



TALON 2006

PO Box 275 • AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87410 • 505-334-1039

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twice
a month

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It's not about parking... By Gretta Becay

It's not about flat angle or parallel parking on a few blocks of Main Ave. It's about Main Ave. and Chaco Street becoming on and off ramps to a six-lane freeway along which traffic travels at 50 to 65 mph from Piñon Hills Blvd. in Farmington to the Colorado border.

These sentiments were echoed from attendees of an Aztec Main Street Association meeting Jan. 22 and from citizens at a meeting of the Aztec Trails and Open Space Committee Jan. 24.

Concentrated effort by citizens of Aztec, city staff and staff members of the Metropolitan Planning Association (MPO), stopped the planning of the six-lane renovation for the moment but a viable alternative plan must be presented to the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) or DOT staff will be forced to go back to the six-lane plan. NMDOT's goal is to safely move traffic and the number of vehicles projected to use the road within the next 25 years is 50,000/day. (This figure may be under estimated if all currently planned housing developments are built north and west of Aztec off Light Plant Road.)

NMDOT is very willing to accept input from stakeholders along the route to make the highway design more palatable to neighbors of the road. At a New Mexico State Transportation Commission meeting Jan. 18 in Española, Aztec Mayor Mike Arnold and Aztec Public Works Director, Steve Christensen, spoke with members of the commission and were assured the state would be very willing for Aztec citizens to participate in the planning of the renovation.

Monday, Feb. 6 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Aztec Civic Center, Aztec city staff is hosting a stakeholders group meeting for anyone interested in planning the renovation of Aztec Boulevard as it slices through the city.

Carlos Betancourth, Planner for the MPO for San Juan County, Bloomfield, Aztec, and Farmington will give a visual presentation during the meeting. His presentation is a compilation of ideas gathered from business owners along NM

Highway 516, Aztec School District officials, city staff, MPO staff, Aztec citizens, and Betancourth's own ideas coming from years of experience in urban development and transportation planning in Europe, South America and cities in the U.S.

During the past few weeks, Joe Delmagori, MPO Associate Planner, and Betancourth have met with Aztec school officials, the Aztec Trails and Open Space Committee, the Aztec Main Street Association, business owners from Aztec Boulevard, the NMDOT, and city staff offering their expertise and ideas for the road's renovation and for a plan for Aztec's future transportation issues.

At the Aztec Main Street Association meeting Jan. 22, a brief discussion about the flat angle vs. parallel parking controversy was held and Jessica Polatty, president of the association, explained to attendees that the Main Street Association was not against the plan for the renovation of Main Ave. which includes flat-angle parking. She said that the main opponents of the plan were not members of the Association. At the end of the discussion, Betancourth quipped, "It's not about parking, it's about Main Street [sic] becoming an on-ramp for a six lane freeway."

In a later conversation, Erick Aune, who also attended the meeting and is a member of the Aztec Trails and Open Space Committee, in urging citizens to attend the Feb. 6 meeting, reiterated this position, saying, "We must have a design idea for the Department of Transportation or, we will get the six-lane, King-Kongesque freeway that is accessed by way of Main Ave. and Chaco Street as on-ramps."

Betancourth and Aune both made it clear that the character of Aztec and a vision for its future should be defined first; then the road should be renovated to accommodate that vision and character. Building the road first and thereby forcing the city to work around the highway is no longer appropriate for a well-planned community.



L-R: Four Corners Good Samaritan residents Mattie Norris, Amy Reid, Shirley Denton, Keala the Special Care Unit dog & Anna Norris

Help us fill this space!!!! Let us adopt your artwork!

Our Special Care Unit residents would love to adopt your artwork for the empty spaces on their dining room walls. They promise to take very good care of your artwork and will admire the adopted artwork everyday. By letting us adopt your artwork, we can make our Special Care Unit even more special. If you have some artwork that you would like to have adopted, please give Nancy Sisson, Marketing/Resource Development Director for Good Sams in Aztec a call, 334-1781.

Lightning strikes twice!

For the first time in the history of the Aztec Boys & Girls Club's raffles, there has been a second time winner. On the Saturday after the 1,000th Harley Raffle ticket was sold in December, the Aztec Boys & Girls Club held its first Early Bird Drawing for their 2006 Harley Raffle. According to board treasurer, Mike Paschall, the drawing took place at Four Corners Harley-Davidson and a young girl who was shopping with her parents drew the winning ticket. When Paschall saw the last name and city on the ticket, he remembered Anna Buck winning a vacation package in the 2005 Vacation Raffle. Anna was the first ever winner from Aztec and Anna and husband Jon Buck of Aztec won the 2006 Harley-Davidson Street Bob in the Early Bird drawing. Paschall called the Bucks at home that day and they were surprised and elated to win the Harley. Jon already had a Harley that he was working on, but when he drove the new Street Bob to Rig Equipment & Supply to show it off, he was pretty impressed with the ride. Despite the sub-freezing temperatures, Jon was excited with his new ride.

Due to the success of the Early Bird drawing, the Club decided to include an Early Bird Special – Round II where they would give away another 2006 Street Bob on the Saturday after the 2,500th ticket is sold for the first 2006 Harley Raffle. Everyone who has already purchased a ticket will be eligible for this drawing, including the lucky Bucks. As of press time there are about 1,250 tickets remaining to be sold before the 2nd Early Bird drawing. This year, the Club has added a 3-pack option for tickets for \$250.00 which has been very popular. Paschall said that the one certainty about raffles is "You can't win if you don't buy at least one ticket."

The remaining six Harleys will be given away at the drawing on April 22nd, 2006, at the Aztec Speedway at 5:00 pm. One of those six remaining Harleys will be



Jon & Anna Buck and daughters stopped by one of the raffle ticket outlets, Main Street Music, to pick up their \$1,000 check.

awarded to someone present at the drawing. That means that if none of the first five winners are present, tickets will be pulled from the tumbler for the last Harley until someone in the audience wins. This is the first time that the Aztec Boys & Girls Club has given away eight Harleys and so far, the ticket sales have been steady and very beneficial to the Club's financial situation. In November, the Club had to cut back its hours of operation and employee hours, but due to the success of the raffle, they have returned to normal hours and employees are back to their regular work schedule.

There will be a Poker Run on April 22nd in conjunction with the drawing at the Aztec Speedway, so please stay tuned for information on that and join us at the Speedway for a chance to ride home on your very own 2006 Harley-Davidson. As always, there is an open invitation to the community to come in, visit the club, and see what you have helped build.

Aztec B&G Club Harley Raffle
\$100 Per Ticket • 3-Pack for \$250
Only 3500 Tickets Will Be Sold
Drawing Saturday, April 22, 2006
Aztec Speedway • 5:00 PM
www.aztecbg-club.com

Important Community Meeting

Freeway or Destination?

Designing our Future with our Vision:
Help define the Character of our Town

Monday, February 6th at 5:30 to 9 pm • Aztec Civic Center

The Choice is OURS. Six lanes through Aztec or ???

Please join us for this crucial gathering to better understand the implication of how transportation funding and development will define the character of our town for generations to come, and how WE the community can and will decide that fate!

Everyone has a stake!

Carlos Betancourth with the Metropolitan Planning Organization will provide a presentation regarding the potential for Aztec to plan for a walkable, pedestrian friendly town in the face of 50,000+ daily auto demands in the future.

For more information contact: 947-4875

Bitz by everyone

Happy February birthday to Danica Wilmer, Dakota Ahlgrim, Yvette Goldsmith, Michelle Martin, Dalton Martin, Shiela Hensley, Mitchell Martin, Suzanne Russell, Tabitha Wilkie, Crystal Adams, Mylan Greenleaf, Bonnie Greenleaf, Kevin Hammond, Jesse Frizzell, Ben Cady, and Ida Frizzell.

It's a Party!

The birthdays of Marge Jaquez and Hank Knowlton will be celebrated from 1:00-3:00 on February 19, 2006 at the Step Back Inn, in Aztec NM.

Our pioneer citizens and leaders in the community for many years will be honored with a special birthday party with family and friends. Marge turns a young 90 and Hank the youngster, is 88. These people share a special day and also the love and respect of the community.

Please stop by and wish these two outstanding people your best wishes. For more information, 505-334-1200



TALON NOTES

Contact: Candy, 334-1039

• TALON and friends wish Phyllis G. a speedy recovery!

• Don't underestimate the importance of the NMDOT's plan for Aztec and the need to replace it with an Aztec-friendly plan. The front page stories by Gretta in this and previous issues tell the story.

Consider attending the February 6th meeting at 5:30 at the Aztec Civic Center.

• There's a new puzzle premiering in this issue (page 19) to give the crosswords a run - Sudoku! There's also a new Sudoku puzzle

posted every day on the TALON website www.aztecnews.com. Let me know what you think.



THE MAIL (AND E-MAIL) ROOM

Teacher of the Year Nominations

Sam's Club is soliciting nominations for Teacher of the Year. Nominations must be accompanied by a letter of why the teacher deserves recognition. Deadline for nominations is March 13, 2006 and can be mailed to 4500 E. Main St, Attn: Marketing team, Farmington, NM 87402. The winning teacher's school will receive a \$1,000 grant and the teacher will receive "goodies." Contact Sharla at 326-3956 for additional info.

Valentine's Day Love Poem Contest

Hard Backs Bookstore will host a Love Poem Contest, with gift baskets awarded to first, second and third place winners.

Poems must be 500 words OR LESS and at Hard Backs Bookstore by Monday, February 20th, no later than 5:00 pm.

Love poems can be addressed to sweethearts or parents or siblings or any human being, of course. But love poems can also be about pets or cars or mountains or favorite recliners or remote controls or NFL football teams. . . . be creative!

Gift baskets will be awarded to first, second and third place winners. There is no age limit.

Winning poets will be announced and their poems published in the March 1st Aztec TALON.

Dear Editor;

It's January and every one is thinking of Martin Luther King Jr. and rightly so. But as we move on in the year, we move closer to June 22, the day we lost "the other MLK," Justin Dart Jr.

He is the mentor of every disability activist in the ADA movement; he is the man we all should strive to be like. If you have use of your legs, arms, eyes and ears, thank God and then become an advocate for those who do not. Call your local Center for Independent Living, see when their next march or rally is, and ask how you can help. Here in Farmington, it is the San Juan Center for Independence, 505-566-5827, in Gallup, it is the Gallup Center for Independence, 505-726-2709, in Albuquerque, it is the Independent Living Resource Center, 505-266-5022.

The Centers always need people to help with many projects for the communities; we need those who have disabilities and those who are, as we affectionately like to call them, T.A.B.'s (Temporarily Able Bodied). It only takes that second of inattention, on your part or their part and Wham, you become one of us.

Please DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!! Don't be on the cell phone and drive, don't try to read that map and drive, don't discipline the kids while you're driving. Watch where you are going when walking in the parking lot, or across the street. Wear all that cool safety stuff you got for Christmas when you ride your bike or skate board. You get the idea. We want your help, but we don't want you to become one of us. To learn more about the Disability Community or Justin Dart Jr., please call your local Center for Independence, or come in and visit, the coffee is always on and the company is always good.

Kay Wilson, San Juan Center for Independence, Farmington



Save the Courthouse

Folks interested in a possible future for the old courthouse are encouraged to attend the next "Save The Courthouse" meeting, Monday evening, February 13th; 5:30 pm at Hard Backs Bookstore, 200 South Main Avenue, downtown Aztec.

Happy Birthday Rachel Trujillo!
Sweet 17 on February 8, 2006



Lloyd McDonald and C.L. "Gunner" McDonald, best buddies, "just chillin'."

This could only happen in our area.

When our little brother was diagnosed with colon cancer, the miracles began happening. We are sorry it took us so long to write this, but there is a time and place for everything. We're sorry if we leave out anyone, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Thanks to: Aztec Well Service employees & Mr. Sandel; BP America employees (aka Santa's helpers) for one heck of a Christmas morning; Burlington Resources employees; L & L Oilfield Services; Cliff Long; Jim Weatherford; Kenneth, Joe D. and David McDonald; Home Plumbing & Heating, Frank & Laurie Martinez; Green Chili Grill; Thrifty Nickel; ProFixx, Sam Blue; Southwest Styles, Sandy and the girls; Mild to Wild Knives & Swords; La Cabana; Los Barelax; Rubio's; La Fiesta; Golden Corral; Hometown Burgers; Classic Cuts; Sherrie's Photography; Aztec School employees, Debbie Ward and the staff at the Aztec Civic Center; and last, but not least, Barbara Jaquez for making all the dough.

God bless every one of you. Thank you from Lloyd's six sisters, Lloyd's wife and kids and all the people who love him.

•The TALON Regulars•

- Erick Aune, Community Issues 330-8483
- Gretta Becay, reporter 334-1039
- Bert Bennett, Fire Department 334-9271
- Lynette Chilcoat, Features 333-2281
- Linda Clark, Living Life Lightly 632-2150
- Larry, Curator's Corner 334-9829
- Janie Felix, Herbal Wisdom 632-0984
- Susan Franzheim, Oil Gas Basics 970-563-1000
- Mike Heal, Chief's Corner 334-7620
- Book Nook, Library Staff 334-7658
- Sandy Martin, Aztec Bitz 334-7144
- Mary Hayes, SJCE 334-3831x200
- John Rees, Bird Talk 632-8335
- Deborah Ward, Senior Center 334-2881
- Harley Sills, Harley's Humor 334-2587
- Tom Welts, General 326-2015

These folks share their time on a regular basis to write in their field of interest. If you have subjects and tidbits they might be interested in, give them a call. If you would like to try your hand at writing, give us a call at 334-1039. Many others have submitted stories, poems and information on an occasional or one-time basis. Thanks to everyone, it sure makes for good reading.

Don't Be Left Out Next Deadline is Feb. 7

You are encouraged to be early!!
505-334-1039

TALON, PO Box 275, Aztec 87410
Dropbox at Aztec Chamber, Zip & Ship

SINCE 1993

TALON
The Aztec Local News



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7300 copies of The Aztec Local News are delivered to over 150 locations in the area for free pickup and mailed to those who prefer the convenience of a subscription.

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State Engineer lawyer advances attack on irrigation ditches

The Bloomfield Irrigation District's lawyer, Gary L. Horner, has again submitted additional comments and objections to the recently revised Scheduling Order Governing the Adjudication of Irrigation Water Rights in the La Plata River Section. These were due and submitted Jan. 19, 2006 with the Adjudication court. Mr. Horner again has been the only one protecting the irrigators of La Plata and the whole county. Felix Briones, the lawyer for the San Juan Agricultural Water User Association representing the irrigation ditches, has apparently been out voted and unsuccessful in preventing the Lawyers Advisory Committee from putting in the Scheduling Order whatever the State Lawyer wants.

The Advisory Committee has stated the individual ditches own no water rights and therefore are not, and cannot become, parties to the lawsuit. The Echo Decree Adjudicated certain flow rates to each ditch which must be protected by the ditches (Ditch boards) in this new Adjudication because the State is going to make these rights their "Section Wide Issues" in the new Scheduling Order. The previous Scheduling Order had the global issues scheduled for 2007 and only would be binding on those La Plata Users participating. The brand new Scheduling Order submitted to the Court Dec. 21, 2005 moves the global issues forward one year to March of 2006 and defines a procedure that will join all property owners of San Juan County to the court case and make these global issues binding on all of San Juan County ditches. I fear that this is an attack, by the State, on the 1 CFS per 40 acres of irrigated land on each ditch adju-

cated in the Echo Decree. Therefore it now appears that individual ditches must hire a lawyer right away to protect what the Echo Decree gave them.

The State will undoubtedly argue that individual's water rights amount to only the consumptive use amount for the irrigation of what crop they are growing whereas the Echo Decree granted about 3 AF per acre to irrigate any crop. Once you lose the amount of water needed to apply to your land to grow a crop the State will cut the amount of water flowing down your ditch to get to your land.

These are very serious issues the State wants to litigate right away in this Adjudication and each ditch should be aware and be prepared to hire an attorney for this purpose. I believe one attorney can represent more than one ditch because the issues will be the same and probably not adversarial between ditches NOW. Mr. Horner is certainly on top of the issues from what I read in his current comments and objections. His most recent comments reflect exactly some of my concerns. His first comment was accurate and apparently because they were most notably zeroed in on APS, PNM, and BHP's water permits were considered attacks instead of comments and objections as submitted. I believe, as Mr. Horner suggests, that the Lawyer Advisory Committee has turned into a veil to hide the State's agenda only and should be disbanded.

*Robert E. Oxford, Aztec, NM 87410
505-334-9270, Cell 505-330-2284*

Dear Editor

I have been reading with great interest the recent flurry of articles about municipal governments taking land under eminent domain for private development purposes. These articles relate to the recent US Supreme Court 5 to 4 ruling that this form of condemnation is legal. This action certainly seems un-American and un-New Mexican.

The Farmington City Council asserts that they will not condemn under eminent domain for private development purposes. It is my understanding that Senator Neville has sponsored a Senate Bill in our state legislature that will address eminent domain in New Mexico.

Use of eminent domain procedures by federal, state, and municipal entities certainly has its place in providing public benefit but certainly not for private profit purposes. Strict laws with rules that must be followed accompany any eminent domain taking process.

With this in mind, private lands are being taken daily here in San Juan County for private profit purposes. Oil and gas developers who seek to develop the mineral rights under private lands are taking the land and follow no state laws and the land owners are stuck with the loss. Seldom do the land owners receive dollars equal to the value of their lands. Although the land owner cannot use the land taken for a well site, they must still pay state, county and city taxes on the land they still "own." These profit driven oil and gas corporations seem to have more power than our federal or state governments when lands are taken from private owners.

Land owner help could be on the way. House Bill 437 titled the Surface Owners Protection Act has been introduced in the New Mexico Legislature. This bill will not prevent nor delay the drilling for oil or gas. It will require oil and gas operators to acquire a surface use agreement with the land owner for new wells. The land owner would be offered reasonable compensation for the lands taken for oil and gas development. Notification of planned drilling activities would be required. Often, over two acres of land is consumed when a new well is placed. The one time land costs are only a fraction of a percent of the total well development and management cost over the lifetime of the well.

All of us know how important oil and gas development is to our nation. This bill will require the huge profit driven oil and gas developers who export most of our resources from our area to recognize that they must provide reasonable compensation for the lands taken for their private profit purposes. They take our lands for their profit but the land owners do not ask for income from the mineral right owners. It is currently all loss for the surface land owner.

This legislation, if passed, could really help many land owners in San Juan County who own acreage that is located in a drilling window. Please help promote this bill by calling your Senators and Representatives and ask for their support. The State Capitol switchboard number is 505-986-4300. You can also call the San Juan Citizens Alliance office in Aztec at 334-1301 or 360-8994 for further information on HB437. Information on the bill can also be found at www.legis.state.nm.us.

Your help is needed. Over 1000 San Juan County residents have signed petitions delivered to Governor Richardson supporting this legislation. Let us make sure that New Mexico has laws on the books for protecting our private lands when oil and gas developers arrive to take our land. Land owners of New Mexico need HB437 the Surface Owners Protection Act !!

Thanks,

Warren J. McNall, Aztec NM 334-6534

Sex offender task force needed

My name is Robert "Bob" Daily. I have been a treatment foster parent for the past six years. In those six years I have been to court several times for the children that my wife and I care for. The courts are handing down sentences that do not fit the crime. These children are scarred for life and we give them (meaning the criminal) too small of a sentence or probation. We make them register as a sex offender, which is a joke if no one watches them. They live wherever they want. We need a sex offender task force in our area. We need to change the laws and protect our children. I am going to start a non-profit organization, but I'm going to need your help. You see, I witnessed a sex offender, or a child molester, as I like to call him, who was released from prison after

serving five years of a 114-year sentence. He had two little girls, ages approximately four and six years, sitting on his lap while he was drinking a beer. I was there at the hearing when the judge released him on parole, and I know his release conditions were that he not be around children or alcohol. If he came into contact with either, he would spend the rest of his sentence in prison. So, when I witnessed this, I found a police officer, told him what I knew to be true, and he was arrested. I thought that would be it, he would serve out the rest of his prison time, but I was very wrong. I grant you, I don't know the law very well, but this guy spent seven days in jail and was released without ever seeing a judge. Did you know a parole officer can request a release and these criminals do not have to see a judge? Well, his parole officer got him released. If there's anyone out there who knows any different, please let me know.

Well, enough about this guy. Trust me, there are a lot more just like him in our county. I wrote a story about this guy, and the TALON printed it in the Feb., 2004, issue. What I would like to do is start an organization to help these children. We need to get our voices heard in legislature to create new laws (example: three strikes, you're out). We need a task force to run sex offenders against a list to make sure these people live and work where they say. We need more safe houses where children can be loved and cared for along with counseling. A hotline for the sole purpose of apprehending violators of the sex offender laws would be very effective. This will all take a lot of time, money, and support. We will need a board of directors. If you agree with these actions and would like to help the children, please contact me. Right now there is no non-profit status, so your donations are not tax deductible. Please help. There are hundreds of people in San Juan county who know me and the person I am. I write this letter to you from the heart. One voice can hardly be heard. With your help we can be heard around the county and maybe throughout the state. I know how giving the people in San Juan County can be, so please don't overlook this chance to better our community. You can contact me by letter at 3300 Iles Ave., Farmington, NM 87402; web page <http://PACMO.org>; or e-mail pacmail@pacmo.org.


Thank you for your time.

Robert Daily

Aztec Events Countdown

- 51 Days: 9th Annual Aztec UFO Symposium 2006**
March 24th-26th
319 S. Ash • Friends of the Library 334-7658
- 70 Days: Alien Run Mtn. Bike Competition**
Sometime in April • Aztec Library 334-7658
- 120 Days: Fiesta Days June 1-4, 2006**
Aztec Chamber 334-9551
- 136 Days: Main St. Movie Night June 17, 2006**
Jessica Pollaty Main Street Assoc. 334-3014
- 149 Days: Balloon Rally June 30-July 2, 2006**
Aztec Chamber 334-9551
- 164 Days: Main St. Movie Night July 15, 2006**
Jessica Polatty Main Street Assoc. 334-3014
- 199 Days: Main St. Movie Night August 19, 2006**
Jessica Polatty Main Street Assoc. 334-3014
- 226 Days: Antique Truck Show Sept. 15-17, 2006**
Aztec Chamber 334-9551
- 220 Days: Founders Day Sept. 9, 2006**
Aztec Museum 334-9829
- 248 Days: Octoberfest October 7, 2006**
Jessica Polatty Main Street Assoc. 334-3014
- 248 Days: Yard Sale of the Universe! Oct. 7, 2006**
Aztec Chamber 334-9551
- 272 Days: Safe Treats October 31, 2006**
Jessica Polatty Main Street Assoc. 334-3014
- 304 Days: Main St. Christmas Celebrations**
and Parade Dec. 2, 2006
Jessica Polatty Main Street Assoc. 334-3014

AZTEC PROJECT GRADUATION COMMITTEE MEETING
 Thursday, February 2, 2006 at 6:00 pm
 Lydia Rippey School Library
PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND HELP WITH PLANNING.
 For info call Colleen at 334-5599.



Construction on Main Ave. in Aztec and the renovation of the intersection of U.S. 550 and NM Hwy 516/Aztec Boulevard is shut down for the winter. Depending on the weather, the construction will start up again in early spring, possibly even as early as March.



Judge Bush-Aldaz shows off her Have a Heart sign made by members of her staff

Judge to waive Warrant Fees during February

By Cherry Church

It's February and time once again for Judge Barbara Bush-Aldaz's "Have a Heart" program. When Ms. Bush-Aldaz became the Aztec Municipal Judge in 1994, she was surprised at how many warrants were outstanding so she initiated the "Have a Heart" Program. During the month of February, anyone who has an outstanding warrant at the Aztec Court can come in and pay it without fear of being arrested. At the same time, Judge Bush-Aldaz will waive the \$100 warrant fee.

This year there are 2027 outstanding warrants for a money figure of \$798,769. In order to be a part of the program, you must pay the entire outstanding amount, however, Judge Bush-Aldaz and her staff will work with you if the amount is large. After paying 1/2 down, arrangements can be made to make payments. Last year seventy people took advantage of this generous offer.

For information or to check and see how much you owe, call the court at 334-7640. Or, go to the court during the month of February and get back in compliance. The Judge's office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner and silent auction benefit

A spaghetti dinner and silent auction to benefit Frank and Ann Utley will be held Saturday, February 25, 2006 at the Aztec Masonic Hall, 1020 Aztec Blvd. NE (HWY 550 north of Aztec).

Frank is a Mason and Past Master of the Aztec Lodge and owns and operates Utley Plumbing and Heating in Bloomfield. Frank's wife Ann has been undergoing treatment and as a self-employed business owner affordable health insurance has not been available to Frank and his family. This benefit is to help with medical costs incurred during Ann's treatment.

