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The Paper.

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VOLUME 04 | ISSUE 4

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONS



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Oñate Shooting Suspect Appeals Bail Decision

Sandia Park Man Could be Charged with a Hate Crime

By Glen Rosales, The Paper.

Attorneys for a Sandia Park man facing attempted murder charges in connection with a shooting during a public demonstration near Española in September are taking their request for bond release to the state attorney general's office.

Prosecutors in the case against Ryan Martinez were thwarted in their attempt earlier this month to have First Judicial District Court Judge Jason Lidyard removed from the case, but procedurally it is not permitted after a party has requested the judge perform a discretionary act.

State prosecutors also are seeking additional penalties in the case by implementing a hate crime designation to the charges, according to court documents. In addition to the attempted murder charge, Martinez had been charged with aggravated battery.

In an appeal motion filed on Nov. 7, Martinez's attorneys Marshall J. Ray and Nicole W. Moss claim that Martinez has been improperly barred from receiving bail.

"The detention order is not supported by substantial evidence that no release conditions will reasonably protect the safety of another person or the community," the motion reads.

The appellate court has five days from the date of the appeal to either affirm the district court's decision or order a response from the state. A decision from the appellate court is then due within five days of the date the response is due.

The appellate court can overturn the district court's decision if it is determined to be "arbitrary, capricious, or reflects an abuse of discretion; (or) is not supported by substantial evidence," according to New Mexico State Law.

And that speaks directly to Martinez's case, the lawyers claim.

"Detention in this case was inappropriate," the appeal reads. "It was arbitrary and capricious and unsupported by evidence of dangerousness."

And in the pre-trial, public safety assessment, Martinez was given low potential for new criminal activity and failure to appear at risk, while recommending he be released on his own recognizance.

The hate crime designation, as well as a count of firearm enhancement, together could add as many as eight additional years imprisonment to the already more than 16 years Martinez is already facing.

"While we cannot offer prosecutors advice when it comes to charging decisions, we can allow them an attempt to prove this charge in court," a spokesperson for Moss wrote in an email. "New Mexico is very clear as to its statute when it comes to a charge of this magnitude and ultimately it's up to them to prove it. We are confident they cannot."

Lidyard has set a tentative trial date of May 2024.

Martinez was arrested Sept. 28 following a shooting at the site where local officials had planned to re-install a statue of conquistador Juan de Oñate. Before the demonstration, officials had already decided against the installation of the controversial piece.

Jacob Johns, of Spokane, Washington, was seriously injured after he was struck by the one shot that was fired.

The appeal claims Johns and others at the site instigated the encounter that then turned violent.

When Martinez "attempted to approach the statue, he did not lay hands on anyone, draw any weapons or get in anyone's face," the appeal reads. "Rather, three large men, including Jacob Johns, tackled him, put him in a headlock, threw him down, rammed him against a divider wall, and punched him. Only when brutally attacked in this manner did Mr. Martinez draw a weapon – while fleeing – and fire one shot before escaping the scene."



Ryan Martinez



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Carnivale on the Rio Grande Boosts Awareness for Albuquerque Ecosystems

Art and environment blend to create fun experiences to grow conservation along New Mexico river

Endion Schichtel looks up at the sun for the solar eclipse on Oct. 14, 2023. (Diana Cervantes, Source New Mexico)

By Diana Cervantes, Source New Mexico

Stepping inside the Conservation Carnivale van, dubbed “The Green Machine,” is like stepping inside a delightful cabinet of curiosities existing along the Upper Middle Rio Grande Watershed.

Shells and specimens on the van’s walls invite viewers to touch and observe, and signs such as, “nature unites us,” speak of the central message of this traveling troupe of entertainers.

The group started in 2022 with funding from the city of Albuquerque and the Urban Enhancement Trust Fund with an idea to bring entertainment to engage people in environmental education along the Rio Grande ecosystem.

“Climate change, to me, is the most unifying thing we have as a species. No matter where you are in the world, climate change is affecting you, whether you feel it or [are] aware of it,” Endion Schichtel said.

As individuals move about the van they’ll discover games about water conservation, and even have the opportunity to write letters to the merpeople living in the Rio Grande.

Fellow friends and artists put on acts that relate to the Albuquerque ecosystem, specifically the Rio Grande and the endangered silvery minnow to name a few.

It is through personifying and humanizing aspects of the Rio Grande that Schichtel believes will foster a sense of place and care for the environment through this immersive little world she built in a 1974 Chevy Step Van.

On the dashboard, viewers will find a lit up mini carousel with horses posing the following question, “Where will the animals live if we don’t take care of the bosque? Your house?! Yeah right!”

Schichtel’s love for the environment, sideshow acts and the circus sparked her

imagination to merge these passions, as well as a way to cope with her environmental anxiety and grief of losing her father.

“Through my grief and having a lot of climate change anxiety and a little burnout of [not] knowing the right way to help the world. I just started building it out the best way that I could with my skill set,” Schichtel said.

Schichtel’s means of reconnecting people from all walks of life and ages also involves performance art.

“So it’s gone through several evolutions of design and contributions from different artists and just kind of really trying a new way to get

people to pay attention and reconnect to the nonhuman world,” she said.

The creative space in nature is something she wants to see spark imagination and empathy for the open space in the middle of Albuquerque.

“I think sprinkling a little magic gets people just to look at a place a little bit deeper,” Schichtel said. “I mean, the imagination is an under exercised muscle, we are fed so much of our entertainment, I think if you could just take that spark of [people] being interested and then feed them a little bit of a fact or reinspire their curiosity, where you are in the moment or what you’re looking at in your hand. It’s a powerful tool.”

This sprinkling of imagination takes form as an acrobatic silvery minnow performed by Summer Rain Solon, or Yogi Coyote performing incredible yoga poses for a diverse audience.

“I can see some curiosity and hesitation initially, but then once people step out of the van, or they see one of our performances, they’re like, “Oh, I get it now.” It is a unique mashup of things.”


Despite the success of Conservation Carnivale, Schichtel still struggles with climate anxiety and dreams of returning to the river someday soon.

“My dream for the river is that my mental health is back at a state where I could physically visit the river,” Schichtel said. “And also that the work continues. And there is just a continue(d) movement of awareness, appreciation and love, just [a] basic understanding that this vein of life that runs through our city needs to be thought of and protected.”

This story was originally published at sourcenm.com



Endion Schichtel, left and attendees of the solar eclipse at the Valle Del Oro Wildlife Refuge, can be seen from the interior of “The Green Machine” on Oct. 14, 2023. (Diana Cervantes, Source New Mexico)



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16
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Launchpad

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Miscellaneous

3rd Thursday: Grace: - 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Free. Albuquerque Museum 2000 Mountain Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Music

Luna Shade “Be the King” Tour: - 7 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. Free. Revel Entertainment Center 4720 Alexander Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM.

