

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mitchell selected for Realtors leadership program

Sharon Bumpas Mitchell has been selected as a member of the 2007 class of the Realtors Association of New Mexico's prestigious LeadershipRANM program.

The association seeks to identify and equip local Realtors for future leadership positions within the organization and the community through its LeadershipRANM.

Participation in the program is limited to a maximum of 14 Realtors each year.

Mitchell is owner-broker of High County Real Estate services in Taos. She is a registered

appraiser, as well as a qualifying broker at High County Real Estate Services.

Prior to earning her real estate license in 2003, Mitchell worked for Philip Morris, Times Mirror Corp./Dallas Times Herald, and was owner of Bumpas Associates, a contract office and home furnishings dealer.

Since moving to Taos, the Texas native has been active in the Taos County Chamber of Commerce, Taos Milagro Rotary Club, Taos Center for the Arts and other community organizations.

Casias finds 'Comfort' zone

Raylene Casias has been promoted to general manager of the Comfort Suites in Taos.

Casias, who began a sales associate at the Sagebrush Inn Conference Center in July 2002, took over the position of general manager at Comfort Suites on Jan. 1.

Kenneth Blair, who owns the two Taos hotels, said "Raylene is highly capable and a real asset to our organization. We wish her the best in her new position."

Casias grew up in Taos, and is a graduate of Taos High School. She is the mother of three daughters, one of whom attends the middle school and the other two girls attend Taos High School.

Quality New Mexico plans conference

Online registration is now available for the 2007 Quality

New Mexico Conference and New Mexico Quality Awards Ceremony.

The conference workshops and seminars addressing best practices for government, nonprofit organizations, and small and large businesses will be held in Albuquerque on March 8 and 9.

Quality New Mexico training has been called the best in professional and organizational development training.

Best-selling author Alan Hobson, who has climbed Mount Everest and survived cancer, will be the keynote speaker on March 8.

For more information, call (505) 944-2001 or go online to www.qualitynewmexico.org.

— Staff report

CHINA

Teaching inspired her

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artwork was noticed and she was invited to teach calligraphy at UNM-Taos. She discovered that teaching college students inspired her in a way that she had not experienced or expected. Soon she was also teaching Chinese language and Tai Ji/Qi Gong. She had students telling her that she was the first Chinese person they had ever met. Within three years, she had led her first group of UNM-Taos stu-

visit China, UNM-Taos students may travel to Spain, Belize, Mexico, Peru, Chile and parts of Europe. It is Huang's goal to establish and cultivate these international programs and then step aside and allow others to continue the growth. For Huang, the entire operation is about balance: preserving the integrity and truth of one's own culture while stepping out as a citizen of the world and learning about other cultures; synthesizing the knowledge and experience of the East and the West; and on a personal level, making a connection between her homeland and her adopted

The UNM-Taos International Programs Fair will be held on the Chinese New Year (Year of the Boar) on Feb. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Rio Grande Room at the Taos Convention Center, featuring community artists, music, refreshments and a parade

to benefit the International Programs Scholarship Fund to raise money for UNM-Taos students to study abroad this spring in Chile, Spain and China. Call Pearl Huang, (505) 776-5126; or e-mail: huang@ruyistudio.com.

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Samsung reach price-fixing settlements

Staff report

Samsung Semiconductor, Inc., and Samsung Electronics Company Ltd., reached a \$90 million nationwide settlement of allegations that Samsung and other major computer chip manufacturers fixed prices of Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) in sales from 1997 through 2002.

The settlement is paid in restitution to consumers and certain governmental agencies that paid more for computers, servers and other electronic devices during the period in question.

"This settlement should send a strong message to the industry that such behavior is not going to be tolerated," said New Mexico Attorney General Gary King in a Feb. 6 statement. "The case is far from over," King added.

New Mexico, along with other states and private classes, continues to pursue the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in San Francisco, seek-

ing damages and civil penalties for a higher price-fixing program involving more companies in suits including Infineon, Vitelec, and Settler reimbursements to \$1 million. New Mexico share of the determination. Other in the law Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Carolina, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

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Colby L. King

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