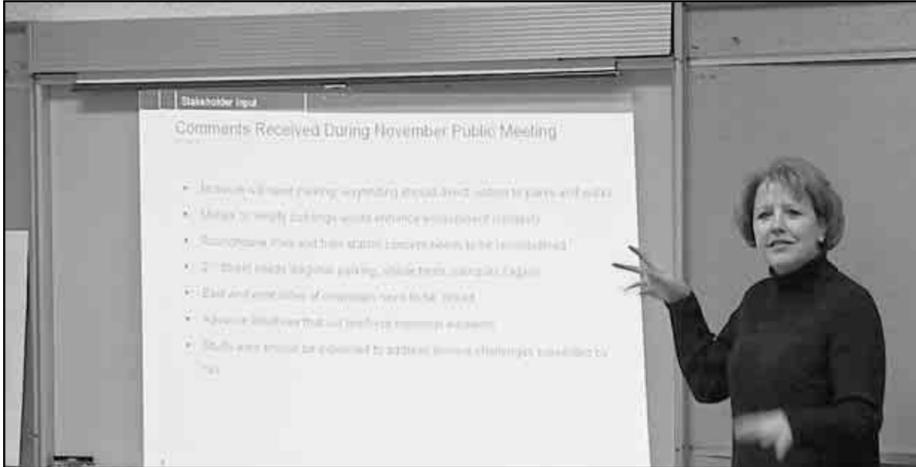


RATON ~ NEW MEXICO NEWS



Ann Ricker of Notle Associates goes over some of the comments that were received in earlier public meetings. (Photo by Marty Mayfield)



Marlene and Paul Jenkins, loyal customers, visit with Randy, Leon, and Kathryn Rubin before making their purchase. Not shown, Tami Rubin. (Photo by Laura L. Brewer)

Raton Mater Plan nears completion

Continued from page 1
 the biggest bang for the buck is the area around the train depot. That project would include paving, tree planting, small event center and a possible café along with other improvements to make it a multi-model area, more accessible to tour busses and other transportation to take train passengers to other destinations in town.

Ricker noted that master plans tend to "fly at 35,000 feet". The details will come as the plan moves forward and specific projects are identified to move forward with. For example, it was suggested that the area around the Shuler and El Raton be designated as an art and cultural area and that new

businesses that might move in would be the type that support or are similar to the other businesses in that area. Further down the street there would be a craft type zone that would clump businesses like wood-working, welding and other similar type businesses together.

To close or not to close will be another question as the downtown area tries to decide how best to handle Cook Avenue between 1st and 2nd street. It has been noted that Cook Avenue, because of its proximity to the train depot could be a draw for tourist and locals alike with outdoor eating and a gathering place, or an outdoor venue for small con-

certs. Others feel closing Cook would be a detriment to traffic flow and parking. Both options are in the master plan, but it will take several public meetings before an option is decided on.

Shelly Wood, Director of Mainstreet was pleased with the turn out at the meeting, indicating that it has caught more interest. She noted that a plan has to be in place before they can push forward as a community. A plan is also important to gaining grants and other funding sources. The master plan will go before the Raton City Commission at the March 24 meeting for their approval.

Rubin family serves community since 1916

By LAURA L. BREWER
The Chronicle-News

The Rubin family is well known in Raton as long-time owners of Rubin's Family Clothiers and Sports Arena in downtown Raton. On any day of the week, except Sunday, customers will find Leon and Kathryn tending to business, visiting with customers, or getting to know someone new. Because of their friendly smiles and caring attitude, which turns casual customers into friends, their continued success, even in trying economic times, is not difficult to understand.

Leon's father, Barney Rubin, started the business in 1916 on First Street, and a few years later moved it to Second, which was quickly becoming the main street in downtown Raton. The four Rubin sons, Sidney, Henry, Leon, and Irvin all worked in the store, which eventually expanded into five different stores. At one time there was R & R Shoe, which stood for Rubin and Rubin, Willow Springs - western wear; Del Rose - a dress shop, Sports Arena, and Rubin's Family Clothiers and Footwear.

Leon explained that he began working in the family business in 1936 when he was sixteen. In 1941, he joined the Army Air Force and left New Mexico for duty in the European theater. He returned from the war as a decorated World War II pilot on July 4, 1945. Leon smiles, "They asked for volunteers to go to the Pacific theater. Nobody raised their hands and they said, I guess you want to go home, get married and fight with your wives instead."

After Leon returned to Raton, he settled into the family business, which took him to Albuquerque during sales trips. Although he had met Kathryn on one of his trips to Albuquerque before he left for the war, they were re-introduced and began dating after he returned from the war. Kathryn worked the books in

Bertha's Hat Shop on Central Avenue, which was owned by her mother and sister. Leon and Kathryn dated long-distance for about six months and were married January 6, 1946.

Eventually Leon's brothers moved into other lines of work, and Leon's and Kathryn's sons, Ronald and Randy, came into the family business, but later, both boys left Raton for college and other jobs. When Randy was visiting his brother, Ronald, in Colorado Springs he met Tami, who was attending Colorado College as an art major. Soon after getting married, Randy and Tami moved to Raton when Tami was hired as a social worker here, and Randy started working in the family business in 1974.