A spaghetti dinner including spaghetti with sauce (with and without meat), salad, bread, beverage and desert will be served with the proceeds going toward medical costs. Tickets for the dinner are \$8.00 for adults; children ages 3 through 12 will be \$3.50, children under 3 are at no charge.

In addition to the dinner there will be a silent auction, door prize drawings and a 50/50 drawing. Donations of items or services are appreciated. The contact person for donated items or for more information is Ann Phipps. Ms. Phipps can be reached at 505-324-0514 or 505-325-1720 Ext. 6322 or e-Mail to classict@juno.com. Tickets will be available from Ms. Phipps and at locations to be announced.

The Masonic Hall doors will open at 5:00 PM on February 25. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Items will be available for the silent auction beginning at 5:00 PM. Dinner service will begin at 6:15 and will continue until all have been served. The 50/50 drawing tickets will be available for purchase throughout the evening. The drawings for door prize and 50/50 will begin at 7:00 PM. The silent auction will close at 7:30 PM. Bidders need not be present at the time the auction is closed. High bidders will be contacted and arrangements made for pickup of items.

So bring your appetite, bring a friend, bring a bib but most of all bring your checkbook. This is an important event and all are welcome. PLEASE JOIN US.



Dear Citizens of Aztec:

I bring concerns over the direction of our public schools.

I have read in the paper our school board was voted the school board of the year. I have read the articles in the Talon by Dr. Linda Paul, Aztec School Superintendent. I have read the newsletters brought home by my children stating there are no schools in Aztec not meeting state guidelines.

In November, I heard rumors that Aztec High was going back to a traditional 6 period schedule. This confused me as I had been told all is well with Aztec Schools. If so, why is there a need for change?

Mr. Carpenter, Aztec High School Principal, held two town hall type meetings regarding the suggested schedule change. He advised those who attended that under block, a student only gets 135 hours of classroom instruction per semester. By adopting a 6 period traditional schedule, students would get an additional 30 hours of classroom instruction per year. At first glance, this sounds like a benefit to our students. However, after doing my own math, I found that block schedule offers 135 hours per semester and traditional schedule offers 82.5 hours per semester. This translates to 270 hours per year in block scheduling and 165 hours in traditional scheduling per year.

Mr. Carpenter has pointed out that block scheduling is semester courses only in most cases and that is why the classroom time of a traditional schedule can offer so much more to our children. If a year long course in math is the only way to make our students effective and competitive, changing the schedule is not the answer. Leave the block scheduling and simply make the math classes full year, which would provide 105 more hours of classroom instruction per year than traditional scheduling is able to offer.

Still confused, I went to the education resources on the internet to find out why we would leave a block schedule that is working to go to a system we had to have had a good reason to leave years ago. What I found is there is no statistical difference in Block and Traditional schedule.

Still confused I went to the state public education web site: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/>, to see for myself the accomplishments of Aztec Schools. What I found on this site was disheartening.

<http://www.ped.state.nm.us/div/acc.assess/accountability/ayp.html#reportcard>

Here are the 2005 numbers for our schools: Aztec Schools percent of student's proficient: Elementary, Grades 3, 4, 5 = Reading 64.15 Math 36.47 Koogler, Grades 6, 7 & 8 = Reading 52.46 Math 23.53 High School, Grades 9 & 11 = Reading 64.79 Math 33.33

To say the least I was stunned to learn that after 11 years of professional education, 55.79% of our students are Not Proficient in Reading and 66.67 are Not Proficient in Math.

So I got to thinking, if it was not the block schedule and not our board of education, it might be that we under pay our teachers so they cannot teach to proficiency. Then I found this on the internet: www.ped.state.nm.us/press/2005/may/05.17.05a.html

The article states that in May of 2005, 844 teachers

Mosaic Academy student enrollment lottery drawing

by Diane Mittler

Mosaic Academy is a public charter school opening in Aztec in August of 2006. As a public school, it will be free and open to area students. Interested individuals may apply to be included in a lottery drawing for the selection of students.

In preparation for its opening in August of 2006, Mosaic Academy will host its initial student lottery drawing on February 15, 2006. Individuals whose names are drawn during this lottery will secure a place as a student at the school. As a public charter school, Mosaic Academy will provide an educational choice to families in this area. The Academy will serve students in grades K through 6 in multiage classrooms. Curriculum will be

integrated and connected between subject areas. In this integrated context, instruction will be differentiated based on individual student needs, levels and interests.

Mosaic Academy will enroll no more than 140 students for its first year of operation (2006-2007). Twenty students at each grade level (K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 for the 2006-2007 school year) will be drawn and enrolled during the first round of the lottery. First round lottery drawings will be held monthly through May. An additional lottery may be held in June, if deemed necessary and appropriate by the Mosaic Academy Governing Council.

Once 20 students are enrolled in a given grade level, the drawing of names shall continue, and students shall be placed on grade-specific waiting lists and assigned a number (beginning with #1) in the order they are drawn. Student lottery applications are currently available at www.mosaicacademy.net, from mosaic_academy@yahoo.com, or from Bonnie Braden (334-6232) or Diane Mittler (360-1025). To be included in the February lottery drawing, applications must be postmarked on or before February 10, 2006. Any applications postmarked after that date will be included in the March lottery.

The lottery will be held at the Commission Room at the Aztec City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on February 15, under the supervision of Municipal Judge Barbara Bush-Aldaz. The public is invited to attend.

Norm Referenced testing is testing a group of people against each other; the results are usually shown on a bell curve.

Criterion Referenced tests are scored against a standard. An example of Criterion Testing is the drivers license test. If it was a norm referenced test and nobody knew what a red light meant, it would not count against anyone—until they went through a busy intersection.

I believe that Mr. Carpenter and Dr. Linda Paul will say the change in schedule will get our schools to the state mandated goal of All Students Proficient by 2014. Where is the data to support this? And if this is the case, why suddenly opt for this change now? Why not last year or the year before? Or, if this change was to greatly improve the education of our children, why was it not made in 2001, the first year of no child left behind? The Aztec School System is currently leaving a lot of our children behind. Is this acceptable?

Koogler is on traditional schedule and those students go on to Aztec High School under block scheduling and Gain roughly 23% proficiency in Reading and Gain 41% proficiency in Math using Block Scheduling. Is moving to traditional scheduling at the high school really in the best interests of our children?

I started this quest for knowledge and understanding in Sept. 2005 but due to lapses in memory and my shortcomings, it has taken me this long to get this information before you. I do not presume to tell Dr. Linda Paul or Mr. Carpenter how to do their jobs; I am simply looking out for the welfare and future of our children.

Don and Deanne Bagley

Sustainable San Juan meeting

Join us at the Aztec Library on
Monday, February 6
5:30 - 8:00 pm.
For info: 334-9006.

Aztec Senior Center news

by Leah Collette

February is here and we have a lot going on here at the center this month. We will have a Valentines day party as well as a Dance during center hours. This month we will also have a Mardi Gras party, so come and join the fun here at the center.

Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at 12:00 pm. Meals on Wheels are available for homebound clients who qualify. If you have questions, call Debbie Ward, Director, or Leah Collette, Secretary, at 505-334-2881.

Weekly Activities

- Monday, Music
- Mon./Fri., Walking Club 11:00 am
- Tue./Thu., Pinochle Club 1:00 pm
- Monday thru Friday, Pool room open 8 am - 4 pm
- Dominoes 8 - 11:30 am
- Tuesday, Blood Pressure, 10 am
- Exercise, 10:30 - 11:00 am
- Arts & crafts, after lunch
- Bible Study, 1st Tues. of the month
- Wednesday, Musical groups, 10:30 am
- Beginning Line Dancing, 1 pm
- Thursday, Bingo, 10 am
- Music - Jam Session - 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Menu from February 1 to 14

- 1- Stir fry beef, steamed rice, rolls, strawberry Bavarian
- 2- Chili rellenos with green chili, seasoned pintos, apples, hot tortilla
- 3- Beef stew, salad, cornbread, oranges
- 6- Chicken fried steak, potatoes and gravy, harvest beets, biscuits
- 7- Scandinavian sausage, onions, tomatoes, veggie blend, rolls, grapes
- 8- Navajo tacos, seasoned pintos, applesauce
- 9- Cheese pizza, spinach salad with eggs, fire roasted potatoes, jello with fruit
- 10- Chili cheese dogs, baked beans, apple, celery raisin salad, cookie
- 13- Lentil soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, salad, apples
- 14- Baked ham, sweet potato casserole, pea salad, rolls, strawberry short cake

Menus are subjected to change daily.

Aztec Senior Center

Monday - Friday • 8 am to 3 pm
101 S. Park Ave. • 334-2881

For info on any of our events call 334-2881.

For menus & changes call the menu line, 334-7618.

San Juan County Historical Society meeting

The San Juan County Historical Society will meet at 6 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Aztec Community/Senior Center on Park Ave. The meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

David Velasquez, Aztec City Manager, will present a program on "Aztec, its Past, Present and Future." The program will begin promptly at 6 p.m. to enable Velasquez to meet a second obligation of the evening. A short business meeting will follow the program.

This is the first in a series of programs to better inform members of the Historical Society on events and circumstances going on in the various communities of the county.

The San Juan County Historical Society meets the second Wednesday of each even numbered month (February, April, June, August, October and December) and is dedicated to the preservation of records and documents relevant to San Juan County. Meetings rotate from Bloomfield to Farmington to Aztec. Membership offers a unique opportunity to participate in the preservation of the history of San Juan County.

Lydia Rippey

Valentine's Carnival

February 10, 2006 • 6 - 9 pm

Come for

Food • Door Prizes • Raffles

Silent Auction • Fun & Festivities

Aztec Fire Department

What the Blazes!

by Bert Bennett

For our January report, we have made a total of 22 runs, 8 were fire calls and 14 rescue.

This month's EMS training will be our annual CPR/AED re-certification We train on our CPR technique regularly, and now we work with our AED's and re-certify annually.

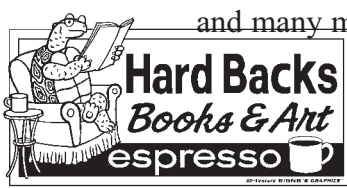
I will add some precautions to the use of electric space heaters to go along with what I wrote last time. When using or buying electric heaters, check for the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) tag and follow those directions. Never use an extension cord with a space heater. They can overheat, melt and cause a fire, not to mention the trip hazard. Never plug the heater into a "four-way" adapter because of the fire hazard. If the cord becomes frayed or in disrepair, replace it immediately. And, as always, when using any portable heater, be careful.

As the weather goes from cold one day to nice another, we turn to our heaters from day to day without thinking about what might be blocking our vent pipes or other problems. And since it gets colder at night we use the gas heater more when we are asleep and this is a combination that can kill, and sometimes does. After turning up the heat and getting nice and warm, we go to bed, not realizing that our home is about to fill up with a deadly gas, carbon monoxide. At this time, only two things can save our lives - if for some reason we wake up and realize what is happening, or if there is a working carbon monoxide detector and it warns us and wakes us in time.

The signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: difficulty breathing, nausea, dizziness, feeling faint, and in later stages, unconsciousness. If any of these

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Great selection of **NEW** books from UNM Press & NM Museum Press. Gorgeous books on Southwest art, folk tales, cookbooks, artists, Route 66, and many more



**200 S. Main
Aztec
• 334-5545 •**

symptoms occur to anyone in your household be aware, call the fire department and leave the house. Please leave all the doors and windows closed so that when we arrive we can check the house before it is ventilated. I recommend all homes be equipped with a smoke detector and a carbon monoxide detector. Your life might depend on it. I am putting this in again because many people have the feeling that "there was no problem when I lit the heater a couple of months ago, so there is nothing to worry about now." This false sense of security can be fatal. Don't take the chance.

Do you like excitement? Are you a committed individual, 18 years of age or older and out of high school? Do you care about your friends and neighbors? Would you like to learn CPR and First Aid? If the answer to these questions is "Yes," the Aztec Volunteer Fire Department and your community needs you. We desperately need new members who are available during the day. Most of our members work days and are not available for calls during the day. If you are interested, we meet every Wednesday at 7 pm at the main station, 200 N. Ash St., next to the police station. Please come by and let your volunteers tell you all about your fire department.

Aztec City Warrants

Here is a list of current warrants issued by the Aztec Municipal Court. If your name appears on this list, please contact the Court at: 505-334-7640 to clear up your warrant. Aztec Municipal Court is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm M-F.

Name	Last Known Address	Date of Birth	Issue Date
Carpenter, Morgan	750 B East 4th Ave, Durango, CO 81301	02/06/1984	01/12/2006
Castillo, Douglas R.	#24 Cr 3181, Aztec, NM 87410	02/22/1959	01/06/2006
Chapman, Lee R.	#5 RD 2800, Aztec, NM 87410	09/07/1957	01/12/2006
Cheney, Marcus	#6 CR 3263, Aztec, NM 87410	06/21/1985	01/04/2006
Davis, Victoria	PO Box 7293, Newcomb, NM 87455	05/19/1958	01/11/2006
Dennis, Howard	PO Box 286 Second, Mesa, AZ 86043	05/14/1965	01/11/2006
Finley, Serena N.	601 E 20th St. #58, Farmington, NM 87401	05/17/1985	01/04/2006
Fisher, Amanda	2316 E 12th St., Farmington, NM 87401	04/17/1986	01/04/2006
Garcia, Emilio R.	6 Cr 3184, Aztec, NM 87410	02/12/1967	01/04/2006
Gomez, Edward T.	PO Box 1713, Aztec, NM 87410	08/20/1969	01/04/2006
Gustamantes, Alisha	32 CR 3088, Aztec, NM 87410	04/02/1977	01/13/2006
Gutierrez, Chirstopher A.	743 S Turner, Bloomfield, NM 87413	09/05/1977	01/10/2006
Gutierrez, Donny	CR 2795 #2, Aztec, NM 87410	02/20/1981	01/10/2006
Hester, Roger A. Jr.	34344 US 160 #31, Durango, CO 81303	12/29/1966	01/12/2006
Honnie, Elson	4540 S Rural Rd, Tempe, AZ 85282	04/15/1980	01/04/2006
Johnson, David	PO Box 4107, Shiprock, NM 87420	02/20/1978	01/12/2006
Johnson, Leo	P O Box 264, Aztec, NM 87410	12/18/1958	01/03/2006
Judy, Roshannon	N36 MP13 Lower , Frutland, NM 87416	07/21/1987	01/12/2006
Kee, Ethylene	P O Box 844, Navajo, NM 87328	06/05/1972	01/04/2006
Lorett, Daniel	2001 Cuervo Ct., Farmington, NM 87401	07/11/1983	01/04/2006
Lout, Troy	217 CR 3100, Aztec, NM 87410		01/11/2006
Maestas, Kathleen	3108 Marquette Dr., Farmington, NM 87401	09/23/1976	01/09/2006
Maestas, Mary Rose	825 E. Blanco, Aztec, NM 87410	06/28/1979	01/12/2006
Moore, Kevin L.	817 N Hallett, Farmington, NM 87401	07/29/1979	01/03/2006
Moore, Dustin J.	4690 Day Break Dr., Farmington, NM 87402	02/05/1982	01/12/2006
Neuenschwander, Gerard	4301 Mesa Grande, Albuquerque, NM 87108	07/30/1959	01/12/2006
Nez, Antionette	CPO Box 5358, Leupp, AZ 86035	12/11/1965	01/04/2006
Ortiz, Freddie	3700 Virden #2, Farmington, NM 87401	10/11/1961	01/03/2006
Pinto, Bianca	P O Box 1227, Cuba, NM 87013	03/29/1977	01/12/2006
Sanchez-Stolworthy, Kimberly	3400 Highland Dr., Farmington, NM 87402	07/26/1970	01/09/2006
Schlauger, Andrew B.	510 Sutton Ave., Aztec, NM 87410	11/04/1970	01/06/2006
Secody, Marie	P O Box 3640, Tuba City, AZ 86045	05/03/1963	01/04/2006
Smith, Tamatha A.	16249 Hwy 142, Manassa, CO 81141	07/24/1978	01/12/2006
Thomas, Michael J.	2100 E Blanco #23, Bloomfield, NM 87413	08/10/1987	01/04/2006
Tsosie, Euginia	3508 Colgate Ave., Farmington, NM 87401	09/14/1980	01/03/2006
Walker, Christopher B.	311 Robinson Ave., Aztec, NM 87410	04/04/1970	01/04/2006
Walker, Mark R.	106 La Jara St., Bloomfield, NM 87413	02/27/1970	01/04/2006
Wells, Jobie	518 S Park Apt #1, Aztec, NM 87410	11/16/1976	01/04/2006
Whittenberg, Anthony	706 E Zia, Aztec, NM 87410	06/18/1982	01/04/2006
Williams, Roger	P O Box 4297, Shiprock, NM 87420	08/22/1978	01/12/2006
Willie, Bryon	510 Wall #5, Farmington, NM 87401	10/03/1986	01/12/2006
Wilson, Ann M.	300 W Ash, Bloomfield, NM 87413	12/01/1960	01/05/2006
Winters, Denise	3805 N Monterey, Farmington, NM 87401	07/03/1968	01/12/2006
Yazzie, Nathaniel	E. Low Rent HS #54, Shiprock, NM 87420	04/22/1987	01/04/2006
Yazzie Rayannagail	Cr 5217 #34A, Farmington, NM 87401	11/23/1985	01/12/2006

If you clear up your warrant from this ad you will receive \$20.00 OFF the BENCH WARRANT FEE! YOU MUST TELL US THAT YOU GOT YOUR INFORMATION FROM THE TALON IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER!

Aztec City Commission wrap-up January 17, 2006

By Gretta Becay

At the Jan. 17, 2006, regularly scheduled Aztec Commission meeting, the commissioners unanimously approved items from the consent agenda including support for the submission of a planning grant application to the Community Development Block Grant Program. Sherri Grona, from the Northwest Council of Governments, will help spearhead the program. The grant for \$50,000, if awarded, would be used to update the **city's current comprehensive plan**, including publication and distribution costs of the plan.

The commissioners also approved appointing the following individuals to serve as the **2006 Regular Election Precinct Board**:

Phyllis Martinez, Presiding Judge; Patsy Hill, Election Judge/Clerk; Joyce Cauthen, Election Judge/Clerk; Beatrice Esquibel, Election Clerk/Spanish Translator; Shari Farnsworth, Election Clerk; Louisa Ulibarri, Alternate; and Mary Boatman, Alternate.

The commissioners heard presentations from Doug Frary about the **San Juan Regional Medical Center hospital construction**. Frary showed a video of construction activity and told the commission the 200,000 square foot addition to the hospital would contain eight new operating rooms, 72 private rooms and space for future expansion. He also explained that hospital staff was already preparing to meet staffing needs for the additional patient capacity. The addition to the hospital is scheduled to open in August.

Annette Tidwell, Aztec Chamber of Commerce Director, gave a presentation to the commission about activities at the Chamber during the last six months. She said the Gift Certificate program was developed which includes 46 businesses in Aztec including the city utility department. The program is not a moneymaker for the Chamber she said; the fee asked of businesses to join is for administrative purposes only. Tidwell also said there will be candidate forums in February sponsored by the Chamber for candidates for city commissioner vacancies. She said she's working with the new economic development team and, "...it is a very dynamic team that will be very effective." She said the Chamber is working on preparations for Fiesta Days and staff is "...receiving a tremendous response from sponsors." She said the Chamber would like to sponsor a hot air balloon rally over the 4th of July weekend. She also said the *Visitors' Guide* will be out shortly.

Ron Montoya, Water Waste/Water Director for the city, Andrew Galloway, foreman for the water and wastewater treatment plants, and Arlene Coen, manager of the wastewater treatment plant, gave a presentation to the commission about three wastewater treatment plants they saw in Kansas towns during a

recent trip they made to view such facilities. The towns all use the system the city hopes to build here.

Aztec City Manager, David Velasquez, and Steve Christensen, Director of Public Works, reported to the commission that meetings held Jan. 3 and 5 with business owners and interested citizens and representatives of the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) were very productive concerning the renovation of the NM Highway 516/Aztec Boulevard through Aztec. Christensen said, "Our work has just begun," though because the road still must be renovated. It is now up to the city staff and interested citizens to come up with a plan acceptable to both NMDOT and the city to improve the roadway.

Purchasing Agent for the city, Brandy Candelaria, presented a bid change order to the **Library Construction Project** in the amount of \$23,973, which was unanimously approved by the commissioners. These funds were needed for contract changes, including insulation wrap on exhaust ductwork, PVC vent and roof conductor piping and a revision to the book drop walkway, among other items. Candelaria reported that the amount needed is available in the Library Facility Budget and a contingency budget in the Library Project Budget.

The commissioners also unanimously approved pay raises for persons holding the positions of commissioner and mayor in the future. **The present commissioners and mayor will not receive the pay raises during their terms.**

The mayor is currently paid \$450/month. This was raised to \$650/month. The commissioners are currently paid \$400/month. This was increased to \$600/month.

During Citizens' Input, **Ron Allen**, an employee of the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT), asked that reflectors be placed on medians on Aztec Boulevard. He said he had asked for this when he moved here five years ago. He said the NM 516 intersection in Flora Vista now has these reflectors and they needed to be installed here.

Discussion was held about contacting the NMDOT with the request and Allen said, "Just be a vigilante group and just go out there and do it." He also said he would like to see no medians in the plans for the renovation of NM 516.

Lee Crane announced to meeting attendees that there will be meetings hosted by the Aztec Kiwanis Club to 'meet and greet' the candidates for the open city commissioner positions for the Municipal Election to be held March 7.

David Velasquez reported to the commission about a meeting he attended Friday, Jan. 13 with representatives from Qwest. The meeting was about the communication failures a few weeks ago that, "...left us in the dark and their response was less than desirable," said Velasquez. Velasquez also said meetings will be held with Qwest in the future to further discuss these issues.

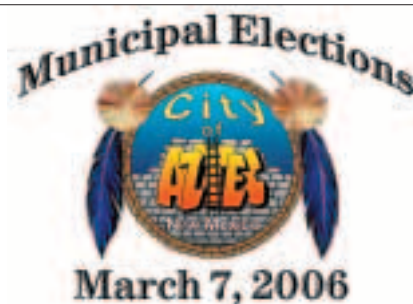
Discussion followed about alternatives to Qwest for communication providers to Aztec including the use of satellite technology.

Steve Christensen said he and Mayor Mike Arnold attended a **New Mexico State Transportation Commission** meeting Jan. 18 in Española. Christensen said Secretary of Transportation Rhonda Faught was at the meeting as well as District V Engineer, John McElroy; Steve Harris, Director of Infrastructure and Muffet Foy Cuddy, Director of Transportation Programs for the state. S. Vincent Martinez, Deputy Secretary of Business Support and Gary Shubert, District II Engineer, were also present at the meeting. Christensen said he and Mayor Arnold were able to discuss Aztec highway issues with members of the group and reported that Secretary Faught has directed that NMDOT's focus now is on planning appropriately for future transportation issues, not just building highways without community input.

Mayor Arnold reported to the commission that the Aztec airport has qualified for the National Integrated Airspace Program. Once qualified, he said, an airport may seek block grant funding through the state and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). According to Mayor Arnold and the FAA website, the FAA Capital Investment Plan is a 5-year plan that describes the National Airspace System projects that can be funded over the 5-year period, 2006 to 2010. Aztec is now qualified to apply for block grant funding through this program.

Commissioner Jerry Hanhardt thanked Aztec staff for all their hard work during the 10 years that he has been a commissioner. He said, "You've made it fun."

Commissioner Diana Mesch asked about the city's Reservoir #3 plans and John Gallegos, city Finance Director said the plan was "...75% complete." Mesch also asked about the construction on Ruins Road. Don



In the upcoming March 7 municipal election, even though commissioners are elected by district, neither the candidates nor the voters have to live in the district that has a commissioner vacancy to run or vote for a specific candidacy.

For example, Candidate 'Smith' may live in District 3 but may run as the candidate for District 5 where there is a vacancy. Voters from all districts may vote for him or her.

In Aztec, there are three commissioners whose terms are over at this time and the vacancies are for Districts 2, 4, and 5.

There is also only one polling place for the election and that is Aztec City Hall at 201 W. Chaco.

Because Aztec has a population of less than 10,000 as of the 2000 census, the town is not 'districted' for elections.

CITY OF AZTEC

CERTIFIED CANDIDATES REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION AZTEC CITY COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 7, 2006

BALLOT ORDER

District # 2:
(four year term)

Sally Ann Burbridge
Sophia Loren Marshall
James W. Rogers
Scott R. Terry

District # 5:
(four year term)

Randy G. Hodge
Abel E. Saiz
James D. Crowley

District # 4:
(four year term)

Robert E. Oxford
Larry N. Marcum

(CERTIFIED ON
01/12/06;

Order of names drawn
on 01/11/06)

Greenwood, General Services Director, said that construction was nearing completion and that slopes on portions of the roadway still need some work.

Commissioner Mesch commented that it was still better now than it was before.

