

## CITY PROGRESS REPORT

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2 JULY, 2006



### Message from the Mayor:

Dear Neighbors,

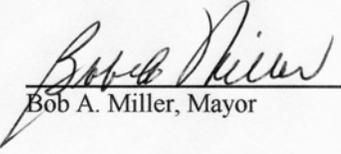
Summer is here and our friends from other towns and states have again returned to escape the heat of Texas and the deserts surrounding our mountain gateway. As most of you, I am happy that the summer rains returned as well. There are some things that both residents and visitors alike need to remember this summer.

Due to the recent wet weather in Lincoln County, I have rescinded the fire restrictions. It is still very important to remember to be careful when using charcoal grills or smoking outdoors. We are also still under stage 2 Water Restrictions, which only allows households and businesses to water two days a week. Odd-numbered addresses can water on Wednesdays and Sundays and even-numbered addresses can water on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Watering your lawn between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. is not allowed.

We have had several new projects completed over the past year. Our new one million gallon Spring Water Tank is now complete and filled with water! Miriam Drive now has sewer service and Wood Lane is scheduled later this fall. We are also drilling a new water supply well this month and should have it installed by the end of the summer. Those of you on Central, Parnell, Parker, Miriam and Nevada will see new chip seal surfaces on your streets this summer. As always, there is never a shortage of work to do here in the Downs.

For those of you who do not know, we have two new City Councilors, Tommy Hood and Dean Holman who replaced outgoing Councilors Margie Morales and Rene Olivo. My thanks go out to all citizens -past and present- who dedicate their time to serve their city in this thankless capacity. If you get the time to run by City Hall, stop in and say "Hi" to the City staff. Of course, you are welcome anytime to stop by my office at City Hall. If you hear something about City government that you disagree with or want to know more about, come on in and talk about it. The staff and I are here to serve you, please feel free to contact City Hall, and we will do our best to help you. Over the next several years, the City will be working hard to improve your City. If you are interested in serving on any City boards or committees, please stop by my office. Your City government needs its citizens.

Yours truly,



Bob A. Miller, Mayor

## Current Issues:

### City Hires New Public Works Director

*By John Waters*

Last month, the City hired Tom Stewart as the new Public Works Director. Mr. Stewart comes to us from the City of Marble Falls, TX (pop. ~6,000) via Baghdad, Iraq. He has many years of experience in public works and public water and wastewater utilities and holds Water and Wastewater certifications in both the states of Texas and Arizona. In Iraq, Tom helped the local officials rebuild their water and wastewater facilities. Please welcome him to our community if you see him and give him a call (378-6162) if you have any questions about public works or your water utilities.

### Meet Tom...

I am very pleased to be your new Public Works Director, to serve the citizens of Ruidoso Downs to the best of my ability and knowledge is my goal. If anyone has any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at 378-6162 office or 937-3138 my cell phone and my staff will work very hard to solve the problem as soon as possible.

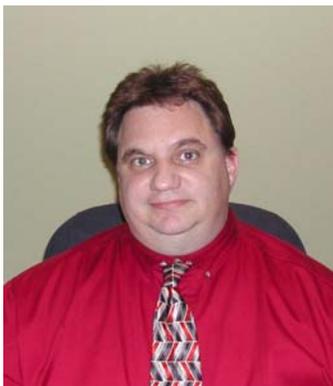
My staff and I are in the beginning stages of formulating a plan to better serve the city, with the streets, water, and sewer collection system. There are a number of upcoming projects that will improve the city greatly. As many residents have seen we are in the process of working on various street problems. Currently we are working on Nevada, Miriam and North Central.

*-Tom Stewart*



## Welcome to the Hubbard Museum of the American West!

### By Jay Smith, City Museum Director



It has been my pleasure to serve as Director of the Hubbard Museum of the American West for the past eight months. I am happy to be in Ruidoso Downs as I consider New Mexico to be one of the most beautiful places in the United States. I am originally from Ohio, but my career in the Museum field has taken me to museums in Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky, Kansas, and Missouri before coming here. I have been a Museum Director for the past 12 years, serving first as the Director of the Reno County Museum in Hutchinson, Kansas, and then as the Director of the Kansas City Museum in Kansas City Missouri. I have extensive experience in planning and fund raising and I have been responsible for raising more than \$6 million dollars for special projects and capital campaigns over the last ten years.

