That marshal couldn't hold me and now I will blow you both up; if that fails I will tie you up and let the train run over you. If I can't have you the buzzards can!" Abel snatched up the dynamite and threw it out the door where it exploded with a tremendous bang. Ten seconds later the poor marshal staggered through the door, his hat blown off, his face blackened with soot, his shirt burned off, and his hearing destroyed. Dazed, he wandered around the room and says, "I'LL GET THAT DIRTY SKUNK!!"

Later Dan D manages to snatch Truly and tie her to the railroad track and Abel rescues her once again and knocks the villain down between the rails just in time as the train thunders by. The train engineer mutters, "I THINK WE RAN OVER A SKUNK BACK THERE, IT SURE STINKS!" Strangely, off in the distance a voice shouts, "YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE LAST OF ME, HAHAAAAHA..."

---The audience loved every minute of this play. Their involvement from the very first "poor Truly, to every Boo and Hiss for the villain just got better and better. The marshal gave such a realistic performance that for a moment the audience thought he had really been in an explosion.

## A LISTING OF USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS IN TIMBERON

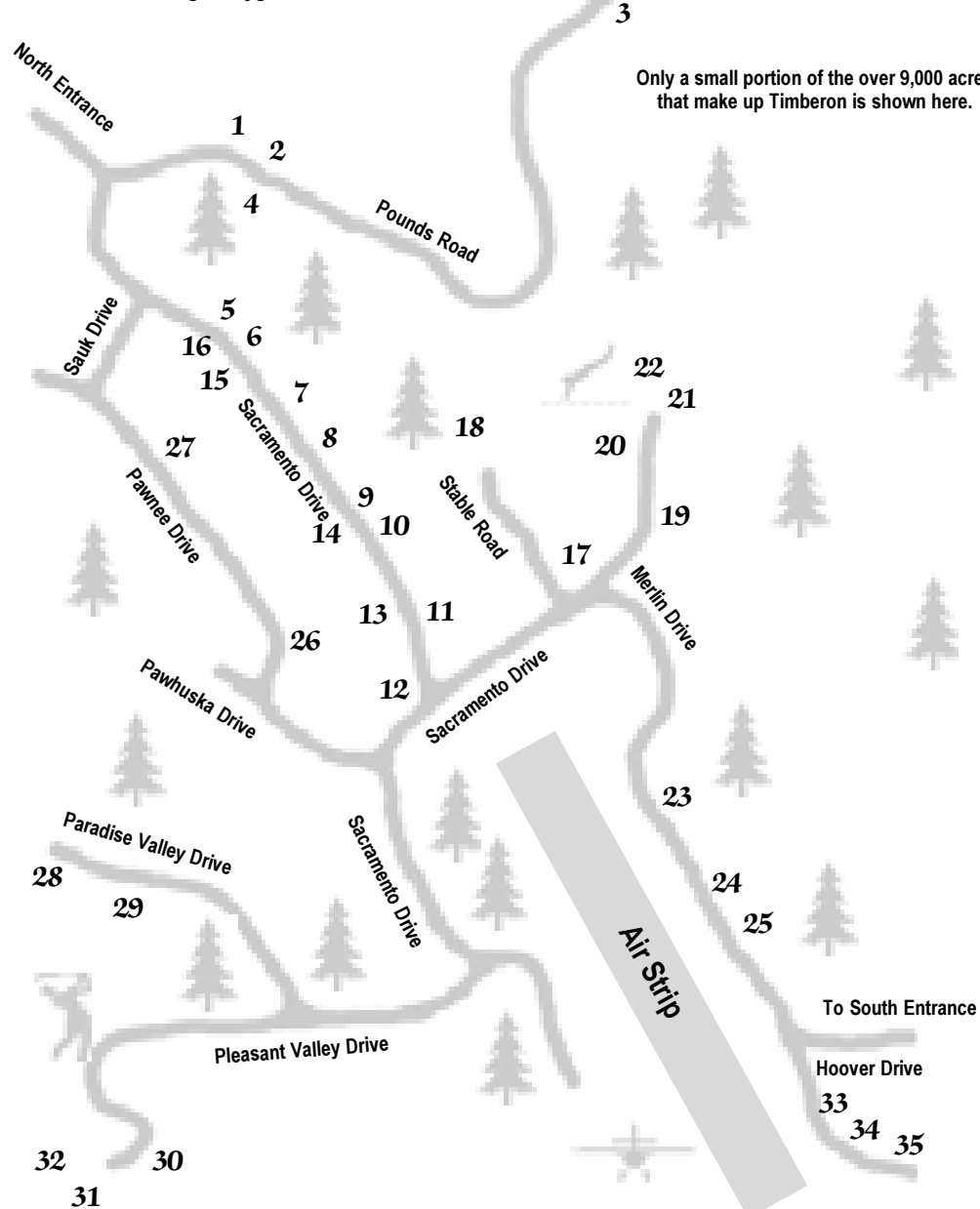
AirLock Log Homes...	987-2440	Sacramento Mtn Construction...	987-2233
Aspen Company...	987-2372	Sacramento River Lodge...	987-2600
	Fax 987-2374	Sacramento Services...	987-2435
Burton Electric...	987-2462	Sierra Propane...	987-2385
CSW Forms...	987-2415	Timberline Restaurant...	987-2527
	987-2417	Timberon Backhoe...	987-2357
Circle Cross Ranch...	987-2650	Timberon Chapel...	987-2470
Circle Cross RV Park...	987-2651	Timberon Post Office...	987-2231
Casa Sacramento...	987-2201	Timberon Fire Dept...	987-2296
Dell Telephone...		Business Calls	987-2202
Timberon	987-2500	Emergency	911
Main Office	964-2352	Timberon Golf Course...	987-2260
Nights & Holidays	964-2500	Timberon Mall...	987-2525
Trouble Line	611	Timberon Mountaineer (WebSite)...	987-2267
Equal Access	964-2222	Timberon Pool...	987-2207
Time & Temperature	964-8401	Timberon RV Park...	987-2240
High Country Bar/Grill...	987-2580	Timberon Water District...	
Josie's Country Market	987-2490	Office	987-2250
Kevin's Kustom Welding...	987-2201		987-2252
Mountain Millworks...	987-2345	After Hours	987-2380
Mountain Times...	987-2561	Maintenance	987-2230
	Fax 987-2330		
Mountain View Real Estate...	987-2690		
Otero County Electric...	505-682-2521		
- For Power Outages...	800-548-4660		
Riverside Condos...	987-2553		
Roberts Realty...	987-2440		
Sacramento Energy...	987-2365		

