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JUNE 13, 2024

## River Rescue Team Patrols Rio Grande

*Patrols will continue through mid-June*

By Sandoval Signpost staff

With the weather warming and heavy rains falling, the Rio Grande is a popular destination for swimmers, kayakers and boaters.

The Rio Grande Basin Heavy Technical Rescue Team is conducting weekend patrols on the Rio Grande between Algodones, through Bernalillo, down to Alameda Boulevard. The patrols allow for quick response for water rescues, especially after a heavy weekend rain. The rescue team includes firefighters with advanced training in water and mountain rescues from Sandoval County, Rio Rancho and Corrales fire departments. The patrols also allow for training for the team.

“RGBTRT and other area firefighters work together in emergency situations, with life-or-death outcomes. These training drills increase our technical skills. This benefits everyone when a real emergency presents itself,” said Sandoval County Fire and Rescue (SCFR) Battalion Chief Adam Quinn in a press release.

According to SCFR, the river is now experiencing snow melt and is flowing at 2400 cubic feet per second, which means there is a lot of swift-moving debris and severely undercut river banks.

**Read the full story at**  
**sandovalsignpost.com**

## Aging Pipeline in Placitas Gets Repairs



Tex-New Mex pipeline signs in Placitas. (Jesse Jones /Sandoval Signpost)

### Residents worry about the six-decade-old crude oil pipeline

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

Placitas residents, represented by the Las Placitas Association (LPA), have longstanding concerns about an aging crude oil pipeline running through their community. Recent repairs have sparked renewed anxiety over safety and environmental risks.

The 66-year-old Tex-New Mex crude oil pipeline is owned by MPLX, a company formed by Marathon Petroleum Corporation that operates energy infrastructure and provides fuel distribution services. The Tex-New Mex is one of five pipelines crisscrossing Las Huertas Creek in Placitas.

“MPLX is replacing segments of its Tex-New Mex pipeline as part of its proactive long-term integrity management program,” MPLX said in an email. “This program is

preventive in nature and is designed to address long-term pipeline integrity needs. There have been no problems or leaks on the segments of the pipeline we are replacing.”

As of 2017, the pipeline was transporting about 4.2 million gallons of crude oil per day, equivalent to about 100,000 barrels — each barrel containing 42 gallons.

Community members are increasingly alarmed by the aging pipeline’s proximity to residential areas and community buildings built after the pipeline was installed, such as the senior center and the elementary school in Placitas.

LPA leaders say the group worries about potential leaks and spills that could lead to environmental hazards. Despite the oil company’s repairs, the group is seeking increased transparency and is advocating for the pipeline’s relocation.

“Ultimately, what we’d like to do is get all of (the pipeline) in the creek moved over to the Buffalo Tract, to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, because there’s no houses or anything going on there for at least 50 years because it just got withdrawn,” said David Haigh, vice president of LPA.

### Pipeline history

The same year Sputnik was reentering the atmosphere and Nikita Khrushchev became the head of the USSR, the Texas-New Mexico Pipe Line Company completed a pipeline that ran diagonally across New Mexico, from the Aneth and San Juan Basin oil fields in the four corners to southeastern New Mexico where oil was moved through other pipelines to Gulf Coast refineries.

The 16-inch Tex-New Mex crude oil pipeline traverses the interstate north of Bernalillo and cuts through Placitas en route to the La Huerta community, passing beneath homes, the school and the senior center before reaching the pumping station. From there, it zigzags along Las Huertas Road and Creek, crossing over the Montezuma crest into the Estancia Valley and onward to the oil fields of southeastern New Mexico.

A 2018 *Signpost* article highlighted the 60th anniversary of the pipeline, shedding light on its history and the numerous changes in ownership over the years.

One constant, however, was the pipeline itself. It was constructed using an outdated method called low-frequency electric-resistance welding, which has since become obsolete. Prevalent from the 1920s to 1970, the technique involved

— See PIPELINE on page 4

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6 Ga. 72" x 20' - 2"x4" rect. Horse Panel

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**New Mexico Owned.**

**STAFF & CONTRIBUTORS:**

**Admin:**

**Pat Davis**

Owner & Publisher  
[pat@newmexico.news](mailto:pat@newmexico.news)

**Tierna Unruh-Enos**

Managing Editor  
[tierna@newmexico.news](mailto:tierna@newmexico.news)

**Editorial:**

**Michael Hodock**

Reporter  
[michael@sandovalsignpost.com](mailto:michael@sandovalsignpost.com)

**Jesse Jones**

Reporter  
[jesse@sandovalsignpost.com](mailto:jesse@sandovalsignpost.com)

**Bethany Raja**

Reporter  
[bethany@newmexico.news](mailto:bethany@newmexico.news)

**Sales:**

**Chiara Sullivan**

Sales Executive  
[chiara@abq.news](mailto:chiara@abq.news)