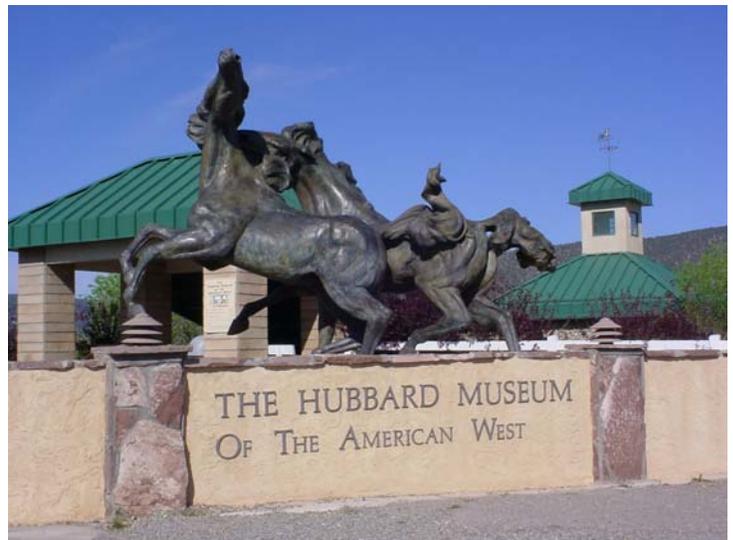
The [Hubbard Museum of the American West](#) is an institution with a bright future. We have been working on a master plan for developing the facility that includes such goals as becoming a self-

supporting facility – so as not to be reliant on tax dollars for operations at some point in the future. We are also working on plans to bring more blockbuster exhibits like “A T-Rex Named Sue” to the museum,

as well as more cost effective programming for our citizens. Additionally, beginning July 2<sup>nd</sup> and continuing every subsequent Sunday, we will be offering a special “Citizens Day” for the residents of Ruidoso Downs. Residents will have to present a valid driver’s license noting their residency in the Downs, or their Ruidoso Downs water bill to gain admission. A parent or guardian should accompany children of Ruidoso Downs residents upon their first visit to prove residency. Additionally, we will issue a special entrance card to each Ruidoso Downs resident that utilizes the free day so that we can track the program, and the resident will merely have to present his or her personal pass upon future use.

We have been quite busy over the last few months, opening four new exhibits and revising our galleries. Over the summer we will be working on a very special project we call “Friend, Amigo, Shichuune” which will be a children’s interactive learning area looking at three cultures in the late nineteenth century through the eyes of children. The area will be open to all visitors by the end of the summer.

A museum can do many things for a community, and we plan to bring many diverse and interesting exhibits and programs to you as we can. We will also work to bring artifacts and exhibits from the Smithsonian Institution, our affiliated partner. However, we also want to be responsive to your needs – as many Ruidoso Downs residents suggested, we will be collecting local history materials in preparation for a local history exhibit in the near future. If you have any ideas or suggestions for things that you would like to see, please do not ever hesitate to call me at 378-4142 ext. 227. The Hubbard Museum of the American West is your community Museum, and we are dedicated to bringing you the best product we can.



## Current and Completed City Projects:

*by John Waters*

Listed below are current City projects, brief descriptions, status, costs, and source fund:



1. **Highway 70 Water Main Improvements;** reinstallation of almost 5,000 linear feet of 6” water pipeline along Highway 70, most of which was destroyed during the highway construction project three years ago; project was COMPLETED IN JUNE OF 2002; Final Cost \$164,260; Water & Sewer Improvement Fund, General Fund (GRT), & State Special Appropriations Grant.



2. **East Circle Sewer Extension;** extension of sewer system to 41 homes on East Circle Drive and asphalt overlay; COMPLETED IN MAY OF 2003; Cost \$300,000; Funding Sources: Water & Sewer

Improvement Fund (\$100,000), General Fund (GRT) (\$150,000) & State Special Appropriations Grant (\$50,000).



- 3. Heights Park Construction;** construction of small neighborhood park on Heights Drive; CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED IN AUGUST, 2002 ; Cost \$24,000; Funding Source: State Cigarette Tax Recreation Fund (\$24,000).



- 4. Redman Reservoir Renovation;** raising reservoir and adding 250,000 gallons of storage, inspection and interior coating of reservoir to stop leaks; Funding assistance currently being sought. RENOVATION WORK SCHEDULED TO START IN 2007; Projected Cost: \$200,000. Funding Sources: Water & Sewer Improvement Fund (\$100,000).



- 5. Emergency Water System Improvements- Phase B-1;** Replacement of 15,000 linear feet of leaking, undersized water lines and installation of new pressure reducing stations and fire hydrants; CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED IN DECEMBER, 2004. This first half of project costs \$742,000; Funding Sources: Local Water & Sewer Improvement Fund (\$175,000), State Special Appropriations Grant (\$75,000), and CDBG (\$500,000).



