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# CHAPARRAL GUIDE

A PRODUCT OF THE HERALD PUBLISHING CO., INC.

Published in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico 87901



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**JUNE 10-12, 2016**

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CITY-WIDE DISPLAYS ★ CONTESTS ★ MUSIC  
HISTORIC FAMILY CELEBRATIONS ★ ENTERTAINMENT

# Truth or Consequences Celebrates 100 Years

## It all Started as Palomas Hot Springs

Written by Ada Wilson & Lillian Terry  
From History of Sierra County

Our Hot Springs are among the most famous waters of the Southwest. Long before the white man came, the Indians from miles around gathered here to bathe in the magic waters that

come up through the earth and bandaged their wounds with the thick white mud. Geronimo, the Apaches and many others were frequent



**Cowboys Bathing in the Hot Mineral Waters in 1929**  
visitors. Later, the Spaniards found the Springs and it was an Indian Chief who told them of the large flat rock that was placed over the main spring and the wonderful powers of the waters and mud which could cure disease. It was considered a cure for all ills.

Next, the white man arrived after learning of the curative waters. Soldiers from Fort McRae, located on the east side of the Rio Grande, came often to bathe in the springs. This fort was established in 1863 and disbanded in 1884. The Fort site is now under waters of Elephant Butte

Lake. Later, others arrived from the Jornada del Muerto trail and from surrounding ranches and forts. Soon people from other towns over the country heard of the springs and came, many of them to stay.

In 1884, after the establishment of Sierra County, the new commissioners appropriated \$400 to erect a shelter over the spring, which was called Geronimo Spring. The spring at this time was an open pool rocked up around the sides. The water bubbled up from the sand in the bottom of the pool and overflowed into the slough and then to the river. Later, this was replaced with two cement tubs, which could be drained and refilled.

There was another spring just west of the hill where the bottom floor of the Vera Hotel stands today. In 1895, the John Cross Cattle Co had acquired title to all the land lying west of what is now Broadway. The company built a room over this spring for the benefit of their cowboys. About this same time, Fount Sullivan settled on land just northwest of Palomas Hot Springs and built a small adobe house. Mr. Sullivan wanted to acquire more land by filing on the land where the springs were located, but the Cattle Co., was also an applicant for the land surrounding the spring. Mr. Sullivan saw he would be blocked

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**Continued from Page 2**

by the Cattle Co. so he circulated a petition to have the land withdrawn from settlement on account of the hot mineral waters. In this he was successful, so a large tract of land belonging to the government surrounded the springs. A person could build a house or tent and live on the land but could not buy it.

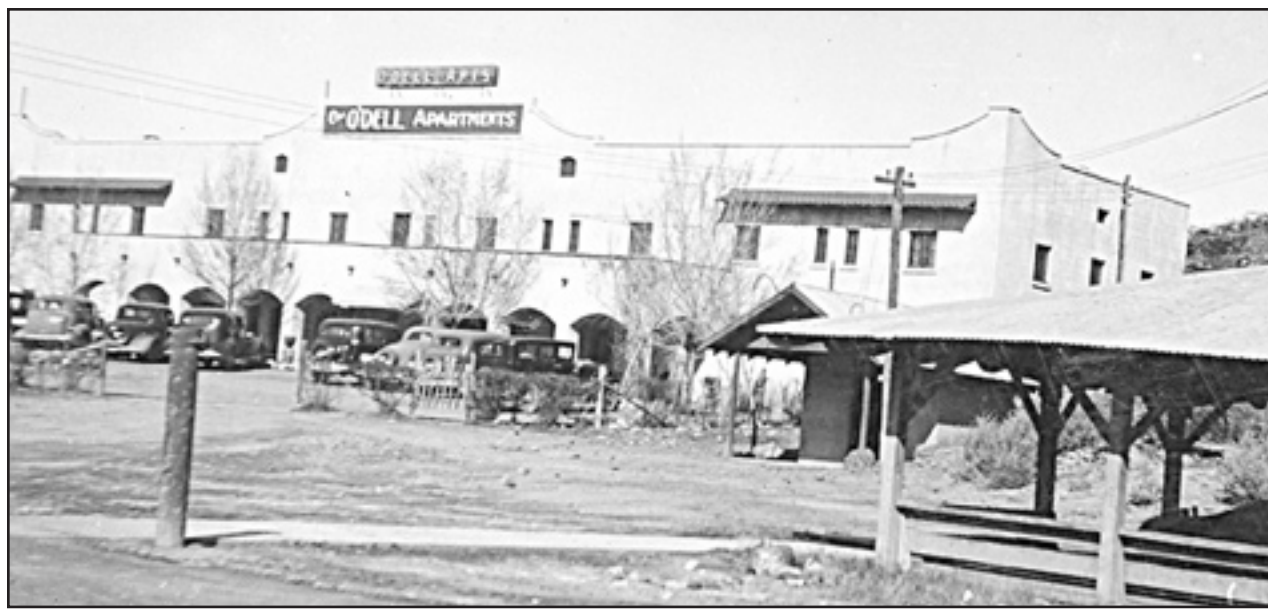
In 1918 the Government had the land surveyed and anyone living on the land at the time could file on it like a homestead. Lots were 4,200 square feet. A married couple could file on three lots and a single person on two and could receive a patent from the Government with signature of President Woodrow Wilson and the Government Seal of the United States.

In those early years, the Rio Grande River ran down what is now Main Street as far as the Post Office, then south and west along the lower part of town and south around Carrie Tingley Hospital hill (now New Mexico State Veterans' Home). This left a large bosque and tulle swamp where Broadway and most of the business section to the south and west is now located. About 1907 there came a violent cloudburst in the north part of town about where the golf course is today. The water rushed down between the large water tank hill and the old grade school, almost damming the river channel with debris and turned the channel to the present location.

The first road of any consequence coming into the county from the north between the mountains and the river came as far as Cuchillo, then to Las Palomas. This road by-passed Palomas Hot Springs, but by that time a few more people were here, so they built a road from Cuchillo to Palomas Hot Springs. This was slow work, as it had to be done with a pick and shovel. There were no graders or bulldozers in those days.


The mail went to Las Palomas from Cuchillo, and then was delivered by horseback to Palomas Hot Springs twice a week for the price of

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O'Dell Apartments now known as Sierra Grande Lodge located on McAdoo Street.

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**Continued from Page 3**

\$5.00 a month. The mail was placed in a cigar box in the store of Mr. McMillan to be picked up by the public. McMillan was our first Postmaster. He later sold the store to J. D. Allsup. The cigar box remained and Mr. Allsup was our second Postmaster.

