

PLACITAS
BERNALILLO
CORRALES
SANDOVAL
COUNTY
NEW MEXICO

SANDOVAL SIGNPOST

AN INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1988

PRSRT-STD U.S.
Postage Paid
Placitas, NM
Permit #3

Postal
Customer or
Current Resident
ECRWSS
EDDM

VOL. 35 | No. 25

©2024 CTRL+P PUBLISHING

JUNE 20, 2024

Man Accused of Attempting to Run Over Santa Ana Officer

*Casino employees
say man tried to cash
fraudulent check*

By Bethany Raja, Sandoval Signpost

Santa Ana police say an officer was nearly run over on May 31 at the Santa Ana Star Casino in Bernalillo by a man who allegedly tried to cash a fraudulent check.

According to court documents, Eberado Ruiz Valdez, 45, of Carlsbad, went to the casino around 2 a.m. and tried to cash a check for \$900. When casino employees realized the check was fraudulent, they held Valdez's driver's license and called police.

Upon arrival, two police officers found Valdez sitting in his car in the casino's parking lot. One of the officers approached Valdez's vehicle from behind in his police vehicle, while another officer approached him from the front, according to court documents.

As the officer approached Valdez from the front, court documents state, Valdez turned on his car. The police officer writes in a criminal complaint that he ordered Valdez to exit the vehicle, and drew his firearm.

Instead of exiting, court documents state, Valdez rolled down his window, yelled something at the officer and began accelerating toward the officer "in an aggressive manner."

Fearing for his safety, the officer had to jump out of the way of Valdez's vehicle to avoid getting hit, according to the criminal complaint.

Valdez is charged with one count of issuing worthless checks and one count of aggravated assault upon a peace officer.

County Commissioners Take Out the Trash

Problem properties ordered to remove rubbish and debris



Sandoval County Commission. (Jesse Jones / Sandoval Signpost)

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

At a meeting June 12, the Sandoval County Commission ordered the cleanup of several properties filled with rubbish and debris to restore public health and safety.

The commission has authorized the county's Planning and Zoning Department to enforce the cleanup of six properties. Five of the properties are adjacent to each other, situated on the same block of 12th Avenue in Rio Rancho. The sixth property is in Placitas.

"The reason for this action is to restore the public comfort, health, peace and safety," said Daniel Beaman, director of the Sandoval County Planning and Zoning Department.

According to Beaman, with the support of the sheriff's office, the Planning and Zoning Department will deliver a notice to the property owners, directing them to clean up their property. Owners will be given a 10-day window to complete the cleanup. If no action is taken within

this timeframe, the county will step in and place a lien on the property to cover the debris and trash removal costs.

Michael Eshleman, the county attorney, said the county would likely seek an injunction in court and obtain court orders, similar to restraining individuals or evicting someone who is objecting. He added that the property owners have the option to appeal the notice.

"If they don't (appeal), it's essentially a default judgment against them," Eshleman said. "The other route of filing criminal charges is a lengthy, inefficient process and in the end, even with a criminal conviction that still doesn't clean the property and that's all we want is to clean the property up."

Chairman David Heil said he expects to see other debris code enforcement in front of the commission in the future because the fully staffed code enforcement department can go out and issue citations when people are violating. If they do not respond, county attorneys are prepared to move

forward with legal action to get serious code violations corrected.

The clean-up process is a spinoff of the "Preserve Sandoval County's Beauty" program. According to Heil, the initiative identifies trash sites through code enforcement and posts them on the county's website under Preserve Sandoval County for public awareness. The county would then hire contractors or individuals with pickup trucks to clean up the sites, compensating them for their work and transporting the debris to the landfill.

"We lost a few code enforcement people, so it was on pause for a while but now with good code enforcement people back, that program is back and it has spread from just Rio Rancho Estates to countywide," said Heil.

Get involved

The next county commission meeting is at 6 p.m. June 26 at the Administrative Building Commission Chambers, 1500 Idalia Road, Building D in Bernalillo.

POSTMASTER LABEL HERE

\$1.00

UPC

To see your name here
subscribe online at
sandovalsignpost.com



Sign up for home delivery and our weekly
e-edition online at sandovalsignpost.com

SCAN HERE TO SUBSCRIBE



LOG ENTRY #259

SPECTACULAR VIEWS



OBSERVATION

And you don't even have
to leave your house.

GET YOURS AT MOUNTAIN WEST SALES.

MOUNTAINWESTSALES.NET

HARMAN

QUADRA-FIRE
NOTHING BURNS LIKE A QUAD



VERMONT
CASTINGS



Support **local**
businesses
Support our
local paper

Big Albuquerque media outlets don't
cover Bernalillo and Sandoval County
like a local newsroom.

Help us expand the Sandoval Signpost to
cover local news you can't get anywhere
else - and help our local businesses that
rely on our local support.



sandovalsignpost.com (505) 300-4087

SANDOVAL SIGNPOST

AN INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWSPAPER



Advertising inquiries:
(505)300-4087 or
tierna@sandovalsignpost.com

New Mexico Owned.

STAFF & CONTRIBUTORS:

Admin:

Pat Davis

Owner & Publisher
pat@newmexico.news

Tierna Unruh-Enos

Managing Editor
tierna@newmexico.news

Editorial:

Michael Hodock

Reporter
michael@sandovalsignpost.com

Jesse Jones

Reporter
jesse@sandovalsignpost.com

Bethany Raja

Reporter
bethany@sandovalsignpost.com

Sales:

Chiara Sullivan

Sales Executive
chiara@abq.news

Production:

Rachel Mills

Art Director

Jordan Bourne

Digital Engagement Manager

Sandoval Signpost is published monthly by Ctrl+P Publishing, LLC. Our mailing address is 317 Commercial St NE #201 Albuquerque, NM 87102. Bulk postage is paid at Placitas, NM. As a local newspaper of general interest to residents of Placitas, Bernalillo, Corrales, Rio Rancho, and other areas of southeastern Sandoval County, we invite readers to submit stories, letters, poetry, and photographs of artwork for publishing consideration. We welcome advertising of interest to our readership area.