Tina Roper, Aztec Animal Shelter Director, reported that another dog air-lift rescue had been scheduled for Jan. 20. She said if all goes according to plan, 18 dogs will be leaving the Shelter that day, bound for new homes. She also reported that the December shelter's population of dogs and cats is up 100 animals from December 2004.

Chief Mike Heal reported that new laptop computers were being installed in Aztec police cars and the \$16,000 needed for the computers is from Homeland Security funds, not from city coffers.

Attendance: All commissioners were present at the meeting except Commissioner Larry Marcum.

Disclaimer:

This Commission wrap-up is not an official record of the Aztec City Commission meeting. It is a synopsis of the proceedings. Official transcripts are available through the City Clerk's office.

Note: Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month (unless otherwise posted.) **The next general meeting will be Feb. 7.** A final agenda is posted 24 hours prior to the meeting. Copies may be obtained from City Hall, 201 W. Chaco, Aztec, NM 87410.

The meeting room and facilities are fully accessible to persons with mobility disabilities. Those needing an auxiliary aid or service may contact the City Clerk's Office at 334-7600 prior to the meeting.

Hard Backs presents...

"Somewhere Out In The West" booksigning

Hard Backs Bookstore will host novelist Leota Korn Saturday afternoon, February 4th, from 2:00 until 4:00 at their store at 200 S. Main in Aztec. Korn will sign her novel "Somewhere Out in the West," an adventure dealing with struggles of land development in the western frontier. Korn, residing on mountain property outside Durango, Colorado, captures the spirit of those currently locked in battle over the natural opulence and development of the West. FMI, 334-9114.

KT Designs featured in February

Hard Backs Bookstore will feature KT Design photographer Katy Fallucca in February. Fallucca's "Railroad Series," framed photographs in a variety of sizes, depicting scenes of and from the Silverton-Durango train, will be for sale at Hard Backs until March 1st.

Feat of Clay
an Artist Co-Op Gallery
Blowout SALE
*Items Drastically Reduced
Pottery • Gourds
Jewelry • Metal Art
Fine Art
Open Wed - Sat 10-6
108 S. Main - Aztec - 334-3663
*Sale Runs through February

Call 505-334-1039 to get your
stories, ads, events, etc. in
TALON
(aka The Aztec Local News)

Candidate forums planned for Aztec Commissioners

February 9th & 16

Kiwanis 'Meet-the-Candidates'

The Kiwanis Club of Aztec is holding two meetings during which citizens may meet the candidates for the March 7 municipal election of three city commissioner positions open in Aztec.

Both meetings will be held at the new Aztec Library at 319 S. Ash, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 9, candidates for the second district seat will be at the library. They include: Sally Ann Burbridge, Sophia Loren Marshall, James W. Rogers, and Scott R. Terry.

The second meeting will be Feb. 16 and will include candidates for the fourth and fifth districts including Robert Oxford and Larry Marcum from the fourth district and Randy Hodge, Abel Saiz, and James Crowley from district 5.

February 9 & February 28

Aztec Chamber Forums

The Aztec Chamber of Commerce will host two Aztec City Commission Candidate Forums at the Aztec Community Center (101 S. Park). The first will be held Thursday, February 9 and the second will be held Tuesday, February 28. Each Forum will last from 6:30 – 9:00 pm.

The forums provide an opportunity for citizens to meet the candidates and get to know them better. Each forum will start off with opening statements from the candidates present. They will then answer questions presented by moderator, Dorothy Nobis, editor of the *Four Corners Business Journal*. Bottled water will be available compliments of Cascade Water & Coffee Service. Please submit your questions (see form below) to the Aztec Chamber of Commerce at 110 N. Ash Ave, Aztec, NM 87410, by fax 334-7648, or by email: aztec@digii.net. Questions will also be accepted during the forums. For more information, contact the Aztec Chamber at 334-9551.

The Aztec Museum Association's 2006 Annual Meeting & Banquet "FOOTSTEPS TO THE FUTURE"

musical program by: Katie Evilsizer
& the Museum Show Singers

February 18th, 2006

at the Aztec Civic Center

Social Hour at 6:30 pm • Dinner at 7:00 pm
\$20.00/person • \$35.00/couple

Tickets available at the Aztec Museum,
125 N. Main, or Board Members

For more info, call 334-9829



Aztec High Graduation

Regarding the article which appeared in the TALON, Dec. 1-15, 2005 about AHS graduation: While we do not agree with the criticism in the remark, "your graduation," we are totally on board with the "heat" of the problem. We lived in Durango for 26 years and since 8 of our 10 grandchildren are students in the Aztec school district and we were spending so much time going to all of their football, soccer, basketball, track and baseball games (Runung: Kris and Jason; Hegarty: Bart and Ryley; Hegarty: Matt and Katie; and Watkins: Donley IV and Justin) when we sold our business, we decided to move to Aztec. We have been to three of your graduations and frankly, next year when Ryley graduates, we are not certain we can sit through an entire morning in the sun. Yes, we did use an umbrella, but as we are sure you know, small children and senior citizens do not handle the heat very well!

Mrs. Dorothy Meyer, Jason Runung's great grandmother, attended his graduation and had to seek medical attention after attending. Dr. Barkman said it was heat related. Then, approximately 4 years ago, before we actually moved to Aztec, we attended a school board meeting wherein it was discussed that alcohol was the reason for morning graduations. Couldn't you post someone at the gate to see if anyone was inebriated and, also check the students as they report in?

Someone with a great deal of influence had a "bad" experience at their nighttime graduation. Further, it was discussed that the school district did not want the expense for employees to work in an evening (we could not see why it would cost more in an evening than it did in a morning - but we do not know all the details).

We remember our graduation. The night was magical! The chorus sang, the band played and we were comfortable so we enjoyed the speakers instead of just enduring them. It started at 7 pm and was over by 10 pm. We had 450 in our graduating class and each row was at the stairway before they were called. They kept a steady stream of students, so that as an individual's name was announced, they were actually receiving their diploma. There was no delay for a student to walk across the stage. He/she was already in position as he/she was being handed his/her diploma. So that you could hear the name being announced, they continually reminded the audience to hold their applause until the end. It went much quicker than Aztec's. Just a suggestion, but it would help expedite!

We contacted area principals. Mr. Biehl, principal, Kirtland Central High School said he has been at Kirtland for five years and has had four night graduations. He has had no problems with night graduations. Mr. Donny Ortiz, principal of Piedra Vista High School said he has not experienced any problems with evening graduations. He stated the school provides plenty of police security. Mr. Mark Driskell, principal of Farmington High School, was a principal in Texas for 15 years and at FHS for the past two years. In all of his 17 years, he has never had a problem with evening graduation. Ms. Nancy Radford, principal, Bloomfield High School, stated that she met with the seniors and had a contract with them about conduct for graduation night. She also pointed out that having a morning graduation with the party in the evening leaves 6-7 hours to party and potentially get drunk before their sanctioned party.

We know you must endure a lot of unfounded criticism and you do much more positive than negative. We truly are not trying to "jump" on you, BUT graduation should be something we all look forward to, not something we dread. Thank you for all that you do for our children.

Please consider - we truly do not want to miss any of our grandchildren's graduations. Thank you for taking time to hear us.

Sincerely,

Donley E. Watkins Jr and Carol L. Watkins

Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center

2006 Aztec City Commission Candidate Forums

FORUM QUESTION for candidates (please print/write clearly or type)

Information on forum procedures are available on our web site at www.aztecchamber.com.

Please fax (334-7648), mail (110 N. Ash), or email (aztec@digii.net)

on or before February 1st for the first forum, on or before February 17th for the second forum.

FORUM DATES: Thursday, February 9 and Tuesday, February 28

LOCATION: Aztec Community Center (Senior Center) • TIME: 6:30 - 9:00 pm

To vote in the Aztec City Commission election, you must be registered to vote by February 7.

Dear Citizens of Aztec

The design for Main Street from Blanco to Zia is not acceptable for our Downtown Business and Historic District. We have tried to prove to you the process used to approve this plan was flawed. The money expended by the City is absurd, especially after being told by Lewis Berger all the funding was coming from the State (Clay Koontz LBG 11/2/04). There is no way a project of this magnitude and consequences would ever be approved by a majority of the citizens of Aztec. The importance of this project and the impact it will have on our City is huge. At this point we still have options to resolve the issues and provide the City with an exceptional revitalization. If we don't resolve the issues we will end up with nothing!! Main Street property and business owners are going to do whatever necessary to provide a safe, pedestrian friendly revitalization for our Downtown Business District.

Attached you will find a list of property and business owners and the issues that must be addressed before this project can continue. If you have any questions or comments please contact any of the property or business owners listed below.

City Barbershop, Lee Giron, Larabee Construction, Aztec Hardware, ReOpco Realty, Key Mortgage, Aztec Media, Fred & Georgia Brandenburg, Kelly Eaves Insurance, Joe Buck, Aztec Well Service, Feat of Clay, Starbrite, SSS Trucking, Ramsey Realty, Day Break Thrift Center, Aztec Feed & Supply, NAPA Auto Supply, Aztec Plumbing, Ace Services, Southwest Styles, Flavio Chavez, Rubio's, Don's Boot & Saddle, Jacks Plastic Welding, Homestead Cabinets and Décor, Aztec Restaurant, Century 21, Boon's Thai Restaurant, and Tahoe Laundry.

Paid for by Main Ave. business & property owners

Main Street Enhancement Project Items Not Addressed

A. Historic Preservation Study

1. Article 106 Historical Preservation Act
2. Design Impact
3. Building Impact
4. Ambiance/ Feeling/ Character of the District
5. Vibration Impact from heavy trucks within 8' of the buildings

A. Pedestrian Safety Study (no study has been done)

1. No buffer from traffic opposite street side parking
2. Pedestrian walk path varies on width from 4'6" to 8'
3. Traffic lanes within 8' of the buildings store fronts
4. No provision for safety lights, or signage in crossing areas
5. Lack of adequate crossing areas
6. No school crossing zones or speed reductions in these zones

A. Economical Impact Study (no study has been done)

1. City budget/ loss of income (gross receipts)
2. Funding 2.5 million
3. Effect for loss of parking
4. Expenditures for new off street parking
5. Impact on property values

A. Misapplications of Municipal Funds

1. All funding provided by State of NM, per Clay Koontz, Louis Berger 11/04 Commission meeting. (2.5 Million provided by City of Aztec)
2. 205,000 dollars spent for a design that does not meet Federal and State highway recommendations and guidelines
3. 205,000 dollars spent for a design that does not improve or enhance pedestrian safety
4. 205,000 dollars spent for a design that does not improve or enhance downtown business opportunities
5. Purchase of private property to provide public parking for parking that we already have
6. Eliminating assets estimated at 650,000 for parking we already have

A. Other Issues

1. Parking that is segregated and discriminatory
2. No public review of final plans for construction south of Blanco
3. No funding to complete project beyond mid-block between Chaco and Chuska
4. No funding to provide any off street parking
5. NMDOT and Engineer Traffic studies contradict each other
6. Rio Grande & Main traffic study conducted on December 24, 2003
7. Parking safety studies contradict each other and have not been properly evaluated
8. Vibration Impact Study not sufficiently administered or evaluated
9. Current project plans provided by engineer are flat line plans and contain no elevation, contour, or grading benchmarks

The Book Nook

News from your local Aztec library! by Library Staff

e-mail: aztecp1@aztecnm.com • webpage: www.azteclibrary.org



Aztec Public Library

319 S. Ash Ave. • 334-7658

Mon - Thurs: 9 am - 9 pm • Fri-Sat: 9 am - 5 pm

Time Capsule Extension

We all love to delve into the past and see how people lived in more "simple times." We love to look at the faded photographs of unfamiliar people with clothes and haircuts that were popular long ago, listen to the music, and buy the furniture and knick knacks from that time to add nostalgia to our homes. In 50 years, the things we use every day and the styles we now strive to emulate will be nostalgic, looked on as out-of-date and quaint. People will want to know about our lives as an escape from their own.

The Aztec Public Library is proud of what it is and the town that supports it right now. In conjunction with the Masonic Lodge #25 AF and AM the library is putting together a time capsule, to be placed in the North wall of the library and opened in 50 years. The purpose is to carefully preserve things that represent our present, and will act as artifacts to future generations. We have decided to extend the deadline for the community's input till May 31. Please help us make this "letter" to the future as complete as possible, and bring in whatever you'd like to donate by then. FMI, contact the library, 334-7657.

Display Opportunities at the Library

The Library wants to become a place where you can find out about your community. We are thus extending our many display opportunities to all the non-profit organizations who would like to get their information out to the public. There will be flat bulletin boards on top of the reference shelves, shelving set aside for three dimensional displays, and lock case space. If there are books that correspond with the subject of your display the library will do its best to help with what we have in the collection.

Masons in New Mexico Display

The local Masonic Lodge #25 AF and AM has had a large influence on the library and we thank them constantly for their generous donations. These donations include bikes for the Bikes for Books program which encourages literacy and a love of reading at an early age in our community, as well as many other funds, and the cornerstone for the new library in which we now reside.

This lodge has set up a display on the history of Masons in New Mexico on the display shelves in the Aztec Library's Cyber Cafe. It shows the great influence Masons have had on New Mexico in the last century. This exhibit shares fascinating facts about amazing men in our history who were also Masons, including Kit Carson, Ray L. Bell, the ranger who rescued Smokey the Bear, and William Ware "Mack" Brazel who discovered the UFO crash site in Roswell, among others who played important roles in New Mexico's government and commerce.

Come by the Aztec Public Library soon to see this informative and fascinating display.

February's Adult Computer Class Schedule

Computer Basics – Learn the basic functions of using a computer. A two day class that will meet Monday the 6th and Wednesday the 8th, from 10 am till 11 am.

MS Word – Learn how to use Microsoft Word to write letters. A 2 day class that will meet Monday the 13th and Wednesday the 15th from 10 am till 11 am.

Internet / Search – Learn how to use the Internet to do research and find information. A 2 day class that will meet Monday the 20th and Wednesday the 22nd, 10 - 11.

Jump Start Computer Class – Bring your computer related questions and get answers to specific computer related issues. Every Friday from 2 pm till 3 pm.

Seating is limited so please call or stop by the library and sign-up. 319 S. Ash – Aztec NM – 505-334-7657

If you just have simple questions on computers you can also get in contact with Dan through his e-mail at dharless@aztecnm.gov and he'll be happy to help!

Home School Computer Classes

Have you ever wanted to build your own web-site? If you're a home schooler between the ages of 10 and 16 you are invited to join the Library's computer pro on February 7, 14, and 21 at 1 pm at the Aztec Public Library. Seating is limited so come by and sign up soon!

For more information call 334-7657.

2006 Space Art Contest

The UFO Symposium will be held in Aztec yet again from March 24-26. It will be bigger and better than ever, with a parade, costume contest, a stargaze, book sale, the Alien Run Mountain Bike race, the annual art and contest, and local and visiting vendors.

The art contest will be the same as in years past, with the same divisions. Let your creativity flow freely whether with clay, computer graphics, pencil, paint, or

creative writing, as long as it is alien themed. All entries must be submitted by March 17, with an entry form that can be found at the library or on-line at www.aztecufo.com/artcontest/art.htm. Also go to that website for book mark formats.

In the past couple of years this contest has expanded incredibly with entries from all over the country and a couple all the way from Israel. We hope to see a great turn-out this year in this friendly and creative competition.

Bikes for Books

Many kids would rather ride their bike or play basketball than sit inside and read. Reading though is an amazing thing that allows you to travel the world and meet all sorts of real and imaginary characters. The Masonic Lodge #25 AF and AM and the Aztec Public Library want kids to come to realize this so they're offering a way to have both, books and bikes. They will award a bike to each of the top readers in two age groups, preschool through 6th grade and 7-12 grades. All you have to do is fill out a short review of each of the books checked out from the Aztec Public Library and read. The deadline for all reviews will be May 10 and the bikes will be awarded to winners on May 16. We hope for the biggest turn-out ever this time and hope to see your children reading for all its many rewards.

Learn More at Our Web-Site

Have you ever wondered if we have a specific item in our collection, how the new library construction is coming along, or why we used to be called the Altrurian Library?

At www.azteclibrary.org you will easily find great resources such as the catalogs of Aztec, Shiprock, Farmington, and Bloomfield libraries, pictures and plans for the new library, the history of the library, and links to the Law Library of New Mexico or various drug information and support sites. You can also read the book nook, learn about local artists and authors, read about our programs and contest winners, or scan your computer for viruses.

Don't let this valuable resource slip away when it's so easy to type your way over.



Memories of Asia

The program on Asia held at the library on Saturday, January 21 went beautifully. The 22 attendees enjoyed Hedy Deuschle's pictures, viewpoints, and experiences of the 10 years she lived in Japan.

Qin Qin (pronounced Chin Chin) Schoser talked about the Chinese culture with the aid of a slide show, and her husband Sam Schoser finished off with his experiences and pictures as an American tourist highly praising and recommending a trip to China for anyone.

Mary Hayes, Director of San Juan College East, also shared pictures from her travels in Asia and announced an itinerary for a class and/or exclusive trip to all of the monuments of China which will commence in May which San Juan College is offering in conjunction with Encore and TravelLearn. For more information on this, contact Mary at 505-566-3461.

We hope to see you at our next World Traveler Family program on February 11 from 2-4 pm at which time we will explore the beautiful Carribean sea, island, and culture.



Qin Qin and Sam Schoser

Laugh, Cry, Share the Books

There are so many book clubs out there because people love to share their opinions on the books they love and the books they hate. The Aztec Public Library wants your opinions and by your submitting them and us posting them in the Book Nook, a community Book Club, with great variety will soon form.

There is nothing better than getting lost in a great book and nothing worse than a bad one, so we ask you to help each other in our quest for good reading. Bring your short review by the library.

Library Staff Favorites for Young People

A Review by Louise Tooke

Want something good to read to your grandchildren? You can hardly beat Mercer Mayers *Grandfather* picture book series, found under "M" in the easy section. You might put in an Inter-Library Loan Request for *Five Chinese Brothers* too, an older children's classic and a childhood favorite of Karen, the Assistant Director.

To nudge a junior high student into reading a longer book, try slipping a copy of *The Hobbit* into their hands. This is the introductory book to the popular movie (and book) trilogy *Lord of the Rings*. *The Hobbit* was a favorite of both Dan and Rae Harless when they were each growing up. You'll find it under "T" in the J/Juvenile fiction section, under "E" and was a favorite of ILL Request staffer, Jennifer. In this chapter book, magic doesn't go exactly as expected; the characters learn that relationships are more important.

And that brings us to *Shiloh*, another book for juvenile readers. Eleven-year-old Mary does everything in her power, and then some, to rescue a badly mistreated young beagle. If you are a supporter of your Aztec Animal Shelter, you will probably love this book, as Angela Watkins does. It's a heartwarming story.

The favorite YA pick for Jessalynn, the youngest Aztec Library staffer, is *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. This book, appealing to girls, was made into a recent movie. There are two more books in this series by writer Ann Brashares. Rounding up the list, and for young adults, is the most recent enthralling mystery written by a pair of sisters with the pen name Perri O'Shaughnessy, the pick of Director, Leanne.

Winter is here! Curl up next to your furnace or fireplace with a special loved one--and--or a great book!



Bikes for Books winners

The winners of the "Bike for Books" reading contest sponsored by the Mason Lodge of Aztec are Danielle Fullmer in kindergarten, Lucas Logan in 1st grade, Jessy Hadden in middle school and Brock Haroldson in high school. Congratulations winners, you did a great job!!

The Mason Lodge members, Ray Phelps, Ron Holloway, Ernie Shoup and Arnold Tucker awarded the bikes to the winners at the Aztec Public Library December 17th. Three of the winners were present: Lucas Logan, Jessy Hadden and Brock Haroldson.

Danielle Fullmer (pictured below) received her bike after returning from a holiday vacation. All of the winners were recognized for their reading participation at the Masonic Lodge on January 10th. The Aztec Public Library would like to take this opportunity to thank the Aztec Masonic Lodge and its members for supporting the growth of our library.



Preserving the Past for the Future

email: aztecmuseum@sisna.com

by Melody Gibson & Larry Evilsizer

Aztec Museum • 125 N. Main Ave., Aztec, NM 87410 • 505-334-9829 • Mon-Sat: 10-4

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM THE AZTEC MUSEUM

The history of Valentine's Day has its beginnings as far back as the 3rd century AD. One legend states that Valentine sent the first 'valentine' greeting to a young girl whom he fell in love with during her visits to him while he was confined in prison. It was said that he wrote her a letter before his death and signed it "from your valentine."

Another legend from 3rd century Rome portrays Valentine as a priest who performed marriages in opposition to a decree by then Emperor Claudius II outlawing marriage by young men. Emperor Claudius II was said to have issued this decree because he believed that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and children at home. Upon hearing of Valentine's direct violation of his decree, Claudius demanded that the priest be put to death.

Still other tales suggest that Valentine was killed for his attempts to help Christians escape torture and beatings at the hands of their Roman jailers.

Clearly, we can see that the truth behind the history of Valentine's Day and its patron saint is a bit clouded. However, we do know that valentine greetings were popularly exchanged as far back as the Middle Ages; with written valentine greetings beginning to appear in the 1400's. Since the mid 1700's, February has been a month of romance expressed by friends and lovers in all social classes through the exchange of small tokens of affection and/or handwritten notes. By the end of the 18th century, printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. By the 1840's, in the United States, Esther A. Howland, known as the mother of the Valentine, was the first to sell commercial Valentine Day cards made of lace, ribbon and pictures.

Today, according to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion Valentine Day cards are sold each year. This makes Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year, trailing only

Christmas.

CURATOR'S CORNER

The Museum's annual banquet/meeting will take place on February 18th. This year's theme is "Footsteps to the Future." The event, which is open to the public, includes a meal and a musical show written and produced by Katie Evilsizer and performed by the Museum Show Singers. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. with the show and dinner served up at 7:00 p.m. As the new director, I am looking forward to meeting old and new friends of the Aztec Museum Association. Membership in the Museum Association IS NOT a pre-requisite for attending. In fact, if you are contemplating joining the association, the annual banquet/meeting is a good place to socialize with members.

Admission to the banquet is \$20.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for couples. The couple's price will be extended for families. TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR, and must be purchased or reserved by the 15th of February in order to give an accurate number to our caterer. Tickets are available from any board member and here at the Museum. We don't currently accept credit or debit cards, so please plan on purchasing tickets with checks or cash.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Accompanying the Annual Banquet is our yearly membership drive. If you have always thought you should join the Aztec Museum or you are new to the community, retired, or an empty-nester, now is a great time to join as we are planning for the year ahead. The Aztec Museum Association offers an opportunity to serve your community through membership and/ or volunteerism. Volunteers are at the heart of the Aztec Museum's success. Out-of-town visitors frequently comment upon the spirit of volunteerism and community involvement that built The Aztec Museum and Pioneer Village. "What a great example you set for the youth of your community" was a recent compliment we are proud to share. Basic membership is still only \$20.00 per year. Married couples can join at that price and vote for board

Now Accepting New Patients

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members individually. If your application is received before February 10, 2006, you will be eligible to vote in the 2006 Board elections. At the end of this newsletter is a membership application that you can fill out and return to the Museum.

HAVE YOUR WEDDING OR OTHER SOCIAL EVENT IN THE PIONEER VILLAGE

Were you aware that you could make arrangements to have a wedding or other social event at the Aztec Museum for a modest fee? Call the museum for details.

AZTEC MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Aztec Museum Association still costs only \$20 a year. In addition to supporting the Aztec Museum and historic preservation in our community, you will receive expanded monthly newsletters.

Name.....
.....
Address.....
.....
City, State, Zip.....
Send newsletter via: Email Mail
Email address:



What does it take to govern a hospital?

It takes an entire county, friends and neighbors, people just like you.

At San Juan Regional, we're a corporation made up of citizens interested in shaping healthcare in our community, and we invite anyone affiliated with a non-profit organization to join us.

For more information on becoming a corporate member, please call 599-6075.

We look forward to your views, your voice and your guidance.



Together, we're building a healthy future for San Juan County.