Urban Heat: - 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$15. Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Performance

Camelot: - 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. \$19-\$27. Albuquerque Little Theatre 224 San Pasquale Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Trivia

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at 505 Central Food Hall: - 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. 505 Central Food Hall 505 Central Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at 505 Spirits: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. 505 Spirits 105 Harvard Dr SE, Albuquerque, NM.

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Sunday Service Motor Company: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Sunday Service Motor Company 2701 Fourth St., Albuquerque, NM.

Trivia Night at Lizard Tail Nob Hill: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Lizard Tail Brewing Nob Hill 3417 Central Ave. NE Suite C, Albuquerque, NM.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Music
Carbin: - 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. \$20-\$25. Electric Playhouse 5201 Ouray Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM.
In Flames: - 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$32-\$82. Sunshine Theater 120 Central Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM.
Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox: - 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. \$44-\$169. KiMo Theatre 423 Central Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM.
Slums of Harvard: - 8:30 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. \$10. Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Performance
Johnny Cash: The Official Concert Experience: - 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. \$25-\$79. Popejoy Hall 203 Cornell Dr, Albuquerque, NM.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Comedy
Off The Rails starring Todd Royce: - 9 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. \$10. Lava Rock Brewing Company 2220 Unser Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM.
The Show: - 9 p.m. - 10 p.m. \$10-\$12. The Box Performance Space & Improv Theatre 114 Gold Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Dance
Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque Dinner Show: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. \$75-\$85. Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque 800 Rio Grande Blvd. N.W., Albuquerque, NM.

Music
Algernon Cadwallader: - 8 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. \$17. Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.
Chad Freeman: - 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. No Cover Charge. Dirty Bourbon Dance Hall & Saloon 9800 Montgomery Blvd., Albuquerque, NM.
Fall Community Band Concert: - 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Free. Del Norte Baptist Church 5800 Montgomery Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM.
In the Company of Serpents: - 8:30 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. \$10. Moonlight Lounge 120 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.
Kolby Cooper: - 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. \$15. Dirty Bourbon Dance Hall &

Saloon 9800 Montgomery Blvd., Albuquerque, NM.
Los 15 Grandes De Nuevo Mexico: - 8 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. \$69.96. Revel Entertainment Center 4720 Alexander Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM.
QBar Lounge live entertainment: - 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. No cover charge. QBar Lounge 800 Rio Grande Blvd. N.W., Albuquerque, NM.
Special Favorite: - 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Sister 407 Central Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Performance
Camelot: - 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. \$19-\$27. Albuquerque Little Theatre 224 San Pasquale Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM.
FUSION Theatre Company Presents The Height of the Storm: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. \$20-\$40. FUSION Theatre 700 First St. NW, Albuquerque, NM.
FUSION Theatre Company Presents The Height of the Storm: - 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. \$20-\$40. FUSION Theatre 700 First St. NW, Albuquerque, NM.
Hazardous Materials: - 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. \$24. The Vortex Theatre 2900 Carlisle Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM.
Head Ogre Heels: A Shrek Variety Show: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. \$12-\$20. Black Cat Cultural Center 3011 Monte Vista Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM.
Love and Information: - 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. \$22-\$23. North Fourth Arts Center 4904 Fourth Street NW, Albuquerque, NM.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Art
New Mexico Potters and Clay Artists Celebration of Clay exhibit "Inhabited Earth": - 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. N/C. Gallery Hozho at Hotel Chaco 2000 Bellamah Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Dance
Rhythm Of The Yuletide Dance: - 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. \$25-\$69. Popejoy Hall 203 Cornell Dr, Albuquerque, NM.
Tablao Flamenco Sunday Matinee: - 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. \$25-\$35. Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque 800 Rio Grande Blvd. N.W., Albuquerque, NM.

Miscellaneous

2024 NM Pride Pageant: - 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. \$35-\$50. South Broadway Cultural Center 1025 Broadway Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM.

Music

Atmosphere: Tour de Friends: - 8 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. \$33.50. Revel Entertainment Center 4720 Alexander Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM.

Rosegarden Funeral Party: - 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$10. Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.

The Mavericks: - 8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. \$70-\$80. Isleta Resort and Casino Showroom 11000 Broadway Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM.

Performance

Camelot: - 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. \$19-\$27. Albuquerque Little Theatre 224 San Pasquale Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM.

FUSION Theatre Company Presents The Height of the Storm: - 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. \$20-\$40. FUSION Theatre 700 First St.

NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Hazardous Materials: - 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. \$24. The Vortex Theatre 2900 Carlisle Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM.

Love and Information: - 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. \$22-\$25. North Fourth Arts Center 4904 Fourth Street NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Trivia

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Tractor Brewing Wells Park: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW, Albuquerque, NM.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Trivia

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Bow & Arrow Brewing: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Bow & Arrow Brewing Co. 608 McKnight Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Santa Fe Brewing Co.: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Santa Fe Brewing (Tin Can Alley) 6110 Alameda Blvd NE Suite #1, Albuquerque, NM.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Music

Burque Live and FUSION Present Magic Beans: - 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$5. FUSION 700-708 1st St NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Devil Master: - 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. Moonlight Lounge 120 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Phoneboy: - 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$17. Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Trivia

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Poki Poki Cevicheria: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Poki Poki Cevicheria (Wyoming Blvd) 3517 Wyoming Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Drink

Bike Night: - 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. No cover charge. Sunday Service Motor Company 2701 Fourth St., Albuquerque, NM.

Music

Acoustic Showcase and Open Mic: - 6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. No cover charge. Hotel Zazz 3711

Central Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM.

DHP Presents Karaoke at Voodoo Girl Pizza & Pints: - 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. No Cover Charge. Voodoo Girl Pizza & Pints 1401 Second St. NW, Albuquerque, NM.

For For An Autopsy: - 7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$25-\$75. Sunshine Theater 120 Central Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM.

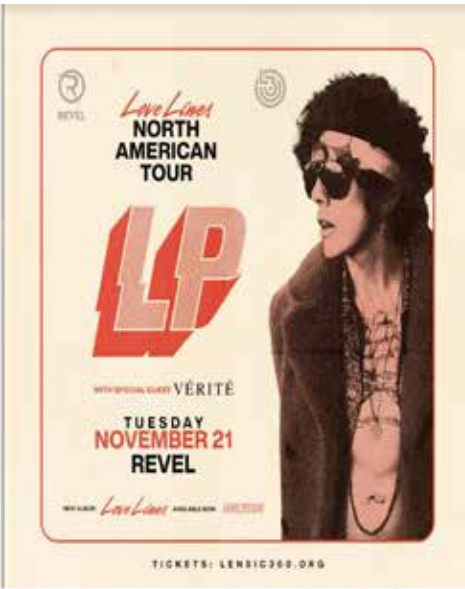
John Matthew: - 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. No Cover Charge. Dirty Bourbon Dance Hall & Saloon 9800 Montgomery Blvd., Albuquerque, NM.