Copyright © 2024, by Ctrl+P Publishing, LLC. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. The opinions expressed in articles appearing in the Sandoval Signpost are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the publishers.

The Sandoval Signpost is printed with soy ink on recycled newsprint.

WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME HERE?

We're hiring!

Sales Executive

Must Haves:

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Highly self-motivated

Prior sales experience preferred, but not required.

Some work can be done from home!

To apply, please send a brief intro and resume to tierna@newmexico.news



Meetings Schedule

SANDOVAL COUNTY

To view the agendas for upcoming meetings and read past meeting minutes, visit sandovalcountynm.gov/commission/scemeetings/

County Commission

June 26, 6 p.m.

Sandoval County Chambers

1500 Idalia Rd., Building D

BERNALILLO

To view the agendas for upcoming meetings and read past meeting minutes, visit tobnm.gov/government/town_council/agendas_and_minutes.php

Town Council

June 24, 6:30 p.m.

Bernalillo Town Hall

RIO RANCHO

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

City Council Working Meeting

June 27, 6 p.m.

Rio Rancho City Hall

City Council Regular 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/

Village Council

July 2, 6 p.m.

Village Administrative Office

Galleria Tamaya

Come Shop with Us!
Find us by the roundabout

The Galleria Tamaya uniquely New Mexican gallery features handcrafted jewelry, copper-work, alabaster sculpture, Zuni fetish carvings, authentic pueblo pottery, and much more! Find gifts and collectibles—truly special and exclusive to this area.

Galleria Tamaya
Located at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa
1300 Tuyuna Trail, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM 87004
OPEN MON-SAT 10AM-6PM & SUN 10AM-5PM
(505) 771-6081 • galleriatamaya@gmail.com



The Merc Gets New Life

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

After a period of decline and subsequent closure, The Merc, a unique grocery store located in the Homestead Village Plaza in Placitas, is set to reopen with revitalized energy under a new partnership.

The reopening will mark the return of a community hub that has been more than just a place to shop for locals.

The four co-owners plan to keep the store's traditional charm while improving the overall shopping experience. They aim to support local producers and once again become a lively gathering place for Placitas residents.

"Even before it was up for sale, it was just such a unique part of the community, a real heart," said Tony Micklos, one of the co-owners of The Merc.

He said that during his six years working at another business in the plaza, he always thought The Merc was a cool little grocery store where locals would not only shop but connect with neighbors, mingle and feel a strong sense of community.

Katherine Aeby, another co-owner with a background in alcohol sales, shared that she was "ecstatic" upon discovering The Merc's alcohol selection. This discovery fueled her desire to become a more significant part of the community.

Placitas residents Joe and Shery Welsh, a married couple, are the other two co-owners.

The group hopes the Phoenix-like revival of the store will create a sense of déjà vu for those who knew and cherished The Merc.

"A lot of what we're doing is based off of what the original owners of the grocery store had in mind and the route that they took because that was a successful blueprint for 30-some-odd years," Micklos said.

Aeby said they wanted to keep the business branding the same, which is why they kept the name and the logo.

But she and her fellow owners are excited to reveal all the changes and efforts put into renovating the store's interior.

The new owners aim to elevate the shopping experience through an evolving process that emphasizes genuine hospitality, exceptional customer service, premium products, fresh selections and a strong focus on local flavor.

Micklos said The Merc is committed to sourcing produce from Placitas and nearby areas to support local gardens and strengthen community ties. The owners are planning to expand their produce department and improve fresh offerings at the deli. They also want to try to showcase local artists in the store, highlighting their work for the benefit of the community.

"We're looking forward to learning what the community wants and supporting what they want by selling it," he said.

The owners put up a survey to get input from the community on what direction they want the beer, wine and spirits selection to go in. The survey can be found on the store's Facebook page, at facebook.com/homesteadmercantile.

"People want beer, wine and spirits that they can't find anywhere else and I have worked hard to curate those for us," Aeby said.

The new owners aim to differentiate themselves from the previous owners by building trust within the community.

"We understand this community, we live in this community, we are doing this for this community," Aeby said.

As The Merc's owners gear up for the grand reopening, although the date remains unconfirmed, they're inviting everyone to visit their Facebook page. There, interested individuals can submit pre-employment screening forms and request product information.



The Merc in Placitas gets new life and new co-owners. (Source: Katherine Aeby)

SHADES THAT BLOOM



At Tesuque Stucco Co., we take the time to stucco your home to perfection. And with a wide variety of shades to choose from, your house will be a blooming masterpiece.

Tesuque
STUCCO CO.

VISIT [TESUQUESTUCCO.COM](https://tesuquestucco.com) OR
CALL 505-275-7874 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE.

HEARD ANY LOCAL, NEWSWORTHY

CHISME?

TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!
EMAIL EDITOR@NEWMEXICO.NEWS

Bernalillo Educator Leads Charge to Curb Trash via Recycling

School hopes to expand program throughout the district

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

A Bernalillo elementary educator is leading a school-wide effort to curb trash by implementing a recycling program to instill environmental consciousness and sustainability within the school and the community.

In response to the absence of a recycling program in the Bernalillo Public Schools district, Jose Cervantes, a third-grade teacher at W.D. Carroll Elementary, has galvanized support from colleagues, students and parents to secure individual classroom recycling bins through fundraising. Despite overwhelming community backing and a plan, the initiative faces a critical hurdle: the need for district funding.