Health Center Family Clinic

3705 E. Main, Farmington
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By Appointment ONLY

For appointments: 564-3628

Urgent Pager: 599-7743

AliceMarie Slaven-Emond

RN, MSN, FNP-C

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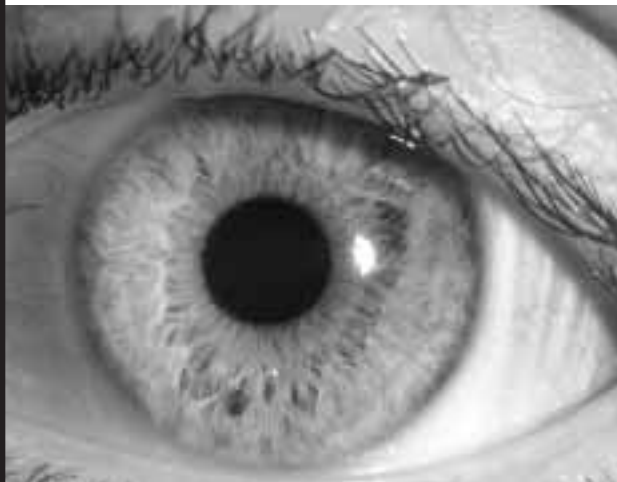
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We appreciate you.**



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9:45 Sunday School
8:30am • 11:00am • 5pm
Worship
Nursery Provided



700 Navajo Street • 334-6833

You are cordially welcome

Student Voices from AHS: Virginia Turchi

by Ellen Nibbelink, AHS librarian

Virginia is a foreign exchange student here for the school year from the town of Ferrara in Italy. She is living with Tink and Laura Shepardson and their daughter Sarah who is a freshman at AHS. Virginia admires the Shepardsons for having the "courage and patience" to take on a foreign exchange student.

"They're very special for doing it," she says.

Were you here for the holidays or did you go home to Italy?

I couldn't go home. I went to Durango with my host family for 5 days and it was very fun. I did miss my family. When I called them they were all crying and I was kind of sad too. But I had a great time. And I'm happy because I thought I might be depressed because I really love my family. But it was really nice.

Do we celebrate Christmas differently here than you do in Italy?

I didn't see too many differences, maybe in the food. We have special food for Christmas and for New Year's Eve, but Christmas is always so cozy and it's the same in Italy too. In Italy, Santa Claus brings all the gifts. If you buy gifts for your family or your friends you don't put them under the Christmas tree. You wait until Christmas day and then Santa Claus brings them. I have to hide them in the closet and then I put them under the tree on Christmas Eve. During the night we wake up and walk very quietly to the tree and put the gifts under it. It's fun. It's tradition. I like it.

We usually don't go to school until the 7th or 8th of Jan. because we have this [legendary] old lady that comes the night of the Epiphany and brings candy, or coal for the people that weren't good during the year. She looks like a witch because she rides a broom and she comes at night and her dress has holes. Befana is her name.

Will you tell us a little about your family in Italy?

My father's name is Marco and my mother's name is Daniela and I have a brother Lorenzo and a sister Matilde. She is 9 and my brother is 13. My father is director of a firm in town that builds and gives houses to the poor people with low rent. And my mother is the chief of nurses in the hospital. I love my parents. They taught me everything I know. They taught me how to live, and how to care about people. They taught me that family is more important than anything else. They really love us and they really love each other. When they don't have much money they say, "Okay, but at least when we come home we see you guys." I really like that.

How is going to school different in Italy?

The high school is very different. We have 5 years of high school and we have the same classmates for all the 5 years. We have classical schools and scientific schools. I am in classical school with a linguistic address. That means that I chose to do languages. We have 14 subjects. I have Italian, French, English, Spanish, Latin, science, math, art, pe, music, government economy, philosophy, history, and chemistry. We don't have mid terms or finals. It's just oral tests or reading tests. And we go to school on Saturday too. The school is from 8:30 to 1:30. We don't have breaks between subjects. We just have 10 minutes at 11:30 to eat something. We eat lunch at home after school. We have to study more because we have more subjects. But I prefer the school here. It's very stressful in Italy. You have a lot of homework, and I mean a lot. Here you have homework but you might have a week to do it. I like it here. You can focus on the subject because you have just 4 for the semester.

Why study all these languages?

I like it. I feel that I can learn languages pretty fast. That's my gift, so I just wanted to use it. Some are good at drawing and some are good at studying history and I'm good at languages. I really like it. What I like is living the language, speaking the language. I don't really like working with the language. I prefer being in the language.

We went for a week to Spain with the school. It was a great experience. We were speaking Spanish all the time. And we stopped in France because we went by bus. We talked in French and that was cool. And I went to Croatia, but I don't talk Croatian. We went there on holiday. It's a beautiful country. I love Croatia. It has a past of war, so the cities are devastated. But I just love the colors, and the sea. It's a very poor country, but they have natural beauty. Italy does too. It's very green.

What do you like about being in the United States?

It's not just one thing that I like. It's everything. Being in a different country, speaking a different language, learning different things. We always listen to news, and we hear the United States is good and the United States is bad. But whatever you think about the country, to go to the US is cool. I could have chosen France, or Spain or Australia, but I chose the United States. And this is the best experience I could ever have. Now that I'm here I just want to stay here. I want to live here, attend college here. But I don't know how much my parents will agree

with that.

How is your social life different here than in Italy?

It's a lot different. Here you need a car to go everywhere. My town is a city of bicycles so you go by bike everywhere. Usually the stores to go shopping are in the middle of the town so you just walk to town and hang out and go to your favorite bar or to your favorite place to meet, and during the weekends you go dance or go to your favorite places. The medieval part of the city, the part with all the places to go, is forbidden for cars. You can't drive your cars there because it ruins the buildings. Here, since I don't have a car, I can't go everywhere when I want. I always need to ask for rides. In Italy I'm more independent. I can go whenever I want. Here you can go to drinking places when you're 18 or 21. In Italy you can drink when you're 16. You drive when you're 18. But actually it makes sense because if you drink when you're 16 and get drunk, you can see how you act when you get drunk. So when you get your license you don't drink when you're driving.

Where is Ferrara located in Italy?

Our town is 150,000 people. I'm 30-40 minutes by train from Bologna. I'm 2 hours from Venice and about 45 minutes from the seaside. In the summer we go to the seaside almost every day. We know how to have fun. In Ferrara a lot of people think, "I don't like it. It's too small. I don't really have anything to do." But now that I'm here, I can see that we have a lot to do. And I always thought so, but it's just that other people don't see it. And, you know, it's not where you go that you have fun, but it's who you are with. If you are with your friends, you can have fun even if you stay at your house.

Where did your interest in being a foreign exchange student come from?

I decided to come when I was 15 during my sophomore year. I remember I went to this meeting and there was a boy and a girl who were exchange students and they talked about how great it was. And when I walked out I was with my mom and I said, "Mom, what did you think about that?" And she was like, "Are you sure?" And she started saving money for me to go that same night. I'm really happy of my parents. I think they're pretty cool.

What other interests do you have?

I love shopping. I'm a shopper girl. I go to the movies very often. Movies are my hobby. I have more than 700 movies at home. I collect movies. I don't go to the cinema a lot in Italy because it's kind of expensive. *Stand by Me* is my favorite movie. I love it. I know it by heart. In Italy it's pretty common for teachers to bring students to the movies. I've seen so many movies in French or in English or in Spanish with my class. Many of the movies we see are made in the U.S. We all know Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt, Nicole Kidman. We know all the actors. And music too. We listen to American music.

In Italy, I worked on a project with my Spanish teacher. It was about child labor and abuse of children. I interviewed people on the street, people involved in politics in the town, and students to see what they knew. For the project I prepared a brochure to give to people to inform them about this program. Child labor is a very big business in Italy and in other countries. The project was very interesting. I feel sorry for these children. I know that information is important and I can do a lot to inform people, but I wish I could do more for the children.

How do the Italians feel about the United States?

The young people think that America is so cool. Something different. Hamburgers and french fries all the time. The older people don't really like America because it's hamburgers and french fries all the time. They don't really like the TV, the corruption and policy of the government. All Americans want money. Money money money business business business. That's what a lot of Italians don't like about America. Too much concentration on business. Italy's Premier Berlusconi is a friend of Bush. So I think a lot of people agreed with the Bush policy in Iraq, but there are a lot of people who don't agree with that. They think that he's not supposed to be there. It's kind of divided.

Do you have any advice for your peers?

Yes. Never be afraid of change. Never be afraid of what you don't know. Don't try to escape from a situation that is not comfortable but try to face it and work it out. That's what I learned coming here.



Cedar Hill Community news

Board Meets

The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be on February 11th, 6:00PM at Maxine's.
 Your Cedar Hill Farm Local Board:
 President — Catherine Olson 334-1342
 Vice-president — Maxine Welch
 Secretary-Treasurer — Judy Siekerk 334-3582
 Building Use Coordinator — Judy Cowan 334-1764
 Fundraising — Rachel Morgante-Richmeier 334-6347
 Community Relations — Jim Dahlberg 334-2033
 Building Maintenance — Jerry Wallace 333-2559
 Honorary Board Member — Ruby Leeper

Welcome Program

We're developing a Welcome Program to help new residents connect with the Cedar Hill community. If you have a new neighbor, please let us know (947-1355) so they can be included in the many events and opportunities of the Cedar Hill Farm Local. New residents often feel isolated, especially in rural communities. A special invitation given to the monthly potluck is a great place to start.

Fifth Annual School House Benefit Sale

The date is set: April 29th, Saturday — so mark your calendars for this huge sale.
 We welcome all clean, salable donations (i.e., toys, household items, tools, outdoor equipment, furniture, children's clothing, games, electronics, garden misc, appliances, etc.). We have storage space currently available for most donations.

There will be a planning meeting on Sunday, February 5th. Contact Rachel (334-6347) for additional info.

Knitting

7:00 PM Wednesdays: February 8th and February 22nd. This is an ongoing, very basic, beginners knitting group. No experience necessary and no supplies needed to start. Call Char at 947-1356 for more info.

Cedar Hill Farmer's Market

Many Cedar Hill residents have expressed an interest in beginning a Farmer's Market in Cedar Hill. Would you like to see this happen? We are in NEED of other interested area residents to help begin the process of establishing a Farmer's Market locally. If interested, contact Catherine, 334-1342 .

Simple Living Group

Thursday, February 23rd at 7:00 PM
 This group will focus on taking steps towards living a simpler life and building community. The book, *Circle of Simplicity* by Cecile Andrews, will be used as a guide to get us started.
 If you're interested in "returning" to a simpler way of living, we welcome you to come and join this small group. Call Catherine at 334-1342 for more info.

Story Time

10:30 AM Tuesdays: February 14th & 28th
 Children of all ages are welcome at the School House on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Join us for stories, cool arts and crafts, games and healthy (most of the time) treats. Kids are encouraged to wear PLAY clothes that can handle a splash of paint or a smudge of dirt. Join us for an hour or so. Call Catherine at 334-1342 for more info.

Cedar Hill Community Membership

All residents of Cedar Hill and surrounding communities are invited to be members of this group. The group has been called Cedar Hill Farm Local for many years, so you will see it referred to often as that — and also simply as the Cedar Hill Community.
 We like to think of the historic School House as a Community Center for those who would like to join us in the various community activities that are held there.
 Membership is encouraged but not mandatory. You can join us for any event without paying any dues. Our yearly dues are \$10/individual or \$20/family currently. Membership gives you the privilege of joining in discussions and voting on the use of the School House — and it also supports its continued growth and maintenance.

If you would care to join, please send your check — made out to Cedar Hill Farm Local — for \$10 (individual) or \$20 (family) to:
 Judy Siekerk, #76 Rd. 2335, Aztec, NM 87410

Host/Hostess Program

We have one month available for a potluck host/hostess. June is open for community members to participate as the host/hostess. The job is simple: provide drinks, a bread item, and set up and clean up the Schoolhouse for the potluck. Contact the program coordinator, Jim Dahlberg (947-1355) to volunteer.

Special thanks to the Clevelands — Ann & Richard — for an exceptional evening at the December potluck. The cloth napkins and incredible bread offering were great

touches!

E-mail Edition Available

Thanks to all of you who have responded to the online newsletter offer! I know you will enjoy having the news right in front of you on your computer each month.
 The offer is ongoing: Help us save on postage by requesting an e-mail edition of the Cedar Hill Community News. Not only will you help us save on postage (39¢ now), printing, paper, and envelopes — you'll get your newsletter sooner and it will be right there on your computer when you need information.
 Drop an e-mail request to the editor at:

JimDahlberg2002@yahoo.com

If you're receiving the newsletter and find you don't have a use for it, please, please let me know so we can remove you from the mailing.

Funky Junky Art Club

February 18th, Saturday 3:00 PM at the Schoolhouse.
 Do you love to do arts and crafts projects? Maybe you're short on ideas, space or materials. If you are 0 to 100 years old, please join us for some fun projects. Recycled materials of ALL kinds will be used.

Project: We will continue to paint... decorate... decoupage stools, tables, etc.

Bring an old stool or chair or call Catherine for one (cost \$5.00); many decorative supplies and paints will be provided but you're more than welcome to throw some of your creative junk (i.e., tile pieces, buttons, sequins, beads, bottle caps.....the sky's the limit) on the table.

Please RSVP to Catherine so that we have enough supplies - 334-1342

February 2006 Upcoming Scrapbooking Classes

All classes to be held at the Cedar Hill Schoolhouse
 • FREE Workshop and Beginner's Class at 6:00 PM
 February 10th, Friday 6 PM - 10 PM

Beginners are welcome to attend a free class on how to preserve photos and how to create an album in a fun way! Receive a free gift for just attending! Do you already have an album you are working on? Bring it with you and have time to work on it with free use of my new tools! Great VALENTINE'S DAY Gift Ideas will be demonstrated to everyone! Note: Beginner's Class is 6-7:30pm only. Please RSVP by Feb. 9th to Rachel since space is limited:

E-mail: *morganerichmeier@yahoo.com* or call 793-0456. More details about fee and materials upon RSVP

• Power Sort Class
 February 16th, Thursday 7 PM - 9 PM
 During the class you will use the Creative Memories Power Sort system to preserve and organize your photos. Open to all — especially beginners! Power Sort: Learn how to quickly and easily sort your photos from shoeboxes, bags, totes into a photo safe box! During the class you will get my help to organize your photos into a Power Sorting box that holds 2400 photos and it protects your photos from humidity and light! Please RSVP by Feb. 11th to Rachel since space is limited:

E-mail: *morganerichmeier@yahoo.com* or 793-0456
 More details about fee and materials upon RSVP

• Youth Scrapbooking Class
 February 26th, Sunday 1 PM -3 PM
 Open to ages 5 years old and up. Beginners to experienced welcome. A beginner's class is always offered to help you get started!

No RSVP required for this class. Please contact Rachel for further information:

E-mail: *morganerichmeier@yahoo.com* or 793-0456

Community Potluck

The Potluck for February will be held on Tuesday, February 21st, at 6:00 PM. (Come in any time after 5:30 PM.)

If you have never attended any of our potlucks, we especially invite you to come. This will be a great opportunity to get to know us in a fun atmosphere with lots of good food to share. We look forward to meeting more of our surrounding community and hope you will take us up on our invitation.

Newsletter Submission Deadline

If you have items to be submitted, we need to have them in by the 17th of February. This will allow including them in TALON as well as the Cedar Hill Community News.

Best way to submit: e-mail! It gets to us quickly and can be copied and pasted directly into print. E-mail your submissions to the editor at:

JimDahlberg2002@yahoo.com

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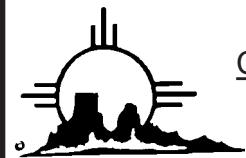
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San Juan County Crime Stoppers is offering cash rewards for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons involved in the following crimes:

- Money was taken out of four newspaper vending boxes on CR 5251 between 4:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
- Damage to a building in the vicinity of the Blanco Trading Post was reported to have occurred between Jan. 5 and Jan. 6. Extensive damage was done to the building in an unsuccessful effort to gain entry.
- A Hobart Welder valued at \$3,500.00 was stolen from the 5000 block of US 64 during the weekend of Jan. 14.

All calls are kept strictly confidential; callers do not have to reveal their identity. If you have information on these or other crimes, please call Crime Stoppers at (505) 334-TIPS or within the state of New Mexico at (800) 924-5798. Please visit us on the web at www.sjcounty.net/CrimeStoppers.

Four Corners Air Quality Task Force to meet in Durango to discuss strategies, options for improving air quality

The regular quarterly meeting of the Four Corners Air Quality Task Force will meet on Wednesday, February 8, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel Durango – Animas Room, 501 Camino Del Rio, Durango, Colorado 81301.

The Four Corners Air Quality Task Force was formed to discuss and analyze the growing air quality challenges facing the region. The affected states, tribes, federal land managers and area residents have come together with a goal of evaluating options for addressing a wide range of air quality issues. An initial public meeting was held in Farmington, New Mexico in November 2005. The meeting in Durango is the first of a planned series of quarterly meetings during which a number of workgroups will examine issues related to oil and gas development, power generation, other area pollution sources, computer modeling and air quality monitoring.

If individuals want to learn more about the Four Corners Air Quality Task Force but are unable to attend

the meeting, they should contact either Christopher Dann (for Colorado residents) at 303-692-3281 or christopher.dann@state.co.us, or Mark Jones (for New Mexico residents) at 505-327-6854 or Mark.Jones@state.nm.us.

Please include information about this important event in appropriate community calendars, community digests, bulletin boards, etc. For more information, visit: <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/4C/index.html>.

If any person has a disability that requires assistance or auxiliary aid to participate in this process, please contact Judy Bentley at the New Mexico Environment Department, Room N-4071, 1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502, no later than Wednesday, January 25, 2006. Ms. Bentley's telephone number is (505) 827-9872. TDD or TDY users should access Ms. Bentley's number through the New Mexico Relay Network (TDY users 800-659-8331; TDD users 1-800-659-1779).

Facts of Animal Care vs. Myths by Bethany Jones

We Aztec Animal Control girls have decided to compile a list of myths vs. facts concerning the overall welfare of animals.

Myth: A dog is better with children if it's allowed to have a heat or a litter of puppies.

Fact: There have been studies showing that a dog that has a litter of puppies has no better temperament with children than a dog that was spayed before her first heat. Actually, a dog that has a litter of puppies near her is much more likely to be aggressive if she feels her puppies are being threatened. A nursing mother can feel her litter is in danger by someone simply walking by.

Myth: It's mean to spay or neuter your dog or cat.

Fact: An animal that has been spayed or neutered is more likely to have many less health problems than one that is not. It's a simple procedure and most animals that have the procedure done don't even notice much. There may be some minor pain the night that they come back home, but after that, they typically go on to live healthy productive lives.

Myth: My dog has an I.D. tag and, therefore, doesn't need a City Tag.

Fact: Although I.D. tags are important, every dog and cat that lives in the Aztec City limits needs a City Tag. It is a City Ordinance and can be punishable with citations. They can be purchased at the Aztec Animal Shelter. For a sterilized animal the cost is \$3.00 and for an animal that isn't sterilized the cost is \$5.00. When Animal Control picks up an animal that has an I.D. tag or city tag, we generally call the number on the tag in an effort to try to reunite that animal with its owner. If we are unable to do that in the field, the animal is then placed on a 5 day hold, as opposed to those that have no I.D. Those animals are placed on a 3 day stray hold and if they aren't claimed, they become the property of the Aztec Animal Shelter.

Dogs and cats are also required to have a rabies vaccine and tag on at all times. That also is a City Ordinance and can be punishable by citations. A licensed veterinarian must give the rabies vaccine. Please contact us if you need to know when the next Rabies Clinic is as we usually know. (Note: The next Rabies Clinic is February 12th at the Farmington Civic Center from 12:00-5:00)

Myth: A female dog in heat can just be left outside until her heat is over.

Fact: Aztec City Ordinance states that any female dog in heat MUST be kept in an enclosed building such as a shed or your house. A male dog can smell a female in heat from 5 miles away!! A lot can happen to a dog traveling five miles to make friendly advances.

Myth: Dogs have fur to keep them warm so they don't need a doghouse.

Fact: Although a dog does have fur to keep him/her warm, they have to have a doghouse. It's City Ordinance that ALL dogs need a doghouse big enough for them to walk in, turn around and lie down, but small enough to allow their natural body heat to keep them warm. A good idea is a "Dogloo". Those are the Igloo shaped doghouses that you can buy at any local pet store. This Ordinance not only applies to dogs that are inside and outside, but especially to dogs that live outside. If you have a dog in the Aztec City limits and don't have a doghouse, this is actually Animal Cruelty and can carry a stiff fine.

Myth: Because we live in a small town, we don't have to use a leash when walking our dogs.

Fact: Actually, there is a leash law that is enforced in

the City limits. Even if your dog stays next to you when you walk, you need to be able to contain your animal at all times, therefore, the leash law.

Myth: My address says Aztec, NM, so I live in the City limits.

Fact: If your address starts with County Road, you live in County jurisdiction. If it starts with a street name, you live in the Aztec city limits. It can be a little confusing. We get many calls every day from people uncertain of the jurisdiction they live in and in need of Animal Control. But the Animal Control Officers at the Aztec Animal Shelter have no jurisdiction in the County and can do nothing about a problem in the County, no matter how much we want to help. If you need assistance from a County Animal Control Officer you can call non-emergency dispatch at 505-334-6622. We don't mind to answer the phone and direct anyone that may be confused about jurisdictions, but this is a much faster way to get the appropriate help. But, if it's after hours and you need assistance, you can also call the same number to get in touch with one of us.

Myth: I can water my dog when I feel like it and he/she will be alright.

Fact: Dogs need fresh, clean water every single day of the year. In the summer months, they may need more than usual as they will need to drink more to stay hydrated. In the colder months, you have to be especially vigilant to make sure that the water isn't frozen. A dog can dehydrate and die very quickly if not given the appropriate amount of water. This is Animal Cruelty as well. Please think about how you would like to be treated if you were reliant on someone else for your every need and then apply that to the actions you take to care for your pets. If you are concerned about an animal and think it may need some help, please call us. We are more than happy to check it out. Our goal is to ensure the health and overall happiness of all animals that we can. We can't be everywhere and see everything. We truly appreciate when others spot something we might have missed and report it to us. All calls are anonymous and we will do everything within our power to help the animal and educate the owners.

We truly hope this has been helpful. We get questions like this all the time and thought maybe if we sent this out, it may help to educate those that may not know. As always, please spay or neuter your pets and if you need us, we are just a phone call away.

The God of the whole gave a living soul

To furred and to feathered thing.

And I am my brother's keeper.

And I will fight his fight;

And speak for the beast and bird

Till the world shall set things right.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Rio Grande Art Assoc.

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For prospectus send SASE to Rio Grande Art Association, Freida Thorsen, P.O. Box 53307, Albuquerque, NM 87153 or call (505) 293-3811 or e-mail fthorsen@comcast.net.

Deadline for digital or slides is March 8, 2006. Show will run from May 5 (reception) through May 29 at the Fine Arts Building on the State Fairgrounds.

AHS student Watkins goes solo

Congratulations to Donley E. Watkins IV! Donley chose a flight career when he was just a little guy. He knew that's what he wanted to do for a career when he was four years old. His father, Don Watkins III, grandfather, Don Watkins Jr., and aunt, Stacy Hegarty are all commercial pilots. His great uncle, Charles Watkins Sr., was also a pilot in WW II and cousin Kristian Running just got his pilot license. Donley soloed on his 16th birthday, Dec. 24, 2005, and had an audience consisting of Mike Arnold, mayor of Aztec, grandmother, Carol Watkins, brother, Justin Watkins, grandfather Don Watkins Jr., mother Angela Watkins, and father Don Watkins III on hand. Donley had started logging flight time but had to wait until he was old enough to solo.



Donley Watkins IV and Mayor Mike Arnold

He is a true aviator, one that has that built-in desire, commitment, and dedication to fly. He now has a student license to fly alone.

He is currently a student at Aztec High School. He carries a 4.25 GPA, and is an outstanding athlete who is active in AHS on the football team (this is his second year to play at Aztec with his cousins Riley Hegarty and Bart Hegarty, who graduated last year and also has his student pilot license). He lettered in the eighth grade for the track team and went on to state in his freshman year. He also placed on the track relay team. He is active in track this year as well. He has played basketball for AHS in his freshman year, but decided to sit out this

year to get his career on track. He is a pleasant person to be around, well mannered, kind and considerate. A true gentleman, Donley was born in Indio, California, and has lived in several states because of his father's airline career with Skywest Airlines. His mother works at the Aztec Public Library, and also lectures on history in the surrounding communities. Donley has also put in community service work around the city, at the library and at the Good Samaritan Village. Way to go, Donley.

Young Spellers Compete in County Bee

By Cherry Church

Things got really tense at Koogler Middle School on the evening of January 24. It was the San Juan County Spelling Bee. Twenty-two young people in the 8th grade and below, representing twelve county schools and home schools, gathered in the school library to test their spelling skills. And tested they were. Some of the simpler words were "panache," "inoculate" and "bronchial" and the words got harder as the bee progressed. Round two found just seven youth in competition. A large audience of parents, grandparents and teachers followed the proceedings as the group of contestants got smaller and smaller until just two were left.



Sierra Stackhouse winner of the San Juan County Spelling Bee.

Then things got really tense. The two young people, Justin Stevenson and Sierra Stackhouse, battled back and forth. In order to be a clear winner, one person had to spell two words correct in a row after the other missed a word. Finally, Sierra Stackhouse was declared the winner. Sierra is a fifth grader at Park Avenue School. Second was Justin Stevenson from Central Consolidated Schools, and third place went to Frank Sloane of Hermosa School. Sierra and Justin will compete in Albuquerque on March 11 to represent San Juan County at the Regional Spelling Bee.