- 6. Emergency Water System Improvements- Phase B-2;** New installation of 12" water line along US 70, construction of transmission line from new Riverside Well to Redman Water Storage Tank. Replacement and new construction of 14,000 linear feet of leaking, undersized water lines and installation of new fire hydrants and valves; CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULED FOR LATE SUMMER, 2006. City was awarded a 2005 CDBG grant for \$500,000. This second half of project costs \$550,000; Funding Sources: Local Water & Sewer Improvement Fund (\$50,000) and CDBG (\$500,000).



- 7. Emergency Water System Improvements- Phase C;** Construction of New 1 Million Gallon water storage reservoir (tank). Project Cost \$650,000. Funding Sources: Local Water & Sewer Improvement Fund (\$300,000), State Special Appropriations Grant (\$350,000). PROJECT COMPLETED MAY 2006 !



- 8. Drainage System Improvements- Phase 1 River Park Addition;** construction of drainage and street improvements in River Park Subdivision; Some fencing still to be installed in late summer. PROJECT COMPLETED FEBRUARY 2006 !; Projected cost \$640,000; Funding Sources: Local General Fund (\$140,000) & CDBG (\$500,000).



- 9. All-American Park Pedestrian Walkway;** construction of approximately 2,500 feet of walkway around the All-American Park and Senior Recreation Center; Asphalt portion (75% of total trail length)

**Complete.** Concrete portion construction will start in early Fall, 2006. Projected Cost: \$68,000; Proposed Funding Sources: Local Non-Promotional Lodger's Tax Proceeds (\$68,000).



- 10. Allison Lane Reconstruction;** reconstruction and widening of Allison Lane from Reservoir Drive to Spring Drive- Includes curb and gutters, new water line, asphalt overlay, and proper drainage; **CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED, DECEMBER, 2003.** Funding Sources: Local Gas Tax Proceeds & General Fund (\$63,000) and New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department Cooperative Grant (\$48,705).



- 11. Turkey Canyon Lane Reconstruction Phase I;** reconstruction and widening of 500 linear feet of Turkey Canyon Lane from Reservoir Drive to Second Drive- includes curb and gutters, asphalt overlay, and proper drainage; **COMPLETED IN DECEMBER, 2003.** Funding Sources: Local Gas Tax Proceeds & General Fund (\$60,000) and New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department Cooperative Grant (\$55,000).



- 12. Turkey Canyon Lane Reconstruction Phase II;** reconstruction and widening of 1200 linear feet of Turkey Canyon Lane from Hill Drive to end of completed Phase I- will include curb and gutters, asphalt overlay, and proper drainage; **CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2005!** Funding Sources: Local Gas Tax Proceeds & General Fund (\$65,000) and New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department Cooperative Grant (\$49,000).

#### **Burke Lane Problems to be Corrected**



- 13. Burke & Thompson Lane Construction Phases I & II;** Construction and widening of 1200 linear feet of Burke Lane- will include curb and gutters, asphalt overlay, and proper drainage; Projected cost: (\$220,000). Funding Sources: Local Gas Tax Proceeds & General Fund (\$90,000) and New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department Cooperative Grant (\$130,000). **PROJECT CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN LATE SUMMER 2006.**



- 14. East Highway 70 Sewer Line Extension;** extension of sewer system to homes and businesses on East Highway 70; **CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED JANUARY 2005;** Funding Sources: Water & Sewer Improvement Fund (\$100,000) and State Grant (\$100,000)



**15. All-American Park Skateboard Facility;** construction of approximately 5,000 sq. feet skateboard facility; CONCRETE PROJECT COMPLETED JULY, 2004. Cost: \$65,000; Funding Source: Local Non-Promotional Lodger's Tax Proceeds.



**16. Denton Well Improvements;** Construction of New Denton Well to supplement and if necessary, replace spring. Cost: \$86,000. Funding Sources: Local Water & Sewer Improvement Fund (\$86,000). CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DENTON WELL COMPLETED, NOVEMBER 2004.



**17. New Riverside Well Improvement;** Drilling and construction of new Riverside Well to supplement and if necessary, replace spring. Construction of chlorination facility and well house. Projected cost: \$1 million. Design services complete and DRILLING STARTED IN LATE JULY 21, 2006!



**18. Parker Road Bridge;** Construction of New Bridge to replace current unsafe Parker Drive Bridge. Projected Cost: \$250,000. Funding Sources: Local Funds (\$45,000). Applied for State and Federal Transportation Grants totaling (\$205,000). Grant funding was turned down by the state legislature in 2006. We are resubmitting for 2007.