Trivia

DHP Presents Movie Trivia Night: - 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. No cover charge. Voodoo Girl Pizza & Pints 1401 Second St. NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Ponderosa Brewing Company: - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Ponderosa Brewing Company 1761 Bellamah Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM.

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Santa Fe Brewing Co.: - 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. Santa Fe Brewing Co. (Albuquerque Taproom) 3600 Cutler NE, Albuquerque, NM.



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ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS



'Tis the Season for Plié-ing

New Mexico's Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker* at Popejoy Hall

(Tierna Unruh-Enos)

By Gwenn Unruh, The Paper.

New Mexico's Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker* at Popejoy Hall. In the world of ballet, the upcoming holiday season means one thing: *The Nutcracker*.

Theater stages across the country will soon be filled with ballet dancers embodying soldiers, mice, twirling snowflakes, leaping candy canes and lots and lots of sugar plum fairies. Once again, the New Mexico Ballet Company (NMBC) is working hard to prepare for their first performance of *The Nutcracker* ballet on Thanksgiving weekend at the University of New Mexico's Popejoy Hall.

The Nutcracker is a fairytale ballet in two acts and centers around a young girl's Christmas Eve celebration and her awakening into romance. Anna Bridge, the artistic director for NMBC tells *The Paper* that over 120 members and students of the ballet company are preparing for the upcoming performances.

"It's all hands on deck. It's just a constant process until we open for that first show," Bridge says. "There's over 100 hours of rehearsal time alone that goes into putting on a production of this size."

All Hands on Deck for Nutcracker Rehearsals

Rehearsals for *The Nutcracker* at NMBC are swirls of tutus and the clipping sound of ballerina pointe toe shoes. Pointe shoes are specially made shoes worn by ballet performers to allow them to dance on the tips of their toes. Fashions come and go, but the iconic tutu has endured for several

hundred years as a symbol of the grace of ballet. The fine mesh-like fabric from which tutus are made projects horizontally from the waist and hip. The short, stiff, immobile skirt highlights the energetic and graceful movements of the dancers. Practicing in tutus during rehearsals helps the dancers compensate for the skirt as they dance.

"We have a couple costumers who created some new costumes for us this year who also work on embellishing," says Bridge. "We have an awesome team of parent volunteers and seamstresses who do a lot of the little upkeep work needed on the costumes from year to year. We outsource our tutus to various companies."

Founded in 1972, NMBC was initially a professional dance company. Over the past several years though, they have been building a dance school for kids and adults alike.

"The classes are either by age or level and include ballet points, tap jazz, lyrical, modern hip-hop, improvisation, and dancer wellness courses," Bridge explains. "We have student apprentices who perform in roles with the company ballet and we also have a competition team called Albuquerque Dance Collaborative that competes at local and national competitions."

Performances such as "*The Nutcracker*," Bridge says, help fund the year-round programs.

"A big chunk of our funding, like any ballet company in the U.S., comes from the ticket sales of *The Nutcracker*," Bridge explains. "It's the big cash cow that keeps us moving through the rest of the season. Other funding comes through tuition from our dance school and we also rely partially on funding from grants and donors."

The Nutcracker Story

Walt Disney's 1940s animated film *Fantasia* put the spotlight on the 1892 Russian *Nutcracker* ballet and the music of Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*. Prior to this, the ballet had not been performed live in its entirety in the U.S., and was barely seen outside of Russia. The San Francisco Ballet staged the U.S. premiere of *The Nutcracker* four years after *Fantasia*'s release and put the ballet on a fast track to becoming a holiday staple in the U.S.

Depending upon where you live in the world, Bridge says, the classic ballet story can vary depending on the local customs and culture.

"Clara, a young girl, sneaks out and finds the nutcracker soldier doll under the Christmas tree, falls asleep and that's when this dream kind of fantasy starts to happen," Bridge says. "We have the Rat King and he has an army of rats and little mice that come to terrify Clara until the Nutcracker Prince appears. We go through a battle scene with the Nutcracker and his soldiers versus the Rat King and his army of rats and mice. The Rat King prevails over the Nutcracker and then Clara is the one who kind of takes the Rat King out. Clara's godfather uses magic to bring the Nutcracker back to life and then that takes us into the snow scene and into the land of sweets."

"Clara goes back to sleep holding her nutcracker again and you're left wondering, 'Was it all a dream? Was it real?'" she says. "I like leaving the audience with that."

The ballet finishes with the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier dancing their famous *grande pas de deux*, a dance in which a male and a female dancer express their characters' love through ballet steps. These roles at Popejoy will be performed by the current stars of the San Francisco Ballet and the New York City Ballet. The NMBC will also be joined by the New Mexico Philharmonic playing Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*.

"It has been a company tradition for many years through generous donors to bring in these guest artists for our Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier," Bridge says. "It's really wonderfully inspiring for our students and our younger dancers to see dancers from around the country."

Bridge says after all the rehearsals there are nothing quite like being onstage in front of a theater full of people.

"The energy you give to the audience is the energy that they give back to you tenfold," Bridge explains. "There's something really magical and special about seeing their reactions, hearing their reactions, hearing their applause. That sharing of energy and the enjoyment and support for the arts is just a really, really wonderful thing to work towards."

"At rehearsals I'm there floating around and I'm taking notes and I'm directing other technical things, but at that point on stage, the performance they've all worked towards so hard in the studio is theirs and it's their energy and their passion for dancing and performing that really brings it alive."

Tickets can be purchased at NMBC's website.



Forget the big-box stores and cyber sales, Burque has plenty of local finds for the holidays

By Sara Atencio-Gonzales, The Paper.

It's happened again: The holidays snuck up on us and now it's time to start planning shopping trips and figure out what to get for friends and family. There's always the usual trips to the mall or endless scrolling through online stores for those not-so-personal gifts. But there's also a plethora of spots to find unique gifts for loved ones in our own backyard.

Luckily, we've come up with more local shopping choices than you can shake a roll of wrapping paper at. Whether your loved one is a foodie, bookworm, antiquary, or someone who loves local art, we have the gift guide for you.