**Production:**

**Rachel Mills**

Art Director

**Jordan Bourne**

Digital Engagement Manager

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# Meetings Schedule

**SANDOVAL COUNTY**

To view the agendas for upcoming meetings and read past meeting minutes, visit [sandovalcountynm.gov/commission/sccmeetings/](http://sandovalcountynm.gov/commission/sccmeetings/)

*City Council Regular Meeting*

*June 27, 6 p.m.*

*Rio Rancho City Hall*

*County Commission*

*June 26, 6 p.m.*

*Sandoval County Chambers*

*1500 Idalia Rd., Building D*

**RIO RANCHO**

To view the agendas for upcoming meetings and read past meeting minutes, visit [rrnm.gov/2303/Watch-and-Download-City-Meetings](http://rrnm.gov/2303/Watch-and-Download-City-Meetings)

**BERNALILLO**

To view the agendas for upcoming meetings and read past meeting minutes, visit [tobnm.gov/government/town\\_council/agendas\\_and\\_minutes.php](http://tobnm.gov/government/town_council/agendas_and_minutes.php)

*Town Council*

*June 24, 6:30 p.m.*

*Bernalillo Town Hall*

*Parks and Recreation Commission*

*June 17, 6 p.m.*

*Rio Rancho City Hall*

*City Council Working Meeting*

*June 27, 6 p.m.*

*Rio Rancho City Hall*

**VILLAGE OF JEMEZ SPRINGS**

To view the agendas for upcoming meetings and read past meeting minutes, visit [jemezsprings-nm.gov/meetings/](http://jemezsprings-nm.gov/meetings/)

*Village Council*

*June 18, 6 p.m.*

*Village Admin Office*

**community public radio**



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## — PIPELINE from page1

shaping flat steel into a cylinder and using a low-frequency electric current to heat and weld the seam.

In 2013, a 65-year-old ExxonMobil pipeline constructed using that welding method ruptured, flooding a neighborhood in Mayflower, Arkansas, with an estimated 210,000 gallons of crude oil. The rupture was attributed to a hook crack within the weld zones, a flaw characteristic of that welding technique. This type of crack curves toward either the interior or exterior surface of the pipeline, compromising its integrity and resulting in the catastrophic failure.

“If there ever turned out to be a fracture or a crack, it’s not going to explode but it would be an ecological disaster if you get crude oil pumping all over everybody’s yard,” Haigh said. “Eventually it would work its way down into the water table and then everybody who’s on wells up there would be out of luck.”

### Changing hands

In 2015, Western Refining, Inc. acquired the pipeline, originally owned by Giant Industries, for \$1.2 billion. Western Refining restored

the pipeline at an estimated cost of \$30 million.

Western was then sold to Texas-based oil and gas company Andeavor in 2017 for \$5.8 billion and in 2018, Andeavor was sold to Ohio-based Marathon Petroleum Corp. for \$23.3 billion, according to the *El Paso Times*.

According to Haigh, LPA first became involved with the pipeline issue when the group learned that the BLM district office in Farmington had approved reactivating and increasing the flow to the pipeline after it had been idle for 20 years. This development prompted the group to organize and address the potential risks associated with the pipeline’s reactivation.

“It just seems like it’s an accident waiting to happen,” he said.

The main area of concern in Placitas is a 5,000-foot section of pipeline corridor that runs along and beneath the streambed, passing through residential areas on either side of the Camino de las Huertas crossing. This normally dry streambed drains a watershed estimated to cover 25-30 square miles, including the northeast side of the Sandia Mountains.

During large rainstorms, water

flow can erode the soil and expose the pipes. Additionally, boulders and debris from the mountains can be carried by the heavy rain, potentially damaging the exposed pipes.

A 2006 flash flood ripped out the Camino de las Huertas crossing and left a boulder atop a stretch of exposed pipeline once buried to a depth of 6 feet or more.

A 2010 engineering study, cited during an inspection of the creek attended by residents, activists, federal inspectors, state and county officials and representatives of the pipeline companies, projected that erosion would likely cause the streambed to drop by 6 feet by 2040.

According to MPLX, the company performs comprehensive preventive maintenance, that goes “above and beyond state and federal regulations” and includes regular on-foot pipeline surveys, aerial surveys, examining the inside of pipelines with in-line inspection tools and soil erosion repairs as needed.

### Community asks

The LPA wants three major changes regarding the pipeline, according to Joan Fenicle, the group’s treasurer.

First, they want community oversight and transparency about any repair work on the pipelines in the creek.

According to the email from MPLX, “As a matter of practice, we communicate regularly with landowners along our right of way, keeping them informed about pipeline maintenance activities. In Placitas, this has included providing information about the current pipeline replacement project. Our engagement typically entails letters, phone calls and for those landowners who have been interested in learning more about the project, we have been happy to have face-to-face meetings.”