If we left your business or an important phone number out, please contact us -  
 (Toll Free) 1-877-987-2561  
 (in Timberon) 505-987-2561  
 (fax) 505-987-2330  
 (Email) mountain@dellcity.com

## MAP OF TIMBERON'S BUSINESSES & FACILITIES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Timberon Backhoe - Earth Moving/Materials                       | 20. Timberon Lodge Pool (Closed in Winter)                                       |
| 2. Sacramento River Lodge - Motel Lodging                          | 21. Timberon Water District offices, Community Center, Library and Exercise Room |
| 3. Timberon RV Park (Closed in Winter)                             | 22. Timberline Restaurant  |
| 4. Riverside Condos / Retreat and Lodging                          | 23. Mountain Millworks - Woodworking   |
| 5. Sacramento Energy - Propane, Appliance, Heating Sales & Service | 24. Timberon Self Storage - Storage Rentals                                      |
| 6. Roberts Realty - Land/Home Sales                                | 25. Sacramento Energy Storage Site   |
| 7. Sacramento Mountain Construction                                | 26. Community Dumpster   |
| 8. Tommy McCabe - Silversmith                                      | 27. Sierra Propane -Propane Sales, Service, and Plumbing                         |
| 9. Timberon Mall - Gas & Grocery                                   | 28. Chateau de la Shay (Currently Closed)  |
| 10. The Patty Wagon - Cafe (Currently Closed)                      | 29. Golf Course Rentals - Lodging  |
| 11. Mountain Times - Newspaper                                     | 30. Casa Sacramento - Lodging, Kitchenettes                                      |
| 12. Timberon Realty (Currently Closed)                             | 31. Timberon Golf Course - Nine Hole Golf Course, Driving Range & Pro Shop       |
| 13. Josie's Country Market   | 32. High Country Bar & Grill -Food and Drinks                                    |
| 14. MountainView Real Estate                                       | 33. Timberon Chapel  |
| 15. Dell Telephone - Timberon Office                               | 34. Timberon Memorial Park - Cemetery  |
| 16. Timberon Post Office   | 35. Old Timberon School - Community Facility                                     |
| 17. Timberon Fire Department                                       |  |
| 18. Moss Ranch - Horses (Currently Closed)                         |  |
| 19. Timberon Lodge Playground                                      |  |

Only a small portion of the over 9,000 acres that make up Timberon is shown here.



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Family Atmosphere**

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 Thur - 10:30 to 2pm  
 Fri - 7:30 to 6pm

Sat - 7:30am to 2pm  
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# Minutes "Marathon" of the Timberon Water District's Meetings

by Debbie Goss (Draft of Minutes) with Bill Gideon's Report

An EMERGENCY MEETING of the Timberon Water & Sanitation District Board of Directors was held on May 21, 2002 at 1pm in the community center. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Colleen Gillmouthe, and Joan Schug. Sid Benson attended telephonically.

On May 20<sup>th</sup> Carissa Springs were at 33gpm, the Fire Station well was at 13gpm and the Sacramento well was at 21gpm for a total flow of 67gpm. On May 21<sup>st</sup> Carissa Springs were at 32gpm, the Fire Station well was at 14gpm and the Sacramento well was at 21gpm for a total flow of 67gpm. The Tee Box well was pumped dry and stopped. It is running at 24gpm today and holding.

Memorial Weekend will seriously deplete our water resources. Bill Gideon asked that the Board get a driller in Timberon as soon as possible.

Larry Hanson suggested that T.W.S.D. take a second look at the Wishita and Carissa Wells. Joan Schug and Sid Benson asked that Souder, Miller and Associates look at these sources while drilling a new site. A water emergency was declared in February by resolution. Joan Schug moved to re-affirm that emergency and Sid Benson seconded the motion. Resolution 01/02-010 was re-affirmed unanimously.

Souder, Miller and Associates checked well driller qualification and schedules. They asked that the Board approve the Bid Specifications for well drilling. The drillers must be licensed in the state of New Mexico and must be on site within three days of notification. The bid form will be changed to include the drillers maximum capability of diameter and depth. Joan Schug moved to allow Souder, Miller and Associates to send out the bid packet as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Zeyen suggested that a pump test on the Wishita Well and a dye test for the Carissa Wells be added to the scope of work for the new RFP.

Bill Gideon has sent a letter to Livingston Associates asking that they deliver the hydro-geologic study and the Timberon Water Model.

Joan Schug suggested a tour of the water system and golf course for the community.

Joan Schug moved to begin Phase III water conservation effective for the current billing period. Colleen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Letters will be sent to customers.

A SPECIAL SESSION was held on May 22, 2000 at 1pm at the Community Center to discuss the 2002/2003 Fiscal Year Budget. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Joan Schug, Ross Durant, Sid Benson and Colleen Gillmouthe.

Debbie Goss gave a brief explanation of the proposed interim budget. The revenues are very conservative because of the water situation. Ross Durant asked that the quote from Souder, Miller and Associates be used for the Well Development item in Fund 306. Water system improvements and tank repairs will be included in the second RFP that has been budgeted at \$20,000 because funding assistance is expected. After the initial study of the water system is complete the budget can be revised to include more funding as needed. A final budget will be due on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sid Benson moved to form a budget committee consisting of Ross Durant, Sid Benson, Debbie Goss and two or three citizens to recommend a final budget. The committee passed unanimously.



Virgil Beagles

Colleen Gillmouthe moved to approve the interim budget as amended and Joan Schug seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A REGULAR MEETING of the Timberon Water & Sanitation District Board of Directors was held on May 22, 2002 at 3pm in the community center. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Joan Schug, Sid Benson and Colleen Gillmouthe. Ross Durant was absent, but showed up later.