Arts & Crafts Fairs

We know what you're thinking: Arts and crafts fairs are popping up out of nowhere and there seem to be a few every weekend once Halloween is over. These fairs offer the opportunity to tackle holiday shopping in one sweep, while supporting local businesses and artists.

Here are some of the craft fairs that promise to bring holiday cheer for you and your family.



Humble Holiday Market Block Party

Trade the wassailing for coffee drinking over at Humble Coffee's Annual Holiday Market Block Party on Dec. 16 from 10 am to 4 pm at Humble Coffee (4200 Lomas Blvd. Suite C.) There will be more than 100 vendors selling art, candles, chocolate, skincare, and much more. There will also be music all day by DJ Flo Fader and specialty cocktails by Moonwalk Bar.

Tickets for this event are \$5 and can be purchased in person or online.

Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival

One of Albuquerque's tried and true Thanksgiving weekend shopping events is right around the corner. The 23rd Annual Rio Grande Holiday Festival features 185 artisans, live music and food samplings. Bring your family and friends and get into the spirit of the season, while finding unique gifts for everyone. The festival will be from Nov. 24-26 at the EXPO New Mexico (300 San Pedro Dr. NE) starting at 10 am each day.

Get your tickets at the door or online at. Single-day admission to the festival is \$10.

Craft Fair at UNM

Everyone's a Lobo at this craft fair. The University of New Mexico is hosting its 59th Annual Associated Students of the UNM Arts & Crafts Fair. The fair runs from Nov. 29 to Dec. 1, from 10 am to 6 pm all three days and will be held in the ballrooms of the Student Union Building. More than 70 vendors will be there to sell their unique art. There will also be live music every day starting at noon.

The ASUNM Arts & Crafts Fair is a free event and everyone in the community is welcome to stop by, including non-students.

Holiday Market at the Railyards

Continue to keep it local for the holidays at the 10th Annual Holiday Market at the Albuquerque Rail Yards (777 1st St. SW). This beloved downtown spot is bringing back its holiday special on Dec. 9 and 10 from 10 am to 4 pm. The market will host more than 250 vendors selling their unique crafts or delicious bites. There will also be a park and ride at the ABQ BioPark for both days of the event.

For Foodies

What's better than a gift that involves food? Our take: Not a lot. Luckily, there are a bunch of places to snag some tasty presents with our local flavor.



Eldora Chocolate

Hot chocolate, bonbons, and peppermint patties, oh my! If you're struggling to find the perfect gift for the chocolate lover in the family, Eldora Chocolate (8114 Edith Blvd. NE) has all your chocolate needs. Eldora Chocolate is open 11 am to 6 pm every day, with the exception of Saturdays when they close at 5 pm. They offer curbside pick-up and ship orders to make your holiday shopping easier.

The Candy Lady

The Candy Lady (424 San Felipe St. NW) is a long-time Albuquerque staple. The iconic Old Town shop might be best known for its Breaking Bad blue meth hard candies, but they also have more to offer than the kitschy narcotic-themed sweets.

"We always make chocolate-covered strawberries. We have fresh raspberries and everything we have is homemade made in the shop and they're like awesome family recipes," says owner Debbie Ball.

The Candy Lady probably has any type of confection you can think of, from homemade caramels for grandma to cocoa-free dog treats for your furry friends.

SmallCakes: A Cupcakery

What's soft, fluffy, and cute all around? Well, that happens to be the cakes and cupcakes

at **SmallCakes: A Cupcakery** (8101 San Pedro Dr. NE). They’ve got small personalized cakes for those special people in your life. SmallCakes offers all sorts of shapes and sizes, ranging in price from \$20 to \$100 based on the size of the cake. Their cupcakes in a jar are sure to be a conversation starter at your next holiday party.

Rude Boy Cookies

Don’t forget to pick it up, pick it up for Santa this holiday season. Specifically, picking up cookies to leave out on Christmas Eve. **Rude Boy Cookies** (1916 Central Ave. SE Suite E.) has your back with a variety of cookies ranging from biscochitos to the reliable chocolate chip variety. They also offer cookie decorating kits which could make great options for holiday activities for the kiddos.



Burque Bakehouse

If you know, you know. **The Burque Bakehouse** (640 Broadway Blvd. SE) churns out pastries, breads, and small sweets. This local favorite began as a stand at Albuquerque’s Downtown Growers’ Market. Offering a variety of baked goods including croissants, cruffins, danishes, and so much more.

The Mouse Hole Cheese Shop

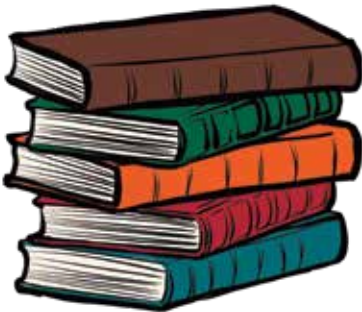
Looking for a gouda gift? **The Mouse Hole Cheese Shop** (300 Broadway Blvd NE Ste A) has your back. This shop offers patrons a variety of cheeses—from the standards to the stinky. They also offer a picnic basket starting at \$80 and a selection of cheese boards starting at \$26.

El Modelo

Tamales might make a messy stocking stuffer, but **El Modelo** (1715 2nd St. SW) is an amazing spot to order monster-sized tubes of pork and masa for holiday parties. Located in the historic Barelmas neighborhood , El Modelo offers Mexican food that will get your tummy rumbling and your mouth watering. If you plan on ordering tamales for your holiday party, you might want to do it now, since they usually sell out fast. You can call in your orders at (505) 242-1843.

Bookstores

Having trouble finding the perfect book for the bibliophile in your life? Make a trip to some of these local bookstores to find boatloads of hidden treasures.



Downtown Books

Don’t let this small shop fool you. **Downtown Books** (109 8th St. SW) has a great selection and a wide range of books in its inventory. A hidden gem in the heart of downtown Albuquerque, this unique bookstore probably has the perfect find for the bookworm in your family.

Treasure House Books and Gifts

It’s usually a good sign for gift hunters when the name of a store has “gifts” right in its name. **Treasure House Books and Gifts** (2012 S Plaza St. NW A) strives to provide locals and visitors with the best and largest book selection of books about New Mexico and the Southwest. This shop is a must-stop when visiting Old Town for locals and visitors.

Organic Books

Nob Hill’s home-grown and family-owned bookstore has a plethora of new and used books in stock, many by local authors. “We have cards, journals, and that sort of thing. We have a very active sales season and all kinds of good gifts,” says Steve Brewer, Owner of Organic Books (111 Carlisle Blvd. SE). The bookstore is open every day of the week from 11 am to 6 p.m and offers both sidewalk shopping and curbside pick-up.