“It kind of blew our minds that our school wouldn’t be recycling because that is one of the things we try to teach our students, to be good stewards of resources,” Cervantes said.

As participation and enthusiasm grow, Cervantes’ vision extends beyond the school, aiming to inspire district-wide change and foster lifelong environmental stewardship among students.

According to Cervantes, the idea came about when he read his class an old book about recycling. This led to a discussion among the students, prompting questions such as, “Do you recycle?” and “Why don’t we recycle as a school?” This conversation jump-started the idea to start a recycling program at the elementary. Daily discussions in class began focusing on what items could be recycled.

One of the other third-grade teachers donated a recycling bin to the class. After weeks of recycling in the classroom, Cervantes said he found himself thinking, “Why don’t we make this something bigger than just ourselves?”

When it came to recycling, Cervantes said that it was a new idea



(Source: Unsplash)

for his students; they hadn’t recycled before. He had some good talks with them, telling them how even small things could make a big difference in their community. The kids were into it and understood the idea that what they did affected everyone around them.

“When I taught in Albuquerque, that was just what we did,” he said. “Everyone recycled.”

School administration supported Cervantes in launching a fundraiser that would cover the cost for a recycling bin in each classroom.

The class put together a fundraiser on donorschoose.org in November and by January, they had not only met but exceeded their goal, raising a total of \$344. The achievement meant that every classroom teacher and even some supporting staff could have a recycling bin in their classroom.

Cervantes’ class organized a bilingual presentation, inviting one grade level at a time to the gym. During these sessions, they engaged the students in discussions about recycling, reducing waste and reusing materials.

“We left the recycling bins in the teacher’s lounge and one by one they started taking off,” Cervantes said. “So my students actually made it a point to visit those classrooms.”

His class provided certificates to the participating classrooms and took pictures with them. Then they created a slideshow.

According to Cervantes, a logistical problem within the recycling program is that every interested teacher or adult must personally transport bins to recycling facilities or find suitable disposal bins. Despite this hurdle, when they distributed the bins, he sent an email outlining their desire to expand the program school-wide and encouraged everyone to recycle independently.

“For me, it’s the most convenient place, about 17 miles,” he said. “I drive out to Albuquerque and use the Eagle Rock Convenience Center.”

Cervantes and the other teachers aim to install a roll-off recycling container on the school grounds. This container would benefit not only W.D. Carroll Elementary but also La Escuelita Preschool, which shares the

same trash dumpster.

“By the time it’s time for trash pickup, sometimes there are bags on the side of the dumpster and we’re noticing that a lot of that stuff that’s been thrown could easily be recycled,” Cervantes said. “So I think it’ll definitely minimize the amount of trash that gets put out there.”

The program is not something he could have done alone, Cervantes said. “It’s probably a cliché, but we’re stronger together.”

The teachers sent out a survey to parents, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The results showed 92% of those surveyed would support the school’s efforts to get a recycling container.

The school district’s last update indicated they would get quotes for the recycling program. Cervantes said he contacted Road Runner Waste Services for a quote and provided this information to the district. However, as of press time, the district had not responded to Cervantes’ recent inquiries for feedback or an update on the funding request.

SANDIA VISTA
APARTMENTS

492 Camino Don Tomas
Bernalillo, NM 87004
505-867-9778
TDD: 711
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts
Rental Assistance Available



This institution is an
Equal opportunity
Provider and employer
www.jlgray.com



Equal Housing
Opportunity

SANDIA VISTA
APARTMENTS

492 Camino Don Tomas
Bernalillo, NM 87004
505-867-9778
TDD: 711
Apartamento de 1, 2,3 dormitorios
Asistencia de alquiler disponible



Esta institución es una
Igualdad de oportunidades
Proveedor y empleador
www.jlgray.com



Equal Housing
Opportunity

Experience the Sandia
Green Clean difference!



Schedule Your
Eco-Friendly Home
Cleaning Today &
Claim Your
Weekend!



Albuquerque's #1 Residential Cleaning Service

CALL US NOW: 505.404.3071 ♦ TEXT US NOW: 505.393.2065
sandia greenclean.com

www.sandovalsignpost.com

Page 5



Pueblo of Santa Ana Doubles in Size by Reacquiring Ancestral Land

Tamayame people take land back in historic ceremony

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

The Pueblo of Santa Ana officially reacquired 60,000 acres of ancestral land in a historic trust signing ceremony with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on June 12 at the Prairie Star restaurant in Santa Ana.

The land, once called the King Brothers' Alamo Ranch and historically known as Tamaya Kwii Kee Nee Puu by the people of Santa Ana Pueblo, was purchased by the pueblo from former Gov. Bruce King's family in 2016 for about \$33 million. The purchase doubled the size of the pueblo to 130,000 acres.

The land holds traditional significance to the Tamayame, the people of Santa Ana who refer to themselves in their traditional Keres language. It served as their ancestral farming and hunting grounds, and later, as grazing land for domestic livestock introduced by Spanish colonists.

"It is very humbling and it's a good feeling to know that this is ours forever," said Joey Sanchez, former Santa Ana governor. "The vision that we have, is to make it better than what we got."

The fee-to-trust document, signed by Patricia Mattingly, the BIA Southwest regional director, ensures that the land will be protected and managed for the benefit of future generations of the pueblo. It states that the property will be maintained in its natural state to serve as a habitat for wildlife and a place where tribal members can gather plants and minerals for traditional and domestic activities.

According to the BIA, fee-to-trust land acquisition involves the transfer of land title from a federally recognized tribe to the United States, with the land held in trust for the benefit of an individual or tribe. As of today, there are more than 56 million acres of land held in trust by the United States.