Fenicle said the company reported to the Bureau of Reclamation that it completed remedial work in the creek following a major flood a few years ago. In the LPA’s opinion, the work was significant and should have required a permit from the bureau, as it involved running heavy equipment up and down the creek bed.

“They ripped out trees. They hauled in truckloads of big boulders and dumped in the creek bed which was destructive to the ecology of the creek,” Fenicle said.

Second, they want double-walled pipelines installed on the entire length of the corridor in Placitas to replace obsolete single-walled pipes.

“If they’re only replacing sections... it’s kind of like putting a Band-Aid on a gash head wound,” Haigh said. “They’ll fix a spot here, and it’ll break somewhere else because it will go to the next weakest link in the pipeline.”

The third request is to relocate the entire pipeline corridor north to the Buffalo Tract area on BLM land, but that proposal has garnered concerns in the past for different reasons.

The 2018 *Signpost* article reported that environmental activist Elaine Cimino of Common Ground Rising cautioned against targeting the Buffalo Tract, to which both Santa Ana and San Felipe pueblos have staked claims, without first engaging the tribal governments.

“We don’t want to push our problem out onto cultural-resource lands,” she said. “This is a big concern here.”

The LPA also sought information on the locations of the two shutoff valves in case of an emergency. However, the companies refused to disclose this information, citing national security concerns related to potential environmental sabotage.

To learn more or get involved, visit the LPA website at [lasplacitas.org](http://lasplacitas.org).



## Sandia Chill Sunday Concert

### June 23, 2024

### Mama Sang the Blues

**7–8:30** Joanie Cere, Hillary Smith, Zenobia & Friends

Benefits: Rebuilding Together Sandoval Co.

**Where:** Placitas Homestead Village, 221 Hwy 165  
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[CanyonBluesandJazz.org](http://CanyonBluesandJazz.org)

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# 'It Brings Everybody Together'

## *Bernalillo school highlights music, dance, art and community traditions*

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

Last month, just before school let out, Carroll Elementary School in Bernalillo came alive with vibrant sights and sounds for its annual Cultural Day. The event brought together students, teachers and the community to celebrate diverse cultures through music, dance and art.

For over a decade, Cultural Day has been a tradition at the school, celebrating the community's heritage. This year's event, held in the school's kinder courtyard on May 10, featured performances ranging from traditional Peruvian dances to a song in Filipino. Beyond being a fun event for the students, Cultural Day aims to educate the community about various cultures.

"What makes our Cultural Day so special, is it brings everybody together and everybody's involved," Alicia Maestas, kindergarten dual language teacher said.

During Cultural Day, students share their heritage and celebrate diverse cultures both locally and globally. This event educates the community about different cultures while nurturing awareness and pride among the students.

In addition to the children's performances, the festivities featured authentic dancers and musicians. Los Matachines de Bernalillo involved students in their dances, teaching them the rich stories and histories conveyed through this form of religious dance. Additionally, a mariachi band performed, playing songs for the students.

The teachers of each class choose which culture their students will

celebrate and learn about. Leading up to Cultural Day, each class spends time exploring the cultures and traditions of their chosen places. Parents helped to make costumes with the students.

Maestas said her class did a Peruvian dance, so they got to learn about Peruvian culture. They learned that on Aug. 1 each year, Peruvians celebrate llamas, decorating and dressing them up in bright colors.

"I had them make a little llama and then decorated the llama, dressed him up and then we wrote about it a little bit," Maestas said.

The class performances were diverse and vibrant: one class performed a Spanish dance, others showcased Mexican baile folklórico dances, and some did a pueblo dance. Popular American songs and dances, such as the Cha Cha Slide and the Cupid Shuffle, were also included.

"(The students) love it," Maestas said. "They love to practice, they love to sing and they love to dance."

"It really feels like it brings the whole school together," Maestas said.

The spirit of celebration and cultural pride extends beyond the school.

Much like Cultural Day, Las Fiestas de San Lorenzo is held each year to honor Bernalillo's patron saint, San Lorenzo. The three days of festivities include traditional dances by Los Matachines, which bring together people of all ages and the students to celebrate their shared heritage and traditions.

The 331st annual Las Fiestas de San Lorenzo will be held Aug. 9-11 at Rotary Park.



(Source: Joseph A.J. Moreno)

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# Ambulance Services for Some in NM Will Rise After State Regulators Approve Rate Increase

*Patients on Medicaid or Medicare will not see rate increase*

**AP** By Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — Ambulance rates will rise for some in New Mexico, particularly those without health insurance after state regulators approved a rate hike for a Presbyterian-affiliated nonprofit ambulance company. The Santa Fe New Mexican reported that Albuquerque Ambulance Service cited rising labor costs and inflation when it applied for the rate increase that resulted in 65% in service rate increases and 15% in mileage rate increases. It had initially applied for much higher increases.