Sid Benson moved to use Robert's Rules of Order to prevent meetings from becoming a forum to discuss concerns regarding an individual board member or employee. This item was not on the agenda and would be brought up again during Directors Remarks.

Ross Durant entered the meeting and read the Treasurer's Report for April.

Sid Benson, Linda Martin, Jason Hamill, and Bill Gideon evaluated the RFP 01/200206. The first three highest points awarded were Engineers, Inc., 400, The Larkin Group, 393, and Souder, Miller and Associates, 386. Ross Durant moved to accept Souder, Miller and Associates, Joan Schug seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Bill Gideon will notify the respondents.

Joan Schug moved to approve the interim budget. Colleen Gillmouthe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Ross Durant moved to table the wage survey and pay scale but there was no second. Ross Durant wanted it on record that he is not comfortable granting the pay scale. After more discussion, Joan Schug moved to accept the wage survey and table the pay scale until the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting after the final budget. New wages to be retroactive to July 1<sup>st</sup>. Sid Benson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Directors Remarks Sid Benson again brought up his resolution regarding personal attacks during T.W.S.D. meetings. Larry Hanson reminded Sid that the by-laws dictate the use of Robert's Rules of Order and since the resolution he is proposing is a part of them there is no need for a resolution. Joan Schug read a letter from Souder Miller confirming the well driller bid. They have six drillers interested and qualified.

Agenda Request DeWayne Beagles stated that he felt threatened by the presence of the sheriff's deputies and did not want to speak. The Board clarified that no action was taken in regard to Sid Benson's proposed resolution.

A CLOSED MEETING of the TWSD board of directors was held on May 28, 2002 at the community center at 10am. Pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-1 (H)(7), the meeting was called to discuss pending litigation.

Board members present were Larry Hanson, Colleen Gillmouthe, Joan Schug, Sid Benson and Ross Durant. Len Piazza, T.W.S.D. legal counsel, was also present.

Ross Durant asked that the General Manager and Board Secretary be excluded from the meeting. Joan Schug, Sid Benson, and Colleen Gillmouthe voted in favor of including them.

The lawsuit filed by South of I-40 was discussed and the Board agreed to indemnify all of the defendants named in the lawsuit including past employees and directors.

A MEETING of the board of directors of the Timberon Water and Sanitation District was held on May 28, 2002 at 11:15am, following the 10am closed session at the community center. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Joan Schug, Ross Durant, Sid Benson, and Colleen Gillmouthe.

Larry Hanson announced that the Board agreed to enter into a joint defense agreement to cover all of the defendants involved in the lawsuit recently filed by South of I-40.

Only one bid was received for well drilling. The maximum cost bid by K.D. Huey was \$155,093. Ross Durant objected to the well specifications being so stringent that there was only one bidder. Bill Gideon pointed out that the Procurement Code had a provision for purchasing under an emergency but there was no provision under the Water and Sanitation District Act to purchase under an emergency. According to NMSA 73-21-16 the well drilling bids have to be published.

Ross Durant moved to award the bid to K.D. Huey after negotiating prices. There was no second. Ross Durant left the meeting. Karen Perez from Souder Miller was called on a speakerphone and told of the problem. A new bid will be processed with the required legal notice. A pre bid conference and bid bonds will be included. Bids will open on June 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>.

Engineer selection for RFP01/200206 was tabled.

A MEETING of the board of directors of the Timberon Water and Sanitation District was held on June 13, 2002 at 10am, in the community center. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Joan Schug, Sid Benson, and Ross Durant. Colleen Gillmouthe was absent.

Since the Joint Defense Agreement for the South of I-40 lawsuit wasn't voted on in an open session, Sid Benson moved to accept it and Joan Schug seconded the motion. Sid Benson, Joan Schug and Larry Hanson voted in favor and Ross Durant voted against the motion. Ross Durant stated that the insurance company would issue a Reservation of Rights.

Sid Benson moved to accept the single bid for well drilling. Ross Durant had reservations about the site that was selected but Larry Hanson and Joan Schug felt that Souder, Miller and Associates have been hired as experts and TWSD should follow their advice. Joan Schug asked that change orders that result in a savings be refunded to TWSD. The maximum cost awarded to KD Huey will be \$152,393.05. Ross Durant seconded Sid's motion to accept the bid from KD Huey at \$152,393.05 and it passed unanimously.

Joan Schug requested that a notice be posted when the well driller will be in Timberon. Ross Durant asked about site preparation. The general manager will take care of site preparation at the direction of Souder, Miller and Associates.

Directors Remarks Sid Benson stated that he was glad to see the District proceeding with the well drilling. It has been a difficult process.

Joan Schug stated that this Board is basically here to do what the public wants them to do. "After the fact punishment" is the biggest waste of human time. She requested that if she is doing wrong the public speak up at the time so mistakes

can be avoided.

Audience Remarks Carlene Bompert suggested that the Board have a parliamentarian at the meetings. Ross Durant will get information for the board.

Bill Curtis asked that the board get their direction from the public so that the public can be blamed for mistakes instead of the board. Bill Curtis asked why employees are allowed to attend meetings when there is work to be done? Are they on the clock or off the clock?

Garry Starr asked about transferring money from the general fund back to the water fund.

A REGULAR MEETING of the Timberon Water & Sanitation District Board of Directors was held on June 15, 2002 at 10am in the community center. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Joan Schug, Ross Durant and Sid Benson. Colleen Gillmouthe was absent.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the board voted to award RFP 01/200206 to Souder, Miller, and Associates even though they did not receive the highest number of points during the evaluation. Souder, Miller, and Associates have not been notified of award. Sid Benson moved to rescind the May 22<sup>nd</sup> vote to award RFP 01/200206. Joan Schug seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Engineers, Inc. received the highest points and were recommended by the evaluation committee. Sid Benson moved to award RFP01/200206 to Engineers, Inc. Joan Schug seconded the motion and it also passed unanimously.

A discussion about leasing the airstrip was held. Joan Schug stated that any property given to T.W.S.D. for the purpose of an airstrip should be given back to the original owner. There was some question whether property was deeded or granted as an easement. Sid Benson proposed that the District pursue interest in leasing the airstrip. Virgil Beagles offered to serve on a committee to ask the County to accept the airstrip. Bill Gideon has presented this issue to the County Commission but has not received an answer. An individual that leases the airstrip will not qualify for State funding assistance. Ross Durant and Sid Benson along with Virgil Beagles will speak to the County Commission again.