Eileen Hayes joins the team at Sandstone Salon & Day Spa

Eileen Hayes, a massage therapist and bodyworker at Sandstone Salon & Day Spa joined the ranks of more than 60,000 massage therapists and bodyworkers currently certified by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) on October 21, 2002.



According to the NCBTMB Chairperson, passing this exam means that a massage therapist or bodyworker has mastered the basic professional levels of knowledge essential for performing safe and effective programs of therapy for clients, responding to typical questions and problems that arise in a session.

Eileen received her training at Utah College of Massage Therapy in Salt Lake City, Utah. Upon returning home, she worked for Artistic Hair & Nail for six months, then decided to return to school to attend the Clinical Career Track to further her education in the field. She then worked at Mary's Hair Salon & Designers in Farmington for a time and has since relocated her practice to Sandstone Salon & Day Spa at 1415 W. Aztec Blvd., in Aztec.

"As a massage therapy practitioner, I believe in integration of mind, body and spirit by use of a combination of various modalities, some of which are Swedish, neuromuscular, structural integration (deep tissue), trigger point, eastern paradigm (acupressure), and reflexology. Therapeutic massages are tailored to each individual client's needs in order to promote and aid in the healing process. Touch can be a great healer but there are many of us who do not receive enough touch in our everyday lives. My hope is to make a beneficial difference in my client's lives, as they have already made a difference in mine. I am very proud to have met the highest professional measure by passing the National Certification examination in therapeutic massage and bodywork. I now look forward to maintaining my certification and staying up-to-date through continuing education in my profession."

The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork is a not-for-profit organization committed to fostering high standards of ethical and professional practice in the delivery of services and the competency of practitioners of therapeutic massage and bodywork. NCBTMB accomplishes its mission by setting certification and continuing education requirements for massage therapists and bodyworkers and through public education.

Eileen Hayes, LMT, Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork
Sandstone Salon, 1415 W. Aztec Blvd., Suite 8, Aztec • 334-5000

Early Bird Round II

After 2,500 tickets are sold we will have a drawing for a 2006 Harley Street Bob!

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						1pm Yoga 1
						3pm Yoga 2
	4:30pm Yoga 1					
6pm Pilates	6pm Yoga 2/3	6pm Yoga 3	6pm Pilates			



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"Thank You State Legislators" by Linda M. Paul, Ed.D.



They say there are two things never to watch – the making of sausage and the making of law. While I have never watched the sausage-making process, every winter I travel to Santa Fe to watch the making of law. And every time I drive home I am thankful that there are men and women who like this process.

It sounds so simple; see a need in our community, Point A, and pass a law to address the need, Point B. The brutal fact is that the course from Point A to Point B is rarely a straight line in Santa Fe. It takes patience, persistence, strategy, hard work and compromise to even come close to Point B.

We are indeed fortunate to have two local legislators who have all of the above. Representative Sandra Townsend and Senator Steve Neville are widely regarded as thoughtful and effective legislators. They take care of our state and they take care of Aztec.

From my observations, life in the legislature during a thirty-day session is anything but dull. Setting aside the fact that our citizen legislators work year round meeting with their committees, they sometimes work close to 24/7 during the session; more on that later in this column.

The path to passing a bill into law begins with a legislator or group of legislators having the bill drafted by the Legislative Council Service. The bill then goes to the first committee on the House or the Senate side of the legislature. If it makes it out of this committee it goes to the appropriate content committee, i.e. education bills go to the Education Committee, water bills go to the Agriculture and Water Resources Committee, etc.

If the bill makes it out of this committee, it goes to the finance committee and then to the floor of the House or the Senate. If the bill is passed by a positive vote of the House or the Senate, it starts all over on the other side of the legislature. For example, if the bill starts in the House, it goes through the House Committees and the House and then to the Senate. If the bill starts in the Senate, it goes through the Senate Committees and the Senate and then to the House.

If both houses of the legislature have passed the bill, the bill then goes to the fourth floor of the Round House for the Governor's signature. Of course the Governor has the option of vetoing the bill and then the whole process comes to a screeching halt unless it is brought back to the

legislature for a veto override.

Committee meetings and floor sessions take an enormous amount of time. Each legislator serves on at least two committees and committees meet two to five times a week. During the waning days of the session committees will meet at all hours of the day and night. Representative Townsend serves on the House Agriculture and Water Resources Committee and on the House Appropriations and Finance Committee. Senator Neville serves on the Senate Indian and Cultural Affairs Committee and the Senate Public Affairs Committee.

In addition to attending their own committee meetings, each legislature attends the committee meetings for every bill they introduce; plus they attend meetings on their capital requests.

This sounds like a ton of meetings to me. They also meet with constituents who stop by their Round House office and they return phone calls and e-mails. They also have to make time to attend select social functions with constituents and other legislators.

This is the short version of our system of making law in New Mexico. There are several other opportunities for a bill to be changed, killed, amended or combined with another bill.

Our legislators have to be versed in a wide range of topics – from education to roads, from prisons to Medicaid and from pink bollworm control to the protection of intellectual and physical property.

They do all this for no pay. That's right! Our legislators receive no payment for their service to our great state. They receive per diem to cover the cost of travel and living away from home for an extended time. But the reality is that their per diem rarely covers their actual expenses, especially with the cost of food and lodging in Santa Fe.

So on behalf of the Aztec School District, "Thank You" state legislators. "Thank You" Representative Townsend and Senator Neville for representing Aztec and helping us move forward in a positive direction. And "Thank You" to the rest of our San Juan County Delegation: Senator Bill Sharer, Representative Richard Cheney, Representative Tom Taylor and Representative Ray Begaye. Your work on our behalf is greatly appreciated!

Students from Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Russell's classes with Lori Candelaria (representative for Make-A-Wish)



A school that can make a difference

by Holly Jane McGlasson

The students at Park Avenue School in Aztec have been helping to make a very big difference for two kids. Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Russell, and their students have been donating money for these two kids. The two classes have been helping the "Make A Wish Foundation" who is currently working to get a two-year-old a hot tub and a seven-year-old a trip to Disneyland. These two kids have been sick for a long time. About \$130 was collected to help these kids to make their wishes come true. If you are involved in something like this, know that it does feel good to give to someone who is not as fortunate as you are.

The classes decided to donate to these kids instead of having a gift exchange for Christmas in 2005.

Homeschoolers enjoy Aztec Library

Tracy Haroldson has put together a fun and interesting program for homeschool students. In January, the topic was the United Kingdom. The program was great, the room was packed with students and parents Tracy introduced the audience to her cousin Aran White in a village outside of London, and Stephanie Kirste a Scottish dancer who lives in Aztec. Everyone had an opportunity to taste authentic English Scones. The kids had

lots of fun comparing British and American words such as a jumper in the U.S. is a woman's dress and in England it is a sweater.

Cherry Church read stories to the preschoolers about Kings and Knights and then they made crowns. Everyone had a great time singing and modeling their crowns. They joined the geography class for the Scottish Dance.

If you've lost (or found) an animal in San Juan County, try here:

- San Juan Animal League 325-3366
- Farmington Animal Shelter 599-1098
- Aztec Animal Shelter/Control 334-6819
- Animal Friends Humane Association 334-2087
- Humane Society of the Four Corners 564-8519

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February 11, 12, 13, 14



Special Valentine Dinners:

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- #2 - Chicken Marsala
- #3 - 10 oz Prime Rib
- #4 - 10 oz NY Steak w/ peppercorn sauce



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What does Valentines Day mean to you? by Katee McClure

Your man on the street (or in this case woman on the street) interview didn't play out as I expected. I think this first response sums up what the majority of people I talked to feel.

"Nothing. It's just a Hallmark Holiday. I know that sounds jaded, but that's how I feel."
Shawna Rogers, Los Angeles, California

"Gotta get something for my wife."
Anonymous customer at the Aztec Quick Lube

"I just better not forget that day!"
Martin Baeza, Aztec, NM

"Opportunity for the 'Bistro' to get all decked up and romantic for a romantic dinner ... (by reservation only). In the last 4 years, there have been 3 marriage proposals in the restaurant on Valentines Day."

Tony French, owner of The Main St. Bistro, Aztec, NM

"I spend quality time with my husband - just an all around good family day. It means getting lots of cards for my son who is in grade school."

Jennifer Lucas, Aztec, NM

"Easier access to chocolate!"
Beth McClure, Aztec, NM

"Painful memories of not getting any Valentine cards in grammar school, except from the teacher and that weird little kid."

Hester Nash, Los Angeles, California

"Nothing."
Gene Dudgeon, Aztec

"Nothing."
Jaki Allen, Aztec

"The last straw to a divorce ... because my ex-husband thought it was more important to give a dancer at 'Baby Dolls' 100 dollars because she 'needed it' and neglected to give me even a card."

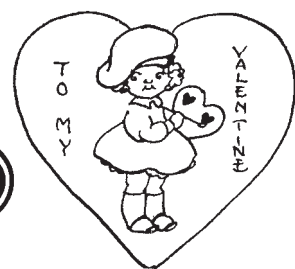
Lou Mancel, Aztec

"It means weddings! I fell in love at least 3 times on Valentines day."

Chucky Baby Haralson

Well that sums it up. It seems like a mandated day for love is not always appreciated (although if you don't show up with at least some flowers you'll probably hear about it for a year).

Happy Valentine's Day!



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Fax: 334-1272

Ladies!
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Aztec's Brand New Computer Store!

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What to do for Valentine's Day?

Flowers?

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Chocolates?

That's what I'll do! I'll call Sandstone and get a gift certificate for my sweetheart for Valentines



Wedding packages available.

Massage by Eileen

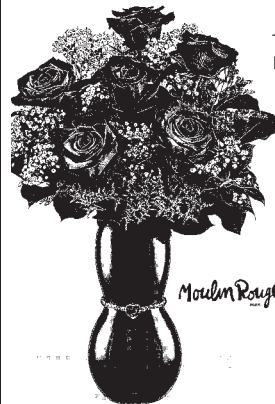
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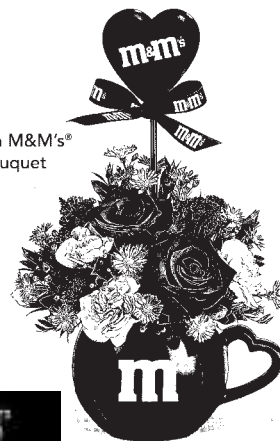
Three faces of love.



Teleflora's Moulin Rouge® Bouquet



The Teleflora M&M's® Valentine Bouquet



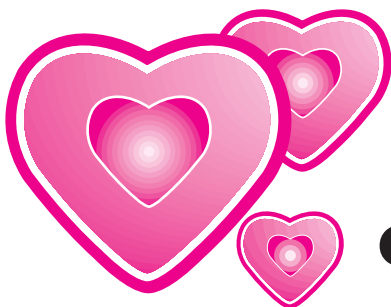
Valentine's Day is Tuesday, February 14

Bloomfield Florist

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Happy Valentine's Day

Take your sweetie out to a world famous restaurant.



Stop by our Aztec location

104 W. Aztec Blvd.



Bloomfield Library news

Make a funny Valentine at Bloomfield Public Library on Feb. 6. We have kits for creating Valentine bird pens and bookmarks. The program will start at 6:30 pm. Parents and children are welcome to come as families and participate.

The Bloomfield Public Library Advisory Board will meet Feb. 7 at 5 pm. The meeting will take place in the Cultural Complex Conference Room.

Our book discussion group, the Happy Bookers, will meet on Feb. 9 at 10 am. We will be talking about *The Handmaid's Tale* and distributing copies of *Innocents Abroad* for next month's discussion.

The Friends of the Library will host a book sale on March 3 and 4 in the meeting room of the Cultural Complex. We have a lot of books available for the sale and will be selling them at bargain prices.

Anybody interested in learning basic crochet will be interested in a family class to be held in March. March will also bring new sessions of computer lessons in our new computer lab, which is located in the Bloomfield Senior Center.

Wilderness First Responder course

The Outdoor Leadership program at San Juan College will offer a Wilderness First Responder course March 24 through April 2, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Zia Conference Center on the main campus.

Wilderness medicine addresses prevention, assessment, and treatment of accidents and illness in the backcountry where rapid access to the national 911 system is not an option. Wilderness medicine focuses on major and minor traumatic injuries, environmental problems, and expedition medicine.

This course is designed for people who will be working with groups in a backcountry setting at a professional level and for outdoor enthusiasts. The course will address issues of long-term patient care, dislocations, anaphylaxis, spinal injuries, survival skills, and backcountry rescue techniques. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be certified as Wilderness First Responders and certified in CPR, through Wilderness Medicine Training Center.

Cost for the 10-day course is \$435.00. To register or for more info, call Josh Stratman at 505-566-3113.

Bloomfield Chamber Banquet

February 4, 2006 • 6:30 pm

Multicultural Center

Citizen, Public Employee, Business and Educator of the Year awards will be given out.

Tickets not available at the door. 632-0880

BLOOMFIELD CITY WARRANTS

Here is a list of current warrants issued from the Bloomfield Municipal Court. If your name appears on the list, please contact the court at 632-6330 to clear up the warrant.

NAME:	ADDRESS	DOB	ISSUED
Atencio, Teresa	HCR 17 Box 403 Cuba, NM	12/06/76	01/19/06
Baker, Bobby	#2 CR 5099 Farmington, NM	07/23/61	01/23/06
Bitsue, Alvin A	39 Rd 7120 Bloomfield, NM	10/24/64	01/19/06
Brown, Ray	#26 CR 6687 Fruitland, NM	01/01/57	01/11/06
Busby, Weslie	309 N 3rd #29 Bloomfield, NM	04/21/78	01/23/06
Clark, Adam	1114 W Aztec #16 Aztec, NM	11/17/81	01/11/06
Combs, Mike G	#92 CR 5285 Bloomfield, NM	07/22/60	01/11/06
Duffy, Jessi L	#54 CR 5192 Bloomfield, NM	03/19/85	01/19/06
Dye, Charles	#165 CR 3100 Aztec, NM	06/13/59	01/11/06
Estrada, Jason	1336 E Blanco Bloomfield, NM	08/16/77	01/19/06
Francisco, Benjie	PO Box 1227 Cuba, NM	02/11/76	01/19/06
Gonzales, Jordana	Mesquito Acres Dulce, NM	06/04/80	01/23/06
Gonzales-Zapata, Francisco	503 W Sycamore #7 Bloomfield,	06/19/54	01/03/06
Hall, Carmen	2023 Summit Dr. Farmington, NM	11/03/71	01/11/06
Herrera, Michael	1124 Fairgrounds Rd Farmington, NM	09/03/73	01/19/06
Johnston, Shawna	318 Kittell Loop Bloomfield, NM	10/31/76	01/11/06
Lee, Rodriquez	1310 Sanchez Lane Bloomfield, NM	05/18/84	01/11/06
Jorge, Leo	1026 Sullivan Farmington, NM	11/29/75	01/11/06
Lupton, Charles	212 South Park Aztec, NM	07/14/81	01/11/06
Munoz, Stephanie	309 N Frontier Bloomfield, NM	05/13/77	01/19/06
Murphy, Travis	CR 7800 Nageezi, NM	07/12/85	01/12/06
Nakai, Harold Jr.	PO Box 2908 Shiprock, NM	12/15/72	01/19/06
Padilla, Elysha	#11 Cr 7588 Bloomfield, NM	08/22/87	01/23/06
Parra, Veronica	821 W Main Bloomfield, NM	06/24/67	01/19/06
Rudd, David	#47-A CR 5005 Bloomfield, NM	11/16/78	01/19/06
Smith, Russtin	420 S First St. Bloomfield, NM	11/29/78	01/12/06
Strand, David	808 E 4th Street Raton, NM	09/09/62	01/12/06
Thrasher, Heidi	38 CR 3665 Flora Vista, NM	10/25/72	01/12/06
Valdez, Estela	510 Shirley St. Bloomfield, NM	03/11/60	01/17/06
Valencia, Erick	1208 Randolph Rd. Farmington, NM	09/21/84	01/23/06
Woodward, Eugene	#527 CR 4599 Blanco, NM	12/05/74	01/12/06

Bloomfield City Council Jan. 23 meeting recap

By Gretta Becay

The Bloomfield City Council unanimously approved the **110-acre patent with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for an industrial park in Bloomfield.** (A patent is similar to a lease or purchase with the stipulation that the 'leasing' or buying entity continues to use the land for the original intended purpose. According to a BLM internet site, "Purchase money enters into the land exchange process because exchanges must result in equal value given and received by both parties; this means that cash payments are sometimes made or received by the BLM to ensure an equitable exchange.)

The land was acquired for the sum of \$500,000. The appraised value of the property a few years ago was \$450,000, said City Manager Bob Campbell. The transaction prohibited approximately \$300,000 in department requests for mid-year non-budgeted expenditures from being granted. Campbell asked department heads who attended the meeting about their concerns about this prohibition. Curtis Lynch, Public Works Superintendent, said the city was "...in dire need of a maintainer." The two graders the city now owns were built in 1983 and 1986 and the graders' mechanical problems were too expensive to fix considering the impending purchase of a new grader. Lynch also explained that the rent for a maintainer was \$6800/month, which "...adds up pretty fast." After some discussion, Curtis agreed to investigate the possibility of lease/purchasing a new maintainer with the condition that the first monthly payment is not due until late spring.

Campbell pointed out that if the property sells quickly, department requests could be funded later this spring. If all property sells as expected, the city should net \$500,000 to \$750,000 from land sales alone, Campbell said. The real monetary value of the industrial park comes from construction of buildings at the new sites, jobs, and future gross receipts tax, Campbell said.

At the last city council meeting, a request for \$175,000 for new police cars had been approved and this approval would have to be rescinded in order for the \$500,000 to be raised by the city for the patent. Police Chief Drew Standley quipped, "By the end of the fiscal year, officers may be walking," referring to the condition of some Bloomfield police cars.

Mayor Keith Johnson said, "It's a tribute to department managers' cash management that we're able to do this." Mayor Johnson said he had worked on the project for a long time and he said he was pleased with this outcome.

The new park is located south of Bloomfield near Industrial Drive, (County Road 4980), which intersects with U.S. 550.

The council heard a presentation about the **safety of Navajo Dam** given by Brad Dodd from the Durango office of the Bureau of Reclamation. Dodd explained the periodic inspections performed by Bureau personnel and the schedule for such inspections. Dodd also spoke to the Council about the importance of emergency plans for cities.

The Council approved the **Comprehensive Planning Work Plan.** Public meetings will be held to gather input about the plan.

The Council also approved **the purchase of 131.85 acres of water rights** from the San Juan River from Brad and Marcia Magee for about \$235,000. The sale and purchase price are contingent on the approval of the New Mexico State Engineer and the San Juan Water Commission.

The Council approved a bid for \$9,235 from Sports Lighting Services, Inc. of Albuquerque for **cleaning, aligning, and replacing bulbs as necessary in the Willie Mays Field and the Sandy Koufax Field.** In the report issued by Lane Grado of Sports Lighting Services, Grado recommended that the lights on the Pee Wee Reese Field and the Softball field be replaced and that the city should not invest money toward maintenance of the lighting systems on those fields. Mr. Grado also recommended that the existing lighting on all fields be replaced primarily because of "...the advanced age of the wood poles." Darrel Workman, Parks Superintendent, told the councilors that when the lights were replaced, the old lights (sans poles), could be used at the BMX track.

The council unanimously approved the city **vacating the alley on the 200 block of Valley Court and N. Frontier** as requested by Rod Foss, who wishes to build a day care center on his property on the alley. Foss also requested permission to put gates at each end of the alley for security and to deter pedestrians.

The council also approved appointing the following individuals to serve as the **2006 Regular Election Precinct Board:**

Alvina Aguirre, Presiding Judge; Louie Rodriquez, Elisa Rodriquez, Stella Gomez, and Virginia Wilson for Clerks in Consolidated Precincts; and Eloy Gomez for Alternate Clerk in Consolidated Precincts.

The next Bloomfield City Council meeting will be Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. at City Hall. (Confirm with the city clerk's office.)

Great new reference for birders now online

by John & Jan Rees

An exciting new reference, *The Birds of North America Online*, has appeared in response to the desire to continually update information in the print version completed in 2002 and to make this resource available to anyone with Internet. Forty dollars per year provides a one-stop reference containing the life histories of 716+ breeding birds in North America and Hawaii. Subscription information and demonstration accounts are found at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology/ American Ornithologists' Union site <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/BNA/>. The six free demonstration accounts cover species found in New Mexico except for the woodpecker—Common Goldeneye, Peregrine Falcon, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Yellow Warbler, and Fox Sparrow. Numerous revisions have already been made and photos and audio clips added.

Bird photos, bird sounds, and videos add interest to the accounts. An example of the thoroughness of the effort may be seen in the Common Goldeneye (COGO) site starting with the twelve videos of different behaviors including preening, stealing and eating fish, and diving. The photo of the male's "head-throw-kick" allows comprehension that a written description may not. Audio provides the call of a male COGO along with visual representations of the call.

The COGO "Image Gallery" has photos of male and female ducks, eggs, a duckling, a COGO nest parasitized by a Hooded Merganser, a researcher checking a nest box, a drawing of a female with newly hatched young, and the head-throw courtship display. Graphs show reproductive success; time budgets of males and females during the breeding season; and the annual cycle of breeding, molt, and migration. Maps illustrate breeding, year-round, and winter distributions.

"References" is an exhaustive bibliography so a gung-ho birder or researcher knows where to go to dig more deeply into the work that has been done for this species and others. The COGO account has an impressive 150 citations.

The numerous menu options for the COGO account let the reader know what to expect in all the accounts. The introduction tells us that the COGO's wings make a whistling sound in flight. This species often dominates when it competes with other species for nest sites and food. It breeds in boreal forests across much of Canada and Alaska and only a few relatively small sections of the northern United States. During breeding season these ducks feed primarily on insects switching mainly to fish,

crustaceans, and mollusks during the winter. We learn the females lay their eggs in the nests of other cavity nesting ducks. While populations seem stable according to the account, the reader is told that the COGO is a species that may indicate the effects of human disturbance on the boreal forest.



In addition to describing the appearance of the male and female ducks "Distinguishing Characteristics" points out the differences between the heads of the male COGO and his close relative, the Barrow's Goldeneye (BAGO), which has a white crescent on the head rather than the oval of the COGO. The female COGO has a more sloping forehead and more white secondaries, wing feathers, than the female BAGO. Separating ducklings is difficult and probably falls to only the most serious birders and researchers.

"Distribution" details where the birds are found in and outside the Americas and even gets into historical changes extending throughout the species' world range. For example, COGO range has shrunk in Russia reportedly due to the cutting of nest trees and human settlement. Prehistoric evidence of goldeneye has been found in Alaska and other parts of the world, and fossils of the goldeneye genus have been recorded from North America.

The food section includes not only food items but also feeding behavior—food is largely consumed underwater although bigger prey may be carried to the surface. Outside the breeding season members of COGO flocks dive at the same time, an intriguing behavior to look for as you observe these birds locally.

Accounts describe where there is little or no information—for COGO the development of songs, repertoire, and delivery and daily patterns of vocalization.

Behaviors are part of the accounts: preening, head-scratching, stretching, bathing, and even drinking are part of the COGO's courting and breeding displays. The reader learns to watch for the male's "spectacular complex" courtship behavior from December through April.

Folks concerned about mercury in the environment find that it is one of the contaminants found in COGO eggs in northern and western United States in low levels.

While these examples represent only a small part of the data found in the Common Goldeneye account, hopefully, they suggest the depth and variety expected in this amazing resource.

Ask Dr. Brenner.



What is pink eye?

Pink eye is an infection, usually bacterial, that causes the eye to become red and inflamed, often with the production of pus. One of the most common symptoms, besides the color of the eye, is that the eye tends to stick together when the patient first awakes in the morning. Although pink eye (conjunctivitis) is often bacterial in nature, it may be the result of allergy, virus or even injury. Never treat this yourself. Always see your doctor so that the correct diagnosis may be made and correct treatment instituted. If you have pink eye, or think that you might, please remember: It is VERY CONTAGIOUS!! Wash your hands frequently, and anybody who comes in contact with you should wash their hands.

Why do doctors NOT treat patients over the phone?

Doctors do not treat patients over the telephone because we just simply do not know what is wrong. What a patient tells us over the phone may have nothing to do with what is really going on. We have to see, touch, and examine the patient in order to make a correct diagnosis and then prescribe appropriate treatment.

REMEMBER! ANTIBIOTICS WILL NOT CURE A COLD!

Dr. Brenner is the Medical Director at Aztec Health & Wellness Center, located at 410 S. Park Ave. in Aztec. Dr. Brenner is taking appointments and walk-in's Monday and Tuesday night from 5:30PM to 8:30PM. For these health care concerns and other information, please call The Aztec Health and Wellness Clinic at 334-4147. Please note that as of January 2006, our clinic will open on Wednesday's from 12:30PM - 8:30PM.