Patients on Medicaid or Medicare, which make up about 77% of the patients that use Albuquerque Ambulance Service, will not see a



(Source: Wikimedia Commons)

rate increase, along with those on veterans health benefits, according to the New Mexican.

The patients most affected are those without health insurance, which makes up approximately 7% of the company's patients, according

to the New Mexican.

Health care spending in the United States has more than doubled in the past two decades, reaching \$4.5 trillion in 2022, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Albuquerque Ambulance Service operates nearly 100,000 transports annually in the counties with Albuquerque and Santa Fe, along with Sandoval and Rio Arriba counties, according to the New Mexican.

## Sandoval County Sees Big Economic Growth

*State reports construction industry is booming*

By Sandoval Signpost staff

The New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD) released its quarterly report for the state's 33 counties this week, highlighting significant growth in Sandoval County.

The data for the report is based on matched taxable gross receipts (MTGR). The good news for Sandoval County? The county's gross receipts tax increased by \$42.2 million from the first quarter of the fiscal year to the second quarter. The construction industry in the county was the largest contributor to the increase. The report shows that construction, retail trade, and accommodation and food services are the top three contributing industries.

The second quarter economic report for the county shows an MTGR of \$408,541,871 from construction, which had a \$126,010,754, or 45%, increase from this time last year. Retail jumped to over \$209 million and accommodation (hotels) and food services added over \$61 million.

The EDD releases the county's quarterly economic reports as the newest MTGR is made available. Gross receipts revenue directly impacts a community's capacity to provide services and understand spending trends around the state.

EDD has been publishing the data since May 2020.

"It is important to understand the economic dynamics of each New Mexico county and each industry sector to make informed policy decisions," EDD Acting Cabinet Secretary Mark Roper said in a press release.

In addition to gross receipts reports increasing, the state reported Sandoval County had a 6.8% increase in employment. The downside is that the EDD reports that average wages are down by an average of \$2 per hour in Sandoval County for the second quarter.

The county's employment data is based on information reported by employers, covering 97% of nonfarm wage and salary workers.



A crane looms over construction at the Rio Rancho Intel campus, Jan. 2024 (Credit: Intel)

### How's New Mexico doing?

The EDD issues the county quarterly economic report as the newest gross receipts tax data is made available. Gross receipts revenue directly impacts a community's capacity to provide services and understand spending trends around the state.

Overall, New Mexico statewide had an increase of over 5% in gross receipts taxes for the second quarter

at \$25 billion for the second quarter of fiscal year 2024 — October, November, and December 2023. It's the second-highest level ever reported. Over the last eight quarters, EDD reports that the state has maintained an upward trend.

The largest industry of statewide MTGR growth was the retail industry, and the largest year-over-year increase came from the construction industry which has grown by 19%.



# One in 10 Democratic Primary Voters in NM Chose 'Uncommitted' Instead of Joe Biden

*Twice as many voters chose 'Uncommitted' since 2020 amid campaign to end Biden's support of Israel*



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By Austin Fisher and Patrick Lohmann, Source NM

After nearly 13,000 people voted "Uncommitted" in New Mexico's Democratic primary election, campaign organizers expressed gratitude for being able to feel empowered and in community with each other eight months into Israel's war on Gaza.

As a protest vote to convince President Joe Biden to stop supporting the war, as many as 12,852 registered Democrats in Tuesday's primary chose "Uncommitted" as their preference for president, according to the unofficial results from the Secretary of State's Office.

Uncommitted New Mexican voters accounted for 10% of all Democratic ballots cast in the primary, with Marianne Williamson getting 7% and presumptive nominee Biden winning with the remaining 84% of the statewide tally.

Vote Uncommitted New Mexico Organizer Rhi Mauldin said the Democratic Party's base "have heard the devastated cries, we have seen the horrific violence, and we have seen our leaders ignore genocide."

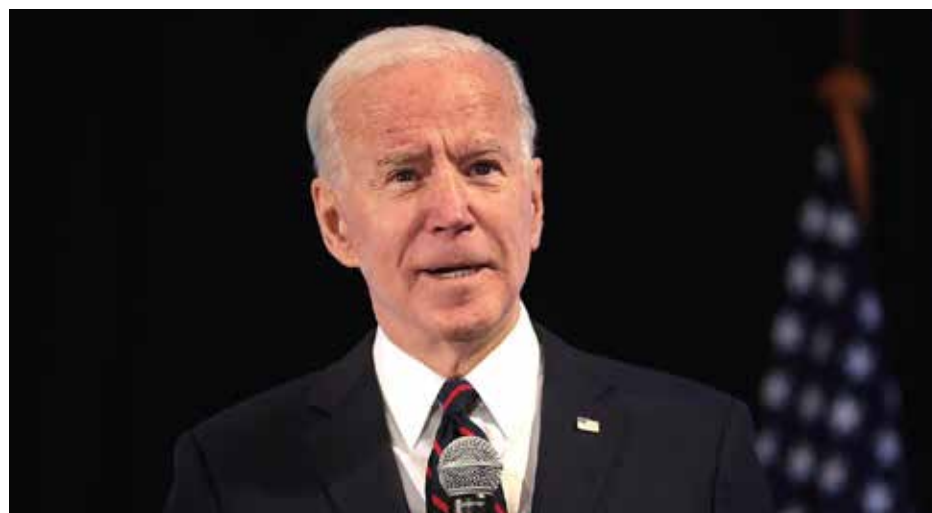
"We have now sent a message so loud that the Democratic Party cannot, and should not, ignore us," Mauldin said.