The pool was opened as a Class B pool. The District now has a certified lifeguard necessary to open as a Class A pool. The board previously voted to open as a Class A with two attendants. Sid Benson requested two employees to attend the pool. The second employee would only need to be CPR certified. Otherwise, the District should get a horn or siren in case of an emergency. New Mexico Environment Department okayed the Class B certification as long as there is no charge for use. There was discussion about the age limit for unattended children at the pool. Sid Benson moved to have an alarm system at the pool and look for a second person to attend the pool and certify the pool as Class A. After more discussion, Sid Benson modified his motion to certify the pool as a Class B pool.

At the recommendation of the general manager, Joan Schug moved to terminate Matthew Lichty as the Golf Pro and Ross Durant seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Debbie Goss read Resolution 01/02015 (This resolution has been changed to 01/02016.) The resolution states that T.W.S.D.

will indemnify past and present employees and directors. Sid Benson stated that those volunteering to serve the community should be comfortable knowing that they will be covered in the event of a lawsuit. Sid Benson moved to adopt the resolution and Joan Schug seconded the motion. Sid Benson, Joan Schug and Larry Hanson voted in favor and Ross Durant voted against the resolution.

Joan Schug moved to accept the contract for 2001/2002 audit services with Dan Austin in the amount of \$7,428.09. Sid Benson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Garry Starr asked to be excluded from the District because he has a well and doesn't use the facilities. He doesn't want to pay for litigation that T.W.S.D. is involved in. The board set July 20, 2002 at the regular meeting as the date of hearing Garry Starr's petition for exclusion. It will be advertised for three weeks.

Sid Benson reported that the Budget committee has met and is working on the final budget. Carlene Bompert will chair the Water Rules committee and they will meet soon.

Timberon Development Council has canceled Robin Hood Days for this year. Directors Remarks Ross Durant asked who authorized to have a board member and two employees meet with the attorney to discuss the South of I-40 lawsuit? The request came from T.W.S.D.'s attorney.

Sid Benson suggested that T.W.S.D. provide low flow toilets to customers. A grant may be available.

Joan Schug thanked Pam Chamberlain for helping her sand the railings at the Lodge. She also thanked the audience for their attendance.

Agenda Requests Yvonne Ross presented a request from the Timberon Golf Association to allow them to drill a well for

exclusive use on the golf course. Larry Hanson requested that the well be drilled on T.W.S.D. property. All of the directors agreed to support their effort.

Mickey Hardesty represented the Timberon Little Theater in requesting that standard rules be in place for reserving and renting the annex for use on weekends. The office will attempt to do a better job of scheduling.

Bill Daniels announced that the Timberon Golf Association would hold a fish fry at 6pm on Saturday, July 6, 2002 at the High Country to benefit the well drilling effort. There will also be a BBQ at 2pm at the Lions Pavilion.

Virgil Beagles asked who requested that law enforcement be present at meetings. He also stated that his wife, Betty Beagles, is a registered parliamentarian. Larry Hanson apologized to Virgil and his wife for repeating misinformation.

Officer Mark Davis, NM State Police, reminded the audience that he was still in Timberon to enforce the law. He was at the meeting today because of a specific complaint about possible violence at the meeting.

Larry Hanson stated that money received from the fishing permits would be used to purchase more fish. If there is no money, no more fish will be purchased.

Bill Gideon announced that KD Huey would be in Timberon on Tuesday to start drilling. Site preparation will be done on Monday.

An EMERGENCY MEETING of the board of directors of the Timberon Water and Sanitation District was called to order on June 22, 2002, at 9:25am in the community center. Board members present were Larry Hanson, Joan Schug, Sid Benson and Ross Durant. Colleen Gillmouthe was absent.

Souder Miller, and Associates presented a progress report on the well drilling at the filtration plant. The current depth is 650 feet with an 8 inch diameter hole. Water bearing zones are at 150 to 175 feet and 320 to 335 feet. Estimated water is 20 to 50 gpm.

Ross Durant moved to continue drilling until significant water is found or until 1200 feet. Joan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.



Officer Mark Davis



Garry Starr

## The General Manager's Report

by Bill Gideon, TWSD General Manager

MAY 17<sup>th</sup> - The Springs are providing 33gpm; the Sacramento Well, 21gpm; and the Fire Station Well 14gpm.

We purchased a three phase generator from New Mexico State Surplus. It is a 17.5 KW mobile generator and cost us \$1134.00. The intent was to use it temporarily on the Tee Box Well and then transfer it to the Sacramento Well as backup power when commercial power fails. However, the generator will require some minor maintenance before it can be placed in continuous service. We have pumped the Tee Box Well for a short period of time, and it appears it will provide 40 gpm. Our Chief Water Operator, Jason Hamill, has contacted the Environment Department and obtained permission to connect the well to our distribution system. We anticipate having the well pumping into our system on May 21, 2002.

We are working diligently to get the swimming pool ready to open on the 24th of May, thanks to the efforts of James Ross, Cindy Moore, and the maintenance crew. We plan to open it as a Class "B" pool. Use will be restricted to Timberon Property Owners and their guests; there will not be a fee charged, nor will there be a lifeguard on duty. We will have a pool attendant. I spoke with Mr. Gunther Diehl, Supervising Environmentalist, with the New Mexico Environment Department, concerning the regulation to require municipalities to have a Class "A" pool and he assured me that TWSD could open the pool as a Class "B". We will have a pool inspection on May 23, 2002.

The dispute with Sacramento Energy Company over propane deliveries have been settled. We received a check in the amount of \$7243.84.

I talked with the Federal Aviation Agency about the procedure to close the airstrip. They asked us to wait a few days before we closed it. They will get back with us the first part of next week.

On May 14, 2002, I stopped grading roads for two reasons: (1) We are out of money for roads, in the budget, and (2) the roads are too dry.

I want to thank Larry Dempsey, Betty Phillips, Fran Trendler, and Joan Schug for their work in developing the wage survey.

