

JOURNAL NORTH

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1998 5

# Veteran Maxwell Mayor Faces Write-In Challenger

By JEANNE JOHNSON  
Journal Staff Writer

Leroy Quintana has spent more than half his life as the mayor of Maxwell. He's hoping to keep that position with a win over write-in candidate Paul Cisneros in the March 3 election.

Two incumbents on the four-member village council also face challenges for their seats next Tuesday.

Quintana, 62, is serving his eighth four-year term as mayor and has brought a lot of changes to the village. He is semi-retired and teaches driver education in Raton.

During his 12 years as mayor, he has overseen the replacement of water lines and wells, the installation of new fire hydrants, the remodeling of the fire station and purchase of several trucks, the build-

ing of a village hall, the purchase of a senior citizens center and the paving of many of the village roads. He also was instrumental in getting 911 numbers assigned to residences.

Since 1982, Quintana and the village council have obtained about 14 grants to complete many of these projects. Some of the big-ticket items were paid for with Community Development Block Grants from the federal and state governments.

Despite all the work that's been done in the past, there is still much to be done, Quintana said.

"There are several projects I'd like to pursue," he said. "We need a new water system, a new gas system, a sewer pumping system for the north side of the village, a community center and a new building. I'd also like to budget for a magistrate judge

and an animal control officer."

Challenger Cisneros, 56, said it's time for a change in the leadership of Maxwell.

"I've been here a long time, and I have to say he's done a good job," said Cisneros, who retired from the Army and the coal mining business. "But I have the word 'I' before a lot of things."

"I have a council of people that represents the village, and they should be the deciding factor of what gets done. They should get the credit for what gets done—not just one person. I should know I used to serve on the village council. It's time for a change."

Both activities are the foundation for the platform on which Cisneros is running. "There is nothing for (young people) to do here, and it means nothing," he said. "We have a little over 400 people (total population) here and there's nothing for teens to

do in the summer except walk the streets. Somewhere, someone has to find something for them. We have to find funding for some kind of building and activities."

Some expansion of the village to the north has raised some other issues in the village—among them a lack of fire hydrants and sewer service in the newly expanded area, Cisneros said.

On the village council, incumbents Benito Fernandez and Henry Romero are being challenged by Ruth Fryer and Frank Gonzalez Jr., respectively.

Fernandez, 45, is retired from the state highway department and has served on the council for the past four years. He said some of his main concerns are the replacement of some gas sewer and water lines, the lack of a local landfill and the building

of a community center.

Romero is 60 years old and a lifetime resident of Maxwell. He is a retired farmer and state highway department employee.

His concerns include continuing improvements on village roads and the sewer and water systems.

Fryer, 67, works part-time at the post office and served on the council in Utape Mound for a short time. She said she's pleased with the progress that has been made on the village streets, but she's disappointed that sewer and water lines weren't replaced before the paving.

"Now they're going to have to tear up the beautiful new streets to put in the new lines," she said. Numerous attempts to reach Gonzalez were unsuccessful.



Barry Shea of New Braunfels, Texas, pushes his daughters, Ragan, left, 2, and Parker, 8, down a small hill at Patricia Smith Park in Santa Fe recently. The Shea family had been skiing at Angel Fire Ski Resort and stayed Santa Fe while on vacation.

## Streets Focus of Springer Election

By DALE LEVIN  
Journal Staff Writer

Candidates for mayor of Springer and two positions on the board of trustees, the city's governing body, pledge to continue with plans to build a new waste water treatment plant and continue paving city streets.

Other campaign issues include fighting rising crime.

Following is a look at Springer's political races leading up to Tuesday's election.

### Mayor

Mayor incumbent Danny Cruz is running for a second four-year term, in a race against challenger H.A. Williams. Williams is vacating his trustee seat to run for mayor.

Cruz has worked well with the trustees to make some improvements to the city, Williams said, but Springer needs a change in leadership.

Cruz attempts to take action without the board's approval, Williams said. He has fired or attempted to fire city police officers on several occasions, Williams added.

and get rid of the one we got," Williams said.

But Cruz said the mayor cannot act without a majority vote from the four-member board and can't fire officers without a unanimous vote from the trustees. The mayor votes only to break ties, Cruz added.

Three officers have been fired in the past three years, Cruz said. "You can't do things on your own without a majority vote of the trustees," Cruz said. "The mayor can't fire officers without a unanimous approval from the board."

If elected, Cruz pledges to continue paving city streets.

"Continuing that project is the biggest effort we're working on right now," Cruz said.

In the last four years, Springer has received \$1.5 million in federal and state money for street improvements, Cruz said.

### Board of Trustees

Candidates include Gerrit, Danny Montoya and Sonya Kied, a write-in candidate, are vying for two seats being vacated on the board. The trustee seat is elected at-large for four-year terms.

Improving the city's waste water

treatment plant is a top priority, the candidates say.