Just 3% of Democratic voters (about 6,500 in total) chose "Uncommitted" in the presidential primary in 2020.

Organizer Sayrah Namaste said the group feels good about the results because "we were a mostly unfunded, totally grassroots, small group of volunteers."

"It was this really beautiful, horizontal, decentralized but really well structured group," Namaste said.

New Mexico's primary was one of the last among the 25 states and territories where voters can fill out a ballot option other than the parties' nominees, be counted in the actual national party results, and not get discarded.



(Source: Wikimedia Commons)

Also on Tuesday, 40,000 people in New Jersey voted Uncommitted and more than 9,000 people in Montana voted "no preference." South Dakota and Washington D.C. also held primaries on Tuesday but neither of those jurisdictions allow someone to pick "Uncommitted" and have their ballot counted.

Democratic Party of New Mexico spokesperson Daniel Garcia said voters "have every right" to use their vote to send a message.

"We're not perturbed by Uncommitted voters at all. We're happy to see New Mexicans participate in the primary and exercise their fundamental right to vote," Garcia said.

Now that the primary is over, DPNM leadership will be going across the state to organize Democrats who are interested in participating in the Democratic National Convention, he said.

There will be conventions at the county, congressional district and statewide levels, he said. It's unclear at this time if these meetings will be open to the public or press.

The Uncommitted campaign did not manage to reach 15% of the statewide total, which is required for candidates to qualify for any statewide delegates at the DNC, according to the national party's rules.

Any presidential preference which reaches 15% of the total votes in a given congressional district can also send delegates to the DNC.

A spokesperson for the Secretary of State's Office said they do not track the presidential primary results broken down by congressional districts, though a *Source New Mexico* review confirmed that "Uncommitted" did not meet the 15% threshold in the three districts.

Still, a review of precinct-level data showed "Uncommitted" votes comprising a sizeable portion of Democratic vote totals all across the state, in the middle of big cities and in

sprawling, rural precincts with a few dozen voters.

In two small precincts in Eddy and Chaves counties in southeastern New Mexico, for example, 16 of 30 voters (or 53%) voted "Uncommitted."

In 252 precincts in 28 counties statewide, more than 15% of voters chose "Uncommitted," according to a *Source NM* review. There are 2,169 precincts in the state.

Even though the Uncommitted movement didn't have the capacity to be on the ground in every county, there were rural parts of New Mexico where Uncommitted had support, Namaste said. She pointed to De Baca County, where Uncommitted made up 23% of the Democratic primary vote, according to the unofficial returns from the secretary of state.

## 'Unconscionable that we vote for Biden anyway'

Namaste said the campaign organizers felt like they mobilized people who were not going to vote in the primary to do so, and we heard the same sentiment from multiple voters.

"So many people are not happy with the choices, and Uncommitted gave them a way to participate, to speak up, to have another strategy about how to oppose the war," Namaste said.

Dair Obenshain, who lives in the South Valley, said their main reason for voting on Tuesday was to cast an Uncommitted vote.

"I think it's just unconscionable that we just vote for Biden anyway, just as an alternative to Trump," Obenshain said.

Lily Rich, a 19-year-old student researcher from Albuquerque and a registered independent, said she hadn't heard of the Uncommitted campaign but said "that's the option that a lot of people want: someone that's not either of them."

Obenshain said they heard about Uncommitted from attending protests in support of Palestinians at the

University of New Mexico and from *Source New Mexico's* coverage.

"We've got to do something, and the Democratic Party is not standing up to do it," Obenshain said. "There are individuals who are, but to know that our tax dollars are used in actively killing children, it's too much."

## No longer satisfied with 'lesser of two evils'

Organizer Jane Yee said grassroots organizing is the key to their movement, especially how they mobilized working people, queer activists, and people of color.

"It was young people and people of color that got Biden into the White House; if he doesn't listen to the constituency that elected him, he risks losing in November," Yee said. "Our communities are insisting that their message of hope, morality and decolonization must be heeded; we are no longer satisfied to simply vote for the 'lesser of two evils.'"

Garcia said the party is confident New Mexican voters will support Biden's "record of job creation and commitment to protecting reproductive rights over convicted criminal Donald Trump" in November.