The Elephant Butte Dam was started in 1911 and this brought many changes in Palomas Hot Springs. Houses were erected for the workers at the Dam, as well as rooming houses and more stores to feed and clothe the workers and their families who lived here and at the Dam. Liquor was not allowed at the Government settlement near the Dam, so many bars, restaurants and dance halls for the fun-loving public were located here. When the Dam was finished in 1916, some people left but many moved to Palomas



**JAMES HOTEL** located on the river just below the Elephant Butte Dam construction. The hotel was moved to Truth or Consequences (Hot Springs) where it was located where Bank of the Southwest is now located.

Hot Springs and the town began to grow. Many of the buildings at the Dam were taken down in sections and trucked to town and reassembled, including the Vera Hotel and James Apartments, located where Bank of the Southwest now stands, and many homes for the people living here.

Some of the early settlers were Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Graham and son Bill, who came to Palomas Hot Springs in 1910. The senior Grahams had one of the first restaurants and Bill had the first barbershop in a location on Main Street. He worked four days here and two days at Elephant

Butte, riding both ways on horseback. In 1913, Bill returned to his old home in Junction City, Texas and married his childhood sweetheart, Mae Toby. Mae was a school teacher here in 1914.

S. P. Johnson, a farmer, built the first hotel at approximately 426 Main Street.

Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Bullen came about 1912. Lula Bullen nursed the sick and in many ways substituted for the doctors not available at the time. Mr. Bullen had the first funeral parlor here.

Dr. C. S. Fries came in 1913 and Dr. A. C. White in 1914. Mrs. White had a drug store for many years. Later Dr. White had an office where one of the Geronimo Springs Museum rooms is located today.

Otto Goetz moved here in 1913 from Otto, N.M. establishing a mercantile business. He always worked for the good of the town. We could not get a post office because our town name had been changed to Hot Springs and there was a town above Las Vegas, N.M. with a Post Office by that name. Mr. Goetz learned they were closing the Post Office there so applied for the name and received it for our town. The first Postmaster for Hot Springs was N. F. Casey from 1914 to 1915. R. C. Bacchus replaced him, but as he was also one of the two schoolteachers, his wife managed the Post Office.

Mr. Goetz organized the Commercial Club in

See 100 on Page 5



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**Continued from Page 5**

1914. This later became the Chamber of Commerce in 1917. He helped incorporate our town of Hot Springs in 1916 and was the first elected Mayor. C. W. Adams was appointed Mayor Pro Tem until an election could be held at which time Mr. Goetz was elected Mayor and served several terms.



**The Little Green Church on the Hill**

The first Church was brought down from the Dam in 1916. It was used for all faiths and was on the hill off lower Main Street where the Joe J. Tafoya residence is now. It was spoken of as The Little Green Church on the Hill. Now there are many more churches representing different faiths.

Jim Hawkins, affectionately known as Burro Jim, had the first water system here. He possessed a wagon and 2 burros. He hauled the water from a spring near Williamsburg and sold it by the bucket or barrel. He also hauled off the garbage. In 1916 R. P. Pankey and Robert Martin, assisted by A. A. Sheppard, Joe Pankey and Allie Heffernan, financed a water system. At first it was pumped from the river by a water wheel. Later, George Cook was hired to drill a water well and water was pumped from the well with gasoline engines. Cecil Wilson was hired to run the water plant. In 1925 Pankey and Martin sold the water plant to the city. Cecil Wilson resigned his position as Councilman for the

See 100 on Page 6



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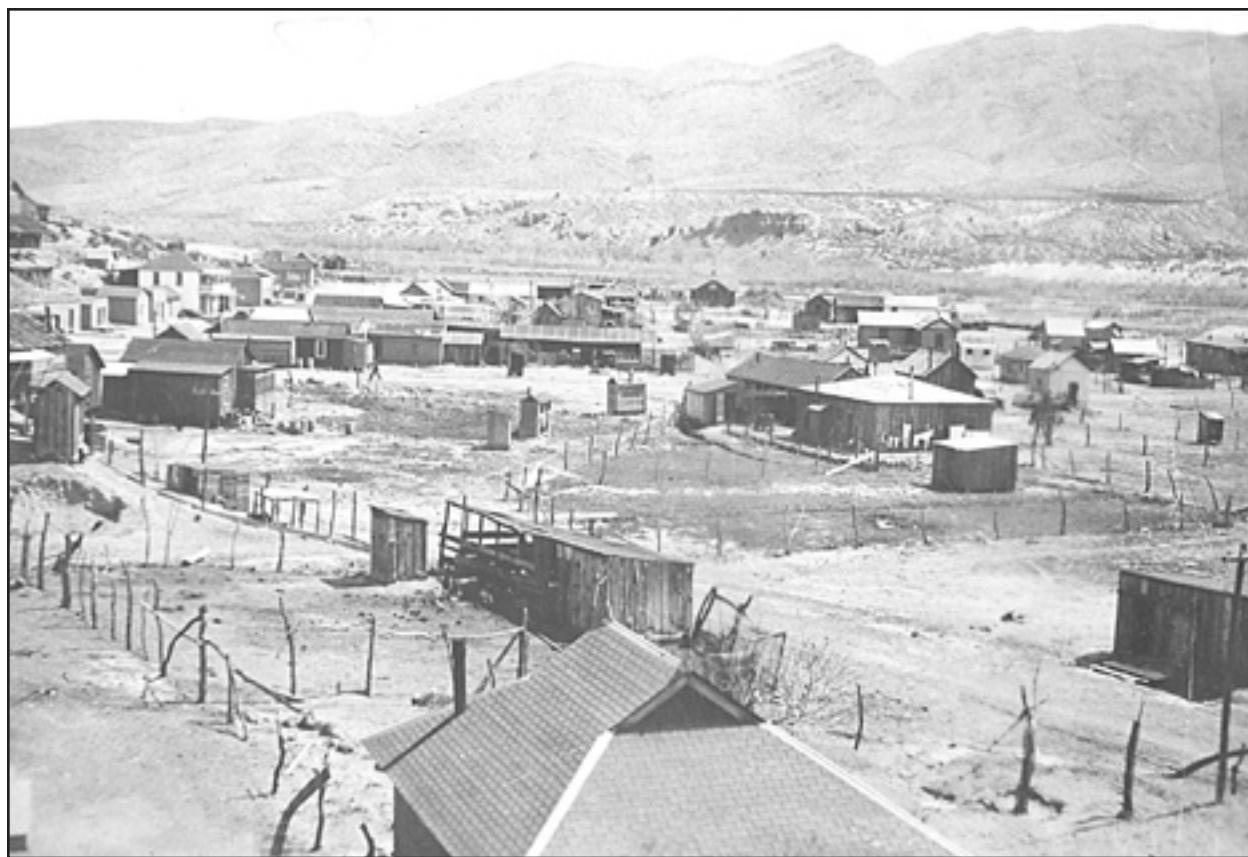
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First Water System



Downtown Palomas Hot Springs looking toward Main Street (left side).