Bookworks

Albuquerque’s North Valley has been the home of **Bookworks** (4022 Rio Grande Blvd. NW) for more than three decades, and it is just as dedicated to connecting people to books as ever before. Even though Bookworks shelves are stuffed with all sorts of books, if you can’t find the book you want, they can fill special orders or requests to help you with your everyday bookstore needs.

Antiques

Antique shops often come through during those searches for unique and quirky gifts. Albuquerque has a number of antique shops, complete with gifts you can’t find anywhere else.

Classic Century Square

Get your steps in at the tri-leveled **Classic Century Square** (4616 Central Ave. SE) This store has it all from clothes, to vinyl records, to furniture. This huge antique store is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 12 pm to 5 pm.

U Neek Findings

Come on, it’s practically in the name: **U Neek Findings** (5901 Lomas Blvd. NE) has a ton of vendors with one-of-a-kind antiques, jewelry, furniture, clothes, and toys. “We always have a lot of different sales going on,” says manager Sarah Lopez. “We do Senior Wednesday, which is 15 percent off, and then we have military vets and personnel on Friday, which is between 10 to 15 percent.”

Old Town Antiques

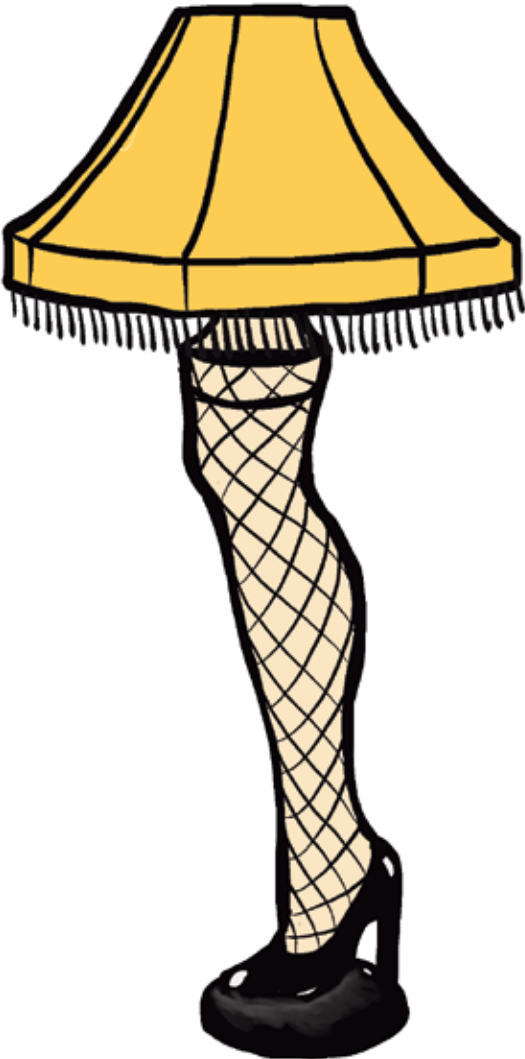
Located right in the heart of Old Town, **Old Town Antiques** (416 Romero St. NW) offers antiques from turquoise jewelry to pottery. This high-end antique shop is open every day of the week except for Wednesday.

Antiques & Things

Neighbors with Classic Century Square, **Antiques & Things** (4710 Central Ave. SE), has a whole bunch of unique antiques. Along with many different booths and vendors, Antiques and Things has a huge selection of vinyl records that range from artists like Elvis Presley to Fleetwood Mac. “Throughout Christmas, most booths have sales but it’s up to them to go ahead and decide how much. During the holidays, probably at least 70 percent of our vendors have sales,” says manager Eileen Sedillo.

Antique Specialty Mall

“Things get better with age,” as said on the sign outside of the **Antique Specialty Mall** (4516 Central Ave. SE), another big and unique antique store in Nob Hill. It’s one of Albuquerque’s oldest and largest antique shops and carries all sorts of items from comic books to retro furniture to dolls.



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Justice Comes Slow

Remembering a compassionate and just prosecutor

Julia Clark Downs and Karl Jürisson

By Carolyn Carlson, The Paper.

It has been more than two years since Karl Jürisson was gunned down in the driveway of his partner Julia Clark Downs' southeast Albuquerque home on Father's Day in 2021.

In a twist of fate four months later, Downs was killed in a tragic car crash in early October on a rural highway in Taos. She had moved to Taos to take a job with the 9th District Attorney's office after Jürisson was killed.

Then a curve ball was thrown into this already tragic story when the man charged in Downs' crash died while awaiting trial on vehicular homicide charges. Jürisson's accused killer is sitting in the Metropolitan Detention Center, awaiting trial in a court case that seems to be moving at a snail's pace.

What Happened?

Downs was an attorney who, at the time of her death, had just started working for the 8th Judicial District Attorney's office. She also was a legal consultant for "Better Call Saul," the popular prequel to "Breaking

Bad." Season 6, Episode 9 of the former was dedicated to her. Downs was also previously an assistant District Attorney in Valencia County and worked for Isleta Pueblo prior to moving to Taos.

Downs was struck by Frank McAleer, 74, who slammed into the back of her Volvo with a 1999 Ford Expedition. Police believed she was stopped to make a left turn from U.S. Route 64, west of Taos, into a doggy daycare to pick up her furry companion. She died at the scene. Reports say McAleer was traveling at about 80 miles an hour when he struck her car. Reports say that he told police he did not see her brake lights. McAleer had not had a driver's license since 2007, and was driving someone else's car. He was airlifted to the University of New Mexico Hospital and later charged with vehicular homicide among other crimes.

McAleer's public defender John Hartley said in an email to *The Paper* that McAleer died in July, partly from injuries he sustained in the crash. Court documents show that it was also disclosed in March that McAleer also had cancer. Court transcripts show he was in hospice by June.

"Unfortunately, Frank passed away in July. He too suffered injuries in the crash which took Ms. Downs' life and I believe those injuries contributed to his death," Hartley says.

Hartley says McAleer lived extremely primitively in a school bus in the hills west of Taos and had no children or known family. No one claimed his remains and he was buried in an indigent grave site. Hartley, adding some humanity to this tragic case, says McAleer was a guarded but pleasant, respectful and affable person to deal with.

Tragic Father's Day

Jürisson was a well-known engineer and rocket scientist, who retired from Northrop Grumman. He was one of those smart scientist guys. He worked on the spectacular James Webb Telescope project.