Thanks also to Sid Benson for getting the Pro Shop computer up and running again.

JUNE 13<sup>th</sup> - Carissa Springs are producing 24gpm, the Sacramento well is producing 21gpm, the Fire Station well is producing 14gpm, and the Tee Box well is producing 18gpm. The total water supply is 77gpm. Thanks to every one for their conservation efforts. We are able to fill our storage tanks with the current flow rates.

The swimming pool has been leaking and Scott Cummings repaired some of the leaks using scuba gear. This has apparently fixed the problem. Thanks to Lin Foster for providing the scuba gear to help T.W.S.D. repair the leaks. We are advertising for a pool attendant to help Mary Jane, our lifeguard.

The Lake 7 slash pit was filling up and becoming a fire hazard, but thanks to Spud Jones and J.R. Samaniego for clearing the trees around the slash pit. We are now able to push the slash against one wall of the lake to eliminate the fire hazard. The slash pit remains open.

Mickey Hardesty coordinated efforts to have a church group clean up the area in front of the lodge and help sand and stain the railings. Thanks to Mickey, Don Spence and Pam. Also, it turns out that Joan Schug is really good using a sander.

On Monday, June 10, 2002 Ross Durant and I attended a seminar conducted by Rural Community Assistance Corporation for the purpose of drought planning. A number of issues were discussed including drought planning, water conservation, and emergency funding. We are currently looking into these funding sources.



### Youth Group Cleaning Pine Needles from The Front of the Timberon Lodge

A volunteer youth group from the United Methodist Church, Arvada Colorado, spent several days cleaning, raking, etc., around the Lodge and old school house in Timberon.

In the photo above, you see the group picking up pine needles under the watchful eye of Don Spense.

Members of the group are as follows- Whitney Albrandt, Kelly Atwater, Anne Canter, Collette Celani-Morrell, Lyndley Deppen, Katie Drynan, Halie Kurtenbach, Rebeca Ruiz-Kent, Kayla Schumann, Adam Sweeney, and Daniel Weaver.

The Group Sponsors were as follows - Jessica Rooks - Associate Pastor, Robert Burnham, Robin Burnham, and Marion Burnham.

Others instrumental in this effort were Mickey Hardesty and Joan Schug, who according to Bill Gideon, was really good at sanding the Lodge's hand-rails.

Thanks to everyone above and to those whose names weren't mentioned, because someone is always left out when credit is given for a project!

### Weed / Sacramento

**JULY 6**  
\*Jr Daugherty and Dinner at the Weed Cafe. Call 687-3611 or 687-3742 for info.

**JULY 7**  
\*Gospel Sunday, Music and Lunch at the Weed Cafe. Call 687-3611.

**JULY 12**  
\*Dinner and Music at the Weed Cafe. Call 687-3611 or 687-3742 for info.

**JULY 13**  
\*Dance at the Weed Gym, for more info call Steph at 505-687-3859.

**JULY 19, 20 AND 21**  
\*Weed 2002 Bluegrass Festival, sponsored by the Weed Community - call Pansy 687-3310, Steph 687-3859, Francis 687-3648, or Shirley 687-3680.

**JULY 27**  
\*Dinner and Music at the Weed Cafe. Call 687-3611 or 687-3742 for info.

### Cloudcroft

**JULY 4**  
\*July 4 Celebration on Burro Ave. and in Zenith Park (505) 682-2733.  
\*Sidewalk sales located in Old Town on Burro Ave.

**JULY 5**  
\*Melodrama at the Open Air Pavilion 7:30 pm (505) 682-2733.

**JULY 6**  
\*Melodrama at the Open Air Pavilion 7:30 pm (505) 682-2733.

\*Old Fashioned Street Dance on Burro Ave, 7 p.m. (505) 682-2733.

**JULY 7**  
\*Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest on Burro Ave at 2pm. (505) 682-2733.

**JULY 12**  
\*Melodrama at the Open Air Pavilion 7:30 pm (505) 682-2733.

**JULY 13**  
\*Melodrama at the Open Air Pavilion 7:30 pm (505) 682-2733.

\*July Jamboree Art & Craft Fair in Zenith Park-horseshoe competition, food & drink and entertainment (505) 682-2733.

\*Street Dance on Burro Ave., 7:00 pm (505) 682-2733

**JULY 14**  
\*July Jamboree Art & Craft Fair in Zenith Park-horseshoe competition, food & drink and entertainment (505) 682-2733.

\*Annual Meeting of the Sacramento Mountains Historical Society will be held at 2pm in the Cloudcroft Middle School Commons Area.

**JULY 27**  
\*Train Load of Talent-The Covered Pavilion (505) 682-2765.

### Timberon

**JULY 6**  
\*Free Breakfast at the Timberon Fire Department from 7:30am to 9am.  
\*18 Hole Scramble at the Timberon Golf Course (505) 987-2260.

Sponsored by the Golf Association, followed by a Catfish Fry.  
\*Annual Timberon 4th of July Parade at 10:30am on "Main Street." Activities after the parade include - "Zoo to you", Knife and Tomahawk Throwing, a Flea Market, Six Guns and Shady Ladies, Indoor BBQ, Bake Sale, Live Music by the Rim Riders, and more...

**JULY 7**  
\*Masonic 4 person Scramble at the Timberon Golf Course, 9am. (505) 987-2260.

**JULY 8**  
\*Timberon Little Theater meets at 7:30pm in the Lodge.

**JULY 13**  
\*Timberon Development meets at 10am in the Lodge.

**JULY 18**  
\*Home Extension Club meets in the Timberon Lodge annex.

**JULY 20**  
\*Timberon Water District meeting at the Lodge annex. (505) 987-2250.

**JULY 27**  
\*Thorp Memorial Classic at the Timberon Golf Course (505) 987-2260.

**JULY 28**  
\*Thorp Memorial Classic at the Timberon Golf Course (505) 987-2260.

## WEED LIBRARY OPENING IN JULY!

### WEED TREASURE BOX GIFT SHOP

NOW OPEN - Local Arts and Crafts, Antiques and Collectibles, Handmade Stuffed Animals, Gifts, American Indian Jewelry, and Floral Arrangements!  
LOCATED NEXT TO WEED CAFE

To get the events of the area in the community calendar, call 987-2561 in Timberon and toll free 1-877-987-2561 if you live in other parts of the Sacramento Mountains. If your community is not listed this month on the calendar it doesn't mean we don't cover it, just that no events were reported this time! Let us know what is going on in tyhe Mountains!