**100**

Continued from Page 5

City so he could still run the water plan.

The first school was a small tent house on the side of the hill above Main Street in 1913. Marie Casey was the first teacher and had 10 pupils. In 1914 Mae Graham was teacher and Alice Bihl in 1915. In 1916 there were 2 teachers, R. C. Bacchus and Eleanor Fries.

A permanent school on Date Street was built in 1923 and a high school on Fourth Street was built in 1930.

The first bank was First National Bank of Hot Springs and was chartered in 1917 by the Bank President, A. H. Hilton, father of Conrad Hilton of Hilton Hotel fame. After a few years, he sold his interest to Robert Martin, who later sold to Frank Winston. Mr. Winston died suddenly in 1929 and the First National Bank was re-organized. The name was changed to Hot Springs National Bank with Hilmer E. James as President. It is now known as Bank of the Southwest.

The first telephone was a long distance phone at the Vera Hotel in about 1920. When a call came in for a party in Hot Springs, the owner, George Owsley would call the party being called over a megaphone. Whoever heard the call passed it on until the party called would go to the hotel to receive the call. The first telephone office was in the Gate City Apartments owned by Al Oraker, who with his wife and son John and daughter Rose, ran the office on a 24 hour basis. The phone company was later taken

See 100 on Page 7

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**100**

Continued from Page 6

over by N. M. Public Service Co., who then sold to Fred Bogardus and C. H. Jennings in 1945. Many improvements had been made in the location on Foch Street.

The seat of Sierra County for years was in Hillsboro, but had been contested for removal to other towns. Cutter tried for it and failed. Hot Springs tried for the second time and was successful in a special election in 1936. In 1938 the tax-paying qualified voters of Sierra County voted on a \$32,000 bond issue for construction of a Court House on a city block set aside for public buildings.

The late Bob Coleman, editor of the Sierra County Advocate, was credited for primary responsibility in procuring a crippled children's hospital for Hot Springs. He was with a small group of local people on one of Gov. Clyde Tingley's visits and hearing him casually mention that he would like to build a hospital for

See **100** on Page 8

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Continued from Page 7

crippled kids here and make use of the wonderful hot mineral spring water, Coleman quoted the Governor in a front page story in the next issue of the Advocate. He never let the subject drop or let the Governor or people forget it.

The first inception of the idea of a hospital for crippled children was presented by Gov. Tingley on March 13, 1935 at a banquet held to compliment him and Mrs. Tingley. In his speech, Gov. Tingley gave enthusiastic praise of the Hot Springs hot mineral water, saying, "It is God's gift to health," and announced at that time he was going to build a hospital here for the treatment of Infantile Paralysis. Many meetings were held by Gov. Tingley, starting with the State Highway Dept. and including President Roosevelt and Keith Morgan, Vice President of the Warm Springs Foundation in Georgia.

On Nov. 12, 1935, Gov. Tingley notified his office from Washington that the proposed Hospital for crippled children at Hot Springs was definitely assured.

Through his Hot Springs representative, Bob Coleman, plans were set in motion and local site procurement committee was named, composed of A. J. Howe, W. C. Green, Leo Smith, George Cook and S. S. Thurmond. A finance committee was named composed of James W. Knox as chairman, Dr. A. C. White, Secretary, H. E. James, Treasurer and Ross M. Atkins, J. C. Mitchell and Coke Johnson as members. A town meeting composed of 90% of the town's substantial citizenship voluntarily responded with \$8,000 in \$100 notes and the Finance Committee subscribed an additional \$4,000. Gov. Tingley was advised that these funds for the hospital were on deposit in the Hot Springs National Bank awaiting his pleasure.

Feb. 13, 1936 marked the real beginning of the Hospital for Crippled Children when Gov. Tingley's wife, Carrie Tingley, for whom the hospital was named, turned the first official shovel of soil. Actual work on the site began Feb. 28,

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**100**  
Continued from Page 8

1936, under the capable direction of Construction Superintendent Jesse K. Morrison. On May 29, 1937, United States Postmaster General James A. Farley came to Hot Springs to make the official dedication of Carrie Tingley Hospital.

In 1950 Ralph Edwards, on the tenth anniversary of his Truth or Consequences radio show called a staff meeting at which he said, "I wish that some town in the U. S. liked and respected our show so much that it would change its name to "Truth or Consequences." Since there were so many towns named Hot Springs in the U.S., the city agreed to change the name for the advertisement we would receive. Some people objected, so a special election was held. The citizens voted 1,294 for the change and 295 against. Ralph kept his word and returned to Truth or Consequences every year for 50 years. The community continues to celebrate the name change each year the first weekend of May.



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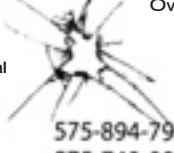
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# City Gets New Form Of Government In 1956

*Editors Note: This article was taken from the Herald's Centennial Issue of 1985. The writer of the story is unknown.*

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The city-manager form of government was born in Truth or Consequences when a petition had been presented at the close of 1955 asking a vote on the new form of Government.

The petition was presented Jan. 2, 1956 and the election was held Jan. 31 with 1,042 residents favoring the change and 332 against it.

On Feb. 20, 1956, the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse was given a 25-year lease on the Rodeo Grounds. This lease was terminated 10 years later and unsightly buildings were demolished.

In April of 1956, the last payment was made on the parking meters.

On May 7, 1956, a new group took control of city hall. Candidates in the election under the new form of government had no opposition and were elected by certification. They were Robbie J. Clark, W. A. Davis, Dan Sullivan, Ben Hillger and Paul Sparkman.

On June 4, the new commission appointed Joe Osburn, City Police Judge and on July 1, increased parking meter violation fines to 50 cents.

Robert B. Laursen became the first city manager and he was appointed July 16, 1956.

V. A. Pendleton proposed to convert the city's electric system voltage from 2,400 to 4,160 at a cost of \$60,000.

The city received its second TV translator early in 1957.