A Well Woman Clinic is scheduled for Feb. 18, 2006, 9 am - 1 pm. (Anyone seeking medical attention is welcome to come.)



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Fight BAC in your Community and Home

By Thomas A. Welts

Whether preparing food for a family reunion or a community gathering, people who are great cooks at home don't necessarily know how to safely prepare and store large quantities of food for large groups. Food that is mishandled can cause foodborne illness. However, by following some simple steps, volunteer cooks can make the event safe and successful.

1. Plan ahead - make sure the location meets your needs.

Be sure you have enough oven, stovetop, refrigerator, freezer, and work space. Find out if there's a source of clean water. If not, bring water for preparation and cleaning.

2. Store and prepare food safely.

Refrigerate or freeze perishable food within 2 hours of shopping or preparing. Find separate preparation areas in the work space for raw and cooked foods. Never place cooked food back on the same plate or cutting board that held raw food. Wash hands, cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and work surfaces frequently with hot, soapy water.

3. Cook food to safe internal temperature - it's the only way to tell if harmful bacteria are destroyed.

Use a food thermometer to check the internal temperature of meat, poultry, casseroles, and other food. Check temperature in several places to be sure food is safely cooked.

Never partially cook food for finishing later because you increase the risk of bacterial growth.

4. Transport food safely - keep hot food HOT. Keep cold food COLD.

Keep cold food at or below 41 degrees F. Place in a cooler with a cold source such as ice or commercial freezing gels. Keep hot food at or above 140 degrees F. Wrap well and place in an insulated container.

5. Need to reheat? Food must be hot and steamy for serving. Just "warmed up" is not good enough.

Use the stove, oven, or microwave to reheat food to

165 degrees F. Bring sauces, soups, and gravies to a boil.

6. Keep food out of the "Danger Zone" (40-140 degrees F).

Keep hot food hot - at or above 140 degrees F. Place cooked food in chafing dishes, pre-heated steam tables, warming trays, and/or slow cookers. Keep cold food cold - at or below 40 degrees F. Place food in containers on ice.

7. When in doubt, throw it out!

Discard food left out at room temperature for more than 2 hours. Place leftovers in shallow containers. Refrigerate or freeze immediately.

FINALLY: If you're preparing food for others than your family and opening the event to the public (food sold or given away free), you probably will need a food permit issued by the New Mexico Environment Department (if in New Mexico). If you have not had any event serving food for more than 2 days out of a given month, there is not permit fee.

In you have any questions, please call (505) 327-9851. FIGHT BAC (food bacteria)



Drinking and Pregnancy don't mix

- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is 100 % preventable.
 - F.A.S. is the leading cause of mental retardation.
 - No amount of alcohol intake during pregnancy is known to be safe.
 - Drinking while trying to conceive is discouraged since significant brain development occurs during the first three months of pregnancy.
 - Each year more than 55,000 babies are born with alcohol related birth defects.
- Take good care of your baby. Give your baby the best start possible! If you have questions about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome or need help to stop drinking, contact your health care provider or The National Center for Environmental Health at 1-888-232-6789.

This announcement was brought to you by this paper, the Perinatal Health Coordinator with the San Juan County Community Health Council and the Public Health Division of the NM Department of Health.

Harley's Humor

True story from Orange County: A man goes to a party and has too much to drink. His friends plead with him to let them take him home. He says no - he only lives a mile away. About five blocks from the party, the police pull him over for weaving and ask him to get out of the car and walk the line. Just as he starts, the police radio blares out a notice of a robbery taking place in a house just a block away. The police tell the party animal to stay put, they will be right back - and they run down the street to the robbery. The guy waits and waits and finally decides to drive home. When he gets there, he tells his wife he is going to bed, and to tell anyone who might come looking for him that he has the flu and has been in bed all day. A few hours later, the police knock on the door. They ask if Mr. X lives there and his wife says yes. They ask to see him and she replies that he is in bed with the flu and has been so all day. The police have his driver's license. They ask to see his car and she asks why. They insist on seeing his car, so she takes them to the garage and opens the door where they find the police car, lights still flashing.

This true story was told by the driver at his first AA meeting, according to the newspaper account.

Protect your Property Rights

Do you know? Oil and gas companies in New Mexico are **NOT** required to have a written agreement with a rancher or homeowner before they drill an oil or gas well, **NOR** are they required to pay for the use of the land surface. Landowners need legislation to help protect their surface rights and the value of their property.

The *Surface Owner's Protection Act* will help level the playing field between landowners and oil and gas companies.

1 Tell your legislators to protect your property rights and vote YES on HB 437
Call the switchboard at **505-986-4300**

- Rep. Ray Begaye, Shiprock
- Rep. Richard Cheney, Farmington
- Rep. Tom Taylor, Farmington
- Rep. Sandra Townsend, Farmington
- Sen. Steve Neville, Aztec
- Sen. Bill Sharer, Farmington

2 FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

San Juan Citizens Alliance
106 S. Main, Aztec, NM • 505-334-1301
cell 360-8994 • www.sanjuancitizens.org
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Hot Nails! by Amy



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Global Warming

Science FAQs part 5

To What Extent Can Humans Adapt To Climate Change?

- Some degree of adaptation will undoubtedly be necessary to respond to the coming climate change that is unavoidable.

- Depending on the rate and magnitude of climate change, humans can invest in infrastructure and other societal systems to ameliorate its consequences.

- However, different regions and sectors will differ in their ability to adapt. Natural ecosystems have inherent, but limited capability to adapt to climate change, which is further impeded by other human impacts to the environment such as development and habitat fragmentation. Even human societies, particularly developing countries, have limited resources to respond to the challenge of climate change.

- Some climate related impacts are difficult to adapt to. For example, extreme weather events, such as storms and floods, are not easily ameliorated by adaptation measures.

- Thus, investing in the reduction of greenhouse gases will offset necessary investments in adaptation in addition to protecting against those adverse effects of climate change for which adaptation is particularly difficult.

How Much Do Greenhouse Gas Emissions Have to Be Reduced to Stop Climate Change?

- Current atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases are projected to increase global temperatures by an additional 1°F in coming decades. Thus some degree of continued climate change is inevitable, despite efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but emissions reductions will aid in reducing the magnitude of that change and stopping human-induced increases in global temperatures.

- In order to stop temperature increases, greenhouse gases in the atmosphere must be stabilized, meaning emissions of these gases must be reduced to such a level that they do not cause any additional increase in atmospheric concentrations.

- The magnitude of emissions reductions necessary to achieve such stabilization depends on a number of factors including the level at which greenhouse gases should be stabilized and future patterns of fossil fuel use and emissions.

- In its latest assessment report the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimated the magnitude of emissions reductions necessary to stabilize atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ at a doubling of the preindustrial by the end of the century level for a broad range of scenarios for future greenhouse gas emissions. Given mid-range baseline projections for CO₂ emissions, IPCC estimated that global CO₂ emissions would have to be reduced by the end of the 21st century to 40-75% below baselines.

What are carbon "sinks"?

- "Sinks" are reservoirs that remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere and store it, sometimes by converting it to another compound. The two largest natural sinks for CO₂ are the oceans and terrestrial vegetation, including forests. For example, forests remove CO₂ from the atmosphere during photosynthesis, storing that carbon in their tissues. Keeping forests intact instead of cutting them down can prevent CO₂ from being released and expanding forests can enhance removal of CO₂ from the atmosphere. The Kyoto Protocol recognizes the preservation and enhancement of certain kinds of sinks and allows these to be counted as part of a country's efforts to meet its target.

Is Planting More Trees a Way of Solving Global Warming?

- Increasing the world's forest cover is uniformly considered to be a useful mechanism for mitigating atmospheric CO₂ concentrations, because of the ability for plants to remove CO₂ from the atmosphere through photosynthesis.

- However, even a vigorous global reforestation program would not be sufficient to offset anthropogenic CO₂ emissions from human sources.

- Thus, reforestation may assist in reducing the rate at which atmospheric CO₂ increases (and provide additional ecological benefits as well), but the stabilization of CO₂ will still require direct reductions in CO₂ emissions.

to be continued

<http://www.pewclimate.org>

Celebration for NMWWA's 50th year held

by Gretta Becay

The New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association (NMWWA), was officially organized in 1956. The New Mexico Water Utilities Newsletter for Fall 2005 gives the history of the organization beginning with the 1919 appointment of an engineer to "...handle all matters pertaining to environmental sanitation."

The newsletter goes on to say that by 1935, the state had full-time coverage in public health for all counties when the District Health Act was adopted. The FERA and WPA, (Federal Emergency Relief Administration and Works Project Administration) made it possible for many NM municipalities to develop their public water supplies and build better sewage treatment plants. During the next decade, water and sewage treatment technology progressed and training conventions were held, mostly in Colorado, until in 1956, a training session was held in Las Cruces at the New Mexico State University. Over one hundred people attended the three-day course and meeting. Thus was organized the NMWWA.

This year, the 50th year of the organization, a celebration was held the fourth week in January at the Las Cruces Hilton to celebrate the occasion.

The organization has grown from the original 105 members to over 1300 members now.

Since the Northwest Section of the group was organ-



Three past presidents of the New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association, Casimiro Ruybalid, Roger Roquemore and Cindy Huntsman attended the association's 50th 'birthday' celebration in Las Cruces recently.

ized, which encompasses San Juan County, six people from this area have served as state presidents; Joe B. (Satch) Archuleta, Jose (Pepe) Perez, John Allison, (all deceased), and Ruybalid, Roquemore and Huntsman, shown in the photo.

New Thai restaurant opens

by Gretta Becay

Boon's Family Thai BBQ restaurant on Main Ave. in Aztec has a lot of devoted customers. Now, customers will be able to get the same exotic tasty dishes on Main Street in Farmington.

In early February, Morey Havens and Krystal Holmes will open their second Thai restaurant at 321 W. Main in Farmington. Jean's Café, a Farmington landmark for 20 years, previously occupied the location.

Havens was glad to buy the restaurant, he said, as it is easier to set up at a location with a kitchen already in place. Minimal remodeling included switching out the stoves to install woks necessary to cook Thai cuisine.

The restaurant will have two entrances, one on Main Street and one opening into the alley behind the restaurant within a few steps of a city parking lot where customers may park for free.

When Havens and Holmes decided to name their first restaurant 'Boon's Family Thai BBQ' after Holmes's son, Boon, he said, fine, but you have to name it 'Boon's Family'.

Now, a year after opening their first restaurant on Main Ave. in Aztec, Havens said, "Boon's family has truly grown to include many customers and friends that welcomed the restaurant to Aztec and made this expansion possible."

As with the Aztec restaurant, Phra Thawathai Imprapha, a Buddhist monk and long-time friend of Havens and Holmes, will bless the restaurant on its opening day. The blessing is said to bring good luck to the enterprise and the owners.



Close to the corner of Locke and Main St in Farmington, across the street from the Bank of the Southwest, a new Boon's Family Thai BBQ opens in early February.

David Lisle Photography

After his arrival in the Four Corners area in 2002, David Lisle finished his associate's degree at San Juan College. In the summer of 2004 he was chosen for an internship at Aztec Ruins National Monument. Not only did he get to indulge in his love for history, a photographic opportunity presented itself when they asked him to create a photo portfolio of the ruins. With an internship under his belt and some great photos to boot, he launched his business in March of 2005. Later that year he moved to downtown Aztec, and January 2006 opened David Lisle Photography on Main Avenue. He offers a wide variety of digital services including commercial, fine art and outdoor portraits; also camera to CD transfer and use of your own pictures to create greeting and postcards. While not completely fluent in Photoshop, he can still manipulate, touch up and resize photos. Armed with an Epson 2200 he can also print photos of any size up to 13" x 19". His shop is located at 205 S. Main Ave., and the phone number is 334-2840 or 402-3470.

Girl Scouts seek nominations for Hall of Fame

(Albuquerque, NM) - Girl Scouts of Chaparral Council, Inc. is seeking nominations for their 2006 Hall of Fame event which will recognize women in broadcasting and media. This annual event recognizes former Girl Scouts for their achievements in a specific profession. Nomination criteria includes: nominee was a former Girl Scout (including Brownie) anywhere in the United States or with USA Girl Scouts Overseas, nominee's life reflects the Girl Scout Promise and Law, nominee has outstanding achievements and accomplishments in her profession (within broadcasting and media), and nominee resides within Chaparral Council's jurisdiction. Nomination forms can be found on the council's web site at www.chaparralgirlscouts.org and need to be completed and returned by February 17, 2006.

Nominations will be reviewed by a selection committee and honorees will be announced at the Hall of Fame event on April 29, 2006. The Hall of Fame dinner and silent auction will be held at the Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid North.

For more info about the 2006 Hall of Fame, contact Melissa Bruney, Director of Fund Development, or Jennifer Lowe, Fund Development Associate, 1-800-658-6768.

SJ Soil and Water Conservation District update

• **Tree seedlings** are now available for ordering online at www.nmforestry.com.

• **Riparian Restoration in the Southwest**

Workshop: February 28-March 2 in Albuquerque. Go to the Soil and Water Conservation Society web page at www.swcs.org.

• **Clearing out Russian Olive, Salt Cedars or other trees from your property?** Want to find a good way to get rid of the "residual" cut trees? Want to make money? Attend a free workshop on the use of compost and mulch from forest "residuals." The workshop includes instruction and advice on how to produce, use and market compost and mulch from your forest residuals. Santa Fe, Feb. 27-28. www.recyclenewmexico.com.

NOXIOUS WEED UPDATE:

Weed Identification Web Site from New Mexico State University: weeds.nmsu.edu.

• News Letter: **New Mexico Noxious Weed News** - stop by District office for a copy.

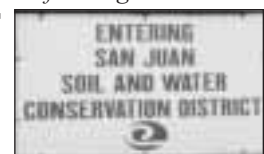
To always consider our actions today and the effects they will have in the future on future generations

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Soil, Water, Air, Plants, Animals and Human Well Being

Allen Maez - District Conservationist, Elisa Bird - District Clerk



Rio Grande Art Assoc.

Calling all artists in the Southwest - Juried Show - About \$3500 in cash and prizes. Judge: Santiago Perez; Jurors, Lee Rommel, Nance McManus, Karl Peterson.

For prospectus send SASE to Rio Grande Art Association, Freida Thorsen, P.O. Box 53307, Albuquerque, NM 87153 or call (505) 293-3811 or e-mail ftorsen@comcast.net.

Deadline for digital or slides is March 8, 2006. Show will run from May 5 (reception) through May 29 at the Fine Arts Building on the State Fairgrounds.

SUDOKU

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

Answer on page 27

Sudoku: A new TALON feature

Sudoku, sometimes spelled Su Doku, is a logic-based placement puzzle. The aim of the puzzle is to enter a numerical digit from 1 through 9 in each cell of a 9x9 grid made up of 3x3 subgrids (called "regions"), starting with various digits given in some cells (the "givens"). Each row, column and region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The numerals in Sudoku puzzles are used for convenience; arithmetic relationships between numerals are absolutely irrelevant. Completing the puzzle requires patience and logical ability. Although first published in a U. S. puzzle magazine in 1979, Sudoku initially caught on in Japan in 1986 and attained international popularity in 2005.

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.)

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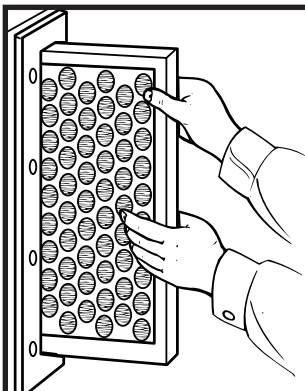
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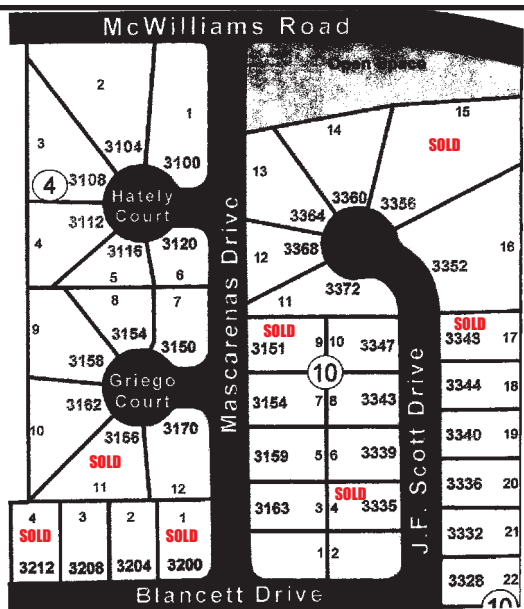
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The Maiden & The Crone

Horoscopes

by Tracy Tucker

February 1 through 15

Aries: (March 20th to April 19th)

You will get an opportunity to taste chicken legs, then be surprised by how much they taste like frog.

Taurus: (April 19th to May 20th)

You may decide to bring home several stool samples from a local furniture store.

Gemini (May 20th to June 21st)

Just for a change of pace, you will consider visiting an airport for a currency exchange.

Cancer: (June 21st to July 22nd)

You will meet a girl named "Brook," then be amazed by how much she babbles.

Leo: (July 22nd to August 21st)

While visiting a park, you will notice a "no parking anytime" sign. This will confuse the heck out of you.

Virgo: (August 22nd to September 22nd)

Your gut instincts will once again take the lead over those big toe instincts you've been experimenting with.

Libra: (September 22nd to October 23rd)

Due to conflicting reports from different groundhogs across the globe, you may feel the need to purchase your own.

Scorpio: (October 23rd to November 22nd)

You will brag about killing two birds with one stone. Rumor's will circulate. The animal ordinance officer may investigate.

Sagittarius: (Nov 22nd to Dec 21st)

As our society continues to swing toward a more conservative nature, you will wonder if it will eventually require pants for both Cupid and Donald Duck.

Capricorn: (December 21st to January 20th)

You will sleep late, miss your morning shampoo, then tell everyone you're experimenting with a new heart shaped hairdo.

Aquarius: (January 20th to February 20th)

You will consider starting a campaign to change the spelling of "February" to something that makes more sense like, "Febuuary." If you're successful, you will tackle other words like, "pneumonia" and "Wednesday."

Pisces: (February 20th to March 20th)

You will step outside, see your shadow, and predict six more weeks of intense exercise.

The Maiden & the Crone

204 S. Main Ave.
Aztec • 334-8030



CARE grant to help reduce toxic risks locally

GALLUP - U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman announced recently that the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments (NWNMCOG) has been awarded an \$81,168 grant from the federal government to help reduce the risk of exposure to toxic chemicals and enhance community education.

Grants from the Environmental Protection Agency's "Community Action for a Renewed Environment" (CARE) program fund community-driven projects to reduce toxic pollution in the air, water and land. Through CARE programs, EPA is partnering with communities to help them create collaborative stakeholder groups that may include community organizations, other non-profits, state and local government agencies, other federal agencies, businesses, and academia. The EPA also will provide technical assistance by helping communities identify and access opportunities through a wide range of voluntary EPA programs. The CARE program achieves it goals by:

- Building the capacity of communities to understand and take voluntary actions to reduce environmental and health risks at the local level.
- Supporting the formation of collaborative problem solving partnerships that can bring all sectors of the community and governments together to mobilize local resources and get results.
- Building the long-term capacity of communities to continue to improve their environments and health.

Through CARE, EPA works directly with communities to: Build and strengthen collaborative partnerships and leverage resources; Provide funding to help communities develop a comprehensive understanding of all sources of risks from toxics and set priorities for effective action; Provide technical assistance and information.

The Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments is a voluntary association of local units of government serving as the regional planning organization for the northwest corner of New Mexico. Members of the Council of Governments include San Juan, McKinley, and Cibola counties, the municipalities within these counties, and some special districts. The Northwest NM Council of Governments was one of only twelve grant recipients nationally to receive funding in 2005.

At present, NWNMCOG is enlisting a broad base of participants and organizations in the Northwest New Mexico CARE Program, and will soon convene community forums in each of the three counties to initiate the program.

If you are interested in participating in this initiative or want more information, please contact Barbara Russell, Northwest NM CARE Program Manager, at (505) 722-4327 or brussell@nwnmco.com.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
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55			56				57			
58				59			60			

ACROSS

- Form of lotto
- Building site
- Incite to attack
- Eternally
- Flock femmes
- Kanga's kid
- Marty director
- Shiny
- Ryan or Tatum
- Ike's monogram
- Powder base
- Mormon foreman
- Quake quiver
- Wise
- Low grade
- Hard, dark wood
- Collar
- Hydrox rival
- Got close
- Colleague of John, Chevy and Jane
- Days of old
- Tiny terror
- Jeans fabric
- Symphony section
- Prefix meaning "somewhat"
- Philip the Bold, e.g.
- Revolutionary orator
- One of John Boy's sisters
- Nautilus milieu
- Forest creature
- "The _____ Of The Lark" (Cather)

DOWN

- _____ Sabe
- Saxophonist Parker
- Hawaiian goose
- Like Miami's Fountainbleu
- Relay race portion
- Bird with a reputation for wisdom
- _____ off (angry)
- Hindustani title
- Electrified particle
- Minor member of an organization
- "Smooth Operator" singer
- Ott and Blanc
- Gold cloth
- Hit high
- Good old boy
- Hans Christian Andersen, e.g.
- Zounds!
- CSA member
- Garr of Tootsie
- Rod and _____
- Canine
- Revived: prefix
- Football unit
- Garfield's pal
- _____ Pieces (E.T.'s favorite candy)
- Shooting needs, for short
- Pegleg _____ of "Steamboat Willie"
- Roman emperor
- Poker player's words
- Hung-Wu's dynasty
- "Mr. and _____ North"
- Alley of Moo
- Through
- Naught
- Judgmental cluck

answer on page 27

Constitution IQ part 5

16. The major department head who is appointed by the President to deal with foreign countries is the: a. Secretary of Defense b. Secretary of State c. Attorney General d. Secretary of Commerce

17. If a President is impeached, the trial will be presided over by: a. the Chief Justice b. the Speaker of the House c. the Senate President "pro tempore" d. the Vice-President

18. The Constitutional Convention held its meetings in: a. the Capitol b. the White House c. Independence Hall d. Liberty Hall

19. Judges of the Supreme Court must be nominated by: a. the Senate b. the President c. the Vice-President d. the House of Representatives

20. One-third of the Senators are elected every: a. 6 years b. 3 years c. 2 years d. 4 years

21. An amendment becomes part of the Constitution when it is ratified by: a. a majority of the Senate b. two-thirds of the House of Representatives c. three-fourths of the Congress d. the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States

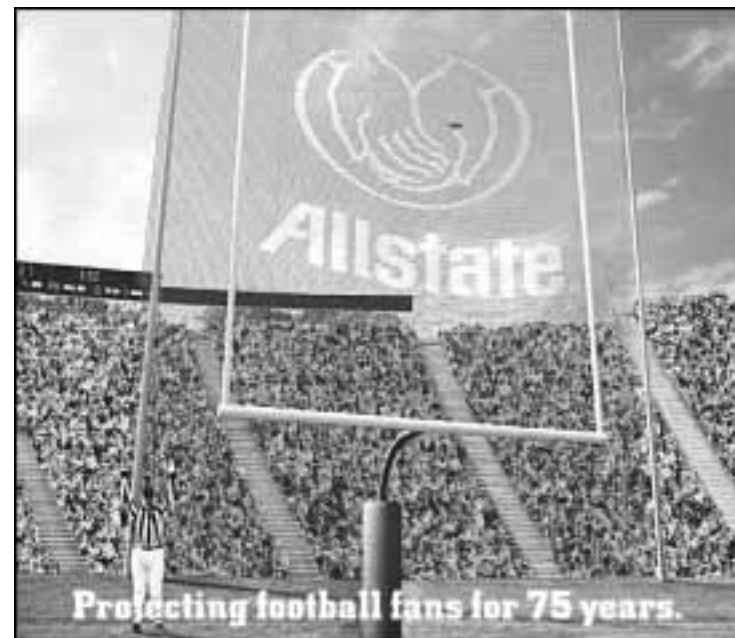
22. A member of the House of Representatives must be at least: a. 21 years old b. 30 years old c. 25 years old d. 35 years old

23. A U.S. President must be at least: a. 21 years old b. 25 years old c. 35 years old d. 30 years old

24. War may be declared only by: a. the President b. the Secretary of State c. Congress d. the Department of Defense

25. The number of articles in the Constitution is: a. 7 b. 12 c. 21 d. 48

Answers on page 25 www.constitutionfacts.com.



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Medicare Drug Coverage off to a shaky start for many

Medicare's new prescription drug coverage began on January 1, but, due mainly to technical problems and systems overloads, many beneficiaries are experiencing initial difficulties in using the coverage. The Medicare agency is implementing remedies to address the problems, but affected beneficiaries must be persistent to protect themselves.