**19. Miriam Drive Sewer Line Extension;** Construction of 1,500 linear feet of sewer line and installation of four manholes along Miriam Drive (see photo at right). Total project cost: \$169,000. Funding Sources: 2005 Legislative Grant (\$124,000), Ruidoso Downs Race Track Donation (\$45,000). After delays attributed to archaeological resources in the area, the PROJECT WAS COMPLETED THIS MONTH!



**20. Wood Lane Sewer Line Extension;** Construction of 3,500 linear feet of sewer line and installation of associated manholes along Wood Lane and Juniper Court. Total Projected Cost: \$280,000. Funding Sources: 2005 Legislative Grant (\$126,000), Private Funding (\$154,000). Easement acquisition and design underway. PROJECT CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN LATE FALL 2006



**21. Highway 70 Sidewalk Construction;** Construction of about 3,500 feet of sidewalk and curbing along the north and south sides of US Highway 70 from Wal-Mart to Zia Natural Gas. This will link the shopping and hotel districts of town with the residential districts and the tourist attractions in the City. Total cost: \$250,000. Funding Sources: NM DOT STIP Enhancement Grant (\$250,000). PROJECT CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN LATE FALL 2006

## Upcoming Events & Notices

### Beautification Committee

Anyone interested in volunteering their time to work with the new Ruidoso Downs Beautification committee and Keep Ruidoso Downs Beautiful should contact Judy Miller at 378-4823 or City Hall at 378-4422. This program's goal is to beautify our City by organizing Clean-up Day Events and making recommendations to the City for future beautification projects.



### Meet Your City Government:

#### *CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS ELECTED OFFICIALS:*

**Bob A. Miller, Mayor**  
107 Heights Drive  
PO Box 1860  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-8143 or 937-3150  
[cityclerk@ruidosodowns.us](mailto:cityclerk@ruidosodowns.us)

**Susan Garrett,**  
Councilor & Mayor Pro-Tem  
510 Colorado Lane  
PO Box 2388  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-8099  
[behmot@zianet.com](mailto:behmot@zianet.com)

**Judy Miller, Councilor**  
225 E. Circle Drive  
PO Box 540  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-4823  
[millerj@ruidoso.k12.nm.us](mailto:millerj@ruidoso.k12.nm.us)

**Dean Holman, Councilor**  
507 Colorado Lane  
PO Box 1304  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-4588  
[deanholman@zianet.com](mailto:deanholman@zianet.com)

**Tommy Hood, Councilor**  
311 Riverview Dr.  
HCR 46 PO Box 1650  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-8491  
[tom23hood@valornet.com](mailto:tom23hood@valornet.com)

**John Waters, City Administrator**  
PO Box 348  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-4422  
[jwaters@zianet.com](mailto:jwaters@zianet.com)

---

**Carol Virden, Clerk/Treasurer** (Director over Elections, Finance, Payroll, & Procurement)  
PO Box 348  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-4422  
[cityclerk@ruidosodowns.us](mailto:cityclerk@ruidosodowns.us)

---

**Vacant, Public Safety Director,** (includes Police, Fire, Animal Control and Communications)  
PO Box 348, Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378- 4001

---

#### CITY STAFF:

**Tom Stewart, Public Works Director** (includes Streets, Water, Wastewater Collection, Garage, Parks, and Building Maintenance)  
PO Box 348  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-6162  
[cordpwd@zianet.com](mailto:cordpwd@zianet.com)

---

**Daniel P. Bryant, P.A., City Attorney**  
1096 Mechem, Suite 230  
P.O. Box 2300  
Ruidoso, NM 88355  
258-2202  
[ruiatty@zianet.com](mailto:ruiatty@zianet.com)

---

**Steve Dunigan,**  
Planning & Personnel Services Department  
PO Box 348  
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346  
378-4422

---

[stevevord@zianet.com](mailto:stevevord@zianet.com)

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE:**

*Meets at City Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 4:00 p.m.*

Bonnie Richardson(Chairperson)	378-4661
Don Coleman	378-8316
Jackie Branum	378-4364
Shannon Gabaldon	378-4831
Timothy Parnell	378-1488

**LODGERS' TAX COMMITTEE:**

*Meets third Monday at 5:30 P.M. as needed.*

Barbara Green(Chairperson)	378-8217
Beth Miller	378-4484
Vipal Patel	378-8100
C.E. "Pappy" Bell	378-8514
Johnny Van Winkle	378-4990

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE:**

*Meets at City Hall on 1st Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m.*