The family business was expanded to include specialized embroidery several years ago. Tami explains that they had to contract out embroidery on jackets, and other apparel and Randy suggested that they do their own embroidery, which he felt would be a sound economic decision. He encouraged Tami to pursue the embroidery business by saying, "We'll both do it. It will be a good business opportunity." Of course, Tami knew who would really be responsible.

"He never touched it." Tami says with a smile in her voice. Since then, she has attended several workshops and seminars on machine embroidery, which has brought another level of excellent service to the Rubin's business.

The Rubin family continues to serve the community through their involvement in several charitable organizations and pride themselves on supporting the schools through donations, advertising and promotions. Leon, 89, and Kathryn, 85, have no immediate plans to stop working. They love what they do and continue to work nearly eight hour days, six days a week. Sports Arena and Rubin's Family Clothiers are open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Drop in and enjoy customer service with a smile.

RATON POLICE BLOTTER

Feb. 20, 2009

CITATIONS

- Nathaniel Sandoval - Dog at large and no tags.
- Adella Duran - Seat belt violation.
- Lacy Grano - Speeding.

INCIDENTS

- The Holiday Classic reports criminal damage to property.
- Alexis Sisneros reports a burglary.

COLFAX COUNTY CALENDAR

February
 Feb. 24

"On The Road To Living Well With Diabetes" classes to be held Feb. 24, March 31 and May 19, 2009 beginning at 8:45 a.m. at the Miner's Colfax Medical Center (MCMC) Long Term Care facility (900 S. Sixth St) in Raton. Call (575) 445-8071 to pre-register.

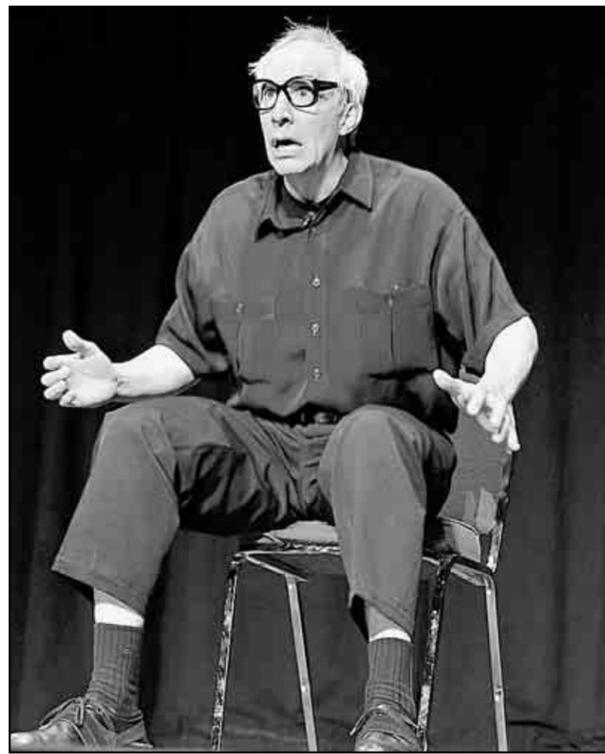
The Colfax County Fair

Association Board of Directors would like to announce the dates for the 2009 Colfax County Fair and Rodeo will be Aug. 10-16, 2009. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact: Troy Sauble at (575) 375-2790 or (575) 447-0012; Marlene Nystul at (575) 445-3281; or by email at: colfax-countyfair@hotmail.com



The many faces of Robert Post. Post performed at the Shuler Theatre yesterday.

(Photos by Tim Keller)



Robert Post brings multiple personalities to Raton

By TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

When you plunk down the big bucks to sit inside a darkened theatre for a live Sunday afternoon matinee, you want - at the very least - to be entertained. When Robert Post walked onstage at the Shuler Theatre in Raton yesterday, he delivered.

With 30 years of one-nighters under his belt, Post brought his one-man show, the Robert Post Comedy

Theater, to a highly-appreciative Raton crowd that was ready to laugh. Known for his quick-change wizardry and multiple characters, Post enlisted the audience in a conspiracy of comedy by meeting them first as himself, in street clothes, improvising about Raton's two traffic lights and the altitude, for example. His banter gave the audience the sense that they were in on this with him. And then he took off.

As a cat burglar sneaking in the

dead of night, he encountered countless obstacles, including a watch dog (whose droppings caused more trouble than the dog did), a watch cat, and an infant in need of a diaper change.

Next, Post performed an extravagant modern dance in tango with his partner, a limber red union suit. He portrayed a harried office worker from his morning alarm to some trouble with his boss over an accounting error. He played a father teaching his teen-age son to drive, with a stick shift

on hills in traffic. He played all the characters in a murder mystery using many wigs and the single prop of a tall standing panel.

And that was all before the intermission.

Throughout the program, Post used slapstick, mime, and physical comedy to deliver characters and laughs. He can use his face alone to provoke sustained laughter. Add hats, wigs, a rubbery body and decades of honing his craft: his Raton audience

got 90 minutes of hilarity with a guy who knows he's the center of attention, but acts like it's their party. Half the fun is watching someone who is so good at what he does.

In the tight press of people exiting through the Shuler Theatre's twin doors after Sunday's show, one woman voiced the sentiments of many when she exclaimed, "I haven't laughed that much in ages."