The campaign's first public announcement was specific to point out that Biden ending his unconditional support for what Israel is doing would make a "stronger Party for victory over Trump in November."

"We're not trying to help get Trump elected. We know that he is pro-genocide," Namaste said on Thursday. A Republican congressman from her home state suggested bombing Gaza with nuclear weapons in March, she added.

Garcia said the party is also confident there will be high turnout among Democrats in the general election, and that Republicans will face challenges getting out the vote. He pointed to Trump's losses in New Mexico in 2016 and 2020.

"New Mexico Democrats are ready to do our part once again to keep him out of the White House," he said.

Palestinian-American Uncommitted organizer Leila Salim said Palestinians aren't giving up, so they aren't either.

"Our campaign, our movement does not end here; we will continue to mobilize voters to fight for an end to U.S. weapons going to Israel and an end to the U.S. blocking diplomatic efforts at the United Nations and the International Criminal Court," Salim said.

Reporter Danielle Prokop contributed reporting to this story.



## Another Non Event High-Profile Felony Conviction

The President's son, Hunter Biden, was convicted this week on three federal charges stemming from a 2018 handgun purchase where he was found to have lied on his application to purchase the firearm.

Pretty much what we learned from the trial and speedy verdict is that Hunter Biden is a mess. There was very little meat to the trial, to the point that MAGA-world is responding with "YAWN," and fellow-newly-convicted-felon Donald Trump is calling the trial a "distraction" from the "real crimes" of the family.

Like Trump's detractors, the anti-Biden contingent is out for blood. With Hunter Biden's Federal trial in Delaware, much like Trump's Stormy Daniels trial, what they got was "meh." Yes, lives of men with too much money and influence get messy. One-night stands with porn stars; affairs with your brother's widow. Laundering hush money payments to the porn star from your presidential campaign account; a pesky crack habit.

Commentary



Merritt Hamilton Allen

On one hand, Donald Trump is not an addict. On the other, Hunter Biden is not the President nor is he running for that office. All in all, it's just sordid, and neither of these cases would have likely seen a criminal trial if the defendants were not who they are.

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland published an op-ed in the *Washington Post* the same day as the Hunter Biden verdict describing some of the death threats, bombing threats, and other love notes he and the Department of Justice are receiving.

In the piece, Garland cites the *Principles of Federal Prosecution* he helped to draft some 45 years ago. Those *Principles* were developed in response to the Watergate scandal to protect against undue political influence in DOJ's pursuit of the law – in other words, to prevent the President who appoints the Attorney General from exploiting the Attorney General to subvert the law in the President's favor.

This is an important cornerstone of our nation: that no one, including the Commander in Chief, be above the law. If you feel otherwise, I suggest you consider emigrating to Russia, China, Iran, Venezuela, North Korea, or Syria and trying out autocracy for

a couple years, because that's what it means to have the law subordinate to the ruling class. The downside is your departure from any of those dictatorships will be much more difficult than your arrival.

I'm neither sorry that Donald Trump's and Hunter Biden's dirty laundry has been aired at trial nor am I elated at their convictions. Both cases simply show how depraved our elites are and how complacent regular Americans are about it.

I will continue to support our law enforcement system and those who work in it. I denounce those who call for defunding the police from one side of the political spectrum or the Department of Justice from the other. When it comes to dealing with the most serious of crimes gripping our country – the proliferation of cheap opioids like fentanyl, gun violence, human trafficking – we need our local police and prosecutors as well as our Federal agencies to keep up their hard work and cooperation to fight these growing threats. Suggesting the elimination of any element is ignorant and reckless.

As far as I am concerned, the flurry of trials demonstrates that everyone has gotten what they wanted. The left wanted a Trump conviction and got it;

unfortunately, it wasn't over any of the serious contraventions to democracy that unfolded after the 2020 election. The far right feels there must be a quid pro quo: if our guy is dirty, yours must be too (so far, the closest they can get is a child who doesn't like to pay his taxes, likes guns a little and crack too much).

I will get hate mail here for not hating Trump enough and the MAGA crowd will lambaste me with the usual conspiracy links since I am not holding forth on the Bidens and Ukraine.

Here's the thing. Our country was not made better by the Manhattan DA last month, nor was it in a Delaware Federal courthouse this week. These are not serious crimes. All we have to show for the breathless media coverage of these two trials is confirmation that Donald Trump and Hunter Biden share one common bond: sleaze.

Merritt Hamilton Allen is a PR executive and former Navy officer. She appeared regularly as a panelist on NM PBS and is a frequent guest on News Radio KKOB. A Republican, she lives amicably with her Democratic husband north of I-40 where they run one head of dog, and two of cat. She can be reached at [news.ind.merritt@gmail.com](mailto:news.ind.merritt@gmail.com).





