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VOL. 121, No. 146

CORTEZ JOURNAL

TUESDAY
MARCH 1, 2011
FIFTY CENTS



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A CITY IN RECALL

Rime highlights long experience with community

Councilor questions need for recall

Cortez, a City in Recall, is a five-part series spotlighting four Cortez city councilors and the mayor whom opponents are seeking to oust through a May 3 recall election.

BY REID WRIGHT
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Robert Rime said he draws on background in education administration when making decisions on the Cortez City Council.



Rime

"I go into the meetings knowing what decisions are going to be made," he said. "My decision making process is one that you gather as much information as you can and ask as many questions as you can, get as

much timeline as you can, to make a

good decision and look at the benefit of the total population."

Rime said he worked as a school superintendant for 11 years and worked with school boards for 18.

"You're going to please some of the people some of the time, but you're not going to please all of the people all of the time," he said. "So you make decisions that you think are the best for everybody."

Rime is one of five incumbents on the ballot for potential recall in the city's first recall election on record.

"When I think of a recall, I think of corruption and graft and people on the take under the table," he said. "County commissioners just voted to put in an AT&T tower, and there were over 60 people who signed a letter or a petition against it. Well, do we recall the commission because they decided to put up this tower? Or take the school board — they're going to

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Addresses change

County refines map, grid system to locate addresses

BY KIMBERLY BENEDICT
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

In an effort to provide a uniform addressing system and bolster efficient emergency services, Montezuma County officials are examining residential addresses throughout the

FOR MORE INFO

■ For more information, visit www.co.montezuma.co.us/documents/planning/address-publicnotice.pdf or contact Susan Carver at 565-2801.

county.

The effort, referred to as the county addressing project, began in November 2008 as a result of county Resolution 22-2008, which charged the county planning department with the responsibility of assigning new

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ARCTURUS MEDICAL SCIENCE



JOURNAL/PAULA BOSTROM

THE LYMPHSTAR PRO therapy head, designed and manufactured by Arcturus Star Products in Cortez, pulsates colorful light onto white paper. It creates a physical vibration with sonic or acoustic waves, electrostatic fields, and electro-pressure created by use of multiple treatment points, according to the company.

Water treatment worries residents

Montezuma Water adds chloramines

BY REID WRIGHT
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The invention of wide-scale chemical treatment of drinking water was heralded for its ability to prevent illness.

Although treated water has been in use for more than a century, scientists still do not fully understand its side effects.

Concerns have been raised by local residents after Montezuma Water Co. began adding chemical compounds known as chloramines to the treatment process of drinking water for much of rural Montezuma County.

Company Manager Mike Bauer said the issue was discussed at meetings for three years before chloramines were added to the

process in December 2010. He said the decision to add chloramines was in anticipation of Environmental Protection Agency and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment regulations aimed at clamping down on the levels of disinfection byproducts created by the existing chlorine treatment.

"The biggest reason we're adding chloramines is to meet the new standards that actually have to be in place by 2013," Bauer said, adding chloramines have been proven to reduce the levels of the byproducts of chlorine treatment.

Dolores residents Gretchen Masters and Sheila Wheeler said

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Healing energy

Arcturus Star Products works with Australian researchers to help women with lymphedema

BY PAULA BOSTROM
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Cortez company Arcturus Star Products might not be a well-known name in the surrounding area, but medical researchers in Australia are finding promising results in ongoing clinical trials for one of the company's instruments that may help women with post-mastectomy arm lymphedema.

Lymphedema is a condition that often results from cancer surgery and radiation known as secondary

lymphedema, but there is also primary lymphedema, which occurs due to a failure of the lymphatic system as early as birth. It causes uncomfortable swelling, primarily in limbs, and can be extremely debilitating, according to a statement released by Arcturus Star Products.

Lori and Steve Sweet own Arcturus Star Products. They moved their company to Cortez from Michigan 12 years ago. Lori acts as company chief executive officer and sales director. Steve, the manufacturing manager, and his staff

in Cortez hand-fabricate the electronics and other components, finishing the products entirely on site in a renovated barn situated on County Road F.