Paul Van Gulick (Chairperson)	378-5249
Barbara Green	378-8217
Bonnie Richardson	378-4661
Jim Burrow	378-5459
Lewis Wells	378-5242
Judy Van Winkle	378-4990
Jane Haizlip	378-8099
Ursula Eckersley	378-1985
1 Vacant Seat	

**ETZ COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Susan Garrett (Chairperson)	378-8099
Dean Holman	378-4588
Sue Davis	378-8152
Joe Blaney	378-9176
Judi VanWinkle	378-4990
Lawrence (Larry) Mulligan	378-5363

Leonard McCutcheon	378-4793
--------------------	----------

**RUIDOSO DOWNS REPRESENTATIVE - LINCOLN COUNTY SOLID WASTE**

**AUTHORITY:**

Don Coleman	378-8316
Sue Garrett (Alternate)	378-8099

**RUIDOSO DOWNS REPRESENTATIVES- REGIONAL WASTEWATER JOINT USE**

**ADVISORY BOARD:**

Mayor Bob A. Miller	378-8143
John P. Waters	378-4422

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD:**

*Meets at City Hall on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.*

Mercedes Fernandez-Wells (Chair)	378-4277
C.E. "Pappy" Bell	378-8514
Dean Holman	378-4588
Sue Garrett	378-8099
Barbara Green	378-8217
Paul Van Gulick	378-5249
Vipal Patel	378-8100
Deanie Beavers	378-7128
Harvey Twite	258-8822

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:**

*Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m.*

Judy Miller (Chairperson)	378-4823
Ursula Eckersley	378-1985
Sebrina Lundquist	378-8407
Wanda Taylor	378-4905
Gary Williams	378-7068
Bertha Polaco	378-4229
Peggy Burton	378-9120
1 Vacant Seat	

**Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority News:**

**Furniture &Appliance and Yard Waste Pick-up Schedules**

The LCSWA wants to remind all Ruidoso Downs Residents that curbside pickup of yard waste will occur throughout town on the week of July 31, 2006 and. During the yard waste pick-ups, please follow these simple instructions: If you have a pile of limbs (limbs can be no longer than 6" diameter and 6 feet in length) or pine needles lying around, place your pile along the side of the street in front of your house (away from overhead power lines) on the Sunday before each week and they will pick it up with their grappler truck.

**Regular Trash Pick-up**

Please place all of your household trash into your poly-cart container. If you have more trash than one (1) poly-cart will hold, please contact LCSWA to request an additional poly-cart. Additionally, please do not place yard waste, wood products, dirt, rocks, fireplace ashes, toxic, extremely heavy or hazardous waste, in the poly-cart.

Contact LCSWA if you have of this type of waste for disposal. Please call LCSWA Director, Debra Ingle (378-4697), for more information or to schedule a FREE removal of inoperative vehicles from your city residence.

### Planning for the Future:

The City of Ruidoso Downs has completed its Water Resource/Distribution Master Plans, Sewer and Comprehensive City Master Plan, and a Drainage System Master Plan. These plans are available for review at City Hall, 122 Downs Drive or call 378-4422 for more information. If your neighborhood or house does not have access to sewer, please notify City Hall. Agua Fria Subdivision, Wood Lane Area, and North Parker Road currently do not have sanitary sewer service. Plans are being made to ensure that all *residents* have access to City Sanitary Sewer. The areas which are to be placed on the waiting list for infrastructure improvements such as sanitary sewer and street improvements must be within the City Limits. Look for upcoming public meeting notices if you are interested or wish to comment on these items.

### City Meeting Schedule:

(Times and Dates of meetings are Subject to Change. Please Contact the City Clerk's office for up-to-date information at 378-4422)

- Planning & Zoning Committee meets on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M. (122 Downs Drive)
- Beautification Committee meets on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 4:00 P.M. (122 Downs Drive)
- Parks & Recreation Committee meets on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:00 P.M. (122 Downs Drive)
- City Council Regular Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 5:30 P.M. at City Hall (122 Downs Drive)
- Economic Development Board meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at 5:30 P.M. at City Hall (122 Downs Drive)

### Water Conservation Status Indicator

Water Conservation Phase I

Water Rationing Phase I



Water Rationing Phase II

Water Rationing Phase III

NOT SURE WHAT THESE LEVELS MEAN? VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.RUIDOSODOWNS.US](http://WWW.RUIDOSODOWNS.US) FOR MORE INFORMATION. WE ARE ONLINE AND GROWING! YOU CAN ALSO GET AGENDA INFORMATION, MINUTES, JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MORE!!!