The DAV headed up a drive to raise funds and on March 4, 1957, the DAV presented a check to the city for \$2,800. Ray Crooks, chairman, presented the check.

On April 15, 1957, the city executed a 20-year lease for Geronimo Springs from the Federal Government.

Robert B. Laursen resigned as city manager July

16, 1957 to take a similar position at The Dalles, Ore.

Elfego P. Martinez was named city clerk Sept. 3, 1957. Mrs. LaRue Creek had been acting clerk since April of 1957, when Isabel Chavez entered service.

Hal Everett was named city manager Aug. 23, 1957, replacing Laursen.

Following a number of setbacks in its efforts to get U. S. Highway 85 paved through the city, the commission, on Sept. 20, 1957 took a slap at the State High Department, charging it with negligence and lack of interest in Truth or Consequences.

The American Legion paid off a \$13,700 mortgage on Sept. 29 and celebrated with a big dance and party.

Martin Silva was named assistant postmaster Oct. 5, 1957, succeeding Robert Ellis, Jr.

The baseball diamond on Riverside Drive was converted to Fisherman's Park on Oct. 7, 1957. The city commission also authorized construction for the kid's fishing pond.

In November of 1957, a site was finally selected for the fair building. It was located north of U. S. Highway 85 near the rodeo grounds on South Broadway.

The year 1957 saw much growth in the city. Building permits totaled \$1,370,000.

On Jan. 15, 1958, Western States Telephone Co., awarded contract for a dial switchboard.

Elephant Butte Lake was having a good year and in May the lake contained almost 1,000,000 acre-feet and in June the water level was the highest since

See CITY on Page 15



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**CITY****Continued from Page 14**

1945.

The city commission received a petition on July 4, 1958, asking for the city government to revert back to the mayor Alderman form.

On July 25, 1958 the city's fourth water well was put into the system and a well on Riverside Drive was converted into irrigation for the courthouse, cemetery, schools and the golf course.

On August 8, 1958, the U. S. Navy announced it would build an Earth Satellite station north of Engle.

The voters sustained the city-manager form of government at an election on August 23.

St. Ann's Hospital was dedicated September 7.

The U. S. Navy awarded contract on Sept. 12 for construction of a \$155,000 earth satellite surveillance station north of Engle.

The Municipal Golf Course was officially opened Nov. 7, 1958.

On Nov. 17, 1958 the commission seats of Dan Sullivan and Paul Sparkman were declared vacant, as both had moved from the city.

In the city election of Jan. 12, 1959, there were four vacancies on the commission. Robbie J. Clark was the only holdover. In District 2, Ben Hillger received 614 votes to V. D. Apodaca's 477. Garcia polled 641 votes to beat E. W. McDaniel, 449. Floyd Cross won with 681 votes in District 4 by defeating Valerie Cheek, 423. Robert M. Holcomb had 657 votes in District 5 to Curtis Fowler's 434.

In the race for police judge, C. D. Cockerham outstripped two opponents. Cockerham received 507 votes, John L. Murphy 278 and W. B. Huckabee Sr., 219.

The U. S. Navy opened its Surveillance Station north of Engle on Jan. 26, 1959.

The 1958 rainfall totaled 11.90 inches, the high since 1941 when 16.72 inches was recorded.

On Jan. 16, 1959, Western States Telephone Company awarded contract for a new building. The building dial switchboard and other improvements cost \$500,000.

The "100 Club" was formed Jan. 16, 1959 in the Chamber of Commerce. It is a group of Chamber of Commerce members who give the chamber \$5 a month.

On Jan. 18, the Gold Star Mothers dedicated the Blue Star Memorial Park in the Triangle at the east end of Broadway.

Bids for the new fair building were opened Feb. 2 and work got underway Feb. 13.

On March 10, 1959 open house was held at the Surveillance Station North of Engle. Bendix Corp. had been awarded the contract by the U. S. Navy to operate the station.

On May 18, 1959, Hal Everett resigned as city manager effective June 15 to take a similar post in Aztec. John Buhler III was named manager to succeed him.

On Aug. 3, 1959, Paul Sparkman was renamed to the city commission to replace Floyd Cross who had moved to Albuquerque.

On Sept. 25, 1959, Vernon Waldrop was named to the city commission to replace D. A. Garcia who had resigned because of ill health.

On Feb. 2, 1960, E. H. English was appointed to the city commission to replace Ben Hillger who had resigned.

In March of 1960, Rep. Tom Morris introduced a bill in Congress to provide for federal funds for construction of a park at Elephant Butte Lake.

On May 3, the design contract for the city's Urban Project was approved. The project was estimated to cost \$500,000.

On July 18, the city commission accepted contract design on 175 blocks of paving, the climax of several stormy sessions.

On August 25, 1960, the state approved paving of roads in the Elephant Butte Area.

On Sept. 16, a drive was launched to raise \$2,000 for purchase of a translator to provide the city with AMC TV programs.

Tiger Boosters organized Oct. 10, 1960 with Leonard Sprouse, president; Houston Phillips, vice president and Rex Werner, secretary-treasurer.

On Dec. 8, an 11-inch snow fell in the city. It was the worst storm in 33 years. Schools closed, telephone service was disrupted and commercial buses were unable to operate. Snow fell again on Dec. 10.

On Dec. 16, 1960 the city's third TV channel got its final check and it went on the air Dec. 23. This gave the city the three main networks, NBC, ABC and CBS.

A new city commission took over Jan. 10, 1961 by default. There was no opposition and the members were certified as elected. They were Frank Luchini, District 1; Thomas Prestridge, District 2; William I. Buhler, District 3 and H. A. (Sunny) Mims, District 5. Retiring members were Robbie J. Clark, E. H. English, Vernon Waldrop and Paul Sparkman.

In the police judge race C. D. Cockerham received

389 votes; Walter S. Aldrich, 98 and J. B. Staggs, 46.

An audit of city funds, Jan. 10, 1961, showed expenditures exceeded revenues in all but the general fund.

Work started March 27, 1961, on the new building of Davis-Fleck Drug. On April 21, the state completed a seal coat of paved roads in the Elephant Butte area and the runway at Municipal Airport.

The Assembly of God Church moved into its new building at 800 East Third on May 7, 1961. The Rev. Harold E. Hill was its pastor.

A paving project in the northwest park of the city was adopted Aug. 16, 1961 by the city commission. There were few protests on Nov. 1 and Floyd Haake was awarded contract for approximately 65 blocks.

The city commission at a special meeting on Nov. 2, 1961 authorized the issuance of \$283,000 in revenue bonds to replace water and sewer mains on Broadway and Main Streets.