"This is by far the largest acquisition we are taking into trust from the Pueblo of Santa Ana," Santee Lewis, BIA Southern Pueblos Agency superintendent, said.

The area covers nearly 100 square miles and is bordered by the Rio Puerco and the Pueblo of Laguna to



Patricia Mattingly, Bureau of Indian Affairs regional director, left, shakes hands with Pueblo of Santa Ana Gov. Mayron Armijo (Jesse Jones / Sandoval Signpost)

the west, Rio Rancho Estates to the east, the Pueblo of Zia to the north and private land to the south.

The time is now

The ranch property went on sale in 2016 and the pueblo immediately seized the opportunity to buy back the land. Within three months, they had signed the papers for the purchase. However, it took an additional eight years to get the necessary approvals to sign the land into trust.

"The tribal council ... stepped up to the plate and did exactly what needed to be done at every critical juncture even though it involved expending considerable tribal resources agreeing to the original purchase, which was by far the largest single capital investment this pueblo has ever made of acquisition of land," said Richard Hughes, special counsel to the Pueblo of Santa Ana.

According to Santa Ana Pueblo Gov. Myron Armijo, the pueblo wanted to make sure the land was signed into trust this year before the presidential election in November.

"Whoever gets in that office could delay our getting in the trust for this piece of property and that's why we had to go to Washington right away," Armijo said.

Preservation

"It's a little unfortunate that as Native people, the lands were taken away from us back in the day because we're having to go back and purchase these properties so that we can continue to practice our tradition and culture," former Santa Ana Gov. Glenn Tenorio said. "We have to preserve we have to protect, because we're here today but we never know when we're gonna leave this earth. But when that day comes, what we do today is to protect for the future that's yet to come."

Along with the rebounding animal populations, numerous archaeological sites across the Tamaya Kwii Kii Nii Puu landscape were located and had examples of Mesa Verde-style pottery, according to the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

"We have discovered that many of the fragile cultural sites spread across these lands have been desecrated by looting activities that appear to have occurred over 20 to 30 years ago," Thomas Armijo, cultural resource technician for the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

According to Doug McKenna, director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the pueblo, the wildlife population,

including elk, deer and antelope, has significantly increased. This increase not only provides hunting opportunities for community members but also allows them to engage in traditional activities involving these animals.

With the rise in wildlife populations and the presence of sensitive cultural sites on the land, Santa Ana has increased the number of conservation officers patrolling the area to eight.

"The most important thing is being able to protect our historical sites, having a jurisdiction under us means that we're able to monitor and protect how we want and not rely on outside entities," Santa Ana Pueblo Lt. Gov. Kevin Montoya said.

One of those conservation officers is former Santa Ana Gov. Nathan Garcia. As a Geographic Information System technician with the DNR, Garcia walked the entire boundary, locating every survey marker to correct a survey of the land after the pueblo purchased it.

"It's a blessing, now the tables have turned in terms of now I'm here protecting it, you know, and that's the biggest thing and we're blessed to acquire this property," Garcia said.

37th Year of Flamenco Festival Features 126 Artists and 23 Shows

*New Mexico's festival
is the largest outside of Spain*

Sandoval Signpost Staff

Marisol Encinias has been performing flamenco her whole life.

"I'm 53 now, and I began dancing with my grandmother when I was 5," Encinias said.

Encinias' mother started the Festival Flamenco de Albuquerque in 1987. It's now grown to be the country's largest flamenco festival and the largest international festival outside of Spain.

This year, festival organizers from the National Institute of Flamenco are celebrating 37 years with 126 artists — 37 of whom are from New Mexico — and 23 live performances from June 21-29.

"For us this year, the festival is huge," said Encinias, who is now the festival's executive director, sees the festival as an opportunity to engage with people outside of New Mexico via flamenco performances. "We are bringing in 82 performers from Spain this year. (Eighty-two) visas have been granted, and that's pretty incredible."

Encinias says this year, the performances will range from

traditional flamenco to experimental and avant-garde musical theater.

"It energizes me when someone says 'That is not at all what I expected.' As with any art form, it varies based on the interpretation or the message of the creator. It can take many forms," she said.

The festival will include over 60 free and paid workshops, 13 internationally based performance companies, one New Mexican company and two world premiere shows. Performances and workshops are scheduled in various locations around the state.

"The arts are medicine," Encinias said. "Our community needs that."

2024 Flamenco Festival Albuquerque

When: June 21-29

Where: National Hispanic Cultural Center & Rodey Theatre on UNM Campus

Tickets: \$65-\$962 (NM residents)

Full schedule, VIP packages, workshop info and more at ffabq.org.



Flamenco performer Karime Amaya. (Source: National Institute of Flamenco)

Coronado Historic Site Hosts an Evening of Music

*Diane Schuler Educational
Pavilion opens mid-June*

By Sandoval Signpost Staff

The Coronado Historic Site in Bernalillo will come alive with music under the stars at the grand opening of the Diane Schuler Educational Pavilion on Saturday, June 22. The celebration will feature a concert and performances by Entourage Jazz and Albuquerque jazz band.

The public is invited to relax and enjoy an evening of music. Food trucks are going to be at the event. Both the museum and Fresco Room will be open to attendees.

The event will take place in honor of Diane Schuler, who was a member of the Friends of Coronado and Jemez Historic Sites. Her widower, Craig Gibbs, donated funds for a new educational pavilion that provides a cool place for educational

tours, ranger-led activities and performers.

The venue is a place to enjoy live music with views of the Sandia Mountains and Rio Grande.