The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Nile vipers

5 Race segment

9 Ladybug's array

14 Enticement

15 Idris of "Luther"

16 Tiny South Pacific nation

17 Pine or spruce

19 Mink's cousin

20 Uncheck, say

21 Sour

22 Lightbulb measure

23 Plumped-up fowl

24 Despondent

27 Funhouse item

29 Spiritual leader

32 Like a smart kid

34 Grabber in an arcade game

35 Turbine part

36 Let go

37 Indian yogurt dip

38 "You got that right!"

39 Charles Ingalls was one

41 Football gain

42 In a class by

43 "Later"

44 Full of gooey dirt

46 Wacko

48 Trite remark

50 Angry letters

54 Gossipmonger

55 Lowest female voice

56 Nasty look

57 Fairy tale starter

58 Footfall

59 Lincoln's in-laws

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60 Miller, for one

61 Pitcher's target

DOWN

1 Sacked out

2 Hold on to

3 Facefuls in slapstick

4 Spread around

5 Religious dissenter

6 Power source

7 Be an accessory to

8 Go for the bronze?

9 Rapper pal to Martha

10 "Adam-12" ride

11 In a risky situation

12 Uno y dos

13 "Why not?!"

18 Alluring beauty

21 Neighbor of Earth

23 Expression

24 Waterfall effect

25 Scent

26 Keeping at it

28 Makes like a lion

30 Word after "ahoy"

31 In the loop

33 Led an orchestra

37 Roof support

39 Water barrier

40 Move like a butterfly

45 Burns a bit

47 Huge hit

48 Abnormal sac

49 Former NBC host

50 Sharpen, as skills

51 High in the Andes

52 List entry

53 Easy stride

55 Corn core

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF SANDOVAL  
THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
SOLEDAD ELLIOTT, deceased.  
FILED  
13th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
Sandoval County 5/13/2024 12:34 PM AUDREY GARCIA CLERK OF  
THE COURT Patricia Trujillo  
D-1329-PB-2024-00047  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MICHELLE MCPHERSON has  
been appointed as Personal Representative of the Estate of SOLEDAD  
ELLIOTT, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate are re-  
quired to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the  
first publication of this Notice or the claims will forever be barred. Claims  
must either be presented to the Personal Representative, c/o Weed Law  
Firm, LLC, 1171 Montoya Road, Suite A., Bernalillo, NM 87004, or filed  
with the Thirteenth Judicial District Court located at 1500 Idalia Road,  
Bernalillo, NM 87004.  
Dated: May 13, 2024

Respectfully submitted:  
WEED LAW FIRM, LLC  
/s/ Kyle McConnell  
Kyle McConnell  
Attorney for Personal Representative 1171 Montoya Road Suite A  
Bernalillo, NM 87004  
Phone: (505) 771-3544  
Kyle.McConnell@Weedlawfirmllc.com

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## EVENTS

### FRIDAY, JUNE 14

#### Comedy

Bobcat Goldthwait \$30-\$40 9:30-11 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

Bobcat Goldthwait \$30-\$40 7-8:30 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

#### Dance

Flamenco D'Aki 6:30-8:30 pm Kaktus Brewing Co. 471 South Hill, Bernalillo

#### Exhibit

Placitas Wild Hearts Gallery presents Painting Artist Colleen Gregoire: "Upon Further Reflection" Reception 10 am-4 pm Wild Hearts Gallery 221 B Hwy. 165, Placitas

#### Music

Coalesce Blue 7-9 pm Casa Vieja Brewery 4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales

Duke City Swampcoolers 7-9 pm The Range Cafe 925 S Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

Shine Sweet Moon 5-8 pm Jemez Mountain Brewhouse 17691 NM-4, Jemez Springs

Summer Sunset Escape Party 7-10 pm Tractor Brewing Westside 5720 McMahon Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

### SATURDAY, JUNE 15

#### Class / Workshop

Class: Blacksmithing Basics \$149 9:30 am-1:30 pm Casa San Ysidro 973 Old Church Rd., Corrales

#### Comedy

Bobcat Goldthwait \$30-\$40 9:30-11 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

Bobcat Goldthwait \$30-\$40 7-8:30 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

#### Family/Kids

Ranger Read and Learn 10 am-12 pm Martha Liebert Public Library 124 Calle Malinche, Bernalillo

#### Markets

Cabezon Park's Shop Local Market 10 am-3 pm Cabezon Community Center and Park 2307 Cabezon Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

#### Miscellaneous

Mopar Muscle Club on NM Mopar Fest 7 am-4 pm Haynes Park 2006 Grande Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

#### Music

CS Rock Show 7-9 pm Casa Vieja Brewery 4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales

Emo Nite Live - Live Band Karaoke 6-10 pm Brew Lab 101 3301 Southern Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