On Jan. 10, 1962 the temperature dropped to an all-time low of 10 below zero.

Bids were opened Feb. 26, 1962, on a new National Guard Armory building to be located north of the gun shed. The armory cost \$97,277.

On March 26, 1962, the city took an important step

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**CITY**

**Continued from Page 15**

forward when a contract was signed with Chambers and Campbell, city planners of Albuquerque. The two-year planning study cost \$33,700 with the federal government paying two-thirds of the cost.

On May 7, the city set up another paving project on 95 to 100 city blocks. A historic landmark, the James Apartments on Broadway, changed hands May 7, 1962, when the property was sold to the Hot Springs National Bank. The bank received possession of the property, June 1, 1962.

On July 6, the U. S. Forest Service rented quarters in city hall for headquarters.

The state, on Aug. 6, authorized the city to contract for an addition to the Recreation Center. The 14,000 square feet was to cost the city \$59,500.

The new National Guard Armory was completed Sept. 28, and the guard unit had its first meeting in the new structure on Oct. 2.

T. V. viewers received color TV for the first time on Oct. 5, 1962.

J. W. Jones Construction Co. received bid on Oct. 26, 1962, for the Urban Project estimated to cost \$580,506.58.

On Oct. 29, Merritt and Merritt was awarded contract to relocate water and sewer lines on Main and Broadway on a bid of \$120,643.05.

O. D. Cowart received a contract Nov. 30 to pave the Hillsboro road on his bid of \$759,835.94.

At a project hearing on Dec. 12, 1962, 35 of 100 proposed Blocks for paving were eliminated.

The largest parking lot in the city was built by Bullock's Grocery. Work started Dec. 12, on the 15,000 square foot concrete lot.

On Dec. 15, the city's oldest service station operator W. W. (Army) Armstrong closed his station since construction of the Urban Project cut off the front of the station.

Following a heated campaign in 1963, three men gained control of city hall, which was to be followed by a split commission and controversial meetings. In the election held Jan. 14, Robert M. Holcomb, E. H. English and Charles Ragsdale were elected. Holdover commissioners were William I. Buhler and Frank Luchini.

In District two English received 710 votes and Thomas Prestridge, running for reelection polled 569, in district four. Ragsdale had 772 votes to 504 by H. A. (Sonny) Mims. Holcomb had 713 in District 5 to beat Houston Phillips who polled 560.

C. D. Cockerham won the race for police judge with 644 votes. Walter S. Aldrich received 476.

At the first meeting of the new commission, it voted 3 to 2 to fire City Manger Don McKee, Finance Director, Eugene Barber, Building Inspector Delbert Gideon and Utility Superintendent Charles Hibler.

A stormy session erupted Feb. 2 over storm sewer on Main Street. It stayed in the picture two or three weeks before it was eliminated by Ragasdale, Holcomb and English.

More than 300 people attended open house at the new National Guard Armory on Feb. 24.

A report made March 1, 1963 showed that the cost of relocating water and sewer lines on Broadway and Main, plus other streets cost the city \$294,338.99, almost \$100,000 more than the original bid.

Bids on the city's lights was opened March 25. The bid was \$15,714.90 and included new lights all along the newly constructed Urban Project.

On May 9, the city government rejected paving bids on 65 blocks as being too high. All bids were above the engineer's estimate.

More than 2,000 people attended the formal opening of the new building of the Hot Springs National Bank on May 25.

E. M. Embry purchased controlling interest in the Hot Springs National Bank on June 12, 1963 from W. M. Galloway.

Work on building a recreation area at Elephant Butte Lake got underway June 28, 1963.

On August 1, plans were announced for the control of rough fish in Elephant Butte Lake and B. C. Sparkman was given contract to net fish.

O. D. Cowart completed paving the Hillsboro road to Emory Pass on Sept. 4, leaving only 11 miles on the west side still unpaved.

On Sept. 11, Frank Heldt presented a petition with 600 names asking the city for a name change vote.

The Central Christian Church, 808 Fir, was dedicated Sept. 29.

First work started Nov. 29 on a proposed home for senior citizens. The plan is still underway.

On Dec. 2, 1963, Floyd Haake started work on paving 65 blocks of city streets.

The U. S. Senate appropriated \$300,000 for additional park work at Elephant Butte Lake on Dec. 13. On the same date the city announced plans to build steel hangars at Municipal Airport.

In an election on Jan. 13, 1964, a proposal to

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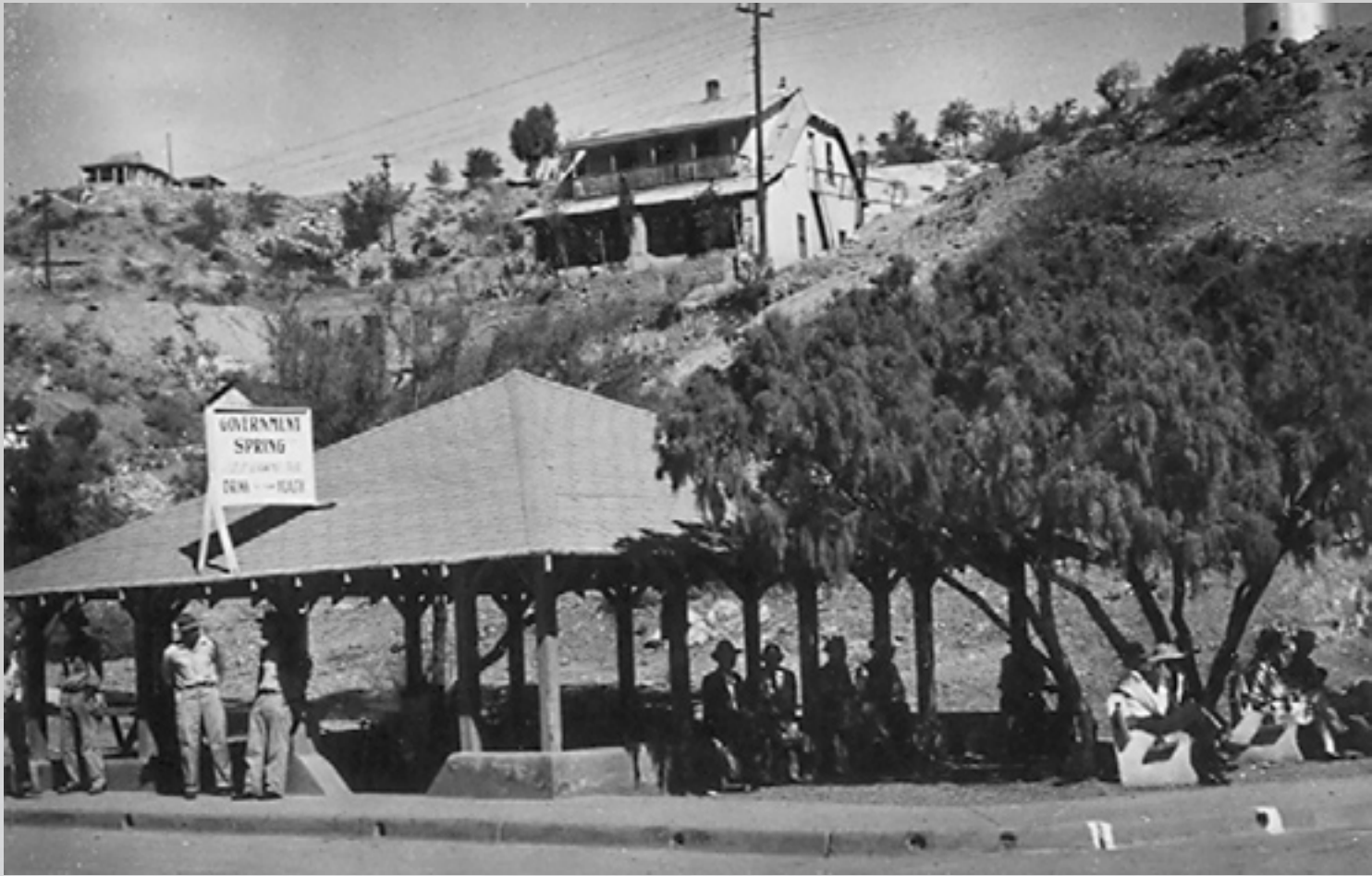
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# CITY