Admission is \$7 for adults and free for children 16 and younger, Museum of New Mexico Foundation members, Friends of Coronado and Jemez members, tribal members, Blue Star Museum active-duty military families, disabled veterans and foster families.

Grand Opening of Diane Schuler Educational Pavilion

When: Saturday, June 22 at 5:30 p.m.

Where: Coronado Historic Site in Bernalillo

Tickets: Children free - Adults \$7

Tickets can be purchased online at my.nmculture.org/20943/32486.



Entourage Jazz. (Source: Coronado Historic Site)



Let's Not Even Call This a Debate

At 7 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time on June 27, more than four months before Election Day, Joe Biden and Donald Trump will spend 90 minutes on CNN airing rehearsed talking points in front of a moderator in two-minute soundbites in a studio empty but for the production crew and campaign staff.

Happily, I will be in an airport gate area when the broadcast starts, and my significant hearing impairment (I am deaf in my right ear and have a severe loss in my left) will preclude me from watching the event on my phone and listening to boarding announcements at the same time. On the plane, I won't be able to get the live CNN feed, but I may be drinking nonetheless.

Once upon a time, political candidate debates were crucial events for voters and candidates alike. Debates were the forums where voters learned where their candidates stood on the issues that mattered most to them, and candidates had the opportunity to sell themselves to a wide audience.

The optics of the televised debate became etched into history with the first presidential debate of 1960 between Vice President Richard

Commentary



Merritt Hamilton Allen

Nixon and Senator John F. Kennedy. Nixon refused makeup, didn't shave, and injured his knee immediately before the broadcast (which would later require hospitalization for a staph infection). While he spoke with conviction and from an analytical perspective won the debate on content, he looked ghastly.

The young Senator from Massachusetts looked fresh and handsome. His points were not as compelling but he looked much better. As a result, viewers believed Kennedy won the debate.

After 1960, televised Presidential debates fell out of fashion until 1976 (Nixon learned his lesson). Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter brought them back and preparation evolved into an art form, with highly-paid consultants putting candidates through tightly controlled rehearsals requiring extensive non-disclosure agreements. The "Three Cs" - cosmetics, control, and commercials - were drilled into candidates.

Somewhere around the year 2000, candidates got wise to the debate trap. Debates are, above all, risky. Debates do not have participation trophies. There is always a winner and a loser. We began to see candidates leading in the polls

declining debate invitations in down-ticket races.

This trend accelerated, as all bad political trends have, throughout the 2010s. Setting up debates became more a protracted negotiation to minimize risk, than an opportunity to connect with voters. And the candidates themselves ignored the moderators more and more and simply began spewing their own talking points rather than addressing the question asked.

In the first presidential debate of 2020, moderator Chris Wallace of Fox News may as well have not been there as President Trump simply ignored him and spoke as he pleased. That debate resulted in the introduction of the mute button on candidate's mics to try and bring some semblance of control into the proceedings. With that, all pretense of calling this type of forum a "debate" fell away.

And with that, the Commission on Presidential Debates no longer has a role. Formed in 1987, the CPD is an independent organization whose primary mission is to ensure general election debates are held among the leading contenders for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States. The purpose is so the voters may view debates and dialogue among their candidates for the top

offices in the land.

The CPD inspired debate commissions in many foreign countries, including emerging democracies. Debates International, which represents 40 democracies and emerging democracies, had this to say about the CPD: "The CPD does not simply organize debates. The Commission establishes standards for integrity and professionalism that inspire debate organizers across the globe. The CPD's commitment to transparent and participatory democracy reaches beyond U.S. borders. It offers a model to follow for both emerging and strong democracies."

"The CPD debates are a testimony to the power of democracy. They provide a neutral and accessible platform and guarantee that the electoral process is representative of the will of the American people. This platform has been key to building more robust democracies around the world, inspiring leaders and citizens to value and defend electoral transparency."

The September 2020 Cleveland debate began with a lie and a flouting of the agreed-to rules before Chris Wallace could ask his first question.

[Read the full commentary at sandovalsignpost.com](https://sandovalsignpost.com)

Who Wins, Who Loses

It's hard to know who the biggest loser in the Hunter Biden trial might be. Hunter Biden, of course, who was convicted on three felony counts on June 11 by a jury of his Delaware peers, lost the legal case.

Donald Trump lost something bigger; his complaints about two-tiered justice were stopped cold.

During the Biden trial, only snippets of the courtroom drama were reported: who was testifying and to what they were testifying. As with most news, it was hard to get the full context of courtroom action.

What is clear to voters is the split screen of approaches by the former president and Hunter Biden and his family.

A jury of their peers convicted both men. Both trials had competent judges who followed best practices for courtroom procedure.

Corner to Corner



Diane Denish

The former president and presumptive GOP nominee was unanimously convicted by a New York jury of 34 counts of fraud and falsifying documents. During the trial he spent time attacking the judge and witnesses and trying to uncover names and information about jurors. His allies were not family but GOP politicians, traveling to New York, conducting press conferences, trashing the judicial system.

Contrast that to President Biden's son (who is not running for president) who stood trial on charges of lying on federal forms while buying a firearm and owning a firearm while using drugs. From day one, his dad expressed both his love for Hunter and his faith in the judicial system. Neither Hunter Biden nor the president whined or criticized the jurors or the judge. Someone in Hunter Biden's family walked into the courtroom with him, supporting him with their presence every day. They hoped for a different outcome but didn't get it.

The prosecutor emphasized the trial was not about addiction but about illegal choices while addicted. Millions of parents and families can relate to a family whose son, now a father himself, has struggled with addiction for years. Many families have experienced the damage caused by addiction and understand it. Prisons are full of those who committed crimes because of their addictions.