Farm House Ale Country Music & Blues Festival \$15 12-6 pm Loretto Park in Bernalillo 237 South Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo , Bernalillo

Joe Daddy Warner & Friends 12-3 pm Kaktus Brewing Co. 471 South Hill, Bernalillo

Mad Hatters 7-9 pm The Range Cafe 925 S Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

Saturday Night Barn Dance w/ The Dust Devils 6-9 pm Kaktus Brewing Co. 471 South Hill, Bernalillo

Su Nami & The Sirens 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing Westside 5720 McMahon Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

#### Sports

Duke City Gladiators vs. Vegas Knight Hawks \$18-\$53 6-8:30 pm Rio Rancho Events Center 3001 Civic Center Cir NE, Rio Rancho

### SUNDAY, JUNE 16

#### Community

Funday at Gisewa \$7 11 am-2 pm Jemez Historic Site 18160 Hwy. 4, Jemez Springs

#### Food

Corrales Growers' Market 9:30 am-12 pm Corrales Parks & Recreation 500 Jones Rd., Corrales

The Cookout Juneteenth Day Party \$20 3-11 pm The Salt Yard - West 3700 Ellison Drive Northwest, Albuquerque

#### Music

Farm House Ale Country Music & Blues Festival \$15 12-6 pm Loretto Park in Bernalillo 237 South Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

Jukebox Junkies 5-8 pm Brew Lab 101 3301 Southern Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

Kaktus Kats Presents Michael Matison & Joanie Cere 2-5 pm Kaktus Brewing Co. 471 South Hill, Bernalillo

### MONDAY, JUNE 17

#### Games

Singo Music Bingo 7-9 pm Brew Lab 101 3301 Southern Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

Trivia! With Trivia Mafia 6-9 pm Ex Novo Brewing 4895 Corrales Rd, Corrales

### TUESDAY, JUNE 18

#### Class / Workshop

Tuesday Tech Classes 1-3 pm Corrales Community Library 84 W. La Entrada, Corrales

#### Games

Chess Club 6-7 pm Corrales Community Library 84 W. La Entrada, Corrales

#### Music

Karaoke Tuesdays 6-9 pm Tractor Brewing Westside 5720 McMahon Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

Live Music with Oscar Butler 6-9 pm Ex Novo Brewing 4895 Corrales Rd, Corrales

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

#### Games

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing Westside 5720 McMahon Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

#### Music

Kaktus Jazz Jam 6-9 pm Kaktus Brewing Co. 471 South Hill, Bernalillo

Submit your  
events at  
Calendar.abq.news





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## "SHE SAVED MY LIFE"

Albuquerque resident Dawn R. had been experiencing the painful side effects of Peripheral Neuropathy.

**"My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do.**

**That I would have to take Gabapentin for the rest of my life."**

Then she met Albuquerque's very own Dr. Andrea Brogdon

Peripheral Neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage of the peripheral nervous system. Dawn explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the bathroom were overwhelmingly painful. "How can you live for the next 30 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do simple things?"

She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling and sharp pains that those suffering with neuropathy often describe. "The way that I would describe it, it's equivalent to walking on glass." Dawn hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would 'touch' her feet.

**Unfortunately Dawn's story is all too familiar for over 3 million people in the U.S. suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy.**

If you're unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You have difficulty walking, shopping or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You're struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to 'just live with the pain' and you're taking medications that aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago Dawn read an article about Dr. Andrea Brogdon and the work she was doing to treat those suffering from

Peripheral Neuropathy, without invasive surgeries or medications.

Dr. Brogdon, founder of AAIM | Albuquerque Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine, is using the tested science of acupuncture and a technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

**"Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have that burning sensation.**

**I don't have pain coming up my legs," Dawn enthusiastically describes life after receiving Dr.**

**Brogdon's treatments.**

**"I can wear socks and shoes!"**

Dawn and her sister now operate a successful dog walking business, sometimes covering up to 5 miles a day.

**"It's life altering. As far as I'm concerned Dr. Brogdon saved my life!"**

Dr. Brogdon is helping the senior community using the most cutting edge and innovative integrative medicine. Specializing in chronic pain cases, specifically those that have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results.

What was once a missing link in senior healthcare is now easily accessible to the residents of Albuquerque.

If you've missed too many tee times because of pain or you've passed on dancing because you're afraid of falling, it's time to call Dr. Brogdon and the staff at AAIM.

**It's time you let your golden years BE GOLDEN!**

Dr. Brogdon is now accepting new patients but only for a limited time. In an effort to protect her patients, both current and future, she has made the difficult decision to limit the number of patients seen in her clinic. Only 10 new neuropathy patients will be accepted before the end of June so call (505) 355-1984 now to schedule a consultation.



**PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY? 10400 Academy Rd NE Suite 210  
Call (505) 355-1984 Albuquerque, NM 87111  
to schedule a consultation! WWW.AAIM-ABQ.COM**