The technology used in their lymphatic therapy products is based on concepts using low energy electrical fields. It has been shown in research to be able to establish movement and improved flow within the lymph circulation, according to Lori Sweet.

"Our scientific medical consul-

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Pleasant View students rescue Mars astronauts

JAY STUTZ, lead flight director from Challenger Learning Center of Colorado, helps third-graders Abigail Gray, center, and Alaina Howard gather information for their space mission while middle school student Billy Broughton looks on. The students were participating in a simulated space mission provided through a grant.



JOURNAL/KIMBERLY BENEDICT

Youths explore with Challenger Learning Center

BY KIMBERLY BENEDICT
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The year is 2080. The location, the surface of Mars.

Two astronauts exploring the outer planets have lost all navigation systems and most of their communication systems and are stranded in space in desperate need of rescue.

The rescue mission's success or failure

rests in the hands of the astronauts at the Mars-based mission control, also known as 15 students from Pleasant View Elementary School.

This was the scenario given to Lisa Hancock's class of third-, fourth- and fifth-graders Thursday as the class participated in Challenger Learning Center of Colorado's e-Mission, "Moon, Mars and Beyond!" Due to a grant through a partnership with NASA, Hancock's class was chosen to participate in the education program based in Colorado Springs. The grant allows Hancock's class to participate in four e-missions.

"It's great," Hancock said. "It gives the

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ENERGY

Naturopathic doctors use Arcturus instruments

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tant is a Texas professor and he said that this particular energy tends to stimulate the sympathetic nerves that are around the lymph vessels and just kind of pulse them. So (the Arcturus Star equipment) is creating a little electrical charge to help pulse that,” said Lori Sweet.

The Sweets had personal experience in how important it is to utilize all available healing modalities when their son, Nathan, was diagnosed with leukemia when he was 8 years old. Nathan received treatment at St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital, along with nontraditional treatment and today is a healthy 35-year-old. Lori Sweet said that’s why they began their business in the field of vibrational energy technology and dreamed of one day helping cancer sufferers too.

The Sweets are on the verge of that now with the study being conducted at Flinders’ University in Adelaide, Australia, for the medical study version of their Lymphstar Pro vibrational massage instrument. The study came about when Arcturus Star Products’ Lymphatic Enhancement Technology trainer, Desiree DeSpong, found that the lymphatic therapy equipment was helping women in her clinics in New Zealand, who had gone through a mastectomy, find a better range of motion with their arms. DeSpong won a grant for a visiting fellowship with prominent Australian researcher Professor Neil



JOURNAL/PAULA BOSTROM

STEVE AND LORI Sweet, owners of Arcturus Star Products in Cortez, show the company’s Lymphstar Pro model that is undergoing medical research in Australia. The instrument is demonstrating “promising results” in clinical trials for post-mastectomy arm lymphedema that often results from cancer surgery and radiation treatments.

Piller at the university. The first phase of the clinical trial was completed in December, and the subjective information was found to be excellent. Data is being analyzed, and another phase of the study is scheduled for April of this year, Lori Sweet said.

“We work with a very prominent breast surgeon in Pennsylvania, Dr. Beth Dupree. she said. “We have spoken with her, and she’s very interested in promoting this as we go along to

the medical end. She’s a surgeon, and she tries to preserve as much tissue (as she can when performing breast cancer surgery), but when you’re thinking cancer survivor (doctors) are in a difficult dance. They want to save your life. Some surgeons might be too aggressive and take gobs of tissue out, and a year later the patient can’t move her arm. It’s swollen. It’s twice the size maybe. And you’re like, ‘Oh my god, I survived cancer to have this disability.”

Data from the Australian study will eventually be published in a medical journal and will hopefully be cleared by Australia’s Therapeutic Goods Association (similar to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration) for use as a medical device. The Sweets foresee an approved medical device in their future and are developing a system similar to the Lymphstar Pro. The system, called ISO 13485, is for medical device manufacturing. The Sweets have joined the Colorado Bioscience Association, as well as taken courses in FDA regulatory affairs.