While most Medicare beneficiaries have until May 15 to sign up for the new benefit, coverage for two groups—beneficiaries with Medicaid drug coverage, and enrollees of "Medicare Advantage" (MA) plans (e.g., Lovelace Senior Plan and Presbyterian Senior Care)—took effect automatically on January 1. Existing MA plans have long been implementing their own drug coverage, and so their members—mostly Albuquerque-area and Santa Fe residents—should experience few problems (it is not clear whether this will be true for the newer MA plans now available around the state).

The tens of thousands of New Mexico beneficiaries with Medicaid drug coverage, however, have been moved into an entirely new coverage system. Virtually all were randomly assigned to one of eight new private drug coverage plans effective January 1, and the assignments involved several computer database "transactions" among the federal Medicare agency, our state Medicaid agency, the several plans, pharmacies, contractors, and others. "Glitches" customarily arise in such situations. But, due to the newness of this system, the massive numbers of beneficiaries affected at the same time nationwide, and the fact that the Medicare agency is simultaneously addressing other enrollment and monitoring tasks, "glitches"—resulting in real coverage problems—have abounded.

For example, some beneficiaries are unaware or uncertain about plan assignments, data about assignments from Medicare to the plans (and from plans to their pharmacies) has been delayed, and the data has sometimes been found to be inaccurate. Understandably, pharmacists can be reluctant to fill prescriptions without confirmation that they will be paid. Affected beneficiaries, who are legally liable only for \$1-\$5 co-pays, can be discouraged from getting necessary medications when told they must pay significant sums.

In response to such problems, the Medicare agency has taken two remedial steps. First, it has expanded the staffing of both its 1-800-MEDICARE service, and a separate phone service for pharmacist questions (the quality of the former has continued to raise questions). Second, the agency implemented a "point of sale" system, under which any beneficiary with Medicaid drug coverage should be able to get their medications, with small co-pays, from their pharmacy. Beneficiaries should bring a photo ID, and proof of their Medicare and Medicaid coverage; though pharmacists who know them may drop some of those requirements. Implementation of this process can be difficult and time-consuming for pharmacists, and their efforts to make it work should be lauded.

Beneficiaries who still end up having to pay more than they are supposed to for their drugs, including other beneficiaries who qualify for "Extra Help," should keep records of their payments, because they will be entitled to reimbursement. Regarding these and other problems arising under this very new coverage, persistence in raising, documenting, and reporting complaints will be indispensable.

Additional information and assistance about this subject is available from the federal Medicare agency, through its toll-free information service (1-800-MEDICARE), as well as from the HIBAC benefits counseling service of the state Aging and Long-Term Services Department (statewide toll-free, 1-800-432-2080; Bernalillo County residents may call 265-1244).

METH Meeting #14

"Methamphetamines in our Community"

Wednesday

February 22, 2006

at Aztec City Commission Room
201 W. Chaco, Aztec • 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Need information? Have questions?

334-1039, 330-8483

A mother's story of meth part 3, final

This final part of Glenda Ware's letter starts with a second letter from her son Reuben, a meth user in prison.

Morning Ma,

I'm sitting here looking out my 4x4 window I have been blessed with. I say blessed because I'm currently, and often, watching the most glorious, beautiful and captivating sunrise on earth. My window faces Southwest and I'm able to watch the Lord lay his breath-taking hands on the rocky band separating you and I. For this I am truly grateful.

God, I'm such a screw up ma. I am facing quite a few years now, but I can't say I'm surprised, I knew the risk. It hurts so much inside; not for myself though, but for the innocent people I'm hurting.

Today is my first born child's birthday, he's five years old. I'm supposed to be taking his training wheels off today! Bringing him his new mini-four wheeler, and reminding him not "to go to fast with your brother on there with you. You always have to look out for him Dawson. You're a big boy now, daddy's little man."

Instead, all I can do is sit here and live with my own regrets. How could I have gone so wrong? I don't believe that the man I see before me is me, but apparently it is. I needed help and did not have the strength to ask for it. I feel my intentions were good, my methods bad.

My soul was lost and I needed a way to find it. Please help me? Please forgive me mom? Know that you are in no way to blame for what I've done. You did the best you could and you did a wonderful job. Everyone did. Ma-maw and Pa-paw reached out to me and I turned away from them. I am truly sorry for this. I pray that I will be forgiven and will be able to once again bring back everyone's faith in me.

Please remember that what I have done, I did to myself. This is all my fault, not yours. Do not let this guilt enter into your heart or mind. I deceived you and I hurt you, how could I be so naive?

When you and Christie visited, ya'll couldn't stop crying. I wanted to put my arms around both of you and tell you that I'm okay. I have been saved from myself, even in here. I was reminded of how much my family loved me and the pain I have brought to everyone.

It's Wednesday morning and I had a bad night last night. Dawson's birthday has passed and I did not sleep a wink. It was so hard. Sometimes the guilt consumes my heart.

At least this morning I have this beautiful sunrise, and you to share it with. I know that just on the other side of this mountain, you are sitting outside with your cup of coffee and watching as the sun rises above these mountains. :) I know you are..I know you, ma.

I miss sharing those mornings with you. The tip of the highest mountain is being touched to the West. I am truly blessed to see this everyday. Why have I never taken the time to watch and understand the power of the rising of the sun?

I now realize that God is the giver of light and life. He is once again the warmth after the coldest of nights for me. This is yet another fight that begins my day in a place filled with sorrow. My very inspiration in these dark and lonely times is God and you.

I often wonder if these mountains weren't here, would I be able to see Shiprock, New Mexico and/or would I be able to feel closer to you? Then again, I thank God for these mountains. Why could I not see what you saw before now?

Mom, I thought I could do this alone. I can't. Can you please ask dad to write me? Tell him his son knows he is a mess up, but tell him that I need him desperately? Do you think Christie and Lena will ever forgive me? Can Lena write to me? Thank you for the letters ma, you are my hero.

When the world has turned their back to me, you have been the only one to stand by me and continue to believe in me. You are my motivation and my strength. I am so sorry I lost sight of that. Forgive me?

Please tell me that you are taking care of yourself; that you are continuing to exercise and take your heart medicine? Tell me you are being treated in the only way that you deserve? Ma, I'm worried about your health. How could I have done this to you? I'm so sorry I've brought this sorrow into your heart.

Love always, your son, Reuben.

I feel that now that the bond between Reuben and meth is broken, we now have our son back. It is not over for us, we understand that even once Reuben is released we will continue to struggle with what has happened to all of us. We must live with this. Reuben is not the only one incarcerated, he has with him, his grandmother,

grandfather, siblings, children and mother. All of us are suffering with him through love.

At one time we were like any normal family. Our main struggles consisted of waking Reuben up in the morning for school. His sisters have forgiven him and have begun writing to him and visiting him when possible.

His father however, has chosen not to. He has yet to learn to accept the disappointments of his children. He and I are divorced, long before this incident, but I continue to try and reach him to make contact with his son. I understand Reuben's father's grief, but I also understand that family must pull together and stand side by side if we are to beat this thing.

Although there is no need for Reuben to ask for my forgiveness he continues to do so. He must now live with the choices that he has made. However, these choices have affected everyone in our family. All of us remember Reuben growing up and what a wonderful child he was. We remember him as a father, son, and grandson.

A perfect example of what drugs can eventually do to a small town is New Orleans, Louisiana. Hurricane Katrina and Rita struck new Orleans. Although, it was not the way it is now years ago, drugs and crime became rampant in that town. The National Guard was brought in at one point to maintain some form of order! It was no longer a place to visit history or see a play, it had become a place to be feared. It has all but been wiped off the map. Coincidence or necessity?

Please, continue in your help to reach out to these young children. Let them know that drugs will not be tolerated and they will be removed from their families if they are to continue their association with meth and any other drugs for that matter.

One of the hardest things I have ever had to deal with was feeling I had betrayed my son. Yet, if I had gone one step further, he would be celebrating Christmas with his own children. Not viewing the mountains, or the rising sun or his first snow for the winter from a jail cell.

If you are a person using meth, please before your next high or low, ask yourself if it is truly worth it? Who is affected by your use? Mom, dad, brothers, sisters, grandparents and Heaven forbid, your very own children? Then, ask for help. It's out there.

If you are the person manufacturing and/or selling Meth, ask yourself the same questions, but also refer back to the numbers Reuben used. They are phenomenal! You really want to carry that burden for the rest of your life? Can you?

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A Reason to Live

Deep in a life of crime & sin

Playing a game I could not win

Drugs, alcohol and women were my lifestyle

But that would only last for a while

Just when I was at the end of my rope

No where to turn, not a glimmer of hope

I had nothing to lose

So I started to pray.

Oh, dear Lord Jesus, please hear my plea

Come into my life and set my heart free

I know that He heard me because His word is true

He'll come into your life if you just ask Him to.

So repent of your sins and let Him forgive

He'll give you new hope and a reason to live.

*Joseph Archuleta
1-20-06*

Sponsorships available for 2006 UFO Symposium

The Aztec Public Library & Friends will hold the 9th Annual Aztec UFO Symposium on March 24-26, 2006, at the Aztec Boys & Girls Club, located at the Aztec Family Center, where the new Aztec Public Library also resides.

The Symposium draws attendees and media attention, both nationally and internationally. The six "world class" speakers will travel here from New York, Canada and beyond. In addition, countless volunteers participate in the facilitation of the annual event, which is a fund raiser for the Aztec Public Library. The new library is now open and serving the community, but the Library has other projects in the works that the money raised will be used for, including:

- Development of a regional cultural center, Four Corners Center for Universe Studies (FOCUS) that will tell the story of the archaeoastronomy that abounds in our backyard and contributes to the make up of our rich cultural heritage. This project will feature a digital planetarium being dubbed as the "Theatre of the Sky," and with six projection units projecting onto a 360 degree screen, specializing in the indigenous use of the stars and planets for calendrical events. This project has captured the attention of some very prestigious organizations such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Continued development of the Aztec Trails Mountain Bike Trail System, which also includes the infamous Alien Run Trail which encircles the Aztec UFO crash site in Hart Canyon, just outside of Aztec. Trail signage and a color brochure map produced in conjunction with the BLM as well as the development of an additional extreme trail to be known as Area 51, and our 7th Annual Alien Run Mountain Bike Competition, are all projects tagged for additional funding potential.
- Additional projects that the fund raising will benefit include the Arts in the Library Initiative and the Aztec Family Center Landscaping Plan which, when complete, will add the finishing touches to the multi-faceted Aztec Family Center, which houses the Aztec Boys & Girls Club, San Juan College East/Vista Nueva High School, and now the Aztec Public Library.

Other events that the Annual Symposium generates include an Annual Space Art & Writing Contest, which has received entries from children as far away as Israel and India and from all over the United States; stargazes, play productions and a film fest.

As you can see these events bring a lot of interest and exposure to the entire area. Please consider joining us in this worthwhile endeavor with a generous donation. Your contribution makes the statement that you "value learning" and any amount will be greatly appreciated and is tax deductible. Please consider the following lev-

els of contribution:

We are excited about offering this opportunity for you or your business to become involved in community development and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,
Nikki Smith, Event Coordinator
Friends of the Aztec Library
505-334-8088

Aztec 2006 UFO Symposium Sponsorship Opportunities

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Risk-taking Doer \$5,000.00

- 10 Complete Event Passes & Official 2006 Symposium T-Shirts.
- Name listed on all advertising including: Website - aztecufo.com, Official Aztec UFO 2006 Program, Poster and T-shirt and all Press Ops.
- 1 autographed copy of each speaker's book or CD (as applicable)
- One special effects photo of your choice.
- Friends of the Library Membership including 25% off on all merchandise.

PARTNER

Extremely Adventurousome \$1,000.00

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- Name listed on all advertising including: Website - aztecufo.com, Official Aztec UFO 2006 Program, Poster and T-shirt.
- Friends of the Library Membership including 10% off on all merchandise.

SPONSOR

Thrill Seeker 500.00

- 4 Complete Event Passes & Official T-Shirts.
- Name Listed on Website - aztecufo.com, and Official Aztec UFO 2006 Program, Poster and T-shirt.
- Friends of the Library Membership including 10% off on all merchandise.

CONTRIBUTOR

Outgoing 100.00

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- Name listed on Official Aztec UFO 2006 Program.
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AstroFriday

AstroFriday on February 3 at San Juan College's Planetarium will be "Navajo Sky Legends," an alternative to the usual Greek constellation mythology. Eight major Navajo constellations will be revealed and their Greek counterparts shown, when there are counterparts. The presentation is an all-sky show lasting approximately 55 minutes. We will give out winter sky maps while supplies last.

Show times are 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. There is no admission charge, but maximum seating capacity in the Planetarium is 60, so seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to preserve dark-adaptation, there is no late admittance into the Planetarium once a show has started.

If weather permits, there will be a free public stargaze with telescopes at 8:30 p.m. in the courtyard behind the Planetarium. The stargaze will last a maximum of one hour. There is no capacity limit for the stargaze, so there is plenty of room to enjoy telescopic viewing of the moon, the always stunning planet Saturn, our binary North Star, otherwise known as Polaris, and the colorful binary Gamma Andromedae. If weather is especially favorable, we may also be able to see such deep-sky objects as the E. T. Cluster in Cassiopeia, the Milky Way's sister galaxy, Andromeda, the Pleiades star cluster, the gossamer Orion Nebula, and the Beehive Cluster in Cancer.

If the weather looks questionable for the stargaze to go on, call the Starline at 566-3389 to find out whether it has been canceled, or will go on as scheduled. Call about 5 p.m. or later on AstroFriday.

Great speakers & events for UFO 2006

Speakers for the 2006 Symposium are Stanton Friedman, Linda Moulton Howe, Dennis Balthaser, Scotty Littleton PHD, Frank Feschino, J. Andrew Kissner, and Scott Ramsey. We are in the process of getting Robert Nichol from Genesis Communications to come and present the award winning "STAR DREAMS," exploring the mystery of the crop circles and have also invited Gov. Richardson.

In conjunction with the Symposium, we are having the art show and contest, with a reception for the artists and parents at the award ceremony. Other events include the Star Gaze, a parade with contests in each age group for

best costumes (even pets), raffle for hot air balloon rides, Meet and Greet buffet dinner with live music, and lots more. A group from Studio City, Hollywood, CA, called Ufo-etry, will present a one hour rock music show (they won the music video award this year). Also on hand will be a photographer from Adline in Roswell who will take a special effects picture of you being beamed up into a UFO!



We could use more volunteers and vendors. The symposium planning group meets every Monday evening at 6:30 at the Aztec Library. Come join us for pot luck, lotsa fun, and great people.

For more information, call Nikki at 334-8088.

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Obituaries

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Carter

Bruce E. Carter, 55, of Bloomfield, passed away Jan. 24, 2006, in Bloomfield. He was born Aug. 21, 1950, in Wichita Falls, Texas, to William and Evelyn Carter.

Bruce graduated with a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, and worked for 30 years for the Social Security Administration as a District Manager.

He was preceded in death by his mother. He is survived by his wife, Louise A. Werito-Carter, whom he married June 5, 1993, in Bloomfield; father, William Carter; sons, Brian William Carter and wife, Kristin, of Sioux Falls, SD, Jason Ray Werito of Tempe, Ariz., and Gary Dwayne Werito of Rifle, Colo.; daughter, Teagan Amaya Tolino; brother, Jerry Carter and wife, Terri, of Euless, Texas; and numerous extended family and friends.

Memorial services were held Jan. 27 at the Farmington Civic Center, with his son, Brian Carter, officiating.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the American Cancer Society for the local Relay for Life, 10501 Montgomery Blvd. NE, Suite 300, Albuquerque, NM 87111.

Arrangements were under the direction of Brewer, Lee & Larkin Funeral Home & Crematory, Farmington.

Downes

J.D. Downes, 80, of Aztec, passed away Jan. 16, 2006, in Farmington. He was born Sept. 21, 1925, in Hagerman.

He will be missed but never forgotten. He touched so many lives in so many wonderful ways. He served his country because he cared.

His wife of 63 years, Frances, stood by his side until the day he left this life for a much better place, Heaven.

A memorial service was held Jan. 26 at Living Word Church, Farmington.

Hahn

Mrs. Vera Alice Hahn, 88, of Aztec, died Saturday, Jan. 14, 2006, at San Juan Regional Medical Center in Farmington. She was born Aug. 9, 1917, in Enid, Okla.

Arrangements were with Alternative Choice, Farmington.

Harvey

Nikki D'Nea Harvey was born Dec. 16, 1986. Her life was sadly taken on Jan. 15, 2006, at age 19, in her home in Bloomfield.

She leaves behind her son, Nathaniel Berne Parsons, 3 months, and a caring fiancé, Travis Berne Parsons, 24, who both reside in Bloomfield. She is also survived by parents, Ronald Scott Harvey and DelLeena Fay Myers, both of Portsmouth, Va.; and siblings, Brandi Jenkins, 22, Heather Harvey, 21, Scott Harvey, 20, Jessika Harvey, 17, Tiffany Williams, 12, and Richard Williams, 9.

She was a high-spirited woman and a fantastic mother who led a happy, healthy life.

We love you and will always miss you. Your life meant so much to so many. We take comfort in knowing you are with God.

In lieu of flowers donations will be accepted to set up a trust fund for Nathaniel.

Hayes

Dr. Harry Hayes, 69, of Bloomfield, passed away Friday, Jan. 27, 2006, in Bloomfield. Dr. Hayes was born Oct. 6, 1936, in Chicago, Ill.

A visitation will be from 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at Brewer, Lee and Larkin Funeral Home in Farmington. A visitation with rosary will be at 7 p.m. also on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Blanco.

Funeral Mass will be at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at St. Mary's Parish Center, 307 N. Church St. in Bloomfield with Father James Walker, celebrant. A celebration of Harry's life will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Bloomfield High School gymnasium located

at 520 N. 1st St. A reception will follow at St. Mary's Parish Center. Interment will follow at 2 p.m. at St. Rose Catholic Church Cemetery in Blanco.

Memorial contributions may be made in Harry's memory to the Bloomfield Boys and Girls Club. Dr. Hayes is in the care of Brewer, Lee & Larkin Funeral Home & Crematory, Farmington.

Kirkpatrick

Kathryn C. "Casey" (nee Smith) Kirkpatrick, 52, of La Plata County, died peacefully on Monday, Jan. 23, 2006, after a long battle with breast cancer.

Casey grew up in Aztec, and graduated from Aztec High School and San Juan College. She was a member of the La Plata Electric Association, Inc. "family," whose assistance in her final days was invaluable. She will be missed because, more than anything, she was a friend, a mother and a wife.

She is survived by sons, Lee Kirkpatrick, currently serving in Afghanistan for the U.S. Army, and Lyn Kirkpatrick of La Plata County; husband of 32 years, Randy Kirkpatrick; mother, Patricia Smith of Aztec; and brothers, Robert A. Smith and wife, Lori, Porter A. Smith and wife, Cathy, and William Smith and wife, Candy, all of Aztec; and several nephews and nieces.

A memorial service will be at 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), 505 N. Oliver Drive in Aztec.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests, in recognition of their support for Casey, that donations be made to the Women's Cancer Support Group, 172 Riverview Drive, Durango, CO 81301.

Martinez

Eva Velasquez-Martinez, 76, of Bloomfield, passed away Jan. 20, 2006 in Pueblo, Colo.

Eva, as she was better known to her family and friends, was born Jan. 13, 1929, in Los Martinez, to Mike and Adrianna Velasquez.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Mike and Adrianna Velasquez.

She is survived by her son, Tony Martinez Sr. and daughter Mary Hildenbrandt and six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral mass will be held at an undetermined time Friday, Feb. 3 at St. Rose Catholic Church in Blanco, with Reverend Jim Walker officiating. Burial will follow at Los Martinez Cemetery at Navajo Dam.

Pallbearers are Tony Martinez Sr., Tony Martinez Jr., Billy Lucas Martinez, Tim Tippens, Chris Sours and Antonio Martinez. Honorary pallbearers are Paul Velasquez Jr. and Norman Velasquez.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Cope Memorial Chapel, 405 S. Main Ave. in Aztec/

Pacheco

Alice Pacheco, 75, of Bloomfield, passed away Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006, in Farmington. Alice was born Nov. 16, 1930, in Nageezi to George Armenta and Martha Charley.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Lena M. Wilson and Arlene Lope; and brother Johnnie J. Charley.

Survivors include her husband of 42 years, Leo J. Pacheco Sr., and one brother, Dick Charley of Nageezi; daughters, Sadie Martinez of Bloomfield, Bessie Simpson and husband Harry, of Kirtland, and Sandra Sam and husband Irvin, of Bloomfield; and sons, Sammy J. Pacheco of Salt Lake City, Utah, Vincent J. Pacheco and wife Marie, of Bloomfield, Nicky J. Pacheco of Bloomfield, Leo J. Pacheco Jr. and wife Marilyn, of Farmington, and Beltran J. Pacheco and wife, Alta of Bloomfield; one nephew whom she raised, George Werito and wife Irene, of Farmington, and a niece whom she raised, Elsie John and husband Kee, of Farmington. Also surviving are 34 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank all the nurses, doctors and CAN at San Juan Regional 2nd floor, ICU 4th floor, Dr. Bevan and Four Corners Dialysis.

Services were held Jan. 25 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Bloomfield. Interment followed in Bloomfield Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Beltran Pacheco, Nicky Pacheco, Leo J. Pacheco Jr., Sammy Pacheco, Vincent Pacheco and Frederick Martinez. Ushers were Chris Sam and Myron Sam.

Arrangements were under the direction of Brewer, Lee & Larkin Funeral Home & Crematory, Farmington.

Price

Vincent Lee Price, 48, of Grants and former resident of Aztec, died Jan. 12, 2006, in Grants. He was born Sept. 5, 1957, in St. Louis, Mo., to Fern Opal Butler Price and Herbert H. Price.

Memorial services were held Jan. 20, at Grants Mortuary in Grants, with Brother Ronnie Cash conducting.

Arrangements were under the direction of Grants Mortuary.

Smith

Laura Louise Smith, 93, of Aztec was embraced into the arms of Jesus on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006, at Life Care Center in Farmington. Mrs. Smith was born Jan. 7, 1913, in Smith County, Tenn., to William

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Act addresses overuse of amphetamine based compounds dispensed in NM public schools

The following is a new legislation in the draft discussion stages written by Stephen Fox and hopefully to be introduced by NM Senate President Pro Tem Ben Altamirano. Letters of support for this bill should be faxed to Governor Bill Richardson, Attention, Chief of Staff, David Contarino, (505) 476-2226, and emailed to: www.governor.state.nm.us/emailchoice.php?mm=6. Also send to Lt. Governor Diane Denish, Chief of Staff, Chris Cervino, at the Lt. Governor's website: www.ltgov.state.nm.us/contact.html, and toll-free Number: 800-432-4406

Please also email your support to your State Senator, Steve Neville [nmsenate@msn.com]. [Senator Neville signed a letter to Gov. Richardson last week asking for an Executive Message on SB 250, to Ban Aspartame in New Mexico. Please let him know you appreciate that and that you encourage his cosponsor ship of the Ritalin related bill!] and to your State Representative, Sandra Townsend [townsend1225@aol.com]

AN ACT RELATING TO DRUGS PRESCRIBED BY AND DISPENSED IN NEW MEXICO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; RELATING TO THE OVERUSE OF AMPHETAMINE BASED COMPOUNDS LIKE RITALIN FOR THE SO-CALLED "ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER" AND "ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER," CREATING A SYSTEM OF CONSENT FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OF DRUGS AND THE DISPENSATION THEREOF IN NEW MEXICO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION BE IT ENACTED BY THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1 [New Material] LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS:

A. The Legislature finds it is imperative for protecting the health of children to address its concerns about the practice of prescribing prescription drugs and administering prescription drugs on school grounds in New Mexico, which has occurred for many years with no specific statutory powers ever having been granted to do so, a practice that has gone on within the tenuous auspices of Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

B. The Legislature determines that while the federal government continues to interpret how IDEA and Section 504 relate to and protect students diagnosed with the so-called ADHD, the state of New Mexico is free to enact its own laws and policies.

C. The Legislature determines that the lack of relevant statutes in this regard presents a serious situation for the State of New Mexico, because of obvious liabilities for potential harm and for actual harm to any child resultant from prescription drug ingestion when prescribed by or through the schools, if and when such harm may be determined in a court of law.

D. The Legislature recognizes that heretofore no prior Legislature has created any statutory system to regulate or administrate the prescription and dispensation of any drugs to children in the public schools.

E. The Legislature determines that in order to protect the interests of each child, which are of great concern in the year 2006, having been proclaimed as the "Year of the Child," that such a statutory system to protect the

interests and health of children will be created by this act.

F. The Legislature determines that approximately 1% of the children in New Mexico schools are being administered amphetamine-based drugs including Ritalin by and through the schools, particularly in the treatment of the so-called "Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder"; that such practices are determined to have neurotoxic effects on the child's developing neurological system, and are also determined to contribute to the child having personality difficulties, learning difficulties, and subsequent addictions to meth amphetamine drugs as teenagers and young adults; and that drugs are sometimes prescribed and administered for the so-called "Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder" are used as a punishment for a child's lack of attention to their teacher.