Jürisson was leaving Downs' house after checking on it while Downs was out of the country. Prosecutors say he was confronted by Felix Vigil. Vigil, his then-friend John Kasi, both 18 at the time, and at least one other person were allegedly cruising a residential area south of Central and UNM in a borrowed car. One of them had to urinate, as the story goes, so they pulled over near the house Jürisson, 64, was at while he was getting into his car. According to case documents, Vigil came up on Jürisson with a gun while Jürisson was sitting in the car. Jürisson, being the kind of guy who wouldn't put up with that kind of behavior, got out of the car to confront the gunman. Vigil allegedly shot him, jumped in the car and sped off. According to case documents eyewitnesses saw someone confront Jürisson in the driveway in what appeared to the witness to be a carjacking. They saw a man flee and found Jürisson lying in the street. He later died at the hospital.

Kasi was picked up on a separate charge shortly after the killing. Vigil was jailed on another charge a couple of months later. Someone did some tattling, and cops did some good work with cell phone towers and social media, but it took until January 2023 for police to get the evidence lined up to charge Felix Vigil as the shooter in Jürisson's case. He is facing second degree murder and armed robbery charges. The case is set for a docket call in mid February after an August plea conference failed.

The Paper tried to contact the Bernalillo County District Attorney's office for comment on the upcoming trial, with little success.

"Given the fact that this case is so near its trial date, our office does not have a comment at this time," says Deputy District Attorney Victoria LeBlanc.

Justice?

Whether the death of McAleer is justice for the family or not is debatable. It will haunt those who loved her, this writer included, until forgiveness settles in. It also seems that the person responsible for her death is probably someone she would have had compassion for if she were prosecuting this case. On the other hand, Downs' probably would have vigorously prosecuted Vigil's case.

Reschedule Roadblock

GOP lawmakers are trying their best to block cannabis reform



(Elijah Mears, via Unsplash)

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

A U.S. House Republican is seeking to block the Biden administration through a spending bill amendment from rescheduling cannabis.

Last week, the U.S. House Rules Committee began looking at proposed amendments to the commerce, justice and science (CJS) spending bill for fiscal year 2024. One of those amendments, sponsored by Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX), would keep federal funds from being spent on efforts to “deschedule, reschedule or reclassify marihuana” under the Controlled Substances Act.

The Texas Republican is staunchly anti-pot—and possibly against its updated spelling—and has voted against every pro-reform bill that has crossed his path. If his proposed amendment is passed, it would throw a wrench into the gears of the Biden Administration’s plan to reschedule marijuana as a much less dangerous drug.

Cannabis is currently designated as a Schedule I drug, meaning that it isn’t considered to have any medical uses, with a high potential for abuse and addiction. Other drugs in that category include LSD, heroin and magic mushrooms.

But in October 2022, President Joe Biden instructed the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) to conduct a review of cannabis’ scheduling and make recommendations to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) about whether to remove marijuana from the list of controlled substances.

The HHS finally issued its report earlier this year, recommending that the DEA recategorize the drug as Schedule III, which would partially legalize the drug for some medical use and research. Other drugs in this category include acetaminophen with codeine, ketamine, anabolic steroids and testosterone.

The DEA has not yet responded to the recommendation, and the agency has not indicated when it will respond. But the agency has also refrained from contradicting the HHS’ findings. The DEA is expected only to consider the legal ramifications and effects on policy.

This means that the agency will likely support the recommendation. It’s only a matter of time. And since the 2024 election is around the corner, the Biden administration may pressure the agency to make its conclusions before the next election cycle. Rescheduling marijuana would represent a major step in policy reform and would be an attractive feather in Biden’s cap that could go a long way toward countering his fantastically low approval rating among Democrat voters (37 percent, according to an October Gallup poll).

Dissenters often criticize the administration’s failure to deliver on promises to free cannabis prisoners and decriminalize the drug at the federal level. On the campaign trail, both Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, who prosecuted drug cases as a district attorney, promised to expunge the records of marijuana prisoners and remove the drug from the list of controlled substances.

Biden announced last year that the administration was pardoning previous federal marijuana prisoners who were arrested for simple possession. The administration said it would clear the records of more than 6,500 people and hailed the move as a delivery on the president’s campaign promise. The White House failed to mention that exactly zero current prisoners would actually be released, though. “Simple possession of marijuana” is not a federal offense and is usually handled at the state level, meaning that there are no people in federal prison for it.

To make matters worse, marijuana advocate group NORML pointed out earlier this year that the administration didn’t immediately follow through on those 6,500 pardons, and they weren’t automatic. Former simple marijuana possession prisoners have to apply for the pardon with the Department of Justice. According to the agency’s website FAQ, the pardons do not apply to offenders who were arrested with drugs in addition to pot, and it doesn’t protect them from future arrests for the same offense.

And when it comes to decriminalization, the administration has completely avoided the topic until it foisted the responsibility onto the HHS last year.

Under these conditions, it could be prudent for the White House to place pressure on DEA to get the approval pushed through before the 2024 race starts to heat up in an attempt to win back disenchanted voters.

But it could all be for nothing if Sessions’ CJS amendment passes. It would tie the DEA’s hands regardless of any department recommendations.

Sessions has been working hard in other areas to keep the feds from rescheduling weed. In a September letter signed by Sessions and Sen. James Lankford (R-OK), the lawmakers asked DEA Administrator Anne Milgram to reject the HHS recommendation on the grounds that the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) says that weed is addictive and has no accepted medical uses.

The lawmakers said that federal Food and Drug Administration-approved cannabis-derived pharmaceuticals are not the same as cannabis products that consumers buy in stores and shouldn’t be given the same considerations. The letter also cites increases of cannabis poisoning incidents involving children as states legalize the drug and it claims that weed can cause psychosis in adolescents.

“It is irresponsible for HHS to recommend that marijuana be removed from Schedule I,” the pair wrote. “It would also be irresponsible for DEA to act on this recommendation. Our country relies on DEA to enforce our nation’s drug law. We ask you to uphold your mission by rejecting any effort to remove marijuana from Schedule I.”

The letter was co-signed by 12 other GOP lawmakers, representing a cross-section of Republican prohibitionists who continue to block cannabis reform efforts.

In the same month, a Republican lawmaker that didn’t sign that letter sent his own hostile inquiry to HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra about the HHS recommendation. Rep. Greg Murphy (R-NC) ordered Becerra to answer 11 questions to explain what new evidence the agency has that led to its recommendation. Murphy’s letter highlights previous administrations’ characterization of marijuana as a dangerous drug. It’s unclear if Becerra responded.

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cannabis news shorts

Every week, we round up our favorite cannabis-related news stories in bite sized edible pieces. Here's some of our favorites!