Lori Sweet said many Arcturus Lymphstar pro instruments are being used in the United States by naturopathic doctors, massage therapists, chiropractors, wellness centers, estheticians, as well as in physical and occupational therapy to improve flow within the lymph circulation. The company also fulfills orders for products worldwide.

DeSpong will travel from New Zealand to teach four seminars in Cortez this year for lymphatic therapists on how to use the Arcturus Lymphstar Products. The first seminar will be held March 21-24 at Arcturus’ facility, and local therapists, as well as therapists nationwide and worldwide are welcome.

For more information on the company visit www.arcturusstar.com or call 564-5811.

Reach Paula Bostrom at paulab@cortezjournal.com.

STUDENTS

Technology helps students with unique programs

From Page 1A

kids a really unique hands-on experience.

The e-mission program is designed to “engage students with the power of math and science for solving real-life crises,” according to a statement from Challenger Learning Center.

Using 21st century technology, students interact with “Earth mission control” while they plan their missions.

“We’ve received a call from NASA and they need help with a problem,” said Commander Henry of the Challenger Center, speaking to students using web-based communication. “Your classroom has been chosen to help.”

Looking at the screen, it is easy for students to imagine they are speaking directly to mission control.

The students are assigned working groups based on the planets they will be exploring: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Each student is assigned a job. Cargo specialists are responsible for determining how much food, oxygen and water is needed for the rescue mission. Navigation specialists are tasked with plotting X and Y coordinates to determine lost astronauts’ location. Transmission specialists have the important task of deciphering messages sent from the disabled spacecraft.

“It is a great program,” said Jay Stutz, lead flight director from the center, who was able to attend the class simulation Thursday. “It is hands-on education. They are doing the math and science and geography in a real-world situation. It is a fantastic way to get kids plugged in to science and math and really using space as a hook.”

The plan seemed to be working. Fourth-grader Gage Petrose, in charge of transmitting the class’s information back to mission control, said he enjoyed the e-mission.

“I think it is pretty excit-

ing,” Petrose said. “We get to talk about space and figure out how to help.”

Challenger Learning Center of Colorado was established in 2002, one of 50 centers internationally. The centers were established to honor the memory of the astronauts who died on the Space Shuttle Challenger on Jan. 28, 1986, Stutz said.

“The families of the astronauts wanted to establish a living memorial through a space science education center,” he said. “We offer many different programs for kids to learn more about space and science.”

Along with the e-missions, which are geared to rural schools, the center also offers simulator exercises in Colorado Springs. Teachers must attend a training in preparation for the missions and provide their students with curriculum to prepare them for the mission.

“We had specific packets on the simulation situation and information on inner and outer planets and statistics,” Hancock said. “We’ve been preparing for about a month.”

Mark Knox, information technology director for the district, said advances in technology make it possible for students to participate in unique programs such as the Challenger Center e-missions.

“We are starting to see more and more teachers utilize web communications to enhance curriculum,” Knox said. “It is easy to set up and easy to use and is a huge benefit to learning.”

For the students at Pleasant View Elementary School, the program offered a rare glimpse into a world far beyond Southwest Colorado as students were able to explore space in the year 2080 without stepping outside their classroom.

On the Net: Challenger Learning Center of Colorado, www.clccs.org.

Reach Kimberly Benedict at kimberlyb@cortezjournal.com.

CHANGE

Property owner wants rationale for changing addresses

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addresses in unincorporated areas of the county. The project was clarified in June 2009 with the passage of Resolution 6-2009, the adoption of Montezuma County Road naming and Address System Standards.

“We recognized the need for a uniform system for quite a long time because previously all the county addressing was done through the assessor’s office,” said Doug Roth, county geographical information systems manager. “The current system was created from scratch back in the ’70s. It was created as a grid system.”

The grid system relies on square-mile sections in which addresses are laid out 1,000 units per linear mile. For example, one mile of a road may have addresses beginning at 10000 and ending at 10999.