## Continued from Page 17

change the name to Hot Springs was defeated 891 to 762.

On Jan. 17, 1964, petitions were circulated to recall City Commissioners R. M. Holcomb and E. H. English. The petitions were never presented since there was at that time no law under which they could be recalled.

March 24, 1964 was a historic day for Sierra County Schools. Taxpayers approved \$686,000 in general obligation bonds for a new high school building with 1,073 for and 393 against.

Contract was awarded April 15 on a bid of \$311,000 for construction of recreational facilities at Elephant Butte Lake.

Plans were launched May 22, 1964 for a teen center to be financed by the tax on cigarettes. The city agreed to donate a portion of the recreation center for the project. By June 19, citizens had donated \$873.98 to a fund called the Art Goetz Memorial Teen Center.

On Aug. 5 construction of recreational facilities at Elephant Butte Lake had been completed at a cost of \$607,000. The work included 2.6 miles of paving, launching ramp and other facilities.

On Aug. 28 Western States Telephone Co. announced a \$150,000 expansion program.

Ground was broken Sept. 19 for the new high school building.

More than 1,000 people attended a dedication of the completed paved road through the Black Range Mountains.

Construction of picnic shelters at Elephant Butte State Park got underway Oct. 23.

Charles Ragsdale resigned his post as city commissioner Dec. 14. Robert M. Holcomb and City Attorney Jess Nelson resigned on Dec. 27, the date candidates filed for office.

Filing for office were Audon T. Trujillo, J. B. Phair, R. B. Burton and Everett Wright on one ticket. Another ticket included Nick Romenesko, Henry Brown, Arlie Osburn and Willie Garcia. Independent candidates were Jay Allen and Bob Allen, both from District 1. C. D. Cockerham and Roy E. Maddux filed for police judge. E. H. English was the only hold over on the city commission.

On Dec. 28, the city commission received a court order forcing a proposed natural gas issue on the ballot for the election on Jan. 11, 1965.

In the election of Jan. 11, 1965, the citizens' ticket was swept into office. The winning ticket included Nick Romenesko, 535; Arlie Osburn, 865; Willie Garcia 792; and Henry Brown, 921.

On the losing ticket were Audon T. Trujillo, 364; J. B. Phair, 379; R. B. Burton, 421 and Everett Wright 343. Jay Allen received 106 votes.

In the race for police judge C. D. Cockerham won with 531 votes and Roy Maddux received 496 votes.

A proposed change in city government lost with only 477 for and 822 against. The gas issue received a thrashing from the voters with 372 for and 1,027 against.

On Jan. 18, Hal Everett was borrowed from the Chamber of Commerce as temporary city manager. On Jan. 25, 1965, E. M. Barber was named city attorney.

On Feb. 1, the city received a \$20,000 loan from the federal government for a study on housing for senior citizens and for low-income rentals.

Hal Everett resigned as temporary city manager Feb. 21.

The Chamber of Commerce was in its new quarters in the Recreation Center on March 10, 1965.

Fred Smith was named city attorney on March 15 replacing E. M. Barber.

On March 17, Elfego Martinez was removed as city clerk, Tillie T. Candelaria was named to succeed him. On the same date R. H. Storch was named city manager and Tom Bunch was named to the

commission replacing E. J. English who resigned when Martinez was fired.

On April 21, Houston Phillips was named acting postmaster to succeed Joe D. (Dutch) Tafoya who had retired.

On April 28, C. L. Robinette resigned as school superintendent under a cloak of secrecy.

Willie Garcia resigned from the city commission June 7, 1965.

Basil Burks was named school superintendent June 14.

A. H. Latham resigned as police chief on July 1, 1965 and Charles Cox was named to succeed him.

On July 5, 1965, the city granted a natural gas franchise to Southern Union Gas Co. who in turn will pay the city a franchise tax of 2 percent of sales.

Plans to expand and remodel the fire hall were made July 11, when Johnny Guthrie offered a bid of \$12,500.

The Federal Fish Hatchery between the city and Elephant Butte Dam was closed July 21, 1965.

Ralph Doughty resigned as city commissioner Aug. 30, 1965.

Classes in the new high school started Aug. 30, 1965.

R. H. Storch was fired as city manager Sept. 4 and Gene Goetz was named acting city manager.

Gale Thomas was named to the city commission Oct. 11 to succeed Ralph Doughty.

Elephant Butte Lake State Park was dedicated Oct. 15, 1965 by Gov. Jack M. Campbell. On the same date a new scoreboard for Tiger Stadium was announced. The board was purchased through donations of fans and from funds left by the Racing Association.

The new high school building was dedicated Sunday, Oct. 24, 1965.

On Nov. 7, the new fire hall was dedicated.