NM Medical Pot Patients Dip

Medical cannabis patients are steadily leaving the state's medical program

(Coaster420 at Wikimedia Commons)

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

One of the state's top cannabis producers says the New Mexico Medical Cannabis Program has lost over a third of its patients since the state started adult-use sales.

According to a news release from Ultra Health, active patient enrollment in the medical marijuana program has dropped by 37 percent since it peaked in May 2022. There are now around 85,028 patients enrolled in the program, compared to 135,388 last year.

Ultra Health CEO Duke Rodriguez is calling for full medical coverage of state medical cannabis patients with behavioral health disorders, citing a 2022 law that eliminates cost-sharing and out-of-pocket costs for behavioral health services and medication.

The New Mexico Department of Health did not respond to a

request for comment at the time of publication, but a department representative recently said in a statement that officials expected to lose some patients when adult-use sales kicked in.

Study: Potheads More Empathetic

A new study out of Mexico found that cannabis users are more empathetic and better at spotting others' emotions compared to non-users.

The study, published last week in the *Journal of Neuroscience Research*, used psychometric personality tests on 85 regular cannabis users and 51 non-users and brain imaging tests on 46 users and 34 nonusers to examine levels of empathy—the ability to recognize and understand the emotions of others.

Researchers at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México administered the

Cognitive and Affective Empathy Test to the larger group of participants and conducted MRI exams for the smaller group.

The empathy test is made up of 33 items, scored on a five-option scale, where one is “strongly disagree” and five is “strongly agree.” According to the results, weed users were found to “have a greater understanding of the emotions of others.”

Images from the MRI group showed that cannabis users had stronger connectivity between the anterior cingulate, a region related to empathy, and brain regions related to sensing others' emotional states.

Scientists Discover New Pot Compounds

Cannabis scientists say they've discovered a new type of marijuana compound that may be partially responsible for weed's scent.

Cannabis experts have long held that cannabis terpenes were the culprit behind the plant's distinctive odor. Terpenes are compounds that appear in all plants and fruit, and produce many of the aromas found in essential oils.

However, the new study, published last month in the journal *ACS Omega*, found that the role played by terpenes in marijuana odor has been “overemphasized.”

The researchers noted that different cannabis samples with the same terpene profile can have very different scent profiles. They attribute these differences to newly discovered compounds called “flavorants.”

According to a news release, the company that funded the study, Abtrax Tech, believes flavorants will “play a crucial role in validating cannabis' authenticity and accurately classifying cannabis varieties.”



“ IT'S LIFE CHANGING

Finally! A local practitioner is helping cancer survivors live their lives free from the constant pain and suffering associated with Peripheral Neuropathy!

Irreversible is not a word you want to hear from your Doctor but it's a common one if you've been diagnosed with Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy or CIPN.

Elliott S. of Los Lunas survived testicular cancer only to be living life with constant pain. He felt as though he was walking on pins and needles, becoming weaker and weaker every day. "I was beginning to be worried that one day I would be wheelchair-bound"

Nearly half of patients who undergo chemotherapy will develop Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy or CIPN.

Chemotherapy meds travel throughout the body and attack cancer cells; sadly they can also cause severe damage to healthy nerves.

CIPN can begin within weeks of starting treatment and can worsen as treatment continues. Many people will endure the symptoms associated with CIPN for months, even years after they've completed chemo.

When asked how CIPN was affecting his quality of life, he responded, "It was difficult to even walk up and down stairs and do other things we usually take for granted."

The most common symptoms include:

- **pain, tingling, burning, weakness, or numbness in arms, hands, legs or feet**
- **sudden, sharp stabbing or shocking pain sensations**
- **loss of touch sensation**
- **clumsiness and trouble using hands to pick up objects or fasten clothing**
- **loss of balance and falling**

For some, their nerves will recover over time. For most, the nerve damage is 'irreversible.' Which is what Elliott had been told by a series of Doctors and specialists. Essentially, they could cure his cancer but couldn't fix the damage done by the drugs used to cure his cancer.

Elliott then made a call to Doctor Andrea Brogdon of AAIM | Albuquerque Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine, right here in Albuquerque, NM. Dr. Andrea Brogdon is using the time-tested science of Acupuncture and technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitation disease.

After a series of treatments, Elliott was taking stairs with stride!

"We have a house and it has stairs. This morning I walked right down the stairs and got in the car," Elliott shared.

"I remember thinking, 'that's becoming mighty easy for me', I didn't have to hold on to the handrail or anything! It's life-changing to have this mobility back!"

Again and again, we meet with patients who were once diagnosed as "untreatable" or "incurable" but after receiving Doctor Brogdon's treatments they are now living lives free from pain and suffering. For many years she has been reversing the effects of CIPN and other varieties of Peripheral Neuropathy, including that caused by diabetes without invasive surgeries and medications that come with uncomfortable side effects.

If you've recently beat cancer only to find that you're living a life in constant pain and discomfort or you're struggling with the same symptoms as a result of either Idiopathic Neuropathy or Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy, Doctor Andrea Brogdon and the incredible team at AAIM can help!

Doctor 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.

Call **(505)355-1984** now to schedule a consultation.

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Week of November 8

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In accordance with astrological omens, I would love you to experiment with blending the sacred and mundane. Bring your deep self into the daily routine and imbue ordinary rhythms with tender care. Here are a few fun rituals to get you in the groove: 1. Say prayers or chant ecstatic poems while you're shopping. 2. Build a shrine in a parking lot. 3. Stir up an inspired epiphany while doing housework. 4. If you find yourself in a confusing or awkward situation, dance like a holy person to conjure a blessing. 5. Commune with the Divine Creator during crazy-good sex.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I've met many people who feel their love lives are jinxed. Often, they believe this nonsense because a creepy fortune-teller declared they will forever be denied a satisfying intimate relationship. I hate that! Any astrologer who delivers such crippling bewitchments should be ousted as a charlatan. The good news for you, Taurus, is that you are in a grace period for all matters regarding romance, intimacy, and togetherness. If you have ever worried there is a curse, obstruction, or bad habit inhibiting your love life, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to free yourself from it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Gemini comedian Drew Carey says, "If I didn't run from my fears, I wouldn't get any exercise at all." Let's discuss his approach in relation to you. After analyzing the astrological omens, I believe that as 2023 draws to a close and 2024 unfolds, you will feel less and less motivated to run from your fears. In part, that's because you will face them with more courage and poise; they won't have the same power over you. In addition, I suspect your fears will become objectively less scary. They will be less likely to come to pass. More and more, your fine mind will see how they trick you into imagining they're more threatening than they truly are. Congratulations in advance, Gemini!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I would love to see you intensify your devotion to your masterpiece—however you understand "masterpiece." It could be a work of art or an innovation in your job or business. It could be a new baby, an adopted pet, a redefinition of what family means, or an invigorated community. Might even be a beautiful alliance or enhanced connection with the divine or a refinement of the best gift you give the world. Life will conspire to help you in unexpected ways during the coming months if you rededicate yourself to this treasure.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Dear Sun, our one and only star: We love you and appreciate you! It's amazing that you consume five million tons of yourself every second to generate the colossal energy you send in our direction. Thank you, beloved Sun! Is it OK with you if we think of you as a god? You are a superpowered genius of nourishment! And by the way, do you know who adores you the best? I'll tell you: the Leo people here on Earth. They comprehend your grandeur and majesty better than anyone else. Would you consider giving them extra rewards in the coming weeks? They need and deserve a massive delivery of your bounty. Please fill them up with even more charisma, personal magnetism, vitality, and generosity of spirit than usual. I promise they will use it wisely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo musician and actor Shirley Manson has a message for you. She testifies, "I say embrace the total geek in yourself and just enjoy it. Life is too short to be cool." This will be especially helpful and inspirational counsel for you in the coming months, dear Virgo. The wish to appear chic or trendy or hip should be so far down on your list of priorities that it drops off the list entirely. Your assignment is to be passionately devoted to your deepest truths, unique desires, and imaginative experiments.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you're given a choice to advocate for either a dull, mediocre truth or a beautiful, invigorating truth, give your love to the latter. If you