In my own family, my younger brother fought addiction from the time he was a teenager. I bailed him out of jail, had to go searching for him when he didn't show up for family dinners. My mom denied his addiction. It frustrated my dad. Both loved him regardless.

All of those emotions have no doubt been on display for the Biden family this week. But what the trial really offered us was a contrast of two powerful men and their families and contrasts in accountability.

In the Biden family, we see a loving, supportive family showing us

how love can be so important. Hunter Biden was remorseful. He refused to blame "a rigged system," "unfairness" or "a corrupt judge." Hunter Biden's father expressed his love for his son throughout as well as his belief in a fair judicial system.

Trump's family rarely showed up to support him. Trump and his allies were camera hogs, constantly trashing the third branch of government, complaining about a two-tiered system of justice. There were threats to prosecutors, the judge and his family and a lack of remorse that continues today.

But it's clear the verdict discredited Republican claims of a two-tiered justice system.

Through the Biden family reaction, we were reminded what respect for the law looks like even when you lose.

Finally, it reinforced our faith in the justice system. In spite of recent attacks and accusations and a four-year campaign to destroy the institution, justice prevailed.

We are in the end, a nation of laws, not men.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Calcutta attire

5 Single-celled organism (var.)

10 Booze it up

14 Washerful

15 Poe's bird

16 Like some columns

17 Hard to follow

19 Lima's locale

20 Sunburn aftermath

21 Lego line with gears

23 Over

25 Oscar-winning Berry

26 "The Bell Jar" writer

29 Fertilizer type

32 RCA or EMI

33 More than dislike

34 Schedule abbr.

37 In general

39 Nuclear plant feature

41 Card game for two

42 Static

44 Palm an ace, say

45 Bureaucratic tangle

47 Fruity desserts

48 Yucca's kin

50 Colorado ski resort

52 Took in, in a way

55 Pipe type

59 April forecast

60 Young lady, in Lyon

14

17

20

26

32

37

41

48

52

59

62

65

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

62 Cavern, to a poet

63 They may be stripped

64 Hangout

65 Coop group

66 Banquet host

67 Parking place

DOWN

1 Yacht spot

2 Best of the best

3 Preakness, for one

4 Worshiper of a statue

5 Sports facility

6 Reader's notes

7 Arden or Plumb

8 Like a kneeler's knee

9 Neat anagram

10 Astaire

11 Post for all to read

12 Grave danger

13 Draw forth

18 Toyota model

22 People in a novel

24 Pen point

26 Farm implement

27 Volcano output

28 Irregularity

30 Sixty, in old times

31 ___ v. Wade

35 Dinghy or dory

36 Sciences' partner

38 Piece of land

40 ABC and ESPN

43 Place to be pampered

46 Doings

48 Frustrated cry

49 Driving hazard

51 Model's asset

53 Chrome

54 Judge

56 Thunder sound

57 This and that

58 "Sesame Street" regular

61 Apple product

Copyright 2024 by The Puzzle Syndicate



Sports Offered

- Flag Football
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Baseball
- Tennis
- Cheer
- Volleyball

Register at: i9sports.com



Our Family,
Helping Kids Succeed
in Life through Sports®

- One day per week. Practice held before games
- Playoffs and optional weekly practices for oldest divisions
- Equal playing time
- Organized programs for boys and girls ages 3-14
- Coaches background checked and certified
- All skill levels welcome. No tryouts!

SUBSCRIBE

to our weekly
e-edition
straight to
your inbox!
It's FREE!

SCAN HERE TO
SUBSCRIBE →



sandovalsignpost.com/subscribe



Solution to Crossword:

community public radio



KUNM 89.9 FM

albuquerque / santa fe



EVENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Dance

Burque Bellyfest Meet and Greet
Halfa 7:30-9:30 pm Kaktus Brewing
Co. 471 South Hill, Bernalillo

The Desert Darlings 7:30-9 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

Film

Movies Under the Stars: 42 7:30-
9:30 pm Cabezon Community
Center and Park 2307 Cabezon Blvd.
SE, Rio Rancho

Markets

Bernalillo Farmers Market 4-7 pm
Rotary Park Bernalillo 370 Rotary
Park Rd. Bernalillo

Music

Watermelon Mountain Jug Band 7-9
pm The Range Cafe 925 S Camino
Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

Y2K Boogie 6-11 pm Tractor Brewing
Westside 5720 McMahon Blvd NW
bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

Festival

Juneteenth Freedom Day 10 am-2
pm Haynes Park 2006 Grande Blvd.
SE, Rio Rancho

Music

An Evening Outdoors with
Entourage Jazz \$7 5-7:30 pm
Coronado Historic Site 485 Kuaua
Rd., Bernalillo

Big Treble 7-9 pm The Range Cafe
925 S Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

Jacob Chavez 7-9 pm Tractor
Brewing Westside 5720 McMahon
Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

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

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

The Woodpeckers 7-9 pm Casa Vieja
Brewery 4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales

Sports

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

Art Openings

"Sandia" Art Reception @ Red Boot
Gallery 5-7 pm The Range Cafe 925
S Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

Food

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

Music

Kaktus Kats Presents David Turner
2-5 pm Kaktus Brewing Co. 471
South Hill, Bernalillo

MONDAY, JUNE 24

Discussion / Lecture

Raised Bed Gardening 6:30-7:30
pm Loma Colorado Main Library
755 Loma Colorado Blvd. NE, Rio
Rancho

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 25

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 Joe DeRusha 6-9
pm Ex Novo Brewing 4895 Corrales
Rd, Corrales