Ann Garrison was named city clerk Nov. 8, succeeding Tillie T. Candelaria who was fired.

Following almost two years of haggling the city commission approved a highway bypass of the city on Dec. 13 and Commissioner Tom Bunch resigned because of the action. Glenn Ayers was appointed to the commission Dec. 27 and the following day Wilburn Spray was appointed city manager, effective Jan. 1, 1966.

After a long fight, the Rodeo grounds on the west end of the city were cleared of unsightly buildings on

Jan. 10.

Rafael Tafoya was named a member of the city commission on Jan. 24.

On Feb. 5, another landmark was demolished when Johnny Guthrie started demolishing the old Knox Building.

On Feb. 15, 1966, Charles S. Cox submitted his resignation as police chief and on March 1, Woodrow Welch was appointed acting chief.

On March 3, 1966, Henry Brown resigned as mayor and a member of the city commission and the following day Gale Thomas was named mayor.

On April 11, petitions were filed with the commission asking for the recall of Commissioner Nick Romenesko.

Ted Weaver was named a member of the city commission April 25, succeeding Glenn Ayers who was leaving the city.

The new surgical unit and remodeled ward at Carrie Tingley Hospital were dedicated May 8.

Jess Liles was named chief of police May 10, succeeding Woodrow Welch who was fired.

Ann Garrison resigned as city clerk May 26.

On June 13, the district court sustained the city as having legal qualifications to order a recall election for the recall of Commissioner Nick Romenesko.

In a recall election held July 15, Commissioner Romenesko was recalled by a vote of 537 for recall and 323 against recall. Immediately following the election Romenesko filed suit for a recount. In mid August, Romenesko filed a contest of the election.

On Sept. 13, 1966, President L. B. Johnson signed the highway Act of 1966, which had an amendment making 4-lane highways on the Interstate System mandatory. Sen. Joseph M. Montoya pushed the amendment through Congress.


On Sept. 26, the city commission adopted a resolution providing for a municipal sales tax of 1 percent.

Glenn Mills resigned as city clerk Oct. 5 and Evelyn Bierner was named to succeed him.

On Oct. 12, a TV fund passed the \$4,000 mark. The funds were used to upgrade the city's three translators.

Ray Loper and Tom Burnett were named to the city commission Oct. 27.

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	12PM OPENING CEREMONIES AT HEALING WATERS PLAZA	2:30PM LANTERN IN THE WIND DRAMA PLAY PERFORMED BY THE TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES COMMUNITY THEATRE AT CIVIC CENTER
	1PM THE TWO OF US	
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**302 Michigan** - 2 Bedroom 1.5 Bath home on large 100x220 lot. 20x30 detached garage, plenty of room for all the lake toys. Home offers 2 spacious living areas with a wood stove and a fireplace. Large wet bar for entertaining. Cabinet filled open kitchen with center island. Enjoy the Fireworks and balloon regatta from the deck overlooking Elephant Butte Lake. Just minutes from the Marina and the Golf Course. Easy access to Spaceport America. \$149,500. MLS 20162313.



**128 Rio Grande**: Cabin built around a 1958 Mobile Home. This is a charmer! Custom tile in kitchen. Large lot with room for all your lake toys. Fully fenced. Quiet Williamsburg neighborhood. A great weekender, or snowbird retreat! \$29,900. MLS# 20151164.



**818 Oak** - This little fishing cabin sells as is with no warranty expressed or implied. Modern appliances. Wood burning stove, mature trees on 2 lots, car port, secluded location. \$38,000. MLS# 20154208.



MLS 20155365 - 622 Lincoln. 1987 Manufactured home. 2 Bd/1 BA. Spacious cabinet filled kitchen, attached carport and storage shed. Easy care 44.8 X 89.5 lot. Priced to sell at \$42,000.



**506 Travis St** - 1995 Fleetwood Manufactured home is assessed as permanent. 2 bedroom 2 bath, large kitchen. Great Lake Home, lots of room for all of your toys. Well maintained. Priced to sell. \$59,900. MLS# 20153964.



**Fixer Upper!** Close to Elephant Butte Lake, Sierra del Rio Golf Course, and shopping. 3 bedroom two bath, spacious living and dining rooms. Home sells as is with no warranties expressed or implied by the seller or seller's agent. \$64,000. MLS #20155346.



**403 Country Club** - 1979, 14X80 Westchester mfg. home. Well maintained home at the lake, with beautiful Turtleback Mountain views. Sells fully furnished. Close to Sierra del Rio Golf Course, and just minutes from the Marina. Great weekend, or settle in and enjoy the fun full time! \$68,500. MLS# 20154548.



**802 Locust** - Rock Home, built in the 1940's 2 bedroom 1 bath, new metal roof, gas fire place, new laminated flooring, new Berber carpet, free standing gas fire place. Check out the huge laundry room. Lots of charm, at the corner of Locust and Eighth. Detached Garage, Alley access, room for your RV. Call for appointment to view. \$69,000.00. MLS #20155238.



**905 Caballo Rd.** - Well maintained 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with large office or third bedroom. Open living area, cabinet filled kitchen. Covered back patio with beautiful views of Turtleback Mountain. Unobstructed views overlooking the Rio Grande River, \$69,000. MLS 20160879.



**600 Marr** -1968 Medallion Mobile home 12 X 60 with screened in porch. New Carpet, vinyl, and fresh paint, new counter top, stainless steel sink, and bath room sink. HOT WATER WELL, garage. 604 Marr is included. Lot only, tenant pays \$160.00 per month space rent, plus electric and gas. Income opportunity. Seller will transfer the Installment contract on the 1989 Mobile home to buyer. \$69,500. MLS#20151031



**77 Desertaire Rd**, 1985 Manufactured home on 1/2 acre fenced lot. 2 BD/1 & 3/4 BA. Wood burning stove in family room addition. Newer roof and upgrades. \$75,000. MLS 20155690. Call Frank at 505-720-5774 for appointment.



**512 Van Patten:** 3 Bedroom 2 Bath in the Historic Hot Water District. Hot Mineral well.# HS 01036. 1982 Manufactured home, assessed as permanent. Spacious 3 bedroom, with carport and detached 24 x 29 garage. Enjoy quiet soaks in your private covered spa. Fully fenced yard. Lots of Storage. Close to downtown and shopping. \$80,000 MLS# 20131541



**900 Rock Canyon Rd.** - Well maintained 1986 Lancer 16X80, pride of ownership shows. Corner of Calle del Corte and Rock Canyon Rd. Room for all you lake toys. Just minutes from Elephant Butte Lake, Marinas, and Golf Course. Motivated seller. \$84,000. MLS# 20154582.