#### EVERY SATURDAY

\*Lions Club Bingo in the Lodge.  
\*Rim Riders play every Friday in the Lodge.  
**TIMBERON CHAPEL**  
\*Bible Study / Service every Wednesday at 6PM.  
\*Sunday School at 9:45 AM / Service at 11:00 AM every Sunday .

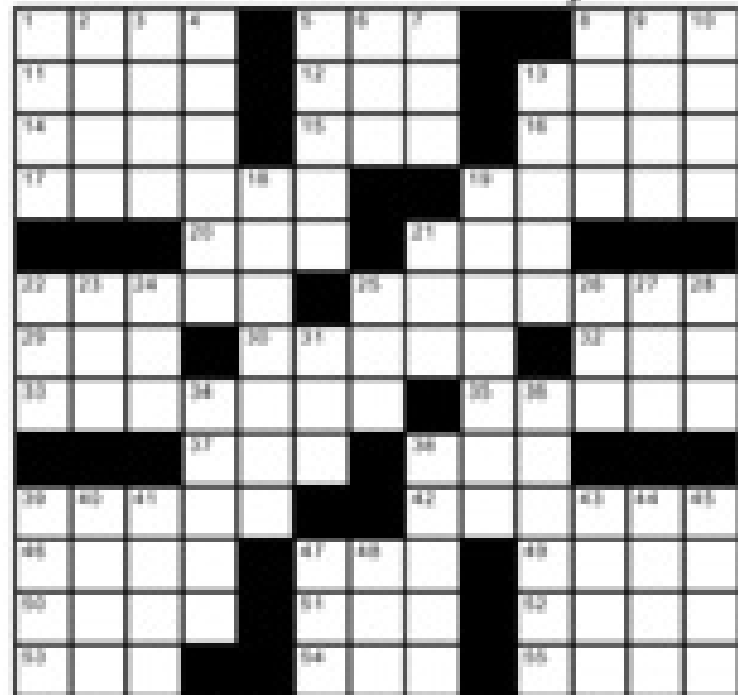
#### LIBRARY

Smith Memorial Library is open:  
Mon & Wed 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Fridays 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Saturdays 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### TIMBERON'S ROBIN HOOD DAYS

will not be held this year!

#### CROSSWORD CHALLENGE: Mother "Mary" I?



- Across
1. Farm building
  5. Office and ... (Shenbeck classic)
  8. Greek letter
  11. Sailing the Mediterranean
  12. 4-stringed guitar
  13. Become a fool
  14. Jaunty rhythm
  15. NYC Museum
  16. Liberos
  17. VIOLENCE
  19. Guide tower
  20. Whatsoever
  21. ... Pauly (Brazilian capital)
  22. Sales south
  23. Peninsula
  24. Vex
  26. Pertaining to the moon
  32. Stone, e.g.
  33. Polite bread
  35. Images
  37. Life ... House (2001 film) (Friends)
  38. 34th President, to friends
  39. Songs
  42. DISTRESS SIGNAL
  45. Scared's expletive
  47. Lawyer's org.
  48. Mitten rock
  50. Related
  51. Full island
  52. One Flow ... The Cowboy's Head (1975 film)
  53. River bordering TX and OK
  54. Oodles
- Down
1. Heating valve
  2. Largest continent
  3. Thrift
  4. Actor Lario
  5. The ... Returns (2001 book)
  6. ... out
  7. Fisherman's mesh
  8. Survey
  9. Ordinary
  10. Fe
  11. UNLAW POLITICAL
  18. Populous
  19. Mid ascending
  21. Health resort
  22. Stinky nickname
  23. Three (comb.)
  24. Alan initials
  25. Uno
  26. Self
  27. Male offering
  28. Distress signal
  31. "Land of the free"
  34. GUATEMALAN INDIAN
  36. Sri Lanka's island
  38. Visual representation
  39. Now
  40. Alumnath
  41. Demote
  43. Mr. Latham
  44. Affix
  45. 3P
  47. Breaded beverage
  48. Montage or Chaparral, e.g.

#### Cryptic Quote

"PZSPGA  
KEIBFMN SEYE  
NCNTFNA  
CELDPCB  
PCCGA LDNT  
AE TYOD."

Can you guess who said that?  
Here are a few hints:

1. He was an eccentric 19th century author, poet and playwright.
2. He was the son of an Irish poet.
3. He is best known for his masterpiece, "The Importance of Being Earnest".

#### WORD SEARCH: Hittin' the Books



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- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Album        | Ledger     |
| Almanac      | Lexicon    |
| Atlas        | Log        |
| Bible        | Notebook   |
| Black Book   | Novel      |
| Catalog      | Paperback  |
| Cookbook     | Phone book |
| Datebook     | Sketchbook |
| Diary        | Textbook   |
| Dictionary   | Thesaurus  |
| Encyclopedia | Volume     |
| Gazetteer    | Workbook   |
| Journal      |            |

Send in your own words and clues - we'll make a puzzle from them and give you the credit!

#### SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CRYPTIC QUOTE

Cryptic Quote: "There are no great things, only small things with great love."  
Who said that?: Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997) was an Albanian-born Roman Catholic nun who was known for her dedication to the poor, especially those of India. She founded the Order of the Missionaries of Charity and was awarded the 1979 Nobel Prize for Peace.

#### SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD



**Sacramento Energy**  
THE PROPANE COMPANY

**Rinnai**  
VENT-FREE HEATERS

**GREAT FOR HIGH ALTITUDE**

We provide timely and competitive propane delivery and services throughout the Mountain Area, including Timberon, Weed, Pinon, Sacramento, Sunspot, and Mayhill.

Please call 505-987-2365 or 1-888-441-6630 if we may be of assistance.

