



## Lady 'Cats Softball under new leadership

SPORTS, 1B

**EYE CARE**  
That's Focused On You.

**Southwestern EYE CENTER**  
575-727-8256  
1515 S. 8th St.  
Deming, NM 88030  
SWeye.com

# Deming Headlight

FRIDAY/SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 - 17, 2020 | DEMINGHEADLIGHT.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## County committed to slowing COVID-19

**Bill Armendariz**  
Deming Headlight  
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW MEXICO

DEMING - Beginning in early September, 2020, Luna County was "red flagged" by the New Mexico Department of Health based on elevated and accelerating rates of COVID-19 transmission in the community of Deming and Columbus, NM. At that time, Luna County had 321 cases, 5 COVID-19 related deaths, a rolling average positivity rate of 8.3% and a new daily cases aver-



**Brice**

age of 17.1 per 100,000.

Luna County remains a "red flagged" county with 507 cases, 9 deaths, a rolling average positivity rate of 5.7% and new daily cases average of 13.6 as of Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2020.

"Unless the transmission of COVID-19 in Luna County dramatically decreases, Luna County faces the possibility, if not likelihood, that our schools will remain shuttered, our businesses will

again be closed down and our citizens will again be subject to stay-home orders," said Luna County Manager Chris Brice.

The following directive is intended to encourage conduct designed to combat the spread of COVID-19 by reminding the citizens of Luna County of the limitations and restrictions on public gatherings and the role of Luna County government.

### Operations directives

Luna County allows for the use of its facilities, both in the course of business

and for public use, which is subject to applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, executive orders and public health orders.

Luna County business operations have been addressed by the Luna County Manager in operational directives shortly after the declaration of the public health emergency on March 11, 2020, and those directives continue in full force.

As a result of the pandemic, all per-

**See COVID-19, Page 10A**

## Jr. Livestock Sale generates \$128,600

**Bill Armendariz**  
Deming Headlight  
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW MEXICO

DEMING - Luna County Fair Board members met in July and decided to cancel the Southwestern New Mexico State Fair in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and for the safety and health of Luna County residents.

"Due to the Governor's health order regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, it is with a heavy heart that we announce the fair board's decision to cancel the event scheduled for October 7-11 in Deming," SWNMSF Board President Marcus Dominguez told the Headlight back on July 6, of this year.

"We are currently working on a plan to hold the market portion of the fair for our 4-H and FFA kids," Dominguez added. He was referring to the annual Junior Livestock Auction and Sale held traditionally during fair weekend.

That event was held with three platforms available to sellers and buyers. They had the option to show and bid online, in-person or virtually.

The auction and sale drew a smaller-than-average response, but the businesses who support the annual fair event participated in full force and generated \$128,600 in sales.

- The top award winners were:
- Grand Champion Turkey - Zachariah Smith
  - Grand Champion Rabbit - Kyla Finney
  - Grand Champion Chicken - Mike Jaure
  - Grand Champion Cake - Landin



**Grady Jackson helps out with the live bidding while Melody and Trinity Ruebush enter the show ring.** COURTESY PHOTO

- Keeler Grand Champion Steer - Marc Dominguez
- Grand Champion Lamb - Brent Hays
- Grand Champion Hog - Kincade Jackson
- Grand Champion Goat - Maison Treadwell
- Reserve Champion Steer - Blakely Hyatt
- Reserve Champion Lamb - Maison Treadwell
- Reserve Champion Hog - Grady Jackson

- Reserve Champion Goat - Nicole Jasso.
- Top sales went to Hyatt who sold a 1,300-pound steer for \$7,000.
- Dominguez sold his 1,242-pound steer for \$5,000 and Karlie Hudson sold her 1,300-pound steer for \$5,000.
- Daisy Perea sold her 1,300-pound steer for \$4,850 and Smith sold his 1,300-pound steer for \$4,450.
- Adalynn Nunn sold a 243-pound hog for \$4,000. Quaid Karr sold a 260-

**See LIVESTOCK, Page 4A**

## Fatal fall on Florida Mountains

**Bill Armendariz**  
Deming Headlight  
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW MEXICO

DEMING - A bowhunter has died in the Florida Mountains. The range is located 12 miles southwest of Deming, NM.

An Air Force Airman from Clovis, NM, age 22, fell 100 feet and died when emergency personnel and Luna County Sheriff's deputies were able to reach him.

According to LCSO reports, a call came in at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, October 9, of a hunter falling off the mountain. The accident occurred two miles from the Mahoney Park area on the mountain's westside.

The deceased and a friend were hunting exotic Bezoar Ibex (Persian Ibex) on the rugged cliffs of the Floridas (Flo-ree-dahs). The Ibex were brought to the mountain range in 1970 as an exotic hunt. The numbers quickly grew and by 1974 the first Ibex exotic hunt was allowed.

The report indicated the hunter had slipped and fell approximately 100 feet onto rocks below. New Mexico Game and Fish officers, New Mexico State Police and a paramedic were on-scene when deputies arrived.

"This is very difficult terrain and dangerous," LCSO Captain Michael Brown told the Headlight. "Unfortunately, we get called at least once a year about hikers and hunters who are involved in accidents on this treacherous mountain range."

**See FATAL, Page 10A**

## Lujan Grisham: 'The virus is now winning'

**Algernon D'Amassa**  
Las Cruces Sun-News  
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW MEXICO

SANTA FE - For the third time in a week, New Mexico shattered its record for daily cases of COVID-19 and Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham declared during a news conference that "the virus is now winning."

On Thursday the state Department of Health announced it had confirmed 672 new cases of the disease, which is caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus. That blew past the record, set just the previous day, for new cases con-



**Lujan Grisham**

firmed. A total of 34,958 positive tests had been confirmed out of 1,027,392 tests, with 19,457 designated recoveries and 922 deaths attributed to the disease.

The latest death occurred in a woman in her 70s from Luna County, according to the DOH. She had been hospitalized and was described as suffering from unspecified underlying conditions that might aggravate the severity of the disease.

There were 303 new cases in Berna-

lillo County alone, as well as six new cases among federal detainees of the Otero County Prison Facility in Chaparral, a privately managed facility that has been the location of the worst outbreak among New Mexico prisons.

The governor announced new public health orders Tuesday that will take effect Friday. Food and drink establishments serving alcohol will be required to close at 10 p.m., and places of lodging will be required to reduce their occupancy.

Additionally, an exemption to mandatory quarantine rules for travelers to New Mexico was eliminated, meaning

in effect that travelers from "high-risk" states, including all of the states neighboring New Mexico, are required to self-quarantine for 14 days or the duration of their stay, whichever is shorter, even if they have recently tested negative.

The limit on all social gatherings will also be reduced from 10 to 5, effective Friday.

Lujan Grisham was on the last day of a two-week quarantine, which followed her possible exposure to a staff member who tested positive. While saying she and her fiancé had each tested negative

**See VIRUS, Page 10A**

**USA TODAY**  
Eighty researchers strongly denounce idea public can infect its way out of COVID-19. **3A**

**Department of Health report**  
First flu case confirmed in New Mexico. **2A**

**Weather**  
High 76° || Low 42°  
Breezy. Forecast, **10A**

Volume 140 | Issue 84  
Home delivery pricing inside  
Subscribe 866-506-0073  
©2020 **\$1.00**