"One of the main issues is water and sewer," said Kied, a 33-year-old private home health care worker.

Construction is scheduled to begin on a new city-owned waste water plant in March.

"I'd like to continue improving the waste water system and streets," said Montoya, who works as a prevention specialist with the New Mexico National Guard, educating children about the dangers of crime, drugs and gangs. "I'm trying to get funding in federal grants for these projects."

Crime is another issue that must be addressed, Garcia said.

"We have to face the police issue," he said. "There seems that there might be a drug problem in town, seems to be crime attached to that or starting up."

Springer needs changes, Kied said. If elected, Kied pledges to have an open-door policy at city hall.

"I would be open to listen to everybody," Kied said. "There's never been a woman in the city council in Springer and it's time. We need a fresh, new start."

## AROUND NORTHERN N.M.

### Health Policy Draft Will Be Reviewed

Local health officials will get a chance to review a draft of Santa Fe County's health policy within the next few weeks, said Javier Gonzalez, chairman of the Santa Fe County Commission.

The Santa Fe County Medical Council and the county's DWI Council will review the draft policy to offer advice, Gonzalez said. Then other county health care providers will review it and the commission will consider adopting it, Gonzalez added.

The draft policy is an effort to improve health benefits for county residents, Gonzalez said. It proposes goals, such as improved health care for residents in rural areas, and suggests ways to achieve these goals.

"We want mobile units in communities," Gonzalez said. "It's difficult to drive into Santa Fe from rural areas."

Also, the draft policy suggests improving education about

health benefits available to residents through county aid programs.

"Many people are unaware of what health help is available to them," Gonzalez said.

### Well Water For Trampas Gets OK

TRAMPAS—Residents in 30 homes in this small community were running water on Friday when state inspectors approved the water quality of a supplemental well.

About 150 people were affected by the community's "well-less" ordeal of the past five weeks, said Leroy Lopez Sr., president of the Community Water Association. Trampas is about six miles southwest of Pecos.

Lopez said he was relieved when the inspectors found the well's water to be safe. "It's been tough going for the past five weeks since the well went dry on Jan. 11," he said. "We are really

grateful to the National Guard for all their help. I don't know what we would have done without them."

The Guard unit, based in Tera, delivered 600 gallons of water a day to the community during efforts to get the well back into service, said Sgt. First Class Francis Cervantes of the National Guard.

He said they delivered two large tanks, called "water buffaloes," to the community and kept them filled with a daily delivery by a water tanker.

Lopez said the supplemental well is 210 feet deep. The primary well is 75 feet deep. "We won't leave until the spring and better weather conditions make other clogged porches in the welling or a dip in the water table."

The supplemental well was dug last year because the community had been having problems with the primary well.

—KATHRYN HOLZKA

73 PONTIAC GRAND AM	1495	85 MAZDA REG	12995
83 CHEV 434 BLAZER	1995	87 VW GOLF LX	12495
88 BUICK TOPAL	2495	88 CHEV 434	13495
89 TOYOTA PROCEL	2395	88 BUICK LESABRE	14995
86 TOYOTA 4-DOOR 434	3750	88 SPARZI 434 IMPACT LX	15995
74 FORD LIN	1295	88 MAZDA 434 MPV	11995
81 BUICK 434 REBORN	5995	86 TOYOTA 434 EXT CAB V6	10995
84 TOYOTA PROCEL	4995	87 FORD 1300 DEL LASH W/SHOW WIN	20995
81 VOLVO 240	8995	88 VOLVO 850R EXTORION	25995
80 JIP 434 SAHARA EXTORION	8995	86 FORD 434 POWER STEERING DIESEL	26995
84 CHEV BLAZER	10995	87 CHEV 434 CHEV CAR DIESEL	30995
83 DODGE 434 CARABIN EXTORION	9995	80 BUICK 434	SAVE
84 FORD EXT CAB F150	10995		

OPEN SUNDAY!  
No Credit? First Time Buyers Welcome!

2704 Cerrillos Rd.  
Corner of Cerrillos & Camino Carlos Rey  
471-6700

**Santa Fe**  
Mazda Volvo Suzuki  
USED CARS



He still has his shoes. Put yourself in them.

Your contribution is urgently needed to help the victims of storms and other disasters get back on their feet.

**American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund and mail your financial contribution to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, D.C. 20013.

Call 1-800-HELP-NOW  
Spanish: 1-800-257-7575

Specify the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund for your credit card donation.

Right now, families torn apart by the storms and flooding need your help. Your contribution means the American Red Cross will be able to provide food, clothing and shelter to people desperately in need. When you donate to this and other disasters through the American Red Cross, 92% of every dollar spent is used directly to meet the basic needs of victims. Please call now. Because your help can't wait.

Call 1-800-HELP-NOW for credit card contributions or to pledge a donation. Or, send your check with the coupon. Internet users can make a secure online credit card contribution through the American Red Cross Web Site. See us at <http://www.redcross.org>