



### 3-3A Start

Tiger football team opens district play against 6-1 Socorro Warriors

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### Treasures

Elk, the largest member of deer family, occurs in western Sierra County

NATURE • PAGE A8



### Near Upset

Tiger volleyball team takes first two sets at Socorro, falls in five

SPORTS • PAGE A4

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# The HERALD

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14 PAGES IN 2 SECTIONS • PLUS 3 INSERTS

## OHV ORDINANCE CHALLENGE

# Full Throttle on Special Election

By Tony A. Archuleta  
HERALD Reporter

For the citizens group that initiated a petition drive challenging the City of TorC's recently adopted ordinance allowing Off-Highway Vehicles on city-owned streets, a quick repeal of the ordinance was the favored route.

The City Commission, however, on the advice of City Attorney Jay Rubin and Interim City Manager Renee Cantin, unanimously adopted a

**"I don't think we're going to have mauling ATVs out there... I could be wrong... But if we're right and we have a minimal impact we may not have to address this at all."**

—City Commissioner Rolf Hechler on OHV friendly Ordinance #697

resolution/proclamation setting a Jan. 15, 2019, special election via mail-in ballot.

Ballots with a pre-stamped envelope will be mailed out to each registered voter within the city

limits in mid-December (or 28 days prior to the election), according to Interim City Clerk Angela Torres. Ballots must be received by the 7 p.m. election day deadline.

Mayor Green, who vot-



**PRESSING ON** - It was a longshot for the citizens group that initiated a special election challenge against Ordinance #697, allowing the use of OHVs on city owned streets, but it was hoped that the city commission would rescind it instead of going ahead with a January 2019 special election.

ed against Ordinance August on a 4-to-1 vote, 697 when it was adopted by the commission in

ty of rescinding the ordinance and saving the city the cost of a special election.

Rubin and Cantin during the Oct. 10 commission meeting explained that rescinding the ordinance would require another ordinance, which could also be susceptible to a challenge from the pro-OHV group, creating untold amounts of confusion and administrative headaches.

"My suggestion to the

See OHV on Page A6

## Vets' Home Intruder Faces Felony Charge

By Carlos Padilla  
HERALD Reporter

The man who entered the New Mexico State Veterans Home armed with weapons earlier this month now has a fourth-degree felony criminal charge of breaking and entering to contend with, according to the criminal complaint filed in Sierra County Magistrate Court by Truth or Consequences Police Officer Raphael Marin.

That man, identified as 56-year-old Terry Garcia with a last known address listed in Las Cruces, is accused of entering the facility without authorization by breaking or dismantling a west-facing sliding glass door on Oct. 6.

See FACES on Page A6

## Just The Butte



Water levels are down at reservoirs throughout the West, and Elephant Butte Lake is no exception, as seen by this recent photo of the butte looking westward. The receding shoreline at the lake has afforded dry land access to the butte, which from this angle more closely resembles its geological classification as a volcanic cone, versus its namesake elephant as viewed south to north.

HERALD photo/TONY A. ARCHULETA

## ABQ Man Charged with Possession Of Meth

By Carlos Padilla  
HERALD Reporter

Active arrest warrants and being in a vehicle suspected of being involved in an unspecified previous incident under investigation led officers to a couple parked at a convenience store near downtown Truth or Consequences Saturday evening, Oct. 13, according to a criminal complaint filed by Sierra County Sheriff's Deputy Jacob Jones.

That contact ultimately led to the duo being detained after methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia were discovered inside the vehicle.

See CHARGED on Page A6

# Former TorC Airport Manager Spreads His Wings Managing Roswell Airport

By Carlos Padilla  
HERALD Reporter

Mark Bleth recently launched from his job managing the Truth or Consequences Municipal Airport to managing a much larger facility – the Roswell International Airport Center.

And while locals in his new town may refer to the Roswell facility as the "old base," a recent article published in the Roswell Daily Record illustrates Bleth's vision for the airport and air center in Roswell as the focal point for future growth for that city and region.

Bleth joined the City of Roswell in August as the

new manager for the airport and the air center after beating out about 20 applicants interested in the position. Bleth was among the eight applicants chosen for initial interviews, and then among the three finalists before he was ultimately offered the position.

Bleth's long-held interest in aviation and his prior professional experiences eventually coalesced and drew him to Roswell.

In addition to approximately 18 months serving as manager of the Truth or Consequences Municipal Airport, he is also a former officer of the United States Air Force, where he



Mark Bleth

served for six years and reportedly earned a degree in electronics. Bleth

telligence, which included listening for terrestrial and space-based signals.

Bleth began working at the Sandia National Laboratory in 1994. He then worked for Cisco Systems, starting as a systems engineer before making the switch to sales as an account manager responsible for \$11 million or more in federal contracts each fiscal year.

In 2003, Bleth and his ex-wife started their own tour company in the Elephant Butte/Truth or Consequences area, focusing on the local area as well as Spaceport America. Bleth's ex-wife still owns that business, which Bleth

told the Daily Record grew to about \$2 million in annual revenues when he was in the partnership.

In January 2017, Bleth embarked on a new role for him, but one that would eventually lead him to Roswell. That new role of course was at the Truth or Consequences airport, where Bleth was responsible for the management and for leasing more than two dozen city-owned T-hangers and land leases that cover a total of nearly 700 acres.

Bleth told The Herald that his transition from Truth or Consequences to Roswell happened so

See BLETH on Page A7

## WEEKLY WEATHER WATCH 8-DAY FORECAST

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17	THURSDAY OCTOBER 18	FRIDAY OCTOBER 19	SATURDAY OCTOBER 20	SUNDAY OCTOBER 21	MONDAY OCTOBER 22	TUESDAY OCTOBER 23	WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24	NEED PRINTING? Competitive Prices! Let Us Bid On Your Next Printing Job. The HERALD 1204 North Dale PO Box 752 TorC, NM 87901
High 54 Low 44 20% Cloudy NNE Wind: 14 mph Sunrise: 7:15 am Set: 6:32 pm	High 58 Low 48 30% Showers ENE Breeze: 6 mph Sunrise: 7:16 am Set: 6:31 pm	High 68 Low 51 20% Cloudy NE Breeze: 7 mph Sunrise: 7:16 am Set: 6:30 pm	High 67 Low 49 30% Showers NE Wind: 16 mph Sunrise: 7:17 am Set: 6:29 pm	High 61 Low 49 40% Showers ESE Breeze: 7 mph Sunrise: 7:18 am Set: 6:28 pm	High 65 Low 49 10% Mostly Cloudy SE Breeze: 7 mph Sunrise: 7:19 am Set: 6:27 pm	High 68 Low 49 20% Partly Cloudy ESE Breeze: 7 mph Sunrise: 7:20 am Set: 6:26 pm	High 68 Low 48 10% Partly Cloudy ESE Breeze: 8 mph Sunrise: 7:20 am Set: 6:25 pm	