G. The Legislature notes with concern the death of 13 children in the United States resulting from emergency liver transplants due to neurotoxic effects of their having ingested Pemoline, yet another amphetamine-based drug prescribed for the so-called "Attention Deficit Disorder," and that such deaths and other harmful effects, including amphetamine breakage of DNA strand, by drugs for this so-called disorder must be avoided entirely in the state of New Mexico in accordance with the provisions of this act.

H. The legislature determines that the Public Education Department must come to recognize that the practice of drugging children for their occasional lack of attention is destructive to the child's health and future, and that the Public Education Department must make more vigorous efforts to determine the underlying reasons for the child's occasional lack of attention.

Be it therefore enacted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico that the following new statutory material will be added to the New Mexico Drug Act in the section regarding Prohibited Acts, NMSA 26-1-3

Prohibited Acts (New material):

J. The dispensation of prescription drugs in or by New Mexico schools and the arranging of prescriptions by school personnel, including teachers, principals, and school nurses, except when there is a statement of agreement between the child, the parent, the teacher, and the principal, and a pediatrician. This agreement shall be signed by all of the parties listed above.

K. No school personnel shall attempt to arrange a prescription for any child for any reasons.

Wizardry of Words, a writer's conference

Trois Riviere Fiction Writers Presents, Wizardry of Words, a conference for writers in all genres, featuring an acquiring editor from Llewellyn publishing, and John Helfers, from Tekno books an acquiring editor for Five Star Expressions. These editors will be having appointments with writers who want to pitch their books. Both of these editors will also be giving keynote addresses as part of the conference.

In addition, speakers include Jeffery Poston, former literary agent and writer of two books of Western Fiction with African-American protagonists; Dr. Paul Hutton, historian, writer, author and television personality, many will recognize him from the many programs about the west seen on the history channel and PBS. Donna MacQuigg is a multi-published author of historical and contemporary romance. Her Scottish and Medieval romances were published through Kensington in mass market paperback, distributed by Wal-Mart.

Sarah Storme, author of contemporary romance published in both paperback and e-books, is also part of the "Writers on the Rocks" series presented by the Farmington Library and is appearing there on February 12th along with Gabriella Anderson and Linda Castle. Linda George, author of over fifty children's books and most recently had published a book of romantic fiction.

The regional book buyer and events manager of Hastings Books and Music, in Amarillo Texas will be a speaker telling us how to get our book on the shelf. Leanne Hathcock, Aztec Librarian, whose topic is - It started with a book. And there will be more to get your creative juices flowing.

The conference will be held at San Juan College, rooms 9008 and 9010, April 28th, 29th and 30th. Cost is \$235.00 for non-members and \$195.00 for members of TRFW. Deadline for registration is March 15th. Contact the conference chair by writing to #18 County Road 5795, Farmington, NM 87401 or calling 505-325-2473.

Don't let this opportunity to participate in a special event for writers pass you by!

L. No amphetamine-based drugs of any trade names will be administered by any school personnel in New Mexico for the so-called Attention Deficit Disorder and the so-called Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, except when preceded by a statement of agreement between the child, the parent, the teacher, the principal, and a pediatrician.

Section 2. The New Mexico Drug Act, NMSA 1978 Article 1, is amended to read:

26-1-3 DEFINITIONS.--for the purpose of the New Mexico Drug Act:

A. "Ritalin" is a trade name for methylphenidate, a drug, C14H19NO2, chemically related to amphetamine, that acts as a mild stimulant of the central nervous system and is used especially in the form of its hydrochloride for the treatment of narcolepsy in adults and hyperkinetic disorders in children.

B. "attention deficit disorder" is a syndrome, usually diagnosed in childhood, characterized by a persistent pattern of impulsiveness, a short attention span, and often hyperactivity, and ostensibly interfering with academic, occupational, and social performance.

C. "attention deficit hyperactivity" is the same as above except when accompanied by hyperactivity.

Section 4. Power to Enjoin Violations shall be given to the office of the attorney general, which is authorized to apply to the district court for, and the court shall have jurisdiction upon hearing and for cause shown, to grant a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any other person from violating any provision of this act.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the above provisions of this act is immediate.

Section 6. MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.—One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the office of the attorney general for enforcement of this act, in accordance with the statutory authority and powers granted to the Attorney General in NMSA 26-1-7. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 7. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROPRIATION.--The effective date of the appropriation section of this act shall be July 1, 2006.

"Share the LOVE"

FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO - The Farmington Public Library will "Share the Love" at its next installment of the Writers on the Rocks author series. On Sunday, February 12th romance writers Gabriella Anderson, Sarah Storme and Linda Lea Castle will discuss their popular romance novels, followed by book signings. The featured authors are all members of the Land of Enchantment Romance Authors.

Farmington's own Linda Lea Castle has won many awards for her writing. In 2002, she was the Romantic Times nominee for Best Medieval Historical Romance, and the winner of the 2002 Lories.

For details about the "Share the Love" and the Writers on the Rocks author series at the Farmington Public Library, please call 599-1270 or log on to www.infoway.org.

US Iraq Casualties

As of Saturday, Jan. 28, 2006, at least 2,242 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003.

16,420 U.S. Military Wounded

<http://icasualties.org/oif/>

Iraq Civilian Casualties:

approx. 30,000

www.iraqbodycount.net/

What's Your Constitution IQ? answers from page 21

16. b. Secretary of State
17. a. the Chief Justice
18. c. Independence Hall
19. b. the President
20. c. 2 years
21. d. the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States
22. c. 25 years old
23. c. 35 years old
24. c. Congress
25. a. 7

Obituaries

Jefferson and Lema Bessie Culbreath.

Laura was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Hughlett Smith; a brother and two sisters; and a great-granddaughter, Tiffany Giles.

She is survived by her children, Emma Giles of Aztec, H.T. Smith and wife Shirley of Aztec, Brenda K. Atencio and husband, Steve, of Aztec, and Lisa Smith-Wolfe and her friend Gerald of Aztec; grandchildren, Monte Giles, Regina Giles, Darla Bramwell, Clifton Giles, Crystal Smith, Kevin, Clint and Sterling Smith, and Stepheny Downey and husband Ryan of Aztec. Also surviving is her devoted and caring friend, Julia Atencio.

Services were held Jan. 25 at Brewer, Lee & Larkin Funeral Home, with Pastor Joseph O'Neal officiating. Interment followed at Aztec Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Steve Atencio, Monte Giles, Ryan Downey, Richard Bramwell, Roney Smith and Dean Atencio.

Special thank you to Life Care Center Special Care Unit, Northwest New Mexico Hospice and Dr. Edward Kompore.

Memorial contributions may be made to Northwest New Mexico Hospice, P.O. Box 3336, Farmington, NM 87499-3336.

Arrangements were under the direction of Brewer, Lee & Larkin Funeral Home & Crematory, Farmington.

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Reward offered for return of gold nugget pinkie ring with little diamond lost at Aztec Post Office parking lot on evening of 1/17/06. Of great sentimental value, it belonged to our daughter who passed away. 334-9681 evenings or days 564-4027 and 330-9624.

Grizzly wood fireplace, FP-30P Large Blazer, 2000 sq.ft. includes pipes, fan, accessories, \$500, make offer. 334-2747.

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Huge 5 family yard sale, lots of baby stuff, furniture, little bit of everything. Feb. 2,3,4, Thursday - Saturday, 9 am. 2017 W. Aztec Blvd., Aztec.

For rent: Large RV space, horse stalls and riding arena available. North of Aztec. 334-2421; 334-2898; 334-9822.

VOLUNTEER JOB OPENING for Armed Forces Emergency Services caseworker for American Red Cross. Must have telephone and be available to receive calls one night a week. Hours are 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sun. - Sat. Volunteer can designate preferred night. Training is provided at volunteer's convenience. For more information about this essential and rewarding community service, please contact Kay Murray at San Juan Chapter, 626 East Main St., Farmington, 325-9605.

Newcomers Club

The Newcomers Club will be holding their monthly coffee on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, 10:00 am at Pancake Alley, 501 E. Main, Farmington 327-9312. All members are encouraged to attend and anyone new to the area or anyone wanting to meet new people are welcome. For more information please contact Mona at 327-2743.

Newcomers Club will hold their monthly luncheon on February 15th, 11:30 am at Oliver's, 1901 W. Aztec Blvd., 334-7480. If you are new to the area or just want to meet new people you are encouraged to attend. We will be featuring a speaker this month, Phil Offerle will talk about Total Wellness. Monthly luncheons are an excellent way of meeting new people and networking in our area. For more information, contact Mona, 327-2743

Family Crisis Center: Farmington
505-325-3549
Nat'l Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233
Domestic Violence Legal Hotline
1-877-974-3400

Aztec Animal Shelter
825 E. Sabena • 334-6819
Tues-Sat: 10 - 4 (closed noon -1) Closed Sun and Mon
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For more information, call 334-3885

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FEBRUARY E·V·E·N·T·S

CLUBS & MEETINGS

Farmington
 Feb 4-5, Gun & Knife Show. Farmington Civic Center
 Feb 11, Farmington Cinematheque, 7:00 pm at San Juan College Little Theater.
 Feb 11, An Evening of Traditional and Bluegrass Music with Desert Skies Band and Foxfire at 7:00 pm. Brooks/Isham Performing Arts Center, 540 CR 6100.
 Feb 17-19, 24, 25, Enter Laughing, SJC Little Theater.
 Feb 18, Spanish Roots, 7:30 pm, Farmington Civic Center.
 Feb 25, BYU Folk Dancers, 7:00 pm, San Juan College

Durango and area
 Feb 2-5, Snowdown
 Feb 9-12, San Juan Stage Sled Dog Race...Mancos Mush /Silverton Slush 8am-5pm

Albuquerque and area
 Feb 1 - 28, Indian Dances Every Saturday & Sunday. Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
 Feb 3 - 4, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, National Hispanic Cultural Center
 Feb 3 - 5, Super-national Hot Rod & Custom Car Show EXPO New Mexico: Home of the State Fair
 Feb 4, Central New Mexico Winery Tour III. Reservations and departure times, 292-3657.
 Feb 4 - 6, Hank Williams - Lost Highway Gorilla Tango Comedy Theatre
 Feb 5, Concerts 4 Kids Symphony's series for children 4 to 8. Kids Go 2 The Movies. Nat'l Hispanic Cultural Center
 Feb 7, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo Men dancing in tutus, 7:30 pm. Popejoy Hall Center for the Arts.
 Feb 8, Belly Dance Superstars Raqs Carnivale. South Broadway Cultural Center
 Feb 10, 5th annual Winter Concert with Young at Heart Choir and Bar-D-Wranglers. Sandia Baptist Church
 Feb 10 - March 5, All's Well that Ends Well, Adobe Theater
 Feb 11, Evening of Elegance, private tour and tasting at New Mexico's most romantic winery, Casa Rondona, and a lovely dinner at the perfectly French Café Voila!
 Feb 11 - 12, Madam Butterfly Opera Southwest - KiMo
 Feb 12, Albuquerque Tricentennial, Conversation with Tony Hillerman, South Broadway Cultural Center
 Feb 18, Bonnie Raitt, Albuquerque Convention Center
 February 18 - 19, 12th Home Remodeling and Furnishings Show, Sat: 10-7. Sun: 10-5 pm. EXPO New Mexico
 Feb 19, Golden Dragon Acrobats, Popejoy Hall
 Feb 24 - 26, Riverdance Riverdance, Popejoy Hall

Phoenix and area
 Feb 1, An Evening with Garrison Keillor, Scottsdale Center
 Feb 1, Aerosmith & Lenny Kravits, Glendale Arena
 Feb 2, The Brave Little Tailor, East Valley Children's Theatre, Mesa Arts Center

Mail event news to The Aztec Local News, PO Box 275, Aztec, NM 87410 or e-mail to aztecnews@sisna.com. Things happen, events are cancelled, etc., be sure to confirm date, time & place of events you plan to attend.

San Juan College February Events

February 3, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., AstroFriday in the San Juan College Planetarium presents "Navajo Sky Legends." Stargaze following at 8:30 p.m. in the Courtyard. Information: 566-3389.

February 3, 7:30 p.m., San Juan College Orchestra presents an all-Beethoven concert, Little Theatre. Featured soloist is Russian pianist Svetlana Martin performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3. Tickets \$6 adults, \$4 students and senior citizens. 566-3430.

February 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Emergency/disaster planning with Red Cross, Little Theatre. Free. For more information call Family Resource Center at 566-3825.

February 10, 7:00 p.m., Little Theatre, Chautauqua lecture series presents Brenda Hollingsworth-Pickett portraying Lena Horne. Free admission. 566-3142.

February 11, 7 p.m., San Juan College's Little Theatre, Farmington Cinematheque presents "Realms of the Unreal," a documentary about Henry Darger, who lived a reclusive life and died alone in a Catholic mission in 1973. For more than 60 years, he created a massive literary and graphic body of work, including a fifteen-thousand-page novel with hundreds of paintings that recounts the wars between nations on an enormous unnamed planet. The film cleverly parallels his real life with his fantasies, making the oddness of his fantasy world more accessible. Admission is \$5, or Silhouette Series season ticket, or FC membership card. 566-3430.

February 11, 7:00 p.m., The Silhouette Performing Arts Series presents Eric Bibb and Ruthie Foster, San Juan College's Henderson Fine Arts Center Performance Hall. Ruthie Foster grew up in the tiny town of Gause in deep East Texas, and her music is a reflection of that environment and all her subsequent travels. You'll hear the blues, gospel, R & B, country and folk in her music, often in the same song. Add to that her experience fronting an eight-piece funk band while she was in the Navy and you've got a performer and songwriter who truly brings something unique to the table. A performance by Eric Bibb is an enriching experience both musically and spiritually. His music is beautifully realized and deftly accomplished, soulful and gospel infused. Bibb's folk-blues melds a traditional rootsy American style with a subtle contemporary sensibility. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 students and senior citizens. 566-3430.

February 12, 2:30 p.m., 20th annual Young Artists Recital, sponsored by San Juan College Fine Arts Committee. Performance Hall, Henderson Fine Arts Center. An annual showcase of young talent in the area, including instrumentalists, dancers, singers, soloists and ensembles, from ages 10 to 24. Tickets: \$6, \$4.

February 25, 7:00 p.m., the Silhouette Performing Arts Series presents BYU Folk Dancers, Henderson Fine Arts Center Performance Hall. The International Folk Dance Ensemble provides performance opportunities in a broad spectrum of folk dance. Their exciting repertoire includes choreography from Europe, the Middle East, Asia, North and South America. They have circled the globe conducting workshops, performing concerts, and appearing at international folk festivals where they represent the spirit of America's traditional music and dance. \$12 adults, \$10 students & seniors. 566-3430.

Disabled American Veterans
 The Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary meet the first Tuesday of every month at 6pm, at the DAV Building (the old movie theater), 104 Main St., Aztec. Usually a social gathering after the meeting with some foods and refreshments.

San Juan Quilters Guild
 SJQG meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am and 6:30 pm at the Farmington Civic Center. Anyone is invited to attend and learn more about the art of quilting. FMI, call Cheryl Hough at 325-7743.

Better Breathers Meeting
 Better Breathers meets the first Monday of the month, 1:30 pm, at San Juan Regional Medical Center, Mesa Verde Room. FMI, Annie Cottrell at 334-1811.

Desert Gold Chapter DAR
 Will meet on Sunday, February 12, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. in Room 9010 in the Henderson Fine Arts Center at San Juan College. The program will be Good Citizens and History Awards. The guests will be DAR Good Citizens, American History Essay Winners, parents and teachers. The awards will be presented by Linda Smith and Karen Ransom. Please bring Christmas cards cut on the fold. For further info, please call 632-5061.

Aztec Chapter #53 Order of Eastern Star

Meetings are the 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 pm. at San Juan Masonic Lodge, 1020 N. Aztec Blvd. Please come.

American Legion, Post 9, Aztec
 Meets the third Saturday, 10 am. Bingo - Wed., Fri., Sat. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

VFW Post 614 Aztec, 334-8842
 2nd Thursday - Reg. VFW meeting, 7:30 pm
 • Post hours: Mon. - Sat.: 11 am to 10 pm
 • Monday, free pool
 • Bingo hours: Sunday, doors open noon; Tuesdays, 6 pm

Northstar Water Users Association
 Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 3:30 pm at 511 Aztec Blvd. NE, Aztec. 334-9375.

Southside Water Users Association
 Southside Water Users Board of Directors meet the second Thursday of each month at the office, 306 N. Main, Aztec, 7 pm.

Lower Animas Community Ditch
 Monthly meetings are held at 5:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Chipman's Accounting Board Room, 505 Aztec Blvd. NE. Agendas may be picked up by calling 333-2555 and will also be posted at the meeting location.

SJC Right to Life
 The San Juan County Right to Life Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Civic Center. 334-5550.

Navajo Dam Water Users Association
 Holds their board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the Navajo Dam fire house at 7 pm. All members are welcome to attend. FMI, contact Linda Clark at 632-2150.

Aztec Lions Club
 Meets the first & third Monday of each month at the Lions Hall, 219 S. Park Ave. at 7 pm. We want your used eyeglasses.

Pilot Club of San Juan
 2nd Tuesday, 6 pm, at the Boardroom at the Best Western, 700 Scott Ave. Farmington. Georgia Brandenburg, 334-2540.

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings
 Held at Bethel Baptist Church, 201 Heiland Rd., Aztec
 Every Tuesday, 8 pm, closed meeting.
 Every Thursday, 8:15 pm, open meeting.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings, Aztec Group
 Held at First United Methodist Church, 123 E. Chaco, Aztec
 Every Tuesday, 8 pm, closed, step study.
 Every Friday, 8 pm, open.
 Every Saturday, 8 pm, closed, book study.
 Every Sunday, 8 pm, open, speaker meeting.
 For more information, contact 327-0731.

The San Juan Masonic Lodge #25
 Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Lodge Building, 1020 N. Aztec Blvd.

Aztec Kiwanis Club
 Meets each Thursday at 7 am at Miss Gail's Inn in Aztec.

Quality Toastmasters
 The Quality Center for Business at San Juan College hosts a weekly meeting of Quality Toastmasters on Mondays, except holidays, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guests, potential new members and transfer members are invited to drop in.
 For more information, call Jasper Welch at 566-3699.

Overcoming Life's Dominating Problems
 Meets each Monday night at 7 pm at Bethel Baptist Church, 201 Heiland Road in Aztec. Biblical self-confrontation from God's Holy Word is open to all who know there is more to this life than drugs, alcohol and all things that are keeping you separated from the Lord. For more information, call 334-2807.

San Juan Soil and Water Conservation District
 Board Meetings for San Juan Soil and Water Conservation District meet the 2nd Monday of each month at the Soil and Water Conservation District office, 1427 W. Aztec Blvd., Suite 1, Aztec. Spring and Summer: 7:30. 334-3090 x 101.

Aztec Main Street Association
 Meets at 5:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at Miss Gail's Inn. FMI, call Jessica Polatty at 334-3014.

Blue Star Mothers meet
 The Four Corners Blue Star Mothers, a support group for families of those stationed overseas and for veterans, meets the first Monday of the month at 7 P.M. at the Farmington Civic Center and on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 P.M. at VFW Post 2182, 5513 Hwy 64. Parents, spouses, and siblings are encouraged to attend. Contact Laurel Thorne at 334-2066, Jackie Archuleta 327-3012, Cathy Tucker 632-8634, or Gerry Campbell 334-1938 for more info.

Point Man Ministries
 Point Man Ministries- Christian Outreach for Vets by Vets - Meeting every Thursday night 7-9 PM, D.A.V. Building, 104 Main St., Aztec. For more info, call Earnie Baldrige 320-4299.

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San Juan Masonic Lodge giving away \$10,000 in scholarships

For the last two years, the San Juan Masonic Lodge (located off of Aztec Blvd) gave \$17,000 worth of scholarships to deserving Aztec & Bloomfield High School students. We're going to keep that trend alive by giving away another \$10,000 this year to more Aztec & Bloomfield students. Eligible students are graduates of either Aztec, Vista Nueva, Charlie Y Brown, or Bloomfield High Schools.

San Juan Lodge #25 of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons are one small part of a world-wide fraternal organization that holds dearest a belief in God, charity, and brotherly love. Those seeking one of our scholarships will have to write an essay on one of the following items (in addition to filling out an application and submitting your school transcript):

- The importance of charitable organizations in your community;
 - The contributions that charitable organizations have made in your community; or,
 - Contributions you have made in your community.
- One important note: good grades are NOT required. However, a sincere desire to succeed is a huge plus.

You have a few options to get a scholarship application:

- Go to www.sanjuanlodge25.com and click on the link to the left that says "Scholarship."
- E-mail me at shannon@rokatesh.com, and I'll e-mail you a copy.
- Call me at 402-3226 to talk to me.
- Talk to a Mason and they'll get a copy for you.
- Or mail your request for a scholarship to:
Scholarships
San Juan Lodge #25
PO Box 1150, Aztec, NM 87410

The Aztec Local News is a community-input newspaper, thanks to everyone!!

Italy, the series by cj spence

Italy Firenze Day 2

Sunday would be busy. Over breakfast we plotted out our last days in Italy. The Banisters were on a tight morning schedule; Boboli Gardens, Santa Croce Church, Santa Maria Novella, luggage pick-up, with a 2:30pm train departure for Viterbo. The Spences would spend the morning enjoying art sculpture at the Bargello Museum, luggage pick-up, and a 1:30pm departure for Venice. In two days we would connect in Rome for our flight home.

Sometimes you get lucky. Early Sunday morning (8:30am) for the first hour we had the Bargello Museum to ourselves. We spent the first 15 or 20 minutes just sitting in the beautiful courtyard of one of the oldest buildings in Florence. We had our own private showing of the masters of sculpture: Michelangelo, Donatello, Giambologna and Verrocchio. Michelangelo was the draw, but Lynne and I came away big fans of the other masters, especially Donatello. The morning flew by, and when we checked our watches we had to hustle back to the B & B to pick-up our luggage, thank the manager for being so helpful, and for printing our Internet directions from the train station in Venice to our B & B.

The Euro-Star was on time and we had to walk to the other end of the track for the 1st class car; Lynne kept getting comments on her Safari luggage, her retirement gift from the McCoy staff. We always breathe a sigh of relief when we make connections, but before taking our seats, Lynne asked the couple across from us, "Is this the train to Venice?" They nodded their heads. They were from California and had been in Florence a couple of weeks, babysitting for their son, who was attending an international conference, and presenting a paper on Chaos Theory—the grandmother piped up they were experts on Chaos Theory after two weeks with a two and four year old! Later, a lady three rows behind us was on her cell phone—she was angry, and she wanted everyone to know that for two weeks her ATM card had



Medici Castle in Florence

not worked—she had been bumming off her friend, and although the bank president was a golfing buddy of her husband, she was changing banks! I had to smile, Ken and Judy could identify with that conversation about problems with ATM cards.

Venice's Santa Lucia train station plops you right into the old town on the Grand Canal. Our Internet directions were very concise; take line 52 to Fermata Ospedale (hospital) exit boat; turn left; walk 70 meters; turn right; walk 50 meters; We exited the busy train station, purchased two 24-hour vaporetti passes (water taxi) and located the dock for line 52. This would be a long ride; we had three stops on the Grand Canal, before exiting into the Venice Lagoon for our stop (Ospedale). We exited the boat, look left down a deserted waterfront with a brick wall at the end—we looked at each other with the same thought—no way—the directions had to be wrong. We followed the directions; at the brick wall was a tiny alley; we just thought the streets in Florence were narrow. We walked the 50 meters, and above the door a yellow-sign, Alloggi Barbaria. We pushed the door buzzer—"Spences, Yes?"—"Yes, Spences"—"Welcome to Venezia."

to be continued



Venice Grand Canal

Wanted: All those seeking eligible Bachelors

A Bachelors Degree that is! Did you know you could earn your bachelors degree from UNM without ever leaving Farmington? If you would like to learn more about the Bachelor of University Studies degree plan, attend the Open House on February 13 from 4:30 to 7:00PM. Call Cindy Sage at 566-3042 for more details!

Learn innovative ways to convert waste into added value

A ZERI Workshop, taught by Dick White and other Durango ZERI Practioners, will be held Saturday, February 25th, 2006, in the Eolus Room at the Durango Recreation Center. The workshop will cover the following: What is ZERI? - Waste or Resource? - An Intro to Systems Thinking - The Science of ZERI - ZERI Case Study - ZERI Education - Applying ZERI Locally.

Participation in this workshop will be limited to the first 25 people who register. To register or to get more details, please call or email: Tom Riesing at Oakhaven Permaculture Center 970-259-5445 – tom@oakhavencpc.org or see our website at www.oakhavencpc.org.

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