“Logically it is a very simple system and in a perfect world where we have sections of road that run in cardinal directions it is very easy to apply,” Roth said. “But in areas where roads have started running in strange directions or around canyons or when they loop back on themselves, applying the grid system is much more difficult to do.”

The result has been an addressing system that doesn’t make much sense on the ground, according to Roth and Jim Burton, county road count and address technician.

“What we’ve found in the 25 years since this was first implemented is different staff members would apply addresses at times in different manners and there were inconsistencies in how addressing was applied,” Roth said.

Planning department Director Susan Carver

said the major benefit of the new system, which relies on GIS mapping information and on-site inspections, is a uniform system that anyone can apply.

“We’ve created a methodology to do the addressing in a consistent manner,” Carver said. “That same method will be applied as technology improves. It creates a template to reproduce.”

The project started by verifying that county road maps provide an accurate picture of actual roads.

“Everything was built from the ground up,” Burton said. “Doug and I got together, and we verified that the road map was correct and that roads that exist are showing on the map and roads that are there are named correctly. A lot of work was done to bring that up to date.”

To complete the addressing project, Burton and Roth examine each section of road in the county to ensure addresses are sequential and in the correct range.

Aerial photos, GIS information and on-site inspections are all part of the process.

“When we are looking at a section of road we are making sure the address range is correct and then you go about analyzing each individual address,” Burton said. “First you look at the map and the aerial, you look at where the driveways are then I go along with an address locator to determine what the new address will be at that location.”

Address changes result nearly 75 percent of the time, Burton said.

Once county officials are satisfied with the addressing changes in a stretch of road, the new addresses are put into a database and notices are sent to property owners.

In an effort to make the transition simpler for property owners, the county will send address change notices to agencies such as 911 dispatch, the Cortez Fire Protection District, the U.S. Postal Service, the U.S. Census Bureau, the Montezuma County Assessor’s Office, Clerk and Recorder’s Office, Empire Electric Association, Qwest, Farmer’s Telephone, Century Telephone, UPS and FedEx.

For the past year, Burton has worked specifically on 21 miles of County Road G through McElmo Canyon. During the process, 272 addresses were changed or verified.

Burton said it is nearly impossible to gauge how many addresses in the county still need to be examined. Initially, the county hoped the project would be completed sometime this year, but as the work progressed, it became clear that was an unrealistic goal.

“There is no timeline now,” Burton said. “We will keep working until it is done.”

Once all county addresses have been verified, address signs will be provided by the county.

County officials say many residents are pleased with the addressing system, despite the inconvenience involved in an address change.

“As far as feedback, we’ve had a lot more positive than negative,” Carver said. “People come in, even business owners, and thank us for doing the project because they want their addresses to be accurate and they understand the need for emergency services.”

Some county residents are not pleased with the system.

“I have two problems with the project,” said McElmo Canyon resident Larry Traslener, who has

received address change notices for two properties. “No. 1, I am being forced to change my address. No. 2, they have chosen an arbitrary method and they are making change not in compliance with their own resolutions.”

Traslener said the county’s new system does not mesh with the original grid system and is outside the public lands survey system, which he maintains is a more efficient system. The county’s reliance on technology and computer systems, such as GIS, results in a system that doesn’t make sense, he said.

“They do not have anyone that understands the way the system should be run,” Traslener said. “They came in with a GIS and there is this hocus pocus about, ‘Well, this is what the computer says, so this is the way it should be.’ I just want someone to explain why they are doing what they are doing, and they can’t. The reason they’ve given could be accomplished without this kind of disruption.”

Burton said county commissioners have indicated their approval of the new system.

“Every time we’ve approached them, commissioners have said we are doing what we need to do,” Burton said.

Traslener said he will not change his address until he is provided proper rationale.

“It’s civil disobedience on my part,” Traslener said. “I will not change my address until they give me a reason to do it.”

For more information, visit www.co.montezuma.co.us/documents/planning/addresspublicnotice.pdf or contact Carver at 565-2801.

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