**2.123 Acre lot in exclusive champagne Hills Area.** Beautiful Elephant Butte Lake views. Just minutes from Dam Site Marina. Short drive to Sierra del Rio Golf Course, Hot mineral baths and shopping. On the way to Spaceport America. HOA, CCR's to protect your investment. \$9,900. MLS 20155558



**484 Apache Rd.** - Well maintained Palm Harbor Home. Caballo Mountain views. Master suite features, retreat/office. Open floor plan, beautiful skylights. Split bedrooms. Located on 1 acre fenced, with Attached 2 car garage, workshop. RV port and carport. Bring your horses and animals. Close to Caballo Lake, for great fishing!! \$125,000. MLS# 20155123.



**222 Hallmark** - Large 120X140 double lot on the Golf Course. Enjoy the prestige of living on Elephant Butte's finest and newest golf course without the restrictive covenants. 2 BR/2 bath home with covered patio overlooking the 6th fairway. Beautiful Views of Turtleback Mountain. Paved Road. \$99,000. MLS# 20140013



**110 Cuchicco Court** - 4 bedroom, on over half an acre. Room for all your lake toys and RV's. Plenty of room for weekend guests, and family gatherings. Just minutes from the Marina's, golf, and shopping. Priced to sell! \$139,000. MLS# 20160258.



**543 Catfish** - Lake Home with Lake Views! 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on 0.36 acre lot. Large family kitchen, covered front porch. Finished 2 car garage, and room for you RV. All overlooking Elephant Butte Lake. \$139,900. MLS# 20131864.



**47 El Nido, Williamsburg.** Beautiful custom home on 11.16 Acres, overlooking the Palomas Valley. Fabulous Kitchen, 3 bedroom, 3 bath home. Bring the horses, extensive pens. Private, secluded location. Mountain and valley views. \$320,000.00. MLS 20161852.



**104 Superior** - Well maintained home. 3 bed 2 bath, beautiful yard. Lots of room for your RV, and lake toys. \$169,500. MLS# 20154765.



**1205 Skyline** - 3 bedroom, 3 full baths. Fireplace in Living room. Master suite offers large living area, 2 spacious walk in closets, with lots of storage. Jetted tub and sep. shower. Hot water baseboard heat. Great Sun room, wrap around covered deck with Lake/Mtn views. 4 car garage, plus large RV pad, and oversized carport. Fenced, with firepit in back yard. Don't miss this one. Priced to sell. Bring your lake toys and settle in. \$175,000. MLS# 20154598.



**906 Spruce St.** - Single family dwelling, 1822 sq. ft. with refrigerated air. Most appliances included. 3 bedroom, 1 full and one 3/4 bath with attached garage. \$178,500.00. MLS 20161149.



**300 San Andres** - Huge corner lot San Andres and San Mateo. Multiple Upgrades including Stove, Dishwasher, and Metal Roof. Two Master suites! Gracious family room with fireplace. Sunroom, with ample room for hot tub. Finished 2 car attached garage, and storage shed. Drip Irrigation for trees and shrubs. Completely fenced. Room for RV, boat and lake toys. Minutes from Elephant Butte Lake, golf, shopping and Hot Mineral Spas. \$179,000. MLS# 20155147.



**1301 Skyline Dr** - Beautiful home pride of ownership shows throughout this 3 bedroom, 3 bath home, with 1196 sq.ft. attached garage. Plenty of room for all the lake toys, beautiful views of Elephant Butte Lake. Open living area with fireplace and large covered 300 sq.ft. deck. Attached carport, large 100X90 fenced lot. Home sells furnished, turn key ready to move in. \$239,900. MLS#20150031.



**407 Trout** - Smart home technology control for sound, security and entertainment! Outstanding, 5300+ sq. ft. custom home with beautiful lake views. Solid Hickory cabinetry, cultured marble counter tops in this Chefs kitchen. Features JennAir side-by-side refrigerator/freezer, trash compactor, Fulgor dishwasher, Kitchen Aid cook top, Kitchen Aid oven/microwave/convection oven. Powered sky light Smart Home controlled or remote. Master suite features ceiling drop down 42" television. MLS #20154900.

# Truth or Consequences / Sierra County Restaurant & Dining Guide



**LOS ARCOS**  
STEAK AND LOBSTER  
losarcossteakhouse.com

Known for excellent food and service in a pleasantly different atmosphere  
Open Daily 5 PM  
Cocktails & Drive-in Package Store

**1400 N. Date 894-6200**

**1**

**BAR-B-QUE ON BROADWAY**

Mon., Tues., Wed. 7am to 4pm  
Thurs., Fri. 7am to 8pm  
Sat. 7am to 4pm  
Closed Sunday

**308 Broadway 894-7047**

**6**



**PACIFIC GRILL**

800 Date Street  
TorC, NM 87901  
(575) 894.soup

**7**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



**Sierra del Rio**  
AT  
TURTLEBACK MOUNTAIN RESORT

- Great Golf!
- Great Food!
- Great Prices!

575.744.4653 (Golf)  
575.744.7106 (Restaurant)

Entrance off Warm Springs Blvd.  
Elephant Butte

**8**



**El Faro**  
Mexican-American Restaurant

315 Broadway St.  
Truth or Consequences  
NM 87901

Armida Baray, Owner (575) 894-2886

**11**



**JOHNNY'S RESTAURANT**

Breakfast Available Every Morning  
7 Days A Week  
6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Mon. & Tues. 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Wed. thru Sun. 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

2260 N. Date  
Old K-Bob's Bldg  
575.894.0147

**DINE IN OR CARRY OUT!**

**2**

**CHINESE TAKE-OUT**



**744-4896**

**BIG FOOD EXPRESS**

BEER & WINE \* SEAFOOD \* SUNDAY BRUNCH \* BREAKFAST  
212 WARM SPRINGS BLVD, ELEPHANT BUTTE \* OPEN DAILY

**3**



**Ivory Tusk**  
Cavern and Restaurant

Breakfast 6:30am - 2pm  
Sunday Breakfast Buffet 9am - 1pm  
Lunch 11am - 5pm  
Dinner 5pm - 9pm

**744-5431**

Hwy 195, Elephant Butte at the Elephant Butte Inn & Spa  
Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill

**4**

**BELLALUCA**  
Cafe Italiano

303 Jones St.  
TorC, New Mexico 87901  
575.894.9866 (YUMM)

PIZZA.....PASTA.....EXCELLENT BEER LIST

**5**