wonder whether you should ask a polite question that engenders harmony or a provocative question that pries loose agendas that have been half hidden, opt for the latter. If you feel nostalgic about an old tradition that stirs up little passion or fresh insight, let it go. Instead, dream up a new tradition that moves you emotionally and excites your mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Icelandic singer Bjork is a triple Scorpio, with sun, moon, and ascendant in your sign. Neptune is there, too, giving her even more Scorpionic intensity. It's not surprising that she describes her daily practice like this: "I have to re-create the universe every morning when I wake up and kill it in the evening." In another quote, she places greater emphasis on the rebirth: "To wake up in the morning and actually find the day exciting is the biggest victory you can have." In accordance with current astrological omens, I invite you to exalt and celebrate the post-resurrection aspects of your life's work. It's time for you to shine and sparkle and shimmer and bedazzle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): At the risk of sounding melodramatic, I prophesy that what has been lost will be found. What was last may not catapult all the way into the first spot, but it might—and will at least be close to the first. Here are more zingers for you as you move into the climactic stages of the Season of Turnarounds and Switcheroos: A difficult test will boost your intelligence; a rut will be disrupted, freeing you to find a smooth new groove; an unsettling twist will ultimately bring you delightful support. To get the best out of the upcoming challenges, Sagittarius, welcome them as opportunities to expand your understanding of how the world works.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Many cultures throughout history have staged rites of passage to mark the transformation from childhood to puberty. In ancient Greece, for example, kids formally relinquished their toys, symbolizing the intention to move into a new phase of their destinies. In accordance with astrological omens, I want to tweak this custom for your use, Capricorn. I propose that you embrace your second childhood. Fantasize about how you might refurbish your innocence, curiosity, playfulness, and spontaneous joy. Then select an object that embodies a burdensome or unpleasant aspect of adulthood. Discard it. Find an object that signifies the fresh young spirit you'd like to awaken within you. Kiss it, sing to it, and keep it in a prominent place.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): For advice about money, I talk with a banker who sometimes analyzes financial trends using Tarot cards. To keep abreast of politics on the ground level, I consult with a courtesan who has a Ph.D. in political science and cultivates intimate relations with governmental leaders. For guidance about rowdy ethics and etiquette, I seek input from an activist singer in an all-women punk band. How about you, Aquarius? Now is a favorable time to take an inventory of your posse of teachers, helpers, and counselors. Make sure it's serving you well and providing maximum inspiration and support. Hot tip: It may be time to add a new facilitator or two to your entourage.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Now and then, you glide through a phase I describe as Freedom from Cosmic Compulsion. During these grace periods, fate has a reduced role in shaping your destiny. Your past doesn't have its typical power to limit you or entrance you. According to my astrological analysis, you are now enjoying such a chapter. That's why I predict that an infertile status quo will soon crumble. A boring, inflexible rule will become irrelevant. These and other breakthrough developments will give you extra leeway to innovate and invent. You will have a big, bright emptiness to work and play around in.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Bomb, as a mid-term
- 5 Lengthy narrative
- 9 Rustling sound
- 14 Latvian capital
- 15 Babe with a bat
- 16 "Deed I Do" singer Lena
- 17 Haughtiness
- 19 Love, in Lyon
- 20 Indian condiment
- 21 "Survivor" event
- 23 Entice
- 25 Trash bag closers
- 26 What bell-bottoms do
- 29 Camera stand
- 33 Abbr. in some military titles
- 34 Fast too long
- 36 Potted "pet"
- 37 Elevator pioneer
- 39 Cowpoke's charge
- 40 Potter's oven
- 41 Basketball defense
- 42 Donkey sound
- 44 Give permission
- 45 Mesh, as gears
- 47 Save for later
- 49 Growing business?
- 51 Gets soupy, as ice cream
- 52 Yellow-flowered plant
- 56 Classical language
- 59 Watchful
- 60 Huge victory
- 62 Late newsman Morley

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- 63 Parasitic insects
- 64 Had the answer
- 65 Contest submission
- 66 Multitude
- 67 Adriatic and Aegean

- 8 Swindle
- 9 Ship like Ahab's
- 10 Pining while away
- 11 Pressing need?
- 12 Tight
- 13 Roll-call response
- 18 Midway attractions
- 22 Able to read and write
- 24 Earthenware fragment
- 26 Stopped in one's tracks
- 27 Acknowledge
- 28 Arborist's concern
- 30 Goliath, e.g.

- 31 Drunk as a skunk
- 32 "Divine Comedy" author
- 35 Intensity
- 38 Ocean voyager
- 43 Room dividers
- 46 Sinclair Lewis' Elmer
- 48 Celery servings
- 50 "Pollyanna" actress Hayley
- 52 Bulk buy
- 53 Verve
- 54 Word before field or wing
- 55 Finger part
- 57 Brainchild
- 58 It's breaking, at times
- 61 Morning drops

DOWN

- 1 Peck film, "Cape ____"
- 2 Surrounding glow
- 3 Irksome
- 4 Riot opportunist
- 5 Memorable time
- 6 Use a comma
- 7 Monroe's "The Seven Year ____"

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Solution to Crossword:



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