**TIMBERON: 505-987-2365 (Fax) 505-987-2441**  
**ALEDO: 817-441-6568 or 1-888-441-6630**  
**SACRAMENTO/WEED AREA: 505-687-3345**  
**MAYHILL: 505-687-2301**  
(Email) [sacenergy@aol.com](mailto:sacenergy@aol.com)

**CAUGHT IN THE ACT!**

A PRODUCT OF PIZZAZZ

# THE MOUNTAIN TRADING POST - CLASSIFIED SECTION

## MISCELLANEOUS

### FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Mostly Ponderosa Pine - mostly fresh cut and uncured. Long sections and shorter pieces, unsplit. \$25 a pick-up load. You come and get it in Timberon. We have a bunch and will have even more!  
Call 505-987-2561.

### \$1,000 REWARD

There is a \$1,000 reward offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person, or persons, who cut the fence on Circle Cross Ranch.  
Call 505-987-2651 or 505-987-2652.

## OWN A NEWSPAPER IN THE MOUNTAINS

This newspaper is for sale. Own a growing, and profitable, paper in the Sacramento Mountains.

Technical support and website included.

For more information, call toll free 1-877-987-2561.

### CLOUDCROFT CONCRETE & MATERIALS

Transit Mix - Sand - Gravel, located between Highway 82 and 130 in Cloudcroft. Call 505-682-2309.

### Looking for a Mature and Self-Motivated Person to Sell Newspaper Ads

Perfect job for some who wants to supplement existing income and set own hours. If you are interested and would like more info, contact this paper -

Call toll free - 1-877-987-2561 or Email - [mountain@dellcity.com](mailto:mountain@dellcity.com)

## RENTALS

### HOUSE FOR RENT

(the old Roseborough place)  
2 Bedroom - Completely Furnished - \$75 a day - Special Weekly and Monthly Rates Available. Contact Mary Hamill @ 505-987-2537.

### OFFICE or RETAIL SPACE

Available in Roberts Realty building - good location, Downtown Timberon. For Information Call 1-888-441-6630

### 2 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME

In Timberon - \$250 a month, you pay utilities. Inquire at Josie's Country Market. Call 505-987-2490.



CLOUDCROFT VACATION LOG HOME

802 Maple

Very comfortable, rustic, custom built Air Lock Log Home in an easily accessible, established residential area of Cloudcroft. Features a large master bedroom suite with wood burning stove, bath with whirlpool tub, separate shower and sauna. Additional three bedrooms and one bath, fully equipped kitchen with dishwasher, laundry facilities and separate dining room, living room with wood burning stove. Covered deck in front, open deck with hot tub in back. Will sleep up to 14 people. \$225.00 per night for six or fewer persons. \$10.00 per person, per night for any number over six.

Cloudcroft Properties  
888-682-4888  
Johnnie M. Hines

## SERVICES

### WINDOW WASHING

BY ST. CLAIR  
Residential - Commercial  
"BIG or SMALL - WE DO IT ALL"  
For a free estimate, please call James or Barbara at 505-682-7519 (leave message)

## FREE

### INDIAN MEDICINE CARD READING

Nawassa Lightfoot. Timberon, New Mexico. 987-2558.  
Donations willingly accepted!

## ITEMS FOR SALE

### PIANO FOR SALE

Kimball Stinnet Piano, 1969, Excellent condition. \$1,800.  
Call 505-439-0472

### NEW WATER HEATER

New 50 gallon propane hot water heater \$250. If interested call - 505-623-0134

### REFRIGERATOR

Combination Propane/Electric, Explorer, 14.4 cu.ft. (freezer & refrigerator) Model GRQ15. Call 505-457-2241.

### VAN FOR SALE

1987 Dodge Van, good mechanical condition, AC. \$1,200.  
Call 505-439-0472

### FOR SALE



John Deere Model 10 Front Hydraulic Loader for compact tractor. \$475. Call 505-439-0266 or email [dingman@zianet.com](mailto:dingman@zianet.com)

### 1996 SOUTHWIND MOTOR HOME

34' Wide Body, 460 Ford Fully Equipped - Plus Many Extra Features. Excellent Condition Only 29,000 Miles Price \$38,500  
Call 505-585-4163.

## HELP WANTED

### Looking for a Mature and Self-Motivated Person to Sell Newspaper Ads

Perfect job for some who wants to supplement existing income and set own hours. If you are interested and would like more info, contact this paper -

Call toll free - 1-877-987-2561 or Email - [mountain@dellcity.com](mailto:mountain@dellcity.com)

## INTERNET

### VISIT THIS WEB SITE

New Mexico Wanderings About little-known and lesser-known places with over 1,700 photos and 800 pages - <http://www.huntel.com/~artpike/>

Free Pregnancy Test Available. Call 434-5525

## REAL ESTATE

### LOT FOR SALE

1 acre in Timberon - Lot 37. Blk 78, Unit 7. Call 505-624-2175, Ask for Roger.

### WANTED - MOUNTAIN CABIN/MOBILE

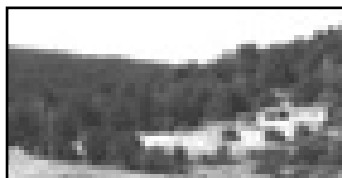
Eastern side of the mountain range. Remote/accessable. Will buy 2-3 bedroom, water/electric/phone. Must be owner financed with flexible terms, under \$45,000. Donations gratefully accepted. Serious donors/sellers only please.

Meditations Universal Life Church, PO Box 85, Shoshone, CA 92384-0085. Fax: c/o #243 (775) 751-9550.

### FOR SALE IN TIMBERON

Doublewide 28x60 Lancer on approx 1/2 acre lot, magnificent view, rock fireplace, 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, attached deck, shed, free standing deck, double carport and shed.  
Contact 505-987-2358 or 505-443-0902.

### FOR RENT IN HIGH ROLLS



4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Laundry Room, \$700/month, \$700 down, Call Michelle Gilbreath at Re/Max - Alamogordo 505-437-0914. Pets OK with NR Deposit - Beautiful View, 1.17 Acres, Well, Septic and Shed.

### TIMBERON LOT FOR SALE

Sacramento #3, Blk 10, Lot 7. 1.13 acres. Electricity at rear / water nearby. NE exposure, excellent view. \$8,400. R. Niehaus, 241 Hollywood Dr. Edinburg, TX 78539. 956-381-5960.

### MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

NMSU Students & Parents 16X70 2/2 Palmharbor Energymiser, 2X6 walls, plywood floors, newer carpet, ceramic kitchen counters, hardboard skirting, in park around corner from campus, 3K under book. Call 505-523-5856.

### TIMBERON LOT FOR SELL

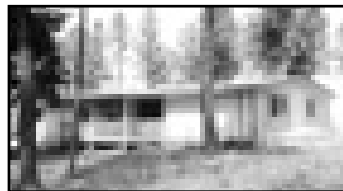
Lot 15 of Block 20 of Unit 7, Golf Course Subdivision. 1/2 acre on Oakmont Drive. Call 806-965-2665 or write Janice or Gene Snell, HCR4-Box 40, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

## REAL ESTATE

### TIMBERON LOTS

1/2 acre - Lot 4, Blk 10, GC3 - \$3,500. Also 1/2 acre lots - Lot 7, Blk 7, GC1 -- Lot 5, Blk 130, T14 -- Lot 18, Blk 109, T10. Offers Considered. Terms. 505-869-6585 (Billy Jones)

### FOR SALE MOUNTAIN RETREAT

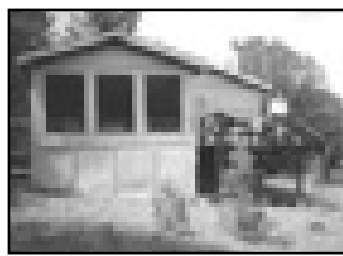


4 bdrm, 2 full bath, Den, Kitchen dining room, Living room combo, Cathedral ceilings, Sky lights, Central heat, Forced air wood burning fireplace, Double wide mobile home, Furniture and appliances are negotiable. 2 one-half acre lots, Shop and storage buildings, Commercial grade metal roofs, Front and rear covered porches, Concrete sidewalks and rear entry parking slab. In Timberon, New Mexico.  
Call 505-987-2573 / 361-580-0802.

### LOT FOR SALE

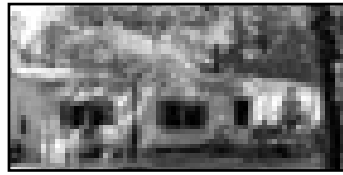
In Timberon, Very reasonably priced. Call 505-832-6045.

### MOUNTAIN CABIN FOR RENT



Large screened porch, high deck in rear, 2 bedrooms (king and queen), fireplace, VCR. Modern, attractive, fully equipped. \$75 @ night, \$420 @ week. 915-550-3406.

### HOME FOR SALE



Mobile Home For sale in Timberon, NM. 14x60 Palm Harbor, nicely furnished, new deck, woodburning stove, sitting on approximately 5/8 acre with beautiful view. \$28,000 o.b.o. Call 505-987-2512 or Email: [storm4x4@hotmail.com](mailto:storm4x4@hotmail.com)

### FOR SALE 1987 OLDS \$1,500.00

Call 505-987-2561

## THE TRADING POST CLASSIFIED FORM

Classified ads (up to 30 words and 1 photo) are free to subscribers. Non-subscribers pay \$5.00 for up to 30 words and 10 cents for each additional word. Photos are an additional \$1.00 and a SASE is required if you want the photo returned. All payments for classifieds must be made in advance - the ad will run until you stop it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your check to *Mountain Times, PO Box 190, Timberon, NM 88350*

## MAP OF THE SOUTHERN SACRAMENTO MOUNTAINS

This map of the Sacramento Mountains is just meant as a general guide. It is not a complete map of all the roads on the mountain. The Forest Service office in Alamogordo (505-434-7200) and the Sacramento Ranger District in Cloudcroft (505-682-2551) have a very good map of roads and trails that they will sell you. If you have a road that you think should be added to this map, call us at 505-987-2561 or tollfree at 1-877-987-2561. We will be adding roads to this map periodically.



FYI - When you go around the mountain, travel with a full tank of gas. With the exception of Allsups in Cloudcroft, most of the mountain community's gas stations keep set hours. In Timberon you can only get gas from 12 to 3pm.

## LEGEND

▬ Paved Road  
▬ Dirt Road

## COMMUNITIES

- Timberon
- Sunspot
- Pinon
- Weed
- Sacramento
- Mayhill
- Cloudcroft
- Bug Scuffle
- High Rolls
- Mountain Park

## ROADS

- US Highway 82**  
A paved all-weather road that goes off to the Alamogordo area on the left and towards Artesia on the right of map.
- Forest Road 339**  
Haynes Canyon.
- Forest Road 162**  
La Luz Canyon.
- Forest Road 183**
- State Highway 244**  
A paved all-weather road that goes through the Mescalero Indian Reservation and on into Ruidoso.
- Forest Road 405**  
Dry Canyon.
- Forest Road 90**  
West Side Road, truck suggested.
- Forest Road 63**  
Karr Canyon, closed in winter.
- Pierce Canyon**
- Apache Canyon**
- Forest Road 175**  
Sixteen Springs.

- Forest Road 228**  
Three Mile Canyon, shown in part.
- State Highway 130**  
Cox Canyon, paved, all-weather.
- Forest Road 269**  
Curtis Canyon.
- Forest Road 247**  
Russia Canyon.
- Forest Highway 6365**  
Sunspot Highway, paved, all-weather.
- Forest Road 164**  
Rio Penasco.
- Forest Road 169**  
Wills Canyon.
- Forest Road 257**  
Hay Canyon.
- State Highway 24**  
Paved, all-weather road that goes past Pinon, through Duncan, towards Artesia.
- Forest Road 64**  
Agua Chiquita, good dirt road.
- Forest Road 238**  
Perk Canyon.
- Forest Road 382**  
Seep Canyon.
- Forest Road 255**  
Jim Lewis Canyon.
- Forest Road 460**  
Scott Able Canyon.
- Forest Road 537**  
Sacramento River Road, Good all-weather dirt road.
- State Road 506**  
Part is paved and rest is dirt, comes out by Oro Grande.
- Forest Road 171**  
Perk Canyon.

Call the paper to update various road descriptions and conditions.  
This map is in the process of changing in layout soon, hopefully making it easier to use!