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

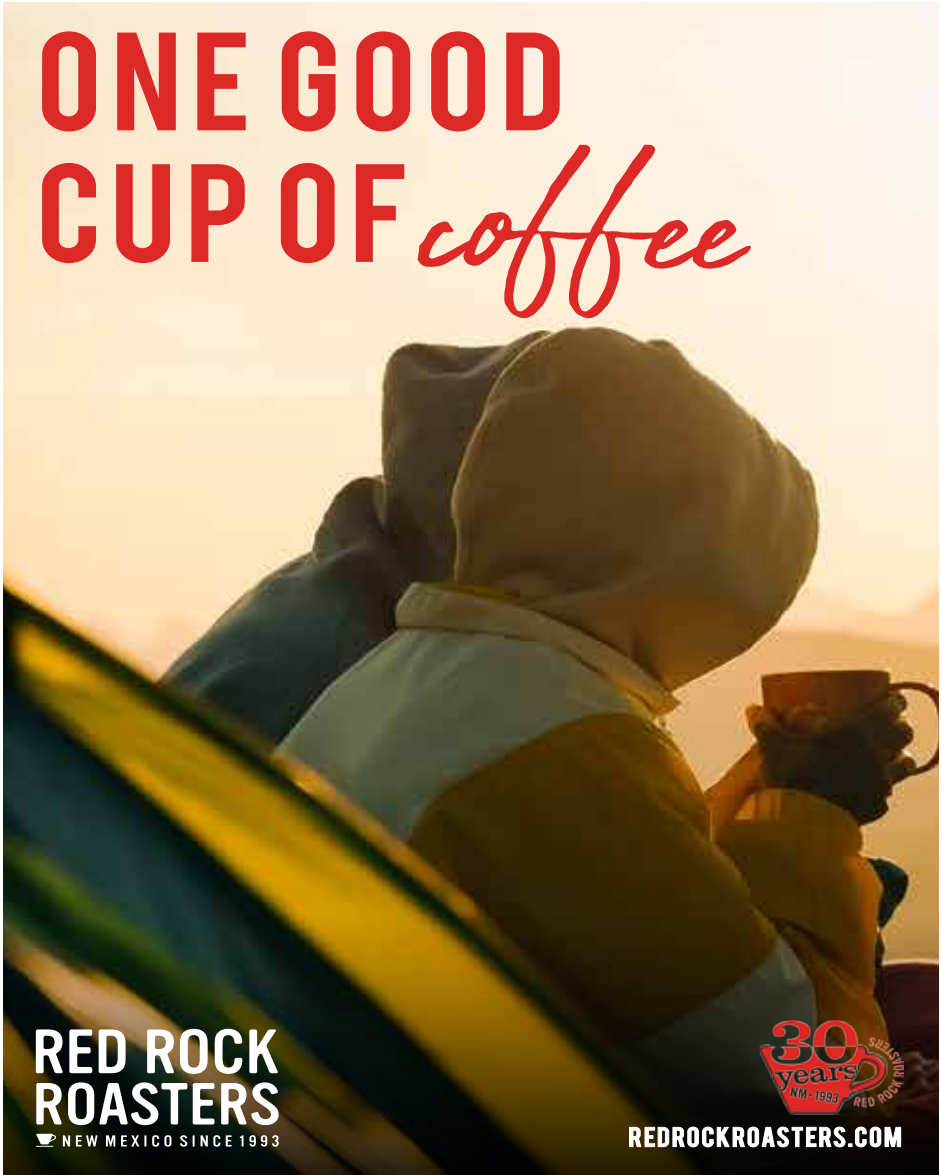
Games

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 event to our online calendar at
calendar.abq.news



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, email your ad or questions to: tierna@sandovalsignpost.com (Includes a free posting on the Signpost website.) For further information, visit: www.sandovalsignpost.com or call the Signpost office at 505-300-4087

Painting by United Services
Interior & Exterior
Stucco & Drywall
Repairs & Finishes
Handyman services & more
Veteran Owned
505-250-6646
Licensed, Insured and Bonded



24 Hr. Same Day SEPTIC SERVICE **ABR-LLC**
Aaron Brothers Resources
www.abrseptic.com
(505) 898 - TANK
c. (505) 900 - 4862
7016 2nd st NW
Albuquerque NM, 87107
Licensed/Bonded/Insured NM 363659

Enchantment Acupuncture LLC
Acupuncture • Cupping
• Facial rejuvenation
enchantmentacupuncture.com
505-401-7738



Paws N' Claws Pet Care
In-Home Pet Care serving:
Placitas, Corrales & Rio Rancho
Overnight Pet Care:
Drop-In Pet Care: Deb Stichmann
(505) 440-0875
Insured/Bonded
Deb Stichmann
PawsNClaws02@gmail.com



Tim Kelleher's Landscaping + Masonry
We call back, Show Up & No Mañana
• Landscaping • Irrigation Installs
• Tree & Shrub pruning • Parapet Repair
• One Time Yard Clean-ups • Stucco Repair
• Masonry Wall Repair • Fence repair
Call Tim: 505-221-0940

New Horizon Window Cleaning Co.
• Reliable, friendly, top-professional service
• Free estimates • Satisfaction guaranteed
• Owner-operator 25 years experience
• 20 panes inside and out—\$99
Each additional pane \$4 • screens \$3 ea.
Enjoy The Sun—Get Your Windows Done!
Call Henrik Wils today • 505-366-8935



ABC DOOR COMPANY
Your trusted source for
garage doors,
vehicle gates,
and operators
505-322-6441



Adobe Handyman Services
I do it all!
Tile Framing Drywall
Stucco Plaster Painting
Windows Doors Roofs
Stonework Adobe Landscaping
No job too small
FREE ESTIMATES!
Call Scott 600-2394



RED DOG PLANTERS & YARD ART
Quaint outdoor yard art shop
Local and imported garden decor
Wind Spinners, Glass Art,
Metal Art, Talavera,
Planters, and more!
3563 Corrales Rd. Corrales
Monday-Saturday 9am-4pm
505-610-1237
@RedDogPlanters



Haul It All Services
505-553-5545
Got Junk, Demo, Hauling?
Your Junk Removal/Hauling
Company. Serving Commercial/
Residential Customers Since 2008.
No Gimmicks! Get Local, Licensed,
Reliable Help. **A-Rated on Google/
Yelp/Angi!** You Call, **505-553-5545**
We Haul! www.haulitallservices.com

River Stone
Cate Clark
Licensed Massage Therapist
License: MT4607
riverstonecate.com
(505)401-4015



To place a classified ad,
email your ad or questions to:
tierna@sandovalsignpost.com
For further information, visit:
www.sandovalsignpost.com or
call the Signpost office at
505-300-4087.

SUBSCRIBE
to our weekly e-edition straight to your inbox! It's FREE! sandovalsignpost.com

SERVICES

To place a classified ad, email your ad or questions to: tierna@sandovalsignpost.com For further information, visit: www.sandovalsignpost.com or call the Signpost office at 505-300-4087.

DALE'S TREE SERVICE - Pruning, removals, stumps, hauling and mowing. 28 years experience. Dale Roberts, 505-473-4129 or 505-977-1981.

ZIAMAIDS HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE Dependable, reasonable rates, Lic and Insured, please call 505-477-1147. 15% off first cleaning good through June 2023

SEEKING HOME/CASITA TO RENT Seeking home/casita to rent in Bernalillo, Corrales, Rio Rancho area. Mature professional semi-retired male. Non-smoker, non-drinker. Crate trained dogs. Seeking home/casita to rent. References available. Contact via email: aenriquez4561@gmail.com

To place a classified ad, email your ad or questions to: tierna@sandovalsignpost.com For further information, visit: www.sandovalsignpost.com or call the Signpost office at 505-300-4087.

FOR SALE- Stunning, one of kind 1.5 Acre Unobstructed Sandia Mtns view lot. \$310,000.
Lot 19 Mesa Vista de Corrales Subdivision (109 Calle Contenta) Corrales NM 87048
Rare opportunity to build a dream home in Corrales.

Price includes survey, geotechnical investigation, preliminary grading plan, complete set of home design and construction drawings.
Utilities on Lot 19 include; Natural Gas, Electricity, Cable, Phone
Call 907-230-3385

To place a classified ad, email your ad or questions to: tierna@sandovalsignpost.com For further information, visit: www.sandovalsignpost.com or call the Signpost office at 505-300-4087.



“PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY RELIEF!”

Bernalillo resident Maria R had been experiencing the debilitating side effects of Peripheral Neuropathy. **“I was beginning to have other health issues due to the lack of sleep. I needed help just standing up and when I was standing I was afraid I would fall because I had no feeling in my feet. My life felt like a nightmare.”** Then she met Albuquerque's very own Dr. Andrea Brogdon

“I was so desperate to the point of giving up” exclaimed Maria R. from Bernalillo. “I was in so much discomfort due to the numbness, tingling, and burning on the back of both legs and in my feet.”

Maria R had been diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy and had seen a neurologist with no relief. To complicate things further, Maria had been diagnosed with two fractured discs in her back that were causing her severe pain. “I was no longer able to do surgery and all other treatments didn’t work. I was starting to feel hopeless.”

Maria is one of 3 million people in the United States suffering from peripheral neuropathy, a degenerative disease of the peripheral nervous system. “Those with peripheral neuropathy experience numbness, tingling, burning and even severe cramping due to the dying off of the peripheral nerves,” explains Dr. Andrea Brogdon of Albuquerque Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine. “These nerves continue to die off until they have completely expired leaving sufferers with numbness and debilitating balance issues. Patients come to see me after having seen many other doctors with no relief. They have been told that there is nothing they can do or that they just have to live with it.”

“I was beginning to have other health issues due to the lack of sleep. I needed help just standing up and when I was standing I was afraid I would fall because I had no feeling in my feet. My life felt like a nightmare,” says Maria.

“I learned about Dr. Andrea Brogdon from an article I read and learned that she helped others like me, experiencing the same symptoms. I made an appointment hoping she was going to be able to help me. It was my last resort.”

Dr. Andrea Brogdon has helped thousands of patients get their life back after being diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy and living with the debilitating effects of the disease. How does she get such amazing results? “Acupuncture has been used for centuries to improve circulation but the real magic happens when I integrate ATP Resonance BioTherapy™.” By using modern technological advancements alongside the time tested science of acupuncture, Dr. Brogdon is able to reverse the effects of this degenerative disease, regardless of its origin.

“Early detection is key when it comes to improving your chances of a full recovery,” explains Dr. Brogdon. Which is why she starts every patient with an initial consultation during which a sensory exam is performed. “This helps to determine just how much nerve damage has occurred,” tells the doctor. “This is important because if the patient has suffered more than 95% sensory loss there is very little I can do at that point.”

“After several treatments, I experienced tremendous relief. Life is good! I have seen a huge improvement in my walking, I sleep better, even my mood is better! I am so grateful I never stopped searching!” exclaims Maria.

If you or a loved one are living a life of suffering due to peripheral neuropathy and your pain has prevented you from doing the things you love with the people you love, it’s time to call Dr. Brogdon and the staff at AAIM.

Call (505) 355-1984 today to schedule an initial consultation or visit AAIM-ABQ.com to read more incredible success stories.



**PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?
Call (505) 355-1984
to schedule a consultation!**

**10400 Academy Rd NE Suite 210
Albuquerque, NM 87111
WWW.AAIM-ABQ.COM**